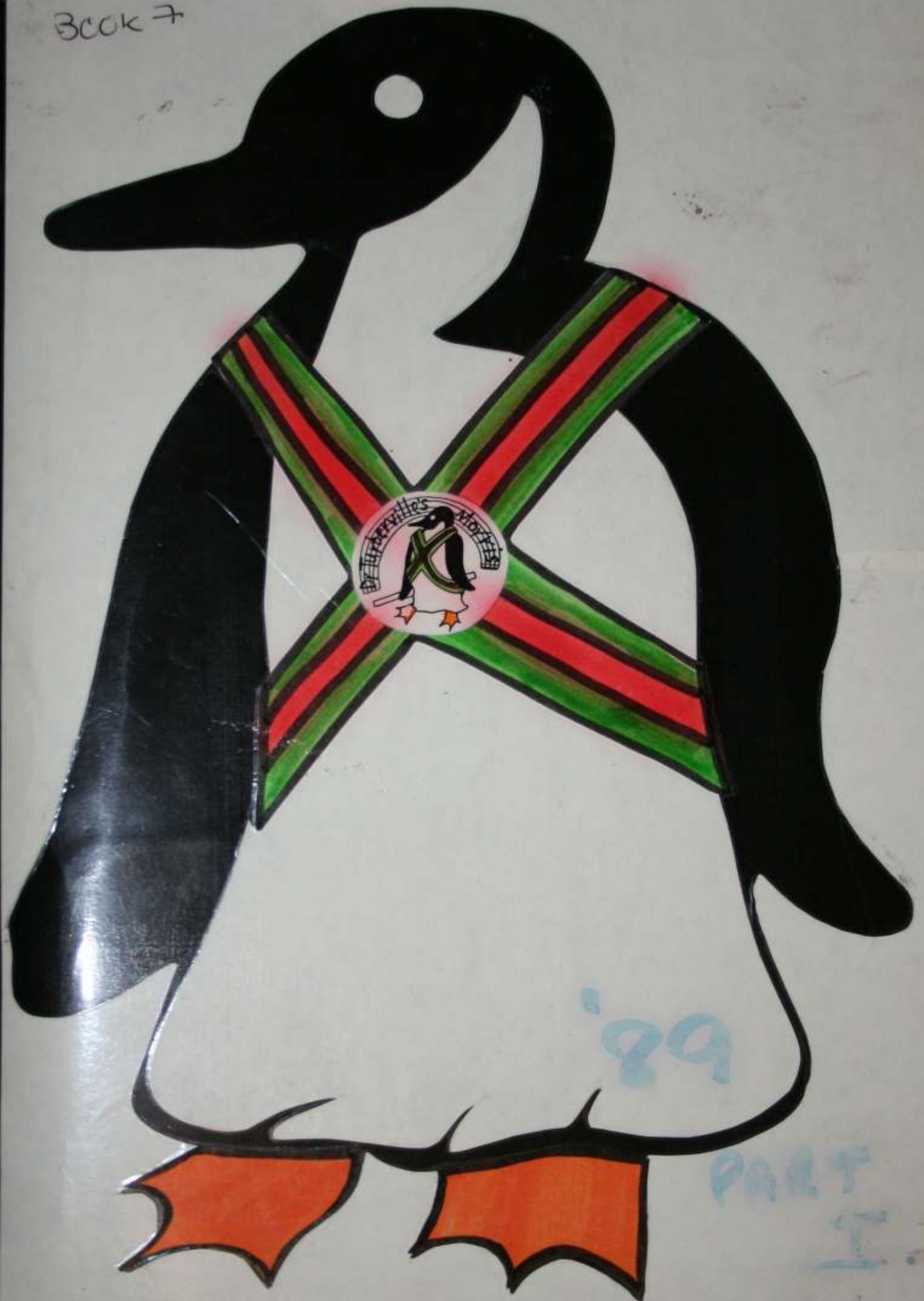


Book 7



'89

PART  
I.

Tash + Amanda

# Dr TURBERVILLE'S MORRIS

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME 1989

### MAY

<del>Sat 29th April/Mon 1st</del>	<del>Jack-in-the-Green Weekend Hastings</del>		
Tuesday 2nd	Practice	Crewkerne	7.30
✓ Tuesday 9th	Poulett Arms Rose & Crown	Hinton St. George Dinnington	7.30 8.30
Tuesday 16th	George Inn King William Inn	Crewkerne	7.30 8.30
Sunday 21st	✓ for Dorset Hospice	Melplash Court	Melplash
Tuesday 23rd	Manor Arms Swan Inn	North Perrot Misterton	7.30 8.30
Tuesday 30th	Bell Inn	Orington Winshaw	7.30 8.30

### JUNE

Saturday 3rd	GD weekend	Preston School	Yeovil	
<del>Sunday 4th</del>	<del>4.30 Dinnington noon</del>			
Wednesday 7th	guests of Royal Manor	Three Horseshoes Crown Inn	Ploverstock Loders	8.00 9.00
Saturday 10th	✓ Crewkerne Carnival	Falkland Square	Crewkerne	10.00
Tuesday 13th	✓	Practice	Crewkerne	8.00
Saturday 17th		Brixham FF		
Tuesday 20th	Trent W.I. 100 Today	Village Hall	Trent	6.00
Saturday 24th	fete	Beaminster School	Beaminster	2.00
Thursday 29th		with Sarum		8.00 9.00

### JULY

Saturday 1st	fete	St. Bartholomew's School Procession and Carnival	Crewkerne Hardington	2ish eve
Tuesday 4th	✓	Limelink Rose & Crown	Long Sutton Huish Episcopi	8.00 9.00
Sat 8	fete	St Mary's Sch	Beaminster	
Tuesday 11th		Shave Cross Inn New Inn	Shave Cross Stoke Abbott	8.00 9.00
Saturday 15th	✓ Pun Day Street Fayre		Tatworth Merriott	8.00 (17) 8.00 (21)
Wednesday 19th	guests of Queens Delight	Vinyards Gap Admiral Hood	Chedington Mosterion	8.00 9.00
Tuesday 25th	✓	practice	Crewkerne	8.00
Friday 28th	✓ weekend	with guests Berkeley Morris		12.00

### AUGUST

Tuesday 1st		Cotley Inn George Inn	Vanebrook Chardstock	8.00 9.00
Tuesday 15th		Haymaker New Inn	Vudeford Dowlish Wake	8.00 9.00
✓ Tuesday 22nd	AGM			8.00
Tuesday 29th		Manor Hotel	Vest Bexington	8.00

### SEPTEMBER

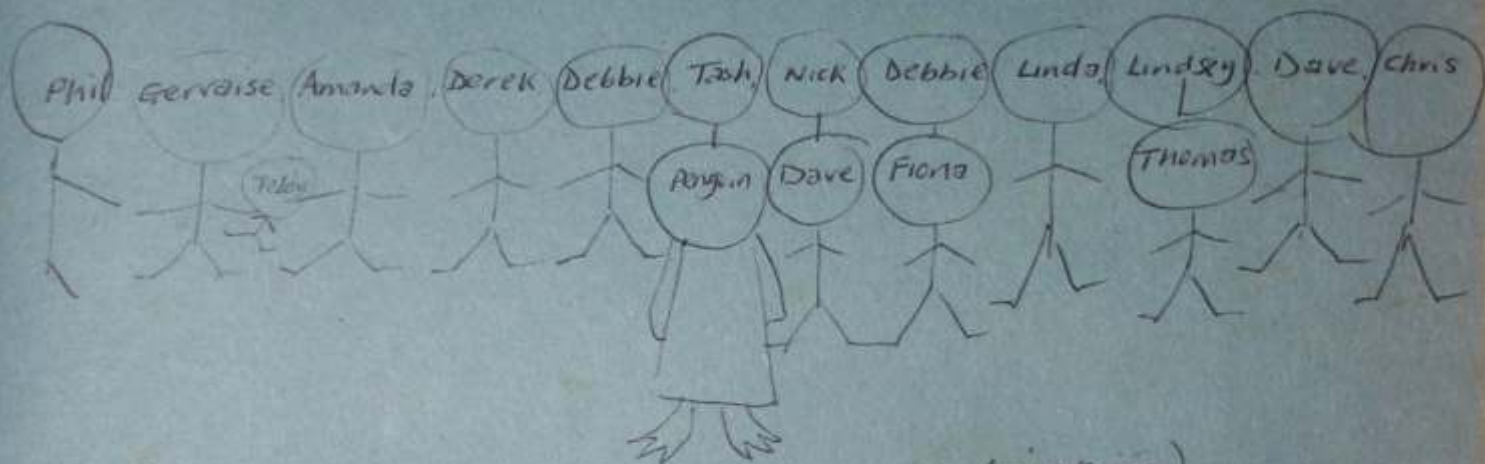
Sunday 3rd		Folk picnic	Glastonbury	lunch
Tuesday 5th				7.30 8.30
Saturday 30th	Weekend	Blackadder	Birmingham	



Amanda,

Please would you write  
my name in, I was  
just behind Phil at the  
time

Thanks Caroline



missing - Val & William (must be busy drinking)

### **DORSET GHOSTS** No. 3 IN A SERIES

Short Stories Long & Short  
Mysterious Dorset



### **THE TURBERVILLE COACH**

The Dorset countryside abounds with legends of spectral coaches but none will have the lasting fame of the four-in-hand that carried the Turberville family to extinction. For the story provided the inspiration for one of Thomas Hardy's greatest novels, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*.

Their phantom coach emerges in the twilight from Jacobean Woolbridge Manor. It then turns north, across the desolate heathland at Gallows Hill, to Bere Regis where the family had another great manor house.

The coach can only be seen by those with Turberville blood in their veins. Local Women's Institutes were buzzing with the story after a bus-driver stopped his vehicle on the old stone bridge at Wool and said: 'I hain't givin' to move until this there coach be gwone thru they there doors!'





Workshop.



April 23rd - Sherborne  
Half moon Inn.  
lots of free drinks  
and payment -  
danced inside  
-like sauna but  
fun. chris stayed  
and played!



Hastings weekend - April 30th



Traditional "Jack in the Green" festivities

**1989**

**HASTINGS**

**1989**

SATURDAY 29th and SUNDAY 30th APRIL

MONDAY 1st MAY, MAY BANK HOLIDAY.

INTRESTED ???

THEN CONTACT

NICK LYNAS,  
422 HAROLD ROAD,  
HASTINGS,  
E. SUSSEX,  
TN35 5HG.

Tel. 0424 433830.

SPONSORED BY  
HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Hastings weekend - April 30th.



422, Harold Road,  
Hastings,  
East Sussex.  
TN35 5HG.  
0424 433830

Dear *De Trevinus*

Mad Jack's Jack In The Green.  
April 29th - May 1st.

Well with a bit of luck this may well be the last missive launched by yours truly for this years Jack in the Green.

So far we have 35 sides of various traditions and origins, so with a bit of luck there should be nearly 600 dancers in Hastings over the May Day weekend. Therefore, to further enhance your time in sunny seaside land we enclose the following:

- A) The definitive timetable (as of today's date).
- B) A list (not exhaustive) of the sides coming.
- C) A map of Hastings suitably annotated.
- D) The poster.
- E) The numbers list.
- F) A potted history of Jack in the Green.

If you haven't filled in the numbers list or returned it to me please do so as we need to know. If your numbers have changed please let me know, especially with regards to the indoor camping, which is now nearly full. We also need your 50 word resume before the end of March so that I can get the programme booklet set up and printed.

If you haven't yet figured it out the nearest campsite is at Shearbarn, Barley Lane and the whole weekend is centred around the Old Town.

If you have any queries please get in touch with me and I might be able to answer them, though Monday night is practice night so any other night is better. So happy practising, safe journey and don't forget it's nearer than you think!

Yours in the Green.

*Mad Jack*



Sides

Black Adder Morris	Selly Oak	Birmingham
Black Annis Morris	Leicester	
Cottonmill Clog Morris	London Colney	St. Albans
Daisy Roots	Hastings	Sussex
Diggon's Breches Morris	Woodford Green	Essex
Ditchling Morris	Westmeston	Sussex
Dr. Turberville's Morris	Misterton	Somerset
Golden Star Morris	Norwich	Norfolk
Gorton Morris Men	Bollington	Macclesfield
Hands Around Morris	Bexhill	Sussex
Harberton Morris	Harberton	Devon
Harwich Morris Men	Clacton	Essex
Heather and Gorse Clog Dancers	Newton Abbot	Devon
Hips and Hands Clog	Devizes	Wilts
Lancashire Folly Mixed Morris	Rochdale	Lancs
Liddington Hall Women's	Swindon	Wiltshire
Longshore Morris & First Light	Lowestoft	Suffolk
Mercheford Morris	March	Cambs
Merrydale Morris	Finchfield	Wolves
Oakworth Ladies Morris	Keighley	Yorks
Old Palace Clog	South Croydon	Surrey
Pump House Clog Morris	Rickmansworth	Herts
Rag Morris	Lockleaze	Bristol
Rising Larks	Clacton	Essex
Rochdale Morris	Walsden	Lancs
Sussex Spinning Jenny	Bexhill	Sussex

Hastings weekend - April 30th

MAD JACKS MORRIS  
JACK IN THE GREEN FESTIVAL  
DETAILED PROGRAMME  
SATURDAY 29th APRIL TO MONDAY 1st MAY

SATURDAY 29th

12.00pm Up to 35 morris sides converge on the ROYAL STANDARD PUB, ROCK A MORE, to meet Mad Jacks, stretch their legs and have their first dance of the weekend.

2.30 pm The morris sides probably will dance walk or crawl around Hastings or just see the sights.

8.00 - 11.30pm FREE Folk evening in The Marina Pavillion, St Leonards, members of the public will have to pay on the door, a bus will shuttle from The Standard to The Marina and back again on a continuous basis from 7.30 pm until 12.00 pm. We have booked Swan Arcade and the Crayfish 5 as entertainment so a good evening should be had by all. We may also organise a sing around in the pub across the road, though this may well be on an adhoc basis.

SUNDAY 30th APRIL

10.00 pm Sides can dance around Hastings and collect for their own bag.

12.00 pm Sundry folk mayhem with a local folk group in the Pig in Paradise, a sing around/tune up in the Yelton Hotel, free entry to and dancing on the Pier.

3.30 pm Massed stand on Hastings Pier.

8.00 - 12.00pm FREE Ceilidh in the Falaise Hall with The RAE TAN BAND, Blowzabella have decided to go to Germany. Snack meals and real ale should be available at the bar.

MONDAY 1st MAY

5.15 am Mad Jacks dance the sun up, in the Ladies Parlour, on the West Hill. You are more than welcome to join us provided you can get up!!!

9.45 am Assemble outside the Fishermans Museum, in Rock a More. See procession order sheet for full details.

10.00am THE GRAND PROCESSION. The Lord Mayor of Hastings releases the Jack from the FISHERMANS MUSEUM, Mad Jacks Men will dance the Rose around the Jack after which the procession will move off along the Prom turning into the Old Town, up the High St across the Bourne and down All Saints St, back along the Prom and into George St. when the Jack reaches the end of George St the procession will stop and all sides can dance to their hearts content. We should have a few pubs open so that refreshments can be taken.

11.15 pm Reform and process along the PROM, and up to the PIER.

12.00 pm Dinner time in the Falaise Hall, try not to get there all at once as this tends to send the catering staff into total shock. Each side will have the necessary FREE drink and food tickets which can be redeemed for a Ploughmans and a range of drinks. See notice for further details of range of drinks.

2.00 pm Process to the CASTLE, via Hastings Town Centre, for a combined stand. There is free entry to all Morris sides. So that everybody can get a chance to see the other sides as well as the castle the stand will be split into two with a fully boarded area for clog sides. See the processional order sheet for further details.

4.00 pm Mad Jacks dance "Ring of Bells" after which the Jack is slain so releasing the SPIRIT OF SUMMER, lets hope it is a more proof than the last two years.

4.15 pm Stagger off home.



Hastings weekend - April 30th.

### THE HASTINGS JACK IN THE GREEN

The Jack in the Green is found in various forms throughout Europe. He is always some kind of representation of the spirit of nature, being half man, half tree. The legends of Robin Hood are based on him, and he is a survival from the days when people worshipped nature. At one time he was the representation of a god, most medieval churches are built on the sites of former temples and many contain carvings depicting a leaf covered man.

Mayday, or Beltane, was the traditional start of summer and the first day of the celtic new year. It was the biggest feast of the year as a celebration of spring and re-birth, a Jack in the Green, together with the associated maypole (traditionally a large decorated tree) was always present in some form.

As the old ways died out 'Jack in the Green' was adopted by chimney sweeps. He was seen in many towns on May day parading with the sweeps, creating mayhem and collecting money.

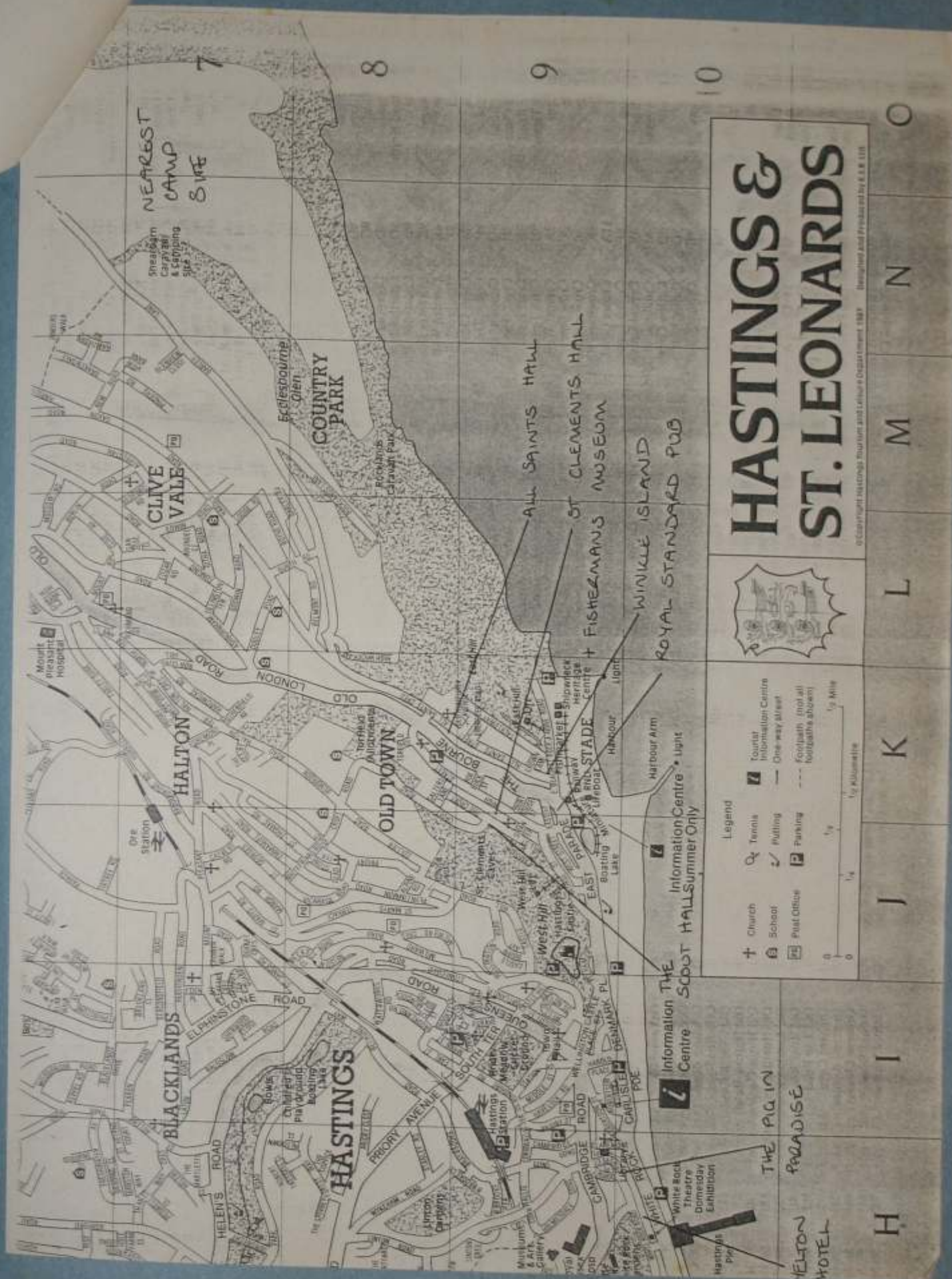
Here, in Hastings there is evidence that at one time we had at least three 'Jack in the Greens'. On May 1st 1880 one of these processed along All Saints Street with a group of morris dancers. We have a photograph of unknown date of a Hastings Jack, it is from that our present Jack in the Green and associated characters is copied.

At the end of the day we ceremonially 'kill' the Jack and therefore release the spirit of summer.

The Hastings Jack in the Green belongs to the people of the town - please join in the celebrations and support us in keeping this old tradition alive.

May Jack in the Green live forever.

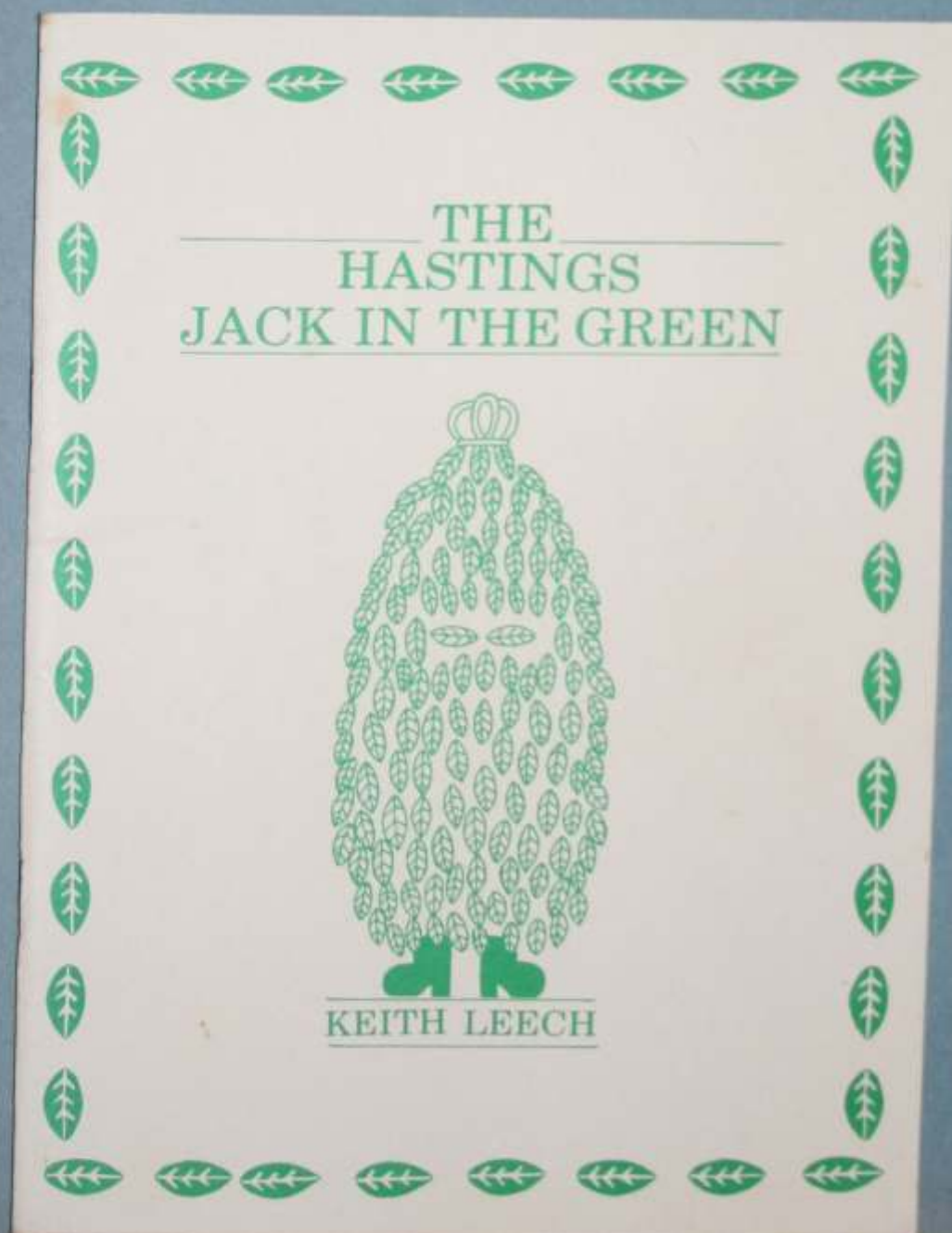
Castings weekend - April 30th.







Hastings fountain



Will contemplating  
infinity by the  
fountains.



ice cream  
break.



Will was allowed an  
ice lolly after being  
the star dancer for  
the weekend!



Pumpy house clog + grant from  
Stewart Grist





Hastings fountain

THE  
HASTINGS  
JACK IN THE GREEN



KEITH LEECH

THE HASTINGS JACK IN THE GREEN  
BY  
KEITH LEECH

FOREWORD

Hastings can be proud of its local May Day tradition which has a rich and varied history. It should now be especially grateful to Keith Leech who has made sure that this tradition can be appreciated properly. In preparing this booklet he has combined the perseverance of the newspaper researcher with the zeal of a romantic enthusiast. In a generous spirit of local patriotism he has also helped to create a new and flourishing revival of the old custom. I wish every success to this booklet and to the revival.

Roy Judge.



Sponsored by South East Arts



A Jack in the Green is a bell-shaped or conical structure which is danced around the streets on May Day (May 1st). It is about two and a half to three metres tall, and about one metre in diameter at the base. It is covered with fresh greenery, and is usually crowned with flowers. Inside the structure a man is completely hidden to give the impression that a bush has somehow developed a life of its own and is dancing along the street. Around the Jack in the Green there are usually a number of satellite characters which include some kind of musician, and very often a pair of gaudily dressed characters referred to as the "Lord" and "Lady".

In the nineteenth century most large towns in Southern England appear to have had at least one Jack in the Green. The custom was kept up by the chimney sweeps and was almost their exclusive right. Money would be collected from the onlookers and would usually be spent on alcoholic refreshment which helped the procession on its way. The followers of Jack in the Green were not generally known for their sobriety, and usually played practical jokes as they went along.

This booklet is intended to tell a little of what is known about this custom, and to document what is known about the Jacks in the Green which were seen around Hastings and St. Leonards in particular. The bulk of the information is from references to May Day customs found in newspapers held in Hastings reference library. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at Hastings library for all the assistance they gave in helping me find the relevant references.

I am particularly indebted to Roy Judge whose book "Jack in the Green" (pub. Brewer) started me on the quest to find all I could about the Hastings Jacks in the Green. Roy spent his childhood in St. Leonards and it is he who found the first references to a Jack in the Green in the town; this booklet is simply a completion of the work which Roy started. I am very grateful to him for supplying me with a list of his references, allowing me to use illustrations from his book and for his help in compiling this booklet.

I have tried to be thorough, but I have probably missed something. Some newspapers were simply unavailable; I feel sure that when these come to light even more information will be found. If anybody comes across anything that I have missed I would be more than pleased to see it.

I would also like to thank Mad Jack's Morris dancers who have put a lot of work into the revived Hastings Jack in the Green making it the spectacle it is today; and last, but by no means least, I must thank Lyn, my wife, who has had to put up with me talking about little else over the past couple of years.

Reith Leech.  
Hastings  
September 1988.

## MAY DAY, AND JACK IN THE GREEN THROUGH THE CENTURIES.

Most of what we know about Jack in the Green and other May Day customs comes from nineteenth century records. As you go further back the information gets increasingly sparse, though there are various references from which a picture can be drawn. It is a common mistake to read too much into some of the information that we have; and only too easy to fall into the trap of romanticism. In this chapter I intend to give a brief history of some of the events we know happened in the past, and will attempt to draw certain parallels; though I would like to point out that much of this must be by its very nature conjecture rather than fact.

As far as Jack in the Green is concerned we know very little about the custom in the period before the nineteenth century, when the chimney sweeps took it on as their own. Certainly as far as Hastings is concerned the local newspapers didn't really see fit to comment on it until the custom began to decline. A common event is not newsworthy, and only the decline of it ever seems to get coverage. I wonder how much of what we now consider to be commonplace may never be written down and disappear from the historical record? When researching a custom of this kind the literacy of the period is also a problem. Jack in the Green was almost certainly a custom of the common person, many of these were unable to write down anything about it even if they wanted to. We have to rely on newspapers and similar records for our information. Newspapers are obviously intended for those who can read them, before about 1840 most of what appeared in the newspapers was Court and Social news; a curious custom of the common people would not draw very much comment. Of course it could be that the sweeps made the whole thing up, and the reason we know very little about Jack in the Green before the nineteenth century is because before then it simply didn't exist!

