

## A BRIEF HISTORY

The present Dartington Morris Men side was formed in 1968. In the early days the side practised in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century "Pillar Studio" at Dartington Hall near Totnes, Devon. Whilst practising and contemplating a name for the side, Leonard Elmhirst, a founder of the Dartington Hall Trust, informed the men that he had once danced the Morris. He suggested that the side call themselves The Dartington Morris Men and use the Dartington crest of a white hart on a red rose, the crest of Richard II and John Holland (who was given the manor of Dartington for services rendered in battle.)

Two previous Dartington Morris sides are known to have danced in the Totnes area; one at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the other in the 1930s. One of these sides apparently danced in bare feet.

The side consists of male dancers, male and female musicians, our horse "Champerowne", a pair of Fools. We perform Cotswold dances from a number of traditions and we are unique in performing dances from the Filkins tradition.

## THE FILKINS DANCES

We are proud performers of dances from the lost "Filkins" tradition, reconstructed from scant evidence by Christopher Farr, a respected and well-known member of our side. Filkins is a village in Oxfordshire; it is believed that Morris was danced there in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (more fully described on our website). There are currently five dances and a jig, which we alone perform.

## MORRIS DANCES

The English Morris is performed traditionally by men and women and may have its origin in pagan fertility rites, although the present form of dance is more recent. The name "Morris" may be derived from "Moorish", in reference to a dance style based on the Spanish "Moros y Cristianos" ("Moors and Christians"). This may have been first introduced to England through the household of John of Gaunt and Constance of Castile, following John of Gaunt's active involvement in the politics of Northern Spain during the Hundred Years War. Related dancing spread to other European countries too, but it was in England that the dance form thrived. For more detailed history and fascinating stories, please visit our website.

## THE MORRIS RING [www.themorrisring.org](http://www.themorrisring.org)

The Morris Ring is a national association of Morris clubs and is concerned with maintaining the traditions and performance of the Morris in its various forms, including Mummers' plays. Dartington MM was admitted to membership of the Morris Ring in 1978.

For further information about

## Dartington Morris Men

including bookings, enquiries, or joining us

contact the Bagman

email: [bagman@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk](mailto:bagman@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk)

or visit our website:

[dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk](http://dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk)

or follow us on Facebook & Twitter:

[fb.com/dartingtonmorris](https://fb.com/dartingtonmorris) @DartingtonMM

### Bagman: Martin Jones

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### Squire: Dan Shearer

[squire@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk](mailto:squire@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk)

### Foreman: Stephen Holley

[foreman@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk](mailto:foreman@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk)

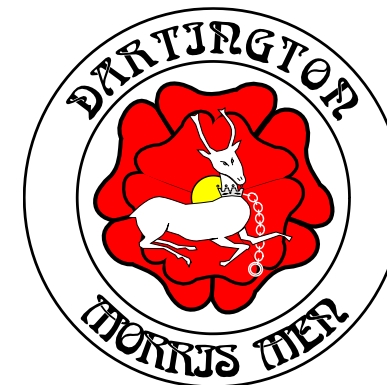
### Photograph collection

Copies of your photographs of the Dartington Morris Men in action would be very much appreciated. Please email them to [Tim Sercombe: photos@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk](mailto:photos@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk)

## Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Dartington Morris was formed in 1968 and first practised at Dartington Hall and 2018 sees our side as strong as ever. We are focusing our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations on our Day of Morris Dancing on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September in Dartmouth with invited Morris sides from near and far. Please join us to help us celebrate!

# Dartington Morris Men



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Programme 2018

[dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk](http://dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk)

# Where to see Dartington Morris Men in Summer & Autumn 2018

For our regular Friday evenings out, our start time is 8.00pm unless stated otherwise. Dancing usually takes place outdoors and may be affected by the weather. We make every effort to dance as advertised, but reserve the right to alter times, dates, venues of performances if necessary. Please check our website or contact the Bagman for the latest information.

## MAY

### Tuesday 1 May (May Day)

Totnes castle: dancing at dawn 5:30am

### Friday 4 May

The Tally Ho, Littlehempston 8:00pm

### Friday 11 May

Durant Arms, Ashprington 8:00pm

### Fri 18 May

London Inn, Plympton 8:00pm

### Saturday 26 May

Tamar Valley Morris Tour 11:00am  
with guests Plymouth Morris

## JUNE

### Saturday 2 June

Buckfast Abbey Millennium 1:00pm  
Garden Fair & 3:00pm

### Thursday 7 June

Church House Inn, 8:00pm  
Stokeinteignhead, as guests of  
Beltane Border Morris

### Friday 15 June

Church House Inn, Harberton 8:00pm

### Sunday 24 June

Camphill Community Centre, 12:00pm  
near Buckfast (private event) to 2:00pm

### Friday 29 June - Sunday 1 July

Whitchurch Morris 70th  
Anniversary, Aylesbury, Bucks

## JULY

### Friday 6 July

Ship Inn, Noss Mayo 8:00pm

Dolphin Inn, Newton Ferrers, 8:45pm  
with guests Plymouth Morris

### Saturday 14 July

Totnes Town Centre 11:00am

### Friday 20 July

Brixham Harbourside 8:00pm

### Friday 27 July

Start Bay Inn, Torcross 8:00pm

## AUGUST

### Saturday 4 August

Sidmouth Folk Festival

### Friday 10 August

Church House Inn, Stoke Gabriel 8:00pm

### Thursday 16 August

Salcombe Town Regatta 7:30pm

### Saturday 25 August

Dartmouth Royal Regatta Fete 11:30am

Totnes: Sea Change Festival 3:00pm

## SEPTEMBER

### Saturday 1 September

Durant Arms, Ashprington: Beer 4:00pm  
Festival

### Saturday 8 September

Dartington Morris Men 50<sup>th</sup> 11:00am  
Anniversary Day of Dance, to 4:00pm  
Dartmouth, with over 10 guest  
teams from near and far

### Friday 14 September

Dolphin Inn, Kingston 8:00pm

## NOVEMBER

### Thursday 1 November

Bonfire night, Galmpton 8:00pm