

News - August and Early September 2016

August is generally a quiet month because people go on holidays and leave the side short of dancers, so our events this month were limited to a couple of evenings at pubs, namely the Royal Oak at Fritham with Bourne River Morris Men, and the Four Horseshoes at Nursling with The New Forest Meddlars.

September and October will bring the few last events of the season, including an appearance at Longdown Activity Farm, Apple Days at Minstead Study Centre and Manor Farm, and the Southdowns Festival in Bognor Regis.

However, if you have been sufficiently interested in Morris dance in general, and Deorfrith in particular, to read these news blogs on our website, the most important thing you need to know is that we have a 'Morris Taster Session' scheduled this month.

Come along on Tuesday 20th September to Deorfrith Lodge, Wellands Road, Lyndhurst, at 8:30 pm, and join us in learning a new dance. No previous experience is needed, but if you have ever danced at a barn dance or ceilidh, or remember country dancing at school, you may find some of the steps and moves familiar. You don't need any special clothing or equipment, just training shoes and comfortable clothing. If you play a musical instrument (anything EXCEPT the trombone) you are also welcome, whether or not you wish to dance. We look forward to meeting you.

Scroll down for the July news.....

News – July 2016

July has been a month of scorching temperatures, and plenty of dancing, just what you want in a proper Summer.

Our first evening engagement of the month was at the Hampshire Bowman in Dundridge, a lovely pub deep in beautiful Hampshire countryside, and one we visit every year. Unfortunately our friends



Wickham Morris were unable to join us, but we made the most of having the audience to ourselves, and entertained a large group of people who arrived on a collection of classic motorcycles.



The following weekend was Romsey Beggars Fair, again a regular event on our calendar. We danced at three



venues in the town, sharing two of them with Moonshine Morris, who had come all the way from the Isle of Wight, and one with Guith Morris, both of whom danced in the Border tradition in contrast to our mainly Cotswold repertoire.

Later in the month we went to Manor Farm in Bursledon, to dance at their Country Fair. This venue is a lovely place to visit, in attractive countryside



deceptively close to the City of Southampton. We danced three spots, and at two of them had a sufficient number of youngsters in the audience to include in our famous audience-participation dance, Country Gardens.

The following Wednesday we went a little out of our usual geographic range to join our good friends, Martlet Sword and Morris Men, in Emsworth Square, where we had a very large and enthusiastic audience enjoying a varied display of Cotswold and Sword dancing, ending in a joint



performance of "Bonny Green Garters" at break-neck speed.

Our last engagement of the month was Damerham Fair. This annual event is one of our favourites, it's a very well organised, well-attended,



finished the day in the nearby pub for a well-earned drink.

proper old-fashioned country fair. On a boiling-hot afternoon. we danced between performances of the brass band and the ferret races, and

Our diary for August consists of evening appearances in local pubs – do check the fixtures list on our website and come and see us.

Look for our earlier news letters on the home page, 'news archive' button of our website.