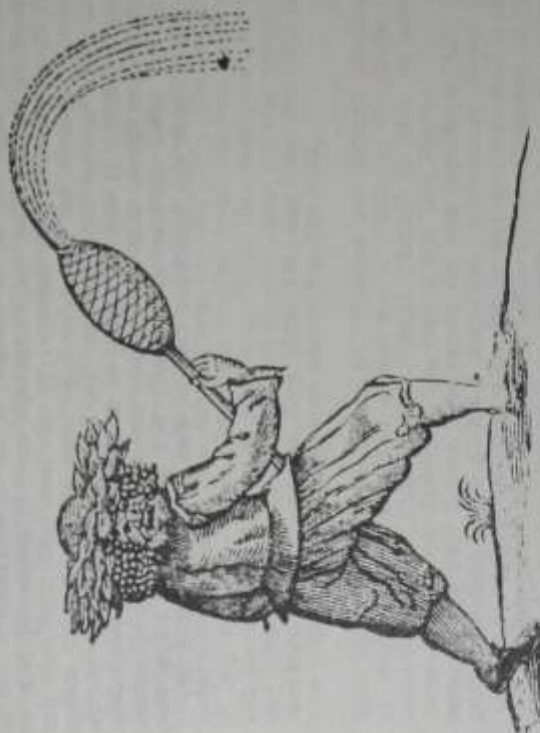
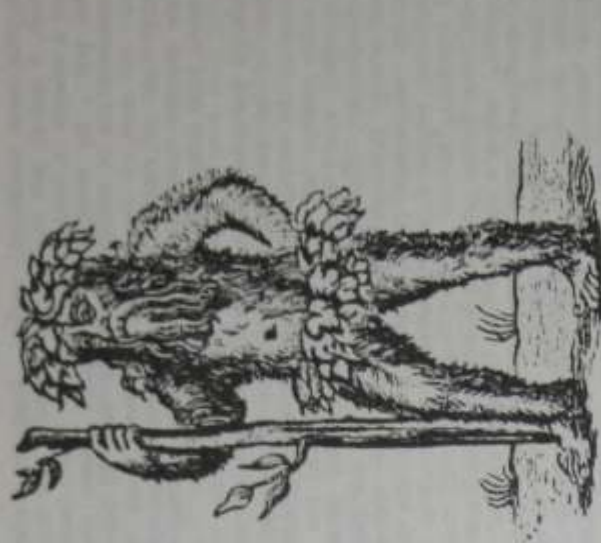
It is however interesting to look at May Day over the centuries to see what other similar customs to Jack in the Green could be found. Before the Christian conversion of Britain the people practiced a religion which was based on nature. The Celts had two big festivals, Samhain (November 1st) and Beltane (May 1st); these were the celebrations marking the beginning of winter and summer, (both festivals survive to this day). The winter festival was mainly a fire festival, and is marked by a number of modern customs including Halloween. All Saint's Day and Guy Fawkes night. The summer festival also had a fire, but mainly celebrated spring with an emphasis on rebirth, fertility, trees and other plants; it survives as May Day. The Druids had an interesting custom where a man would be put into a wicker cage, decorated with flowers and leaves. We are told that at the end of the day the cage was destroyed by fire or water. Whether this constituted a real human sacrifice, or whether the man was first let out is unknown. It is interesting to note that a Jack in the Green is also a wicker cage decorated with flowers and leaves. After the Roman conquest many of the Roman gods and customs were absorbed into British culture, Flora was their goddess of flowers, her feast day was May 1st (May Day). The Romans would cut a tree and decorate it on May Day, this custom survives all

over Europe as the Maypole in its various forms.

To many Pagan religions the "Tree of Life" was a very important symbol. It represented rebirth, death and resurrection. It was probably a god in its own right, May Day was certainly an important festival for the Pagan nature worshippers. The first Christian missionaries found the Pagan religions very hard to suppress, so it was common to absorb elements of Pagan culture into the new religion. The festival of Easter didn't even change its name, being the feast of the fertility goddess Oestre. Samhain, the old day of ancestor worship, became All Hallowe, or All Saints day, yet somehow May Day escaped Christianisation. The power of the green god, or "Tree of Life" can still be seen in medieval churches, where the "Green Man" can be seen looking down upon the congregation from carvings of foliate heads. There is a theory that Jack in the Green is some kind of personification of this "Green Man".

The legends and customs associated with "Green Men", or men who are half man, half tree are common throughout Europe. The most well known legend in this country is that of Robin Hood, the benevolent green man who lived in the forest. He even had a companion, Maid Marion, who was of noble descent. That such an outlaw existed is probably true, and many romantic stories would have been made up about him. It has been suggested that somehow his story has become mixed up with legends about the green god, that Robin and Marion are the god and goddess, and that the Lord and Lady of the Jack in the Green are manifestations of the same story. It is an interesting theory, which would be nice to believe; but is pure conjecture, and not based on any historical fact. Certainly "Green Men" do appear in the records at other times. A "Green Man", or "Wodehouse" is said to have left from the forest to greet Elizabeth the First. The Lord Mayor's Show in London was said at one time to have been led by some "Green Men". Whilst visiting the annual festival of dancing giants in Ath, Belgium in 1986 I was surprised to see alongside the giants two men dressed in suits made completely of ivy leaves, each carrying a club. These were the "Hommes de Feuilles" whose function was to clear the route of the procession; the analogy with the Lord Mayor's Show is obvious. However whether there is an analogy between the "Green Man" and the "Jack in the Green" is less easy to prove. May day was always symbolised by flowers and people used to decorate their houses with floral garlands. Later children would take elaborate garlands onto the streets to collect money. It could well be that as the garlands became more elaborate it was necessary for a person to actually climb inside to carry one, and far from being a manifestation of the "Green Man"; Jack in the Green is simply an elaborate garland. Certainly various groups of workers would display garlands on May day. In Islington the milkmaids made a very elaborate garland, shaped like a pyramid, and hung with greenery and silver. Perhaps Jack in the Green was simply the garland of the sweeps.

The seventeenth century saw an upsurge in religious fervour. It is from this era that the Protestants and Puritans sprang. Many of the practices of the old Pagan religion had continued up until this time largely undisturbed, in a kind of symbiosis with Christianity. Now they became seen as evil, many innocent people were persecuted for 'witchcraft', and anything to do with the old religion was discouraged. An attempt to stop the City of London



A Wodehouse and a Green Man. Joseph Strutt, *The Sports and Pastimes of the English people*, 1801. (483 and 482 in edition of 1876.



Maypole near Lundenhall market, lead to a riot in which many died. A modern pub called "The Maypole" now stands on the site, and a wreath is hung on the Maypole (which hangs on the side of the pub), by some London Morris teams every May Day in commemoration of this. Eventually many of our old customs were lost and much of the information known about May Day, which up until then had been passed down by word of mouth, was forgotten. Some customs have since started up again, but they have always been a pale shadow of their former selves.

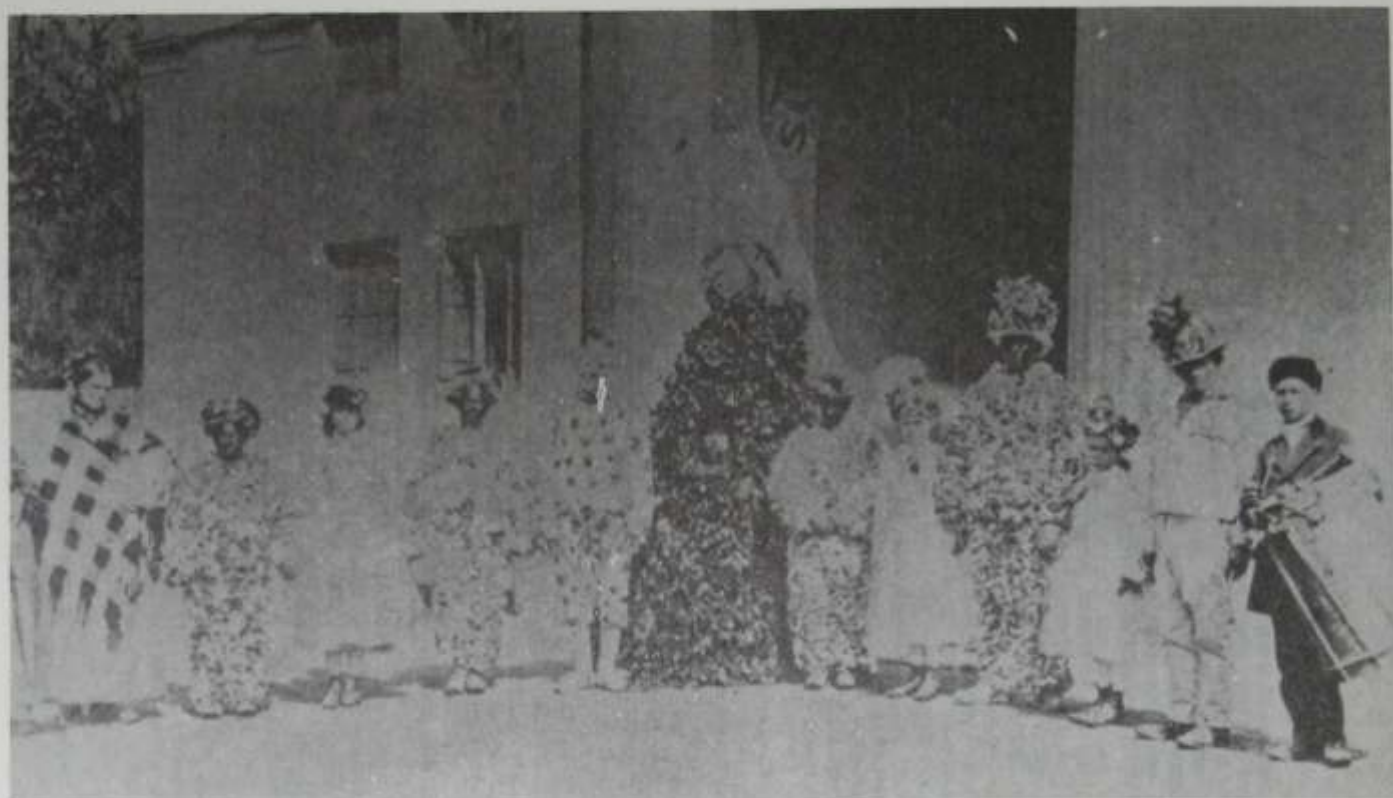
Jack in the Green comes into his own in the nineteenth century, when he was seen every May Day on the streets of many large towns in the country. May the first was traditionally the annual chimney sweeps holiday, and they adopted the custom as their own. They would dance around the streets collecting money for refreshments, clattering their shovels for percussion as they went along. Hastings must have had a very impressive gathering, as the newspapers of the later part of the century look back with some regret at the passing of the custom. We are fortunate in Hastings, having so many references to the custom in this town. The Victorians had a strange attitude to traditional customs, having a romantic view of some kind of 'Merrie England' in the past. This was probably due to the impact of the industrial revolution on society. At this time many customs were either revived, or even just made up. Much of what we now think of as "traditional" is to an extent the product of Victorian romantic imagination, but then how long does something have to have been happening to be thought of as "traditional"? It is therefore strange that the Victorians saw the demise of Jack in the Green all over the country. It has been said that this was probably because at this time boys were stopped from climbing chimneys; however from reading the Hastings newspapers of the time I suspect it was much more to do with Victorian attitudes. Jack in the Green, with his drunken sweeps was a thing of urban, working class culture and simply not the kind of thing that fitted in with the Victorian view of what a custom should be.

# JACK IN THE GREEN IN HASTINGS.

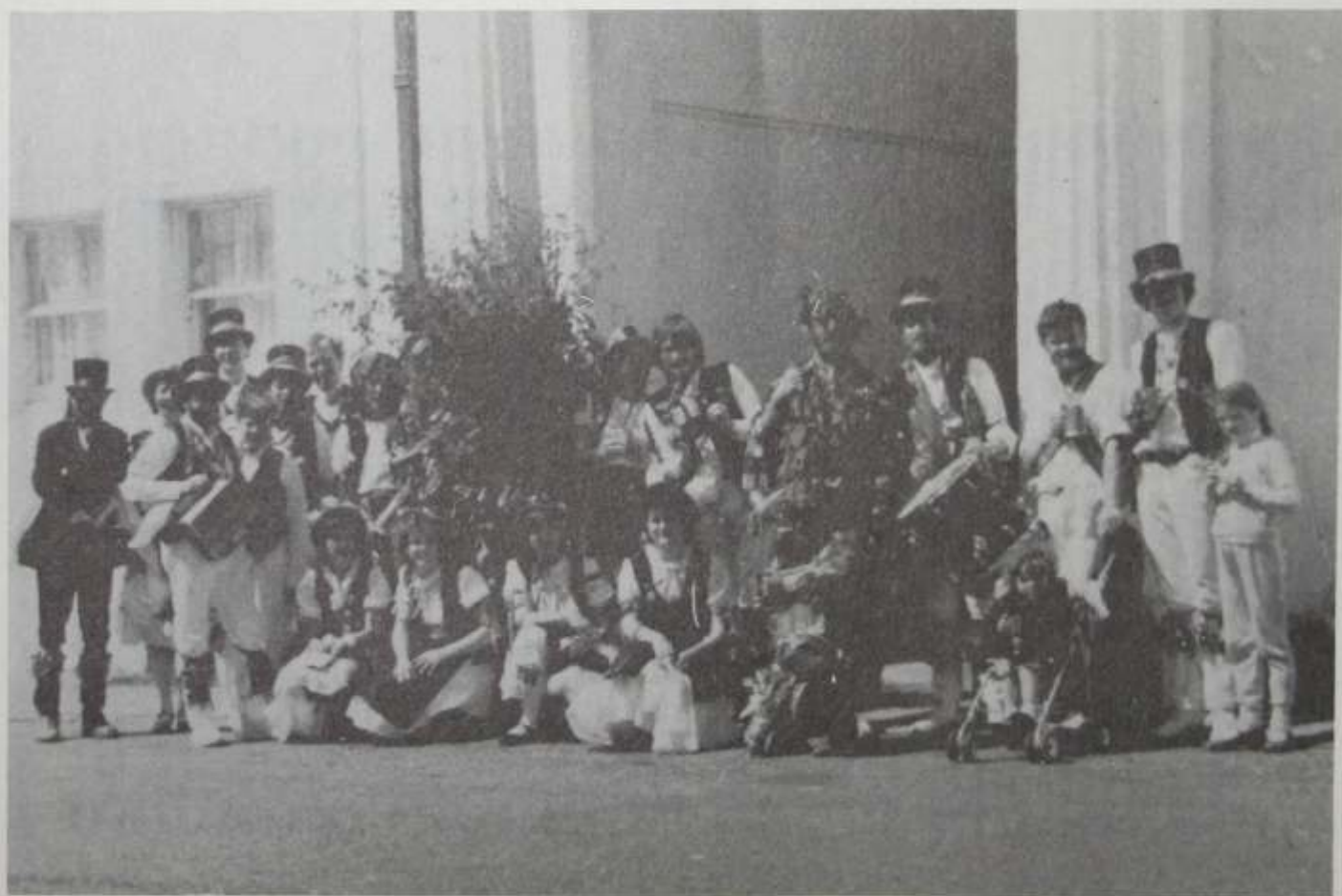
The custom of going out with a Jack in the Green was by no means exclusive to Hastings, there are records from various large towns in the south of England. London certainly had many sweeps, and consequently many Jacks in the Green. I have even found references to Jack in the Green in Hobart and Sydney, Australia. What makes the Hastings Jack in the Green so interesting is the wealth of information we have about the custom in the town.

The first reference I have found is from the Hastings News of May 5th 1848, where it is stated that the "Shovel and broom fraternity held their annual bal masque" (1). The last reference to a Jack in the Green is a photograph, entitled "Interesting reminiscence of May day" in the Hastings and St. Leonards Pictorial and Visitors List of May 1st 1913 (30). Most of the information comes from a fascinating column that used to be in the Hastings Observer entitled "Flotsam and Jetsam". This is full of interesting snippets of local information. The author of the article from 1880 until 1896 catalogues the slow death of the custom asking on 8th May 1880, "Are the May Day customs falling into desuetude in Hastings?" (17) and going on to comment that there only seemed to be one Jack in the Green out that year. As each year passes he notes that the celebration seems to be getting smaller and smaller, until on May 5th 1883 he says "Have 'Jack' and his 'Green' .....like Hans Breitmans 'barty', 'gone away into the eightsiekt?' .....I hardly know whether to ask the reader to lament or rejoice with me over the demise." (20) The very last mention of a Jack in the Green in Hastings is in the Hastings and St. Leonards Chronicle of May 7th 1884, "Jack-in-the-Green, attended by his satellites was also represented this year, but the celebration was thought to be considerably behind the exhibitions in 1883" (21). The Observer of May 8th 1886 notes that "Jack in the Green has been improved off the face of the local community." (22) This means that we can say there was probably at least one Jack in the Green in Hastings and St. Leonards from 1848-1884, and that the very last time one was seen in the town was on May 1st 1884.

From 1884 onwards the author of "Flotsam and Jetsam" continues in vain hope to ask "Did anyone see a 'Jack in the Green' in Hastings.....?" (1888), (24). Until finally in 1896 he admits "Poor Jack in the Green! He has danced his last dance.....I honestly say that I feel some regret for his departure." (29) His reminiscences give a lot of detailed information about the custom. It appears that the main family who went out with a Jack in the Green were the Lee family (26). I have attempted to find out more about them, there is a reference to a C. Lee, Chimney Sweeper of 15, Gensing Road in the Post Office Directory of Sussex for 1862 (3), and one Charles Lee, Chimney Sweeper, is mentioned in the census for 1851 living at Harold Mews (2); there is no mention of him at those addresses in the censuses for 1841, 61, or 71. We cannot be certain that this is the same "Lee family"; but it is very likely because the photograph we have is from the St. Leonards Subscription Gardens, which are very close to Harold Mews and not far from Gensing Road. Out of curiosity I visited these addresses; Harold Mews is now used for light industry and 15, Gensing Road is a car park.



The Hastings Jack in the Green and company photographed outside the St. Leonards Subscription Gardens. Date unknown, probably 1860 s. The Hastings and St. Leonards Pictorial Advertiser and Visitors List May 1st. 1913. From the Hastings Local History Collection. East Sussex County Library.



The Hastings Jack in the Green and company photographed outside the St. Leonards Gardens. 1984. Author's collection.



Three people in particular continually crop up, "Black Sal" was a woman who wore "unsoaped muslin" (22), and "sham silk stockings" (24), she obviously drank a lot and the Observer of May 7th 1887 says "Black Sal....the lady whose painted cheeks and alas! the paint was not infrequently taken internally in the shape of strong waters." (23) Sal was obviously the collector of money and "leeringly" solicited "with her wooden or brass spoon, alms from the spectators" (25). She is also referred to as "My Lady", who was always the main female companion of Jack in the Green. "My Lord" was somebody called "Dusty" or "Dusky Bob" he was a very colourful character who wore a "coat of tatters and many colours" (25) and a "gay cocked-hat" (21). Many of the complaints were about a musician, a "stout man who beat the drum and blew the mouth organ and perspired so in his efforts that he must have run to dry rot but for the copious and frequent libations he was constrained to offer up on the altar of unquenchable thirst" (22). Others state that he played the "wry-necked fife" (11), or "big drum and pandean pipes" (24). There are frequent complaints about his "discordant music" (10), and that "Coppers appeared to be plentifully bestowed, probably with a view to getting rid of the noise as soon as possible." (4). Jack himself would "twirl.... and posture... after the pewter pot (was) repeatedly passed through the opening in the arboraceous shade" (22). He was accustomed to taking "many drinks of porter (from) pewter vessels handed through the mouth-hole of his cage of flower-decked greenery, and...his numberless round-and-round movements.... must have kept the alcohol in him in a constant state of ferment, he became not infrequently.....a spectacle sorry enough for men and gods" (29).

People seem to have been disturbed by the large amount of drinking that went on while the Jack in the Green and his party danced along the streets recalling "those exhibitions of Greece of old, where drunken harlots were permitted to run amuck in order that they might show how foul and disgusting a beast the human animal can be under the influence of drink" (29). As the custom declined children started to make their own Jacks in the Green, seeing a way to make a few coppers. These seem to have brought more annoyance than pleasure to the onlookers. One sweep wrote a letter to the Hastings and St. Leonards Chronicle on 30th April 1879 complaining that no sweep would "have anything to do with it" (Jack in the Green) and that the money collected "is spent on drunkenness, when it is so much needed by the institutions of benevolence" (13).

There are some interesting anecdotes: "Merry clown... was the most impudent and daring of varlets, always risking impaling himself upon an area of railings, when ladies at a parlour window were to be wheedled out of a few coins by his comical appeals to their purses" (20). One amusing account tells of a party "which distinguished itself by making an unwilling and inglorious entry through a plumber's shop plate glass window (while still) sober" (20). Another group "waited upon the magistrates at the close of the bench. Walking into the hall, decked out in the full glory of their tawdry garments.....they requested the Mayor to present them with a gift in celebration of the auspicious day. His worship smilingly took out his purse, and did as he was requested, upon which the delighted juveniles made their bow, and beat a rapid retreat." (12)

Alongside Jack in the Green there are references to "garlands

being carried from door to door" by the children (10,14,16,27). This custom too seems to have slowly declined towards the end of the century. There is also occasional mention of an annual picnic which was held on the West Hill on May Day by the St. Marys Schools. May Day was by no means the main spring festival in the town, even when researching this booklet I came across references to an annual Whit Monday holiday where everybody would gather on the Priory Meadow. This seems to have continued until at least the 1930's, but must be the subject of another work. May Day festivities were revived in Hastings by Miss Dorothy Catt in 1934, she started the "Crowning of the May Queen" ceremony (31), which has continued to this day. This was based on research she had done in "Brand's Antiquities" and "Chamber's Book of Days". There was never any suggestion of a link with any local custom.

The newspaper references are entertaining, and informative in themselves. I felt it appropriate to quote them in full. They form the next chapter.



'May-Day- Afirst start in life.' Frontpiece of out of the world by George Bennett, probably 1870's.

# CHAPTER THREE

## REFERENCES TO JACK IN THE GREEN, MAY GARLANDS AND OTHER MAY DAY CUSTOMS IN NINETEENTH CENTURY HASTINGS FOUND IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS.

The following list of references is from newspapers found in the Hastings Reference Library; although it is fairly comprehensive I am sure that other references can be found in newspapers and other sources in other archives. Those references suffixed (RJ) were collected by Roy Judge, and those suffixed (KL) by Keith Leech.

The list is in chronological order. All spellings, and grammar as they appear in the original text.

### 1. THE HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 5th 1848 (KL)

MAY-DAY.- The shovel and broom gentry held their annual bal masque last Monday, in the streets and the thoroughfares of our ancient town, tripping it on the light fantastic toe, according to the phrase in that case made and provided, with their usual agility. The sun had dispersed the weeping clouds, and enabled the chevaliers of the soot-bag to fulfil the poets description of

"Clowns, shovels, dust and noise  
Jack in the Green, a sooty queen,  
And half-a-dozen boys."

### 2. INDEX TO THE CENSUS FOR EAST SUSSEX 1851, JUNE BARNES (RJ). & CENSUS FOR THE PARISH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN 1851.

Charles Lee, Chimney Sweeper, age 50, born Salehurst, living at Harold Mews, St. Leonards on Sea, with his wife Elizabeth, Laundress, age 36, born Rye. In the preceding household. Charles Lee, Labourer, age 43, born Battle, with Laura, age 30, born Hastings, and Charles age 8, William, 7, Frances, 5, Susan, 3, and Albert, 6 months, all born in St. Leonards.

### 3. THE POST OFFICE DIRECTORY OF SUSSEX 1862 page 1971 (KL)

Advertisement: C. Lee, Chimney Sweeper; 15, Gensing Road, St. Leonards on Sea.

### 4. HASTINGS NEWS May 3rd 1861 (KL)

"MAY DAY" was celebrated by the appearance of some "Jack a-in-the-Green", accompanied by amateur sweeps, whose only acquaintance with the soot brush and shovel is on the recurrence of this time-honoured anniversary. The "music" was equally of the amateur order, in which discord held the first place. "Oppers" appeared to be plentifully bestowed, probably with a view to getting rid of the noise as soon as possible.

### 5. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 7th 1862 (RJ)

The "old may-day" of Hastings is now nearly stripped of all his glories. The doings of the chimney-sweepers, fantastically dressed in evergreens and gilt paper, with a profusion of

brick-dust by way of paint, and accompanied by the noisy clatter of their shovels and brushes, are among the things of the past.

### 6. HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS HERALD May 5th 1866 page 3. (KL)

MAY DAY, or rather the observance of it, like all other old institutions seems to be dying out. On Tuesday, however, we had the usual exhibition of "Jack in the Green," a few garlands were also carried from door to door.

### 7. HASTINGS NEWS May 3rd 1867 page 3. (KL)

As usual, a large number of May-day parties of very juvenile proportions made a call upon householders, to exhibit their garlands; and no doubt met with liberal treatment from those who love to "encourage the children".

### 8. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 5th 1869 (RJ)

The customs which from time out of mind have been associated with May-day were duly observed on Saturday last, the sweeps doffing their black dress for more gaudy apparel, and the juveniles displaying garlands which, in numbers if not in beauty, must have surpassed those of any previous year.

### 9. HASTINGS NEWS May 7th 1869 page 2. (KL)

MAY DAY. There was the usual amount of garland exhibition, on the part of the innumerable groups of little ones, and a few of the bigger folks, on Saturday.....(it goes on to talk about the annual St. Mary's school picnic on the West Hill).

### 10. HASTINGS NEWS May 5th 1871 page 2. (KL)

May Day was marked by the usual displays of floral garlands by the juveniles; and larger parties with gay dresses, Jack-in-the-Green, - and discordant music - the usual May day treat was offered to the children attending St. Mary's Schools.

### 11. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 6th 1861 page 3. (KL) The same text appears in the SOUTH EASTERN ADVERTISER, RYE CHRONICLE, HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS TIMES of the same date (RJ)

MAY DAY....May Day! ah me, whence hast thou flown? The almanacks and never faltering march of time tell me thou hast come, and while I write thou art gone. But thou art not the May-day I knew? Thou art not surely of a kindred with the many merry May-days in my memory stored. But stay, is it possible the change is within ourselves; that thou art the same genial harbinger of bright skies and floral perfumes, and that tis we ourselves, frosted by the winters through which we have passed, are changed? Alas! the old saying, "tempora mutantur nos et mutamur in illos", rings out the false and in the true. How we revelled once in May-day! how we feasted, even in anticipation, of the glorious sights the sweeps were preparing for us! Happy time ere we learned to fear rheums and rheumatisms and catarrh; when a dive amongst the sparkling dewdrops lighted up our frame with health and jollity, and left no thoughts of gruel and doctor's bills. May-day is here again, the warm sun is shining,



and lighting with green and golden tints the newly-born and fast developing verdure, "the cowslip and crowfoot are over the hill".

The honeysuckle round the porch has  
 Now n its wavy bowers,  
 And by the meadow trenches blow  
 The faint sweet cuckoo flowers.

Those bright-eyed, rosy-cheeked, tiny images of their Maker are laughing and romping, as we were wont to laugh and romp in the glorious sunshine and perfumed air. No, nature is as bright and joyous as ever. 'Tis we who are changed. Saddest of reflections, we look back over the span-how small it seems now-that bridges our childhood's ways from our present, and what thoughts come pressing on. Not a score, no not one of my readers will be able to place his hand upon his heart and look without a sigh upon the May-days and the time bridged between them that have flown. How many hours wasted, how many opportunities lost never to be regained, how many misplaced friendships, how many irredeemable stumbles in the dark where all seems light now! For many, very many of us, the words of the American poet are pregnant with rebuking wisdom.

Of all sad words of tongue or pen,  
 The saddest are these "It might have been."

