

Greensleeves Morris Men - your questions answered

Where does morris dancing come from and how old is it?

Morris is as English as you can get. It's recorded in this country as early as the mid 15th century, and is certainly much older.

Why do you do it?

Sheer enjoyment. Morris dancing is an energetic, sociable and thoroughly recommendable pastime!

And Greensleeves Morris Men?

Founded in 1926 as one of the earliest 'revival' sides, we've been based in Wimbledon since 1980. Our programme includes local tours and events, trips to several parts of the UK and occasionally abroad. We've also been on TV and radio shows.

Men only?

Greensleeves support the tradition of men's morris, but we are a family-friendly club and wives, partners and children are very welcome at our events.

What are you wearing?

Like all morris sides, we have our own distinctive 'kit': breeches, baldricks (cross sashes), and the green 'sleeves' (armbands), awarded to men who have completed their apprenticeship and 'danced in'. Bells and handkerchiefs emphasise movements of the dancers' feet and hands – or, if you prefer, scare away evil spirits.

We're recruiting now!

Experience the energy and enjoyment of the morris at one of our FREE open evenings any Friday in September or any Friday practice.

We also welcome players of suitable instruments. You should be reasonably fit, have a sense of rhythm and enjoy teamwork – we'll teach you the rest.

We practise on Friday evenings at 8 p.m. from September to April at South Wimbledon Community Centre (rear annexe), Haydens Road, South Wimbledon, SW19 1HL.

(The Centre is a short walk from South Wimbledon underground station and several bus routes.)

Music and song

All are welcome to Greensleeves' monthly Sunday evening music session in the Hand in Hand, Crooked Billet, SW19 4RQ. Bring an instrument, a song, a poem, or just come and listen. Forthcoming dates:

26 June 24 July 21 August 25 September 30 October

For details of all our activities see our website:

www.greensleevesmorris.org.uk

or phone our Bagman Gerald Killingworth on 020 8947 1126

bagman@greensleevesmorris.org.uk

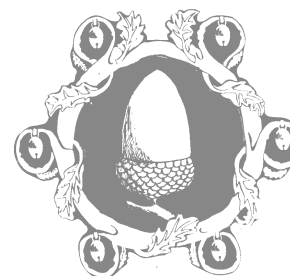
Greensleeves Morris Men 2011 Summer Programme



Hankies fly at Windmill Tearooms, Wimbledon Common, May Day 2010

Greensleeves Morris Men

- ❖ leading London morris dancing club
- ❖ passionate about English traditional dance and music
- ❖ entertaining Wimbledon and the world since 1926



www.greensleevesmorris.org.uk

2011 summer programme

So far this year . . .

We danced up the sun at the Wimbledon Common windmill at 5.30 a.m. on May Day morning to a small but select audience, and danced our way from Wimbledon Common to Morden Hall Park.

We danced adjacent to various hostelrys in Clapham, Brentford, and Wimbledon and joined our friends East Surrey Morris Men for a weekend of dance based around Rye, East Sussex.

At the beginning of June we joined the Morris Ring in helping Thaxted Morris Men celebrate their centenary with a magnificent weekend of dance in their beautiful Essex village.

Forthcoming events

Friday 17 June – Hamming it up

8.00 pm The Triple Crown, Kew Foot Road, Richmond. OK, England didn't win it this year, but it's still a good pub, tucked away in the Richmond back streets.

9.00 pm The New Inn, Petersham Road, Ham Common. Rural village atmosphere to this (actually old) pub overlooking the common.

Saturday 18 June – Wimbledon Village Fair

Come to our displays and workshops by our stall at the Fair - handkerchiefs provided. Chances for everyone to try dancing the Morris throughout the day.

Performances at **12.30 pm** opposite the **Rose and Crown** and on the **main stage** at **1.45 pm**.

Wednesday 22 June – Thames Tour

We join **Spring Grove Morris Men** for their midsummer tour on the banks of the Thames, this year celebrating the centenary of the revival of morris dancing in Kingston in 1911 (more than 400 years after it was first recorded there).

We dance at The White Cross, Water Lane, Richmond and The Barmy Arms, The Embankment, Twickenham.

Saturday 25 June – Datchet Day of Dance

Datchet Border Morris host a day of dance in the Windsor area to celebrate 50 years since their club's formation

Friday 1 July – Harrow Hop

We venture to the foreign territory of north London

8.00 pm The Castle 30 West Street, Harrow on the Hill.

Possibly Churchill's local when he was at school. Or possibly not.

9.00 pm The White Horse 50 Middle Road, Harrow.

Not quite as famous as Westbury or Uffington - but a nice airy pub on a hillside.

8-10 July – Chipperfield Ring Meeting

We host another meeting of the Morris Ring based around this lovely village in Hertfordshire, with six guest sides. Catching up with old friends, eating, drinking, singing, and of course dancing, in superb country spots.

The 50th anniversary of this major event in our calendar. See our website www.greensleevesmorris.org.uk for details.

Friday 15 July – South Wimbledon Wanderers

8.00 pm The Sultan, Deburgh Road, SW19

Where you'll find us after 10.00 p.m. on Friday nights in the practice season.

We don't want to get withdrawal symptoms do we?

9.00 pm The Trafalgar, High Path, SW19

Superb street corner pub – one of our favourites

Sunday 17 July – Morden Hall Green Day Out Festival

We dance at this family fun day with the emphasis on green living and eco-friendly products. See our website for times.

Saturday 27 August – East Sussex Tour

A Day of Dance somewhere in Sussex – details to be announced. Part of a sociable weekend always much enjoyed by club members and their families.

See our website www.greensleevesmorris.org.uk for details.

Saturday 24 September – Surbiton Carnival

Like the one in Rio but less inhibited.

At **11.00 am** we dance for the revellers outside **Surbiton Railway Station**. Then we join in the Grand Procession at **12.00 noon** downhill all the way to the pub.

Saturday 12 November – Lord Mayor's Show Day

Crowds attend this ancient ceremony in the City of London. They also see the Lord Mayor's Procession. We finish up in amazing Art Nouveau surroundings in Blackfriars.

10.30 am Bankside, outside **Shakespeare's Globe**, SE1

12.30 pm Peter's Hill, EC4

From around **1.00 pm The Black Friar**, Queen Victoria Street, EC4, followed by singing and tunes in the pub until the firework display at 5.00 p.m.

Friday 16 December - Mumming Tour

The **Famous Wimbledon Mummers Play**: traditional folk drama combined with biting contemporary satire. An ancient tradition going back at least 10 years.

8.00 pm The Sultan, Deburgh Road, SW19

9.00 pm The Trafalgar, High Path, SW19

Monday 26 December – Boxing Day Tour

including the Famous Wimbledon Mummers Play

Our traditional **Boxing Day** tour of Wimbledon

has become a popular seasonal feature in our programme.

We give a private show at Rosemary Lodge nursing home, followed by:

12.15 pm Opposite the **Rose and Crown**, Wimbledon High Street, SW19

1.15 pm **The Hand in Hand** and **The Crooked Billet**, Crooked Billet, SW19