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## Newsletter No.80 July 2012



*Dancing  
with  
Will*



Open Morris on behalf of the  
Joint Morris Organisations announces

**JMO 2012**

**Day of Dance June 30th**

**Stratford upon Avon**

at the invitation of the  
Royal Shakespeare Company  
and Stratford Town Council  
Details to follow via your organisations.



**Photos by Steven Archer**

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**Burnsall Wedding:** Moss' Ambrose's ex-student Adele got married on 2nd June at Burnsall - helped by Leicester Morris Men on the Leeds Morris 40<sup>th</sup> Dales Tour. .

"He was my old drama school teacher at Guiseley School. Everybody loved your performance and it made our wedding day".



## **Morris Ring Shop**

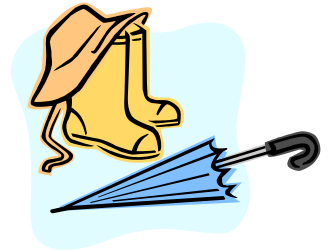
BfB with his 'shop assistants' at the JMO Day of Dance,

June 30th 2012

Stratford-upon-Avon

Photo by Gary Chilvers

From Leicester City Council's St George's Day event on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May (!) with Leicester MM, through the outstanding meeting at Chipping Campden, Leeds MM's Diamond Jubilee Dales Tour and Chalice MM's 40<sup>th</sup> celebratory weekend it has been an interesting *drought-struck* season so far. Everyone seems to Morris on and, if the smiling faces I see are anything to go by, we enjoy ourselves and I have been delighted to see some extremely positive media reporting of the Morris. I was sorry to have missed the Thaxted meeting, another success I hear. As I write this I am reflecting upon the highly successful JMO event organised by the Open Morris in Stratford upon Avon on 30<sup>th</sup> June where I witnessed some stunning performances by sides representing all three Morris organisations. They must have impressed our audiences and I hope have inspired at least some to join one of their local sides upon their return home.



## Bells of Britain

<http://www.allthebells.com/home/>

At 8.12 a.m. people all across the UK will ring bells to perform Martin Creed's *Work No. 1197: All the bells in a country rung as quickly and as loudly as possible for three minutes*, a piece specially commissioned as part of the London 2012 Festival - the culmination of the four-year Cultural Olympiad. Hand bells, door bells, bicycle bells, church bells, town hall bells, sleigh bells, cow bells, school bells, last orders bells, dinner bells... where there is a bell, we need someone to ring it!

The profile of the performance continues to rise - so much so that it has been decided to move **All the Bells** slightly from an 8am start time and give it a unique time all of its own. The time for the event has now been confirmed as 08:12, when it will be broadcast by the BBC to a live audience of over 10 million people across the UK on TV, radio and online.

## THE OLYMPIC FLAME

### *Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July*

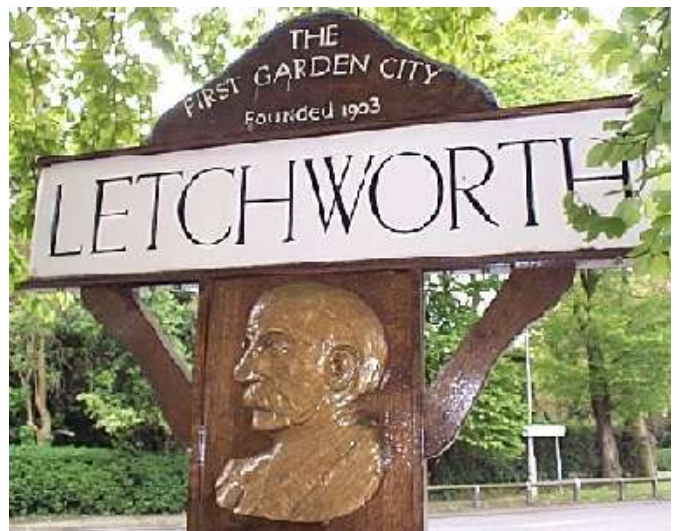
- Members of Leicester MM and Harthill MM are due to perform in Melton Mowbray and 'appear' on the Radio 2 Jeremy Vine programme.
- Peterborough Morris will perform at the Botolph Arms on the Olympic Torch Route at 6 pm before the Olympic Flame approaches, again after it has passed and again at 8.00pm - coincidentally part of their pre-planned programme.

*Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July* As the flame leaves Peterborough on its route through Lincolnshire Peterborough Morris will dance in support of the progress of the Olympic Flame in Holbeach.

**Vacancies / Invitations** I have been asked to draw your attention to some vacancies for individuals as well as full sides:

**Letchworth 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Morris Meeting** 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> July Cost £66  
Female musicians welcome 100 max

"Join Letchworth Morris as they celebrate 90 years of dancing in the North Herts area. Based in Cottered, coach tours will visit Letchworth's unique and stylish town centre, as well as exploring delightfully rural North Hertfordshire villages. The Saturday will commence with a short instructional, and there will be ample opportunity for dancing after the formal Feast. Sunday will conclude with a church service, displays, and lunch in the picturesque village of Ashwell.



There will be indoor camping in the hall, and outdoor camping 200 yards away, with hot showers at both locations. Cost £66 for the full weekend with reductions for part attendance, and £10 reduction on the weekend price for under 18s. The Morris Shop will be in attendance for the duration

Bagman for the meeting Theo Thomas 01582

882831 [theo.thomas@btinternet.com](mailto:theo.thomas@btinternet.com)

The **Saddleworth Rushcart** still has room for more to share in this annual Morris extravaganza. "We're still looking for sides and reps for this year's Rushcart Festival, being held on 25th & 26th August (Bank Holiday weekend). We can promise a true Northwest welcome with some of the biggest Morris friendly crowds you'll find in the North, and the chance to take part in a genuine rush bearing ceremony in the beautiful South Pennine hills. Indoor & Outdoor camping is available at £5 per man/pitch for the weekend. That's all we will charge you, all you need to provide is your own food/beer (hint - the beer is cheapish around here). If you attend for the day, no charge!



You don't need a full side as Reps are always welcome and take a full part in the weekend, musicians playing in the Rushcart band, dancers pulling the 'Cart and dancing in the scratch sides. The Morris Shop will be set-up outside The Church Inn on Sunday when The Cart advances along Church Road to take THE HILL!

Rushcart Secretary: - Damian Walker

Email: [diz84@sky.com](mailto:diz84@sky.com) 01457868648 / 07712652689



**Annual Passed Masters Memorial Weekend** 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2012

The Gloucestershire Morris Men cordially invite you to their annual "Passed Masters Memorial Weekend

Accommodation is in a large Scout Hall complex in the village of Cranham with all amenities (no sleeping on the floor)

**Friday:** Evening, in the Black Horse in Cranham, music, song, drink, etc. etc.

**Saturday** *Pat Snelling Day of Dance* dancing in Cheltenham, Leckhampton, & Cranham

**Sunday** Dancing at Gloucester Docks Waterways Museum

Prices: Weekend: £ 40.00 accom. & meals (excluding Sunday Lunch)

Saturday only: £ 15.00 (Lunch & Dinner)

Contact Mark Eavers 01242 5821934

Email: [thebagman@glosmorrismen.org](mailto:thebagman@glosmorrismen.org)

**Peterborough Morris Day of Dance** Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

A 10.00 am to 6.00 pm event and they will be delighted to hear from any Morris Ring side who would like to join us for the day. Non-Morris Ring sides have been invited, so mixed dancing may be experienced.

[bagman@peterboroughmorris.co.uk](mailto:bagman@peterboroughmorris.co.uk)

Mike Stevens

### **Evesham National Morris Weekend** June 2013

Two days dancing in picturesque villages and towns in the beautiful Vale of Evesham and Processions through Evesham Town Centre plus evening Ceilidh and Sessions. It includes the Presentation of the Evesham Stick a trophy awarded to the 'Best' team of the weekend (in the opinion of the organising committee) who look at dancing skills, turnout, band, audience reaction and general 'joie de vivre' in deciding the winners.

All traditions welcome - go to [www.nationalmorrisweekend.co.uk](http://www.nationalmorrisweekend.co.uk) for the further information.

Geoff Watkins ( Shakespeare Morris )



### **Morris Ring Display Boards: Available for you to borrow.**



We have five sets of these boards - please contact any of those listed below if you have an event coming up where you can make use of a set. Please give as much notice as possible to allow time to sort out collection / delivery. Ideally we need to use friends and colleagues passing through rather than expensive courier services.

They exist simply so that you can borrow them to help educate the public, publicise the Morris and are invaluable at recruitment events.