But why should we be sad? Shuffle the trestles. Away with the ghosts of our dead past. Let us live in the present, if not so cheerily as we could wish, well then as well as we can. All abroad is rejoicing. Let us do likewise. The music if the "wry-necked fife," and the hollow sound of the beaten drum strike on our ears. It is a familiar music which reached and held a place in our heart as long ere Savori's dulcet tones, or the Swedish Nightingale's warblings roused an echo there. It is "Jack-in-the-Green's" band. Here is my lord in his "ducks" that once were purest white and coat like Joseph's in tinsel. Here is "my lady" with broad brass ladle, and sweetest of smiles, seaching into the recesses of our pockets. Here is Mr. Merry Andrew, with painted face and capacious pockets, and familiar antics that were wont to set us in a hearty roar. Here is "the Green" with Jack in the centre, twisting and turning his leafy burden, making graceful bobs at my lord and lady. Ah! here, at least, we have one custom which laughs at old times. The sweeps have at least upheld their usages. Alas not even "the Green" has faded and died away. The sport has degenerated. Jack's manor has been poached upon by babes and sucklings, anxious as Jack himself for the acquisition of the hard cash. Jack and his company are alone in their glory. All their companions like the last rose of summer, are faded and gone, robbed of their substance by the small fry who in "our days" were wont to follow the Green in open mouthed wonderment without the ghost of a thought of ever setting up in opposition to him. A few of the ingenious youths still patronise Jack as spectators, but childhood having nothing in common with the sweep fraternity save sooty faces and grimy hands, obtained by familiar intercourse with the gutter, are beating old tea trays Jack's own. We must admit it, Jack is on his last legs. He is being pushed from his high estate by little boys, with tinselled regis and unchecked impertinence. Here is one little crew out of a dozen or so; they are before a professional gentleman's house in Wellington-square. There are five of them all dirty little boys, varying in years from seven to twelve. Over their natural coating of dirt they have bestowed a few dabs of coloured paint.

Bits of tinted papers are pasted and sewed on to their clothes, and they are as ragged and hideous little boys as well can be. They have one small tin whistle amongst them, and the remainder of the musical instruments are made up of disused tin and iron vessels. They treat the inmates of the house to some music, and then a precocious youth goes to the door and asks for, and gets relief for "Jack-in-the-Green". The legitimate Jack is "off". Like Othello, his occupation is gone. Shut up the show, box up the puppets, the game is played out.

THOCHA FUITE.

### 12. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 3rd 1873 page 3.

(RJ)

MAY-DAY. -May! bright May! ushered herself with a bright smiling countenance on Thursday last, the weather being as warm and genial as a mid-June day. Early in the morning, in accordance with time-honoured custom, bands of juvenilles were seen parading the streets with their garlands of flowers and attired in their frail garments of divers colours, actively engaged in soliciting their alms of the public. One noticeable feature was that there was a falling off in their number, and in fact year by year the custom seems to wane in popularity. There was only one party which we observed who are worthy of notice, and they we believe, have for two or three years past monopolised nearly all the public patronage. The band consists of nearly a dozen persons, young and old, accompanied by a "Jack-in-the-Green", but who is not the same joyful capering individual as of old, and a man attired in military clothes beating a drum, thought to what tune we cannot say, for we fear there was more noise than harmony. One party of small boys, bolder than the rest, waited upon the magistrates at the close of the bench. Walking into the Hall, decked out in the full glory of their tawdry garments, much to the merriment of the few present, they requested the Mayor to present them with a gift in celebration of the auspicious day. His Worship smilingly took out his purse, and did as requested, upon which the delighted juvenilles made their bow, and beat a rapid retreat.

### 13. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE 30TH APRIL 1879 (RJ)

Letter to the Editor:

Sir, It is surprising to see how long and easy the people may be deceived. I have lived in Hastings and St. Leonards since 1857, and each year on the first of May, which is called the "Chimney Sweepers' Day". I have seen that sight known as "Jack in the Green", which however amusing to the little tots in the nursery is a disgrace to any member of the trade of chimney sweeping (who, by the way, never have anything to do with it). It is a public nuisance which ought not to be tolerated, especially because the money thus got by this mixture of imposters—who have nothing to do with the trade whatsoever—is spent on drunkenness, when it is so much needed by the institutions of benevolence, where it could be spent properly.

Yours &c.

For thirty years a Member of the Trade. St. Leonards.

14. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 4th 1879 page 7.

(KL)  
 Eye. Thursday was the coldest May-day we remember for very many years..... But this year only the intimation that we had that it was May day was a few shivering children carrying May garlands composed of primroses, they being the only flowers that dared to show themselves as yet - there was no Jack in the Green because there was no Green to dress Jack in; there was one full grown sweep covered in strips of coloured paper, and two juvenile sweeps dancing to the music of their "scabbits" and brushes was all to inform us that it was May day.

15. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 10th 1879 (RJ)

It seems to me that there have been fewer May-day demonstrations this year than ever. We can very well afford to dispense with "Jack-in-the-Green". There could scarcely ever have been a time when our sooty friends were welcome as heralds of the advent of May. Now no one weeps that their annual demonstrations are passing into the stage of the sere and yellow leaf. But one could almost desire to see an effort made in some of the country districts to revive or strengthen the old custom of exhibiting May garlands.

16. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 5th 1880, page 5 (KL)

May Day Celebration - The first of May was ushered in by the severest frost we have had for several weeks past, the ground and roofs of houses being as white as snow, but the morning broke warm and brilliant. Garlands were exhibited at an early hour and youngsters continued to parade the streets soliciting coppers until noon.

17. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER 8th May 1880 (RJ)

St. Leonards again boasted a "Jack in the Green". (Elsewhere in the same newspaper). Are the May-Day customs falling into desuetude in Hastings? For some years past the Premier Cinque Port has been able to boast not more than one "Jack in the Green", and this was out and about on Saturday, with a company of Morris dancers, as the grandfathers of the present generation saw it and them in their infancy. Whether this "Jack" be a lineal descendant of dead and gone families of "Green", or whether he have any claim at all to represent the tribe of local chimney sweeps is a question I cannot answer. I am afraid, however, his tenure of life in this town is not likely to be of long duration. Conspicuous in his isolation, the day must come when he will be known no more in the flesh and floral garb, and all that remains of him will be a tradition of his memory.

18. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 7th 1881, page 7. (KL)

"Jacks in the Green" are fast hastening to extinction as complete as that of the maypole in "Barnaby Rudge". "Jacks and Jills", "Lords and Ladies", were to be met occasionally, on Monday, dancing round a twirling green, but the spectacles were, for the most part melancholy ones. The only redeeming feature in the ceremonies of the day, was the appearance of a few groups of

youngsters, who sought to cheat others, as they had cheated themselves, into the conviction that the spring had been truly verdant, and that we were now entered upon ever welcome summer. In a dozen years "Jack" will have probably been swept off the face of the borough, and the exhibition of May Garlands, become a local tradition. But ought we to wish them back? Ought we to be indifferent as to whether we were perpetuating a heathen custom, or rejoicing that the noble child, who has been lost, was restored to his parents by the sweeps, ever so many centuries ago - to desire the maintenance of this pretty little custom of making believe that the snows and frost cease with the winter of the almanac, that a merry time, in which he may foot it on a velvet sward without fear of bronchitis or rheumatism. Well, we have perused many less pretty fictions. I don't know that the community is the gainer for clinging to the Guy Fawkes celebration, and leaving that of May day to go.

19. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE 3rd May 1882 (RJ)

A party hailing from St. Leonards, and dressed up as chimney sweeps, also made their annual round of the principal streets with a "Jack-in-the-Green".

20. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER 5th May 1883 page 6 (KL)

Have "Jack" and his "Green;" have "my lord," in his multi-coloured paper-patched coat, have "my lady," in her muslins, with her spoon gracefully extended for largesse; have the gentlemen of foolscap hats, and gay with many ribbons, and merry clown who was the most impudent and daring of varlets, always risking impaling himself upon an area of railings, when ladies at a parlour window were to be wheedled out of a few coins by his comical appeals to their purses; have the children-performers, whom one pitied at times as one saw them wending their way wearily homeward on the evening of May Day, alone, or in company of parents and guardians not always over sober - have all these, like Hans Breitman's "barty," "gone away into the eightspeak?"

Well, I hardly know whether to ask the reader to lament or rejoice with me over the demise. Human nature is weak. "Jack" and his "mates" played strange antics occasionally, and the "Green" not infrequently came to grief. I think the party which distinguished itself a year or two ago by making an unwilling and inglorious entry into a plumber's shop plate-glass window in South Terrace, was sober, but the ancient May custom of honouring the goddess Flora and which, in some strange way the sweeps succeeded in almost claiming a monopoly of, is dying, and will soon be dead. "No doubt they rose up early, to observe The rite of May," observes Theaenus in "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The sweeps of Hastings - they used, by the way, to come in special force from Bohemia - will care to rise neither early or late to observe the "rite" in future..... ARGHS.



21. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE 7th May 1884 (RJ)

"Jack-in-the-Green" attended by his satellites was also represented this year, but the celebration was thought to be considerably behind the exhibition in 1883.

22. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE 8th May 1886 (RJ)

I am afraid that "Jack in the Green" has been improved off the face of the local community. At all events he was nowhere to be seen on Saturday last. It might have been any day of the year but the 1st May for all the homage that the once verdantly clothed "Jack" and his colleagues paid to the festival; for all the signs he made he might have been as extinct as the dodo. Is he really dead and buried? Will he no more visit the scenes of his ancient jollifications? Is his leafy house dismantled and overthrown? Have we seen the last of his twirlings and his posturings, and his gallant attempts, after the peewee pot has been repeatedly passed through the face opening in his arborescent shade, to retain his perpendicular? In truth I fear so. Gone are Jack and his verdant garb, and gone is his friend "Black Sal", in her unsouped muslin; gone is the Fairy on stilts; gone is "Dusky Bob" with his coat o' many colours and his gay cocked hat; and gone, too, is the stout man who beat the drum and blew the mouth organ and perspired so in his efforts that he must have run to dry rot but for the copious and frequent libations he was constrained to offer up on the altar of his unquenchable thirst. The day must come when no man will be found living who saw a Jack-in-the-Green, and when the Saturnalia of the chimney sweeps shall have become a tradition as stale as the scurrying of Flora, by darning round the Maypole. But I would like to know what has brought about the abandonment of this custom? Is it that people no longer sufficiently encourage the ceremony enough to keep it alive? And, if so, how comes it that there should be thus what seems like a tacit agreement that Jack-in-the-Green has outlived his day, and must perforce be starved into dissolution.

23. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 7th 1887 page 6. (RJ)

Jack in the Green is certainly gone. He has been in a weak and enfeebled condition for many years - slipping with each succeeding May more and more into mere and yellow leaf. But now, it must be said of him that he is no more. Whether he has fallen a victim of the inclement climate, which marks the month of flowers of our ancestors, or whether these days of anti-sentiment have wrought his ruin, I know not. I know only that he is gone; gone with his garlands and his "Sal," in dress so gay in its parti of many colours that it might have excited the envy of Joseph; gone, with his "Sal," in her stiff-starched and not over clean muslin, and with her brass ladle; gone with his big drum and his peewee pipes, which, as the evening drew on, never failed to exhibit a tendency to such weaknesses as might proceed from the imbibing of an undue quantity of alcoholic refreshments by the principal performer. Well, peace be with our retired verdant friend. He has had a long day. He has had his share of the good things of this world - on one day, at least, in the year. His play is played out. Other times,

other manners May Day finds him trundling his barrow, his friend "dusky Bob", collecting "marine stores" at our kitchen doors, and "Black Sal" - what a description, ye gods! for the lady, whose painted cheeks and, alas! the paint was not infrequently taken internally, in the shape of strong waters - and spangles, might, to many a youthful imagination, have been the model from which Osway's Angels, who were painted fair to look like women, came, is now engaged in "charing", or tempting us with the contents of her basket of primroses. But, in truth, I am most sorry for Jack-in-the-Green's disappearance. I forget ever his alcoholism, and would close my eyes to the undignified role he sometimes played towards night, in the consciousness that he was the embodiment of an ancient custom.

24. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 5th 1888 page 6. (RJ)

Did anyone see a "Jack-in-the-Green" in Hastings on Tuesday? I have made enquiries as to whether a single "show" of this kind was visible on the first inst, and am constrained to come to the conclusion that not only is Jack's occupation gone, but he is as dead as the dodo. Yet, to speak the honest truth, I am bound to confess to a kind of sneaking liking for Jack, in his verdant suit, and for the gentleman in the bespangled swallow-tails, and the lady who, in not over-clean muslin all regardless of her shem silk stockings, capered nimbly in the muddy road, to the music of pipes and drum. But they are all gone, not even the ghost of what they were remaining behind. Thus do our old customs vanish, one by one, in the prosaic utilitarian age in which we are privileged to live. Bye and bye, the time will arrive when "Jack-in-the-Green" will have become almost as much a matter of tradition as our ancestors in Rome who plucked and garlanded the May flowers in honour of the goddess Flora. The time will be contemporary, perhaps, with the day when war shall have ceased, and men shall travel through the air in electrically-propelled carriages, and almost at lightning speed; and people, separated by thousands of miles, shall converse with one another with as much ease as though they were within shaking-hands distance. Some of us would like to live to see this day, but others, of us would rather be excused from passing existence in such circumstances, and among these latter are, of course, those who would weep as copiously over the disappearance of "Jack-in-the-Green" as Sterne wept over a dead donkey.

25. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CHRONICLE May 4th 1889 page 10. (RJ)

May day as a festival has almost vanished. Our old friend "Jack-in-the-Green" has nearly been improved off the face of the borough. In a year or two he will have wholly disappeared, and a decade hence, be nothing more than a memory. There is no place for him in these utilitarian days. We have no time for the sentiment of which he is the embodiment. He is perishing of atrophy under our very eyes, yet we are scarcely conscious of his condition. He will be dead shortly, dead, to use a Dickensian phrase, as Jacob Marley, or as a door-nail. Yet who, beyond the chimney-sweepers, real or pretended, who, in his demise, find their ancient and remunerative May Day occupation gone, will drop a tear over his bier? In truth, he was too beery



a customer in life, that we should weep over him in death. The garland, with all its attendant rustic festivity, must have been a pleasant thing to look upon, as indeed it is pleasant to read about. But the staggering gentlemen, in their houses of green with holes in the front, made seemingly in their verdant dwellings for the purpose of easy introduction of a pewter vessel containing malt liquor; "my lady", in her dirty muslin and dragged skirts, and leeringly soliciting with her wooden or brass spoon, aims from the spectators; "my lord", in his coat of tatters and many colours, footing it in a melancholy fashion round the apology for a May-pole - these were no specially livening or edifying spectacles. We can well dispense with them. On Wednesday last they were conspicuous only by their absence in Hastings, and no-one appeared to note, or, at any events, to lament the loss. The little children even, who had been accustomed to carrying "garlands" from house to house on May Day, were fewer this year than they have ever before been. And they will be fewer still in the future. The game is played out. The old custom is gasping in its last breath, but there is no one to wish it to stay, or even to speed its passing.

#### 26. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER 3rd May 1890 (RJ)

The month of May in Hastings years ago the "Jack in the Green", by the Lee family, was eagerly looked forward to by many people, but only a few signs of the advent of the month were observed on Thursday morning. Children with garlands visited some of the houses, and on payment of a small sum exhibited a floral device.

#### 27. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 5th 1894 page 6. (KL)

All our time-honoured customs are departing one by one. Valentines day has declined into the lean and slippered pantalone stage, and in a few more years will have become a mere curious tradition. But May Day, so far as the annual festival of the chimney sweeps and the display of floral garlands by children goes is as extinct as the dodo. It has passed to gradual decline. Jack-in-the-Green has danced away into that bourne where no traveller returns. "My lord" and "my lady" as it was the custom to style the more or less dirty, not infrequently tipsy, and always fleshly-dirty and tinsel bodecked train who capered round the twirling house of green in the gutters, and with wooden spoons begged largesse of the spectators have found their occupation gone. The beat of the drum and the squeal of the wry-necked fife no longer remind us that winter is past, and that the first rays of the summer sun have come. On Tuesday last in Hastings not a single Jack-in-the-Green was to be seen, and even the children who only last year bought to turn an honest penny by exhibiting what in their innocence they called and kindly courtesy accepted as May-Day garlands, were conspicuous by their absence. Who knows? - before long perhaps we shall find men curiously asking what strange custom Tennyson's poem of the May Queen was intended to commemorate. The old changeth and giveth place to the new. Alas! as "The gentle Elia" has it: "Golden lads and lasses must, As chimney sweepsers, come to dust." Some of us there are who would even sigh at the demise of May Day festival. But the utilitarian world rolls on in its Vandal course. Sentiment is becoming old-fashioned and out of place. We cannot stem the obliterating tide if we could. The play is ended, let us ring down the curtain. The garb of the

prosaic worker is the only wear in this enlightened, practical, fin de siècle age, an age which demands a reason for everything.

#### 28. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 4th 1895 page 6. (KL)

Wednesday danced brightly, and, on the whole, was the typical May Day of the poets and tradition. But where were the May-day garlands, and above all, where were the Jacks in the Green, that were wont to be in strong evidence on this festival of Flora? One looked in vain for these; one listened in vain for the sound of the Pandean pipes and the beat of the drum. Where were the small crowds of children in the streets, where the twirling "green", around which capered "my lady" in not over clean muslin, and with a big brass spoon held forth for largesse, where "my lord" in motley garb of tinsel and cocked hat, where the individual dressed as a clown? Not one of these was visible on Wednesday last. They have danced off the stage for ever. Even the garlands exhibited by young people were so very few as to be conspicuous only by their comparative absence. But I wonder who it is, or what it is, that thus kills, say, in a score of years, customs honoured through centuries. History has gravely testified to the personality of the creature who killed Cook Robin, but we are wholly in ignorance as to the means by which Jack in the Green met his death. It is, I think, Mr. Justin McCarthy who, in the "History of our Times", declares that the thought as to the pulling down of the Hyde Park railings by a riotous mob must have had its birth in a single brain, and from it spread with lightning-like rapidity through the whole crowd. However, it is not on this manner that the new which kills the old is created. Within the last few years we have seen two customs in England, time-honoured through many generations, decline into dissolution, namely the sending of Valentines on the 14th of February, and the sweeps' turn-out on May Day. I repeat the question. Who or what has brought their extinction about, and how came they to die? For my part I am wholly unable to answer the interrogatory.

#### 29. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 2nd 1896 page 6. (KL)

Poor Jack in the Green! He has danced his last dance; he has twirled away with his garland and his companions, "my lord", and "my lady" and "Dusty Bob," into eternity. Yesterday he was conspicuous only by his absence from the public thoroughfares. His place will never know him no more virtually he is as dead, and as much a thing of the past, as the dodo. There is no room for him in this modern utilitarian world. He is one of the many victims of sentiment, over which prosaic progress - that modern Moloch rides. Yet we might have spared better things than the sweeps! May Day fete. True, Jack and his associates were customarily more than a little bibulous, and what with the many drinks of porter he was accustomed to take from the pewter vessels handed into him through the mouth-hole of his cage of flower-decked greenery, and what his numberless round-and-round movements, which must have kept the alcohol within him in a state of almost constant ferment, he became not infrequently, not long before the day was far advanced a spectacle sorry enough for men and gods.

Then it usually happened that the lady in the stiff, starched petticoats got also, before the vesperian advent, more than a



little off her physical and mental balance, owing probably to the necessity she likewise felt imposed upon her physical and mental balance, owing probably to the necessity she likewise felt imposed upon her of repeatedly seeking bodily recuperation by application to the contents of the aforementioned quart pot; while as for his leadership and the gentleman who boasted that "nothing was your only wear," I am compelled in rabid truth to admit that, even while they sought to demonstrate to us how "Merrie England" was wont to keep May Day, they, at the same time, rose unusually recalled to our minds those exhibitions in Greece of old, wherein drunken harlots were permitted to run amuck in order that they might show how foul and disgusting a beast the human animal can be under the influence of drink. And yet, weighing Jack and his fraileties on one scale and in another the pleasure which his vagaries gave to hundreds of thousands, both young and old, throughout the kingdom, who saw only the good and not evil in the May Day celebration, I honestly say that I feel some regret for his departure.

### 30. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS PICTORIAL ANNUARY AND VISITOR LNU. May 1st 1913. (R3)

A picture of a Jack in the Green standing outside the St. Leonards subscription gardens (now St. Leonards Gardens), behind the Royal Victoria Hotel. Captioned "Interesting reminiscence of May Day". The explanatory note says "The custom of celebrating May Day with Jack-in-the-Green and his satellites has long since died out locally." The picture is said to have been lent by Messrs Vidler and Son, (a copy of it is reproduced elsewhere in this booklet).

### 31. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS OBSERVER May 5th 1934. (R3)

May Queen Crowned.....The ceremony followed traditional lines and its planning was the result of careful research by Miss Dorothy Catt who was responsible for the arrangements.

( This was the first of an unbroken series of ceremonies which continue to this day, from early on a chimney sweep, Mr. W.S. Knight played a central role. Miss Catt based herself directly on Brand's Antiquities and Chamber's book of Days (R3). I can certainly recall a Chimney Sweep being present at the ceremony in 1984, up until now there has been no suggestion of any contact with a source of local tradition, and the event has become a tradition in itself. It is interesting to note that in 1988 the Hastings-based Mad Jack's Morris Dancers were present instead of a sweep. Mad Jack's are the present organisers of the revived Hastings Jack in the Green, and there is talk of combining the two ceremonies).

### FINALE

Whilst looking at May Day customs in Hastings Reference Library in 1982, I came across Roy Judge's accounts of a Jack in the Green in Hastings. This gave sufficient information to approach the local Mad Jack's Morris dancers, with a view to reviving the custom. We had little to go on except a photograph and the references, so had to work from what we knew of other customs. In 1983, (nearly nine years after he was last seen), "Jack in the Green" reappeared on the streets of Hastings. On that first occasion he danced from the Old Town to Silverhill and back to the West Hill along the seafront. Since then he has annually been seen in the Old Town; which is where I am sure he would have been if the custom had kept going. Retrospectively, (after finding more references), there are certain things that could have been done differently; but "Jack" appears to have developed a life of his own. He now attracts morris dancers and spectators from all over the country, and annually the event gets bigger. Jack in the Green is most definitely back, and alive and kicking.

I will finish with a reference from The Observer of May 5th 1888, (24). "Bye and bye, the time will arrive when 'Jack in the Green' will have become almost as much a matter of tradition as our ancestors in Rome who plucked and garlanded the May flowers in honour of the goddess Flora. The time will be contemporary, perhaps, with the day when war shall have ceased, and men shall travel through the air in electrically-propelled carriages, and almost at lightning speed; and people, separated by thousands of miles, shall concourse with as much ease as though they were within hand shaking distance."



May Day- or 'Jack-in-the-Green', possibly by Isaac Cruikshank 1795, published by Laurie and Whittle. M.D.George 8772.

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- Jack in the Green in Tasmania 1844-1873. Keith Leech. (London: The Folklore Society Library 1989).



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SOUTH-EAST  
Arts & Crafts

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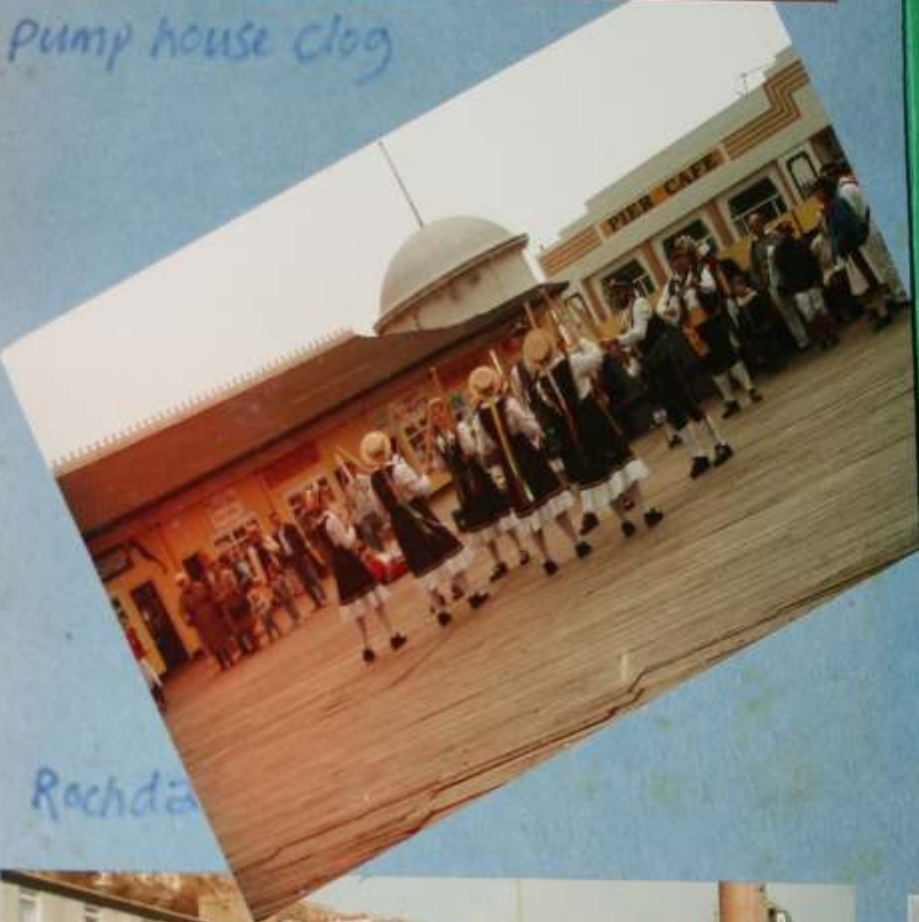
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Pump house clog



Rochdale



Rag Morris and friends

MAD JACK'S MORRIS  
**JACK IN THE GREEN**  
 Traditional "Jack in the Green" festivities

**SATURDAY 29 APRIL — MONDAY 1 MAY**  
**1989**

Hastings Tourism and Leisure Department, 5 Robertson Terrace, Hastings  
 Tel 0424 722022  
 Sponsored by Hastings Borough Council



Rochdale



MAD JACK'S MORRIS  
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*Rag Morris*



*Heather + Gerse flashing their draws!*



*more draws!*

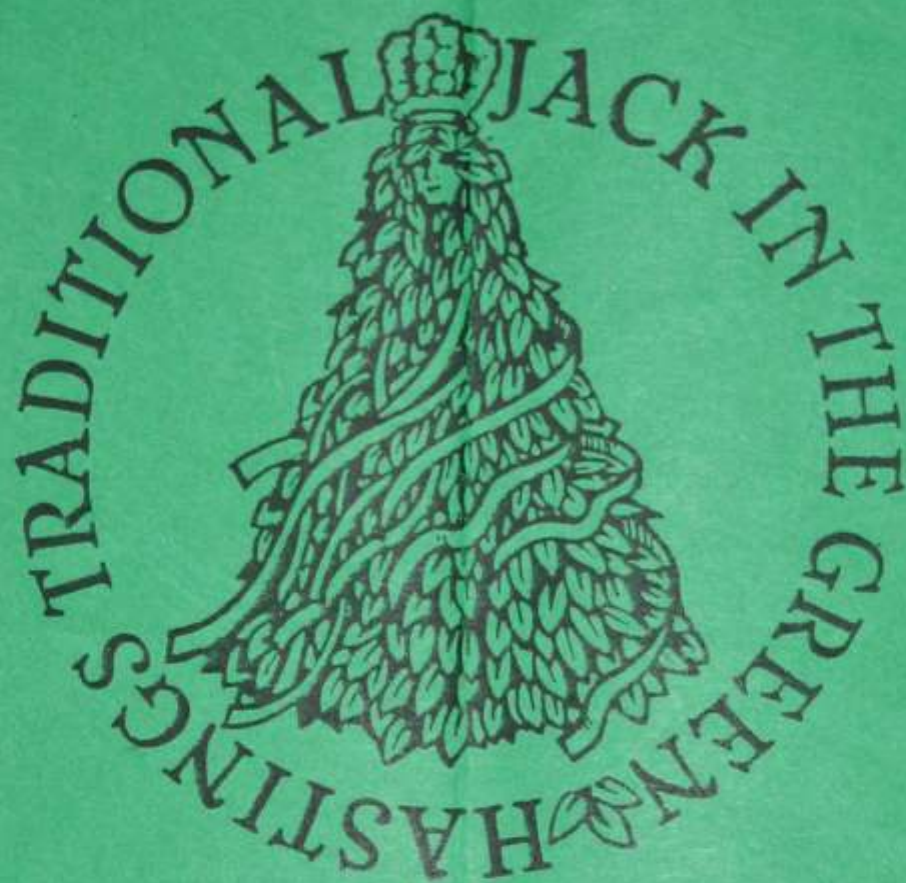
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MAD JACK'S MORRIS

# JACK IN THE GREEN

Traditional "Jack in the Green" festivities



**SATURDAY 29 APRIL — MONDAY 1 MAY**

**1989**

Hastings Tourism and Leisure Department, 5 Robertson Terrace, Hastings  
Tel 0424 722022

Sponsored by Hastings Borough Council



## THE HASTINGS JACK IN THE GREEN

The Jack in the Green is found in various forms throughout Europe. He is always some kind of representation of the spirit of nature, being half man and half tree. The legends of the Hood are based on him, and is a survival from the days when people worshipped nature. At one time he was the representation of a god, most medieval churches are built on the sites of former temples and many contain carvings depicting a leaf covered man.

