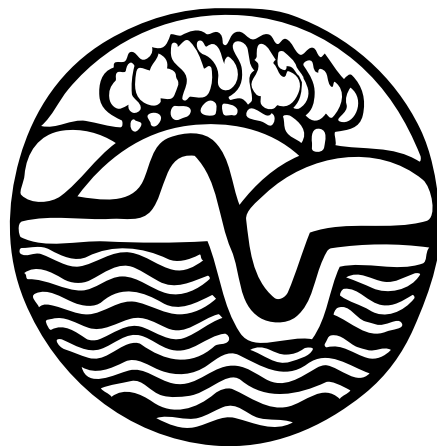


Devil's Dyke Morris Men mainly perform dances which seem to have originated in the Cotswold area. 'Morris' generally is used to cover dances which might have had a formal or ritual function, traditionally formed by a small practised set of same-sex dancers, usually male. This contrasted strongly with social dances which were performed in more relaxed circumstances, by both sexes.

The Cotswold Morris is characterised by a mixture of dances with either handkerchiefs or sticks. Other forms of dance which come under the heading 'Morris' are, for example, Border morris (English/Welsh borders, blackface), longsword (mainly Yorkshire), rapper (Durham), and clog (Lancashire/Yorkshire).

It is traditional with Cotswold Morris to define dance styles by the names of the villages in which they originated. So when you hear us announce a dance 'from Fieldtown' or 'in the style of Bledington', this is what we are referring to. The main dances done by Devil's Dyke at the moment come from Adderbury, Ascott-under-Wychwood, Badby, Bampton, Bledington, Brackley, Ducklington, Fieldtown (Leafield), Headington, Hinton, Ilmington, Lichfield and Sherborne, with the occasional example from Eynsham, Longborough and Wheatley.

Each village style has its own characteristics, although this may not always be evident! But there are also very many dance figures, steps and movements common to all of them. Devil's Dyke try to maintain a high standard of dance and keep the styles separate as best we can.



The Devil's Dyke Morris Men



CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like more information about the Morris, or would like to join us, please ask one of the men or ring Nick Kerry on 01638 742116. We practise in Bottisham during the winter, starting in October.

Visit the Devil's Dyke home page at

<http://www.ddmm.freereserve.co.uk>

Programme 2000

The Devil's Dyke Morris Men have been entertaining people in and around the Newmarket and Cambridge area for many years. The side takes its name from the Devil's Dyke, an impressive earthwork which stretches some seven miles from Woodditton to Reach. It was built in the Dark Ages, during the 6th or 7th century, to keep out marauding Mercians. Strategically it was well placed across a bottle-neck between dense woodlands in the South and the waters of the Fens in the North (as symbolised in our badge on the back cover). The Dyke is still impressive, and makes an excellent half day's walk. We danced along it in May 1991 to raise money for VSO and for local charities, ending up at Reach Fair.

Morris dancing certainly goes back to late mediaeval times—its earliest mention is from about 1460. It was often officially frowned on in the century following the Reformation, but experienced a renaissance after the restoration of Charles II in 1660. But by the end of the 19th century the Morris had become somewhat unfashionable, and came close to dying out before it was revived by the efforts of Cecil Sharp and others. Sharp first saw the morris on Boxing Day 1899; we celebrated the centenary of that occasion on Boxing Day 1999, and the revival is now in its second century.

Morris is meant to be fun and that is the main reason why we do it, as well as keeping alive a very English tradition. We hope that you enjoy watching us as much as we enjoy dancing for you.

APRIL		
Sunday 9th	Thriplow Daffodil Weekend	1.00 pm onwards
MAY		
Monday 1st	Wandlebury	5.30 am
	Reach Fair	1.00 pm onwards
Thursday 4th	Burrough Green, <i>Bull</i>	7:30 pm
	Dullingham, <i>Boot</i>	8:30 pm
Saturday 6th	Newmarket Festival	
	<i>The Bushell</i>	11 am – 1 pm
Thursday 11th	Stretham, <i>Red Lion</i>	7:30 pm
	Ely, <i>Fountain</i>	8:30 pm
Thursday 18th	Gazeley, <i>Chequers</i>	7:30 pm
	Moulton, <i>King's Head</i>	8:30 pm
Thursday 25th	Quy, <i>White Swan</i>	7:30 pm
	Great Wilbraham, <i>Carpenter's Arms</i>	8:30 pm
Monday 29th	Soham Carnival	1:30 pm



"Good company, good exercise, no charge"

JUNE		
Thursday 1st	Steeple Morden, <i>Waggon and Horses</i>	8:00 pm
	Abington Piggots, <i>Pig and Abbot</i>	9:00 pm
	<i>(this evening DDMM are guests of Letchworth Morris Men)</i>	
Thursday 8th	Withersfield, <i>White Horse</i>	7:45 pm
	Great Wrating, <i>Red Lion</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 15th	Cheveley, <i>Red Lion</i>	7:45 pm
	Dalham, <i>Affleck Arms</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 22nd	Burwell, <i>Five Bells</i>	7:45 pm
	Reach, <i>Dyke's End</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 29th	Hardwick, <i>Blue Lion</i>	7:45 pm
	Comberton, <i>Grapevine</i>	8:45 pm

JULY		
Thursday 6th	Foxton, <i>White Horse</i>	7:45 pm
	Newton, <i>Queen's Head</i>	8:45 pm
	<i>(with guests Cambridge and Standon Morris Men)</i>	
Thursday 13th	Saxon Street, <i>Reindeer</i>	7:45 pm
	Lidgate, <i>Star</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 20th	Chippenham, <i>Tharp Arms</i>	7:45 pm
	Snailwell, <i>George and Dragon</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 27th	Linton, <i>Dog and Duck</i>	7:45 pm
	Hildersham, <i>Pear Tree</i>	8:45 pm

While we make every effort to stick to the programme, circumstances beyond (and occasionally within) our control may force changes to it. If you want to check, do please ring Nick Kerry on 01638 742116, or even check the DDMM web site www.ddmm.freereserve.co.uk