

Paul Kiff on singarounds at the Old Ship

Paul: We go to a club in Heybridge Basin, the Old Ship, and there's a bloke comes in there, he plays the trombone in a jazz band. And he'll come and that's what he does. And he'll play a bit of his music. Then someone else will sing a bit of Jake Thackray, someone else sings a bit of REM, we'll play what we do, and someone will play a bit of the Dubliners. And actually it's okay, because we're all entertaining each other, with our particular brand of music. But to me, what we're trying– You know, my wife and I like the old stuff, and we perform it, but we don't expect everyone else to do that. But collectively, the context is the tradition. It's singing together in public and having a good time. That's what I see. That's my view of it. I mean, again, other people have different views. We happen to like to sing the traditional stuff. It would be boring if that's all that anybody sang, certainly old people who bore you to death with a long ballad– Are you one of those are you? [Laughs] We don't mind them occasionally!

Sue: Twice a year!

Paul: But above all else, if it's not entertaining it's not appropriate.

Read more about the interview on Essex Archives Online: [SA 30/7/1/11/1](#)