

West Midlands Area

Rep Newsletter

20th August 2024

Dear Friends,



Gosh where did July go! Now the Shakespeare Morris, Morris Ring meeting I played a large part in organising is over and a family holiday later, I've finally had time to sit down and pen a few lines. Seriously appreciate all the sides that helped my home team and the Morris Ring as a whole mark it's 90th Anniversary, to those who couldn't make it I hope you all find your own way of 'raising a glass' to 90 years of the fellowship between us, it's what the morris is all about.

Well done to the festival team at Warwick for another cracking weekend and on the subject of festivals, I look forward to seeing a lot of you at Bromyard Folk Festival next month and wishing you all the best in recruitment for practices that'll be starting up again soon.

Best Wishes,

Matthew Turvey - West Midlands Area Rep, Morris Ring

News from West Midland Sides

Shakespeare Morris:

- Thanks go to Plum Jerkum for joining us at the Aston Cantlow club for a superb evening (highly recommended as a danceout venue!), Hereburgh Morris for hosting us at the Snitterfield Arms, Jockey and Coventry Morris Men for joining us in Warwick on the Friday of Warwick Folk Festival for very convivial time and last but my no means least, thank you to the 12 morris teams that helped us celebrate our 65th Anniversary and the Morris Ring's 90th Anniversary in Stratford on the 10th August.
- You are more than welcome to come and join us at a practice on Mondays 8-10pm from the 9th September onwards at Bridgetown Primary School, Byron Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 7JP.

Shrewsbury Morris:

- Shrewsbury Morris somehow managed to run their Beat & Bells day of dance event on Saturday 6th July despite a forecast of between 79%-90% chance of rain throughout the day. We had to send our Appalachian team home but Shrewsbury Morris with their guests Identity Dance succeeded between the downpours, to dance on and off between 10.00-3.00pm. We all went home tired and damp – but in true Shrewsbury Morris style we did not give up.
- This month we also spent a very enjoyable day dancing on the stations of the Severn Valley Railway and then the following day danced at the Shrewsbury Flaxmill Creates Festival. A fun event even if we did have to compete with the local the local boy band on the main stage.



Silurian Border Morris Men:

- Our practice night trips have continued, and we have been out and about in the local area. We joined White Hart MM at the Hop Pole in Droitwich for a Dance out and had a very enjoyable evening with them.
- Other Pubs visited included the The Oak at Defford, the Monday club in Worcester a social club that supports adults with a learning disability and /or autism. We all had a great time. their members gave us a warm welcome and took part some of our dances. We then spent the rest of the evening at the Farriers, Fish street, Worcester. It Was raining outside.
- Earlier this week we joined with Alvechurch Morrismen for our annual get together at the Camp Pub at Grimley. Everyone looked to be having a good time. I would like to thank the Landlord for the food provided and of course Alvechurch Morrismen. It was great to meet up again.

Stafford Morris:

- July is always a great month for us, as we attend the Newport Show, our biggest event of the year. This attracts around 14,000 visitors, so always a good PR opportunity for us, and this year was no exception. As seems to be the case, we picked up another enquiry for an event happening in 2025, another booking opportunity.
- We did a few pub dance outs in July, as well as a demo within a school. Another Village Fete, which was a booking following Newport Show last year, which turned out to be a good gig.
- All in all, an enjoyable month and we have a strong Side of dancers who have mastered a good repertoire of dances. We're still struggling with music though, as we just have the one musician. If any local Sides know of anyone that could help us please, it would be appreciated.

