

HARTLEY MORRIS 2003

2002 was a milestone year for the Hartley Morris Men, when we celebrated the 50th. anniversary of our formation by hosting the 293rd meeting of the Morris Ring, based on Wrotham and attended by 180 dancers from all over the country.

2004 will be quite a year too, marking as it does the 70th. anniversary of our foundation (but more of that in next year's programme). No wonder that some of us are beginning to suffer from bad backs and dodgy knees!

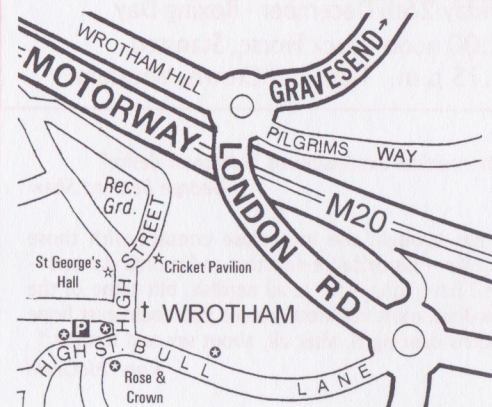
What then of 2003, you might ask. Well – not much! We're taking a year's sabbatical leave to recover from the excesses of last year and prepare for the delights of the next one. Usual Thursday tours, a few weekends away and the annual Broadstairs Folk Festival. Just bulk standard Hartley stuff. Hope to see you around.

"There is nothing which has yet been contrived by man, by which so much happiness is produced, as by a good tavern or inn"

Samuel Johnson 1776

"Of course, it's even better if the Hartley Morris Men are dancing outside at the time."

Old Bob Tatman 2003



Hartley practise at St George's Hall, on Thursday evenings then pop down to the Rose & Crown.

THE HARTLEY MORRIS MEN

The Hartley Morris Men are one of the many Clubs affiliated to the Morris Ring of England who regularly perform these ancient and traditional dances for their own enjoyment and for the entertainment of the public.

This years programme, as always, features some of the best pubs in the area - so come and join us for a pint or two of good English ale, a fine display of English Morris and a few songs in the bar afterwards.

We practise in Wrotham on Thursday evenings throughout the Winter, and dance in the surrounding countryside from May to September, commencing always at dawn on May 1st. at the Coldrum Long Barrow and equally inevitably ending the formal season at our favourite local, the Rose & Crown in Wrotham.

We hope that you will share in the good luck which the Morris brings by contributing to our 'bag'. If you want to know any more about the Morris, any of our dancers will be pleased to tell you, or alternatively, why not visit our web site at:

www.hartleymorris.org.uk

If not, you will find some lovely piccies of us in the 'Hartley Corner' of the Rose & Crown, Wrotham (with the added bonus of better beer than you will get over the internet). If all else fails, either send a SAE to:-

139 Farleigh Hill, Tovil, Maidstone,
Kent ME15 6RQ
or E-Mail tonytomlin@aol.com

Or Phone Brian, our Squire on
01 322 272168

THE HARTLEY MORRIS MEN

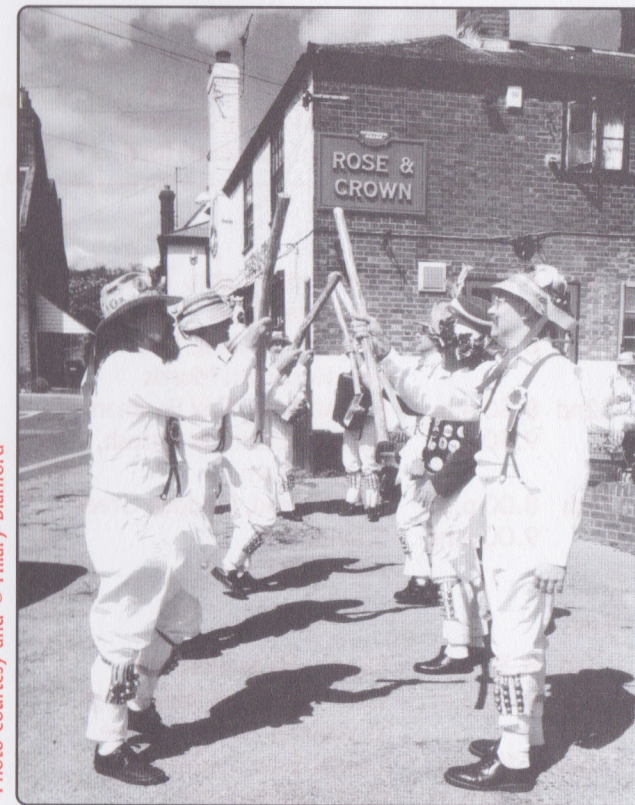


Photo courtesy and © Hilary Blanford

2003 PROGRAMME

Thursday 1st May - Beltane Tour

5.30 a.m. The Coldrum Stones
 10.00 a.m. Southfleet Village
 11.00 a.m. Wrotham Road School,
 Gravesend
 12.00 noon The Robert Pocock,
 Gravesend
 1.30 p.m. Rose & Crown, Wrotham

