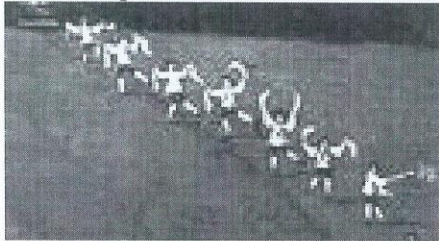


A brief history of Morris Dancing.

Morris dancing is an old English tradition.

There are few written references up until the end of the 19th century and we think that was partly because it was seen as a wild pagan thing. Most records show things like fines being imposed for creating a disturbance. But we do know that in 1494, Henry VIII was entertained by 6 dancers and a fool and the picture below was painted in 1725.



Villages in the Cotswolds and the Welsh Borders had sides (teams) of Morris Dancers, with each having its own style or tradition. The likely reasons for the dancing are linked to the Whitsun or May time celebrations.

As the industrial revolution gradually reduced the rural population with a migration to the towns, it died out in the villages, but North West Morris evolved in the industrial towns, often dancing in clogs. Today Wickham Morris keep up the tradition, with dances from the villages of Adderbury, Bampton, Stanton Harcourt, Lichfield and the Welsh Borders, plus several dances we have created, thus continuing the evolution of the tradition.

Charity Collection.

During 2009 Wickham Morris are sponsoring the Parkinson's Disease Society.

Parkinson's is a progressive neurological condition affecting movements such as walking, talking and writing.

Parkinson's occurs as a result of a loss of nerve cells which are responsible for producing a chemical called Dopamine.

This allows messages to be sent to the parts of the brain that co-ordinate movement.

With the depletion of Dopamine producing cells these parts of the brain can not function normally.

At present there is no cure for Parkinson's but researchers and Scientists are steadily making advances in understanding the condition, it's causes and how best to treat it.

The Parkinson's Disease Society is the leading UK charity fighting Parkinson's on all fronts.

'No one should have to face Parkinson's on their own. If you are affected by the condition, the Society is there to help and support you'.

The Society's work is almost entirely funded by charitable donations, and heavily reliant on legacies.

Please help to support the charity and it's research by making a donation today.

Thank you.

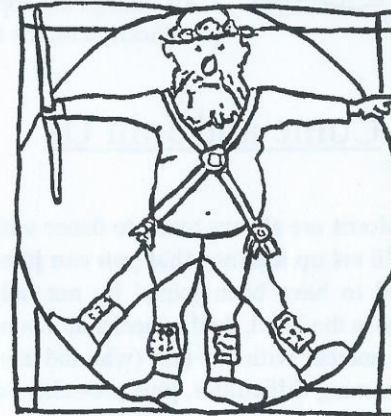
www.parkinsons.org.uk



P Parkinson's
Disease Society

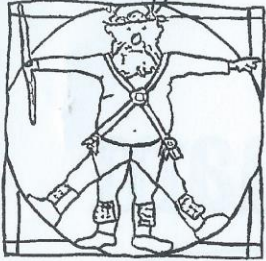
*Official Sponsors of
Wickham Morris.*

Wickham



Morris

2009 World Tour



For more information, visit:
www.wickham-morris.org.uk
 or contact the Baggie:
 Maggie Wilson
baggie@wickham-morris.org.uk

All timings are approximate.
 (To Wickham Morris time keeping)

Come and Join Us

Wickham Morris are always ready to dance with you, **just ask and we'll set up a dance that you can join in on.** We are delighted to have been joined by not only the able bodied, but also the blind, deaf, wheelchair bound, a person on crutches, another with one arm (who did zen clapping), some with learning difficulties, plus pre-school children up through primary school, cubs, scouts, brownies and guides, to senior citizens.... and they all enjoyed themselves
 come and give it a try!

We welcome new members.

We practice between September & May at the Reading Rooms in Shedfield, Hampshire, every Thursday evening at 20:00 until 21:30. After practise it's straight to the pub for Music & Songs.

Come and have a go! Just ask any one of us (apart from those with beards, they bite, especially the female one's!) and we will be more than happy to help you get you involved.

Wickham Morris

May 1 st	05:00	May Day Tour. ✓
May 2 nd - 4 th	Sat - Mon	Upton upon Severn Folk Festival. ✗
May 7 th	20:00	Sam's Rest at Shedfield. ✗
May 9 th	Sat	Cuphill Rail Tour at Portsmouth Dock Yard. ✗
May 14 th	20:00	The Vine at Hambledon. ✓
May 16 th	Sat	Winchester MayFest. ✓
May 21 st	21:00	The Wheatsheaf for Music & Song. ✗
May 22 nd - 25 th	Fri - Mon	Chippenham Folk Festival. ✗
May 28 th	20:00	The White Swan at Wallington. ✗
May 29 th	20:00	The Hampshire Bowman with Alton Morris. ✗
June 4 th	20:00	The Fox & Hounds at Denmead. ✓
June 11 th	20:00	The Bat & Ball at Hambledon Hill. ✓
June 13 th	14:45-17:00	Boarhunt Beer Festival. ✓
June 18 th	20:00	The Mead End at Denmead. ✓
June 25 th	20:00	The White Lion at Soberton. ✓
July 2 nd	20:00	The Hamble pub tour. ✗
July 6 th	18:45-19:45	Botley Village Festival. ✗
July 9 th	20:00	The Rising Sun at Swanmore. ✓
July 11 th - 12 th	Sat - Sun	Beggars Fair. ✗
July 16 th	20:00	The Travellers Rest at Newtown. ✓
July 23 rd	20:00	The Guide Dog Earls Road, Bevios Valley. ✗
July 30 th	20:00	The Potts Pub with Basing Clogg & Knockhundred. ✗
August 6 th	20:00	Langstone Harbour - The Ship Inn & The Royal Oak. ✗
August 13 th	20:00	The Wheatsheaf at Shedfield. ✓