



## Press Release

### New CD

# Beauty And Butchery

From

## The Long Hill Ramblers

Long Hill Ramblers Records LHRCD-2  
Released 1 January 2014

[www.longhillramblers.com](http://www.longhillramblers.com)

#### Download:

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[info@longhillramblers.com](mailto:info@longhillramblers.com)

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 Take Me Home  | 7 The Storms Are On The Ocean |
| 2 The Southern Girl's reply   | 8 Molly Bond                  |
| 3 Little Margaret / Black Jack Grove  | 9 Still House                 |
| 4 Frankie and Johnny or Leaving Home  | 10 The Bright Sunny South     |
| 5 One Year When Bacon Was Scarce /<br>Polska efter "Mofatt" Anders Jonasson | 11 44 Gun                     |
| 6 Hop, Rabbit, Hop  | 12 Lady Diamond               |
|   | 13 Broken-Hearted Love        |

### If you're looking for a gimmick, move along.

All the Long Hill Ramblers have to offer is folk music: clear, beautiful vocals, rich harmonies, virtuoso musicianship, and a repertoire drawn from among the finest traditional songs on both sides of the Atlantic.

Gloriously under-produced by Sean Lakeman, their new album brings together the English purity of **Laura Hockenhull's** voice ("What is amazing is the quality of her performance, her ability to interpret songs in a new and refreshing way..." Nigel Schofield) and the instrumental wizardry and heartfelt precision of **Tab Hunter** on guitar, **Ben Paley** on fiddle and **Dan Stewart** on banjo and mandolin – each of whom has made an international reputation in all sorts of traditional music.

The result is a beguiling fusion of British and American styles, with both strands clear and reinvented along the way – from the Carter Family (*Broken-Hearted Love*) and Charlie Poole and the North Carolina Ramblers (*Frankie and Johnny*), through Swedish polska (*Polska efter "Mofatt" Anders Jonasson*) and Dock Boggs (*The Bright Sunny South*) to the stark, uncompromising Child Ballad *Lady Diamond*, learned from Frankie Armstrong. Add to this a clutch of songs learned from Laura's and Ben's respective parents (*44 Gun* and *The Storms Are on the Ocean*) and you have a stunning selection, imbued with knowledge, respect and willingness to treat Anglo and American musics as different strands of the same tradition.

They sound like no-one else, and that's why the Long Hill Ramblers are great:

**Real music. No gimmicks.**

***See over for one-sheet blog »***

# The Long Hill Ramblers

Laura and Ben began working together in early 2008, their first offering *Moonlight Night*, from the singing of Dorothy Elliott, which appeared on a charity compilation of Yorkshire songs, *The Blind Jack Band*. They began working with Tab Hunter in spring 2009, originally focussing on an American repertoire since it seemed to come more easily, and adopted the name Long Hill Ramblers in mid 2010. Dan Stewart joined the band that winter, and even as the band gained a five-string player they started to make more of an effort to do English material, taking 'a synthetic, organic rather than analytic view of things', as Ben says. The four made a five-track EP, *The Downs Barn Demo*, in 2012.



The Long Hill Ramblers © 2011 Guillaume Gautier

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## Laura Hockenhull

Laura's background is in West Yorkshire, where she was born into one of the first families of British folk music: mother Helen and father Mike work with the greats of the revival, exposing her to American and British influences and giving her an easy familiarity with the roots of modern folk

music. Laura has been singing in clubs and at festivals since childhood, perfecting her craft: in duos with John Dipper and Damien O'Kane and with bands like Boss Caine, not to mention her work on stage and in the studio with the Guillemots and the Moulettes.



Laura  
Downs Barn  
© 2012 Mike Hockenhull

## Tab Hunter

Tab has gained his breadth of experience as a guitarist (flat-picker and accompanist), songwriter and recorded jews' harpist as a soloist and in duos and bands in the tradition, from Irish music to death-blue-metal-grass, through klezmer, jazz, Old Time and Scandinavian folk music. His playing has taken him to perform all over Europe, including England's prestigious Edale and North Wales bluegrass festivals, not to mention being broadcast by various media all over the world.

## Ben Paley

Son of Tom Paley, one of the major figures of the American revival, Ben was surrounded by traditional music from the outset. He's played and recorded with Damon Albarn, Michael Nyman, Murray Lachlan Young, Levellers, The Saw Doctors, McDermott's 2 Hours, Sara Grey and Kieron Means, the New Deal String Band and Bonnie Dobson to name a few, as well as writing about traditional Swedish music.



Dan, Ben and Tab  
Downs Barn  
© 2012 Mike Hockenhull

## Dan Stewart

A leading clawhammer banjo player and guitarist, Dan has been performing for over 15 years, playing mainly Old Time American and Cajun music. As well as the LHR, Dan plays for Rattle on the Stovepipe (with Dave Arthur and Pete Cooper), and in Swallowtail with his sister, fiddler Sarah Tadros, performing Irish, Scottish, Greek and English folk music. He has taught music since 1996, privately and at festival workshops, and is a tutor for the Saturday Workshops at London's Cecil Sharp House.



The Long Hill Ramblers  
Beautiful Days 2013  
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