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Newsletter No.81

October 2012

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Stop Press

Robin Springett Radio Star

Robin Springett, Squire of the Morris Ring, has been invited to go on the John Govier Show on BBC Radio Devon on Sat 20th October at 10.00 to talk about the Ring and being Squire.! For those not in the Plymouth and Exeter area listen via the internet <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radiodevon>



being
area

Explanation: This Newsletter is rather later than anticipated but I delayed publication waiting for information about the meeting organised under the auspices of the Morris Ring planned for 2013. You will see that there are still gaps but I will forward additional information as soon as I receive it.

Under the revised constitution the onus is now very clearly with the host sides rather than centrally with the Morris Ring officers. In light of this, and with two overseas meetings in the mix with the additional complications of flights or ferries, application to attend any of these events needs to be made directly to the host side. Details of what is on offer are printed later in this newsletter but these are the contacts:

ARM	1 st - 3 rd March	Whitchurch MM	Contact: John Bush john_bush@btinternet.com
	Venue: Stoke Mandeville Stadium		
335 th	5 th - 7 th April	Adelaide Meeting	Contact: Dave Smith Dave@taliskerhouse.com
336 th	31 st May-2 nd June	Thaxted Meeting	Contact: TBC TBC
337	21 st - 23 rd June	Dolphin Meeting	Contact: Clive Cowx bagman@dolphin-morris.co.uk.
338 th	5 th - 7 th July	Martlet Meeting	Contact: Peter Davey festivaldirector-martletmorrismen@hotmail.co.uk
339 th	23 rd - 25 th Aug.	Silkeborg Meeting	Contact: Jacob Christensen mail@silkeborgmorrismen.dk

Please copy the Morris Ring bagman (bagman@themorrisring.org) into applications - simply so that the officers of the MR have some idea of who is going where.

Annual Membership Renewals: Bagmen will receive a paper copy of the annual subscription renewal form - either Member or Associate Side. Please arrange for these to be completed and returned with the appropriate payment to Steven Archer, Treasurer of the Morris Ring. Please address any questions concerning these to him - contact details on Page 1 of this Newsletter.

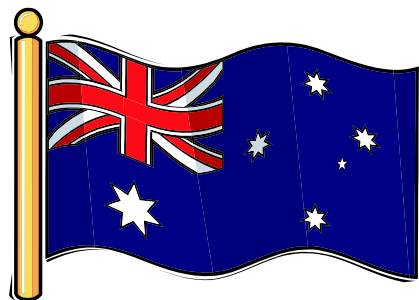


Memories of Hartley Meeting

Andy, Bagman Mersey Morris Men.

Australian Facts that may surprise a visitor.

Koalas look cute and cuddly but can be quite nasty if you touch one that is not used to people. They use their long, sharp claws to climb trees and can rip skin with ease. Cleland Wildlife has a Hold a Koala experience, if you are interested. <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/clelandwildlife/Home>



The Sword Dance Union Annual Day of Dance and Tournament 2012

"A bit of a spectacular do at the Sage in Gateshead"

The SDU Tournament ended like this:

Longsword;

- Overall winners: Newcastle Kingsmen
- Own Dance: Stone Monkey
- Traditional Dance: Newcastle Kingsmen
- Youth: Cecil Sharp Trophy ~ Goathland
- Musician's Trophy: Stone Monkey

These teams entered or exhibited:

Monkseaton

Sallyport

Pateley Bridge

Stone Monkey

Redcar

Gift Rapper

Newcastle Kingsmen

Gift Rapper

Goathland

Claro Sword

Maltby Phoenix

Goathland Juniors

Maltby Nestlings

NE Rapper Championship

- Winners: Newcastle Kingsmen
- Juniors: Grasp the Nettle

Competitors:

High Spen Blue Diamonds

Newcastle Kingsmen

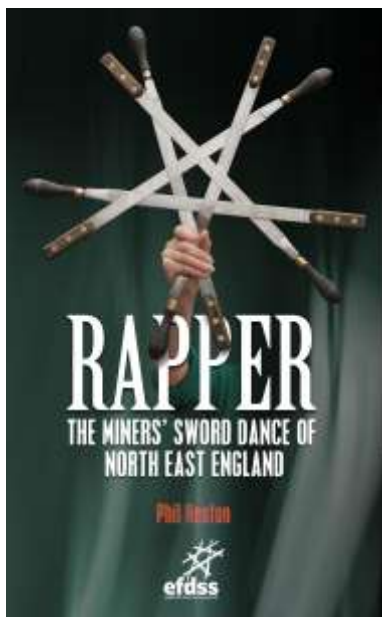
Sallyport

Star and Shadow

Grasp the Nettle

SDU 2013 Tournament will be held in Ripon.

Phil Heaton



**Rapper, The Miner's Sword of the North East
By Phil Heaton**

Publisher: English Folk Dance and Song Society

Release Date: 6 October, 2012

Price: £12.99 originally £15.00

ISBN: 978-0-854182-12-1

Available from: www.efdss.org

"This book that celebrates the origins and recent developments of the short sword dance that originated in the pits and collieries of the North East. What was once a pastime purely for men from the coalface in this corner of England is now a fast, entertaining and skilful dance practised by thousands of people in the UK, the USA, Canada and Australia and increasingly in Europe.

