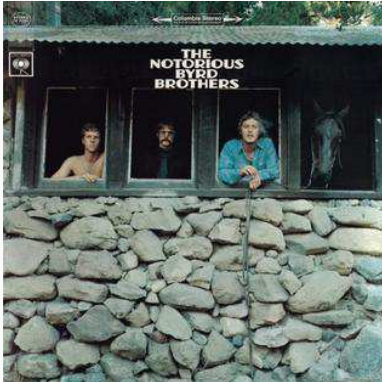


1: That'll Do 1998 3:56

Peter Gabriel featuring Paddy Maloney & The Black Dyke Mills Band

My first choice is on the sound track of Babe: Pig in the City, and combines 2 of my favourites, Peter Gabriel and brass band music. As if brass band music wasn't emotional enough, the lyrics are so true. Simple acts of kindness by other people will stay with me forever.

*A kind and steady heart can make a grey sky blue
And a task that seems impossible is quite possible for you*



2: Wasn't Born To Follow 1968 2:02

The Byrds

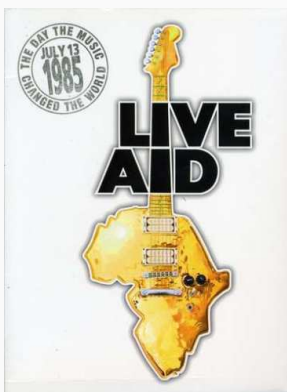
This is also from a film soundtrack, Easy Rider. The music was written by the marvelous Carole King, and I love the Byrds gentle harmonies. At the time you could sit through and watch the film again, which I did many times. I was 15 and oh how I loved the music and all the lead actors Peter Fonda, Dennis Hopper and Jack Nicholson.



3: Sway 1971 3:52

The Rolling Stones

From Sticky Fingers, one of those covers that outraged people at the time. The line up for this was Jagger, Richards, Taylor, Wyman, Watts with Nicky Hopkins on the piano, I still think of Ronnie Wood as the new bloke. I have seen the Stones perform many times and their energy and commitment is outstanding. Of course its impossible to choose just one, Brown Sugar was the classic dancing record but I do love the bluesy quieter ones too.



4: Rockin' All Over the World 1985 4:00

Status Quo from Live Aid 1985

I've always had a soft spot for Quo, just basic fun music and great to dance to. I can remember watching this on TV, we lived in Sudbury, Wembley at the time so would have been able to hear it in the back garden but our Burmese cat, Kate, was in season and we had to keep her indoors with all the windows shut on an extremely hot day. She came with us to Piddington and died in my arms at the age of 22. Freddie Mercury stole the show with his call out to the crowd Ayyyy-Oh, altogether now !

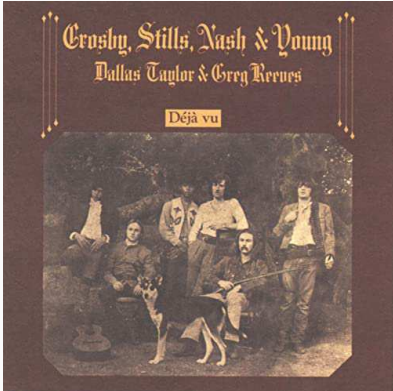


5 : The Pearl Fishers Duet 2014 3:52

Georges Bizet Rhydian

This is a very special piece of music for me as it brings back memories of our theatre going days when Ron and I went to the theatre every month. We saw this opera at the Royal Opera House. The duet was played at his funeral in St Nicholas' Church, Piddington

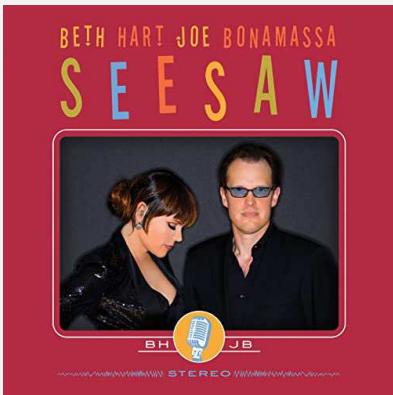
This version of The Pearl Fishers Duet, by Rhydian, is amazing as he sings both tenor and baritone.