Mayday, or Beltane, was the traditional start of summer and the first day of the Celtic new year. It was the biggest feast of the year as a celebration of spring and re-birth and a Jack in the Green, together with the associated maypole (traditionally a large decorated tree) was always present in some form.

As the old ways died out 'Jack in the Green' was adopted by chimney sweeps. He was seen in many towns on May day parading with the sweeps, creating mayhem and collecting money not always for charitable uses.

Here, in Hastings there is evidence that at one time we had at least three 'Jack in the Greens'. On May 1st 1880 one of them processed along All Saints Street with a group of morris dancers. We have a photograph of an unknown date of a Hastings Jack from which our present Jack in the Green and associated characters is taken.

At the end of the day we ceremonially release the spirit of summer in the Castle grounds.

The Hastings Jack in the Green belongs to the people of the town - please join in the celebrations and support us in keeping this old tradition alive.

May Jack in the Green live forever.

Keith Leach has written a book on the Hastings Jack in the Green which is available either from the main tourism office in Robertson Terrace or from the author at Old Humphrey Avenue, Hastings.



## SIDES ATTENDING HASTINGS TRADITIONAL

### JACK IN THE GREEN 1989

Black Annis Womens Morris. We dance Cotswold Morris We come from the City of Leicester. (including our own tradition of Humberstone Gate) and also a step or two of border. We are named after a local witch and take our colours from the suffragettes - purple, green and white. We are especially famous for arriving late, not arriving at all and having hairy legs.

Black Adder Morris. Black Adder was formed in 1984 as a mixed clog side, loosely based on the North West tradition. All our dances have been written by ourselves, except those that haven't and those which we have pinched and altered beyond recognition.

Liddington Hall Womens Morris. as a group of women Morris In 1980 Liddington hall formed as a group from the Fieldtown Dancers and began by learning dances from the Fieldtown Dancers. Over the years the membership has grown also the tradition. Under Wychwood and even our own compilation "Missing Link". Our kit consists of white cotton tiered skirt, blouse and bloomers, blue tabard, red socks, hankies and shoes and rush hats.

Old Palace Clog. Old Palace Clog was formed four years ago and performs traditional dances from Lancashire and Yorkshire together with some modern dances written in the North West Clog Morris style. We come from Croyden South London and take our name from the Archbishop's Palace and the Crystal Palace which are both in the area. We dance regularly throughout the South of England and have also ventured abroad and danced in Austria, Spain and Belgium. Our kit comprises of a white skirt and blouse, green bolero and red clogs.

Pump House Clog Morris. We are based at the Pump house Arts Centre in Watford. We wear womens North West clog kit of purple tights, cream socks and skirt, with purple over skirt and sash, straw boaters individually decorated. This year we are celebrating our tenth birthday.

Daisy Roots Home grown in Hastings. Dance a variety of traditions always with a smile on our faces. We wear black tights and predominantly green rag coats.



**MAD JACKS MORRIS**  
**JACK IS THE GREEN FESTIVAL**  
**DETAILED PROGRAMME**  
**SATURDAY 20th APRIL TO MONDAY 1st MAY**

**SATURDAY 20th**

12.00pm Up to 35 Morris sides converge on the ROYAL STANDARD PUB, KICK A KICK, to meet Mad Jacks, Hastings and the fresh air, stretch their legs and have their first dance of the weekend.

2.30 pm Morris sides will dance around HASTINGS OLD TOWN, in Robertsons Street to celebrate the end of Hastings Environment Week, or just see the sights.

8.00 - 11.30pm Folk evening in The MARINA PAVILION, St Leonards, members of the public will have to pay £3.50 on the door. Seas Arcade and the Crayfish 5 are the bands playing on a good evening should be had by all. There may also be a sing around in The James Burton pub across the road, though this may well be on an adhoc basis.

**SUNDAY 20th APRIL**

10.00 pm Morris sides will be dancing around HASTINGS OLD and NEW TOWNS.

12.00 pm Sundry folk maybes with a sing around/tune up in the Telton Hotel and the Stage Door bar in the White Rock, as well as dancing on the Pier.

3.30 pm Massed Morris dancing on HASTINGS PIER, with nearly 350 Morris dancers.

**MONDAY 1st MAY**

5.15 am Mad Jacks dance the sun up, in the Ladies Parlour, on the WEST HILL. You are more than welcome to join us provided you can get up!!

9.45 am All Morris sides assemble outside the FISHERMANS MUSEUM, in Rock a Mare.

10.00am THE GRAND PROCESSION. The Lord Mayor of Hastings releases the Jack from the FISHERMANS MUSEUM. Mad Jacks will dance around the Jack after which the procession will move off along the PROM turning into the Old Town, up the HIGH St across the BOUNDARY and down ALL SAINTS St, back along the PROM and into GEORGE St. When the Jack reaches the end of GEORGE St the procession will stop and all sides will dance to their hearts content. We have been asked by the Old Town traders to try to maintain a way through George St so that you the public can circulate freely

11.15 pm Reform and process along the PROM, and up to the PIER.

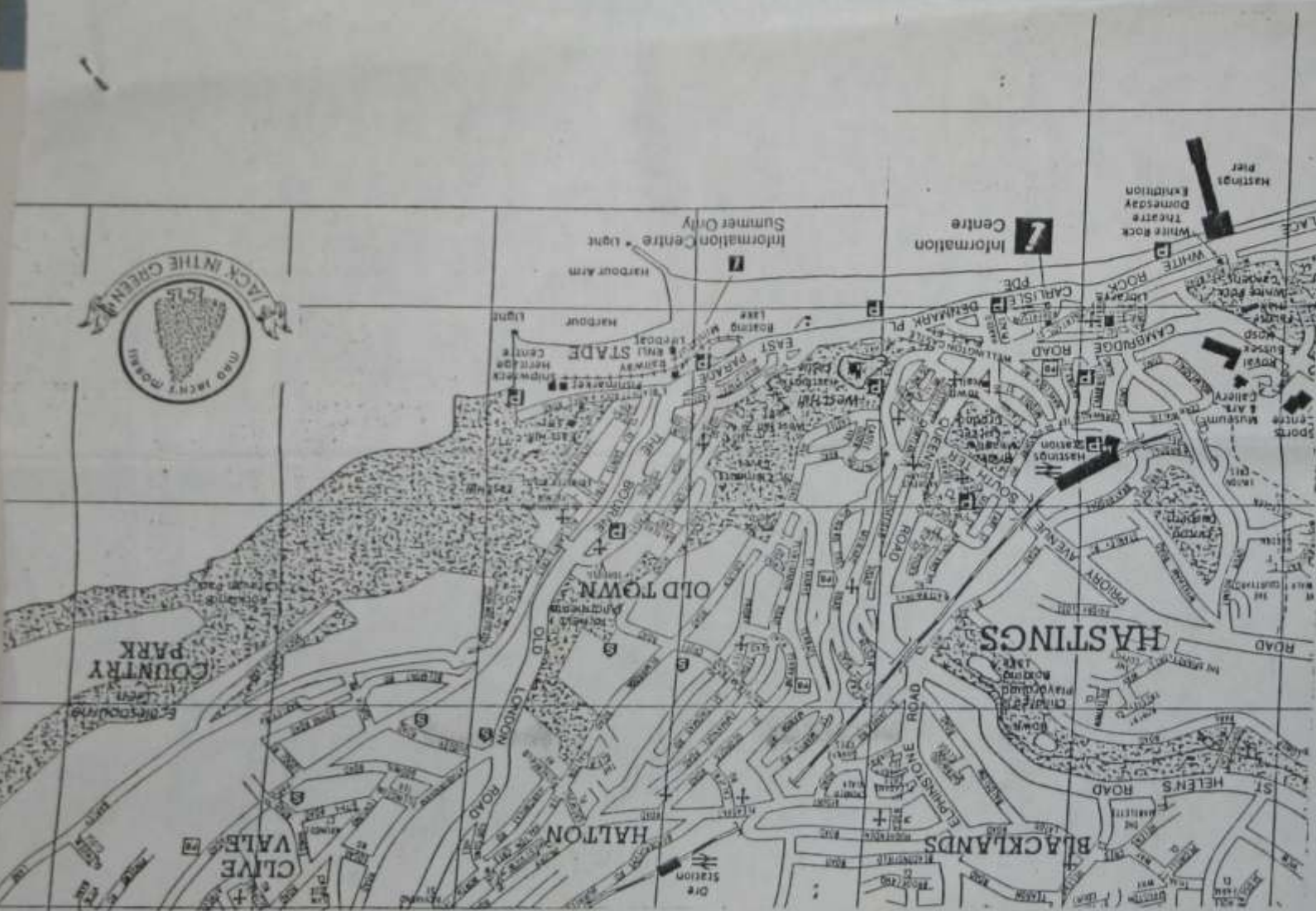
12.00 pm Dinner time.

2.00 pm Process to the CASTLE, via Hastings Town Centre, for a combined stand. So that everybody can get a chance to see the other sides as well as the castle the stand will be split into two with a fully boarded area for clog sides.

4.00 pm Mad Jacks dance "Sing of Bells" after which the Jack is ceremonially slain so releasing the SPIRIT OF SUMMER, lets hope it is more proof than the last two years.

4.15 pm Stagger off home, vowing to return next year.

If you have any problems what so ever please just grab a Mad Jacks banner and ask, or contact your nearest Tourist information centre.





Hands Around  
We are a female cotswoild side. We wear black britches and  
waistcoats with white "sealed things". type shirts, white socks  
and bits of orange coloured things.

Rising Larks  
The Rising Larks formed in 1980 to take part in the local Youth  
Theatres production of "Take Gise" by Keith Dewhurst, hence the  
name. We decided to remain together after the play, and set  
about collecting and selecting more dances to add to our  
repertoire at many instructional and festival workshops. We  
dance mostly North West and garland dances, sometimes adapting  
them to suit our own style. Our costume consists of rust  
coloured dress with cream pinafores over the top with cream  
tights and black clogs.

Hips and Haws Clog  
Hips and Haws Clog has been in existence for about 5 years,  
though the present side has been together for 18 months. We're  
a ladies side, dancing a variety of styles - some North-West,  
some stepping, some dances we've made up or adapted to suit us.  
We wear white dresses with red overslips, black tights and red-  
laced black clogs.

Heather and Gorse Clog Dancers  
We are mere striplings in the Morris world, this is only our  
6th season "out". We dance in the traditions of the North West  
though there isn't a Lancashire lass amongst us. In France we  
have been mistaken for German frauleins and our thighs have  
been commented on as those of true clog dancers.  
Our costume is a racy little number - swirling blue skirts,  
outrageous bloomers, debilitating clogs, persil-white blouses  
and Bavarian look-alike waistcoats. We practice in Coombe-in-  
Teignhead, a village outside Newton Abbot, South Devon.

Lancashire Polly Mixed Morris  
Lancashire Polly are a mixed clog side who come from the  
Rochdale area and host the annual Rushbearing in August. We  
dance mainly North-west but now and again might throw in some  
border for a change. Men wear white shirts, blue/burgundy  
sashes, burgundy breeches and blue caps. Girls wear blue  
dresses, white lacy pinnies and straw flowery boaters.

Harberton Morris  
Formed in June '88 at the Harberton Strawberry Fayre to provide  
entertainment. Enjoyed the event so much we continued losing  
some members and gaining some new ones. Very happy side,  
willing to try anything.

Rochdale Morris  
We are Rochdale Morris from deep Lancashire  
We train on black puddings and boddingtons beer  
Our musicians are good (they play very loud)  
We all eat black peas and we dance on a cloud.  
As you can see, we are the "clog de la clog" of the Morris  
world - coming soon to a pub near you, in glorious black and  
white (trimmed with gold, red and green).

Diggon's Breches Morris  
Diggon's Breches Morris started life seven years ago as an  
adult evening class at the Essex Road centre in Leyton. After  
minor successes entertaining the other classes it was decided  
to form a full performing side, and as such we are now in our  
fourth season. The side performs English dances culled from  
the old traditions of the Cotswoild villages. Slightly less  
traditional is our mixed format, both of Open Morris, a  
the same set. The side is a member of Open Morris, a  
nationwide organisation, which provides us with opportunities  
to perform all over the country, our venues having ranged from  
folk festivals to hospitals, from Ely cathedral to Walthamstow  
market, as well as the usual public houses. Diggon's Breches  
Morris is now based locally at the Chestnut Tree in Lea bridge  
Road, where we practice on Thursday evenings in the Hall  
upstairs.

Rag Morris  
We are a side who perform our own exuberant versions of  
traditional English Morris dances, with hankies, sticks and  
even swords. Most of our dances come from the Cotswoild hills  
around Oxford, and the wild lands bordering Wales. We choose  
to dance "mixed", wearing brilliant rag shirts and bellpads. A  
dance usually has 6 dancers with maybe the Fool, a Hobby Horse,  
the Green Man and Billy the Bonker. Our musical instruments  
change continually, but usually include fiddle, melodeon and  
drum.

Dr. Turberville's Morris  
Mixed Cotswoild side dancing Bledington, Bampton, Hinton-in-the-  
Hedges and a bit of Sherbourne. We wear whites with ecological  
green/maroon baldricks and ribbons.

Merrydale Morris  
Merrydale, a splinter group of the long-defunct Barley Morris,  
celebrates its fifth birthday in the new year. Since its  
formation, the side have danced a wide number of traditions,  
but in the past year have concentrated on just three from the  
Cotswoilds:- Bledington, Ducklington and Fieldtown, but also  
perform a few Welsh Border dances.  
We wear all white, with purple and mauve rosettes, armbands,  
purple hankies and a purple cummerbund. We have a fool, and a  
hobby-wolf called Adolf Wolfgang Molyneux. Music is currently  
provided by some combination of two melodeons and a flute.





THE EASIEST WAY TO GET ABOUT LONDON IS BY TUBE...

Dear all,

Super party 'Hic', 'Hic'.

Have shopped + spent to much, and eaten to much in mcdonalds.

going to the zoo, hoping to exchange the boys for a couple of penguins.

See you soon

Love Lins

xxx  
xx



DRG  
J. ARTHUR  
DIXON

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN by J. Arthur Dixon. Tel: 0983 523381

Pass on your  
Postcard



Dr Turberville's Morris,  
60 Cardine Moy  
4 Bincome Drive,  
CREWKERNE.

SOMERSET. TA18 7BE

PL0-00050-L



April 1st  
Silly session outside Dave Hills'  
- his birthday! -  
Followed by Breakfast inside  
Then dancing in Falkland Square.







First photo of Caroline ?

JUST A LITTLE NOTE FROM ME  
TO YOU



First photo of Caroline ?

To Everyone,

Thank you very much for the  
lovely flowers you bought me on Saturday  
and thank you Fiona for thinking of  
the idea.

Love

Sue





Sunday 21st May  
Melpash Court



Hinton St. George - Tues 22nd May



N. Perrot - landlord with 'bladder'  
manor arms





North Perrot



Northperrot

Misterton - Swan Inn

Even in those days  
some would keep  
higher than others! →





Tues 30th May  
Drimpton



Tues 30th May Winsham



Q. D weekend  
Sat 3rd June  
- Going home  
everyone knackered  
(except vb)





## Queens Delight Morris

3, Butchelmere rd,

Yeovil,

Somerset

BA21 4BA.

Tel: Yeovil 28981

3rd Weekend of the Decade

2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> June 1989

Dear Dr Turbeville's,

Here are the promised further details;

I hope that they answer all your questions & do not raise any that I haven't thought of.

### FORMAT

Friday Arrive any time after 6 p.m. The accommodation will be either indoor camping in the Sports Hall or outdoor camping on the Sports Field. Campers & caravans can get onto the campsite fairly easily. There are toilets, wash-rooms & showers (communal, I'm afraid) in the Sports Hall. Once you've got all this sussed out, you will find alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages in the dining hall; a snack will be available around about mid evening, but there is a chippie close by for those who can't wait that long.

Saturday Breakfast from 7.00 a.m. This will be cereal, bacon, eggs, toast, fruit juice, tea &/or coffee. Tours will leave the school at about 9.45 a.m. & return to Yeovil at about 5.00 p.m. A cooked meal + drinks will appear at about 6.00-ish or thereabouts. The collide will begin at 8 p.m.; the band is the Strong Country Band (from Bourne-Mouth) & Richard Turner will be the caller. Drinks will continue to flow until it runs out.

Sunday Breakfast at 8.30 a.m., then packing up & general idling about until it's time to go to the pub, once again



reply to queens Delight weekend of Mayoline



Dr. Turberville's Morris

4 Bincombe Drive  
CREWKERNE t,  
Somerset  
TA18 7BE

28th June 1989

Dear Jane,

Thank you for inviting Dr Turb's to the Queen's Delight Weekend. We had a great time on the Saturday, touring to all those places that no other coach company can reach, accompanied by musical delights coming from the back of the bus which got bawdier as the day progressed.

! (I've never heard of doing that to a Drunken Sailor before, but what can you expect when Phil Bayliss joins in, not to mention Dave Easeman).

We had been given strict instructions (by Debbie) to collect cash without mercy but at the Quedam the 'Yeovil Skinflints' were a bit tight-fisted. We thought that it was probably the shock of being invaded by all those strange Morris people, so we decided to get started on our tour without delay. However the husbands of Jack Straws had other ideas, as they had gone wandering around the shops and it took a little while to organise everyone, the last lady hot-footing it out of Safeway laden down with three bulging carriers which looked like her weekly supplies. Then pausing only to empty the contents of baby's potty down the drain, we set off for darkest Dorset.



## LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

Town Council Offices & Tourist Information Centre  
The Guildhall, Lyme Regis,  
Dorset, DT7 3QA.  
Telephone: (02974) 2138.



R. N. MUNDAY  
Town Clerk

Your Ref

Our Ref RNM/PT/R.13

30th. March, 1989.

Dear Mrs. Easeman,

**Re: Marine Parade**

Thank you for your letter dated 22nd. March last, the contents of which are noted.

However, I would advise that the 29th. July is in fact part of the R.N.L.I. Fundraising week with the town's seafront being made available to that organisation.

However, I am not aware of the exact programme and it may well be that you can be "fitted in" and I would suggest that you communicate with the Secretary, Mr. W.H. Crowdy, 4, Orchard Close, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth, Dorset.

Yours sincerely,

R.N. Munday.  
Town Clerk.

Mrs. F. Easeman,  
Primrose Cottage,  
Unity Lane,  
Misterton,  
CREWKERNE,  
Somerset.  
TA18 8NA



Our arrival at Cerne Abbas did cause some consternation and we played that good old game called where's the pub, how do we get to it, and can the coach turn round, let alone park somewhere? We found the Royal Oak and settled down to enjoy some serious drinking - oops, I mean dancing of course (Well there was Wadworth IPA and 6X and some of us hadn't had a pint yet!) Now 'Cerne's Nodgers' were very generous and we collected 'oodles' of cash and met some very interesting Canadian holidaymakers and some Americans. The locals enjoyed it too and the landlady welcomed us warmly, or was it our wallets, and we dragged ourselves away to Osmington rather later than scheduled. (The whole day ran later than scheduled but who cares).

The Smugglers Inn was a welcome sight and we all piled out of the coach to use the loos, find another pint and get some lunch; Cheddar and Stilton ploughmans and a pint of Directors - Great!

After the vitals, the sun shone and so we danced outside for a good-natured and generous crowd, \* the 'Osmington Cheeses' really did us proud. In fact we were having such a good time that people were heard to mutter darkly about staying where the good beer was (Isca) and not bothering with Weymouth at all! However we couldn't disappoint our public, so back onto the bus we staggered.

\* Including a massed Rose Tree with Turb's variations - they got the hang of it eventually

# reply to greens Delight weekend 4/6 Caroline

- 3 -

## Dr. Turberville's Morris



On to the sea front waving our permit, although no-one asked to see it, where we resisted the temptation to build sandcastles and to skinny-dip. Linda and I made a concerted effort to relieve people of their cash but the 'Weymouth Wets' didn't do quite as well as 'Gerne's Nadders' or the 'Osmington Cheeses'. After 30 minutes we were all hot and exhausted and as we 'hadn't gone all that way just to drink beer', we had some excellent Rossi icecreams instead.

We crawled onto the coach and settled down to sleep off the excesses of food, booze and dancing, as may be seen by the incriminating photos taken by the few Turb's left awake. When we fell off the coach at Preston School it was agreed that we had all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and when could we do it again. We appreciated the few Greenwich Morris Men who danced with us as we were somewhat sparse ourselves that day.

Thank you also for giving us the Trent W.I. booking on Tuesday evening 20th June. We serenaded the ladies with Happy 100th Birthday, whereupon they plied us with loads of marvellous food and wine. Was our singing really that good, or more likely so bad that they had to shut us up. We had a good time and



reply to greens Delight weekend of Caroline

- 4 -

the ladies enjoyed themselves as some of them even joined in with Bonny Green.

Hope to see as many of you that can come to our Berkeley Morris (American) weekend 29th - 30th July, especially the Ceilidh at Maiden Beech School on the Saturday at 8.00 p.m.

Yours very gratefully,

Caroline Moy (Side Flunky)



Saturday  
3rd June

Treacle Enters  
Yeovil Quedam  
centre



THE  
FIRST  
PHOTO  
OF  
ALAN  
IAS  
TUCKER  
SCRAMBLERS

Isca outside  
Smugglers Inn  
Osmington



Maygog in  
Quedam centre  
Yeovil



Jack Straws  
Smugglers Inn  
Osmington





June 7th  
-powerstock

Royal Manor  
from portland,  
waddle on penguin  
style for their  
first dance



Linda doing  
her thing with  
the penguin.  
June 10th  
Crewkerne Carnival



## Crewkerne Medieval Carnival 1989

Mr C M. Edmunds  
203 South St.,  
Crewkerne

21.3.1989.

please reply to:

May Heywood (Mrs),  
12 Church Street,  
CREWKERNE,  
Somerset.  
Tel: 0460 74825

Dear Mr Edmunds,  
Re Crewkerne Carnival June 10<sup>th</sup>

I have been requested by the  
Carnival Committee to ask if it  
would be possible for the  
Mr. Turberville's Morris dancers to

# Crewkerne Medieval Carnival 1989

Mr C M. Edmunds  
203 South St.,  
Crewkerne.

21.3.1989.

please reply to:

May Heywood (Mrs),  
12 Church Street,  
CREWKERNE,  
Somerset.  
Tel: 0460 74825

Dear Mr Edmunds

Re Crewkerne Carnival June 10<sup>th</sup>

I have been requested by the  
Carnival Committee to ask if it  
would be possible for the

Dr Turberville's Morris dancers to  
perform at 11 am on Carnival Day  
in Falkland Square please.

I look forward to a favourable  
reply.

Yours sincerely

May Heywood  
Hon Sec



# Crewkerne Medieval Carnival 1989

Fiona Eastman  
Promrose Cottage,  
Unity Lane,  
Moxton  
Crewkerne

please reply to:

May Heywood (Mrs),  
12 Church Street,  
CREWKERNE,  
Somerset.  
Tel: 0460 74825

12.4.1989.

Dear Mrs Eastman,

Very many thanks for your  
prompt reply.

I know the Carnival Committee  
will be pleased the Morris dancers  
are again going to entertain &  
contribute to the success of the  
Carnival.

I am collecting the boxes  
the day before the Carnival on  
June 9<sup>th</sup> perhaps you could may  
me & let me know how many I  
should keep for you.

Yours sincerely

May Heywood  
Hm See

# Crewkerne Medieval Carnival 1989

Fiona Easeman  
Primrose Cottage  
Unity Lane  
Misterton  
Crewkerne

Hon Sec. May Heywood  
12 Church St.,  
Crewkerne  
Somerset.

22.6.1989.

Dear Ms Easeman,

On behalf of the Carnival Committee may I express our thanks for your Group's contribution to the Carnival on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

It has been voted a huge success & much credit is due to all the associations who participated to add to the enjoyment of the day.

Again, many thanks for your efforts & we shall look forward to your continued support.

I am sorry I was unable to keep my promise about the collecting boxes, I hope there were some in evidence in the Square.

Yours sincerely

May Heywood



Saturday 17th June - Brixham Folk Festival

Dancing in the  
hot sun at Brixham



It was hot



The Bayliss family  
waved from their  
sailing boat  
(the Golden Hind)





LES NODEN,  
4, DOCTORS ROAD,  
BRIXHAM,  
TORBAT,  
S. DEVON, TQ5 9HR

Tel. (0803) 882312

DEAR *Dr. Turberville's Morris,*

THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR YOUR EFFORTS ON THE 17th. JUNE. YOU AND ALL THE OTHER PERFORMERS GAVE YOUR ALL ON YET ANOTHER EXCEEDINGLY HOT DAY TO GIVE US YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL.

INDEED, THE WEATHER WAS SO HOT THAT MANY OF THE 'PUNTERS' HEADED FOR THE BEACHES AND WE DIDN'T EXPECT TO MAKE TOO MUCH FOR GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND, BUT THE COLLECTORS EXCELLED THEMSELVES ONCE MORE AND WE ARE DELIGHTED TO GIVE YOU THE FINAL FIGURES:-

1986	£1100
1987	£1385
1988	£1500
1989	£1650

WE CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH. ALL WE CAN DO IS TO ASK YOU TO COME AND DO IT ALL AGAIN NEXT YEAR ON

SATURDAY, 16th. JUNE, 1990.

OUR NEXT FESTIVAL, THE FIFTH ONE, (TEMPUS FUGIT) WILL HAVE AN INTERNATIONAL FLAVOUR, AS WE ARE EXPECTING ABOUT FORTY FRENCH VISITORS FROM NEAR CAEN, NORMANDY. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

PLEASE COMMIT YOURSELVES TO BRIXHAM'S CHARITY DAY NOW AND FILL IN YOUR 1990 DIARIES FOR

SATURDAY, 16th. JUNE !!!

SEE YOU THEN IF NOT BEFORE,

BEST WISHES,

*Leslie Noden*

LES NODEN,  
FESTIVAL ORGANISER.

on.

*Dave E  
Practising  
Hinton on the  
Grass*





# BRIXHAM FOLK FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, 17th. JUNE, 1989.



- 1 Scala Hall - MEET HAVE 1030
- 2 Parkham Hotel
- 3 Spratt & Mackerel
- 4 The Maritime
- 5 The Bullers Arms
- 6 The Blue Anchor
- 7 The Golden Lion
- 8 The Burton Hotel
- 9 The Bolton Hotel
- 10 The Manor Inn
- 11 The Hole in the Wall

£5 WEEK-END TICKET COVERS TWO NIGHTS CAMPING AND FREE ENTRY TO ALL ORGANISED EVENTS. PLEASE APPLY BEFORE SAT. 3rd. JUNE, 1989.

----- Please return this form with: -----

Your name .....  
Address .....

No. of tickets required ..... Cheque/P.O. ....

Return to:- Les Noden, 4, Doctors Rd., Brixham, Torbay, S.Devon,  
TQ5 9HR.

Cheques payable to:- Brixham "Dickie Bows" Association.  
Regret no dogs and no refunds.



Phil + Dave E  
Practising  
Hinton on the  
Grass

BRIXHAM FOLK FESTIVAL

Les Noden,  
4, Doctors Rd.,  
Brixham,  
Torbay,  
S.Devon.TQ5 9HR.

Dear Fiona,

Thanks for your letter. We fully understand the problems of upheaval with families and pets, etc., but we are very pleased and grateful for your efforts in attending for the day.

Regarding the dance for the processional, please dance whatever you wish. Everyone 'does their own thing' in Brixham and to my mind this variety creates more colour and interest.

You are welcome to dance anywhere at any time during the day to try and recoup some of your expenses.

I am still struggling to get the Festival programme to press and as soon as this is done I will send you a copy.