Sunday 4th May - Rochester Sweeps Festival
 Dancing all day around town &
 Hartley Singers host a Sing-a-Round
 12.30 to 2.30 p.m. Gordon Hotel

May

8th 8.30 p.m. George & Dragon, Tudeley
 9.30 p.m. Dovecote, Capel
 15th 8.30 p.m. Cobham, Walking Tour
 with Headcorn Morris
 22nd 8.30 p.m. Man of Kent, East Peckham
 9.30 p.m. Bush, Blackbird & Thrush,
 East Peckham
 29th 8.00 p.m. Buck's Head, Godden Green
 9.00 p.m. 5 Bells, Seal
 with Plain Capers

June

3rd 8.30 p.m. Plough, Hildenborough
 (Tue) 9.30 p.m. Cock Horse, Hildenborough
 as guests of Ravensbourne
 12th 8.30 p.m. Golden Lion, Luddesdown
 9.30 p.m. Cock, Luddesdown
 with Wolf's Head & Vixen
 19th 8.30 p.m. Golding Hop, Plaxtol
 9.30 p.m. Old House, Ightham
 24th 8.30 p.m. Fen Bell Inn, St. Mary Hoo
 (Tue) with Bishop Gundulf's Morris

Hartley Ale

June 7th & 8th

Your very own Hartley Morris Men will be inviting
 guest teams to enjoy the beauties of Kent.

Squire's Tour - Saturday June 7th
 10.00 a.m. Larkin's Brewery
 11.00 a.m. Bottle House Inn, Smarts Hill
 12.00 noon Leicester Arms, Penshurst
 1.00 p.m. Royal Oak, Haysden
 Bagman's Tour - Saturday June 7th
 10.00 a.m. Goacher's Brewery
 10.45 a.m. Maidstone, Town Centre and
 Town Hall
 12.15 noon The Chequers, Laddingford
 1.15 p.m. The Dovecote, Capel

Tours combine for mass display-
 4.00 p.m. Tonbridge Castle Lawn
 6.00 p.m. Swan, West Peckham

Sunday June 8th

11.00 a.m. Ightham Mote
 12.30 noon Massed Display - Wrotham
 Village Centre

Shepherd Neame Tour

Sponsored by the Best Brewery in Kent.

Saturday July 12th

10.30 a.m. Clock Tower, Herne Bay
 12.30 noon Market Square, Faversham
 2.30 p.m. Shipwrights Arms, Hollowshore
 4.30 p.m. Three Mariners, Oare
 8.00 p.m. Gate, Marshside

Sunday July 13th

12.00 noon Gate, Marshside

The times shown in this programme are English Morris Time (EMT).
 It's unlikely that we will ever appear earlier than stated but thanks to
 the liquid generosity of many landlords we may well be slightly late.

July

3rd 8.30 p.m. Kentish Rifleman,
 Dunks Green
 9.30 p.m. Swan, West Peckham
 9th 8.30 p.m. Wrotham Walking Tour
 (Wed) with Invicta & Motley Morris
 17th 8.30 p.m. Chequers, Crouch
 9.30 p.m. Plough, Basted
 24th 8.30 p.m. Crown & Thistle, Gravesend
 with St. Clement's Clog
 31st 8.30 p.m. White Swan, Ash
 9.30 p.m. Black Horse, Stansted

August

6th 8.30 p.m. Queen's Head, Mereworth
 (Wed) with Wadard Morris Men

Friday 8th to Friday 15th August
 Broadstairs Folk Week

21st 8.30 p.m. Stags Head, Tonbridge
 9.30 p.m. Ivy House, Tonbridge
 28th 8.30 p.m. Rose & Crown, Wrotham

Saturday 4th October
 Tenterden Folk Festival

Friday 26th December - Boxing Day
 12.00 noon Black Horse, Stansted
 1.15 p.m. Rose and Crown, Wrotham

"Dance is the vertical expression of horizontal desire"
 George Bernard Shaw

"My work has brought me into close contact with those
 ultimate anoraks – historical re-enactors and morris dancers –
 all of whom I have found not at all nerdish, but some of the
 funniest, bawdiest, most lascivious people you could ever hope
 to meet. Morris dancing is, after all, about sex and fertility."

Rory McGrath