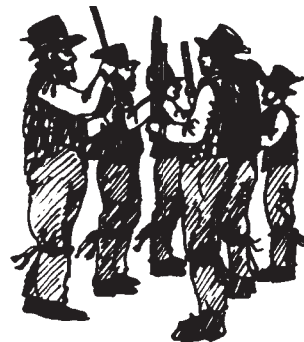


Hook Eagle



Programme 1996



April

- Fri 19 8:00pm Beerfest at the Falcon, Rotherwick
Fri 26 8:00pm Farnham Beerex, 1996 - The Maltings,
Farnham
Sun 28 7:30pm Hart and Sole warmup, Wellington College,
Crowthorne

May

- Wed 1 dawn Dancing in the Dawn by the plough in Hook car park
Fri 3 to Mon 6 Sweeps Festival, Rochester Kent
Fri 10 8:00pm The Swan, N Warnborough
9:00pm The Lord Derby, N Warnborough
Fri 17 8:00pm The Fox and Goose, Greywell
9:00pm The Anchor, N Warnborough
Sun 19 1:30pm and 3pm Hackwood Park Country Fair, Basingstoke
Fri 24 8:00pm with Mayflower Morris, The Wagon and Horses, Hartley
Wintney
9:00pm The Cricketers, Hartley Wintney
Fri 31 8:00pm The Royal Oak, Lasham
9:00pm The Golden Pot, Shaldon

June

- Sun 2 1:00pm and 2pm Holiday Inn, Caversham
Fri 7 to Sun 9 Wimborne Folk Festival
Tue 11 8:45pm The Hatchgate, Bramshill with Yateley Morris
Fri 14 8:00pm The George, Odiham
9:00pm The Bell, Odiham
Sat 15 11:30am Grange School Fete, Farnborough
2:00pm Church Fete, Hook
Fri 21 8:00pm The Hoddington Arms, Upton Grey
9:00pm The Four Horseshoes, Long Sutton
Sat 22 noon HUMP day of Dance, Hurst
Fri 28 8:00pm Away with Kintbury May Maids

Morris Men

July

- Fri 5 to Sun 7 Lobster Potties Festival, Sheringham Norfolk
Tue 9 8:00pm The Lord Derby, N. Warnborough with
Basingclog
Fri 12 8:00pm Bartons Mill, Old Basing
9:00pm The Red Lion, Waterend
Sat 13 3:00pm and 4pm Hants Voluntary, 50th Anniver-
sary, Basingstoke
6:30pm Whitewater School, Rotherwick
Fri 19 8:00pm With Alton MM, Dorchester Arms, Hook
9:00pm The Old House at Home, Newnham
Fri 26 8:00pm The White Hart Hotel, Hook
9:00pm The Crooked Billet, Hook

August

- Fri 2 to Fri 9 Sidmouth International Folk Festival
Sun 25 noon The Watercress Line, twinning celebrations
with Sourdeval, Alresford Station

September (Lunchtimes)

- Sun 8 The Coach and Horses/Falcon - Rotherwick
Sun 15 The Raven/Crooked Billet - Hook
Fri 20 to Sun 22 Hook Eagle's Weekend of Dance
Sun 29 The Chequers, Well (Nr Odiham)

This programme is subject to
change without notice

CAMRA

Pub of the Season, 1995



7 Real Ales
Bar Snacks and Meals
Warm Friendly Atmosphere
Occasional Bars Catered for

The Legg Family wish Hook Eagle Morris Men every success for the 1996 dance season

The Falcon, The Street, Rotherwick, Hampshire. Tel: (01256) 762586

The Old House at Home

Tylney Lane, Newnham Green, Near Hook, RG27 9AH

Telephone/Fax No: (01256)762222



You'll find us located at Newnham, at the back of the green, where a warm welcome awaits you. We have many fine ales and much home-cooked food available. We can cater for parties, and large parties can have sole use of the barn if they wish.

The reason that the Morris developed along the Welsh border first, rather than the Scottish border, was simply that it was not necessary because of Hadrian's Wall. However as the wall fell into disrepair, the Morris also developed in the north of England to compensate, but being developed later, was somewhat more subtle. The warning to potential invaders from Scotland wearing kilts is obvious when you consider that Morris dancing in the north is either performed in heavy wooden clogs involving a lot of high kicking, or involves the use of swords.