Please note that they are **NOT** suitable for outdoor use

- South Midlands: Roger Comley
- South East: Fred Hands
- South West: Robin Springett
- Midlands: Charlie Corcoran (Currently two sets)

**Peter Chetwood:** I regret to report the death of Peter Chetwood of Greensleeves Morris Men on Tuesday, a month after his 84th birthday. He had been in Watford General Hospital for a few weeks. The funeral is 1:20 on Monday July 9 at Watford; the Wake at a nearby pub. Wear bright colours or Morris kit. Bring instruments. No flowers by request.

Contact his son, Alan, if attending and for details. Alan's contact details are:

[alan@chetwood.org.uk](mailto:alan@chetwood.org.uk), tel. 01932 569224.



### **Morris Offspring UK tour**

Music from Sheffield City's Gavin Davenport, plus Becky Price, Matthew Keegan-Phipps and Nancy Potts, and storytelling from Debs Newbold.

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July Sheffield. 2.30pm Central Library Theatre, with Morris dancing outside in Tudor Square just before the show.

Tickets from: <http://www.wegottickets.com/event/169208>

£15 on door / £12 advance / £8 concessions. Under 7s free

- Sat. 14th July, 3.30pm Furness Trad. Festival, Coronation Hall, Ulverston.

Tickets: [www.furnesstradition.org.uk](http://www.furnesstradition.org.uk)

- Sunday 15th July, 4pm Cecil Sharp House, London.

Tickets: [www.efdss.org](http://www.efdss.org)

- Wednesday 8th August, 8pm Sidmouth Folk Week (Bulverton)

Tickets: [www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)

See youtube clips of past shows:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&v=PDPA0oua17E&NR=1>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dqeMsk9b9s>

## Morris Dancers pass the hat for Children in Need:



Morris sides individually collect thousands of pounds for charity every year but have never before pooled their resources for a national effort - until now! The Joint Morris Organisations have launched a nationwide appeal on behalf of Children in Need.

Peter Halfpenney commented: "We are very disappointed at being overlooked by the culturally bewildered organisers of the Olympic ceremonies. We are determined to show the nation what Morris dancers can achieve when they unite for a worthy cause."

If every Morris side raised £125, we would be able to present Terry Wogan with a cheque for £100,000. No matter your contribution, large or small, this will be such a worthwhile and self-satisfying project for a recognisable good cause and will give many opportunities for great media coverage too. *Be aware that you will need a street collector's permit (free from your local authority) if you are announcing that the collection is for charity.*

We are setting up a dedicated bank account to receive your collections and further guidance is on the Morris Ring website.

**Bank information to follow - see the Morris Ring website for details**



### Can you help? Cecil Sharp 3-hole pipes

Cecil Sharp ordered a set of 6 specially designed rosewood 3-hole pipes from Dolmetsch of Hazelmere in about 1920.

Eric Foxley of Foresters Morris Men was given one set by Cecil Sharp's daughter Joan (who was secretary of the English Folk Dance Society in the 1930s) and



would like to trace the others. If you can help please contact Eric via [bagman@foresters-morris.org.uk](mailto:bagman@foresters-morris.org.uk). Further information and pictures can be found on the Foresters Morris Men website:

<http://www.chezfred.org.uk/for/CecilSharpPipe/Images.htm>





All tickets are now on sale - Event, Day, Weekend, Season and All In One.

- **Friday:** Show of Hands with Miranda Sykes • War Horse - The Concert • Kissmet
- **Saturday:** Dervish • Black Umfolosi • Stygiens • The Voice Squad • Frank Yamma
- **Sunday:** Seth Lakeman • Chris Wood • Michael McGoldrick, John McCusker & John Doyle
- **Monday:** Norma Waterson & Eliza Carthy with The Gift Band • Edward II • Jackie Oates • Finest Kind
- **Tuesday:** Treacherous Orchestra • Spiers & Boden Brass Monkey • Fay Hield & The Hurricane Party
- **Wednesday:** Martin Simpson Trio with June Tabor, Jon Boden, Fay Hield & Dick Gaughan Martin Carthy & Eliza Carthy • The Pauper's Path To Hope
- **Thursday:** June Tabor & Oysterband • Dick Gaughan Jason Wilson Band with Dave Swarbrick
- **Friday:** Donal Lunny, Pdraig Rynne & Sylvain Barou Whapweasel • Archie Fisher • Hekety