Morris sides meet at the Scala Hall at 10.30am, ready for the 'big push' through the town at 11.00am. This is directed by Lionel Harper of Dartington Morris Men (our host side)

Sides confirmed so far:-

DARTINGTON MORRIS MEN	(NR.TOTNES)
GREEN WILLOW CLOG	"
CHURCHWARDENS MORRIS MEN	(NR.BRIXHAM)
HEATHER AND GORSE LADIES	(NEWTON ABBOT)
MUMMERS PRIDE RAPPER	(BOVEY TRACEY)
VICTORY MORRIS MEN	(PORTSMOUTH)
OCKINGTON MORRIS MEN	(DARTMOOR)
HODDESDON CROWNSMEN	(HERTFORD)

and expected but not yet confirmed:-

NEWTON BUSHEL MORRIS MEN	(NEWTON ABBOT)
PLYMOUTH MAIDS	(PLYMOUTH)
TATTERED SWAN BORDER MORRIS MEN	(CORNWALL)

and whoever else may turn up. We have been surprised before.

I look forward to meeting you on 17th. June.

Best wishes,



Phil + Dave E  
Practising  
Hinton on the  
Grass





Williams impersonation of the figure-head on the Golden Hind



Wills punishment for being too short to wear proper kit



Phil's not worried about Debbie dropping her bean bags on him but Dave might be.



little Alan wants to have a go too.



# 4th BRIXHAM TALK FOLK FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, 17th JUNE 1989

Free Programme

ALL PROCEEDS TO BRIXHAM "DICKIE BOWS" ASSOCIATION  
FOR GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND



Phil is really interested in  
Debbie's Guggling.



# Programme of Events

## FRIDAY, 16th JUNE (Evening)

Informal 'sessions' will be taking place in one or two of the town centre pubs. Look around. There will be something happening somewhere!

## SATURDAY, 17th JUNE

**10.30 a.m.** MORRIS MEET at the SCALA HALL. At this venue tickets, programmes, badges and information will be distributed to all performers.

**11.00 a.m.** MORRIS PROCESSIONAL DANCE from SCALA HALL along FORE STREET, across THE STRAND and onto THE QUAY.

**11.30 a.m.** At the OLD FISH MARKET on THE QUAY there will be an exhibition of Morris Dancing from the visiting sides, followed by a Social Dance, followed by a play presented by BOVEY TRACEY MUMMERS. Don't miss it! Will St. George shed blood this year?

**1.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.** (These times are approximate).

**THE MARITIME** . . . . . The ever popular "SKIDDYWHIDDEN" (Chris and Sue Rooney and Chris Marshall) are once again hosting a sing and play at the King St. venue.

**THE SPRAT & MACKEREL** . . . . . Another fine singaround at Brixham's 'first pub ashore' on THE QUAY, led by Jez Overington and friends.

**THE BULLERS ARMS** . . . . . John Purdy at the helm with crew members Dave Webber, Annie Fentiman, Charlie and Cathy Yarwood, Pete Watkinson, Tony O'Neill, Eddy Murphy, etc. etc. — (unaccompanied).

**THE GOLDEN LION** . . . . . A repeat of last year's truly excellent instrumental session, featuring "Spinach For Norman" (Ben Van Weede, Martin Henning, Joel Segal and Steve Verge).

**3.00 p.m.** DARTMOOR STEP-DANCE CONTEST at THE OLD FISH MARKET under the direction of Judy Forrow.

**3.30 p.m.** "FIVE BAR GAIT" will be hosting a 'Come all ye' at the BOLTON HOTEL.

**7.30 p.m.** PUB SESSIONS RE-COMMENCE.

**8.30 p.m. to MIDNIGHT** FESTIVAL CEILIDH at the SCALA HALL. Dance to the excellent music of "MONKEY & THE CHAINSAW" with caller KATHY WILSON. Ticket Only . . . £2.00  
Bar and refreshments available.

## SUNDAY, 18th JUNE (Lunchtime) PUB SESSIONS.

Unfortunately we have lost the Parkham Hotel as a venue this year, therefore there will be only one Ceilidh. Obviously it will be bursting at the seams so we have to make it a ticket only event! Please order your advance tickets early to avoid disappointment. These can be obtained from BRIXHAM MARKET, LES NODEN at 4 DOCTORS' ROAD, BRIXHAM (Tel. 882312) or any BRIXHAM 'DICKIE BOWS' MEMBER.

In the event of wet weather (perish the thought) as many as possible of activities will be packed into the Scala Hall.





## THE BULLERS ARMS BRIXHAM

Tel. Brixham 3329

WELCOMES

BRIXHAM FOLK FESTIVAL



DIRECTORS & COURAGE  
BEST BITTERS  
IN AMPLE SUPPLY

ALSO

FREDA'S FINE FARE



*Specialist Trawl Makers  
Suppliers of Trawl Gear and  
Flip-up Manufacturers*

*Tel.: John Day on (08045) 6115*

*Des Weeks - Chandlery*

Free Catalogue:

PUMP STREET - BRIXHAM  
TQ5 8ED



STOCKIST OF BERGER PAINTS  
ALL POPULAR MOTOR PANELS  
AND EVERY CONCEIVABLE

MOTOR ACCESSORY

CAR BODY SUPPLIES TORBAY  
60 BURTON STREET - BRIXHAM - TQ5 9JA  
51576 - 59124

1 ST. ANNE'S ROAD - TORQUAY - TQ1 3NU  
39420

## The Brixham Net Co.

AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS THE DANCE SIDES EXPECTED TO ATTEND ARE:-

DARTINGTON MORRIS MEN	(near Totnes)
GREEN WILLOW CLOG	(near Totnes)
CHURCHWARDS MORRIS MEN	(Galmpton, Nr, Brixham)
HEATHER & GORSE	(Newton Abbot)
MUMMERS PRIDE RAPPER	(Bovey Tracey)
VICTORY MORRIS MEN	(Plymouth)
HODDESON CROWNSMEN	(Hertford, Herts)
OCKINGTON MORRIS MEN	(Dartmoor)
DOCTOR TURBERVILLES MORRIS	(Crewkerne, Somerset)
PLYMOUTH MAIDS	(Plymouth)
TATTERED SWAN BORDER MORRIS	(Cornwall)
NEWTON BUSHEL MORRIS MEN	(Newton Abbot)
DEVON OAK CLOG	(Clyst Hydon, Devon)
MILL ON THE BROOK	(Cornwall)

We are indeed grateful to all the dancers, especially those who have travelled quite some distance to help us with this worthy cause.

We ask you, therefore, to be generous and throw some gold and silver into their hats to help them with their expenses. Thank you.

We are obliged, once again, to Lionel Harper of Dartington Morris Men (our host side) for co-ordinating the dancers.

Throughout the day, as in previous years, there will be spontaneous 'happenings' around the town, such as Morris Dancing, street theatre, Mummers, Buskers, etc. There is also a small Fayre of traditional arts and crafts.

These will be centred around the Quay and Strand areas.

Any information or assistance can be obtained from the information centre on the Strand, the Scala Hall, or "collar" any "Dickie Bows" member, recognisable by their rather flamboyant neck ties!

Medical assistance is on hand at the St. John Ambulance caravan on the Quay, for which we thank those ladies and gentlemen.

## PENNEY-BROOKE BUILDERS

UNIT 11 - WEBBERS YARD - DARTINGTON - TOTNES

Telephone TOTNES 866154

*Good Luck to The Dickie Bows Folk Festival*



Tues 20th June

Trent

(W.I 100 today)



Sat 1st July -

## SERENADED BY MORRIS DANCERS

ANGELA Jane Drewett, only daughter of Mr and Mrs T F Drewett, of 2 Hewish, Crewkerne, and Scott Laurence Parkman, only son of Mr and Mrs T L Parkman, of 11 Mount Pleasant, Crewkerne, were married at St Bartholomew's, Crewkerne.

The bridegroom is a baker and the bride is a machinist.

The Rev P B Curtis officiated.

The bride, given away by her father, wore a dress with fitted lace bodice, plain full silk skirt with detailed bow at back with train, a long veil with pearls fitted onto a ring of silk flowers. Her bouquet consisted of pink

rosebuds, carnations and gypsophila with trailing ivy.

The bridesmaid was Lucinda Bunn, the bride's cousin, and the page was Jack Parkman, cousin of the bridegroom.

Lucinda wore a pink three-tiered full skirt with fitted bodice with puff-ball sleeves.

Best man was Simon Parkman.

A reception was held at the Victoria Hall for 125 guests.

Morris dancers performed around the wedding party on leaving church.

Photo by Colin Jeffrey, Crewkerne.





Sat 1st July - St Bartholemews School fête



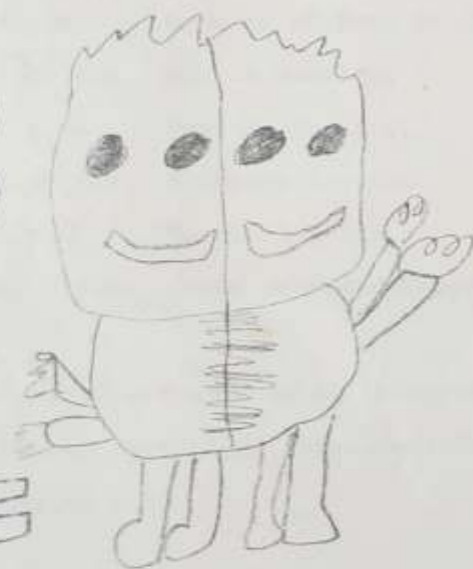
Phil and penguin get chatted up by the younger members of his flân club.

Sat 8th July - Beaminster - St Mary's School fête

St Mary's

269

School



Fête

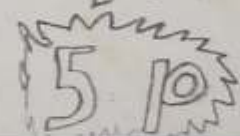
at

5 p.m.

8th July

2 p.m. to

5 p.m.





Saturday 15th July - Merriott Country Fayre

SATURDAY 15th JULY

Merriott Country Fayre



Street Market  
\* \* 10.00am

Join  
Us

Saturday  
15th  
July

Licensed Bar

Jazz  
Folk

Sideshows  
Fairground

Buffet

Flower  
Show

Morris  
Dancers

Fun  
Run  
7.00pm

Crafts

Barn  
Dance  
Barbeque  
8.00pm



val and Penguin



Very, very hot and tired.

Olivia enjoys it.



Saturday 15th July - Merriott

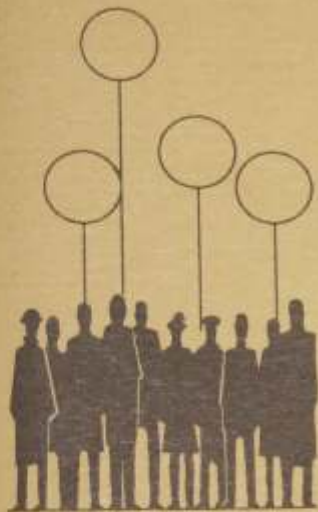
## SATURDAY 15th JULY

Merriott Country Fayre



Street Market  
\* \* 10.00am

Join  
Us



Licensed Bar

Saturday  
15th  
July

Sideshow  
Fairground

Jazz  
Folk

Flower  
Show

Buffet

Morris  
Dancers

Fun  
Run  
7.00pm

Crafts

Barn  
Dance  
Barbeque  
8.00pm



Saturday 15th July - Merr

## Saturday 15th July 1989

Following the success of the 1988 Fayre we are to repeat the event this year on the 15th July. Once again we have arranged a full day of various events that are detailed on pages 17 and 18 of this programme.

There are plenty of things to participate in; from the Flower Show to the childrens fancy dress, from the games to the childrens races. There are also some spectacular attractions such as the largest Street Market in the area, the sideshows and the village games.

The 1988 Fayre was a great success, both from a financial and social point of view. The day was attended by most of the village as well as many people from the surrounding villages. The atmosphere was both friendly and happy. If we can repeat this at the 1989 Fayre we will have done very well. From the financial standpoint, the Fayre raised over £2000 of which half was donated to our named charity - Great Ormond Street Childrens Hospital, while the remainder has been retained within the village with the Bowling Club and the Play School building project benefitting, amongst others.

This year any proceeds will be shared by the Cancer Research Campaign and village organisations.

Once again many of the local organisations will be running their own stalls or sideshows to raise their own monies. Remember these monies are in addition to the sum raised by the Fayre so support them all.

The Fayre will only be a success if you're there!



*Knock, knock,*

*Who's there?*

*Andy.*

*Andy who?*

*Andy little gadgets to have, door knockers.*

# ***Nick Cooper***

**Architectural Technician**

---

60 Glebelands  
Merriott  
Somerset  
TA16 5RE

Telephone      Crewkerne 74038

---

BUILDING PLANS PREPARED

BUILDING REGULATION and PLANNING

PERMISSION APPLIED FOR



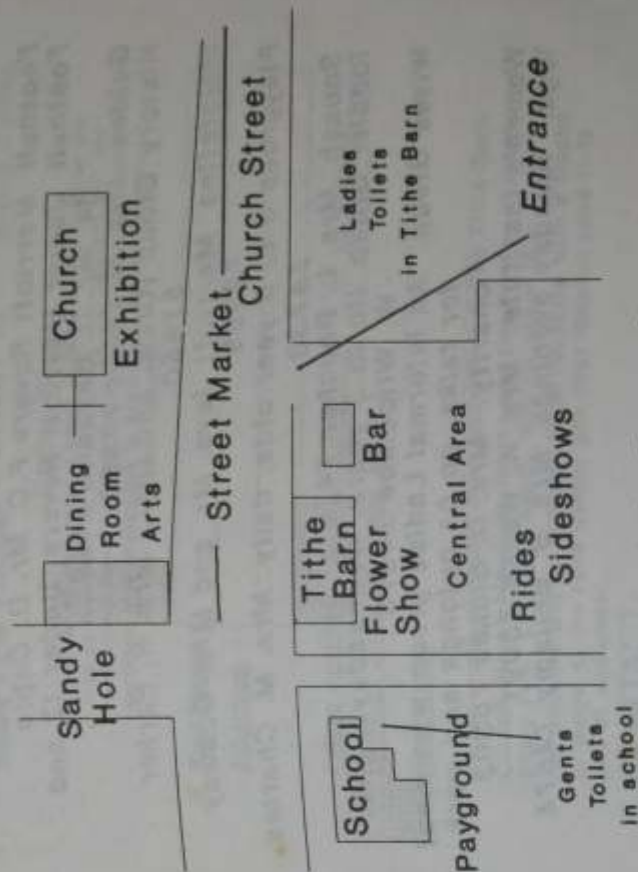
# PROGRAMME

All timings are approximate and may be changed.

- 10.30 am. Street Market opens in Church Street. Art Exhibition in School Dining Room Craft Exhibition in the Church. Flower Show entries to be staged by 11.00
- 11.00 am. Childrens Fancy Dress in the School Playground.
- 11.30 am. Coffee in central area. Parade of Childrens Fancy Dress through the Street Market. The Bar opens. Community Circus starts performing. Flower Show judging begins.
- 12.00 Lunch available from the central area.
- 1.00 pm. The Wessex Youth Big Band in the central area.
- 1.30 pm. Games for a Barrel commence at The Swan Inn, Lower Street. Sideshows open.
- 2.00 pm. Games for a Barrel arrive at the Fayre. Flower Show opens.
- 2.30 pm. Dr. Turbervilles Morris Dancers in the central area.
- 3.00 pm. Seven Deadly Sins Jazz Band in central area.
- 3.30 pm. Teas in the central area.
- 4.00 pm. Wessex Youth Big Band in central area until 5.00pm.
- 4.30 pm. Bar Closes. Flower Show Prize presentation. Grand Prize Draw in central area.

- 7.00 pm. Fun Run starts at The Tithe Barn. Childrens Puppet Show in the central area.
- 7.15 pm. Bar opens.
- 7.30 pm. Fun Run returns to the Tithe Barn via Church Street.

- 8.00 pm. Country Evening starts in the Tithe Barn and central area.
- 11.30 pm. Bar closes



Plan of the Fayre site.  
Car Parking is sign posted.  
Church Street is closed to traffic.

Look - alternative letter head



Dr Turberville's Morris





Dr Turberville's Morris

will dance at

on



..... and badges too!

# Friday 28th July → Sunday 30th July

## WEEKEND FOR BERKELEY MORRIS; INFORMATION FOR TURBS.

### TIMETABLE:

Friday 28th July:

Overnight guests will be delivered to your door for supper provided by you. After meet at Royal Oak hermitage Street to greet other sides and for skittles.

Saturday 29th July:

Meet Falkland Square 0915 prompt for dancing and to meet coach. It is a long day because two tours have been amalgamated into one. We need to get an early start to give our visitors the chance to have a look at Crewkerne, be away at 1030 so they can look at Cricket St. Thomas before they dance there. Lunch is at the Bridport Arms at West Bay, followed by Seaton and Lyme. I make no apology for such grockle locations, we need every penny we can collect. We return to Falkland Square and proceed in our own cars to Dinnington for supper. You can then go home for showers and clothing change and be at Maiden Beech for 8pm. Everyone will need to make and bring a sinful pudding to the ceilidh. Quantities to be given at meeting on 25th July - if you're not going to be at that meeting-tell Fiona or Caroline.

Sunday 30th July:

Meet and dance at Perry's Cider at 11am. Lunch at the Lamb and Flag at Buckland St. Mary. Tea in Primrose Cottage Garden if fine (dishwasher), Old Farm if wet. Supper at Primrose Cottage for Turbs and Berks only followed by music session at Winyards Gap. Expect most Americans to stay Sunday night.

### WHAT TURBS SUPPLY:

£12.50 for weekend which includes two lunches and suppers, a tea and a ceilidh - better value than any other weekend.

B & B for American and maybe other guests.

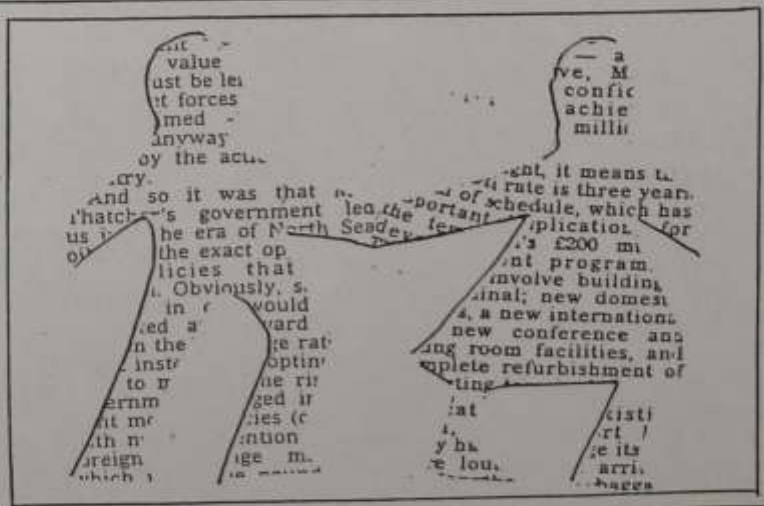
Puddings for Saturday night

Scones for Sunday - quantities again on 25th July.

THE WEEKEND WILL BE A GREAT SUCCESS ESPECIALLY IF WE ENCOURAGE LOTS OF FRIENDS TO COME TO THE CEILIDH AND COLLECT MONEY NON-STOP ON SATURDAY. WE ARE PLEDGED TO SHARING THE LYME BAG WITH THE RNLI. IF WE DO WELL WE WILL BE ABLE TO REFUND MONIES FOR B & B etc. - WITH YOUR HELP THE £12.50 MIGHT ONLY BE A TEMPORARY LOAN TO THE SIDE.

## BARN DANCE Saturday

£2.50 - Admit 1 -



Maiden Beech School

29th July 8.00pm





Berkeley Morris.

April 12, 1989

Dear Nottingham and Dr. Turberville,

Well, after all the jokes that have occurred recently about my drug habit I thought I should explain, especially since one of the people on the East Coast asked Dorothy "Gosh, does Gwen really take valium?". The answer is, "NO!". This is all a joke of Randall and Rhonda's. They keep insisting that they will keep me on valium and prop me up against points of interest in England and take pictures (so that I will know that I had a good time while there). My current drugs vary between coffee and sugar. Anyway, the above was just to make sure there were no other people misunderstanding what is going on.

In response to your letters. Here is a list of the various teams.

Berkeley Morris

- X Terry O'Neal
- X Gwen Dandridge
- X Randall Cayford
- X Rhonda Birnbaum
- X Krista Schnurstrom
- X Roger Bramble
- X Candy Soderstrom
- X Maud Gurrey
- X Gena P
- X Johnny Fudge
- X Bob Orser
- X Rowan *to Dash*
- X Sara Munz
- X Antone Cepernich
- X Sheila Fitzgerald
- X Tom Whitmore (unknown when he is coming, but he is coming)

Swords of Gridlock

- Gwen Dandridge X
- Rhonda Birnbaum X
- Randall Cayford X
- Krista Schnurstein X
- Carin Coulon
- Roger (as Moral Support)

Emperor Norton's Fire Brigade

- Candy Soderstrom X
- Sara Munz X
- Bob Orser X
- Sheila Fitzgerald X
- Johnny Fudge X
- Tom Whitmore X

Four Corners

- X Dorothy Andreoli
- X Chris Levy
- X Erica
- X Andy
- X Barbara
- X Sally
- X Ben

Singer Types

- Roger Bramble X
- Gwen Dandridge X
- Dorothy Andreoli X
- Carin Coulon X
- Candy Soderstrom X
- Chris Levy X
- Andy X

+2 ✓  
Bonna, of four corners plus her 2 children will be dancing with us some during the day but disappearing during the evenings and possibly some of the day depending on children's tolerance and adult tolerances.

Musicians alas, our (Berkeley's) best musicians have abandoned us at the last moment.

#### Berkeley

+1 ✓  
Avis Minger  
Terry O'Neal (also our fool) ✓  
Dorothy Andreoli (also 4 corners musician and both teams dancer) ✓  
Four Corners  
Chris Levy (dancer and musician) ✓  
Andy (musician) ✓

26 ADULTS 2 KIDS  
+ BASIT

#### Clog Dancers

Terry O'Neal  
Carin Coulon  
Rhonda Birnbaum  
Candy Soderstrom

#### Breakdown of Couples and Foursomes

##### Currently Coupled

Randall and Rhonda  
Krista and Roger  
Antone and Sheila  
Rowan and Dash

##### Other Possible Combinations for sleeping arrangements

First off, any combination of the rapper team can be put together and have a high likelihood of enjoying themselves. This is pre-traveling-together-for-three-weeks data. Given that, here are some possibilities for groups.

Gwen and Dorothy  
Carin and Candy  
Terry and Johnny (they both snore, so it seems fair)  
Avis and Sara  
Bob and Gena  
Maud with either Carin and Candy or Gwen and Dorothy  
4 Corners people  
Barbara and Chris  
Sally and Ben (morris dancing mother and 16 year old morris dancing son)  
Others at will

Pretty much we can be put up anyway that is convenient for you. This list is just because you requested it.



This is for Dr. Turberville:

None of us smoke. None of us like smoke. All of us will tolerate it pleasantly if asked. Antone is allergic to some cats, but not excessively so. Randall hates peanut butter. Rhonda is a vegetarian. Many of us would find organ meats (kidneys, brains, etc.) rather more adventurous than we are accustomed to. I could mostly live on sugar in one form or another. Some of us have an ice cream habit (Terry O'Neil and me). This is all rather silly, as we will eat and enjoy whatever you present, although Randall insisted that he really does hate peanut butter. Basically, we will be pleased with whatever you have.

Both Teams:

When would you like the money for your 'Days of Dance'.

OK. Here is the next question. Terry insisted I ask. When it rains, do you still dance? We don't have rain in the summer. Terry insists that you do dance in the rain and, therefore, our straw hats will rot. I say balderdash (actually, I never say that but I should.), either we will dance in the rain and get wet or we won't. I have personally never made it though a full set of dancing without losing my hat anyway (I think this is the year the team staples it to my head or uses superglue or roofing tacks, whatever). Understand, that for at least one person on the team, who is not going to remain nameless, this is a serious question. Of course, he is the fool so I guess that is allowed.

What sorts of things do you hear about Californian's and Berkeley types. We had a disagreement about this recently. With me insisting that you probably had no idea how truly strange Berkeley people could be. Sheila pointed out that many of you read newspapers or have watched American movies. I would have said that one of the obvious differences is that the British teams seem to be married and our team is not, except that two couples of ours are getting married this year (Sheila and Antone - pre-England and Krista and Roger Post-England).

We on the other hand are doing our best to learn the language and the culture, I am trying to get the team to listen to tapes of the English language and am encouraging Shakespearean readings after each Morris practice (so we can communicate while over there). We tried going to a cricket match, but everyone fell asleep. Is this usual?

I have been afraid to ask but I see no way around it, particularly with the pressure I have been getting from the team. Clearly, we are going to love skittles. I know this is a moot point, but we were wondering what it is. After much debate we have decided that it does have to do with pubs and doesn't have to do with tickling or riding to the hounds or the Queen or even darts. This has made us aware of a serious void in our cultural knowledge. Would you mind enlightening us colonists, life in the

great American West can be limiting.

Could I send over some coffee early to Nottingham. I have been told that drug dealers smuggle drugs this way. I would rather not stand at the customs office while they check each bean. Patrick Morris, our travel agent (great name huh, and no, I did not pick him because of it) did tell me today that we really could bring it with us without a hassle and that they probably would not carry me off to the jail (arrested for smuggling coffee - how embarrassing).

So, when are you planning your American tour - we don't have skittles but we have hot tubs!

*Still missing*  
See you soon,

Gwen Dandridge  
2330 7th Street  
Berkeley, CA 94710  
415-841-3796



August 23, 1988

Dear Morris-types,

This is just a quick note to thank you all profusely for responding so generously to my letter and as a reassurance that I did not disappear mysteriously into the bowels of the earth. I just hate to write and couldn't think of anything to say as nothing is finalized. We have all loved receiving and reading your letters. As many of you suggested that we attempt to get invited to the Sidmouth Festival, we are--attempting. Also, some of you mentioned Briggate Morris's Weekend of Dance, which we will also check. Thank you for guiding us in those directions.

It looks as if we consist of 12 - 24 people (yes, I know, this probably means a larger room or perhaps you could stack us in piles). This includes Berkeley Morris, Four Corners Morris, and internal subsets thereof, which encompass Swords of Gridlock (my Rapper team - don't laugh it took most of one night to force them to pick a name), part of Eiderman's Fancy (a wonderful singing group), part of Jolly Beggarmen (another wonderful singing group), most of an unnamed longsword team (yes, we do know what longsword is), also some Irish, Scottish, and Scandinavian dancers. Some of these are the same people, you might note. Almost all of us can Contra Dance. (This is not, repeat, not, associated with Nicaragua).

Many of us perform at the California Renaissance Fair, so we do some English Country dance. Like most of you, we will attempt almost any dance form presented. We would get a kick out of learning anything that you do and/or teaching what we know (contra dancing?).

We can't wait to come. It looks as if July 1989 is the best time to come (from around July 10-14 to August 1-4). We are checking into driving around in mini-vans or buses rather than taking Britrail. We figure we will need 3 people to drive while there, one to turn the wheel and two others to arrive at a consensus on which side of the road we should be on at any given point.

I will be contacting each of you in October-November with tentative schedules to see if this will fit with your schedules.

I am starting to get a touch excited (tense?) about the trip. I envision wandering through airports with a bag of sticks, a bag of longswords, a bag of rapper swords, 7 fiddles, 2 drums, one accordion, 3 concertinas, 18 tin whistles, a hobby bear and a large group of very rowdy marris dancers who want to dance, sing or play music RIGHT NOW. Sounds like a fun time to me! See you anon.

Gwen Dandridge  
2330 7th Street  
Berkeley CA 94710

I have never seen you or your dance. I  
very much look forward to it. Love you.  
Maud Gurrey

1920 Lincoln St.  
Berkeley, Ca  
94702

U.S.A.  
May 21, 1989

Dear Fiona,

I am a member of Berkeley Morris and  
will be touring England with our team  
this summer. I am really looking forward  
to the weekend of July 28-30 that we will  
be spending with Dr. Turberville's Morris.  
At the end of the weekend I will be  
travelling from Crewkerne to Weymouth  
where I will take the ferry boat to  
Chebourn. Grace to meet my husband and  
children.

Finally, the reason I'm writing to you  
(having been given your name and address by  
Gwen Bandridge) is to ask you - what is the  
easiest way to go from Crewkerne to the  
Weymouth ferry? I would appreciate very much if  
you would just send me a brief note to let  
me know. Thank you so much

Sincerely,

Maud Gurrey





PERRY BROS., Cider Mills, Dowlish Wake, Ilminster,  
Telephone Ilminster 2681  
Somerset

Dr Turberville's Morris,  
Fiona Easeman,  
Unity Lane, Musterton.

March 30th 1989.

