



For further information or bookings contact:

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Please contact the above for bookings

Webmaster - Mike Lanng 01732 842862

Practice **Night** mike@lanng.demon.co.uk

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. Hook Eagle Morris are members of the Morris Federation

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.

www: <http://www.lanng.demon.co.uk/hookeagl.htm>

CAMRA

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The Legg Family wish Hook Eagle Morris Men every success for the 1998 dance season

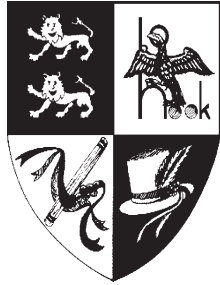
The Falcon, The Street, Rotherwick, Hampshire. Tel: (01256) 762586

Hook Eagle Morris Men Programme

1998



Hook Morris



Eagle Men

A guide to some of the Hook Eagle dances.

The dances performed by the Hook Eagle Morris Men come from a number of different sources. Some of them are loosely derived from so-called 'traditional' dances, some we have made up for ourselves, and the rest are simply stolen. It is a feature of the Hook Eagle dance style that every now and then somebody will make what appears to be a mistake. Do not be taken in. When this happens it is actually a carefully choreographed manoeuvre, designed to demonstrate how difficult our dances really are. If we were to perform them perfectly every time, as we could do of course, you might get the impression that they were easy. The fact that somebody goes the wrong way during a dance or just stands there looking completely lost in such a totally convincing manner, is a testament to the hours of effort that they have put into perfecting their performance skills over the winter practice season.

Brimfield

This is about the most traditionally traditional dance in our repertoire, since we do it virtually as it is meant to be done. It comes from the tiny village of Brimfield, not far from Worcester. Brimfield being such a small place, this dance is only for four people, which was probably the entire village population at the time it was invented.

The Dilwyn Stick Dance

This is the one where you, the audience, get to have a go, but note that you do so entirely at your own risk. It is a traditional dance that derives either from the village of Stick Dance or from the village of Dilwyn, depending upon who you believe. My own opinion is that the village of Dilwyn is so small that it is very unlikely that there can ever have been enough people living there to form a Morris side...

Hook Tandoori

We think that dances should be called after villages or traditional features of the English rural landscape, and this one is no exception. This dance differs from most of the rest of our repertoire, since it is performed in a straight line. During the chorus be prepared to help sing the praises of our favorite Teletubby.



London Road, Hook,
Hampshire, RG27 9DZ
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Telephone: 01256-762118

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.

Stripy Cat

When the side first started we used to practise in the Hook church hall, which was also used (at other times) by various playgroups, Sunday school, and so on. On one occasion when we were learning a new dance and wondering what to call it, we looked around and saw a poster on the wall with a picture of a spotty dog. In a flash of inspiration we knew immediately what to call the dance: no, not 'The Poster on the Wall', as you are probably thinking, but 'Spotty Dog'. The dance 'Stripy Cat' is so called because it has nothing whatsoever to do with 'Spotty Dog'. The tune we use, in case you are interested, is called 'William Taylor's Table Top Hornpipe'. This is the closest we get to table dancing, which is probably a Good Thing.

Spotty Banana

When inventing this traditional dance for the 1997 season, we tried to make sure that it was completely different from anything else in the repertoire. Not only is the stepping different from all our other dances, but so are all the figures. This allows maximum scope for inventiveness in creating spontaneous variations whilst it is being performed.

Fresne Poret (pron. Fresney Porritt)

Le Fresne Poret is a small village near to Odiham's twin town Sourdeval, in Normandy. When we went over to dance in Sourdeval for the first time we stayed in a gite in Le Fresne Poret. Since Border dances are traditionally named after obscure village names (like Brimfield and Dilwyn), and since Le Fresne Poret is about as obscure a village name as it is possible to get, we thought it would be nice to create a really special dance to remember the occasion by. So, on the ferry on the way back we sat down and designed a new dance, to be called Fresne Poret. The dance of that name that we perform now is completely unrelated. We just recycled the title when trying to think of a name for an entirely new traditional dance that we invented this spring.

