

# SHORES OF THE FORTH

John Watt & Davey Stewart

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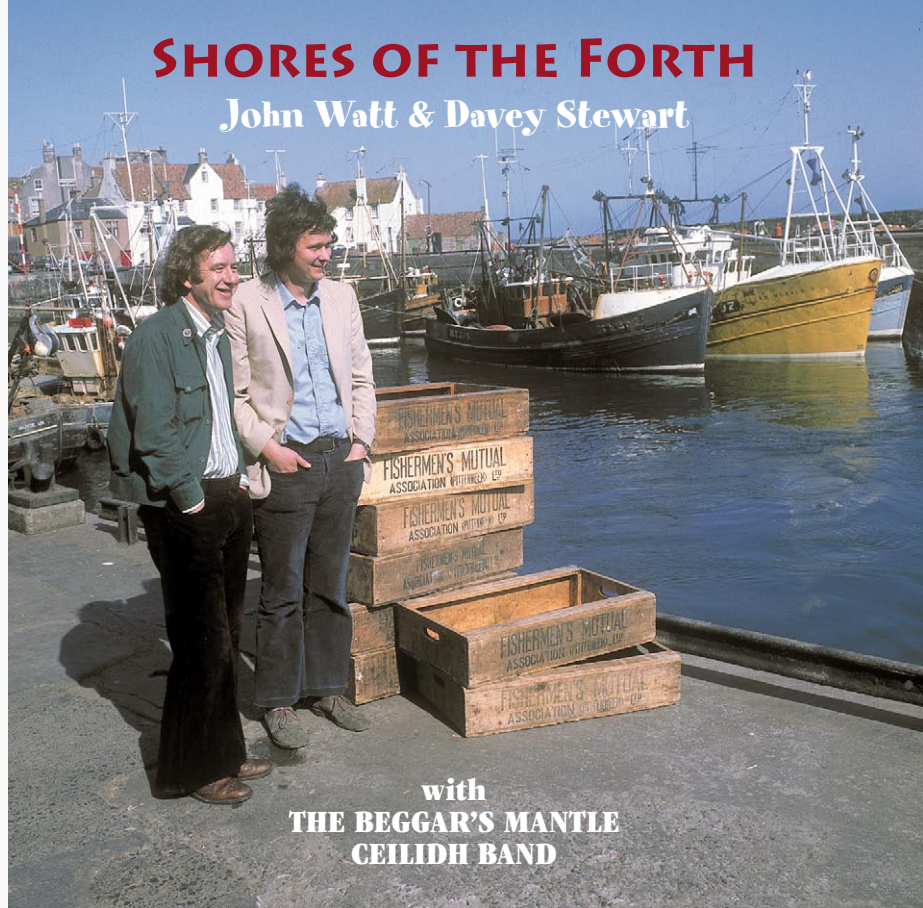
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# SHORES OF THE FORTH

John Watt & Davey Stewart



with  
**THE BEGGAR'S MANTLE**  
**CEILIDH BAND**

**1: LOCHABER GATHERING/ TAM BAIN'S LUM**

*Two favourite pipe tunes from the band.*

**2: SHORES OF THE FORTH/ FISHER'S HORNPIPE**

*A song from Davey and a tune from the band:*

Come aa you East Neuk fishin lads that stand in  
the prime o yer youth,

Come sit awhile alang wi me, I'll tell ye aa the  
truth;

For I've lived nearby for aa ma days alang East  
Ainster toon,

Noo I'm gey near deid, I've earned ma breid, on the  
cauld hard herrin grounds.

**3: DUNFERMLINE LINEN**

*A recitation from John:*

In a mean abode, doon the Limekilns road lived a  
man cried Charlie Groat,

And he'd a wife, the plague o his life, wa  
continually got on his goat.

**4: PITTENWEEM JO**

*A simple lyrical song written by John in 1960. The  
fishing village of Pittenweem has the main commercial  
fish auction in the East Neuk of Fife.*

I'm gaun wi a lass frae Pittenweem,  
She's every fisher laddie's dream;

She guts the herrin doon by the quay,  
And saves her kisses just for me.

**5: MY WEE DOG**

*A nonsense song by John. 'East Fife' and  
'Dunfermline Athletic' are rivals on the football field.*

I've got a dog, a nice wee dog  
Oh he barks all day in the field and plays  
My dog's called Phineas Fogg  
Oh he went round the world in thirty days.