Morris and Folk Events this month:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			<p>1st Folk Session 8pm Clarendon Arms Kenilworth <i>(1st Thursdays)</i></p> <p>Folk Club 7:45pm Cotswold Club 11 High St Minchinhampton GL6 9BN (£2) <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Roving Folk <i>(Singaround/ Music Session – no guests)</i> 7:30pm Much Marcle Village Hall HR8 2LY <i>(1st Thursdays)</i></p> <p>Harbury Folk Club 8pm Harbury Village Club <i>(1st Thursdays)</i></p>	<p>2nd <i>Sidmouth Folk Festival Starts</i></p>	<p>3rd</p>	<p>4th Music Session 2pm Beauchamp Arms Dymock GL18 2AQ <i>(1st Sundays)</i></p> <p>The Craven Céilí 3-6pm The Craven Club, 3-5 Craven St Coventry CV5 8DS <i>(1st Sundays)</i></p> <p>Forest Folk Club with Si Barron 7:30pm Orepool Inn Chepstow Rd Sling Coleford GL16 8LH (£8)</p>
<p>5th Shakespeare Morris: 7:30-9pm Bancroft Gardens, Stratford CV37 6BA</p> <p>Folk At The Club <i>Singers Night</i> Churchdown Club, Church Road, Churchdown, Gloucester GL3 2ER <i>(1st & 3rd Mondays)</i></p>	<p>6th Gloucestershire Morris: <i>With Ragged & Old Morris</i> Crown Inn, Frampton Mansell</p> <p>Folk Session 7:30pm Red Lion, Evesham WR11 4RW <i>(1st Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Traditional Singers Club 8.30 -11pm Little Vic, Queen Victoria, Gloucester St, Stroud GL5 1QG <i>(1st and 3rd Tuesdays)</i></p>	<p>7th Forest of Dean Morris: 8pm Yew Tree, Peterstow HR9 6JZ</p> <p>Roots at the Rooms with Keith Eardley & Bob Powell 8pm The Ale Rooms 7 Smalley Place Kenilworth CV8 1QG <i>(1st Wednesdays)</i></p> <p>Folk at the Lion 2-4pm Red Lion Hotel Atherstone <i>(1st Wednesdays)</i></p>	<p>8th Happenstance Border Morris: 7:30-9pm Cross Keys, Bredon GL20 7EE Fleece Ceilidh Club 7:30pm Fleece Inn, Bretforton WR11 7JE <i>(2nd Thursdays)</i> (£10) May Hill Village Dance Group 10-12noon Village Hall, All Saints Rd, May Hill, Longhope GL17 0NL <i>(2nd & 4th Thursdays)</i></p>	<p>9th <i>Sidmouth Folk Festival Ends</i></p> <p>Riverfolk 7:30pm Trout Inn, St John's Bridge, Faringdon Rd, Lechlade GL7 3HA <i>(2nd and last Fridays)</i></p>	<p>10th Shakespeare Morris: Day of Dance – Ring Meeting <i>With 1st Sedgley, Anker, Belle D’Vain, Bow Brook, Flowers of Ilmington, Foxs Morris, Gidderskins, Gloucestershire, Jockey, Ledbury, Nancy Butterfly, White Hart</i> 10-5pm Stratford Town Centre Various Spots</p>	<p>11th Hairy Folkers Session 2-5pm Old Windmill, Spon Street, Coventry CV1 3BA <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Folk Session 8pm Fleece Inn, Bretforton WR11 7JE <i>(2nd Sundays)</i></p> <p>Barny’s at The Little Vic 7:30-10:30pm Gloucester St Stroud GL5 1QG (£5/£6) <i>(2nd Sundays)</i></p>

	<p>Stopwatch Sessions 8pm Somerville Arms Leamington Spa <i>(1st Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Winchcombe Folk Club 8pm The Working Men's Club, Abbey Terrace, Winchcombe GL54 5LW <i>(1st Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Music Session 8pm The Fountain, Gloucester GL1 2NW <i>(1st Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Celtic music session run by Chris Hall 8pm Carpenter's Arms, Miserden GL6 7JA</p>	<p>Folk/Acoustic Evening 8pm Carpenter's Arms, Miserden GL6 7JA <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>English Session <i>(Instruments only, no songs)</i> The Plough, Mill Street, Prestbury GL52 3BG <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>Folk Club 8pm White Horse, High Street, Mitcheldean GL17 0AT <i>(2nd Thursdays)</i></p> <p>Performers Night with Andi Wolf Leamington Folk Club 7pm Temperance Café 33 Bath Street, Leamington Spa CV31 3AF <i>(2nd Thursdays)</i></p>		<p>Silurian Border Morris Men: Stoke Lacy Fete</p> <p>Highnam Afternoon Dance with callers Rob Dawson & Geoff Elwell 2-5pm Gambier Parry Room, Newent Rd, Highnam GL2 8DG (£3)</p>	<p>Irish Traditional Session 4-7pm Ale House, 9 John Street, Stroud <i>(Weekly)</i></p>
<p>12th Stroud Morris Dancers: <i>with Ragged and Old Morris</i> 8pm Butchers Arms Sheepscombe GL6 7RH</p> <p>Fox Acoustic Sessions 8pm Fox Inn The Square Attleborough Nuneaton CV11 4JY <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>13th Gloucestershire Morris: 7:45pm Beacon Inn Haresfield GL10 3DX</p> <p>Music Session 8pm The Red Lion North Road, Huntley, Gloucester GL19 3DU <i>(2nd Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Folk & Shanty Session 7:30-10:30pm Stroud Brewery Kingfisher Business Park Stroud GL5 2BY <i>(2nd Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Folk at Frampton 8pm Frampton Village Hall, The Green Frampton-on-Severn GL2 7DY <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>14th Forest of Dean Morris: 8pm George Inn, St Briavels GL15 6TA</p> <p>Lassington Oak Morris Men: 8pm The Bell Inn, Selsley GL5 5JY</p> <p>Music Session with Tony Gibbons 8pm Royal Oak, Bredon GL20 7LW <i>(Every 4 weeks)</i></p> <p>Traditional Song Session (No instruments) 8pm Twelve Bells, 12 Lewis Lane, Cirencester, GL7 1EA <i>(2nd Wednesdays)</i></p>	<p>15th Styx of Stroud: <i>with England's Glory</i> 8pm The Star, Whiteshill GL6 6AE</p> <p>Happenstance Border Morris: 7:30-9pm Plaisterers Arms Winchcombe GL54 5LL</p> <p>Folk Session 8pm Fleece Inn, Bretforton WR11 7JE <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Trad Session 7:30pm The Oak Coventry Rd Baginton CV8 3AU <i>(3rd Thursdays)</i></p>	<p>16th Moira Furnace Folk Festival Starts with Shrewsbury Morris et al.</p> <p>Warwickshire Acapella Singers Circle (On Zoom) 7:45-11pm <i>(Monthly on 16th)</i></p>	<p>17th Whitby Folk Week Starts</p> <p>Gloucestershire Morris: 1:30-4:30pm Brockhampton Show</p> <p>Lassington Oak Morris Men: 2:30-4:30pm Tibberton Show Taynton & Tibberton Village Hall, Taynton GL19 3AN</p> <p>Gloucester County Folk Dance Club <i>led by Paul and Sarah Collacott.</i> 2-5pm St George's Church Hall, Court Road, Brockworth, GL3 4ET <i>(Usually 3rd Saturdays)</i></p>	<p>18th Moira Furnace Folk Festival Ends</p> <p>Folk in the Lounge - Music & Song 8pm Denbigh Arms CV23 0QX</p> <p>Forest Folk Club 7:30pm Orepool Inn Chepstow Rd Sling Coleford GL16 8LH (£2)</p>

