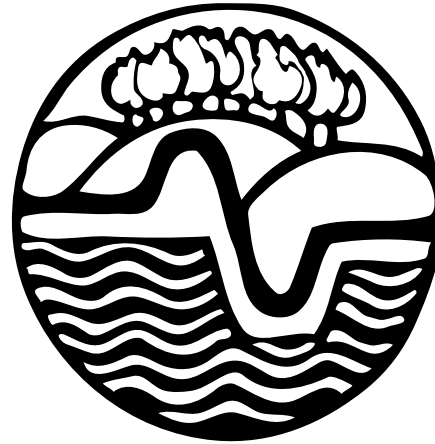


Devil's Dyke Morris Men mainly perform dances which seem to have originated in the Cotswold area. 'Morris' generally is used to cover dances with a formal or ritual function, traditionally formed by a small practised set of same-sex dancers, usually male. This contrasted strongly with social dances which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

Cotswold Morris men call dance styles by the names of the original villages. 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, Bucknell, 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 2001

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, and will do so again this year (see elsewhere).

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.

MAY		
Tuesday 1st	Wandlebury	5.30 am
Thursday 3rd	Histon Road, <i>Grapes</i>	7:30 pm
	Histon, <i>Red Lion</i>	8:30 pm
Saturday 5th	Newmarket, <i>The Bushell</i>	11 am–
Monday 7th	Dancing the Dyke	Morning
	Reach Fair	1.00 pm onwards
Thursday 10th	Kirtling, <i>Red Lion</i>	7:30 pm
	Lidgate, <i>Star</i>	8:30 pm
Thursday 17th	Barrington, <i>Royal Oak</i>	7:30 pm
	Harlton, <i>Hare &amp; Hounds</i>	8:30 pm
Thursday 24th	Mepal, <i>Three Pickerels</i>	7:30 pm
	Ely, <i>Fountain</i>	8:30 pm
Monday 28th	Soham Carnival	1:30 pm
Thursday 31st	Great Wratting, <i>Red Lion</i>	7:30 pm
	Withersfield, <i>White Horse</i>	8:30 pm

JUNE		
Thursday 7th	Woodditton, <i>Three Blackbirds</i>	7:45 pm
	Burrough Green, <i>Bull</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 14th	Fowlmere, <i>Queen's Head</i>	7:45 pm
	Newton, <i>Queen's Head</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 21st	Ousden, <i>Fox</i>	7:45 pm
	Dalham, <i>Affleck Arms</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 28th	Great Wilbraham, <i>Carpenter's Arms</i>	7:45 pm

On the morning of the early May Bank Holiday, the Devil's Dyke Morris Men will dance the length of the Devil's Dyke, the earthwork from which the side takes its name. We will be seeking sponsorship for this event, the proceeds from which will be given to the **Guide Dogs for the Blind Association** and the **Wildlife Trust**. See the web site or one of the Men for more details.



*"Good company, good exercise, no charge"*

JULY		
Thursday 5th	Hardwick, <i>Blue Lion</i>	7:45 pm
	Comberton, <i>Grapevine</i>	8:45 pm
Wednesday 11th	Kennett, <i>Bell</i>	8:00 pm
	Kentford, <i>Cock</i>	8:45 pm
	<i>(this evening we dance with Hageneth Morris Men)</i>	
Thursday 19th	Chippenham, <i>Tharp Arms</i>	7:45 pm
	Snailwell, <i>George and Dragon</i>	8:45 pm
Thursday 26th	Linton, <i>Dog and Duck</i>	7:45 pm
	Hildersham, <i>Pear Tree</i>	8:45 pm

AUGUST		
Monday 27th	Annual DDMM tour of Southwold	

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](http://www.ddmm.freereserve.co.uk)