

Despite what many people say, there is no evidence that Morris Dancing is the remnant of a Pagan fertility rite. It is more probably derived from a Spanish dance called the Morisco, introduced into England at the end of the Middle Ages. There was Morris Dancing in Guildford by 1530, and after that it seems to have been a regular sight in the area. Chimney sweeps were dancing a kind of Morris as part of their May Day festivities in early Victorian Guildford and Farnham, but it fell out of favour and had virtually disappeared from Surrey a hundred years ago. Sadly, none of the dances were ever noted down. In Edwardian times the Morris was revived by the folk music collector Cecil Sharp and now there are over a dozen sides in Surrey.

The dances performed by the Pilgrim Morris Men are mainly from the Cotswolds where many of the villages had their own "tradition" or style of dancing. The mythical creature N'Dobbin is known to appear with the Pilgrim Morris Men on occasion, and the mysterious Jack In The Green exhibits himself for our Summerpole celebrations.



Practising during the winter (when we also perform a Mummers' Play on Twelfth Night) the side generally dances in the Guildford area during the summer months. We are known to dance further afield, as you'll see inside this leaflet. For some reason we're mostly to be found outside a pub!

Over the last few years the Pilgrim Morris Men have received support from the Hogs Back Brewery in Tongham. The side would like to take this opportunity to thank the brewery for their continued help and encouragement, not to mention the fact they brew pretty fine beer...

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Hogs Back Brewery, Manor Farm, Tongham, Surrey
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Tour List 2009

We are proud to be sponsored by the Hogs Back Brewery

Morris dancing – why not give it a try?

May 2009

Fri 1 st	dawn	St Martha's Chapel, near Guildford
Sat 2 nd	all day	Summerpole Celebrations, Guildford <i>with Mad Hatters, Berkshire Bedlam, Yateley & Jackstraws Morris</i>
Wed 6 th	8pm	Three Horseshoes, Thursley <i>with Cup Hill Morris</i>
Sat 9 th	all day	Portsmouth Steam Fayre <i>with Cup Hill Morris</i>
Thu 14 th	8pm	King's Head, Holmbury St Mary <i>with Ewell St Mary Morris</i>
Thu 21 st	8pm	Sir Roger Tichborne, Alfold Bars <i>with Broadwood Morris</i>
Sat 23 rd	6pm	Headley Twinning Society function
Mon 25 th	all day	Surrey County Show
Wed 27 th	8pm	Duke of York, Weybourne
	9pm	Garden Gate, Aldershot

June

Wed 3 rd	8pm	The Parrot, Shalford
	9pm	Jolly Farmer, Bramley <i>with Union Jack Mummers</i>
Wed 10 th	8pm	The Mill, Elstead
	9pm	Good Intent, Puttenham
Wed 17 th	8pm	Guildford town bridge
	9pm	Keystone, Guildford <i>with Guildford Vox</i>
Fri 19 th	8pm	<i>Cup Hill</i> 40 th celebration weekend Merry Harriers, Hambledon
Wed 24 th	8pm	Red Lion, Shamley Green
	9pm	Grantley Arms, Wonerish

July

Wed 1 st	8pm	Queens Arms, Addlestone
	9pm	Wagon and Horses, Addlestone
Wed 8 th	8pm	White Horse, Shere <i>with Mayflower Morris</i>
Wed 15 th	8pm	Prince of Wales, Farnborough
Sat 18 th	10am	<i>Ewell St Mary</i> Day of Dance, Ewell
Wed 22 nd	7.30pm	Hogs Back Brewery, Tongham
	9pm	The White Hart, Tongham <i>with Basing Clog & Jackstraws Morris</i>
Wed 29 th	8pm	Saddlers Arms, Send Marsh
	9pm	Ship, Ripley

August

Mon 31 st	2pm	Peaslake Village Fair
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September

Wed 2 nd	8pm	Elm Tree, Weybourne
	9pm	Shepherd and Flock, Farnham
Sat 5 th	10am	<i>Windsor</i> Day of Dance, Windsor
Wed 9 th	8pm	Lamb, Farnham
Sat 12 th	all day	Heritage Day , Guildford town centre
Sun 20 th	noon	Blue Bell, Dockenfield
Wed 30 th	8pm	Annual General Meeting

October

Wed 7 th	8pm	Practice season commences at Pewley Down School, Guildford
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January 2010

Wed 6 th	evening	12 th Night Mummers' Play in a number of Guildford pubs
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If you've enjoyed watching us, why not give it a go? We always welcome people willing to try Morris dancing so please get in touch:

Email: bagman@PilgrimMorrisMen.org.uk

Web: <http://www.PilgrimMorrisMen.org.uk>

Morris dancing – why not give it a try?