	<p>Gloucester Scottish Dance Society 7:30pm St Oswald's Retirement Village, Gavel Way, Gloucester GL1 2UF <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>Kenilworth Acoustic Sessions 1-3pm Kenilworth Centre <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>The Nationally Famous 3rd Thursday Folk Music Singaround & Tunearound 12:30-3:30pm Folk of Gloucester Westgate St Gloucester GL1 2PG <i>(3rd Thursdays)</i></p>		<p>Dursley Folk Music Session 2-5pm "Ye Olde Dursley Hotel", (The Old Bell) Long street, Dursley GL11 4HL</p>	
<p>19th Shakespeare Morris: <i>with Silhill Morris & Beorma</i> 7:30pm Station Bar & Pizza Van Henley-in-Arden B95 5JD</p> <p>'CovTrad' Traditional Music Session 8pm Humber Hotel, 1 Humber Rd, Coventry CV3 1BA <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>20th Gloucestershire Morris: <i>with Bow Brook Border</i> 7:45pm Village Inn, Twynning GL20 6DF</p> <p>Gloucester Songwriting Circle Ed Shed, The Folk of Gloucester <i>(3rd Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Music Session 8pm England's Glory London Road, Gloucester GL1 3PB <i>(3rd Tuesdays)</i></p> <p>Celtic music session run by Chris Hall 8pm Carpenter's Arms, Miserden GL6 7JA</p>	<p>21st Forest of Dean Morris: 7:30pm Black Pig Bar, Newnham GL14 1BY</p> <p>Lassington Oak Morris Men: 8pm Pelican Inn, Gloucester, GL1 2QR</p> <p>Folk music session 10.30 – 12.30 Upstairs @ Stroud Brewery, Phoenix Works, London Road, Thrupp, Stroud GL5 2BU <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Celtic Folk Music Session 8pm Fleece Inn The Cross Bretforton WR11 7JE <i>(3rd Wednesdays)</i></p>	<p>22nd Happenstance Border Morris: 7:30-9pm Gupshill Manor, Tewkesbury GL20 5SY</p> <p>Lunchtime Session 12-2:30pm The Red Lion North Road, Huntley, Gloucester GL19 3DU</p> <p>Odds Bodkins English Music & Song Session with Morris Oxford 8pm Snitterfield Arms, Bearley Rd CV37 0JH <i>(4th Thursdays)</i></p> <p>Music Session 9pm Old Fourpenny Shop, Crompton St, Warwick CV34 6HJ <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>23rd Whitby Folk Week Ends</p> <p><i>Shrewsbury Folk Festival Starts with Shrewsbury Morris et al.</i></p> <p><i>Saddleworth Rushcart Weekend Starts</i></p>	<p>24th Deerhurst Flower Festival Veronica and Mike Lowe 2pm & Peter Cripps and the Glos Folk display stand will be on the Priory Lawn all weekend</p>	<p>25th Saddleworth Rushcart Weekend Ends</p>
<p>26th Shrewsbury Folk Festival Ends</p> <p>Happenstance Border Morris: Winchcombe Show</p> <p>Deerhurst Flower Festival Hamish West & The Deerhurst Festival Band 2pm</p> <p><i>Bourton-on-the-Water Football in the River</i></p>	<p>27th Coventry Morris Men: 8pm Greyhound, Sutton Stop CV6 6DF</p> <p>Gloucestershire Morris: 7:45pm Old Badger, Eastington GL10 3AT</p>	<p>28th</p>	<p>29th</p>	<p>30th</p>	<p>31st</p>	

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