The new book, written by native North Easter Phil Heaton, pulls together a collection of newspaper cuttings, documents, family histories and tales from the old Northumberland and Durham coalfields from where the dance originated.

Although well known for centuries as a particularly Northern pastime, growing numbers of miners adopted the old rural sword dance as the coalfield expanded in the 18th and 19th centuries to feed the Industrial Revolution. In the hands of the miners, the dance changed character and became shorter, faster and more of an indoor spectacle.

In recent years, the rapper dance has spread and developed in style and performance across the English-speaking world. Its spectacular speed and precision sharpened in ruthless competition in the UK and USA.

Accompanying the book are two DVDs contains archival footage of traditional North Eastern teams such High Spen, Earlsdon, Winlaton and Newbiggin who feature alongside modern teams such as the Kingsmen and Monkseaton. The second DVD is designed to be accessed from a PC and contains histories, manuscripts and images of every rapper team found. It also shows dance movements developed from the original notations."

EFDSS Press Release



Britain's Got Talent is back again for a 7th year and commencing our annual search for the UK's future stars. They

are scouring the country for all varieties of talent, as they want the new series to be even bigger and better!

Auditions are being held throughout the country from Oct-Dec, with the dates to be confirmed very soon. Would you be able to help us spread the word amongst your society?

APPLY ONLINE NOW at www.itv.com/talent and you will be allocated a day for your audition shortly.



THE U.K.'S NO.1 folk AND hiphop DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA!



Damien Barber writes:

Last year we were overwhelmed by the number of Morris teams supporting our *Time Gentlemen Please!* tour of the UK with over 50 groups displaying at the venues we visited. The dancers really helped create a festival atmosphere, not only as part of the displays but also in the auditorium and the feedback from the general public has been fantastic. So much so that we're now hoping to organise displays at all 35 of our shows throughout October & November 2012 and February & March 2013!

As part of our development, and after many discussions with theatre marketing departments, we have decided to change both our name and our image. This is to help attract as wide an audience as possible and is one of our overall aims to help raise the profile of traditional English dance. There has been a bit of confusion among our audiences as to whether The Lock In is a new show or just a name change and we're very keen for everyone to know that it's a bit of both!

The Lock In is essentially a new name for TGP but we have also developed the show through 6 weeks of rehearsals. It will hopefully now be a much improved version of Time gentlemen Please!

We also have a new promo video which includes some great endorsements from comedian Stewart Lee and The Specials bassist and artist Horace

Panther www.thelockindanceshow.co.uk/video

We already have many dance groups showing an interest in displaying at our October shows including:

- Thu 18 Oct Canterbury Festival: Oyster Morris, Berkshire Bedlam, Companye of Strangers.
- Fri 19 Oct Bury St Edmunds, The Apex: Ely and Littleport Riot, East Suffolk Men, Morris Men of Little Egypt, Thaxted Morris
- Sat 20 Oct Newbury Corn Exchange: Taepas Tump Ladies, Kennet Morris

And we are also hoping to organise displays at:

Sat 10 Nov	Durham Gala	Thu 15 Nov	Kingston-Upon-Thames, Rose Theatre
Sun 11 Nov	Scunthorpe, Plowright Theatre		
Mon 12 Nov	Bromsgrove, Artrix	Fri 16 Nov	Ludlow Assembly Rooms
Tue 13 Nov	Shrewsbury, Severn Theatre	Sat 17 Nov	Lichfield Garrick
Wed 14 Nov	Buxton Opera House	Sun 18 Nov	Bognor Regis, The Regis Cnt
		Mon 19 Nov	Chatham, The Brook Theatre
		Tue 20 Nov	Eastleigh, The Point
Wed 06 Feb	Loughborough Town Hall	Thu 21 Feb	Bristol, Colston Hall
Thu 07 Feb	Burnley Mechanics	Fri 22 Feb	Yeovil, Octagon Theatre
Sat 09 Feb	Whitley Bay Playhouse	Sat 23 Feb	Ilfracombe, Landmark Th'tre
Sun 10 Feb	Keswick, Theatre By The Lake	Sun 24 Feb	Poole, The Lighthouse
Fri 15 Feb	Milton Keynes, The Stables	Mon 25 Feb	Exeter, Phoenix
Sat 16 Feb	Barnsley Civic	Tue 26 Feb	Crawley, The Hawth
Sun 17 Feb	Congleton, Clonter Opera Hse	Wed 27 Feb	Taunton, The Brewhouse
Mon 18 Feb	Harrogate Theatre	Thu 28 Feb	Tewkesbury, Roses Theatre
Tue 19 Feb	Harrogate Theatre	Fri 01 Mar	Birmingham Town Hall

Most of the venues are offering discounted tickets to teams either displaying or wearing kit. Anyone who is interested in taking part please contact Ceri Wade for more information. ceri.wade@gmail.com

Reminder: 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



Harry Mousdell 1931 - Sept 8th, 2012

Known by one and all as "Old Harry", a name he gained while in his 40s, Harry was renowned as a true Sussex character, despite being born in Oldham, Lancashire. He established The Broadwood Morris Men in 1972, from a meeting at the Black Horse at Nuthurst, having been inspired by a small English dance troupe at an



