

Jill Palmer-Swift on the dance tradition being alive

Jill: It may pick up again, I don't know. See, it's not dead. It cannot be dead, because we wrote some of our own dances. So it's not as though we're perpetuating something that stopped being done two hundred years ago, because we've continued by writing our own dances. And some of them are with newer figures, different figures, to carry on the tradition. Because it is the essence of folk dancing that it cannot just be enshrined in a period of time, like the eighteenth century, it has to move on, it has to have new dances and new things being done.

Sue: Well I certainly hope that there's a way that that can be carried on. Perhaps this is just a temporary difficulty.

Jill: I hope so, I hope so. Even if some of us keep teaching it from time to time, at least it keeps it in people's minds.

Read more about the interview on Essex Archives Online: [SA 30/7/1/4/1](#)