

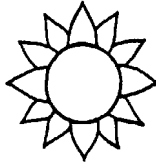
The Travelling Morrice

(Founded 1924)

136th Tour of the Travelling Morrice, 2008

Public displays of Cotswold Morris dances will be given as follows. Times and places are subject to alteration without notice, if required by weather and local conditions.

<u>Monday 28th July</u>	10.30 Nr. Caton	Crook O' Lune Bridge
	12.00 Lancaster	Market Square
	1.00 Lancaster	Three Mariners
	2.30 Lancaster	The Maritime Museum
	6.00 Heaton with Oxcliffe	The Golden Ball
	8.00 Brookhouse	Black Bull
<u>Tuesday 29th July</u>	10.30 Kirkby Lonsdale	Church Mouse Cheese Shop
	12.30 Nr. Sizergh	Strickland Arms
	2.00 Levens	Levens Hall
	3.00 Levens	Levens Hall
	4.30 Arnside	Jetty
	7.30 Whittington	Dragon's Head
<u>Wednesday 30th July</u>	10.00 Wray	Bridge House Tea Room
	11.00 Low Bentham	Sun Dial Inn
	12.15 Arkholme	Bay Horse Hotel
	2.00 Nr. Arkholme	Docker Park Farm
	4.00 Slaidburn	Riverside Tea Rooms
	5.30 Newton in Bowland	Parker's Arms
	7.30 Low Bentham	Punch Bowl
<u>Thursday 31st July</u>	10.00 Carnforth	The Canal Turn
	12.30 Morecambe	Eric's Statue
	2.00 Morecambe	Stone Jetty
	4.30 Heysham	The Royal Hotel
	6.30 Hornby	Royal Oak
	7.45 Wray	Bridge House Bistro
	9.15 Wray	George and Dragon
<u>Friday 1st August</u>	11.00 Galgate	Canalside Craft Centre
	12.30 Conder Green	The Stork
	3.00 Glasson Dock	Port of Lancashire Smokehouse
	4.00 Glasson Dock	Dalton Arms
	6.30 Galgate	The Plough
	8.00 Nr. Arkholme	Redwell Inn
<u>Saturday 2nd August</u>	10.30 Settle	Town Hall
	12.30 Clapham	New Inn
	2.00 Nr. Ingleton	White Scar Caves
	4.30 Ribbleshead Viaduct	Station Inn
	6.15 Thornton in Lonsdale	Marton Arms
	7.45 Tatham	Bridge Inn



About Ourselves

The Travelling Morrice (TM) literally means 'Travelling Group of Morris Dancers', also it avoids confusion with the artist William Morris or the motor company.

The first tour of the Travelling Morrice was in June 1924 and there have generally been one or two tours per year since then. This is the 136th. The TM last visited the area in 1976. Some of those 1976 men are on this tour and we are dancing at some of the same spots.

Many of the morris dances performed today were rescued by members of early Travelling Morrice tours from the old dancers, morris dancing having then virtually died out in the villages.

Members of the Travelling Morrice come from all over the country to join the tours.

About Morris Dancing

The origins of morris dancing are now lost to us but the dances were probably celebrating the return of Spring. Recent research has found references to morris dancing back as far as 1458.

Until the mid 19th century, almost every village in the English Cotswolds had its own team, dancing at Whitsuntide its own version of the morris dances. In other parts similar dances survived such as in Derbyshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and Staffordshire, as well as Longsword and Rapper sword dances.

Late Victorian social change brought about the abandonment of Morris Dancing in most of the country but the revival dates from Boxing Day 1899 when Cecil Sharp first saw the Headington Quarry side near Oxford. Up until his death in 1924 he obtained many dances and tunes from the surviving dancers and then passed his knowledge on. The Travelling Morrice and others then continued his work to preserve English dances for future generations.