International Youth Rally in Austria some 11 years earlier. Harry's parents were a great inspiration to him, encouraging him to hitch-hike to the rally, despite just having recovered from tuberculosis. The fact he had part of his lung removed at this time will surprise many who knew Old Harry for his rumbustious dancing and spirited singing. He made many of the songs his own, perhaps adding a unique introduction, or changing the words to make the song more topical or even more cheeky, then singing them in his full-throated style. A founder member of Broadwood Morris in Horsham, West Sussex, he was Bagman 1972-73 and Squire 1977-79. As well as his own dancing, his miniature

dancing Morris Man dancing on a plank was much in demand. His last days were spent in St Catherine's Hospice in Crawley. Broadwood Morris Men visited him there, and put a concertina in his hands. The next thing we knew was he started playing "Shepherd's Hey", and so the men started dancing.

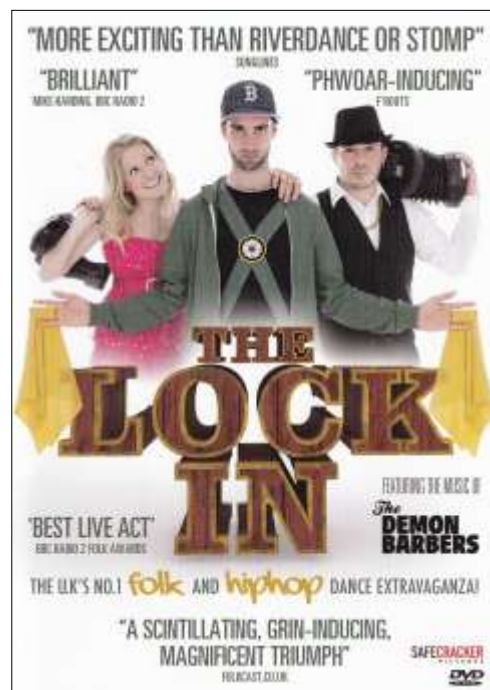
The celebration of his life was held in Rusper Village Church, the church where Lucy Broadwood is buried, and whose family name is proudly carried by The Broadwood Men. His coffin was lovingly decorated by his daughter-in-law to celebrate Harry's lifelong loves of cycling, camping, singing and dancing. He was carried into church by fellow Broadwood Men, through an arch of garlands held by the ladies of Magog Morris, and headed by the folk musicians. The packed church was filled with music and laughter, as the congregation of family and friends was treated to tributes in prose, song and dance, including The Broadwood Men once again dancing "Shepherd's Hey", and a moving solo version of the song "Lord of the Dance". The service finished with "Sussex by the Sea" being sung while coffin and congregation left.

Keith Haynes Squire of The Broadwood Men



Morris Shop Ramblings.....Not a lot new on the scene at the moment except for the October 2012 release of....

DVD: THE LOCK IN Show (£10.00): Filmed at the Harrogate Theatre in 2012, this live extravaganza brings "The Demon Barbers", winners of Best Live Act at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 2009, together with some of England's most exciting young traditional and hip hop dancers to create the high energy dance spectacular "The Lock In" Clog, Sword and Morris meet B-boying, Popping and Krump in this humorous and unmissable visual feast. Think Stomp with bells on!



Dancing With Demons: A documentary charting the history of The Demon Barbers electric folk band and the evolution of The Lock In! as a unique

dance show . Along the way it investigates the recent revival of all things Folk and The Lock Ins' place at the cutting edge of this resurgence. The documentary will explore the genuine connection between traditional and modern dance with the aid of some well-respected Folk enthusiasts such as the comedian Stewart Lee and Horace Panter, Bass Player from The Specials.

Run time: 105mins, Region Code: Worldwide.

MORRIS BELLS. I am delighted to report that the much loved two piece Morris bells are still in ample supply from the manufacturers in Birmingham. Our last order in March 2010 was so considerable that it and this has enabled us to maintain the pre VAT increase retail price for the last 31 months. Alas, October 2012 sees our stock at an all-time low and the inevitable replenishment has had to happen. The 2012 prices are as follows:

1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Brassed Bell @ 73p each	1 $\frac{1}{8}$ " Brassed Bell @ 50p each
1" Brassed Bell @ 47p each	$\frac{7}{8}$ " Brassed Bell @ 42p each

The next mobile Morris Shop expedition will be the Mendip Morris Men's annual ale at Wrington, Friday 21st Dec 2012.

Steve BFB, Your Morris Shop



Martin Westlake, a founder member of White Horse Morris Men, died on 22nd September 2012 aged 84 at Sandy Balls, Godshill. He was buried on the estate next to his father Dr Aubrey Westlake, following a Quaker funeral service on 5th October. Martin had a long dancing career and Sandy Balls was host to the White Horse summer tours for many years. He had been Chieftain of the Order of Woodcraft Chivalry, like his father and grandfather before him, and an environmentalist well before the name was introduced.

Articles on the White Horse Summer Tours and Martin will be published in a future edition of the MR Circular.