6: Our House 1970 2:59

Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young

Beautiful harmonies and memories of Woodstock. This is a lovely song written about simple domestic life and how sharing your life with somebody makes things better. It will also remind me of all the cats I have had in my life. Any song by Neil Young could easily have made the list. I saw David Crosby play live recently another of my childhood heroes.

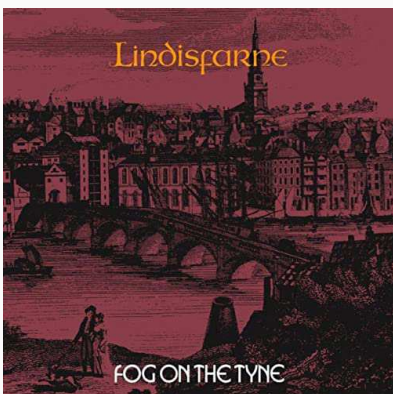


7: Strange Fruit 2013 5:47

Beth Hart and Joe Bonamassa

Extraordinary lyrics, about a terrible time in America.

You can't beat the original by the sublime Billie Holiday, this haunting song has also been recorded by Nina Simone, UB40, Jeff Buckley, Siouxsie and the Banshees, Robert Wyatt and Annie Lennox. But I chose this version because I have been lucky enough to see both play live, Beth Hart at the Barbican and Joe Bonamassa at Shepherds Bush, and the Royal Albert Hall so lots of memories with this one.



8: Meet me on the Corner 1971 2:39

Lindisfarne

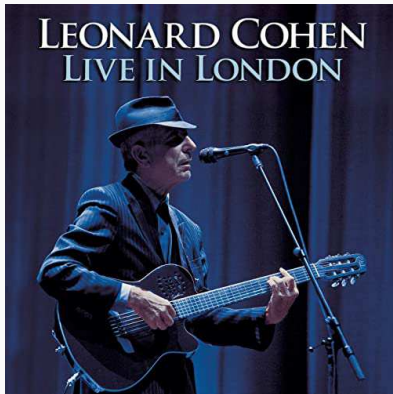
Quadruple memories for this one! 1971 was a great year for music: Rod Stewart, The Doors, Led Zeppelin, Carole King, Al Green, The Temptations, Isaac Hayes, Three Dog Night... When I took John to meet my brother he played this during supper as John is from the North East. Two of the demi johns used for village cider making are called Barney and Tom after the ex Lindisfarne duo who played at the wonderful Piddington Apple Days. Last but by no means least this was played in the Village Hall by the simply marvellous Ukolade.



9: Resin on My Heart Strings 2009 4:07

Newton Faulkner

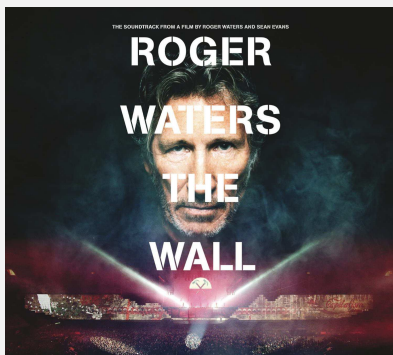
This is a beautiful love song. I saw Newton Faulkner play at the Royal Albert Hall, Sunflower Jam, together with Deep Purple, Bill Bailey, Rick Wakeman, Jon Lord, Anna Phoebe, Joe Bonamassa, Gary Brooker, Jack Moore (son of Gary Moore) and Danny Bowes. Great memories of a wonderful night out in 2011 when the artists played together to raise money for the research and application of holistic and non-toxic treatments for children and young adults suffering from cancer.



