Winster Morris dance in the Derbyshire villages. But we also visit other Morris teams all over England. This is us, dancing the Winster Reel, at Thaxted in Essex





And we were guests of Abingdon Morris at their 'Mayor of Ock Street' celebrations



Lords of Misrule: Frank (the Witch) and John (the King)



Here we are in front of our home crowd, processing through Winster on Wakes Day 2013



In 2012 we danced at the Pentecost Festival in Monterubbiano, our twin village in Italy



We also have links with Ungstein, a wine-making village near Frankfurt in Germany - this is Eva and Wolfgang



And with Onzain, a French village on the banks of the Loire

We've also danced in Poland, Lithuania, Romania and Denmark



CONTACT US

If you like the idea of beer and foreign travel and want to dance with us - get in touch with:

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WINSTER MORRIS DANCERS



"This is it and that is it
And this is Morris Dancing,
The piper fell and broke his neck
And said it was a chancer.
You don't know and I don't know
What fun we had at Brampton,
With a roasted pig and a cuddled duck
And a pudding in a lantern"

WHAT ON EARTH IS MORRIS DANCING?

No one can be sure of its origins. The earliest references, dating from around 1500, are to Royal entertainments. But we know that by 1700 it had become a firmly established part of English life. Today there are well-known local traditional Morris dance teams in the Cotswolds, the Welsh borders and in the North-west where the Morris is often danced in clogs. The earliest known reference to Morris in Derbyshire is from Tideswell in 1797. The first mention of Morris in Winster comes in 1863, by which time it was well-established in the village.



This is what we looked like in 1908. We wear the same traditional dress today - white shirt and trousers, black shoes, cross-belts, bells (of course) and lots of colour - chosen individually by each dancer.



'Cecil Sharp' meets the Winster King when we celebrated the centenary of his 1908 visit to Winster

Winster Morris dancing 'The Blue-Eyed Stranger'





Winster Morris dance with four traditional characters - a King, Queen, Jester and a Witch. This is Ken - dressed as the Queen.



Steve Ikin is a member of our strong team of musicians who play both melodeon and concertina





We invite guest teams to dance with us. This is Eynsham Morris from Oxfordshire in Winster on Wakes Day

Tom and Oliver, two brothers who dance with Winster Morris.



In 2008 we received grant aid for our Cecil Sharp heritage project



We run folk dance workshops for local schools

Keith Kendrick, professional folk singer and part of our music team, running a folk song workshop for kids



Richard helps a young melodeon player