Steven Archer Treasurer of the MR

Plaque tribute to folk dance expert



By Tom Jennings, covering Witney and West Oxfordshire. Call me on 01865 425403

12:00pm Tuesday 11th September 2012 in News



Pictured with villagers at the blue plaque unveiling are, front from left, morris dancer Gerard Robinson, Trinity College president Sir Ivor Roberts and historian Mike Heaney, Mr Tiddy's biographer

[Buy this photo »](#)

A First World War hero who was instrumental in the research of folk dancing and funded a community hall has been honoured.

A Blue Plaque recognising Reginald Tiddy, who died on the Somme, was unveiled at the Ascott-under-Wychwood hall that bears his name on Saturday.

Mr Tiddy's research into the traditional dance of mumming, from his days as an Oxford University Fellow and lecturer, is still being used to this day.

"He was, 100 years ago, one of the first people to start research into our folk law, specifically into our mummers plays, in a serious way.

"His research was the main source of information on mummers plays for the last 100 years. "Over the last 20 years a lot more has been done, but no one can be active in the field unless they know about and use his work.

While in Oxford, he started a branch of the English Folk Dance and Song Society and performed in a side known as the Dancing Dons.

Mr Tiddy collected some 33 mummers' plays, travelling round villages to find new examples. They were published by his friends in 1923.



Mr Tiddy moved to Ascott-under-Wychwood in 1909, later living in the village's Priory Cottage, and, in 1912, built the village a new hall. In 1914, he volunteered for military service. Resisting suggestions he should transfer to the safety of the Intelligence Corps, he was promoted to Lieutenant with the 2nd/4th battalion of the Oxfordshire and

Buckinghamshire Light Infantry in 1915. He was posted to the Somme in May 1916 and, while searching for wounded men on August 10, was hit by a stray shell and killed.

Reminder: The Joint Morris Organisations appeal on behalf of Children in Need.

£2,300



in the Bank up to 16th October 2012

We have set up a dedicated bank account to receive all monies collected by Morris Ring, Federation and Open sides for the BBC Children in Need appeal.

Deposits may be made by BACs or internet banking.

Deposits **MUST** be referenced by the contributor's (side's) name.

Bank HSBC

Name Charity Account

Sort code 40-41-44

A/C number 01729780



Archives on the web: Via the MR website I received this query:

"For years I've had The Breinton Morris Archives (1977-1997) website on BT, who is now deleting all the customer websites they host. This is a pain, as many other websites link to us. Can you suggest how I could keep The Breinton Morris Archives online? Would it be possible to archive our website with The Morris Ring?"

Phill Lister Ex-Squire, Foreman and Green Man of ex-The Breinton Morris

Having taken advice from, amongst other Martin Jones (of Dartington Morris and Natty Web Development Ltd - designers of the Morris Ring web site), I am advised that the demand for electronic archiving facilities for such websites - as well as photos and documents - is only going to grow. I think that the following might be of interest to other sides that have web-based archives:

- The MR website cannot become a general archive, no matter how interesting.
- There are many commercial website hosting solutions available where this content could be moved to for a very modest annual fee for a 'static' website like that - £36 per year is a good indication, provided by Heart

Internet (the one the MR uses). The advantage of this is the pages can be simply uploaded as-is (by someone with basic technical knowledge).

- Another option is the free website solutions provided by (e.g.) Weebly.com, but that requires using their content management system - it's free and easy, but the existing pages would have to have their content transferred in manually. Or Google Sites - similar sort of thing.
- The free service like that offered by BT is typically tied to using them (BT in this case) as the ISP and many other ISPs offer the same sort of facility. But you need to continue to be their customer (of telephone and/or broadband) to qualify, and people often want the freedom to change ISPs. Using either of the options above means that there's no tie-in to an ISP, giving at least one form of freedom.

Martin has made this offer:

At Natty Web Development we offer web hosting to our customers, normally when we have built or manage their website. However, we can extend this to others that simply want to host an existing site, for an annual charge of £40, to include a .uk domain name, email forwarding and FTP access for uploading the site. We can provide further assistance (e.g. extricating an old site and transferring it), but we would need to charge extra for the time involved.

<http://www.natty.co.uk/> <mailto:jam@natty.co.uk> : 01803 403271



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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

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



Australian Facts that may surprise a visitor.

Australian speeds limits are 50Km per hour in built up areas with no other speed ratings; 60Km/hr, 80Km/hr or 110Km/hr when sign posted. Non signposted roads in non-built up areas are 100Km/hr. More details:

http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/roadsafety/safer_speeds/speed_limits_and_penalties



Live Music & Licensing This is in the news again and there is the usual mismatch of rumour and speculation.

I am extremely grateful to Andrew Jackson for the following:

The Live Music Act is here:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/2/contents/enacted>

The Licensing Act is here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/17>

Guidance notes are here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/2/notes/contents>



They haven't put the changes through yet, but you can trace them through bit by bit fairly easily.

The exemption for Morris dancing is in paragraph 11 of schedule 1. The LMA amends it by taking out the references to the provision of facilities (you don't seem to need a license for providing any facilities now), and it allows any live or recorded music as part of a Morris dance performance (it used to just allow live unamplified music).



