

TOPIC

The LIVERPOOL SPINNERS

Songs Spun in Liverpool



*Recorded at
Samson and Barlow's
London Road
Liverpool*

Songs Spun In Liverpool
Sung by The Liverpool Spinners

Recording by Bill Leader.
Recorded at Samson and Barlow's,
London Road, Liverpool

Here's all the racy flavour of the New Brighton ferry and of fish and chips on the pierhead caught on this Topic record. If you can't get to Samson and Barlow's Grill in London Road, Liverpool on a Friday night then here's the next best thing.

The Liverpool Spinners have the best folk song club in Britain. There's Tony Davis, ex-jazz man, and Mick Groves, one-time president of the Merseyside Lonnie Donegan Club. And there's Cliff Hall from the West Indies with a big smile, and Hughie Jones, a Welsh import with an inscrutable ditto and a lyrical voice that almost makes you believe the myth that the Welsh are all singers. And among these men there's Jacqueline Macdonald who moved to Liverpool recently because it was getting to be a bit much, coming over from Bradford on Thursdays for rehearsal and on Fridays for the session. Besides her singing you'll hear on this disc her very nifty mandolin and she's one of the best, if not the best, female group singers on the folk scene. That's the line up. But no amount of words will give you as much idea about this group as you'll get by listening to this record.

Whip Jamboree. Words and tune adapted from Cecil Sharp. Large chunks of Santy Anna thrown in. Fort Perch Rock is a large sandstone fort at New Brighton, whose guns were never fired in anger except at a floating tar barrel which the garrison took for a U-boat in the '14-'18 war. It is now used for Rock 'n' Roll barbecues and Candy-floss machines.

The Liverpool Barrow Boy. Words by Mollie Armstrong who takes the money at the door. Tune *Rakes of Mallow*. Inspired by the sad sight of the Scouser barrow boys being hampered by the guardians of the peace in their profitable work of meeting public demand. Casey Street, Leece (pronounced Leeseey) Street and Cable Street are among the places where they are so hampered. A scuff is a copper and a judy-cop is a lady ditto.

Hayarden. Sung by a guest singer from Israel. The audience sing the burden while the soloist sings a descant-like melody telling the story of the River Jordan (Hayarden).

Champion of the Seas. Words by Hugh Jones. Tune collected from a sea-captain's widow and adapted by Jacqueline Macdonald. The Champion of the Seas was a sailing ship that broke the record on the Australia run, over a century ago. The October 1961 issue of "Spin", the Liverpool Spinners' own magazine, carries an interesting article on the song and the famous voyage.

Judy Drowned. Traditional Jamaican song adapted by Cliff Hall. If you can't follow it all clearly, the Spinners will send you the words. Write care of Topic.

John Peel. The regimental march of the border regiment. It was never like this on the parade ground! An interesting variant that should please all collectors of folk songs.

Eric Winter

The parts of this recorded material that don't properly belong in the public domain, and all the arrangements, are © Francis K. Bosworth, 1961.

Digital remaster ©2013 Topic Records Ltd.
©2013 Topic Records Records Ltd.
The copyright in this sound recording and digital artwork is owned by Topic Records Ltd.
All rights reserved.



The Liverpool Spinners



Topic