

Pat and Malc Hawksworth's 2020/2021 Newsletter



What a year!!

On March 14th Malc did the last brewery tour at Titanic Brewery, albeit socially distanced and March 16th was the last time in 2020 that either of us went into any pub, café, or restaurant.

We have lost some dear friends and many more have suffered very badly.

We are both in the High-Risk category so from the start we have tried to be as safe as possible. We listen to the scientists and despair at the always late and always confusing 'advice' from the idiots who are pretending to be the Government

We do all our shopping using various forms of 'click'. We share delivery and collection logistics with Ann and Roger, and Jess and Chris.

Thank goodness for Amazon, Sainsbury's (c&c), Harrisons Fruit and Veg., Andy at West Street Butchers, David Mellor the Egg, Brian Barlow the Milk, Shiptons Flour Mill (Tetbury), Breckles, Kath and Jake, Titanic Brewery, Live, Love Loaf, Gees Hardware, The Jolly Brewer Homebrew Shop and other traders who have evolved safe ways to enable us to get what we need and want whilst avoiding unnecessary risks.

Thank goodness too for 'Survive together' in Leek who very quickly developed a network of local traders who could provide Covid safe purchasing for those of us at high risk.

And a huge thanks to all NHS Heroes, and all front line workers.

The previous projects (2012 to 2019) of the Peace Through Folk Trust had all been completed and a new programme announced to start in March. A somewhat macabre coincidence in that the new plans that we had evolved are still sitting on the back burner awaiting the pleasure of Covid 19. See www.peacethroughfolk.org . All set to kick in when we can.

[See details at the end of this newsletter about a new event planned for 20th January.](#)

Even though Locked down or living at High-Risk status constantly since March we have been busy.

Peace through Folk projects and events consumed a huge amount of time from 1997 right up to March 2020 and suddenly we had no excuse for putting off house and home jobs.

- Pat added Sourdough Bread, Oatcakes, Crumpets, and crackers to her already formidable conventional culinary skills – no bread bought since March.



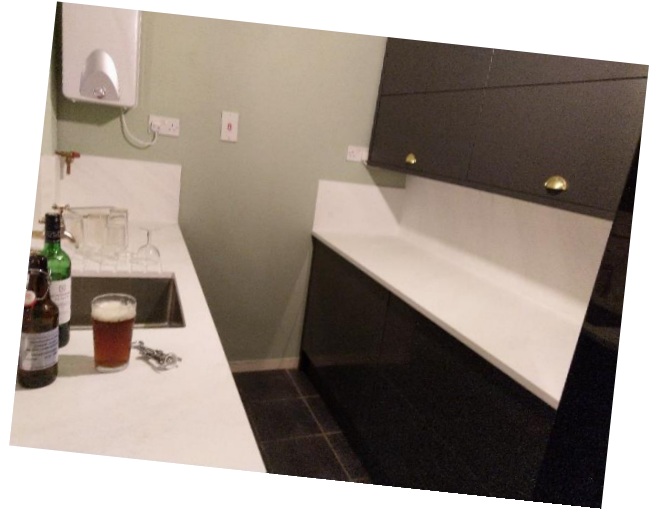
- Malc refocussed his lifetime study of real ale into a long-cherished ambition to home brew. With invaluable advice from Rod Stacey and Paul at Jolley Brewer Homebrew Shop and the encouragement of a small but willing group of ‘test pilots’ so far 19 brews of various types have all been very palatable.



We also heeded the warning that the pandemic would be followed by a massive financial depression so no point in storing money in a bank.

So, the time was ripe to invest in our house to ensure its resilience to be fit to provide for our needs now and in the future, regardless of the demands of Anno Domini.

- During the height of the first Lockdown, we planned and executed a complete strip out and refit of the kitchen.
Wonderful support from David Shakespeare at Benchmarx, Brian Mundy of Worktop Pro, Ashley Kowarin Plumber, Pop Parr the Paint and the incredible kitchen guru Dan Massey.



- Then we decided that it was best to invest in a new flat roof on the rear extension to complete the recent new main roof and external refurb.
- Next came a new toilet and modifications to bathroom and the utility room to accommodate the growth in brewing.