*Around the rest of the festival, you can expect: dances, ceilidhs, international performers, displays, morris dancers, workshops, sessions and the famous torchlight procession...and a diverse and entertaining programme jam-packed with feel-good atmosphere.*

Full line-up details are available and you can book online at

[www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)



**Dancing with Will** "What a great day! So much good music and dance and company! Well done Open Morris and to all Morris sides we met and danced with on the day - open and friendly to a man or woman! If you're interested my general snaps of the day are here: <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjAkWkp5>"

Mike Finn Bagman to Original Welsh Border Morris (Morris Ring) & Secretary Foxsmorris (Open)

<b>Reminder:</b>	<b>Massed Dances for 2012</b>	
<b>ADDERBURY</b>	<b>Lads a-Bunchum</b>	
<b>BAMPTON</b>	<b>Banbury Bill/Rose Tree</b> (both dances to finish on rounds)	<b>Maid of the Mill</b>
<b>BLEDINGTON</b>	<b>William &amp; Nancy/Bonnets so Blue</b> (preferred tune Bonnets so blue)	<b>Young Collins</b>
<b>BRACKLEY</b>	<b>Jockey to the Fair</b> (full version)	
<b>FIELDTOWN</b>	<b>The Valentine</b>	
<b>HEADINGTON QUARRY</b>	<b>Constant Billy</b>	<b>Laudnum Bunches</b>
<b>LICHFIELD</b>	<b>Vandals of Hammerwich</b> (first chorus show, second strike)	

## MORRIS SHOP RAMBLINGS.....



**HANDKERCHIEFS:** The beloved large white Morris handkerchiefs are back in plentiful supply. This is very fortunate as the demand has already proved phenomenal. The bonus is that we have managed to negotiate a deal so that the price stays the same as the 2010 pre-VAT rise at £2 each or £4 per pair..... :<)



**SOCKS:** And just when you thought the news could not get any better. We have increased our order of long white socks from our supplier so as to enter into the next level of discount on quantity. These are the same long white socks but now at £5 per pair instead of £6..... :<))

The next Morris Shop outing will be the Letchworth Centenary Morris Meeting 13<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

*Steve BfB Your Morris Shopkeeper*

## **World's Largest Synchronized Morris Dance record attempt.**

I included information about this attempt by Mark Baker to coordinate this attempt in Newsletter No 79 but I have no idea whether it succeeded. I can report that some sides entered into the spirit:

On 4th June at 3:30pm Toby & John Melville of **Anker Morris Men**, danced Queen's Delight as part of their performance at the Queen's Jubilee Event at Wolvey



Photo by Hazel Melville

**Leicester MM** on the Dales tour as guests of Leeds MM; **Plymouth Morris Men** outside The Dolphin Inn, Plymouth Barbican; **Greensleeves** at the Windmill in Chipperfield; and **Green Man** plus assorted guests in Lichfield during the annual Bower event were amongst those who took part.



### **Correction: Re Newsletter No 79**

In the printed version of the draft minutes of the ARM, in the section for reports from Area Reps, pages 40 & 41 were missing. The version on the web site is correct. The missing pages of Mike Stevens and Pete Simpson reports were included in Newsletter No 78. As the printing and postage cost More than £220 I do not intend to do a re-print.

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☺ **On-line Links:**

<http://www.themorrisring.org/> the main MR website with millions of pages stuffed to the gunnels with all you need to know about the MR. No registration required to access - the site is open for the world to visit.

<http://groups.google.com/group/the-morris-ring?hl=en&pli=1> The Morris Ring Google Group (MRGG). Still open for messages but files section is now closed. Forum for debate or announcements. Private site; Contact Morris Ring Bagman to register to use.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Morris-Ring/158759257502840> Morris Ring Facebook site: Managed by Ollie King. [oliver.king11@btinternet.com](mailto:oliver.king11@btinternet.com)

**Twitter**

<http://twitter.com/#!/TheMorrisRing>



## The Inaugural Adelaide Ring Meeting 5th April to 7th April 2013

The Adelaide Morris Men are pleased to invite Morris teams and individual dancers to our Dance Meeting on the weekend after Easter 2013.

The Meeting will provide visiting teams and individuals with an opportunity to stay in an Australian bush setting and to experience some of the sights of Adelaide, its finest breweries as well as its nearby wineries and country side, while giving plenty of opportunity to dance throughout the weekend.