10: Dance me to the End of Love 1984 6:20

Leonard Cohen

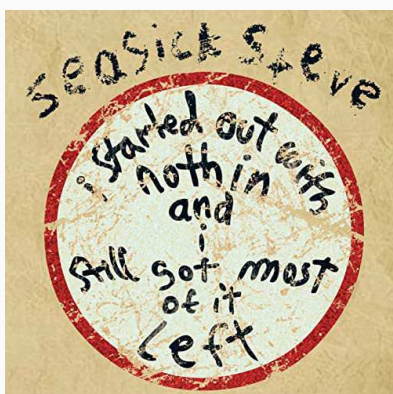
I have listened to Leonard Cohen since Suzanne in 1967 and have always been a huge fan. I even had a 'famous blue raincoat' in my 20s and named our Zen cat after him. I went to this concert in Wembley, it was a dream come true to see this amazingly talented man. He was a Buddhist monk for many years and his humanity shone through. I love the Greek influence of the music, the lyrics are about the Holocaust and it is a tribute to his song writing that it is still easy to listen to.



11: The Wall 2015 3:45

Roger Waters

This is to recall the incredible moment when the Berlin wall finally came down in 1991. I missed book group to go and see this, in Birmingham, but it was worth it. Of course Pink Floyd had to be here somewhere but this was such an awesome show that I have gone for Roger Walter's version. It was very emotional as the wall had photos of soldiers who had been killed in service, but also thrilling when the wall collapsed.



12: Started out with Nothin'

Seasick Steve

In 2018 stuck in traffic and listening to radio 2 we heard about the Children in Need Charity Auction, so I put in a bid and to my surprise won 2 seats to the event in London, the star of the show was supposed to be Rick Astley, but Steve and his home made guitars simply stole the evening.

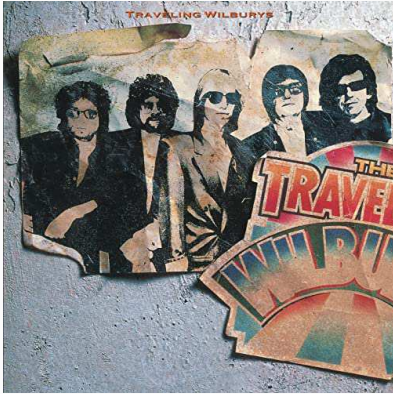
*Cause I started out with nothing
And I've still got most of it left*



13: Killing the Blues 2007 4:15

Robert Plant and Alison Krauss

Oh my, Robert Plant, a true rock god, I finally got to see him in Cardiff, but I broken my hip so had to go in a wheel chair and could not get up and dance, but it was still tremendous. From the Lemon Song through to No Quarter I could listen to him all day. I have chosen a more mellow song, as I like pedal steel and the combination of their voices, so here is a bluesy Plant.



14: End of the Line 1988 3:29

Travelling Wilburys

Another huge cheat because I get 5 incredible musicians for the price of one: Bob Dylan, George Harrison, Jeff Lynne, Roy Orbison and Tom Petty. George Harrison was my favourite Beatle and the Concert for George would be my one desert island LP as it has wonderful musicians such as Ravi Shankar and Joe Brown. Again the lyrics mean a lot

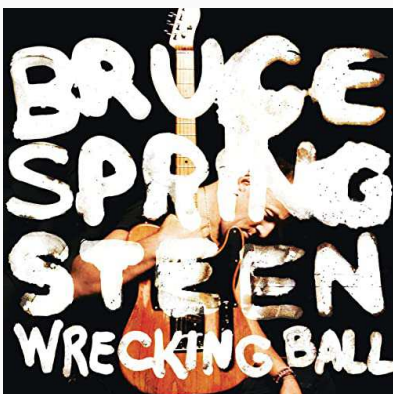
Well it's all right, doing the best you can
Well it's all right, as long as you lend a hand



15: 1999 1982 36:13

Prince

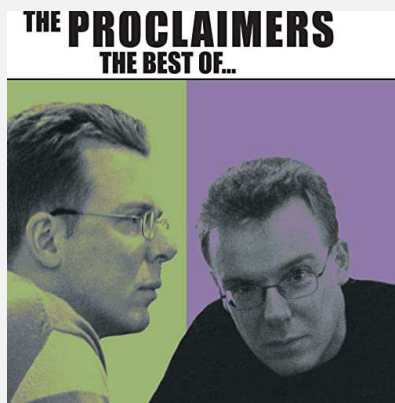
I chose this because there had to be a song to remind me of the year 2000 when planes were going to fall out of the sky! I went to see the Millennium Dome, somewhere I have a dome paperweight. Its better as a music venue. Prince was such a brilliant musician and he made perfect party music. When the lockdown is over and Covid-19 defeated there will be so many parties to look forward to.



