

West Midlands Area

Rep Newsletter

5th September 2024

Dear Friends,



This month sees a lot of us gearing up for Bromyard Folk Festival, hope to get the chance to share a dance and a chat with you at some point over the weekend! As you return back to practices over the next month or so, I wish you all the best in recruitment and for the winter season ahead.

Best Wishes,

Matthew Turvey - West Midlands Area Rep, Morris Ring

News from West Midland Sides

Shakespeare Morris:

- Thank you again to the sides who joined us on our Day of Dance – we've totalled up the amount raised for the Shakespeare Hospice, a staggering £862.63, huge thanks to all who made it possible!
- Thanks to Beorma and Silhill Morris for joining us at the Station Bar at Henley-in-Arden station, a great venue and well worth a visit!
- We're holding Open Evenings on Mondays 8-10pm throughout September at Bridgetown Primary School, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 7JP – all welcome to come along.

Shrewsbury Morris:

- Shrewsbury Morris are getting some well-earned rest after a busy August festival time. Moira Furnace Folk Festival was an enjoyable time. Not a huge amount of dancing, and we danced on an 'interesting' dancing surface but all in all a good time was had. As in previous years we travelled by coach, which meant we did at least all arrive together!



- The following week it was on to Shrewsbury Folk Festival, which was very much an action-packed weekend, from Friday evening through to Monday morning. We enjoyed the dancing company of some top-notch teams from across the country. We went home happy, tired and definitely ready for an evening with our feet up.

- Next up for the Autumn, Shrewsbury Morris are dancing on Sat 5th October at Oswestry Apple Day

- And October is our 'Open October' where we invite anyone interested in trying out dancing with Shrewsbury Morris to come to any of our Thursday evening practices (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st) 8.15-9.15pm at Prestfelde School, Shrewsbury SY2 6NZ

Stafford Morris:

- A relatively quiet month in August for Stafford. We had a great event at Ellesmere Carnival where we processed through the town along with other Sides and various bands and Floats. Quite a spectacle really, quite enjoyable. We managed to dance out at The Swan at Fradley Junction on a Monday evening. The weather was threatening to be unkind, but in the end, it was a lovely evening dancing out by the side of the canal. And we didn't lose any dances into the canal, always a bonus.
- We supported our friends at Uttoxeter Heart of Oak Morris in August, as well as them supporting us. Although both Sides are growing in numbers, we still rely on the support of each other.
- September is when our Practice season kicks off again, although we are dancing for a past member one evening. Fred Waygood is 96 years young now and still enjoys seeing us, but he's not as mobile as he used to be, so we go to his house and dance on his driveway, always a lovely event. And of course, we have the Abbots Bromley Horn Dance, a favourite in our calendar.
- Music still proves to be a problem for Stafford Morris. Without the brilliant support of Uttoxeter, many of our events would not be able to go ahead. We desperately need to recruit more musicians, any help or suggestions from local Sides would be hugely appreciated.