### Outline Draft Programme:

- **Pre Meeting opportunity:** 29<sup>th</sup> March 2013 to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013  
*Canberra National Folk Festival* The Adelaide Morris Men will be attending the National Folk Festival held in Canberra held over the Easter weekend and are happy to arrange for other teams and individuals to take part over the weekend.
- **Inaugural Adelaide Ring Meeting** 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> April 2013  
*Friday:* Meet and Greet at the Wheatsheaf Hotel (not far from Adelaide Airport /Railway Station /Bus depot). Pick up can be arranged. Travel to accommodation - travel by bus to Douglas Scrub accommodation in McLaren Vale.  
*Saturday:* After breakfast (which will be provided) we will embark on a tour of the McLaren Vale wineries and pubs, returning to Douglas Scrub for the Feast. After the Feast we shall have the opportunity to sing, dance, and play to our heart's content. There are no neighbours and no closing time!  
*Sunday:* For those who wish there is a Church Service at 10.00 am at

the Blackwood Uniting Church, following which there will be a tour by bus of Adelaide sights before returning to Douglas Scrub for a well-earned rest (or more dancing, singing and playing).

During the weekend the partners of the Adelaide Morris Men will be running a separate programme for partners and children around Adelaide and its surrounds. If there is anything in particular you want to do, let them know.

Billeting is available for families of Morris men attending at the Dance Meeting if required for the weekend and for everyone after the weekend.

### ➤ **Post Meeting opportunities**

- *Monday 8 April 2013 and Tuesday 9 April 2013* Billeted accommodation is available for those that need it. Individual sightseeing in and around Adelaide. On Tuesday evening meet with Adelaide's other Morris teams for dinner and an evening of dancing at the [Rob Roy Hotel](#), one of Adelaide's better pubs.
- *Wednesday 9 April 2013 to Friday 11 April 2013* The beginning of the Melbourne tour! We shall travel in a convoy of cars to a Victorian town with some rather unusual accommodation and near the [Grampian Mountain Range](#). We plan to dance at Hall's Gap (a picturesque part of the Grampians), then Ballarat, before travelling on to Melbourne to arrive Friday evening.
- *Saturday 12 April 2013 to Sunday 13 April 2013.* A weekend of dance in and around Melbourne is planned. Billeted accommodation or cabin style accommodation will be arranged.

Squire-Elect Robin Springett has done some research into airline prices and suggests that

**Individuals** interested in going contact Arthur at

DIALAFLIGHT · tel 020-8225-0066 · fax 020-8260-0054

Southview House · 252 High St · Croydon · CR0 1NF

[www.dialaflight.com](http://www.dialaflight.com) | [www.supertravel.co.uk](http://www.supertravel.co.uk)

Bonded and Protected ABTA 76705 ATOL 1479

Sunday Times Top 250 Award Winners 2003-2011

Robin has arranged that any individuals, or group, going to OZ should call Arthur, mentioning the Morris Ring Itinerary to Australia. Arthur can sort

out a deal on everything including internal flights and accommodation. Those going are advised to book sooner rather than later.

**Sides / teams** In addition, Robin has received an offer of help if any side planning to go to Oz wanted help getting sponsorship from BA. Side would have to go out as a team, and would be expected to do something for the in-flight mag. Any side interested should contact Robin Springett ASAP.

**Campervan Hire** If anyone wants a campervan for Adelaide and the run to Melbourne I suggest they contact Robin Springett.

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST** It would greatly assist Adelaide MM and the Morris Ring officers if any team or any individual dancers interested in, or planning to, attend this exciting event can send an expression of interest both to Dave Smith at [Dave@taliskerhouse.com](mailto:Dave@taliskerhouse.com) and myself [bagman@themorrisring.org](mailto:bagman@themorrisring.org)

**Adelaide at the ARM Weekend:** If you are planning to go the Adelaide as individual men rather than as part of a full side you will be strongly encouraged to attend the ARM weekend to enable there to be a sharing of repertoire and agreement of styles within 'scratch' sides. We plan to have a short get to know each other / introductory session on Friday evening (e.g. 8.30 to 9.30) and a two session on Saturday (e.g. 9.00 to 11.00) and (e.g. 4.30 to 5.30).



**Dancing with Will:** "King John`s Morris Men had a great day in Stratford. Weather was good and everybody, regardless of which Organisation that they belonged to, seemed to be enjoying both the day and the company. All in all a very enjoyable day and I am sure that we will go again next year."