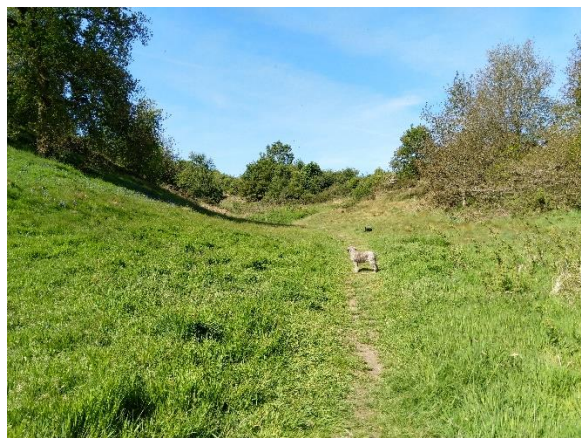
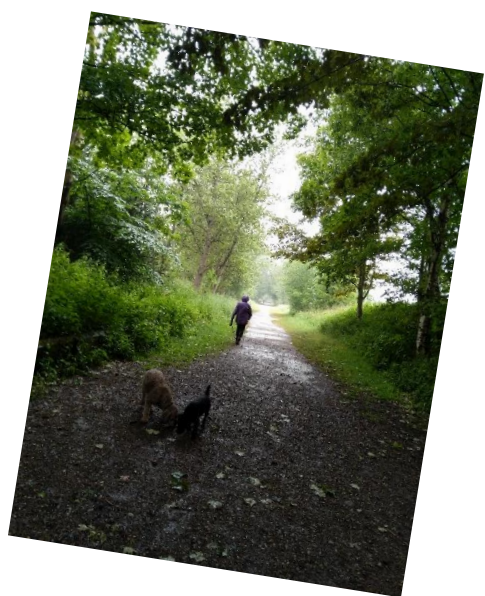


- And finally, we had to fit a new boiler, but luckily we had brilliant advice from brother Stuart and installation by the ever reliable Ashley Kowarin whilst we were in a state of isolation in the motorhome.

Right at the start of the Lockdown we decide to acquire an LPG powered Jeep in excellent condition and at a particularly good price. Great vehicle but it took over 3 months to get DVLA to process the paperwork before we could use it!



Each day throughout the year we have been able to take advantage of the wonderful walks on our doorstep, we are so lucky.



Every day we think of people who live in high-density housing and struggle to achieve a safe existence.

During the summer and autumn, when allowed, we were able to get away in the motorhome - our trusty mobile safe place.

In June Cathryn and Chris (and their dog Charlie) organised a lovely outdoor, safely distanced meal in amongst their vegetable garden at Betley, as always with much of their own home grown produce.



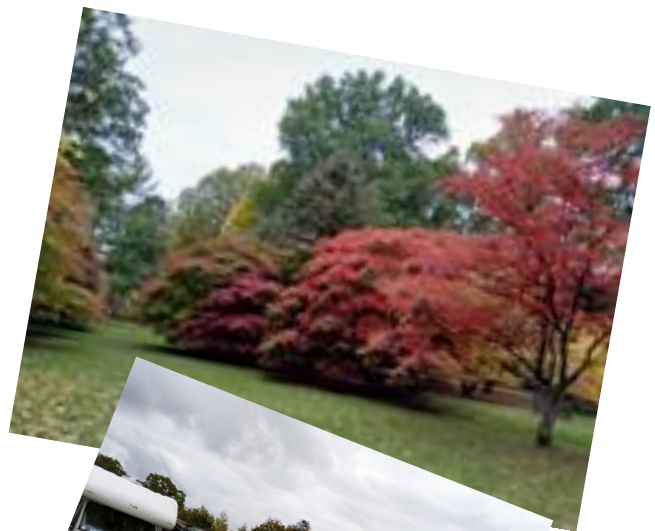
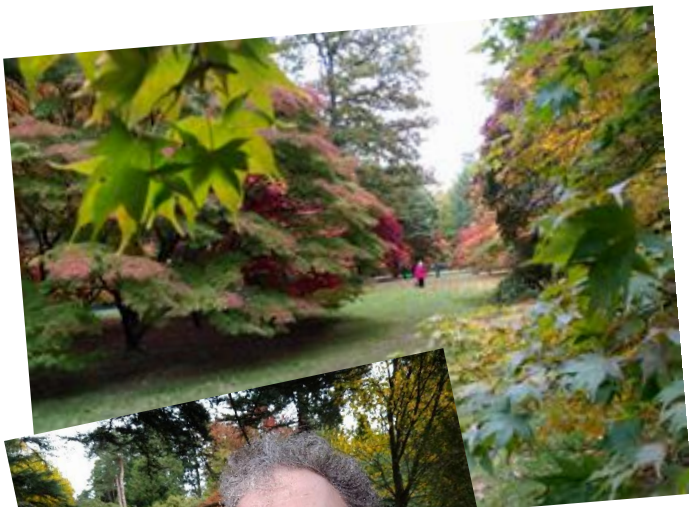
Debbie and Adrian at Hay House Farm kindly lent us the field at Ipstones which became home to a succession of legal small socially safe events with small pods of family and friends over the days surrounding our 50th wedding anniversary.