Morris and Folk Events this month:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						<p>1st Gloucestershire Morris: 3pm Whiteway Fête</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 7:30pm Orepool Inn Chepstow Rd Sling Coleford GL16 8LH (£2)</p>
<p>2nd White Hart Morris Men: <i>with Nancy Butterfly</i> 7pm Old Bull, Inkberrow WR7 4DZ</p> <p>Alvechurch Morris: <i>Practices Resume</i> 8:30pm Alvechurch Baptist Church Hall B48 7LG</p> <p>Silurian Border Morris Men: <i>Practice</i> 8pm Lyttleton Room, Malvern WR14 2AY</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>3rd Gloucestershire Morris: 7:45pm House in the Tree, Hayden, GL51 0TQ</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>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>4th Lassington Oak Morris Men: 8pm Old Badger Inn, Eastington GL10 3AT</p> <p>Witcombe Folk Dance Club <i>with callers Sue and Ellie</i> 7:30-10pm Witcombe Village Hall GL3 4TB <i>(Fortnightly)</i> (£5)</p> <p>Traditional Folk Session 7.30-10pm Prince Albert, Rodborough Hill, Stroud GL5 3SS <i>(1st Wednesdays)</i></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>5th Bromyard Folk Festival Starts with Bedcote, Campden, Earlsdon, Faithful City, Jockey, Ledbury, Leominster, Shakespeare, Silurian, Soft Option and White Hart et al.</p> <p>1st Sedgley Morris: <i>Practices Resume</i> 7:30pm Sedgley Community Centre DY3 3UA</p> <p>Folk Session 8pm Fleece Inn, Bretforton WR11 7JE <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Folk Session 8pm Clarendon Arms Kenilworth <i>(1st Thursdays)</i></p>	<p>6th</p>	<p>7th Cheltenham Ceilidh Club 7:30pm St Luke's Hall GL53 7HP (£5)</p>	<p>8th Bromyard Folk Festival Ends</p> <p>Lassington Oak Morris Men: Frampton Country Fair, GL2 7EP</p> <p>Hairy Folkers Session 2-5pm Old Windmill, Spon Street, Coventry CV1 3BA <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Johnny Coppin in Concert 7:30pm Lansdown Hall, Stroud GL5 1BB</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>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 at the Lion 2-4pm Red Lion Hotel Atherstone <i>(1st Wednesdays)</i></p> <p>Folk Session <i>(Instruments only, no songs)</i> The Plough, Mill Street, Prestbury GL52 3BG <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Music Session with Tony Gibbons 8pm Royal Oak, Bredon GL20 7LW <i>(Every 4 weeks)</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>Gloucester Folk Choir 7pm Folk of Gloucester, Bishop Hooper's House, 99-101 Westgate St, Gloucester, GL1 2PG <i>(Term-time Thursdays)</i> (£7)</p>		<p>Irish Traditional Session 4-7pm Ale House, 9 John Street, Stroud <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>'Second Sunday' Concert <i>With Robert Cooper & Friends et al.</i> 7:30pm Albany Theatre, Coventry CV5 6JQ</p>	
<p>9th Shakespeare Morris: <i>Practices Resume</i> 8-10pm Bridgetown Primary School, Byron Rd, Stratford CV37 7JP</p> <p>Fox Acoustic Sessions 8pm Fox Inn The Square Attleborough Nuneaton CV11 4JY <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>10th Coventry Morris Men: 8pm Old Smithy Church Lawford CV23 9EF</p> <p>Gloucestershire Morris: 7:45pm Black Horse, Cranham GL4 8HP</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>11th Traditional Song Session (No instruments) 8pm Twelve Bells, 12 Lewis Lane, Cirencester, GL7 1EA <i>(2nd Wednesdays)</i></p> <p>Kenilworth Acoustic Sessions 1-3pm Kenilworth Centre <i>(Weekly)</i></p> <p>Folk/Acoustic Evening 8pm Carpenter's Arms, Miserden GL6 7JA <i>(Weekly)</i></p>	<p>12th Folk Club 8pm White Horse, High Street, Mitcheldean GL17 0AT <i>(2nd Thursdays)</i></p> <p>CV Folk takes over Performers Night at Leamington Folk Club 7pm Temperance Café 33 Bath Street, Leamington Spa CV31 3AF <i>(2nd Thursdays)</i> (£5)</p> <p>Fleece Ceilidh Club 7:30pm Fleece Inn, Bretforton WR11 7JE <i>(2nd Thursdays)</i> (£10)</p>	<p>13th Riverfolk 7:30pm Trout Inn, St John's Bridge, Faringdon Rd, Lechlade GL7 3HA <i>(2nd and last Fridays)</i></p>	<p>14th Alvechurch Morris: <i>Heritage Open Day</i> St Laurence's, Alvechurch B48 7SB</p> <p>CVFolk Freshers Workshop – Lauren South: Fiddle for Beginners 11-1pm Clive Benfield Studio, Albany Theatre, Coventry CV5 6JQ (£8/£5 + booking online)</p> <p>Willow and Tool Band <i>Harvest Festival</i> 1:45-2:30pm Coventry Cathedral CV1 5AB</p>	<p>15th Folk in the Lounge - Music & Song 8pm Denbigh Arms CV23 0QX</p>

	<p>Folk at Frampton 8pm Frampton Village Hall, The Green Frampton-on-Severn GL2 7DY (Weekly) (£2)</p> <p>Gloucester Scottish Dance Society 7:30pm St Oswald's Retirement Village, Gavel Way, Gloucester GL1 2UF (Weekly)</p>		<p>May Hill Village Dance Group 10-12noon Village Hall, All Saints Rd, May Hill, Longhope GL17 0NL (2nd & 4th Thursdays)</p> <p>Folk Club 7:45pm Cotswold Club 11 High St Minchinhampton GL6 9BN (£2) (Weekly)</p>			
<p>16th White Hart Morris Men: 7pm Old Tramway, Stratford CV37 7LW</p> <p>'CovTrad' Traditional Music Session 8pm Humber Hotel, 1 Humber Rd, Coventry CV3 1BA (Weekly)</p> <p>Warwickshire Acapella Singers Circle (On Zoom) 7:45-11pm (Monthly on 16th)</p>	<p>17th Coventry Morris Men: 8pm Broomfield Tavern, Spon End CV5 6GY</p> <p>Gloucester Songwriting Circle Ed Shed, The Folk of Gloucester (3rd Tuesdays)</p> <p>Music Session 8pm England's Glory London Road, Gloucester GL1 3PB (3rd Tuesdays)</p>	<p>18th Folk music session 10.30 – 12.30 Upstairs @ Stroud Brewery, Phoenix Works, London Road, Thrupp, Stroud GL5 2BU (Weekly)</p> <p>Celtic Folk Music Session 8pm Fleece Inn The Cross Bretforton WR11 7JE (3rd Wednesdays)</p>	<p>19th Trad Session 7:30pm The Oak Coventry Rd Baginton CV8 3AU (3rd Thursdays)</p> <p>The Nationally Famous 3rd Thursday Folk Music Singaround & Tunearound 12:30-3:30pm Folk of Gloucester Westgate St Gloucester GL1 2PG (3rd Thursdays)</p>	20th	<p>21st Alvechurch Morris: <i>Beer Festival</i> Weighbridge, Alvechurch B48 7SQ</p>	22nd
<p>23rd White Hart Morris Men: 7pm Alcester Town</p>	<p>24th Gloucestershire Morris: <i>Practices Resume</i> 7:45pm St Mary's Congregational Church, St Marys St, Gloucester, GL1 2QS</p>	25th	<p>26th Odds Bodkins English Music & Song Session with Morris Oxford 8pm Snitterfield Arms, Bearley Rd CV37 0JH (4th Thursdays)</p> <p>Music Session 9pm Old Fourpenny Shop, Crompton St, Warwick CV34 6HJ (Weekly)</p>	27th	28th	29th
30th						

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