Other changes which might be relevant are that regulated music is now, broadly, anything between 11pm and 8am, and amplified music with more than 200 in the audience.

So, as a rule of thumb, the licensing rules don't apply to small or unamplified performances during normal waking hours, and Morris dancing is (pretty much) completely exempt.

All subject to the local licensing authority imposing conditions in specific circumstances, of course.



Morris 18-30 Great Yorkshire 2012 or "19 men and a dog go off the rails"

The scene: I am waiting in a scout hut in Keighley. Slowly but surely others (and a dog) start turning up. A pie & pea supper is prepared; there was a lot of quaffing of ale (*Jockey's fault for giving us all ridiculously hot chilli sauce*) and then off to a pub for music, singing, and a bit of practice.

Sometime later back at the hall the drinking and merriment continues until the small hours.

I wake up...ninety minutes late! After a rushed breakfast and a mad dash through Keighley we arrive (just a few minutes late) at our first dance spot: the Autumn Steam Gala at the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway. We dance. The whistle of steam engines soon sweeps the hangovers of the morning clean away. We're just starting to build up a good head of steam (sorry)

ourselves but all too soon it's all aboard the electric railway and off down the Aire Valley to Bradford, and our first pub spot.

We're met in Bradford by some of the original members of Morris 18-30 who although they have passed the upper age limit seem to be having withdrawal symptoms. A quick dance spot, *Glorishers* for the two barmaids,



a small audience and we're back on the railway, back up the line to Bingley.

At the lunch spot we're met by a coach-load of merry-makers on a 60th birthday bus tour, so it was only fitting that we dance *Glorishers* for the birthday girl. After lunch we move to Bingley Market place, and then it's back on the train to Saltaire where there is a fabulous little shop called "The Early Music Shop", which houses the "world's largest selection of mediaeval, renaissance and baroque musical instruments". Our stock of musicians was sorely depleted!

A dance spot (with some musicians) at Salt's Mill is followed by a trip to Fanny's Ale House where we at last have a full contingent of musicians again.



A couple of beers, a bit of dancing and we're on our way to get the train back to Keighley. On the way to the station we spotted a sign: "**Beer Festival, free entry, £2 a pint**". Nothing else was planned for the rest of the tour - we were just going to have some impromptu dance spots in Keighley so we decided to extend our stay in Saltaire. After some dancing at the beer festival we decide to head back

to Keighley but not before *Glorishers* occurs on Saltaire platform - much to the amusement of the people on the opposite platform (safely out of reach). We arrive back in Keighley and return to the hall (minus two men and a dog) to find the feast nearly ready. The beer is now free, and we have a lot to get through. After some wonderful food (thank you wife and mother-in-law), we settle in to continue drinking and singing. The dancing is over, and we can now relax.

Later the group splits, with some deciding to go clubbing in Keighley; others getting an early night and the rest putting puts the word to rights over beer and toast. A very pleasant evening is had by all - and some people can even remember it.

Sunday morning and I'm awake on time! After a long leisurely breakfast we're off to Kildwick-in-Sutton to meet up with Great Yorkshire Morris. The new Squire dances in and the old Squire dances out (shouldn't that be the other way around), and it's time to move on to Sutton-in-Craven. The "Old Boys" of the 18-30 meet up with us at the second pub (and one straggler from Great Yorkshire), and join in a few dances, including a 16 man Dearest Dickie (yes, it does work). All too soon the dancing is over, lunch is served and people start drifting away.

So that was the Morris 18-30 Great Yorkshire 2012. If you're aged between 18 and 30 why not join us in 2013 for the **Morris 18-30 Whitchurch & Towersey weekend**.

Paul Cross (18-30; Great Yorkshire Morris & Chalice)



Australian Facts that may surprise a visitor.

You can't drive from Adelaide to Uluru (Ayres Rock) in one day and be in any fit state to be a tourist. It is 1600 kilometres and would take around 19 hours of continuous driving. The WEB site for routes and distances:

<http://www.auinfo.com/australian%20distance%20calculator.html> .

Invitations / Events / Instructionals

Joint Venture: One Day Rapper with Winchester Morris Men 20th & 21st October 2012

Saturday: learn a traditional rapper dance with One day Rapper which you will then display on a tour of local pubs in the evening.

Sunday: Two wonderful Cotswold Morris workshops with Winchester Morris Men. Sunday workshops will run from 11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm with lunch provided.

Costs: One Day Rapper (Saturday) £30
 Winchester Morris Workshop/s £8/£14
 Full Weekend £40

Further information: natasha.woodward@live.co.uk (Booking form attached)

Winchester Morris



Australian Facts that may surprise a visitor.

You can be stopped by the Police while driving in Australia and tested for Alcohol levels. The legal limit is a blood alcohol concentration of 0.05 g/100ml. For the Ring Meeting transport is organized and no one need drive themselves.

The Morris Ring Musicians' Weekend 25 - 27 January 2013

This is an event for all, including Morris Ring members, members of the Morris Federation, and the Open Morris

Calling all musicians: This informative and enjoyable weekend will be held this year close to the Derbyshire Peak District at the Kirkby-in-Ashfield Church Hall, with hosts the Ripley Morris Men. The weekend will coincide with Ripley's annual Ale Feast, which all attendees are cordially invited to attend.