JD Miller

## Decorum

The Morris Ring as an Association does not seek to direct its member clubs how to dance. It can offer help, encouragement and stimuli to aid sides in exploring new territory and in presenting Morris dance as an attractive and disciplined art form, enjoyable for the performers and appealing to its audiences. It is for individual sides to determine the content, style and presentation they wish to adopt.

Following on from my aide-memoir on Morris Presentation and Set Awareness this is a plea to all Morris members and to Squires in particular regarding our decorum.

We have always been a largely self-policing organisation and I have always maintained that I would rue the day that the SOTMR becomes a Morris policeman. This missive is meant as a plea for common sense.

All that we are doing to improve the image of Morris in terms of public perception, media treatment and recruitment is showing signs of working. In my travels around the country this year it has become apparent that the general public are developing a sense of national pride in their home-grown folk culture and are becoming much more appreciative and supportive of our Morris activities.

We are now seeing some excellent TV and radio programmes and reports. Even the newspapers are giving us better press. It goes to demonstrate the value of JMO centred forums such as the publicity symposium earlier this year and all our efforts at learning to approach media in a fashion that encourages positive output.



Recruitment is on the up. Many sides are reporting that the guidelines we issued last year are useful and effective. They are being used with great success in some areas. Ignore them at your peril. Yes, there are still far too many sides teetering on the edge of extinction or with a demographic time bomb ticking closer to detonation. There is more yet to do.

Recruiting is not a matter of luck - it is a reward for co-ordinated effort and hard work.



To stimulate interest amongst younger people is vital. Recruit a youth or child, get the Morris bug to bite them as it bit so many of us all those years ago and you will have a fresh, fit and image enhancing member to bolster your side's activities for years to come.

For all the reasons expressed above it is essential that we conduct ourselves in a manner that will not alienate press, public or (particularly) the parents of our younger adherents. I am aware of a few occurrences recently where good behaviour has not been the watchword and that to our detriment. Consumption of alcoholic drink is inextricably linked to Morris activity and is a pleasure for us all to enjoy or deny as we please. I keep explaining to our audiences that, as athletes, it is imperative that we maintain our fluid intake lest we incur the wrath of our personal trainers or suffer the cramps and crabs associated with dehydration! Nevertheless overindulgence can be physically bad for us and potentially catastrophic. It can also affect our judgement and conduct. Sadly there have been one or two incidences where parents have witnessed their (Morris) children being in the proximity of appalling behaviour and/or language.

Of course we don't necessarily need drink to stimulate profane or excessively colourful language and behaviour. Indeed I have heard singing interludes including some precursors to dance that are rather too adventurous for delicate ears.

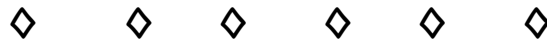
So a plea to all - be mindful of the effects of excess and keep it clean, fun and friendly. Squires - don't be afraid to have a quiet word with offenders. You may be surprised at how appreciative folk are that you show concern for their welfare and that of your flock.

*Peter J Halfpenney*  
*Squire of the Morris Ring*  
*July 2012*



One of the many cakes presented to Leeds MM to celebrate their Diamond Jubilee Dales Tour

Cake by Ann Hubbard  
Photo by Ian Hubbard



**RUSH HATS** A new supplier of RUSH HATS: Janina Watkins can make hats to measure in various styles.  
Further information from [wocko.jan@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:wocko.jan@tiscali.co.uk)

Here modelled by "Wocko" Watkins



**Dancing with Will:** "The JMO event at Stratford upon Avon was marked as far as I saw by great good humour and by great courtesy extended by all to all."

Graham Cox (Cambridge MM & Fenstanton Morris)

## Future Events:

**333<sup>rd</sup> Meeting 13th -15th July Letchworth 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Morris Meeting**

**334<sup>th</sup> Meeting 31stAug-2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. Hartley 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Morris Meeting**

Website [www.hartleyringmeeting.org](http://www.hartleyringmeeting.org)

**Bagman for the meeting** Tony Tomlin, 01622 685960

TonyTomlin@aol.com

### 2013

- TBC March ARM Hosted by Whitchurch
- 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> April 335<sup>th</sup> Adelaide MM
- 31<sup>st</sup> May-2<sup>nd</sup> June 336<sup>th</sup> Thaxted Morris Meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> June 337<sup>th</sup> Dolphin Morris Men 
- 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> July 338<sup>th</sup> Martlet Sword & Morris Men (60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> August 339<sup>th</sup> Silkeborg Morris Meeting