After that we took a trip to Stelling Minnis in the High Weald of Kent where we met up with our Whitstable family 'bubble' of Hannah, Ben, Seren and Elliott



Our travels ended with a couple of days on a tiny 3 pitch site at Long Newington near Tetbury in Gloucestershire where we collected some bulk sacks of flour from Shipton Mill and then enjoyed the autumn spectacle of Westonbirt Arboretum



Prior to lockdown, whenever possible our youngest Grandson Nate has spent a day each week with us which has been great fun. He is a complete livewire and there is rarely a moment when he is not charging round and there is never a 'Nate day' that Grandma and Grandad are not knackered but happy at the end of it



At the start of 2020, the members of the now democratically re-structured choir decided to change their name and identity to



Throughout the year George Mahoney, the manager of the Choir has kept it's spirit alive with regular weekly Zoom meetings and monthly specials with Musical Director Lester Simpson.

It is technically difficult for us to all sing together via Zoom but the craic has been great, and those who take part enjoy singing with Lester.

Clic the link for a reminder of how the choir sounded and will do again soon we hope.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKhjwO5Geno>

During the summer Malc took his new Zoom Camera up to Rick Ford's place to record some of his new songs – here are the links to two of them.

Bats and Wildlife Meet <https://youtu.be/Gww9hFahjjQ>

and

Failed Experiment <https://youtu.be/WTXPIlpBfps>

**Our Pandemic Christmas Day Bubble, a lovely day with
Chris, Pat, Nate, Jess, Malc, and our excellent hosts - Ann and Roger
with great food, drinks, and plenty of ventilation!**

(We seemed to be playing a magical musical chairs routine! Spot who is missing in each picture)



Cheers!

Donald Trump has attacked our friends!

In 2020 during the slow and painful last days before departure of Donald Trump from the power of President he has committed many cruel acts one of which was to make things a lot harder for over 170,000 Sahrawi refugees.

Still waiting in exile since 1976 they are now the latest TRUMP victims

On Monday 21st December 2020 Senior U.N. officials briefed the U.N. Security Council behind closed doors on the circumstances affecting the Western Sahara after U.S. President Donald Trump unilaterally recognized Morocco's sovereignty over the disputed region in return for the kingdom normalizing ties with Israel.

Trump's announcement was a departure from longstanding U.S. policy on Western Sahara. The United States had supported the UN brokered 1991 ceasefire between Morocco and the Algeria-backed, Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic the exiled government in waiting of the Western Sahara as an independent state.

The ceasefire has been and still is monitored by U.N. peacekeepers. The 15-member Security Council was briefed on Monday by U.N. Assistant Secretary-General for Africa Bintou Keita and Colin Stewart, head of a U.N. peacekeeping mission in Western Sahara.

"There are no major operational changes from our part," U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said ahead of the council briefing, which was requested by Germany.

"Our position on the announcements regarding Western Sahara is unchanged and that ... we continue to believe that a solution can be found through dialogue based on the relevant Security Council resolutions," he added.

The region has effectively been split by an earthen wall and the world's largest minefield separating an area controlled by Morocco that it claims as its southern provinces, and territory controlled by the SADR with a U.N.-mandated buffer zone between them.