Dear Mrs Easeman.

We should be pleased to welcome your Morris Dancers  
on Sunday 30th July. We open at 9.30 a.m. & close  
at 1 p.m. so that should suit your timing very well.

It will be interesting to see dancers from California,  
we shall look forward to seeing you all.

We shall be on the Somerset Programme of "Treasure Hunt"  
to be shown on TV, Channel 4, 8.30 p.m. Thursday April 27th  
Here's hoping for a fine day! on the 30th July.

Kind regards- C. M. Perry (Mrs).

have you and your visitors dancing in Seaton on Saturday, 29 July, 1989.

My Council would like to suggest that the wide footway area on the  
Esplanade in front of the 'Hook & Parrot' would be the most suitable  
location for these activities as this area has the advantage of being close  
to the Harbour Road Car Park where your coach could be parked.

To expedite matters, I have taken the liberty of passing a copy of your  
letter onto the East Devon District Council who will be in contact with you  
regarding final arrangements for the proposed visit to Seaton.

Yours faithfully,

E.J. Gauthier Graham (Mrs)  
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

# SEATON TOWN COUNCIL

MRS. E.J. GAUTHIER GRAHAM  
Clerk to the Council

Tel.: Seaton 21388 (STD 0297)

My Ref:

Your Ref: EJGG



Town Hall,  
Fore Street,  
Seaton,  
Devon.  
EX12 2LD

7 April, 1989.

F.J. Vallender, Esq.,  
Chief Executive,  
East Devon District Council,  
Council Offices,  
Knowle,  
SIDMOUTH,  
Devon. ex10 8HL.

Dear Sir,

DR. TURBERVILLE'S MORRIS -  
PROPOSED VISIT TO SEATON/29 JULY 1989

I enclose herewith a letter from the above Dance Group which is self explanatory and would confirm that Members of Seaton Town Council's Planning & Amenities Committee are in favour of permitting Dr. Turbeville's Morris to dance in Seaton on Saturday, 29 July, 1989 between the hours of 3:00 and 4:00 p.m.

In view of this opinion, my Council would like to suggest that, if East Devon District Council is also agreeable to this proposal, the best venue for this activity would be on the Esplanade in front of the 'Hook and Parrot' premises.

Yours faithfully,

E.J. Gauthier Graham (Mrs)  
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Copy to: Dr. Turbeville's Morris  
Councillors A.T. Ffoulkes, V. Hetherington & G. Miller

Enclosure



# East Devon District Council

Council Offices, Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 8HL

F.J. Vallender LLB, Solicitor  
Chief Executive

Telephone Sidmouth (0395) 516551

FAX Sidmouth (0395) 577853

DX 48705 SIDMOUTH

When telephoning please ask for

Mr Ball

Ext.

425

Your Ref

Our Ref

DAB/AS/

14th April 1989

Mrs F Easeman,  
Primrose Cottage,  
Unity Lane,  
Misterton,  
Crewkerne,  
TA218 8NA

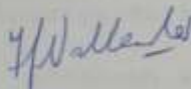
Dear Mrs Easeman,

Dr Turberville's Morris

I refer to your letter of 22nd March requesting consent to dance at Seaton during the afternoon of 29th July.

The Council welcomes your display and suggest that the best place for your dance would be on the Esplanade in front of the Hook and Parrot Public House. This area is quite extensive and should be large enough for your activity. It is also flat. I wish you a successful afternoon.

Yours sincerely,



CHIEF EXECUTIVE



**Lyme Regis Guild**

Phone:- 0297 60874.

**Royal National Lifeboat Institution**

Supported entirely by voluntary contributions  
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Her Majesty The Queen  
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

*President*

HRH The Duke of Kent

*Treasurer*

The Duke of Northumberland KG PC TD FRS

4, Orchard Close,  
Lower Sea Lane,  
Charmouth,  
Bridport,  
Dorset,  
DT6 6RS.

12th. April, 1989.

Mrs. F. Easeman,  
Primrose Cottage,  
Unity Lane,  
Misterton,  
Crewkerne,  
TA18 8NA.

Dear Mrs. Easeman,

Thank you for your letter dated 5th. April last regarding your visitors from the USA. It was discussed by our Committee last evening, and we agreed that we can accommodate your suggested date & time of Saturday 29th. July 1600 - 1700 hrs. into our programme.

As by our constitution we are unable to collect for other purposes in R.N.L.I. boxes, we suggest that you make the collection during your performance and then make a donation to us.

Although we have the Marine Parade reserved for use during our week, we nevertheless have to obtain specific permission from the Council for any activity which uses the Parade itself - as distinct from the shelters etc. I am now applying for permission for a number of other activities during the Week and will include your performance in this list. I feel certain that no objection will be raised, but will write to you again when formal permission has been granted.

We issue a programme of events for the whole of Lifeboat Week (22nd. - 30th. July), and I am proposing to include your event in it.

Please let me know if these suggestions are agreeable to you.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. Crowdy.  
Hon. Sec.





# Cricket St. Thomas

Wild Life and Leisure Park

The Westcountry Wildlife Park, Chard, Somerset, England TA20 2DD  
Telephone: Winham (046030) 755

Our Ref: WP/37

23rd March 1989

Ms Fiona Easeman,  
Bagperson,  
Dr. Turberville's Morris,  
Primrose Cottage,  
Unity Lane,  
Misterton,  
Crewkerne,  
Som. TA18 8NA.

Dear Ms Easeman,

Thank you for your letter of the 22nd March and we would be very happy for your Dr. Turberville's Morris to dance here on Saturday, 29th July between 11.15 and 12.15 together with your visitors and we will advise our Pay Kiosk of your visit.

Yours sincerely,

*W.J.D. Taylor*

W.J.D. TAYLOR *WJDT*

Dictated by M. John Taylor  
but signed in his absence.



MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND  
Cricket St. Thomas Limited. Registered Office: As above. Registered No. 902899 England. VAT Reg. No. 182 5824 37  
Managing Director W. J. D. Taylor & A. C. L.

THE FIVE FRONG PICK CEILIDH BAND

Bookings: Mike Bolton  
117 Monks Dale  
Yeovil, Som.

Tel: Yeov 27239

The Organiser  
Plover Cottage  
Hartley Lane  
Menderton



23/3/89

Dear Mrs. Lawman

The Five Frong Pick Ceilidh Band would be pleased to play for your organisation *Turboville Morris* on *29/7/89* starting at *8.00* and finishing at *12.00* the venue being *? MAIDEN BEECH SCHOOL* *HOPEFULLY 11.30 PM*

The fee for the above performance will be *£70* to be paid in cash on the night of the engagement.

A. We have booked as caller for the evening who will charge *£25* to be paid separately, terms as above. *Pp Oxenbury*

B. You have booked your own caller and have made your own financial arrangements with him.

In the event of a cancellation, a reduced fee will probably be charged by both the band and the caller. We obviously hope that this will be unnecessary.

The band will arrive approximately 45 minutes before the dance begins in order to set up and will need the minimum of one 13 amp electrical point for their equipment. *DR TURBVILLE MEMBER IN CHARGE OF HALL IS MR TASH KHAM-DAVIS*  
During the course of the evening the band will require an interval.

You may be sure that the band will do all they can to ensure that you and your guests enjoy a successful and entertaining occasion.

Please sign in the space provided at the bottom of the page and return ONE copy to me at the above address, within 10 days, in order to confirm the booking, retaining the other copy for your reference.

Best wishes for a pleasant evening

*Mike*

I agree to the conditions set out above and am happy to accept your quotation.

Signed *Paula Lawman* Date *5.4.89*





St George's Day! (23<sup>rd</sup> April, '89)



Turbs at Fancy Dress Do at The Half Moon, Sherborne.



Not much room to dance - so we walked!!



Still The Half Moon -  
Dave's on a wire really!

you may Rose + Crown, Dinnington  
(or is it Dinnington?)





1st July 89

Sr. Bart's School Féile



Rumoured first appearance of Thomas, as Bodhran player.



And here are Sr Bart's Bells!  
("pardon"?)

1st July 89 (later that evening...)

Caroline off to Casualty Ward with bugged  
Auntie.

Whilst the others dance gamely on at  
The Hardington Carnival.



Leading the procession.



Young Will showing he can do it, too!



Hardington - continued.



Deb + Dave play by the  
Channel Tunnel floor before  
going on to play at the Royal Oak



# Californian Capers !!!

## Turbs host the Berkley Morris (and friends) weekend.

### MOYRANS MATCHMAKERS

We would like to congratulate you on your excellent choice of our Californian Capers Weekend. We are pleased to confirm your booking for 28th - 30th July 1989. Unlike other matchmaking organisations we take absolutely no responsibility for our cock-ups and guarantee nothing. The persons you have been matched with and their personal habits are as follows:

And now to your personal timetable for a weekend of fun fun fun...

Fri 28th. Tell Fiona when to deliver your guests to you. Feed them and report to Royal Oak Hermitage Street at 8pm.

Sat 29th. Set alarm (if you intend to sleep) for 7.30. Breakfast don't forget to wake guests. Report to Falkland Square at 0915 for fun day out. Return Falkland Square at 1815 and take own transport to Rose and Crown at Dinnington. Eat. You may then seek permission to return home for showers as long as you come to Maiden Beech at 8pm. Bring the whole town as long as they pay £2.50. Home by midnight.

Sun 30th. Lie in. Breakfast if you can stomach it. Report to Perry's Dowlish wake at 11am. Lunch at Olde Poppe Tatworth. Tea at Primrose Cottage if fine, Old Farm if wet. Supper at Primrose Cottage. PLEASE CAN EVERYONE MAKE 12 SCONES AND A CAKE IF POSSIBLE. ALSO WE WILL NEED DISHWASHABLE CUPS SAUCERS PLATES. WE WILL SORT OUT FINE DETAILS AT NEXT WEEK'S PRACTICE. Repair to Vinyards to sing and play. Remember to check if americans want to stay Sunday night.

Mon 31st. Everyone will have pissed off or be pissed off. Hangover cure - mixed honey and orange juice - it really works.

### TOUR ITINERARY FOR 29 JULY 1989

0930 - 1030	dance Falkland Square
1030 - 1045	load coach
1045	leave Falkland Square
1100	arrive Cricket St. Thomas
1115 - 1145	dance Cricket St. Thomas
1145	load coach
1200	leave Cricket St. Thomas
1245	arrive West Bay Bridport Arms Hotel
1300 - 1400	dance and lunch
1400	load coach
1415	leave West Bay
1500	arrive Seaton Harbour Road Car Park
1515 - 1545	dance Esplanade opposite Hook and Parrot
1545	load coach/journey to Lyme
1600	arrive Lyme Regis coach park
1615 - 1645	dance Marine Parade
1730	load coach and leave Lyme Regis
1815	return Falkland Square - coach finishes here.
1815 - 1845	in own cars to Rose and Crown
1845 - 1945	supper at Rose and Crown
2000	ceilidh at Maiden Beech.



# July 1989 BERKELEY MORRIS WEEKEND Caroline

## WEEKEND FOR BERKELEY MORRIS: INFORMATION FOR TURBS.

### TIMETABLE:

Friday 28th July: Overnight guests will be delivered to your door for supper provided by you. After meet at Royal Oak hermitage Street to greet other sides and for skittles.

Saturday 29th July: Meet Falkland Square 0915 prompt for dancing and to meet coach. It is a long day because two tours have been amalgamated into one. We need to get an early start to give our visitors the chance to have a look at Crewkerne; be away at 1030 so they can look at Cricket St. Thomas before they dance there. Lunch is at the Bridport Arms at West Bay, followed by Seaton and Lyme. I make no apology for such grockle locations, we need every penny we can collect. We return to Falkland Square and proceed in our own cars to Dinnington for supper. You can then go home for showers and clothing change and be at Maiden Beech for 8pm. Everyone will need to make and bring a sinful pudding to the ceilidh. Quantities to be given at meeting on 25th July - if you're not going to be at that meeting-tell Fiona or Caroline. *alternative cheese*

Sunday 30th July: Meet and dance at Perry's Cider at 11am. Lunch at the Lamb and Flag at Buckland St. Mary. Tea in Prierose Cottage Garden if fine (dishwasher). Old Farm if wet. Supper at Prierose Cottage for Turbs and Berbs only followed by music session at Vinyards Gap. Expect most Americans to stay Sunday night.

### WHAT TURBS SUPPLY:

£12.50 for weekend which includes two lunches and suppers, a tea and a ceilidh - better value than any other weekend.

B & B for American and maybe other guests.

Puddings for Saturday night.

Scones for Sunday - quantities again on 25th July.

THE WEEKEND WILL BE A GREAT SUCCESS ESPECIALLY IF WE ENCOURAGE LOTS OF FRIENDS TO COME TO THE CEILIDH AND COLLECT MONEY NON-STOP ON SATURDAY. WE ARE PLEDGED TO SHARING THE LYME BAG WITH THE RNLI. IF WE DO WELL WE WILL BE ABLE TO REFUND MONIES FOR B & B etc. - WITH YOUR HELP THE £12.50 MIGHT ONLY BE A TEMPORARY LOAN TO THE SIDE.

Doniton 850442

76 Wells Avenue  
Teniton Devon EX14ODR

Sun 23rd July 89

Dear Fionno,  
What a life! I didn't want Morris to take over my life and now it seems it has. Ever get that feeling?  
Thanks for letters re your tour with Berkeley.

Now it's nearer a few more have come out of the woodwork. Once again the only firm commitment is me plus possibly 1 young flute player and her mum (and possibly Dad, could be aunts uncles and grannies as well, you never know!). 3 female and 1 male dancer (2 of whom only joined us 6 weeks ago and know vaguely 2 dances!) and a possible young female fiddle player. Lawrence a bagpiper from Exeter - he plays/dances for Ockington may come and join in - I won't know until the day - if he phones me. - And maybe 3 to 4 'groupies' - husbands, boyfriends, neighbours, the goat etc.

Most? people have copies of the 2 printed pieces enclosed - thought you might like to see them. The group seems to be growing!

QUESTIONS: ① Can the restaurant/pub do 4 adult vegetarian meals? (and possibly 2 children?) Can extras and groupies order bar snacks - possibly 4 to 6 people?  
② One family plus 2 adults want to camp overnight in the Crewkerne area. Do any of your



Contractors have garden or ornamental space?

Is there a nearby campsite? Help!

Don't ask me why they want to camp - probably they like it, they do have one young child they feel may not stand the pace of the ceilidh and/or they intend getting very merry and don't want to drive back.

Be grateful if you could phone me or my machine and say 'yes'/'no'/'maybe'. Can you try to call me before Thursday. Thanks

The 'Bag' - via me will pay for suppers consumed by our dancers/musos/friends and probably all or part of charge for entry to Ceilidh.

Summary

<u>Lyme &amp; Seaton</u>	<u>Supper</u>	<u>Ceilidh</u>
4 to 6 dancers 1 to 2 musos	5 to 8 performers 2 to 4 'Guests'	7 to 12 total + 3 or 4 children.

What a life!

Hope this is not too late and of help to you.

P.S. We'll try to dance mainly Stave and Garland to ring the changes.

Tony

Berkeley Morris Ceilidh

SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL  
AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AUTHORITY  
COUNTY HALL, TAUNTON

Account No.  
377822

Dept. Maiden Beach School

271089

TITLE	INITS	NAME
M.S.S	F	EASTMAN
PRIMROSE COTTAGE		
UNITY WANE		
MISTERTON		
CREWKERNE		
		POSTCODE

Please print in  
block capitals  
in spaces pro-  
vided, or type.

VAT Registration No. 131 2544 12

Date of Supply	Type and Description of Supply or Service	Amount
29.9.89	Use of hall for Ceilidh	30.00
PLEASE LEAVE BLANK		SUB-TOTAL 30.00
		VAT (.....%)
		TOTAL £ 30.00

You've read the Houttah! Now see  
the pictures!!!



Berkley in Brilliant Form!  
At Cricker St. Thomas.



Weekend started at The Royal Oak,  
Hermitage Sr. for beer & Skittles. (breakdown  
in communications meant Berkeley turning up  
late - eventually, all were settled with their hosts

Saturday. Falkland Square - then Cricket St Thomas



Where's our icecreams? Ah!  
There they are





Olivier thinks this is fun!

The Swords of Gridlock were good, too!





# Four Corners and Dragon!







Sooth! He doth  
munce merrily!

To West Bay, for lunch & dance at  
The Bridport Arms.





Can we just pop back to Crickley  
St Thomas! -  
(thankyou.)



Julian of Black Adder with neither  
arm broken!





Sat. 29<sup>th</sup> July.

The saga continues --

After lunch - The Hook & Parrot at Seaton.  
Joined by Flaming Morris, from Ottery St Mary.



And the  
parrots came  
too!



Chris has  
taken a family  
to Avis!



## Four Corners



Erica looks pleased with herself - must be something to do with spending the night in Dave & Fiona's shed!!

The Penguin ignores Jaws out in the bay.



Sunday a.m. Perry's Cider Mill, Dowlish wake.

Terry did not want to dance in the rain!





Berkley all in step. (What's that?)



Four seasons - Suspended in time!



Usual fun  
With  
Black Adder.





Swords of  
Gridlock -  
Now this  
really was  
funny!!

Roger in  
his tutu!



DR TURBERVILLE'S ESSENTIALS

*- thanks to Chris*

(For beginners, near-beginners & amnesiacs)

Dr. T's dance Cotswold style Morris, in three different 'Traditions', each one based on the dancing of an individual Cotswold town or village. Most of our dances are for a 'Set' of six people, who start the dance in the following line-up, facing the musician (M):

Whoever happens to line up as number one calls the instructions for that particular dance.

	2	4	6
M			
	1	3	5

Our main (and hardest) tradition is 'Bledington'. 'Bampton' and 'Hinton' are simpler, on the whole.

BLINGTON: Some dances with handkerchiefs (Handkerchiefs are known to boring Folk hacks as 'Wavers')  
Some dances with sticks (Sticks are known as 'Sticks')

You'll need to know the basic 'Figures' - patterns of movement which recur in many dances - and also the basic steps. You'll find the latter take a little time to grasp but don't worry, you'll get them in the end - Morris Dancing evolved for ordinary people, not professional dancers or athletes! First the steps:

STEP

LEGS

ARMS

1) Doublestep

1,2,3,hop i.e. LRLR or RLRL. The knees are not raised high - legs are kept almost straight, with calves kicked out forwards, not backwards.

Hankies circle horizontally above head, as if brushing hair forwards or sticks, held vertically in R hand, go down & then up. L hand same.

2) Hookleg

Step onto one foot & hop on it whilst you bicycle backwards with the other.

Hands out to balance; up in almost vertical plane to almost meet; keep going (but don't cross hands) until out again but palms facing backwards; reverse direction of movement & bring back up in front of body with flourish. THIS IS EASIER TO DO THAN DESCRIBE, we suggest you use the space opposite for your own notes/diags.

3) Plain Caper

Leap onto one foot & thence the other.

N.B. you do get hooklegs without plain capers & p.c. without hooklegs, but usually they go together & that's what we've described the arms for.

4) Feet together Jump

Start with feet together & jump  
This is how you start a dance.

Arms go forward & up above head.

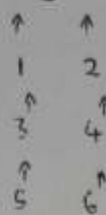
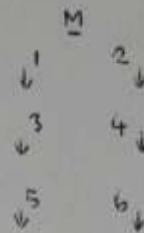


## DR T'S CTD ESSENTIALS

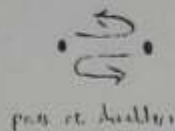
The four steps described sofar are all you need for stick dances, Bledington handkerchief dances also involve the following:

<u>STEP</u>	<u>LEGS</u>	<u>ARMS</u>
5) <u>Furrie (or Forrie)</u> <u>Caper</u>	Step onto left, propel yourself into air with R leg prominent, land on R then step onto L (or vice versa the lot, but more rarely)	Forward & up & flourish
6) <u>Salute</u>		Have R hand. in greeting:- small preparatory circle then bigger one with bow
7) <u>R.T.B. (Right Toe Back)</u>	R leg goes back until knees almost touches ground, then is brought forward to tap ground. Onto R then L with a good jump up on the final move.	As(hookleg + plain caper)
8) <u>Splits</u>	L leg crosses over R as you do small jump to R, then vice versa, then small jump in original position, then leap up with legs scissoring. (or vice versa the lot, but rarer)	Arms, stretched out, do small circles backwards for the two first jumps, then are brought forward & up
9) <u>Open Sidestep</u>	Like a doublestep but sideways	Flick high with leadi hand only (i.e. the one you're going)
10) <u>Closed Sidestep</u>	As (9) but with leading leg crossing over the other (as if moving to play a backhand)	Flick with hand whose leg is doing the crossing.
11) <u>Long Sidestep</u>	=Sidestep + Doublestep	As Sidestep + doublest

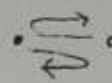
THESE STEPS AND THE FIGURES THAT FOLLOW ARE GIVEN AS A BRIEF GUIDE AND REMINDER, IT IS CONSIDERED PRETTY WELL IMPOSSIBLE TO ACTUALLY LEARN MORRIS FROM THE WRITTEN WORD!

DR T THREENow for the Bledington figures: MFoot Up & Foot Down :and  
then

Half-gip: Start facing your partner  
e.g. number (1) facing  
number(2)



then



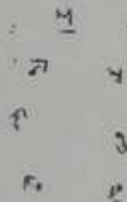
pass left shoulders

Whole-gip: Facing partner

then



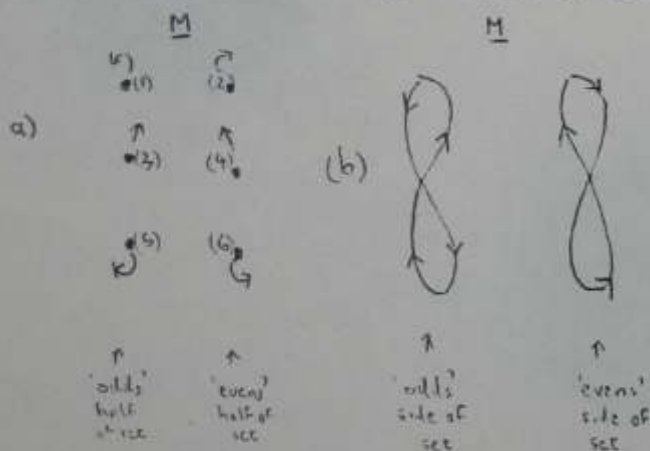
(you go round each other)

Rounds: Whole Set

then



Whole Hey: In your threes (your half of the set) everyone does a figure of 8 starting as (a) & describing path (b). Middles (3 & 4) follow leaders (1 & 2) all the time. Even if you stop halfway, (of Half Hey) & then resume, you resume following the same person.



Half Hey : When you stop halfway through a whole hey (at which point the end people have swapped places)

Most dances go : Foot Up, Foot Down; Chorus;  $\frac{1}{2}$ gip; Chorus; Whole-gip; Chorus; Rounds; Chorus.  
The Chorus is a movement peculiar to the individual dance and may or may not vary during the dance





422, Harold Road,  
Hastings,  
East Sussex.

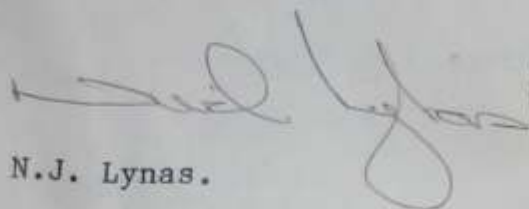
Dear All,

1989 - Dance at Dawn Badges.

Finally I have extracted my digit and please find enclosed the relevant badges.

Wear them with pride.

Yours bleary eyed.

  
N.J. Lynas.



Dave E } danced  
Dave H } the  
Derek } dawn  
Lindsay } up  
Caroline } in the  
Phil } drizzle



Wills was snoring  
Ray & Sue shared a pot  
of tea



**MAD JACKS MORRIS  
HASTINGS TRADITIONAL JACK IN THE GREEN  
PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**

**FRIDAY 1st MAY**

4.40am Mad Jacks Dance the Sun Up in the Ladies Parlour, West  
Hastings. - accompanied by Turbs - Dave E, Dave H, Phil

*It rained on us! But it was  
Sun!*

*Linsey, Caroline & Derek.*

**SATURDAY 5th MAY**

*Wills was snoring - Ray & Sue sharing a pot of tea*

12.00pm Up to 500 morris dancers will converge on the ROYAL  
STANDARD PUB, ROCK A MORE, to meet Mad Jacks, stretch their legs and  
have their first dance of the weekend. Dancing will commence on WINKLE  
ISLAND and later in GEORGE STREET, THE CASTLE, ALONG THE PROM in fact  
just about everywhere there is space.

8.00 - 12.00pm Folk evening in The Marina Pavilion, St  
Leonards, Admission either by ticket or £4.50 on the door. Full bar,  
artists include:-

Jim and Lynette Eldon	Players, Storytellers, and Step Dancers from the East Coast.
THE Amazing Mr. Smith	Total lunacy with a hint of.....
Better Days.	Exceptional local and national band.

**SUNDAY 6th MAY**

10.00 am Morris dancing around Hastings.

12.00 - 3.00pm Sundry folk mayhem with all sides either  
dancing on the pier or singing and playing in the Yelton Hotel or The  
Stage Bar in the White Rock.

**MONDAY 7th MAY**

10.15 am THE GRAND PROCESSION commences when the Jack is  
released from the FISHERMENS MUSEUM. The Jack then moves off down ROCK  
A MORE and up ALL SAINTS STREET across the BOURNE and down THE HIGH  
STREET before turning into GEORGE STREET. When the Jack reaches the  
ROYAL ALBION the procession will stop and sides will dance to their  
hearts' content. PLEASE try to maintain a way through George St so that  
everyone can see all the dancing

11.45 am Re-form and process along the PROM, turning into THE  
MEMORIAL via QUEENS ROAD and along CASTLE ROAD up to the CASTLE.

12.30 pm Dinner time in the CASTLE. While the dancers regain  
their energy Street entertainment will take place followed by dancing  
from all the sides.

2.40 pm All sides will join in one final dance

2.45 pm Mad Jacks Morris release the SPIRIT OF SUMMER.

3.00 pm Stagger off home, vowing to return next year.

If you have any problems what please contact HASTINGS TOURIST INFORMATION  
either at ROBERTSON TERRACE or ROCK A MORE COACH PARK, HASTINGS.



#### Rochdale Morris.

We are Rochdale Morris from deep Lancashire  
We train on black puddings and Boddingtons beer  
Our musicians are good (they play very loud)  
We all eat black peas and we dance on a cloud.  
As you can see, we are the "clog de la clog" of the Morris  
world - coming soon to a pub near you, in glorious black and  
white (trimmed with gold, red and green).

#### Diggon's Breches Morris.

Diggon's Breches Morris started life seven years ago as an  
adult evening class at the Bear Road centre in Leyton. After  
minor successes entertaining the other classes it was decided  
to form a full performing side, and as such we are now in our  
fourth season. The side performs English dances culled from  
the old traditions of the Cotswold villages. Slightly less  
traditional is our mixed format, both men and women dancing in  
the same set. The side is a member of Open Morris, a  
nationwide organisation, which provides us with opportunities  
to perform all over the country, our venues having ranged from  
folk festivals to hospitals, from Ely cathedral to Walthamstow  
market, as well as the usual public houses. Diggon's Breches  
Morris is now based locally at the Chestnut Tree in Lea bridge  
Road, where we practice on Thursday evenings in the Hall  
upstairs.

#### Rag Morris.

We are a side who perform our own exuberant versions of  
traditional English Morris dances, with hankies, sticks and  
even swords. Most of our dances come from the Cotswold hills  
around Oxford, and the wild lands bordering Wales. We choose  
to dance "mixed", wearing brilliant rag shirts and bellpads. A  
dance usually has 6 dancers with maybe the Fool, a Hobby Horse,  
the Green Man and Billy the Boker. Our musical instruments  
change continually, but usually include fiddle, melodeon and  
drum.

#### Dr. Turberville's Morris.

Mixed Cotswold side dancing Bledington, Bampton, Hinton-in-the-  
Hedges and a bit of Sherbourne. We wear whites with ecological  
green/maroon baldricks and ribbons.

#### Merrydale Morris.

Merrydale, a splinter group of the long-defunct Barley Morris,  
celebrates its fifth birthday in the new year. Since its  
formation, the side have danced a wide number of traditions,  
but in the past year have concentrated on just three from the  
Cotswolds:- Bledington, Ducklington and Fieldtown, but also  
perform a few Welsh Border dances.  
We wear all white, with purple and mauve rosettes, armbands,  
purple hankies and a purple sash. We have a fool, and a  
hobby-wolf called Adolf Wolfgang Molyneux. Music is currently  
provided by some combination of two melodeons and a flute.



