

### AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY, 27th AUGUST

- 10.30 a.m. The Huntsman Inn, Eridge
- 11.30 a.m. The Dorset Arms, Wythiam
- 12.30 p.m. The Crown, Groombridge
- 3.30 p.m. Penshurst Place
- 7.00 p.m. The White Hart, Rusthall
- 8.00 p.m. The George & Dragon, Speldhurst

### BOXING DAY

- 10.00 a.m. Hartley Green
- 11.00 a.m. The Black Horse, Stansted
- 12.30 p.m. The Rose & Crown, Wrotham

## The Hartley Morris Men

For twenty-six years the Hartley Morris Men have been dancing around the towns and villages of Kent. We were formed in 1952 by the late Percy Sephton who reformed the side from men who had been part of the Stansted Morris Men before the war.

Morris dancing is very old, quite probably pre-Christian. We believe that it originated in the annual fertility rituals that would have been performed, in various forms, all over Europe every spring. Without the technology of his modern day counterpart, the ancient farmer led a very precarious existence, and any means, even magical ones were employed to ensure that a good growing season would ensue.

The dances that we perform originate in the Cotswolds, and it is entirely due to the efforts of the well known folk song collector Cecil Sharp that we are able to dance the Morris today. It was on Boxing Day, 1899 that Sharp chanced to come across a side of Morris dancers in the village of Headington Quarry in Oxfordshire. It happened that the team he saw was one of the last still performing the Morris, and realising that a whole section of folk culture was dying and in danger of being lost forever, he devoted the rest of his life to collecting what he could of the Morris and country dances of England.

Unfortunately for us, nobody thought to write down the dances of Kent, which must have existed in years gone by, because ritual dance is to be found all over the country. In the north-west, clog dances are performed and in the north-east the Morris is danced with swords. In Abbots Bromley in Staffordshire we find the horn dance and in Cornwall the Padstow Hobby Hoss, all of these are men's ritual dances which were performed every year as part of the regular cycle of life.

Finally, you can help us to keep this ancient tradition alive by dropping a few coins in the hat, the tradition being that this simple act will bring the giver good luck and fertility for the coming year!

For any enquiries please contact our Bagman, Dave Peacock, 106, Fulwich Road, Dartford, Kent Telephone: Dartford 70700.



# The Hartley Morris Men

## Programme 1979

## THURSDAY EVENING TOURS IN KENT

May	3	7.30	Hartley Green
		8.30	Anchor in Hope, Stansted
	10	7.30	Brasted Green
		8.30	Kings Head, Bessles Green
	17	8.00	Chequers, Weald
		9.00	Plough, Leigh
	24	8.00	Railway, Higham
		9.00	Staff of Life, Cooling Street
	31	7.30	Kings Head, Offham
		8.15	Red Lion, Offham
		9.00	Queens Head, Mereworth
June	7	8.00	Maypole, Nettlestead Green
		9.00	Woolpack, Benover
	14	8.00	Plough, Ivy Hatch
		9.00	Chaser, Shipbourne
	21	8.00	Otford Village
		9.00	Shoreham Village
	28	8.00	Green Man, Hodsoil Street
		9.00	Black Horse, Stansted
July	5	8.00	Grasshopper, Westerham
		9.00	Cock, Ide Hill
	12	8.00	Duke of Wellington, Ryarsh
		9.00	Angel, Addington
	19	8.00	Yew Tree, Sandling
		9.00	Fleur d'lis, Burham
	26	8.00	Five Bells, Seal
		9.00	Chequers, Heaverham
Aug.	16	8.00	Harrow, Ightham Common
		9.00	Paper Makers, Plaxtol
	23	8.00	Vine, Sevenoaks
		9.00	Sir Geoffrey Amhurst, Crown Point
	30	8.00	Leather Bottle, Cobham
		9.00	Royal Victoria & Bull, Rochester

## OTHER TOURS

### TUESDAY 1st MAY

5.30 a.m.	Coldrum Stones, Nr. Trottiscliffe
10.30 a.m.	Southfleet Village
11.30 a.m.	Meopham Green
12.30 p.m.	Amazon & Tiger, Harvel
7.00 p.m.	The George, Trottiscliffe
8.00 p.m.	Black Horse, Stansted

### SATURDAY 12th MAY

2.30 p.m.	May Queen Ceremony, Gravesend
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### SPRING BANK HOLIDAY, 28th MAY

10.00 a.m.	Pembury Green
11.00 a.m.	The Brecknock Arms, Bells Yew Green
12.00 p.m.	The Elephants Head, Hook Green
1.00 p.m.	The Old Vine Cousley Wood
3.30 p.m.	Tonbridge Cottage Hospital Fete
7.00 p.m.	The Half Moon, Hildenborough
8.00 p.m.	The Rose & Crown, Stone Street

SATURDAY 16th JUNE	2.30 p.m.	Vigo Village Fete
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### ANNUAL WEEKEND OF DANCE 22nd - 24th JUNE

#### Saturday, 23rd June

##### TOUR A

10.30 am	Dartford Town Centre
11.30 am	Meopham Green
1.00 pm	Chequers, Heaverham
3.30 pm	Squerrys Court Westerham

##### TOUR B

10.30 am	West Malling
11.30 am	Queens Hd, Mereworth
1.00 pm	The Plough Leigh
3.30 pm	Penshurst

##### TOUR C

10.30 am	Westerham Green
11.30 am	Brasted Green
1.00 pm	The Cock, Ide Hill
3.30 pm	Four Elms Village Fete

There will be a massed display by dancers from many parts of the country at 6.30 pm in Wrotham.

#### SUNDAY 24th JUNE

12.30 p.m.	Massed display at Rose & Crown Wrotham
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### TUESDAY 10th JULY,

#### AN EVENING WITH RAVENSBOURNE M.M.

8.00 p.m.	The Crown, Leaves Green
9.00 p.m.	The Change of Horses, Farnborough

### ANNUAL SHEP'S TOUR

#### FRIDAY 13th JULY

9.00 p.m.	Shepherd Neame Brewery
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#### SATURDAY 14th JULY

10.00 a.m.	Faversham Market
11.00 a.m.	Faversham Market
12.00 p.m.	The Hampton, Herne Bay
1.00 p.m.	The Gate, Marshside
6.00 p.m.	The Chequers, Doddington
8.00 p.m.	The Plough, Lewson Street
9.00 p.m.	The Sun, Faversham

#### SUNDAY 15th JULY

12.00 p.m.	The Carpenters Arms, Eastling
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