These days, Morris dancing is still uniquely English, but is now performed to entertain rather than to frighten.

Having started from humble beginnings just five years ago, the Hook Eagle Morris Men perform dances in the Border Morris style, and have had such meteoric success that we are now universally regarded as being simply the best men's Border Morris side in all Hampshire. By a strange twist of coincidences, we are also the **only** men's Border Morris side in all Hampshire.

The Crooked Billet, London Road, Hook, Hampshire



Richard and Sally Sanders are your friendly hosts and have been here since 1986. Refreshment comes in a wide range of beers and drinks, accompanied by an excellent choice of home-cooked food. Meals are available at lunchtime and in the evening. You can enjoy your food as you sit in the pleasant garden by the river, or sit by the welcoming open log fires on a cold winter's night. Children are most welcome.

Telephone 01256-762118

Hook

Morris



Eagle

Men

Many theories have been proposed as to the origins of the Morris. The commonest theory is that it is a remnant of pre-Christian druidical fertility rites, and used to be danced in midwinter to ensure the return of the sun after the winter solstice and in spring to ensure that the corn fields would grow and flourish. There are many factors which appear to prove this theory: (1) To this day the Morris is still traditionally performed at Christmas time, and at dawn on May 1st. (2) The connection between fertility and the long, thick and hard sticks used by Morris dancers is obvious. (3) There continues to be an unshakeable association between the Morris and the mighty Barleycorn (in the form of partaking of the fermented extract thereof). (4) Because the Morris has continued to be danced throughout the centuries, the sun has continued to return every spring, and the corn harvest to thrive every summer. That the sun has returned and the corn grown every year is beyond doubt, so this is regarded as the most incontrovertible proof of the power of the Morris.

Another theory has it that Morris dancing was in fact only invented recently by a certain Cecil Sharp, Esq., on Boxing Day 1899, when he came across a group of itinerant quarrymen, and taught them a some simple exercises to help them keep warm.

However, recent research has revealed the true origins of the Morris dance. It is now accepted that Border Morris, which comes from the English counties along the border between England and Wales, is in fact the oldest form. It is also the simplest and most violent, involving loud yells and beating the hell out of each other with stout sticks. It derives from a ritual display as performed by the English when any Welshmen dared to venture across the border. The English, being in those days by nature xenophobic, devised the dance to illustrate to the Welshmen what they should expect if they were to venture any further. This can be compared with the posturing of other species of wild animals, in which the animals rarely actually fight with each other, but simply try to frighten each other off by putting on the fiercest display. This also explains the outlandish appearance of Border Morris dancers, and the blacked faces used as a disguise to make themselves harder to recognise at any subsequent police identity parade.

THE WHITE HART HOTEL

London Road, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9DZ
Telephone: (01256) 762462 Fax: (01256) 768351



The White Hart was originally a 16th Century coaching inn and still retains a large number of original beams. Now, on winter nights, open fires provide that unmistakable English character and a warm welcome

21 En Suite letting bedrooms including Four-poster and family rooms.

Reduced Rates are available at weekends.

The White Hart offers a wide selection of Real Ales, Bottled Lagers and Fine Wines plus an extensive food menu

Families and Pets Welcome

Jane and Eric Henderson

Designed and Typeset by
Mike Lanng
Broomsticks Cottage Industries
Basingstoke, Hants



Information

**For further
information or
bookings contact:**

Squire - Richard Walton 01252-875511

Bagman - John Ellis 01256-768740

Please contact either of the above for bookings

Webmaster - Mike Lanng 01256-816902

Find us on the World Wide Web at:

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Mike_Lanng/hookeagl.htm

Practice Night

Every Friday from 8pm - 10pm during the winter. Please contact one of us for details of venue. We always welcome new members. No experience is required. Please come and join us.

Notes

Hook Eagle Morris Men, as always, assure our spectators of health, wealth, happiness and fertility. (Strike out those which do not apply)

Please note that, as our dance is performed under the open skies, our venues may be cancelled in the case of inclement weather. We will, however, make every effort to satisfy you - sometimes even to the extent of wearing wellies and carrying umbrellas.

Hook Eagle Morris are members of the Morris Federation