U.N. talks have long failed to broker an agreement on how to decide on self-determination. Morocco wants an autonomy plan under Moroccan sovereignty. The SADR wants a U.N.-backed referendum including on the question of independence as agreed by the International Court of Justice.

President-elect Joe Biden, due to succeed Trump on Jan. 20, will face a decision whether to accept the U.S. deal with Morocco on the Western Sahara, which no other western country has done.

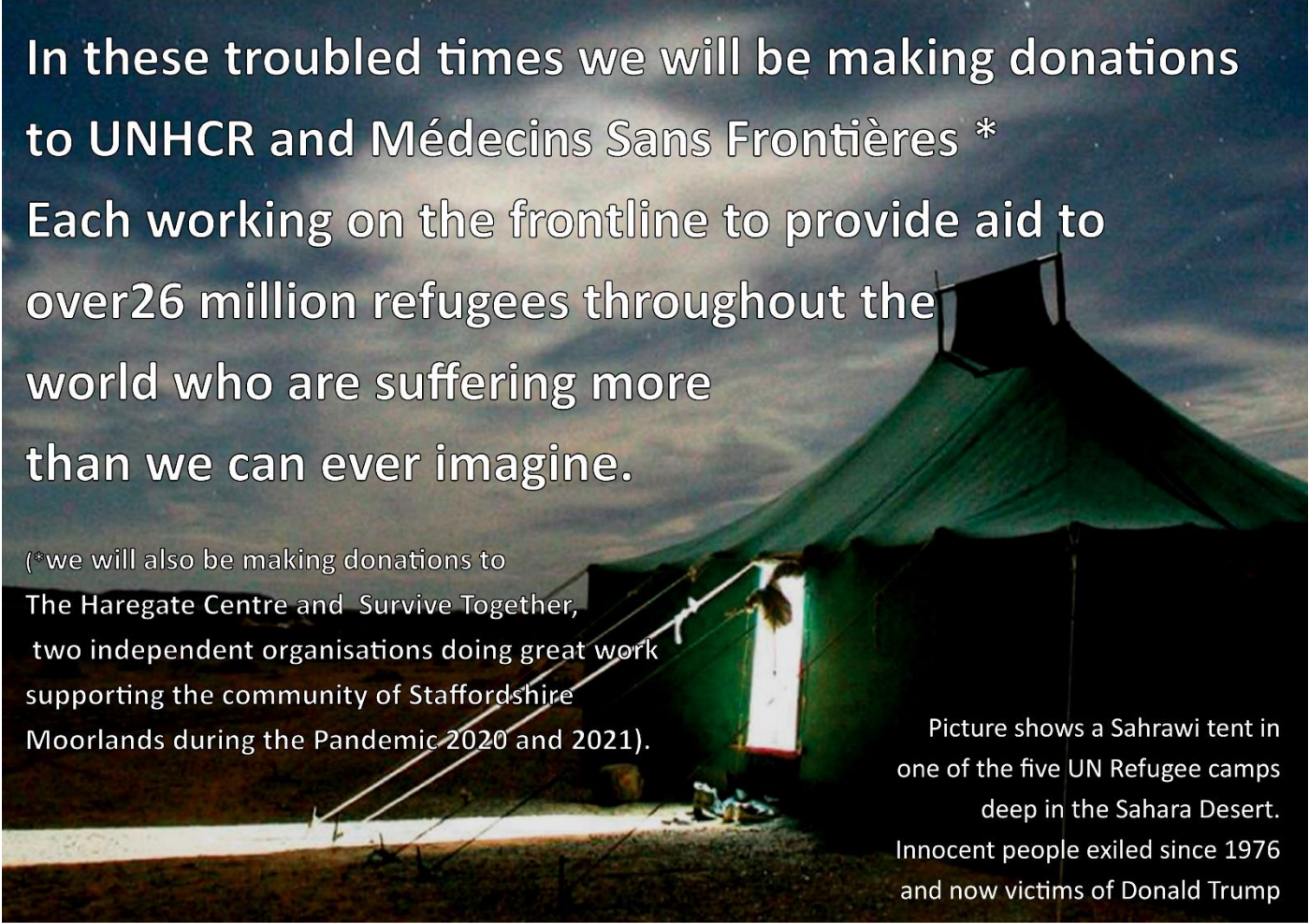
Without naming the United States, South Africa's U.N. Ambassador Jerry Matjila told reporters after the council briefing that "decisions contrary to multilateral collective decisions must be discouraged and unequivocally disregarded."