# English Miscellany

folk group



Contact:

Secretary:  
Mrs. Liz Dobbins  
3 Barrens Brae, Ashwood Road  
Woking, Surrey  
GU22 7JP  
home tel. Woking (0483) 755278





# English Miscellany

"English Miscellany" exists to display and encourage the practice of English folk dance and song. Since our foundation in 1975 we have presented an increasingly wide range of dances: a miscellany of the rich and varied traditions of England.

Most of our dancers, both men and women, meet regularly to dance country and court dances. Many also do the ritual dances, songs and plays in our repertoire. We always perform to live music played by our musicians.

At home in the St Albans area of Hertfordshire, English Miscellany displays at fairs, fetes and carnivals. We regularly hold barn dances to allow the public to share our enjoyment of folk dancing. We perform to smaller audiences at local pubs, and also entertain at private parties and conferences.

Further afield, the club is active in making contacts with dancers in other countries. We have made exchange visits with folk groups in most countries of the European Community. By visiting them, we have shown them our folk traditions and experienced their way of life. By inviting them to our homes, we have encouraged them to show their traditions to the English and see how we live.



## Mumming Plays

There is evidence of many forms of mumming plays performed in villages in the past. They were usually associated with important dates in the church or farming calendar. Few of the plays now remain intact, but it is clear that many involved a fight and usually depicted the triumph of Good over Evil.

At the beginning of the year, English Miscellany regularly performs a Plough Play originating from the village of Bassingham in Lincolnshire. Another play in our repertoire is a Pace-egg play (adapted from several sources) which is performed in elaborate and very colourful costumes. Pace-egg plays are associated with Easter, but this one can be modified for display at any time of year.

### Music

English Miscellany has a number of musicians and singers who perform music and folksong from the mediaeval period to modern times. Several members also make and play mediaeval and renaissance instruments. The musicians accompany the dancers with music from a variety of instruments including accordion, concertina, violin, banjo, recorder, flute and pipe-and-tabor.



English Miscellany practises regularly throughout the year:

Country and Court dance

Wednesday 7.45 to 10.00 p.m.

Morris dance

Sunday 10.30 to 12.30 a.m.

Clog dance

Monday 8.30 to 10.00 p.m.

Plays, songs and music

as needed.



# FLAMING MORRIS

Summer 1989  
Dance  
Programme



Monday, May 1st (Bank Holiday)	12.00 Jack in the Green, Rockbeare 2.00 Creely Farm Park, Clyst St Mary
Saturday, May 6th Lunchtime Afternoon Evening	Friendly Society Feast Day Tour Walking tour of all Ottery pubs (not Mason's) Picnic, tour of friends' houses, pubs 8.00 - 11.00 pm CELIDH at Hare & Hounds, Gittisham Common. Dance, cabaret, singing.
Friday, May 12th	7.45 The Otter Inn, Weston off A30 8.45 Monkton Court Inn (& barbeque) "
Friday, May 19th	7.45 Fenny Bridges Inn A30 8.45 Jack in the Green Rockbeare, A30
Friday, May 26th	7.45 Awliscombe Inn Awliscombe A373 8.45 Tuckers Arms Dalwood (& Tug of War across river) off A35
Friday, June 9th	7.45 London Inn Ottery 8.45 Hare & Hounds Gittisham Common (& barbeque) (off A375)
Friday, June 16th	7.45 Jubilee Gardens Beer 8.45 Ridgeway Inn Smallbridge off A358
Saturday, June 17th	7.45 Pixie Day Fete, Land of Canaan, Ottery 8.45 Six Bells Payhembury
Friday, June 23rd	7.45 Drewe Arms Broadhembury off A373 8.45 Wyndham Arms, Kentisbeare
Saturday, June 24th	Day tour including Axminster Festival 3.00 4.00 pm.
Friday, June 30th	7.45 Bidgood Arms Rockbeare A30 8.45 Keeper's Cottage Nr Kentisbeare (Finale of charity skittles week) A373
Friday, July 7th	7.45 The Paddock Inn Ottery A30 8.45 The Hare & Hounds Gittisham common (with Devon Oak clog dancers) A375

Friday, July 14th To be arranged

Saturday, July 15th 2.00 - 4.00 pm Wonford Hospital Fete

Sunday, July 16th Glory of the West tour

Friday, July 21st 7.45 The Royal Oak Dunkeswell  
8.45 The Sidmouth Arms Upottery  
(opening fete week)

Friday, July 28th 7.45 The Golden Lion Tipton St John  
8.45 The Bowd Inn The Bowd A3052

Friday, August 4th to

Friday, August 11th

SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Saturday, November 4th Tar Barrel Procession Ottery St Mary

Additional Dates:

Saturday, June 10th 2.00 - 4.00pm OSM Playschool Fete,  
Chanters House, Ottery St Mary.

\*\*\*\*\*

It is hoped to end at the second pub each evening with singing and music: join us then if you don't have time earlier, or don't like dancing.

Dancing generally takes place out of doors, so adverse weather conditions, or other causes, may occasionally cause us to alter times and places, or to cancel completely.



## RITUAL DANCE

Flaming Morris is a mixed Ritual Dance team, which began in 1987 as a child of an active Community Theatre in Ottery St Mary, Devon. Our aim is to enjoy learning and performing ritual dance and music, and to share this enjoyment with others.

Most traditional festivals, including the spectacular Tar Barrel Rolling in Ottery on November 5th, can trace their origins back to pre-Christian rites related to the seasons, and fertility in humans and crops too. Our dance is a living tradition, and not an attempt to keep alive creaking old-style museum pieces. Indeed, over the past Winter, we have been actively encouraging young people to dance and play, and hope they will be out with us often. We dance to the best of our ability existing, accepted traditions, and also adapt and create new ones, to suit us, our prejudices, and our own peculiarities.

Thanks must go to Roy Dommet for his research on Stave Dancing, our latest acquisition; also to those early pioneers, Cecil Sharp, Lucy Broadwood, Rev. S Baring-Gould, and the English Folk Dance and Song Society.

We practice during the Winter in or around Ottery St Mary, and dance out from May to August each year. We welcome new dancers, singers and musicians to join us at any time. Enquiries to perform at any Fête or function are always welcome, particularly if for a charity.

### SQUIRE

Tony Reader  
76, Wells Avenue  
FENITON  
DEVON EX14 0DR  
(0404)-850442

### BAG

Mr & Mrs P Langridge  
The Laurels  
Mill Lane  
ALFINGTON  
EX11 1PF  
(0404) - 850342



Director of Tourism and Leisure: Roger Dennett, MPRI  
**TOURISM AND LEISURE DEPARTMENT**  
5 Robertson Terrace, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1JE  
Telephone (0424) 722022 - Fax No. (0424) 430871

Dear Morris Dancers,

RE: JACK IN THE GREEN FESTIVAL HASTINGS - 29TH APRIL TO 1ST, MAY, 1989

Welcome to Hastings and St. Leonards. As sponsors of the Festival we are delighted you will be participating. The Festival looks set to provide a great weekend in our historic resort, with one of the largest gatherings of Morris Dancers ever assembled.

Enclosed is the current Hastings Guide, Street Map and list of Camp Sites. Should you require any further general information about the resort contact:-

Hastings Tourist Information Centre,  
5 Robertson Terrace, Hastings, E. Sussex. TN34 1EZ  
Telephone: 0424-722022

Specific information about the Festival will be supplied by the organiser Nick Lynas of Mad Jacks Morris:-

422 Harold Road, Hastings, E. Sussex. TN35 5HG  
Telephone: 0424-433830

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Marsh'.

M. E. MARSH  
Assistant Director (Resort Services)  
for Director of Tourism & Leisure

ENCS\*

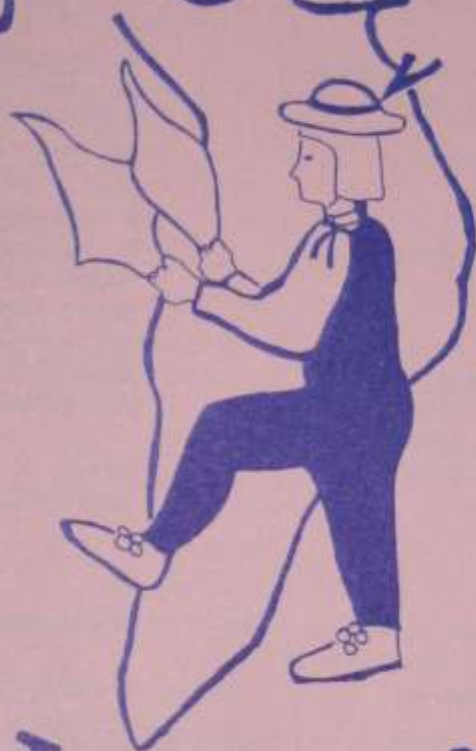


NEWSPLETTER

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# Royal Manor



# Morris

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**SUMMER PROGRAMME 1989**

# Royal Manor Morris

## Programme for Summer 1989

### MAY

Mon	1 Maiden Castle Ancient Monument	
Wed	1 St Georges Centre Spring Fayre	
Wed	3 The George Inn	
Wed	3 The Mermaid	
Wed	10 Wise Man	
Wed	10 Trumpet Major	
Sat	13 Briantspuddle Street Fair	
Wed	17 Smiths Arms	
Wed	17 Royal Oak	
Sat	20 SARUM MORRIS DAY OF DANCE	
Wed	24 Swan Inn	
Wed	24 Kings Arms	
Wed	31 TOUR WITH FESTUS DERRIMAN	
	31 Masons Arms	
	31 Brewers Arms	

### JUNE

Fri	2 Athelhampton House	
Wed	7 TOUR WITH DOCTOR TURBERVILLES	
	7 The Three Horseshoes	
	7 Crown Inn	
Wed	14 Practice night	
Sat	17 BRIGHTON MORRIS WEEKEND OF DANCE	
Wed	21 Cove Inn	
Wed	21 Chesil Beach Holiday Village	
Wed	28 Hambro Arms	
	28 Fox Inn	

### JULY

Sat	1 & Sun	2 ROYAL MANOR MORRIS WEEKEND OF DANCE - SEE BELOW
Wed	5 Warewell Leisure Centre	Nr Moreton
Wed	5 Frampton Arms	Moreton
Wed	12 The Poachers	Piddletrenthide
Sat	15 GLOBE OF THE WEST - DAY OF DANCE	Plush
Wed	19 The Fishermans Arms	Exeter
Wed	19 Littlesea Holiday Camp	Chickerell
Mon	24 ON TOUR WITH TREACLE EATER CLOG	Weymouth
	24 Fox and Hounds	Cattistock
	24 Tigers Head	Rampisham
Wed	26 Countryman	East Knighton
	26 Sailors Return	Chaldon Herring

Dorchester	At Dawn
Reforme, Portland	12.00
Reforme, Portland	7.30 pm
Wakeham, Portland	8.30 pm
West Stafford	7.30 pm
Dorchester	8.30 pm
Briantspuddle	2.30 pm
Godmanstone	7.30 pm
Cerne Abbas	8.30 pm
Salisbury	-
Abbotsbury	7.30 pm
Portesham	8.30 pm
Upwey	7.30 pm
Martinstown	8.30 pm

Athelhampton	2.00 & 4.00 pm
Powerstock	8.00 pm
Uploders	9.00 pm
Portland	7.30 pm
Brighton	8.00 pm
Portland (Chiswell)	9.00 pm
Wyke Regis	8.00 pm
Milton Abbas	8.00 pm
Ansty	9.00 pm

Nr Moreton	8.00 pm
Moreton	9.00 pm
Piddletrenthide	8.00 pm
Plush	9.00 pm
Exeter	-
Chickerell	7.45 pm
Weymouth	8.45 pm
Cattistock	8.00 pm
Rampisham	9.00 pm
East Knighton	8.00 pm
Chaldon Herring	9.00 pm

### AUGUST

Wed	2 TOUR WITH PURBECK MORRIS	
	2 The Sunray Inn	
	2 The Smugglers Inn	
Sun	6 SIDMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL	
Wed	16 To be arranged	
Sat	19 Mr HEMMINGS DAY OF DANCE	
Wed	23 TOUR WITH QUEENS DELIGHT	
	23 The White Horse	
	23 The Crown Inn	
Wed	30 Victoria Inn	
	30 Elm Tree	
SEPTEMBER		
Sat	2 WAREHAM FOLK HARVEST	
Wed	6 The Black Dog	
	6 The Sun Inn	
Wed	13 A. G. M.	

Osmington Village	8.00 pm
Osmington Mills	9.00 pm
Sea Front, Sidmouth	-
Abingdon	-
Litton Cheney	7.30 pm
Punknole	8.30 pm
Chickerell	7.30 pm
Langton Herring	8.30 pm
Wareham	-
Broadmayne	7.30 pm
Lower Burton	8.30 pm
Venue to be arranged	7.30 pm

## ROYAL MANOR MORRIS July Weekend of Dance

Sides dancing include ; Downes on Tour, Whitethorne, Hammermith, Knobs and Knockers, Mr Hemmings, Beetle Crushers & Frome Valley.

Saturday 1st July - Tour A	Tour B
10.15 am The Cove, Portland	10.15 Pennsylvania Castle, Portland
11.15 am The Spyglass, Weymouth	11.15 Springhead, Sutton Poyntz
Tours combine	12.30 Moonfleet Manor
	3.00pm Sub Tropical Gardens, Abbotsbury
	5.00pm Weymouth
Sunday 2nd July	12.00 All teams Pulpit Inn, Portland Bill, Portland



## ROYAL MANOR MORRIS

Royal Manor Morris from the Island and Royal Manor of Portland was formed in Autumn 1981. We first danced out in the Summer of 1982 and later that year took part in the Lord Mayor's Show in London.

We dance traditional Cotswold Morris from the villages of Bampton, Ilmington and Eynsham and wear a distinctive kit of blue dungarees, straw hats, white shirts and cricket boots. Our mascot is a Portland sheep called Edna, who you will occasionally see joining us in the dances.

This year as well as dancing at local pubs, fetes and charity events we are also taking part in festivals at Exeter, Salisbury, Brighton and Abingdon.

The origins of Morris are lost in the mists of time, but we believe the dances to be derived from pre-Christian fertility rites performed by both men and women to bring fruitfulness and good luck to the community.

Part of the tradition is the "passing of the hat" - or, in our case, the tin potty! You are welcome to take part in this aspect of Morris by placing a coin of the realm in the pot as it passes. We hope you have enjoyed watching us and joining in the luck of the Morris.

If anyone is interested in joining us, or would like more information please contact:-

Bagmen	Diane Petty	Upwey	3179
	Ann Jones	Weymouth	771386
Squire	Cathy Nisbet	Dorchester	68655

DR TURBERVILLE'S ESSENTIALS

*- thanks to CHRIS -*

(For beginners, near-beginners & amnesiacs)

Dr. T's dance Cotswold style Morris, in three different 'Traditions', each one based on the dancing of an individual Cotswold town or village. Most of our dances are for a 'Set' of six people, who start the dance in the following line-up, facing the musician (M):

Whoever happens to line up as number one calls the instructions for that particular dance.

	2	4	6
M			
	1	3	5

Our main (and hardest) tradition is 'Bledington'. 'Bampton' and 'Hinton' are simpler, on the whole.

BLEDINGTON: Some dances with handkerchiefs (Handkerchiefs are known to boring Folk hacks as 'Wavers')  
Some dances with sticks (Sticks are known as 'Sticks')

You'll need to know the basic 'Figures' - patterns of movement which recur in many dances - and also the basic steps. You'll find the latter take a little time to grasp but don't worry, you'll get them in the end - Morris Dancing evolved for ordinary people, not professional dancers or athletes! First the steps:

STEP

LEGS

ARMS

1) Doublestep

1,2,3,hop i.e. LRLR or RLRL. The knees are not raised high - legs are kept almost straight, with calves kicked out forwards, not backwards.

Hankies circle horizontally above head, as if brushing hair forwards OR sticks, held vertically in R hand, go down & then up. L hand same.

2) Hookleg

Step onto one foot & hop on it whilst you bicycle backwards with the other.

Hands out to balance; up in almost vertical plane to almost meet; keep going (but don't cross hands) until out again but palms facing backwards; reverse direction of movement & bring back up in front of body with flourish. THIS IS EASIER TO DO THAN DESCRIBE, we suggest you use the space opposite for your own notes/diags.

3) Plain Caper

Leap onto one foot & thence the other.

N.B. you do get hooklegs without plain capers & p.c. without hooklegs, but usually they go together & that's what we've described the arms for.

4) Feet together Jump

Start with feet together & jump  
This is how you start a dance.

Arms go forward & up above head.

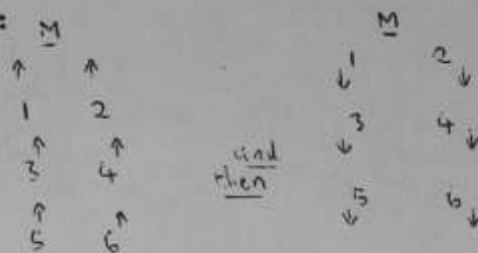


## DR T'S CTD ESSENTIALS

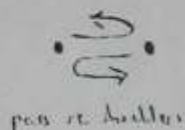
The four steps described so far are all you need for stick dances, Bledington handkerchief dances also involve the following:

<u>STEP</u>	<u>LEGS</u>	<u>ARMS</u>
5) <u>Furrie (or Forrie)</u> <u>Caper</u>	Step onto left, propel yourself into air with R leg prominent, land on R then step onto L (or vice versa the lot, but more rarely)	Forward & up & flourish
6) <u>Salute</u>	---	Wave R hank. in greeting:- small preparatory circle then bigger one with bow
7) <u>R.T.B. (Right Toe Back)</u>	R leg goes back until knee almost touches ground, then is brought forward to tap ground. Onto R then L with a good jump up on the final move.	As(hookleg + plain caper)
8) <u>Splits</u>	L leg crosses over R as you do small jump to R, then vice versa, then small jump in original position, then leap up with legs scissoring. (or vice versa the lot, but rarer)	Arms, stretched out, do small circles backwards for the two first jumps, then are brought forward & up
9) <u>Open Sidestep</u>	Like a doublestep but sideways	Flick high with leading hand only (i.e. the way you're going)
10) <u>Closed Sidestep</u>	As (9) but with leading leg crossing over the other (as if moving to play a backhand)	Flick with hand whose leg is doing the crossing.
11) <u>Long Sidestep</u>	=Sidestep + Doublestep	As Sidestep + doublestep

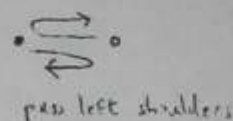
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DR T THREENow for the Bledington figures: MFoot Up & Foot Down :

Half-gip: Start facing your partner  
e.g. number (1) facing  
number(2)



then



Whole-gip: Facing partner



then

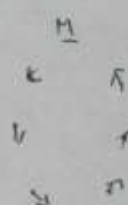


(you go round each other)

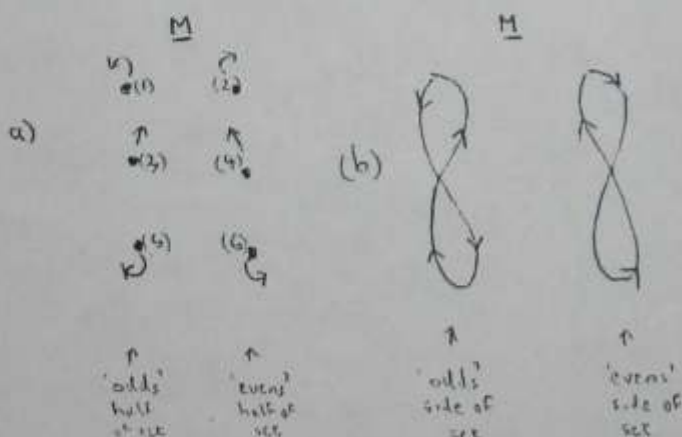
Rounds: Whole Set



then



Whole Hey: In your threes (your half of the set) everyone does a figure of 8 starting as (a) & describing path (b). Middles (3 & 4) follow leaders (1 & 2) all the time. Even if you stop halfway, (of Half Hey) & then resume, you resume following the same person.



Half Hey : When you stop halfway through a whole hey (at which point the end people have swapped places)

Most dances go : Foot Up, Foot Down; Chorus;  $\frac{1}{2}$ gip; Chorus; Whole-gip; Chorus; Rounds; Chorus.

The Chorus is a movement peculiar to the individual dance and may or may not vary during the dance



May 1989

23

## DANCING ON!

# OPEN MORRIS NEWSLETTER

### Editorial.

Greetings at the beginning of the 1989 dancing out season! First of all - have you paid your subs so that you are covered should you do mischief with flying sticks or portions of the same? I have it on good authority that 20 sides are still risking their pockets by having not paid. Twenty pounds well spent I say - mind you the brewery pay ours - see article on subsidy.

Welcome to Marc Vyvyan Jones of Rag Morris who is our new Publicity Officer - hence this rather visual issue of DO! Marc is a professional artist with experience of publicity. At present he is preparing an A4 sheet with information about OM with space for individual sides to add their own bump to produce handouts. He also has loads of other ideas for displays posters ect. He would like sides to send him photos which he could use either as they are or to fuel his drawings. Lets make sure all our different styles of dance are illustrated!.

You will notice that we now need a side to volunteer for the 1990 Day of Dance come on - this could be you! Also lots of things seem to be going

THIS YEAR BEING OUR 10th HAVE YOU ALL WRITTEN TO GORDON TO SAY YOU WILL BE AT THE OM DAY OF DANCE IN SCARBOROUGH? IF NOT WHY NOT? DON'T SAY IT'S BECAUSE YOU CAN'T RAISE A SIDE. THIS, SINCE THE ADVENT OF SCRAGENZ IS NO LONGER AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE. IT WOULD BE GOOD TO HAVE ALL SIDES REPRESENTED IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. See treasurer's article.

Any how best wishes for a good season and see you all at Scarborough!

Pennie Gillis.



Resigned but not forgotten.

## Diary and Workshops.

16 - 18 June 1989 Open Morris 10th Anniversary Weekend of Dance in Scarborough. Contact:- Gordon Crowther, 89 Throxenby Lane, Newby, Scarborough, N. Yorks. YO12 5RE.

Sat. Oct 14th. Nottingham. Beginners' Cotswold with Jackie Coombes. Further details from Tony, and in subsequent mailshots.

Sat. Oct 15th. Musicians Workshop with Alan Whear, hosted by Windsor for OM. Alan will be working as if in practice with Windsor with a discussion afterwards. It will be at Windsor Arts Centre. More details soon.

9th November 1989 Open Morris AGM possibly in Wolverhampton - unless we get a better offer that is!

Nov. 24th - 26th Fools and Animals Workshop with Roger Green in deepest Ixworth - full weekend this year.

27th Jan 1990 Bucknell workshop with Patricia Davies, hosted by Knighton, in Leicester, with a Reps. Meeting next day.

Spring 1990:-  
Ascot - under - Wychwood.

Ian Hughes is looking for volunteers to host the Ascot workshop - otherwise you will all have to go to Aber. Any volunteers out there?

Winter 1989/90 Duse Willian and the 7 Champions are holding another Molly workshop. More details later.

Details and application forms for these workshops will be sent out nearer the dates. If anyone wants further information now, contact Tony.

The Committee would also like to hear from you if you would be interested in a further Dance Conference in the Autumn of next year. For those who did not have any contact with previous Dance Conferences, they are an opportunity for the presentation of research material individuals have undertaken.

There will also be a Seminar on the Injuries Survey which Alan Tuffrey has done. This will be on 9th September 1989. If interested contact Sue Swift (Morris Federation):- 61 Uplands Road, Dadby, Leicester LE2 4NT

## BRIGGATE MORRIS

### WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE?

Replies to our invitations to our Day of Dance - July 14,15,16th 1989 - where are you all?

Any other sides willing to put pen to paper - contact:-

Mary Burgess, 7 Kirk Drive, Baildon, Shipley, West Yorks. BD17 6SA.  
(0274) 591881

I have it on the best authority that Briggate put on a corking Day of Dance. Ed.

YET EVEN MORE ABOUT THE OM 10TH ANNIVERSARY DAY OF DANCE IN SCARBOROUGH

At present 30 teams have booked to go. Of these only 9 are OM. 14 Om sides have written to Gordon to say that they can't go. Where are the other 50 sides I wonder?  
It is NOT TOO LATE to arrange to go!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

OM. Officers;

Chairman  
Gordon Monks, 95 Curzon Close,  
Kirkholt, Rochdale.  
0706 55808

Secretary  
Colin Fine, 18 Abbey Road, Cambridge.  
0223 66655

Treasurer  
P.....! Watson, 18 Sherbourne  
Close, Chesterton, Cambridge, CB4 1RT.  
0223 312257

Bookings Officer  
Tony Forster, 1 All Saints  
Road, Peterborough.  
0733 45883

Editor/ Dancing On  
Pennie Gillis, 12 Orton Grove, Penn.  
Wolverhampton.  
0902 342296

Publicity Officer

♡ o/s *Marc Vyryan-John*

Bristol Craft Centre, 6 Leonard Lane,  
Bristol. BS1 1EA. (0272) 250407 (W)

773641 (H)





## REPS MEETING UPDATES

### INJURIES REPORT

The injuries report will be available from Colin June - ish for about two pounds. More information in mailshots. The publication is being financed by the Ring the Fed. and us on a 4:4:2 ratio as we are smaller. The report will be sold at cost.

### PUBLICITY

Marc will be sending (or if our luck holds will be enclosing with this issue of DO) handouts to sides to be photocopied for their own use. There will be laminated displays available for events. Contact Marc if you can use one.

He has also said he would like sides to mention their membership of OM on any publicity they put out if at all possible.

Next project - posters sides can reproduce, add to and use.

Please continue to send in photographs!!!!

### RING PRICE LIST

Colin has copies of the new price list of items for sale from the Ring.

## INSURANCE

Phil will circulate copies of the insurance cover we have, with details of how to claim. It is no longer necessary to contact a member of the committee to claim although Phil would like to know of any claims for the records.

## ARCHIVES

Some time ago it was decided by OM not to keep archives in the way that the Ring and the Fed. do. In fact it was decided not to keep them at all. However the matter was raised again at the reps. meeting because people are becoming increasingly aware that archive material exists whether or not we make an effort to preserve it. So the decision was taken by the meeting to revise this in terms of new dances.

So would sides please consider the idea of sending the notation of any new dances which have been written and /or the name and address of the person who holds this information in to OM.

The person to send this to is:-

John Lovatt  
Bethany,  
Moathouse Lane West,  
Wednesfield,  
Wolverhampton.  
(0902) 863827



From your Treasurer.

First let me introduce myself. I am Phil Watson, and until a month ago was not even a member of an OM side, although in the past I have been. I was an individual member last year though. In 1984 I organized what is still the largest solely OM weekend of dance (33 sides) in Ely, and was for one year the OM Publicity Officer, and Editor of Dancing On. I have been a Cotswold dancer for 16 years, currently dancing with a non member side, and I also dance Molly with Ouse Washes Molly Dancers, and am the organizer of Scragenz Morris, of which more later.

I would like to thank all those sides that have paid on time. The little that the treasurer has to do is aided by prompt payments. According to my records we now have 33 sides paid up, which is up on this time last year. Can the rest of you follow up?

Now a subject close to my heart - the Scarborough Weekend of Dance, 16th - 18th June. The take-up from OM sides has been disappointing. If you haven't responded yet, or haven't had details yet, get in touch with Gordon Crowther of Yorkshire Coast Morris, (89 Throxenby Lane, Newby, Scarborough, N Yorks. YD12 5RE (0723 368783) ASAP. It really is a marvellous weekend, and is tremendously good value at twelve pounds fifty per head.

And if you can't raise a side, this does not mean you cannot attend. Certainly if you are a Cotswold Dancer you can come along, and dance with Scragenz, the official Scratch side for the Weekend. Just contact Gordon, tell him you can't raise a side, but want to be with Scragenz - and Bob's your uncle! For cloggies - I have been asked to raise a Scragenz Clog - this is more difficult I understand, as none of you cloggies seem to be able to agree on how a dance is done (neither can anyone else! Ed.) but if there are enough of you, then why not? Scragenz does not have a kit, you wear your own, (but you can wear the T shirt if you like). Scragenz is now an OM side.

So come on and let's get to Scarborough in June.