Most arrangements are fairly fluid and can be adjusted to cope with specific requests, but overall the schedule will be as follows:-

Friday evening 25th January: Meet at the Church Hall for food and chat, followed by informal music session and visit to local pubs.

Saturday 26th January: Plenary session exploring the role of the musician, general aspects of playing for the dance, and specific features of dance tradition and style.

- Sessions related to interpretation of the music, and making the most of your chosen instrument.

Participants will be able to attend the Ripley Morris Ale Feast on Saturday evening, when there will be the opportunity to play with the band for real live morris. Those who can resist the temptation will be able to eat at the local pub, just opposite the Feast venue, and stay on for the late-night music session that invariably follows.

Sunday 27th January

- Opportunity for individuals to play for dances performed by the Ripley Morris Men
- Session related to the special requirements of playing for massed dances, such as at Morris organisation Hosted Meetings
- Session exploring and experimenting with ways of making the best use of multiple musicians at club level, while still providing the best support to the dance and dancers.

Squires and Foremen are encouraged to attend the weekend. Dance is a partnership between musician and dancer, and it is important that each understands the other's role.

Good and plentiful food, ale and company are guaranteed with Ripley as hosts. Accommodation will be at the Church Hall or at the nearby Scout hall, and will be suitable for both ladies and gentlemen.

The cost? Just **£45** for the whole event (including Friday evening meal, ale feast, lunches, teas and coffees - oh...and maybe some beer too!)

These weekends don't happen every year, *so don't miss this one!*

For further information or to book a place contact Malcolm Frier horace1981-notes@yahoo.co.uk with the following information

Name: Club or Organisation: Instruments played: Any special dietary requirements:
Contact email address: Contact phone number:

Payment address will be provided (cheque preferred). Further details, directions, etc., will then be sent out via email nearer the date

This is an event for all, including Morris Ring members, members of the Morris Federation, and the Open Morris



1st - 3rd March Annual Reps Meeting

Hosts: Whitchurch MM

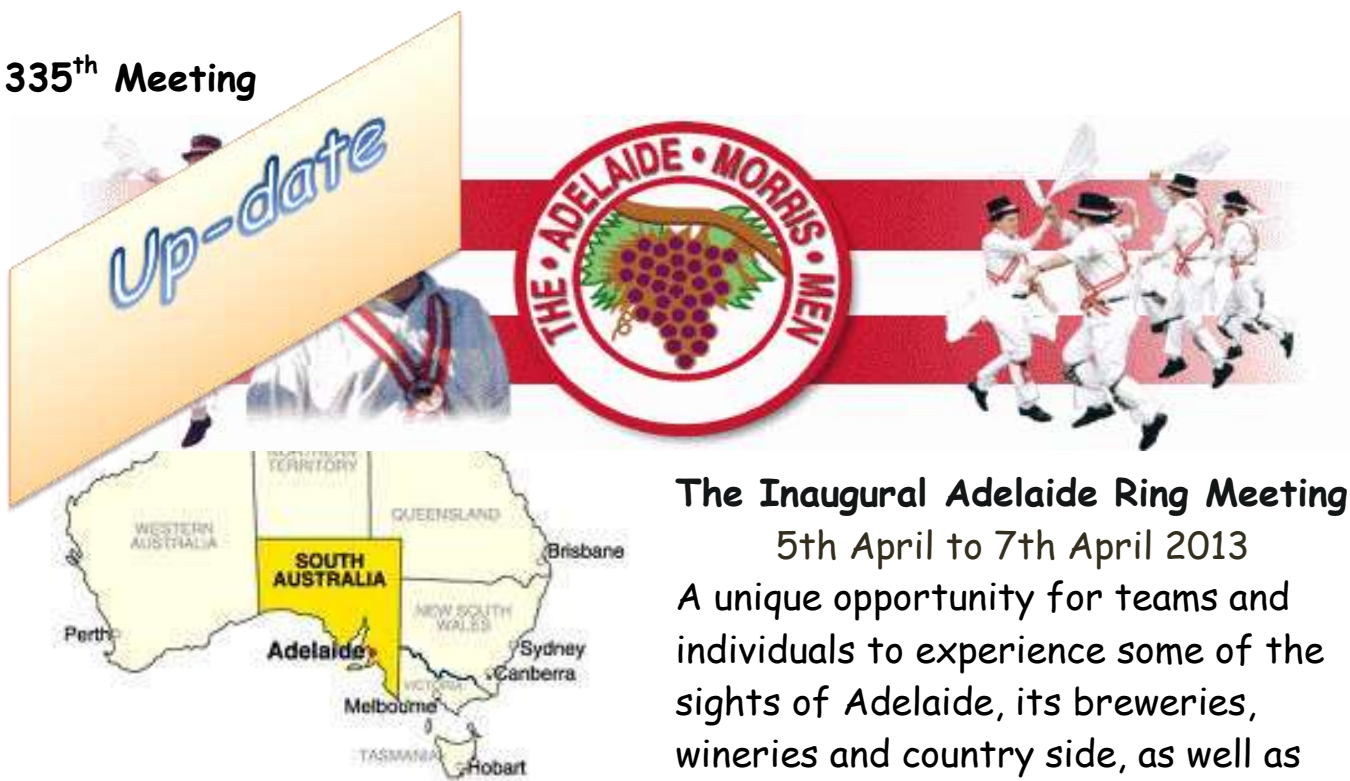
Venue: Stoke Mandeville Stadium (Home of the Paralympics)
Guttmann Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire

Look at: www.stokemandevillestadium.co.uk/

Application forms will be available when final costing agreed.