**6: DUNDEE CITY POLICE PIPE BAND/ HILLS OF  
GLENORCHY**

*Another set of tunes from the band.*

**7: THE EYMOUTH DISASTER/ THE BOATIE ROWS**

*Written by John in 1964. The lives of 149 Eyemouth  
fishermen were lost in a storm in October 1881.*

By the dowie rocks o Hurkur,  
Though deadly were the signs,  
Oot sailed the Eyemouth Fifies

Wi a thousand baited lines;  
Though a glass-like sea and cloudless sky,  
Made the elders bid them stay;

For these are the times that brave men die,  
But the halflins held the sway.

**8: ANNABELLE ROSABELLE**

*A parody by John on Donovan's Jennifer Juniper.*

'Broo' – Labour Exchange; 'Packit lugs' – Dirty Ears;  
'Windae hingin' – Leaning out of a window; 'Lannie'  
– Lanliq, an intoxicating beverage; 'Cludgie' – Toilet/WC.

Annabelle Rosabelle Jamieson McGee,  
Sixteen stone o flesh and bone

And only twenty three.

Do I see her often? Yes I do sir!

Every Friday at ra broo sir!

All she gets she hands it o'er tae me,  
Annabelle Rosabelle McGee.

**9: KELTY CLIPPIE**

*John's celebration of a passing way of life. 'Clippie'  
– Bus Conductress; 'Pyramids' – the Pit Bings (Slag  
Heaps); 'Happyland' – Miners' Rows in Lochgelly now  
demolished; 'Pitch and Toss' – Game favoured in mining  
areas where bets are made on the toss of a coin.*

I have traivelled over this country,  
Frae shore tae shining shore;

Frae the swamps o Auchterderran,  
Tae the jungles o Lochore.

But in aa these far flung places,  
There's nane that can compare;

Wi the Lily o Lumphinnans,  
She's ma bonnie Maggie Blair.

**10: BARBARA DONNACHIE/ COOLIE'S REEL**

**THE ASH PLANT/ THE CORNER HOUSE**

*A set of four reels from the band.*

**11: MINING TRILOGY: ANTHONY REILLY/  
EANY MANY/ SCHOOLDAYS OVER**

*A trilogy of songs that take a critical look at the  
politics and hardships of the life of a miner. The first  
song, Anthony Reilly, was written by Ivan Frieman and  
set to music by Archie Fisher, the second, Eany Meany  
– a poem by John, and the third Schooldays Over – a  
fine song from the pen of Ewan MacColl.*

As I made my way down the street to the colliery,  
As I to my work was a-making my way;

I heard the sad news and I heard the men talking,  
Young Anthony Reilly has worked his last day.

**12: BOBBY MULDOON**

*A song written by John built round a legendary  
character from Dunfermline. East End Park is the home  
of Dunfermline Athletic Football Club and The Auld Grey  
Toon is of course Dunfermline.*

Noo me and ma pal Bobby Muldoon,  
Oh we hivnae got nae jobs;

Oh we hing about the Cross in the Auld Grey Toon,  
A-pickin up the tanners and bobs.

A wee bit lead, a tip on the dugs,  
In sunshine or in snaw;

Flet on the grund's whaur ye'll find wur lugs,  
For we're aye on the ba.

**13: THE POACHERS**

*In the eighteenth and nineteenth century many  
people from Scotland were transported to Van Dieman's  
Land, now Tasmania, for the most trivial of crimes.*

Come all you gallant sporting boys that ramble  
void of care,

When you go out on a moonlight night with your  
dog your gun your snare;

The harmless hare and pheasant you have at your  
command,

No thinkin on your last career upon Van Dieman's  
Land.

**14: THE NEW TOON HALL/ THERE CAM A YOUNG  
MAN/ THE GOBY O/ ROSIN THE BEAU**

*A set of four tunes in jig time from the band.*

**15: FAREWELL TAE THE FERRIES**

*When the Forth Road Bridge linking Fife with the  
Lothians opened in September 1964 it saw the demise  
of the ferry service across the river Forth between North  
and South Queensferry - and the end of some of the  
frustrations of ferry travel.*

Noo the wide river Forth oh it keeps us apart,  
Frae the hustle and bustle o Auld Reekie's clime;  
While the motorist glowers as he sits here for hours,  
It's farewell tae the ferries and no afore time.

**16: FIFE'S GOT EVERYTHING & 17: BLUE SKIES**

*A humorous look at Fife through the eyes of John  
and Davey. Central Park is Cowdenbeath Football Club's  
home ground. The naval dockyard of Rosyth is close to  
North Queensferry.*

The New Tay Road Bridge, finest in the country,  
Half a croon tae cross it and it disnae raise a cheer;

It's a bob tae cross the Mersey, ye can stuff it up  
yer jersey,

Would they pay it down in London, oh no bloody  
fear.

*Chorus:*

Oh Fife's got everything, just the place for tourists,  
See the bonny pit bings staundin in a raw.

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