Phil Watson

Dear All,

You probably know that the Morris Ring and the Morris Federation are the other two national organisations of Morris sides. The Ring has been going for over fifty years, and still admits only all-male sides (though the old attitudes are waning, and most Ring sides now admit that women dance, and will share a platform with them); the Federation was formerly the Women's Morris Federation, but decided to relax this restriction about six years ago.

For a couple of years now, officers of the three organisations have been meeting once or twice a year to discuss matters of common concern, and even to cooperate on certain ventures, such as the combined county list (below).

On April 9, I went to my first such meeting as Secretary of Open Morris, at Sue Swift's house in Leicester. Sue is Technical Officer of the Morris Federation, and there were also present the President and the Secretary of the Federation, the Squire, Bagman and Treasurer of the Morris Ring, and our own Pennie Gillis.

We started with the combined list of Morris sides. This should appear within the next month or two: it will be sorted by county, and contain all the sides belonging to any of the three organisations. It would be a large amount of work to include addresses (not to mention a large amount of paper), so for each side it just gives the name, area, and which organisation they are affiliated to. The list will also have a contact for each organisation, so that if you find a side in it that you want to contact, you can get in touch with the appropriate secretary (bagman) and be given the contact address. Each organisation is going to distribute it to all their member sides.

You may remember last year we collected information for a survey of Morris Injuries. This has been conducted through all three organisations, by Dr Alan Tuffery, of Dublin City Morris, and he expects to publish the report in a month or so. Unfortunately, it appears that the Open Morris submissions got lost somewhere between our Chairman and Alan, so they will not figure in his main report. Nevertheless, we are arranging to get photocopies sent to



him, so he can include them in the collected data (it should be interesting to see how well they match the conclusions he has drawn from the other data). He is also intending to do a separate analysis for each organisation, using part A of the forms, and he should still be able to do that for OM.

The 30-page report will be published by the three organisations, and copies will be available at cost (probably around £2). Sue Swift is also looking into arranging a seminar based on the study on September 9. This is likely to be an all-day meeting in Leicester, with a number of speakers including Alan himself, a physiotherapist, and somebody who works with either sports or dancing injuries.

It has been a couple of years since there was a Dance Conference, and it has been suggested that another one would be timely. This would again be organised jointly by all three organisations, but something this size needs an organising committee, not just an individual. If anybody would like to be involved in organising a Dance Conference - probably in Autumn 1990 - please contact Sue Swift, or me. Also anybody who has ideas about it.

I was pleased to attend the meeting. I have met most of the officers of the Federation before (as OM and the Federation cooperate on workshops and instructionals), but I was somewhat apprehensive of meeting officials of the Ring. I can report that Mike Garland, Keith Francis and Richard Sinclair, at any rate, are not the ogres that some would make of all members of the Ring! They are people running a society, concerned with the Morris and their members, just as we are; and it is gratifying that we can get together and discuss common concerns.

Perhaps the most interesting question is, why are there (still) three organisations? (See Richard Gregson's article in the last issue). The reason is mainly historical; but after meeting the other officers I feel that each organisation sees itself as something different from the others, with something of its own to give. My personal view sees the Ring as big on tradition, the Federation on scholarship, and Open Morris on - well - Fun. What do you think?

Colin Fine.



MARC VYVYAN JONES



Introducing Mr. Marc Vyvyan Jones Open Morris' new PUBLICITY OFFICER who says "With my trusty chum Debbie Mann (of Rag) I am keen to get publicising!!!"

MAURICE

By Sue Stops.

Illustrated by Marc Vyvyan Jones.

Four pounds 95p from Marc or any library or bookshop.



It seemed a good idea to review "Maurice" for those of you who haven't seen the book and/or haven't met Marc.

The book is the story of a boy who is so lively that it seems no-one can handle him or stand him! Everything is tried to find him an outlet for his energy until he finally lights on dancing - yes you've guessed it - only Morris Dancing does the trick! It's a very visual book with Vee Jay's wonderfully inventive drawings all over the place, and only minimal amounts of text on each page. It's a book to look at and to read with the under tens as the language requires some reading skill but it operates on so many levels in the best Winnie the Pooh tradition that it entertains adults and children alike.

I particularly liked mum mending the car with the baby on her back and Maurice literally under her feet, the exploding teacher with the Union Jack knickers, and the family sitting room full of such hilarious chaos it's difficult not to see it as home!

If you buy the book from Marc himself you get a cartoon of yourself in the front - personally I daren't! - however you may find yourself in the procession of Morris Dancers on the last couple of pages most of the people I've ever met are!



## SUBSIDY RULES OK!

When we were thinking of starting up a new morris side locally we happened to be in conversation with the landlord of our local pub The Paget Arms in Park Village Wolverhampton. One of the first considerations being a practice room Colin (the landlord) said "Well, you could practice in the bar to start off with." Whoops of joy all round! Practicing IN A BAR sounded brilliant! Needless to say, nearly a year later - we're still practicing there!

I think I should explain that the bar at the Paget is "L" shaped with one side of the "L" being shut off from the rest of the bar by wrought iron gates, which even though not giving us any privacy, does to a certain extent give us our own space. Although we do not have the right to say that any other customer cannot come in, it isn't like dancing amongst the drinkers. No one has complained as yet but there may be a future problem as following a visit from the local constabulary, our practice space is now the official Childrens Room. This means that people who bring children in to the pub have to stay in close proximity to us or go home. Oooh!

The advantage of the arrangement apart from the ready accessibility of alcoholic refreshment, is that we don't have to pay for the room. Room hire can be a crippling expense for a small new side. Now, come to think of it - is having beer on tap as it were an advantage? It can be a distraction, and trying to teach persons who have had one too many verges on the ridiculous. To be fair to the team, over - imbibing hasn't been a problem, but people at the bar when we're getting a set up has, and dancing on carpet is a pain, causing frustrated stick thrashers to really

overdo it as soon as they get a chance to dance on a hard surface! However we don't get too much stage fright as all the side practice with a continuous audience!

We have had other financial support as well as help over our practice room. The pub has paid for our handkerchief material and our ribbons and our membership of Open Morris (they were very keen on the insurance when they saw the size of the sticks!) and also financed our side workshop with Alan Whear, which we timed for just before our first dancing out spot - it made all the difference to us too!

Plans for the future include help with sweatshirts and T shirts in return for which we will be sporting to Brewery's logo on our backs, and also help with rather more expensive items of kit - ie we hope to end up dancing in black top hats.

The brewery and the pub have gained quite a lot of publicity from us of course. There have been articles in the local press and we are continuous on - site entertainment and not only on our practice night. We have danced at many, if not all, of the functions arranged at the pub since we have been dancing out. We have also had one memorable night out, which we hope to repeat, when the pub stood us a mini bus to tour all the other pubs with the same local brewery and stood us all a pint in each one! This tour did recruit us some new members for the side too!

In fact recruitment has not been a problem, as although we started out as a very small side we continuously recruit from the bar!

Pennie Gillis (Old Peculier)





## A Nightmare

There is a sinister plot, master-minded by a known right-wing extremist to take over the entire world of morris. The plot is complete in every tiny detail, fiendish in its conception and the trap sprung and ready for the unsuspecting and defenceless Open Morris.

The whole thing is simplicity itself and a classic example of the tactics employed by a subversive working from within. The first step is to insinuate one person into a key position of trust within the organisation.

That person then forms a new side and proudly announces that it has joined OM. It just so happens that this new side has the possibility of an almost unlimited and uncheckable membership. Plans are simultaneously afoot to use the organisation's own mail-shots to recruit to the new side. The next step is the most cunning of all. Come the next AGM a proposal is made to alter the voting procedure at reps meetings. Instead of one side one vote, it will be argued that the more democratic procedure would be to let each side have a block vote according to its number of members. This persuasive argument couldn't possibly fail in such an enlightened group which might even be persuaded to see it as a test of administrative ability and progressiveness.

At the same time there is a general move, orchestrated by our subversive for closer ties with the other morris organisations. Open Morris today and then, the world.

At this point I woke and found that I was in the Open Morris Reps meeting and the Treasurer was still speaking. Old Bishop's Thingy must be a rare pint to cause such bizarre thoughts to occur! What fanciful twaddle!



## GO TO SCARBOROUGH

### AND :-

Here's what you will get!!

1. The chance to meet and dance with at least 30 other dance sides in pleasant surroundings.

2. Two nights five - star camping.

3. Cooked breakfasts and tent hire available on site.

4. Friday night get - together in good hotel next to campsite.

5. Bus to nearby seaside locations and walking tours of Scarborough.

6. Free parking for your car in designated areas.

7. Saturday night entertainment:-

a. Ceilidh with Albion Band 89.

b. Cajun Concert with Bayagumbo.

c. Supervised creche for sleepy toddlers.

d. Singarounds and sessions.

e. Children's professional entertainer, Punch and Judy, cartoon films.

f. Playford ceilidh - if you want one.

g. Morris maniacs sessions.

h. Cabaret spots eg African Ritual Dance.

8. Lunch and evening buffet.

9. Transport to and from ceilidh!!!

10. Sunday massed displays on Scarborough sea front.

11. Sunday afternoon open - air ceilidh.

12. Chance to join Carnival procession.



All this for  
- Twelve pounds 50p!!!!!!!

## CHARACTERS AND THE MORRIS

The role and value of the characters associated with the morris is often not understood. Part of the confusion is the lack of a clear separation of the tasks they fulfil. In the best traditions of entertainment these tasks can be combined but any one character can only carry any one role at a time although they can switch from one role to another during a performance. The first point to make is that a character is part of a show and not part of the dance. There are four roles to be filled in a show besides that of leading the dance.

### A. Communication with the Audience.

The Master of Ceremonies, Ring Master, Announcer is the Producer or Director and is seen to be in charge, even if only a front man. They tell everyone what it is and what is happening. It can be and often is the task of one of the troupe, a dancer or musician, and is done between the dances. The activity is sited in the dancer's territory and is outward to the audience.

The task can be done by someone who is specially dressed and not otherwise part of the dancing. For example wearing evening dress or as a town crier and thereby meeting another role mentioned later. Control of a show really requires observation of the crowd and it's response during the dancing and not just in between dances so that judgements can be made on when to stop the show, whether to speed it up or change the programme. The character must be responsive not scripted - in many ways it is equivalent to a stand up comic in speaking to the audience at large and dealing with overall impressions rather than individuals in the crowd. There are two subsidiary tasks,

### B. Someone Accessible to by the Audience.

There is a task to answer questions, to chat in a one - on - one basis and keep the inquisitive and troublesome away from the organizer. It is best done by someone identifiably not a dancer. It continues all the time from arrival at a spot to departure. The activity is sited in the audience and is outward to the audience. It can be combined with distributing

lucky morris cake or handouts and collecting money unobtrusively. Traditionally this is a steady task that does NOT draw attention to itself. In giving out cake the bearer has a cake tin and a small knife and gives very small pieces and these are given not sold.

The tradition combined or eliminated tasks to minimise the number participating in the final share outs. This is no longer a consideration. It is difficult to combine this task with ragman.

### C Someone to Look At - a "beautiful" as the Basques put it.

The role is to be noticed and admired. It is an inactive role with no part in the dancing unless especially choreographed. Traditional roles are King, Queen, Lord, Lady, Witch, Soldier, Tourney Hobby Horse and other animals. They are usually too cumbersome, ornate or inexperienced/old to be allowed in the dance area during the dance. The activity is walking or sitting between the dance area and the audience.

The character is basically serious not clowning. They may be approachable and therefore able to meet role B but this would be uneasy for the character if the dress is grand. It is a role for the inexperienced and is often what the inexperienced morris fool is reduced to.

### D. The Clown.

This can be the key role and often the only one manned. The character represents the audience in dealing with the dancers. It's territory is everywhere but from the audience inward to the dancing. It is a continuous activity including recognising when not to be visible. When the clown is asked to be announcer, jig dancer or money collector the role changes and so must the behaviour. Mixing in these tasks dilutes the impact of the clown in their true activity.

The costume can be almost anything from the old fashioned country smock, which could make him a "beautiful", mock dress such as academic with student cap and gown, mock medieval,



fantastic or idiotic or circus like. The circus has established many types of clown and clown behaviour which are part of our cultural heritage / experience and now acceptable to an audience.

The fool is not part of the dance troupe and unease should exist when he is around. Remember the clown does not represent the dancers in dealing with the crowd. Although as part of the show they have many subsidiary roles such as covering, ie stepping in for accidents, directing traffic around the dance spot, collecting money in difficult conditions, off buses ect. and distracting if something goes awry. The clown cannot actually be foolish or thoughtless or reckless. Also if the clown is active it is unfair for the dancers to call on the clown for activity between their dances to give them a rest without prior arrangement.

The technique of a good clown is not to seek to amuse generally, ie as a stand up comic, but to be as a traditional circus clown and work on the audience one by one during a show so that all feel a personal contact.

There is an invisible role, that of the ragman who looks after the baggage and the inactives during a dance. Someone has to decide where to put things, whether near the music for safety or elsewhere. They should also control where the spare dancers stand, which should not be within the line of sight of the audience. The stick hobby animal that gyrates or eats money etc. is a variety of clown bound by the same rules.

© 1983 Roy Dommett.



CDSS (Country Dance and song Society of America)

The CDSS has "one of the most extensive collections of traditional dance material available" - their blurb. CDSS News is also available. Obtainable from:-

CDSS  
17 New South St.  
Northampton  
M A 01060

See example of what they have. on p.10

A fuller set of Roy Dommett's material, not complete, but all that was typed by 1984 is part of their stock.

The latest mailing from Roy Dommett contains articles about:-

Cotswold Basics  
Technique in Stick Dances  
The Traditional Repertoire  
The Cotswold Morris Workshop  
Playing for the Morris  
Characters in the Morris (reproduced in full in this issue)  
About the Art of Clowning.

As usual if any side would like copies of these please send a S.A.E. with 40p stamp.



# MORRIS, SWORD & GARLAND

(See also SEASONAL AND CUSTOMS)

## From the same publisher

### Chandler Publications (limited supplies)

BK	Keith Chandler: "Taking An Annual Circuit". Peripatetic Rural Morris Dancers in London & the Home Counties +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler: An Analytical Checklist of Morris Dance Musicians +R .....	3.00
BK	Michael Heaney: Bedlam Morris +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler: The Idbury & Bledington Morris. Continuity and Interaction +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler: An Interim Checklist of References to Morris Dancing. in Local Newspapers, part 1 +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler: An Interim Checklist of References to Morris Dancing. in Local Newspapers, part 2 +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler: Morris Dancing at Hampton Until 1914 +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler: Morris Dancing at Ducklington +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler: Morris Dancing in the South Midlands. The Archival Morris Films in the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library +R .....	3.00
BK	John Forrest: Morris Music: Some Questions +R .....	3.00
BK	Keith Chandler & Roy Judge: Shakespearean Bedford Morris Dancers, 1886, A Source Book +R .....	3.00

### Roy Dommett's Morris Notes (no member's discount)

BK	Anthony G. Barrand, ed.: Roy Dommett's Morris Notes vol.1, Cotswold or Wyckwood +IR .....	28.00
BK	Anthony G. Barrand, ed.: Roy Dommett's Morris Notes vol.2, North-West Morris +IR .....	12.00
BK	Anthony G. Barrand, ed.: Roy Dommett's Morris Notes vol.3, Garland Dances +IR .....	8.00
BK	Anthony G. Barrand, ed.: Roy Dommett's Morris Notes vol.4, Sword Dances +IR .....	8.00
BK	Anthony G. Barrand, ed.: Roy Dommett's Morris Notes vol.5, Other Morris +IR .....	18.00
BK	Anthony G. Barrand, ed.: Roy Dommett's Morris Notes Complete Set +IR .....	79.00

### Proceedings of the Traditional Dance Conferences

BK	Theresa Buckland, ed.: Traditional Dance vol.1, 2, 3 +R .....	8.75ea
BK	Theresa Buckland, ed.: Traditional Dance vol.4 +R .....	7.75

### Other Books

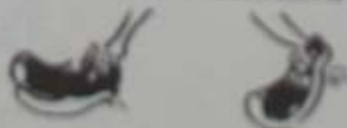
BK	Nibe Matthews: 8 Morris Dances of England, and Flamborough Sword Dance +IM .....	4.25
BK	Ivor Allsop, ed.: The Anglesforth Longsword Dance +IM .....	8.00
BK	Leta M. Douglas: The Bonebeck Traditional Long Sword Dance +IM .....	3.00
BK	Ivor Allsop, ed.: The Flamborough Longsword Dance +IM .....	3.00
BK	Geoff Lester: Handsworth Traditional Sword Dancers +R .....	1.50
BK	Ivor Allsop, ed.: The Kirkby Malzeard Longsword Dances +IM .....	2.00
BK	John Forrest: Morris and Matarokin. A Study in Comparative Choreography +R .....	8.00
BK	John Brock: Morris Dance Tunes +W .....	4.95
BK	Fruw Boswell: Morris Dancing on the Lancashire Plains, The Freston Tradition +IM .....	8.50
BK	Fruw Boswell: Morris Dancing on the Lancashire Plains, The Horwath Inquiry +IR .....	8.00
BK	Douglas Kennedy & Marjory Sinclair: The North Shetland Sword Dance, The Newbiggin Rapper Sword Dance +IM .....	3.00
BK	Nan Fleming-Williams & Pat Shaw: Popular Selection: Book 2, English Dance Aires +W .....	3.00
BK	Nan Fleming-Williams & Pat Shaw: Popular Selection: Book 3, Sword & Ceremony +W .....	3.00
BK	Howard Lasnik: Reference Index to Morris Dances +R .....	0.50
BK	Bert Cleaver: Sherborne Dances & Jigs +IM .....	5.75
BK	Ivor Allsop, ed.: The Swallow Rapper-Sword Dance +IM .....	2.00
BK	Cecil J. Sharp: The Sword Dances of Northern England +IR .....	14.25

### Recordings

CAS	Dick Bagwell: He Pulled Out His Taber and Pipe .....	8.50
COLP 4406 LP	Ashley Hutchings & Richard Thompson, et al: Morris On .....	10.50
TOP 249 LP	William Kimber: The Art of William Kimber .....	10.50

### Videos (Available for rent. Inquire for terms.)

REEL #1 VID	Anthony G. Barrand, filmed & ed.: Ceremonial Dance in England 1979	
REEL #2 VID	Cotswold Morris 1, Hampton-in-the-Bush	
REEL #4 VID	Cotswold Morris 2, Chipping Campden Morris Dancers & Gloucester Old Spot Morris Men	
REEL #5 VID	Cotswold Morris 4, Wheatley & Westminster Morris Men	
REEL #6 VID	Cotswold Morris 5, Green Man's Morris & Sword Club	
REEL #7 VID	North West Morris 1, Manley Morris Dancers	
REEL #8 VID	North West Morris 2, Knots of May	
REEL #9 VID	North West Morris 3, Manchester & Bedford Morris Men & Warwickshire Medal Morris Dancers	





CALLING ALL FOOLS, BETSIES, CLOWNS,  
HORSES SWANTS AND OTHER BEASTS.

Do you want to make the sort of  
recipe that starts :- "Take one horse  
skull, one large pole and two  
pingpong balls"? Or maybe you want to  
register your face on an egg, learn  
how to frighten small children, how  
to extract money with menaces, and  
how to kiss policemen. Perhaps you  
just fancy having your bum bitten by  
a stag on a bike, outside a pub in  
Suffolk.

All of these experiences could have  
been yours if you'd gone to the 1988  
Fools and Animals event, the Beastly  
Foolish Workshop. Led by the  
experience of some of the Fool's  
Union, it immersed those attending in  
the psychology, tricks, philosophy  
and fashion of the fool, from the  
Betley widow on. We looked at the  
construction of the animal (101  
things to do with balsa wood a  
broomstick and a spare pair of legs)  
and followed a range of animals  
through slides.

Such was the immediate enthusiasm  
that we'd decided by the end of the  
day that we needed another one. Put  
it in your diaries - the 24th - 26th  
November, when fools will caper and  
discuss the philosophy, theology and  
loneliness of the fool, whilst beasts  
will gather to construct a new  
creature over the course of the  
weekend.

Further details to follow. Be there  
or you're no fool.

Tony Forster.



Dublin Morris seen to want this celebration of the discomfiture  
of their Squire at their Aie in December. One said "shouldn't we  
be going?" I think she was!

## English Miscellany N.W. Workshop.

Bright sunshine greeted the English Miscellany team of organizers at the National Children's Home Harpenden on Sunday 5th February 1989.

When you start the day cleaning out the toilets things can only get better can't they? We didn't realize just how much better though, the response to our invitation was overwhelming. Over one hundred willing victims, er.... volunteers came to immerse themselves in the North Western tradition for the day.

The floor had been mopped, the notices posted and the urn full of water heated for coffee to greet the first arrivals to our second musicians and dancers workshop.

These enthusiasts had travelled from far and wide, London, Watford, Harrow, Oxford and Ipswich to name but a few and were individuals, families or whole teams.

The musicians, led by Tim Beasant spent the morning preparing the tunes and most importantly the feel and tempo of the music, ready for the afternoon to come. This practice included free History and geography lessons concerning the people and places associated with the N.W. tradition and a plug for the latest in gadgets - a mini (hang it on your instrument) metronome.

Meanwhile the dancers coached by Jan Beasant worked their clogs off learning the dances Mobberly (danced by a mob?) and Lostock Gralam. I have known Jan for some time now and really appreciate her enthusiasm for the dance. I'm sure the dancers felt this during the morning too. By the way what is a martinet? Only joking Jan. Tim was just as strict in the musician's acoustically engineered wooden hut.

Lunchtime at last, time to rest the weary limbs and sample the delights of the E.M. cooks and barmen. "Is

this the same soup as last year?" Well no actually it was made last night! No free food poisoning at our workshops thankyou very much, but thanks to all for the compliments about the soup. All too soon we were called to order, back to dance and play for the afternoon. I had hung up my clogs for the day to develop the intricate techniques involved within the delicate skills needed to manipulate a precisely turned wooden beater upon a taughtly stretched animal skin - bashing a drum! "Can you give us this rythm Jill, 1.2.1.2.?" "Yes I think I can manage that Tim after this morning's training!"

The four o'clock sunshine persuaded Jan and Tim to conclude our energetic day with a procession outside and a rendition of Mobberly in a spacious courtyard.

Sincere thanks to all the participants and the organizers for a great day, may the soles of your clogs never wear out! Yours rythmically,

Jill Blackett.

English Miscellany are a wonderful example of how to use the magazine. Before their workshop we have an article about what they are going to do and afterwards more words about what they have done. They go from strength to strength. I hope they keep it up as after being informed last night that I play just ahead of Andy all the time I want to come to the next workshop myself - I think I need it! Perhaps I'll bring the rest of our musicians too! Ed.







ARE RAG MORRIS THE ONLY TEAM DANCING  
OUT THIS YEAR OR ARE THEY THE ONLY  
ONES TO TELL US WHERE THEY'RE GOING?  
RAG WILL BE AT:-

W/end 29th April - 1st May Hastings  
1st May - remnants left in Bristol,  
dancing the sun up 5am. 1pm  
Hartcliffe Community Park. 3pm  
Churchill Primary School (on A38).  
W/end 20 - 21st May Knockhundred  
Shuttles W/e.  
Sat 10th June 3pm Kingsdown Street  
Fair, Kingsdown, Bristol.  
17th - 18th June Glastonbury CND  
Fest.  
Tues 4th July - Sat 15th July  
visiting Leipzig Morris in Lipzig.  
Dresden 7th and Halle 8th.  
Sat 22nd July Petherton Rd. Infants  
School, Hengrove, Bristol.  
Sat 26th August - Sun 3rd Sept. Rag  
tour of Devon and Wareham and Poole  
in Dorset.  
Sun 6th August 3rd Amnesty  
International fete, Goldney Gardens,  
Clifton. Bristol.

OK Rag - and what are you doing on  
the 17th June when the rest of us are  
in Scarborough? Going to the blooming  
Glastonby Festival eh?!

Enclosed with this  
issue is the leaflet  
for you to  
reproduce to make  
personalized /O.M.  
handouts.  
**GO ON USE IT !**



HOUSE WILLIAM  
RAG BEAR



BLACK ADDERS  
SNAKE REEL



A BARLEY BEAST

BLAST FROM  
THE PAST



ADVANCED COTSWOLD

# MORRIS DANCING

This was less intense than in previous years. On the Friday Roy taught Border and this was so well received that it was carried through to the following day.

Besides this Roy concentrated on the rarer traditions of Abingdon, Chipping Camden, Hinton, Horsham, Ducklington and Badby, in contrast to last year when he worked on the more major ones.

April Fools Day provided an opportunity for the Lying Down Dance. The venue was good apart from the commonroom full of fuming exiled smelly smokers, and the walk to and from the sleeping accommodation.

The new longer format possibly didn't work. There might be a two day event next year again - assuming Roy is prepared to do another one!

Anyway a good and instructive time was had by all many thanks Roy!  
Colin Fines.



John Forrest

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**MIRKMERE MORRIS**

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## THE MIRMERE FUN CORNER

By the time you get to read these eagerly awaited musings the new season will be about to unleash itself on you all - so we'll keep strictly to the point this edition. We gather that nostalgic ramblings got the better of us last time. Just put it down to the privileges of old age - OK?

Presumably you all saw the publicity in January's newspapers concerning the Morris Ring's injuries handout. Most of it was fairly responsible(ish) but it was a pity that the Ring didn't have the courtesy to wait for the analysis of the definitive survey before rushing to claim the glory! Responsible comment that is, with the exception of *one* journalist. In this damp and misty part of the realm we are blessed with a normally decent paper trading under the name of the 'Cambridge Evening News'. This scandal-sheet employs the occasional services of a particularly offensive scribbler, one Christopher South, who came up with an unpleasant comment to the effect that *he* didn't like Morris dancers (fair do's - it's not compulsory) and went on to add that he was thus jolly pleased to hear they injured themselves and that a few more broken limbs all round was only the least of the bad tidings he wished upon the Morris fraternity. As I said, a real sweetie-pie this one and may you all trunkle on his grave.

Now to more pleasant matters. Since we met up with the Fenstanton dancers we've been able to get about a bit and see what you are all up to in the outside world (Charlie and I don't drive - too old, too stupid and too drunk). What we do like is the way so many new dances are being created these days. It really does put some life into the old tradition that is a tonic to crumbles like us. We only hope that somebody is notating them all down for posterity 'cause quite a few are excellent.

The other thing that we've become aware of on our perigrinations does cause us some disturbance. New sides is new sides and no-one should expect miracles - they'll improve with age, like me and Charlie! Not a few of the more experienced teams, however, seem to reach a sticking point in their development due to the standard of their dancing being diluted by the presence of relative beginners mixing in the set with the more 'mature' dancers. In the olden teams - like us at Mirkmere for instance - this wasn't a problem 'cause our recruits were from the community and had all grown up with the dances and knew pretty well what was expected of them before they ever got to strap on a set of bells. You revivalist chaps and chapesses have to take in really raw material nowadays - hence the problem. Most of your recruits have probably never done anything more taxing and terpsichoreological than something very simple at a PTA-ceilidh ten years ago if you're lucky. It truly is a pity and we wonder what the answer is. It seems that a side can either say "no recruits at all" - which is a good solution so long as you accept the risk of natural attrition amongst your old hands leading to a fall in numbers and eventual



inability to field a side. Or, the side can say "what the hell" - which is fine, but permanently limiting in terms of the standard of your performance and is where we came in. Or, you have to have a grading system by which you assess new members before allowing them to dance-out in public - which is disastrous for the social side of a team's activities. This latter approach lends itself ultimately to first and second class members, which we deplore. We do know of one fairly local side - Ring members, naturally - who go so far as having formal presentations in public of baldrick and badge to dancers deemed suitably competent to appear in team colours - cringel! Just what is the answer though? If you do take in a few beginners from time to time, how do you evolve super-quality performances by the experienced members without deliberately having elite show-teams or whatever? Any side that has solved this eternal mystery and managed to remain good friends would do us all a favour if they could communicate the magic remedy to us via this august journal's pages (*is that OK, Ed?*)

All the best, good dancing and keep a look out for us at Scarborough - the leaky, grey ex-army bell tent next to the latrines. Our old bladders aren't what they used to be any more.



Fred.



LOST at the Kirtlington Workshop (Jan 28th in Wolverhampton) one Bacon Black Book. Ring UNA OULTON 0705 471748.

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Remember DO accepts adverts for Morris related things. The rates are twenty pounds per page pro rata.

### ARTICLES.

If you can type up or word - process your article to a 9cm column width it would save yours truly a lot of work! Ed.





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