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).

335th Meeting



The Inaugural Adelaide Ring Meeting

5th April to 7th April 2013

A unique opportunity for teams and individuals to experience some of the sights of Adelaide, its breweries, wineries and country side, as well as dance throughout the weekend.

Over the weekend of the meeting there will be an alternative program available for partners. We are offering billeting (beds, lounges and floors) and for the period of the Ring meeting any partners who want will have a chance to be tourists with our partners and friends.

Friday: Meet and Greet at the [Wheatsheaf Hotel](#) (near Adelaide Airport /Railway Station /Bus depot). Pick up can be arranged. Travel to accommodation at [Rymill Centre](#). This is owned by the Scout Association and set in a big property with a lot of walking if you can find the time. The rooms sleep 4 or 6 in bunks so there should be plenty of space for the weekend and with 7 bathrooms there should be little crowding.

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).

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST Teams or individuals who are interested in, attending this exciting event are asked to contact both Dave Smith of Adelaide Morris Dave@taliskerhouse.com and myself bagman@themorrisring.org

Reminder: Robin Springett (Squire of the MR and seasoned traveller) suggests that those interested in going contact Arthur (who can sort out a deal on everything including internal flights and accommodation) at DIALAFLIGHT, Southview House, 252 High St., Croydon CR0 1NF 020-8225-0066 www.dialaflight.com | www.supertravel.co.uk

Pre Meeting opportunity: 29th March 2013 to 1st April 2013

Canberra National Folk Festival The Adelaide Morris Men will be attending the [National Folk Festival](http://www.folkfestival.org.au/) over the Easter weekend.

<http://www.folkfestival.org.au/>. Early Bird tickets are significantly cheaper so book soon.

"Canberra can be cold at Easter, there have been times I have camped and the temperature has fallen to -3° Celsius. If you don't want to camp, there is some accommodation available off site and it is worth spending a few days there. <http://www.informationcentres.com.au/canberra/> for tourist information."

Post Meeting opportunities

Monday 8 April 2013 and Tuesday 9 April 2013 Billed 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. Billed accommodation or cabin style accommodation will be arranged.

Information (& odd facts) provided by Dave Smith of Adelaide Morris +61 488 165 464

Saturday 20th April 2013 JMO Day of Dance in Exeter. Hosts: Great Western Morris on behalf of the Morris Federation. Further details to follow when available.



31st May-2nd June 336th Thaxted Morris Meeting

Sorry but no information has been provided concerning this meeting◇



21st - 23rd June 337th Dolphin Morris Men

Dolphin 45th Anniversary Ring Meeting

Number of Men - 80

Cost for the weekend - £55 to £ 60

Women musicians welcome.



Dolphin Morris Men invite you to join with them in celebrating 45 years of dancing in the East Midlands. The weekend will be based in Sutton Bonington, which will be familiar territory those who have attended the Jig's Weekend or previous Dolphin events. It will be relaxed and low key, containing all the best elements of a good Morris

weekend with the minimum of pomp and ceremony.

The accommodation will be outdoor camping for tents and caravans, which will have showers, toilets and basic catering (tea, coffee etc.) available on the campsite. For those requiring a more luxurious stay, there are a number of bed and breakfast venues in the village.

Meals, including the Feast, and local real ale, will be available in the village hall.



There are two excellent pubs in the village. The Kings Head is likely to have a lively music and song session on both Friday night and after the Feast on Saturday.

For those who prefer a quieter evening there is the Anchor.

Both are a short walk from either the village hall or the camp site.

On Saturday, there will be two bus tours visiting the surrounding area with pubs and venues we hope you will enjoy.



There will be a church service on Sunday with dancing in the church, followed by a short display in the church yard. (*There will be a suitable alternative for those who do not wish to attend the Church Service*). The dancers will then process through Sutton Bonington to the Kings Head, the site for the massed dancing and lunch. Dolphin will be inviting local non-Ring sides to this part of the weekend and some will include women dancers and musicians.

Additional day places for young dancers

Dolphin Morris Men particularly want to encourage young dancers to enjoy some of the celebrations, but acknowledge that they may not wish to attend the whole weekend. Therefore, if there are sufficient numbers, we would like to offer a day option for young dancers to travel with the tours on Saturday. Further information from bagman@dolphin-morris.co.uk.



On the same weekend:

Evesham National Morris Weekend 21st - 23rd 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 for further information.



5th - 7th July **338th Martlet Sword & Morris Men (60th Anniversary)**
Number of Men 150 **Cost for the weekend Approx £80**
Women musicians welcome.