"We believe that any recognition of Western Sahara as part of Morocco is tantamount to recognizing illegality as such recognition is incompatible with international law," he said.

Sources include - NEW YORK (Reuters) – December 22, 2020 and UNHCR,

Since the 1990's Aid has been delivered to the Sahrawi in the UN refugee camps by Rainbow Rovers, Sandblast Arts, Peace Through Folk and many others.

the Peace Through Folk Team helped to organise and raise the funding and resources to send the aid convoy comprising 16 vehicles and 45 crew in 2002.

A photograph of a green Sahrawi tent in a desert setting. The tent is made of heavy fabric and has a dark interior. It is pitched on a sandy ground with some sparse vegetation. The background shows a vast, flat desert landscape under a clear sky.

In these troubled times we will be making donations to UNHCR and Médecins Sans Frontières * Each working on the frontline to provide aid to over 26 million refugees throughout the world who are suffering more than we can ever imagine.

(*we will also be making donations to The Haregate Centre and Survive Together, two independent organisations doing great work supporting the community of Staffordshire Moorlands during the Pandemic 2020 and 2021).

Picture shows a Sahrawi tent in one of the five UN Refugee camps deep in the Sahara Desert. Innocent people exiled since 1976 and now victims of Donald Trump

So, the plight of refugees and in particular the Sahrawi people is personal to us.

Please follow this link to watch the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fpp4ulDjjRw>

Here's wishing everyone a better, safer, kinder world in 2021.

**Now we are in full lockdown and counting the days until 'St Vaccination' day
Stay safe everyone!**

(See the last page for news of our next event and for some sage advice!!)

The poster features a background image of a golden thread weaving through a landscape. In the top left, there is a small inset photo of Pete Morton smiling. The text is overlaid on the image in various sizes and colors (white and yellow).

A GOLDEN THREAD

Pete Morton

“An independent spirit, an old school troubadour”.

including songs from the album
in a live ‘Folk Fiasco Concert’ via Zoom
with friends,
Rick Ford, Mike Gledhill
Phoebe Rees, Helen Walford.

Wednesday 20th January

venue open 7.00pm for 7.30pm start
hosted by Peace through Folk and The Leek Peace Choir
contact peacethroughfolk@gmail.com for info and zoom ID

Please donate to the tip jar if you enjoyed watching the concert:
[PayPal.me/petemortonsongs](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.paypal.me/petemortonsongs) Thank you!

What is it that makes Leek such a great place to nurture live music?
Maybe it's something in the Moorlands air!

A much delayed live musical double is about to happen -

The first of a new series of ‘Folk Fiasco Concerts’, was planned by Peace through Folk in 2020 to coincide with the launch of **Pete Morton’s** latest album - ‘**A Golden Thread**’ .

That in-venue concert, postponed due to covid, will now take place in a Live by Zoom Concert on **Wednesday 20th January** .

Pete Morton is a much-loved favourite troubadour with a wealth of great songs, a remarkable singing voice and a rapid fire sense of humour which tempers his vivid social commentary, sense of social justice and humanity.

He has amassed an impressive catalogue of 16 albums produced during his career which began back to 1987. His musical travels have included concerts, festivals, and Folk Operas in all parts of the UK, Europe, North America, Australasia, Hong Kong, Oman, Israel/Palestine, Pakistan, Malaysia and Singapore

Although based in London Pete frequently returns to play gigs in Staffordshire.

During one such visit in 2019 he struck up an exciting new partnership with Paul Yarrow of Field Street Studios, Leek, .

The outcome is '**A Golden Thread**' an album of musical magic from Pete Morton created here in the Staffordshire Moorlands.

The launch concert on 20th January will also be supported by guest singers

Rick Ford, Mike Gledhill, Phoebe Rees, and Helen Walford

- each presenting a quite different form of musical excellence.

This will be a 'Folk Fiasco Concert' hosted by
Peace through Folk and The Leek Peace Choir

For more information contact Malcolm Hawksworth 0749 473 8939

contact peacethroughfolk@gmail.com

for info and zoom id

