

### Why this concert?

There were many good reasons for holding the concert. What triggered it off was a visit to the newly re-opened Heighley Gate Garden Centre in 2004. My reaction when entering the spacious foyer was "what a super place for some music". Contact with David Lishman and his colleagues identified their interest and support. A family link with the specialist care and expertise provided to the community by the work of St. Oswald's Hospice identified a very strong reason for doing it for them. Last, but not least, it provided an opportunity to bring the original Danelaw Band together and for all to enjoy good music 'in the tradition'.

### Our Guests

We are indebted to **Ernie Coe** for compèring the evening.

The group '**Cross the Wannies**' was formed in the early 1990s by a group of musicians who wanted to play traditional music. An increase in membership since, points both to their success and to the desire of the musicians to keep alive our time honoured, regional music. The group are led by Ian Scott on keyboards and includes Northumbrian musician, Gillian Burnie, a former winner of the prestigious Scottish Golden Fiddle Award.

The Northumbrian pipe group '**Robson's Choice**' had its genesis in a Newcastle University piping course about five years ago and is named after Jane Robson their tutor. The current group meet regularly at St. Oswald's Day Hospice and has seen numbers grow. Much of their 'public' time is spent raising money for the Hospice and that makes them very welcome guests this evening.

The **Danelaw Country Dance Band** formed in the late 1960s from the merger of two groups of musicians with a particular interest in providing top quality traditional music for dances in Northumberland and the Borders. A very early booking in 1968 was to appear on 'Opportunity Knocks'. The band consisted of **Robert Whitehead** on accordion, his brother **Jon** on drums, **Joseph Hornsby** on fiddle, **Alan Brown** on piano and **Ray Barker** on double bass. Sadly, Ray had soon to take his leave due to the demands of higher academic studies. The Band continued as a four-piece. Local radio broadcasts followed in the early 1970s, then from the late 1970s with Radio 4 [Scotland]. Danelaw has broadcast with this station on a regular basis for well over 25 years. During the 1980s the band were joined for broadcasts and recordings, by **Alan Coulson**, a well-known and experienced Northumberland based musician. It is this band that provides the main part of this evening's entertainment.

[Joseph Hornsby]

# A Concert of Traditional and Old Time Music from Northumberland, The Borders and Beyond.

Tuesday 5th April 2005

Heighley Gate Garden Centre, Morpeth

7pm

The Danelaw Country Dance Band  
[Leader: Robert Whitehead]  
and Guests

All proceeds to



quality time for everyone

Our thanks to all who have supported this venture: the staff of Heighley Gate GC, St. Oswald's volunteers, the musicians and to Ernie Coe for holding it all together on the night.

Registered Charity No. 503386