



"GOOD HEALTH"

With monetary union looming we invite you to help us recycle English money by placing coins of the Realm in our collecting box during the performance. This small gesture of goodwill helps pay for the programme, hire a practice hall and replace dancers bells when they drop off. It also enables us to support various local and national worthy causes each year.

**For further details of our activities,
please send a SAE to:-
15 Henham Gardens,
East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 5PD**

THE HARTLEY MORRIS MEN

"As fit as a Morris for May Day". This quotation from Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* shows that, even in Elizabethan times, morris dancing was a well-established custom in England, although it is likely that this would have been rather different in nature from the morris of today. Nobody knows how old these dances really are, but it is generally believed that they originate from pre-Christian fertility rites relating to animals and crops, traditionally performed at spring time. The costume, being white, was the sacred colour in olden days; the bells were to scare away evil spirits, whilst the rapid movements of the sticks and handkerchiefs were to encourage nature to growth, thus ensuring good returns from the land.

The Hartley Morris Men were founded in Stansted village in 1934. The Second World War put an end to their activities until 1952, when they reformed in Hartley - hence the name. Some 20 years ago the side (as morris teams are known) moved headquarters to Wrotham village, where we are still based.

Every year we start our dancing season at 5.30 a.m. (dawn) on the true May Day (May 1) in the Coldrum Long Barrow, and finish it on Boxing Day at Stansted and Wrotham, when dancing is supplemented by the performance of a traditional mumming play. Early in June other civilised morris men travel to Wrotham to attend our Weekend of Dance and every July for the past 22 years we have enjoyed the hospitality of Shepherd Neame during an exclusive tour of their excellent pubs. Whilst most of our displays are within the Independent Kingdom of Kent, a taste of the orient can also be experienced by joining us during our annual visit to "Raffles" at Yalding.

THE HARTLEY MORRIS MEN



1997 PROGRAMME



THE HARTLEY MORRIS MEN - 1997

Thursday evening tours and other events - for further details tel: 01622 871167



May	8th	8.30 p.m.	Railway, Sole Street
	15th	8.30 p.m.	Stags Head, Tonbridge
		9.30 p.m.	Ivy House, Tonbridge
	22nd	8.30 p.m.	Castle Inn, Chiddingstone
		9.30 p.m.	Wheatsheaf, Bough Beech
29th	8.30 p.m.	Bush, Blackbird & Thrush, East Peckham (with Wadard and Motley Morris Men)	
June	5th	8.30 p.m.	Harrow, Knockholt
		9.30 p.m.	Royal Oak, Shoreham
	12th	8.30 p.m.	Little Brown Jug, Chiddingstone Causeway
		9.30 p.m.	Greyhound, Charcot
	26th	8.30 p.m.	Kentish Rifleman, Dunks Green
9.30 p.m.		The Swan, West Peckham	
July	3rd	8.30 p.m.	Woolpack, Chilham
		9.15 p.m.	White Horse, Chilham (with Offcumduns & Seven Champions)
	10th	8.30 p.m.	Green Man, Hodsoll Street
		9.30 p.m.	Black Horse, Stansted
	17th	8.30 p.m.	"Raffles", Yalding
		9.30 p.m.	Hop Pole, Nettlestead Green
	24th	8.30 p.m.	The Ship, Lower Upnor
		9.30 p.m.	Kings Arms, Upper Upnor
	31st	8.30 p.m.	The Cock, Ide Hill
		9.30 p.m.	Bricklayers Arms, Chipstead
August	21st	8.30 p.m.	White Hart, Cuxton
		9.30 p.m.	The Cock, Luddesdowne
	28th	8.30 p.m.	Chaser, Shipbourne
9.30 p.m.		Three Squirrels, Pittswood	
September 4th	8.30 p.m.	Rose & Crown, Wrotham	

THURSDAY MAY 1st - BELTANE

5.30 a.m.	The Coldrum Stones
10.00 a.m.	Southfleet Village
11.00 a.m.	Kings Arms, Meopham Green
12.00 noon	The Cock, Luddesdowne
1.30 p.m.	Rose & Crown, Wrotham

MAY 17 & 18th - LEEDS CASTLE Festival of Food & Wine

MAY 31st & JUNE 1st - HARTLEY ALE (with guests)

Saturday May 31st - Bagman's Tour (plus Squire's surprise)

10.00 a.m.	Larkins Brewery
11.00 a.m.	The Rock, Chiddingstone Hoath
12.00 noon	Leicester Arms, Penshurst
1.00 p.m.	Royal Oak, Haysden
4.30 p.m.	Tonbridge Castle (Summer Festival)
6.00 p.m.	Massed display at the Swan, West Peckham

Sunday June 1st - Massed Display

12.30 p.m.	Wrotham Village Centre
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JUNE 21st & 22nd - WYRE FOREST ALE

On and around the Severn Valley Railway

JULY 19th & 20th - SHEPHERD NEAME TOUR

Saturday July 19th

10 & 11 a.m.	Faversham Market Place
1.00 p.m.	The Gate, Marshside
4.30 p.m.	Herne Bay Clock Tower
7.00 p.m.	The Alma, Painters Forstal
8.00 p.m.	The Plough, Lewson Street

Sunday July 20th

1.00 p.m.	The Sun, Faversham
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AUGUST 8th-16th - BROADSTAIRS FOLK WEEK

DECEMBER 26th - BOXING DAY

12.00 noon	Black Horse, Stansted
1.15 p.m.	Rose & Crown, Wrotham