

Jim Worton

The story so far . . .

Jim's music career started at school with a few friends setting up their own band. This led on to other amateur ventures which eventually led into a semi-professional career in the duo, Morgan James Sound in the mid 1970s, performing songs from the 50s, 60s and chart tunes of the day. In 1978 he went solo and the following year he turned professional, adding self-penned songs to his repertoire. During this period he won several awards for both singing and songwriting. He continued with his solo career and at various times also played with other bands and did some session and duo work while at the same time working in local pubs, clubs, theatres and holiday centres, often gaining work for the full summer season and alongside many of the top acts in the country. His love of Country music had always been a major influence in his act and so in 1995 he decided to concentrate his talents fully on this aspect of his career and entered the Country music circuit as Walton James.

In 1996 he was asked to join one of the top international Country music bands, Fever as lead singer/guitarist. One of his first performances with the band was in a festival in Switzerland in front of 15,000 people and his career with the band took him all over the UK, including Scotland and Wales. Fever took part in many top festivals, often headlining the event, including the Americana at Newark with top American acts.

Since leaving the band in October 1997 he has made a big impact on the circuit with his likeable personality and professional stage act which is very visual - he has a costume change for every set - and lively, as he covers the whole stage no matter how large.

Jim has developed a style of his own which is in good demand and caters for all areas of Country music. Whether line, partner or freestyle dance, theatre or concert he will meet your requirements, keeping right up to date with the latest line dances. Recently engaged to Heather from Suffolk who teaches line dance in Newmarket he keeps in touch with what's going on in the line dance scene. Talking of dance, Jim enjoys Ceroc dancing himself, a cross between jive and salsa. He also does acoustic nights, just Jim singing with an acoustic guitar, no backing tracks. However, all his tracks are now produced by himself playing bass guitar, keyboards, acoustic and electric guitar with drum tracks and harmony vocals, so when you hear Jim live you hear Jim!

He has always been known for his voice and whether it's a



sentimental ballad or a gritty Country song Jim delivers it with all the passion you would expect of a man who loves to perform.

Jim has recorded five cds: Line & Partner Volumes 1 & 2; Old Meets New Country; Innocence (acoustic); and his latest, It's Only Me. Most albums have 20 tracks, adding up to approximately 79 minutes of music, compared to an average cd which is approximately 45 minutes. As mentioned, Jim is an accomplished songwriter of some 38 years, winning awards and competitions along the way. He has also written songs with his daughter Amberley who, eight years ago when aged just 11, wrote the music to a much commended song called Put The Night On Hold which Jim recorded and produced on his first album. Jim is currently writing new songs for a totally original album.

Most important to Jim is to perform live. In 2003 he went to Texas with the duo, Speed Limit, mainly on holiday but also to perform in Wichita Falls in a Country club where they were treated to a BBQ indoors, a resident live band and a drop or two of tequila.

Jim still tours the whole country and still loves it after all these years. He has performed with the likes of Mary Duff, Sarah Jory and Daniel O'Donnell.

Look out for Jim appearing in your area or try recommending him to your promoter. His telephone number is in the gig list.