



on the Platt with Ian McNeice

# "Suck em and Sea"

This has been a great year for us and an extra exciting month just gone. Many of you have been asking when we were going to produce an album of our songs and back in the summer we recorded our first CD, 'Suck 'Em and Sea'.

We were fortunate enough to have Gerard O'Farrell, who is the manager of the folk duo Show of Hands, to do the recording and the end result was released early in November. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who have bought 'Suck 'Em and Sea' and hope you enjoy the contents.

Late in August we appeared at the Cornwall Folk Festival in Wadebridge where we share a concert with The Johnson Girls, an American girl shanty group. They remarked on how tiring it was to record an album and said that it had taken them around two years. 'Oh yes,' says Lethbridge, 'it is tiring. It took we all bleddy afternoon!'

Anyway, our astonishing leap to global fame took another turn on November 4<sup>th</sup> when we appeared live on Gloria Hunniford's Open House on Channel 5 alongside Rick Stein and Sir Ranulph Fiennes (who was late having apparently got lost between the underground and the studios!). Overall it was a great day and thanks to Bradbury for cranking up the applause in the studio audience. Apart from Bill upsetting an entire tray of coffee and sandwiches, getting jammed in the automatic doors and getting lost beneath the stairs, we must have made a reasonable impression as she has invited us back again, maybe around the time of our Albert Hall gig (as we say in showbiz!). Since that we have been featured on Radio Leeds and Radio Cornwall who both gave us good plugs.

None of us have given up the day jobs yet though and we hope to see you all as normal through the season on our regular Friday night slot on the Platt (subject to the kind permission of my nautical equivalent, the Harbourmaster General). We hope next year that if the weather is ever bad (!) we might be able to perform under cover in the Lifeboat House.



# The Royal Albert Hall

## Fisherman's Friends

### Fishermen's Friends on TV

Stars of the Platt and soon to be stars of CD and the Albert hall, Fishermen's Friends are also going to be on your TV screens. Switch on ITV (Carlton) at 11.30pm on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> and the following Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> to see the singers and Port Isaac in Steve Knightley's (Show of Hands) programme made earlier in the summer - A Musical Journey Around the West Country.

#### Rece Night

The Albert Hall performance is on Saturday April 7<sup>th</sup> and tickets are on sale now directly from the Albert Hall (over 1000 sold already!). To raise money for the Royal Albert Hall appearance, the Fishermen's Friends will be running a Race Night in the winter for friends and supporters.

Trio, September 2000



Singing with Show of Hands at The BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards

### "HEAVE AWAY, HAUL AWAY"

"awesome, amazing, surreal, unbelievable"

"It was all of those things ... and more; the night Port Isaac invaded the Royal Albert Hall and Fisherman's Friends sang to a full house ... they had been invited to perform at the Show of Hands Concert ... and didn't they do well! Several standing ovations and applause that brought the house down ... we all whistled, shouted and savoured every moment of a very special evening ... even the floor manager of the Albert Hall sang their praises ..."

Barbara Hawkins