

The Deorfrith Dance Diary

May 2014

If you don't count Mayday early morning and evening and the Mayday tour on the 3rd, Deorfrith started their dance season at North Baddesley Village Day on May 17th. Dancing outside the beer tent (where else?) under bright skies we were full of enthusiasm for the new season and even managed to be all off the ground at the same time – sometimes. This was a very busy event with lots going on but those visitors who stopped to watch seemed to enjoy the display and we were even invited to teach the WI in the Autumn. Unfortunately there is no picture of the sustaining snack eaten by one member but it is hoped that this area of the side's adventures will be a regular feature in these diary pages.



On the evening of May 20th we arrived at our 'local', the Crown Stirrup in Lyndhurst. Unfortunately it was a damp evening and the air was very heavy with small, whining, biting inhabitants of the New Forest - but no humans. We gave it a go but against such uneven odds we fairly quickly gave up and retired indoors. Note to self – take more insect repellent next time!



The late May bank holiday saw a reduced side (due to mechanical failure) at the pretty town of Dulverton for the festival. Unfortunately the weather was awful. This picture clearly shows the joy felt when completing a dance without getting wet.



A few other hardy sides braved the English weather and managed to entertain the rain-coated spectators, who must have had their belief, that morris dancers are mad, confirmed.

However, we had a fun weekend, doing what dancing we could, avoiding the downpours (reluctantly !) in tea shops and pubs, discovering a wonderful B&B and joining in sessions in the Town Hall.



Our final outing in May was a much sunnier event. We joined the many dance sides and musicians and huge audiences in holiday mood at the Wessex Folk Festival. The sun shone, the atmosphere was great and there was loads of dancing to do.



A musician was even seen to smile!
At the end of a long day a few members could be found enjoying a good meal and a beverage or two in a local hostelry. What a surprise!