Crooked Billet (pron. Creaking Bullet)

This dance is one of our favourites, as it is named after our favourite pub and well-known Mafia watering hole, the Crooked Billet in Hook (as seen on TV). It is another traditional dance invented entirely by us. It starts with 'stomping' (stolen from the Witchmen) includes a big hey (stolen from Eynsham)(twice), and 'Eathorpe Cross' (stolen from the dance Craven Stomp). The chorus is a variant of the 'sticking and loop' type of chorus (as in Upton on Severn). As I said, this is a dance entirely of our own invention.

Lizzie Hall (pron. Oh no not THAT one)

We invented this traditional dance several years ago now. We previously used to do the traditional dance Pershore, which wasn't very exciting, so we stopped. This dance was invented to replace it, although the only similarity is that there is no pause for rest. This, coupled with the fact that our musicians rather like the tune and tend to play it at breakneck speed, makes the dance somewhat too energetic for some of the side so we tend not to do it very often.

Upton Skirmish (pron. Upton Skirmish)

This is our version of that well known traditional dance, The Upton on Severn Stick Dance. Well known, that is, except by us. The real Upton on Severn Stick Dance is immensely boring as it consists mostly of just dancing on the spot. We have retained a little bit of this, otherwise the resemblance is minimal.

Hook Eagle



Morris Men

MAY

- Fri 1 dawn Dancing in the Dawn by the plough in Hook car park
- Sat 2 to Mon 4 Sweeps Festival, Rochester Kent
- Fri 8 8:00pm White Hart Hotel, Hook
9:00pm Crooked Billet, Hook
- Sun 10 1:00pm Longbridge Mill, Sherfield on Lodden
National Mills Day
- Fri 15 8:00 The Crown, Old Basing
9:00 Barton's Mill, Old Basing
- Fri 22 to Sun 24 Leeds Morris Weekend of Dance
- Fri 29 8:00pm Dorchester Arms, Hook
9:00pm The Old House at Home Newnham

JUNE

- Wed 3 8:00pm The Swan, North Warnborough
9:00pm The Water Witch, Odiham
with Pilgrim Morris
- Sat 6 all day Sarum Morris Day of Dance, Salisbury
- Fri 12 to Sun 14 Sweet Coppin's 21st Birthday weekend, Taunton
- Fri 19 8:00pm The White Hart, Hook
8:30pm St John's Church 60th Birthday, Hook
9:00pm The Crooked Billet, Hook
- Fri 26 8:00pm The Plough, Little London (Hants)
- Sat 27 Day Crawley Folk Festival
Eve Berkshire Bedlams Morris 21st

JULY

- Fri 3 to Sun 5 Lobster Potties Festival, Sheringham, Norfolk
- Fri 10 8:00pm The Falcon, Rotherwick
- Fri 17 8:00pm The White Hart Hotel, Hook
9:00pm The Old House at Home, Newnham
- Sat 18 5:30pm Coach and Horses, Rotherwick
6:00pm Whitewater School, Cricket BBQ, Rotherwick
- Wed 22 8:00pm The Crown, Kingsclere with
Kintbury May Maids
- Fri 24 8:00pm The Crooked Billet, Hook with
Mayflower Morris

AUGUST

- Sun 2 noon Busking at Sidmouth
- Fri 14 to Sun 16 *Fete Fleurie*, Sourdeval, Normandy

SEPTEMBER

- Sun 6 12:30 The George, Odiham
13:30 The Bell. Odiham
- Fri 11 to Sun 13 Swanage Folk Festival, Dorset
- Sun 20 12:30 The Falcon, Rotherwick
- Sun 27 12:30 The Chequers, Well

Programme 1998

This programme is subject to change
without notice