

## About Peterborough Morris

Peterborough Morris was formed in October 1979. We dance the traditions (styles) of many Cotswold villages.

The costume of Peterborough Morris is straw hats decorated with flowers and short blue and yellow ribbons dangling from brim at the rear. White shirts, crossed blue baldrics with yellow piping, proudly displaying a badge of the City of Peterborough's shield of cross keys. Peterborough Morris wear black knee-breeches with white socks and black shoes.

Peterborough Morris dance out during the summer from May to September and each Tuesday evening at 8 pm during the winter, we practice. Any man interested in the dance or music of the Morris will be welcomed at these Practice-sessions. Please contact the Bagman for details.

Whilst we are an all-male ritual dance side, we are family-oriented and our families regularly join us and support the events at which we perform.

We encourage male and female traditional dancing of all kinds and have friends in other local sides. We can contact and pass on details to anyone who is interested in other forms of traditional dance.

## About Morris Dancing

The origins of Morris dancing are uncertain. It is thought to be the remnant of pre-Christian rituals, which may have been used to promote the cycle of the seasons and plentiful harvests. In more recent times Morris men have been regarded as the bringers of good luck; entertaining their communities in return for refreshment.

There are many costumed seasonal ritual performers in the tradition of Morris Dancing. In Tyneside, dancers use flexible 'rappers' (metal strips with handles at both ends, designed for scraping hides). In the North East dancers also use long swords. Both these types of dance were traditionally celebrated around New Year. In the North West, the Clog Morris is associated with 'Rush Carting' around August time. Border Morris (from the Borders of Wales) who black their faces, have not been so well documented, and so less information survives about this tradition.

To most people, particularly in Southern England, Morris is associated with Cotswold Morris. This style of Morris is characterised by predominantly white clothing, the waving of white handkerchiefs or the clashing of sticks by dancers wearing pads of small bells tied to the shins of their shins.

## Want to Have a Go

Peterborough Morris are always looking for new dancers and musicians. If Morris Dancing interests you and you are the kind of man who feels that you might enjoy being part of the continuing tradition of the Morris. We are currently recruiting and we welcome anyone who wants to come along, have a go, and see what it is all about.

**For membership details  
or bookings  
contact the Bagman:**

**Address:**

Martin Green  
222 Station Rd,  
Whittlesey,  
Peterborough PE7 2HA

**Tel:**

Evening: (01733) 206627

**email:**

[bagman@peterboroughmorris.co.uk](mailto:bagman@peterboroughmorris.co.uk)

**Web site:**

[www.peterboroughmorris.co.uk](http://www.peterboroughmorris.co.uk)

## Events

### May

**Thursday 01 May 5:27 am**

Dancing in the dawn  
Peterborough Custom's House on  
the Quay.

**Saturday 3 May All Day**

Spalding Tulip Parade

**Monday 5 May 12 - 2pm**

Springfield shopping centre  
Spalding

**Sunday 25 May 4pm - 6pm**

German Friendship day  
Parson Drove

### June

**Saturday 28 June 11am - 4pm**

Hemmingford Abbots Open  
Gardens

### July

**Saturday 12 July 12 - 4pm**

John Clare Festival  
Helpston

## Pub Nights

Tuesday 3 June 8:00 pm

Angel, Yarwell

Tuesday 10 June 8:00 pm

Prince of Wales, Castor

Tuesday 17 June 8:00 pm

Red Lion, Spalding

Tuesday 24 June 8:00 pm

Ship, Oundle

Tuesday 8 July 8:00 pm

Five Horseshoes, Barholme

Tuesday 15 July 8:00 pm

Bluebell, Whaplode St Catherines

Tuesday 22 July 8:00 pm

Swan Inn, Parson Drove

Tuesday 29 July 8:00 pm

Millstone, Barnack

Tuesday 5 August 8:00 pm

The Hit or Miss, Stamford

# Peterborough Morris



## 2008 Performance Calendar