

## Last course for Jelly fans

By IFAN PAYNE

ROARING Jelly have bounced around the country for well over a decade entertaining audiences with their special brand of music and fun.

But the trio have finally decided to call it a day and were appearing on Sunday evening at the Islwyn Folk Club, Ynysddu, as part of their farewell tour.

Presumably the jelly is finally setting in its mould.

Roaring Jelly are a versatile and energetic group whose music fits no style but encompasses many.

### REVIEW

Always humorous, the comedy hides both the sheer professionalism of their singing and the ironic bite behind the humour.

Sometimes the satire is gentle, as in the hilarious send-up of country and western, *I Was Born With Malnutrition The Wrong Side of the Tracks*. Sometimes the message is more bitter as in the up-beat protest song, *The March of Progress*.

These were balanced by the pure pleasure of songs

like *The Bathroom Song* and *You Can't Get Many Pimples on a Pound of Pickled Pork*.

Sometimes you are so bewitched by mercurial musical quick-changes that you almost do not notice that out of this roaring entertainment comes a classic like *Valerie Wilkins* which joins *Livingstone Taylor's Pajamas* as one of the great songs of childhood.

Sometimes, with Roaring Jelly you laugh so much that you don't realise how much it hurts.

The Islwyn Folk Club, in the Ynysddu Hotel, is a friendly club with a family of regular performers

ever-willing to do a turn or even sing a song.

This Sunday, Mark Takel, Laurence Eddy, Phil Millichip and Geri Thomas — "a legend in his own lunchtime" — were among those who also entertained.

But the limelight, among the supporting acts, was surely stolen by Phil Edmonds who, following a guest solo turn on the Breton bagpipes, came on stage to divert the audience with the bagpipes *Au Pays de Galles* which looked like a cross between the content of a chemistry lab waste-bin and a mistake at the Dunlop tyre factory.