

Maureen Knight interviews Rhodri Davies on 21 November 2015

Content: Rhodri became a folk dancer at University and is now a popular caller across the UK for contra dance.

Tumpath & barndances before went to Manchester University to study Computer Science. Went with Bob Archer & Elmo Eldridge to university Folk Dance Club and stewarded at IVFDF

1985 started calling

1995, first Halsway visit as caller for Stonesfield FDC (Oxon) weekend, invited by Graham Knight, band Knotted Chord

Liked Halsway as totally different to other experiences fitted together love of historic places and dance

Contra Hothouse July 2003 with fiddler Rodney Miller (TT66) and David Surette (guitar), and Mary Kay (piano) of USA of "Airdance" and a selection of UK callers. Rhodri was delighted to have opportunity to call because he knew Rodney's music from "New England Chestnuts"

anecdote of Dave Surette breaking a guitar string, and continuing to play and change string
other people mentioned: Mike Barraclough, Cis Hinkle, Ali Ellicott, Rhodri's wife Caroline plus their children

2008, became caller for November Zesty Contra houseparty, set up by Mike Baraclough, and continued by Stick Shift (Robbie & Holly Thomas & Nigel Walker) Mark Elvin called Friday night, and this pattern continues has continued now Stick Shift has become Wild Ride with Bob Tracey as fiddler

Rhodri Davis with Wild Ride

Rhodri learned calling from Mark (and HoeDown) at Sidmouth 1987

when at Halsway always busy preparing or calling

2015 Spent week before 50th birthday at Halsway with Falconers FDG (photo)