



c/o Martin Snodin,
Farthings, Lion Lane,
Turners Hill,
West Sussex RH104NU

Tel. 01342 716975 (eve/weekends)
01737 376090 (day)
mobile: 0780 901 3329
email: martin@acousticsussex.org.uk

For the attention of:

8 May 2007

Monday 4 June 2007

Chequer Mead Arts Centre, East Grinstead

VIN GARBUTT

Support: Anna Ryder

Vin Garbutt is reputed to have said that he is not interested in becoming a big star in the accepted sense. Nevertheless in the area of music where he performs, there is no bigger star. He is one of the best known performers on the music scene today, and one of the most sought-after. It is no surprise. His song-writing is witty and powerful, tackling thought-provoking issues which others prefer to avoid, and he is an accomplished guitarist and fine whistle player.

Vin has been working non-stop since 1969, touring all over the world as well as playing in virtually every part of this "sceptred isle". Despite the years of performing, the songs always remain fresh and vibrant, and the repertoire is always changing. Vin is genuinely funny, and his quirky observations of life are always very much part of the act, delighting audiences everywhere.



More at www.vingarbutt.com



Special support for this show comes from **Anna Ryder**, a superb singer-songwriter and talented multi-instrumentalist whose songs are consistently original and inventive (she has written for Fairport Convention, among others).

More at (www.rowdymusic.net)

Tickets are £12 (less concessions) from the Box Office 01342 302000 or email info@chequermead.org.uk. More information at (www.acousticsussex.org.uk).

More overleaf

Quotes - what others say:

"The diversity and controversial nature of his powerful, thought provoking self-penned songs performed with passion, integrity and a sincere belief in the subject matter earn him universal respect. Add to this his wealth of traditional songs, fun songs, fine musicianship, a zany rare wit, with introductions which could send his audiences "rolling in the aisles", and you have the ingredients for the perfect recipe for success." **Folk on Tap**

"He really sticks his neck out and occasionally gets it kicked in, but this doesn't stop him, I'm a big fan of his!"
Loudon Wainwright III

What is Acoustic Sussex?

Acoustic Sussex is a non-profit making organisation that promotes quality singer/ songwriters and other acoustic musicians in the mid-Sussex area, using different venues. We encourage new and local talent by providing support slots for the main act and other opportunities such as 'open mic' evenings. Any profit we make from events is used for charitable purposes.

Vin Garbutt biography



Vin Garbutt is reputed to have said that he is not interested in becoming a big star in the accepted sense. Nevertheless in the area of music where he performs, there is no bigger star. He prefers to be a big fish in a small pond. This attitude means that his need for privacy and a balanced home life are safeguarded and satisfied. What the world realised long before Vin did, was that the small pond had grown over the years into a considerable lake.

All this has happened without the hype from big record companies, and without the usual publicity from the mass media. He has performed all over the globe, and in parts of countries that the biggest stars will never see. This phenomenon has occurred solely by word of mouth, spread by people who have come across him, and felt the need to share this unique experience with their fellow countrymen.

Vin was born in South Bank, Middlesbrough, to an Irish mother and an English father. He discovered folk music whilst he was still at school, becoming a regular visitor (and performer) at The Rifle Club in Cannon Street, Middlesbrough. On leaving school Vin was steered into the safety of an apprenticeship at the massive I.C.I. Wilton Chemical Plant. During this period he set off regularly to Ireland in search of his musical roots. At the age of 21, he threw caution to the winds and became a professional musician. Armed with the rich repertoire of songs he had amassed, he spent the first summer busking his way around the bars of Spain's Mediterranean coast, and on to Morocco via Gibraltar. It was then that he found he had a talent for songwriting. Back in England in 1972 he recorded his first album for Bill Leader - The Valley Of Tees. This firmly established him as a singer and songwriter of fine socially conscious, and environmentally aware songs. As one magazine very recently put it - "Vin Garbutt was green long before the Greens were green!"

Throughout the 70's Vin's reputation grew rapidly until he became the most sought after performer on the folk scene. The development of his 'act' took in songs of the past and his own material, his introductions became more and more zany and funny, and his brilliant tin-whistle playing never ceased to amaze. "Half the fun on some of his numbers is spotting the story he has told you in the song he is singing" - to quote one review. As "THE Man of British Folk Music" in the '80's he was asked to tour abroad: visiting the U.S.A., Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Yugoslavia, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Denmark, Ireland, New Zealand, Cyprus, Singapore, Thailand, and Bermuda.

During 1999 Vin celebrated his 30th year as a professional performer. He spent the early part of the year on a world tour, playing extensively in the Far East, Australia and New Zealand. As soon as he got back to England he set off on his "Take It Easy After 30 Years On The Road" tour to packed theatres. No sooner had the New Millennium begun than a new event was on the calendar. The BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. Vin was asked to present the award to The Best Folk Club 2000 and in the following year Vin was nominated for "Folk Singer of the Year" and also "Best Live Act". Indeed Vin was the winner of "The Best Live Act" BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 2001.

Vin's career has continued to flourish and 2004 saw him take on another world tour. Vin's annual workload is pretty gruelling and the touring was tiring and, of course, Vin isn't as young as he used to be but a check up did highlight a health problem. It was nothing to worry about at the time and occasional monitoring of the situation was recommended. However early in 2005 whilst on a sabbatical trip to Spain, Vin's condition deteriorated and on his return he was hospitalised. He needed a repair to one of his heart valves, which was quickly carried out, and Vin has since made a full recovery. It was hard having to be unable to perform for five months but now Vin is back on the road and his voice is as good as ever.

What is Acoustic Sussex?

Acoustic Sussex is a non-profit making organisation that promotes quality singer/ songwriters and other acoustic musicians in the mid-Sussex area, using different venues. We encourage new and local talent by providing support slots for the main act and other opportunities such as 'open mic' evenings. Any profit we make from events is used for charitable purposes.