

A BRIEF HISTORY

The present Dartington Morris Men side was formed in 1968. In the early days the side practised in the 13th 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 19th 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 "Champernowne" and a pair of Fools. We perform Cotswold dances from a number of traditions and we are unique in performing dances from the Filkins tradition. We also include a North Skelton Longsword dance in our repertoire.

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 19th 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

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 Mummer's plays. Dartington MM was admitted to membership of the Morris Ring in 1978.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

We practise on Friday evenings, 8pm-10pm, from October to April at Dartington Primary School near Totnes, where a warm welcome awaits new dancers. We also arrange special workshops for new members that want to join us during the summer months. For more information, please contact us using the details below.

Bagman - Martin Jones: bagman@dtmm.uk

Squire - Dan Shearer: squire@dtmm.uk

Foreman - Stephen Holley: foreman@dtmm.uk

For further info about
Dartington Morris Men

including bookings,
enquiries, or joining us

email the Bagman:

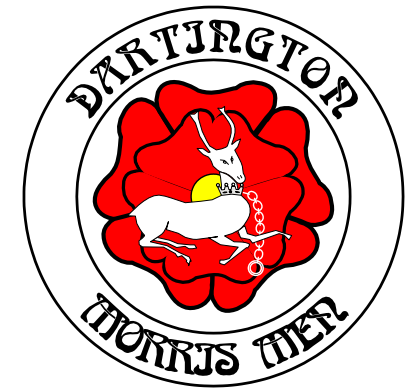
bagman@dtmm.uk

Website: <https://dtmm.uk>

Facebook: [fb.com/dartingtonmorris](https://www.facebook.com/dartingtonmorris)

Twitter: [@DartingtonMM](https://twitter.com/DartingtonMM)

Dartington Morris Men Programme 2019



Where to see Dartington Morris Men in Summer & Autumn 2019

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

Wednesday 1 May (May Day)

Totnes castle: dancing at dawn 5:30am

Friday 3 May

The Tally Ho, Littlehempston 8:00pm

Friday 10 May

Church House Inn, Harberton 8:00pm

Friday 17 May

Monk's Retreat, Broadhempston 8:00pm

Friday 24 May

Cott Inn, Dartington 11:00am

Monday 27 May

East Devon train tour

JUNE

Saturday 1 June

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

Cott Inn Beer Festival, Dartington 4:00pm

Friday 7 June

Church House Inn, Torbryan 8:00pm

Sunday 9 June

Rowcroft Hospice Garden Party 1:45pm
(*event is from 12pm to 4pm*)

Friday 14 June

Dartmouth town pub tour 8:00pm

Monday 17 June

Honda Deauville m/c club, Paignton 8:00pm
(*private event*)

Friday 21 June

Ship Inn, Noss Mayo & 8:00pm
Dolphin Inn, Newton Ferrers 9:00pm
with guests Plymouth Morris

Friday 28 June

Pilchard Inn, Burgh Island 8:00pm

JULY

Friday 5 July

Horse & Groom, Bittaford 8:00pm

Friday 12 July

Totnes Brewing Co & 8:00pm

Bay Horse Inn, Totnes 9:00pm

Friday 19 – Sunday 21 July

Jockey MM & Shakespeare MM
Morris Ring Meeting, Warwickshire

Saturday 27 July

Brixham harbour 4:00pm
(then Joe's birthday party)

AUGUST

Saturday 3 August

Sidmouth Folk Festival 11:00am

Thursday 8 August

Salcombe Town Regatta 7:30pm

Saturday 10 August

Private wedding, Dartington Hall 8:00pm

Friday 16 August

Millbrook Inn, South Pool 8:00pm

Saturday 24 August

Dartmouth Royal Regatta Fete 1:30pm

Totnes Carnival Fete 4:00pm

Friday 30 August

Start Bay Inn, Torcross & 8:00pm

Tap House, South Hams Brewery 9:00pm

SEPTEMBER

Friday 6 September

Dolphin Inn, Kingston (final Friday
night out of the summer) 8:00pm

Saturday 14 September

Dartington Morris Men's Day of
Dance, Totnes, with guests 11am
to 3pm