We were formed in 1953 at the time of The Queen's Coronation, and looking at the television footage of that year it seems ages ago! Not many of us had a TV then, and we crowded around tiny sets showing a curved grey and white fuzzy picture! Few people had ever seen Morris Dancing, and we were often asked slowly and clearly "What Country do you come from?" How things have changed! We went by bike to practice and perform. Communication was generally by 'snail mail'. The only time young men went abroad was on National Service. One of our founder members sometimes rode a 'penny farthing' bike through the centre of Chichester. Currency was pounds, shillings and pence, and one shilling (5p) would buy a pint of real ale!!!! One of our earlier members, Pat Mitchell, was a teacher at the City's Comprehensive Boys' School, and he formed and taught some of the boys to dance the Morris. They were so enthused that many of them joined the Martlets and five of them are still actively dancing in the team. I was one of 'Pat's Boys', and have been appointed Festival Director, and another, Gerry Tilling, will be my right hand man.



There have been so many changes in everyone's lifestyle, but little has changed with the Morris. We still dance in the same kit, although our blue tabards and yellow 'Martlets' have recently been renewed. We enjoy dancing even more than ever, and the

public love to watch. We believe we were the first Morris Men ever to dance in Chichester. No wonder we want to celebrate a span of "60 years with bells on".

We have hosted two previous Morris Ring Meetings, the first in 1963 when 300 men attended, and the second in 1991 with 200 men. In those heady days we were a very large Club, and our Membership enabled us to manage large Meetings. Now our resources are limited, but our keenness and experience is greater. We are aiming to entertain 150 men, and female musicians are also very welcome. Our very first musicians were female.

Accommodation will be 'indoor camping' - one team per classroom - at a very nice College between Chichester and Arundel. For those who wish for a bit more comfort, or who want partners overnight, there are two Travelodges by Fontwell racecourse exactly a mile from the College.

For the Saturday tours by coach, all teams will dance in Chichester City Centre at some stage, and will also visit the coast. The weather will, of course, be warm and sunny!

We are doing our utmost to keep the costs down whilst keeping the standards up, and we currently expect the cost to be £80 per person.



Further information from festivaldirector-martletmorrismen@hotmail.co.uk



Australian Facts that may surprise a visitor.

South Australia was not settled by convicts! Unlike Victoria and New South Wales this state was settled by the South Australia Company. Formed in London in October 1835 this company organized the settlement of South Australia and ended business in its own right in 1949.

23rd - 25th August 2013

339th Silkeborg Morris Meeting

Number of Men **100** inc. host side

Cost for the weekend **Approx £135**

Women musicians welcome.

Accommodation will be in the Danhostel in Copenhagen City. The tour details are not all in place yet but we have a pre-authorization

from the municipality for the weekend. *The cost of the weekend is exclusive travel expenses from England to the hostel and back.*



Friday (All day):

Welcome and possible dance session for early arrivals

Dinner - At Bryggens Kulturhus (close to the hostel), followed by informal dance or pub visit

Saturday:

08.00 Breakfast

14:00 Massed dance near the Queens Castel

15:00 - 17:00 Dance at Saint Albans church and the little mermaid.
Possible massed at the church

19:00 Feast

Sunday:

08.00 Breakfast

TBA St Alban's Church



Future Events

2014 *80th 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, 2nd - 4th 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 15th ~~October~~ 2012.

Contact: Robert Chisman, Fools and Beasts Convener,

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

E-mail: triggertrrotter1@aol.com

Follow Trigger on Facebook and Twitter!



Australian Facts that may surprise a visitor.

Around Adelaide you are more likely to be hurt in a car accident than to meet one of the local deadly creatures. But we do have the Blue Ringed Octopus, Red back Spider, European wasps, and snakes (black brown, copperhead and tiger). Then there are the bigger animals that can cause grief; Sharks, Emus, Possums, Koalas and Kangaroos. The chance of being attacked by one of these is even smaller.

One Day Rapper

A taste of tradition

Name
Address

Contact number: _____ Email _____

Are you a dancer and/or a musician?

If you are a musician what do you play?

If you are a dancer have you done any type of dancing before?

Kit

Shirt Size Trouser Waist Size

Feet Size (for socks)

Shoes are not routinely provided, however, I do have a growing stock so please let me know if you could do with borrowing some and what size

Dietary Requirements

Meat eater Vegetarian Other (please specify)

Accommodation

Indoor camping is not currently available; however we are pursuing this with the hall we have booked for the weekend.

Photos

Please note that photos/videos may be taken during the day and used on the website and in publicity.

Costs

One Day Rapper	£30
Cotswold Workshop(s)	£8 am / pm £14 Both
ODR + Cotswold Workshops	£40.00

Please return with a cheque made payable to:

Natasha Woodward
27 Warren View
Thurmaston
Leicester
LE4 9WZ

Bank account details available upon request if you wish to make an online transfer.



Chris Reading is an illustrator (member of the association of illustrators) who specialises in cartoons.

He was at Camp Bestival (Lulworth Castle) and saw some Morris dancers and was inspired to draw this.

readingandson@btinternet.com

Morris dancers make rubbish
cat burglars.

At least Morris Dancers can appreciate a joke - especially Bagmen. Please let me know if your bagman changes and let me have anything that you might like included in the Newsletter.

Charlie

Bagman of the Morris

Morris Ring Display Boards: Available for you to borrow