16: Jack of all Trades 2012 5:58

Bruce Springsteen

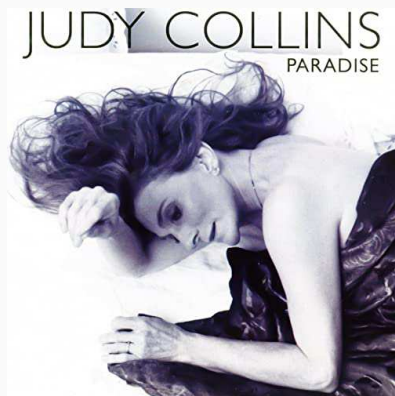
There had to be a song by the Boss, he writes and performs modern anthems. I chose this one because John is my Jack of all Trades, he can fix most things. We saw Bruce perform at the Isle of Wight Festival in 2012. That year it was so muddy that it was difficult to walk in and the mud came up over your wellies. The line up that year was incredible, Tom Petty, Elbow, Joan Armatrading, Madness and so many more. It was also where we first saw Wight Hot Pipes who kindly came to the mainland to play at our wedding celebration in the Jubilee Reserve two years later.



17: I'm Gonna Be (500 miles) 1987 3:37

The Proclaimers

This one reminds me of Piddington Village Hall, as its the song we often round off the Ukulele nights with. The Proclaimers are brilliant live, they have the ultimate tunes to roar along to and good foot stompers. Lets get Married will always be a special memory for me as we played it before our wedding ceremony at Studley Wood Golf Club, with all our friends and family sharing our happiness.



18: Diamonds and Rust 2010 3:35

Joan Baez and Judy Collins

A beautiful song written by Joan Baez and recorded by so many, including Judas Priest ! This version combined with the stunning voice of Judy Collins is very special. Diamonds and rust is evocative of time and how time can bring back memories either beautiful or sad meaning the time when a rock becomes a diamond or weathers something to rust. I saw Joan Baez play a few years ago and an early classic, Joe Hill is still one of my favourites.



19: Golden Years 1976 4:03

David Bowie

The most difficult choice of all, choosing just one Bowie song is impossible, he was a genius and when he sadly died I felt as if I had lost a friend. He was a style icon, an actor, song writer and captured the zeitgeist for 3 decades. I went to the Glass Spider show the day after my brother got married. We are now both retired and I hope entering our golden years with many more to enjoy.



My final choice is

20: Life's Been Good 1978 8:56

Joe Walsh 1978 8:56

Joe Walsh was with the Eagles another of my favourites (who doesn't love Hotel California – You can check out but you can never leave- surely written about Piddington).

A great one for sing along too, fantastic lyrics

I can't complain but sometimes I still do

Life's been good to me so...

.....and indeed it has.

Thank you letting me choose my desert island/isolation music, I've chosen most of the music based on live performances as they hold the greatest memories and its what I most miss during lockdown and I think concerts, plays and festivals will be very different, at least in the short term.

If I have to choose one its the first one, because I will remember all the kind things that people have done for me helping me get through the bad times and enjoy the good times.

My book had to be one we had read at Piddington Page Turners as it will remind me of the fantastic evenings when 13 of us got together to discuss books and enjoy each others hospitality. It was a straight fight between My Cousin Rachel by Daphne Du Maurier and Picklehead by Rohan Candappa. In the end I chose Picklehead because it was a serendipitous find in Sainbury's second hand pile; we have adopted a quote from it, which is about doing things properly, '*if you are going to do the ironing do the ironing*'; it made me laugh *and* it has recipes. Although I still want to know if Cousin Rachel actually did it.