### 2014 *80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Foundation of the Morris Ring*

- March ARM Hosted by Dartington Morris
- TBC Thaxted Morris Meeting

**Could your side host a meeting in 2014?**

### 2015

- March ARM Hosted by TBA
- TBC Thaxted Morris Meeting



# Unconvention

*Hosted by King Johns Morris Men  
With Winchester Morris Men and Red Stags Morris  
Shedfield, Southampton, 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012*

*Open to all budding or experienced Fools, Beasts and Morris Characters  
from any team of the Morris Ring, Open Morris or Morris Federation.*

This year's Unconvention will be based at Lyons Copse, Solent Scout Training Centre, Shedfield, Southampton, SO32 2HQ and will involve workshops, Saturday tour & more. Plus the AGM - your chance to have your say!

Indoor camping is in REAL bunk beds in multi-bedded rooms - bring sleeping bags or own linen if you want to be posh - this is limited to 38 persons. However, there will be a few outdoor pitches for tents and limited camper/caravan parking will be available. There are toilets and showers for both sexes. Sorry, but no dogs are permitted on site.

Robert will need to know at time of application which sort of accommodation you prefer. Cost: approx. £60 per person.

**Closing date for Applications 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012.**

*Contact: Robert Chisman, Fools and Beasts Convener,*

*Tel: 01503 272250 (day) 01503 272437 (eve); mobile 07970063922.*

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*Follow Trigger on Facebook and Twitter!*



**Dancing with Will:** "Stratford-on-Avon hosted a lovely day out for the JMO yesterday with around a dozen Morris Ring sides present (out of around 50 sides altogether), displaying their wares to a high standard. Saddleworth and Earlsdon stole the show as usual but creditable performances were to be seen from Manchester, Leicester, King John's, Shakespeare, Adlington, Jockey, Dolphin, Anstey & Isca. Peterborough I'm sorry I didn't get to see but I'm sure that they did us proud as usual.

The standard of dance produced by our brothers and sisters in the Open Morris & Morris Federation continues to rise. Just as with JMO Sheffield last year, the overwhelming atmosphere in Stratford's sunshine was one of joy and fun. It is a day out to savour and the 2013 diary will soon reserve the date for next year's event to be held I believe in Exeter.

Peter J Halfpenney



I have received 'requests for volunteers' for two programmes - I simply pass on the information!

1. "We're looking for outgoing, single people to take part in a brand new dating show for Channel 4 and it would great if we could get a Morris dancer featured on the show".

<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/take-part/articles/new-primetime-dating-show> Contact: [neil.summers@chocolatemedia.tv](mailto:neil.summers@chocolatemedia.tv)

2. Britain and Ireland's biggest dance show, Sky One's GOT TO DANCE, is back for a fourth series, presented by Davina McCall.

They are "trying to reach out to some *outstanding* talent, and (they) want to encourage talented professionals at the top of their game to try and come on and attempt to win the show. "

"We'd love for you guys to enter, and I think a Rapper Sword act would do really well in the competition!"

Auditions are in July and August 2012 around the UK. Apply via -  
<http://apply.shinegroup.tv/GottoDance/index.apply>

More info from Chris Taylor Tel: 0207 985 1732 Mob: 07984427185

### And finally...

You will see that there are new photos in the header of the Morris Ring website. Martin Jones (of Natty Web Development Ltd) has struggled to find images that are the right combination of size/resolution, quality, faces looking the right way, suitable for removing the background, etc. He is looking for more good quality head-and-shoulder images so that he can set up a small bank of such images, and perhaps even have them randomly displayed on different pages. It can take around 20 minutes to prepare each separate image, so even with suitable photos it's not a trivial exercise. If you think of a suitable photo please contact Martin. [jam@natty.co.uk](mailto:jam@natty.co.uk)

If you are attending a Morris event where there is food, please ensure that you tell them if you are a vegetarian or have any other dietary requirement - or you might go hungry. If you have not pre-ordered a vegetarian meal, please do not grab one at the event because you like the look of it. You will be depriving a veggie of his meal and causing chaos with the caterers!

Enjoy the rest of the Summer and please let me have news and information for the next Newsletter by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

*Charlie*

Bagman of the Morris

the MORRIS RING  
founded ~ 1934 ~