

## Anyone else in the building who wants to sing who hasn't?

Written by Marcus Morris

Wednesday, 10 September 2008 18:45 - Last Updated Monday, 22 September 2008 16:44

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**After 16 years of fronting the Wednesday night music sessions at the Prince of Wales Ledbury, local song-writer and performer Mark Stevenson has finally "abdicated responsibility" as Master of Ceremonies.**

Although originally billed as a "folk night", the Prince of Wales music sessions have always featured an eclectic mix of traditional and contemporary contributions in the folk, blues, jazz and rock/pop styles. It all depends upon who actually turns up on the night.

Over the years, the peculiarly intimate setting has evolved a fertile musical environment where the distinction between performer and audience dissolves and musicians interact as peers. Certainly there are many who would agree that their confidence as performers has grown as a result of the magic opportunity to jam in this relaxed, inclusive and non-judgmental atmosphere.

In recognition of his tireless input since that first music session 16 years ago, friends and acquaintances presented Mark with a splendid brass D whistle which it was known he had been coveting for some time. Also a small tin of Vaseline with a caveat...

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The Prince of Wales music sessions will continue to take place every Wednesday night, although it remains to be seen who will emerge as the next dedicated MC.

*Photo by Ed 'Snapz' Mustafic*