

# Raggle Taggle

AUSTRALIAN MORRIS

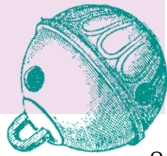


## THE BUMPER GAMES EDITION



CONTAINS  
FREE  
TRADING  
CARDS!

September 2011

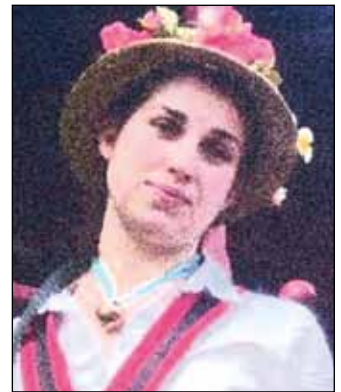


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What a busy few months the AMR have had!

Crucially we've had some important requests from WA that we change our constitution. Please see Nat's report for more, and read our guideline further on in this newsletter.

A big welcome to Dave, our new Archivist! I'm so excited that Dave has the time and enthusiasm to start sorting through what's there, and look towards building the archives in the future. I'll leave you to read his first report, soon to be a fixture of this newsletter: definitely watch this space!



The Squires of the NFF 2012 selected sides worked with me on the second ever group application to the NFF, which has been reprinted in full in this newsletter. It took a lot of conversations and negotiations, but I think we have come up with a good offering. I am so grateful to the Squires for all their hard work. I'm expecting to hear back in November/December, so fingers crossed!

Kim, Nat and I have been working together on completely overhauling all information on the website. Now we've finished writing most of the content (and we're done with this newsletter!) we'll launch sometime soon. Don't you love my specificity? However, we do need your help with the links page, again see later in this newsletter.

I've also been updating the contact list that the AMR holds. This is a bigger project than it would seem, as we need correct Squire and Bag contact details, a secondary contact person (if not the Bag), information on who to post the newsletter to, who to list on the website as the public contact person, and a full list of members for our insurance. Some Squires have been a little slack in getting back to me... nag nag nag.

And of course, we've been working on this newsletter! Thank you to Ken Smith who inspired the theme with his unprompted crossword puzzle. And just a reminder that I'll publish anything (that's been sent it before the deadline) so send me what you've got!

**Stephanie Swanson**  
Squire, AMR

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# BAGMAN'S REPORT

Hi All!

As opposed to last report, I've had plenty to occupy myself with for the past quarter! As mentioned by Steph, Western Australia has requested we change our constitution so it complies with their Incorporations Act, so I've been busy reading through the required changes and investigating as to how best to implement them. Our constitution is pretty old, so there's a lot to take a look at!

And while we're looking at it, we thought it would be worthwhile addressing other concerns people have raised about it, particularly our voting procedure. I really do encourage everyone to get involved in the discussion, as we have to pass the changes at the next AGM or risk losing

our incorporated status, which in turn threatens our insurance. I do hate to sound so serious about it, but it is a fairly serious matter! You can read more about it in this newsletter, and information will go out via the Oz\_Morris yahoo group and your squires.



So, as per usual, I encourage everyone to join the mailing list so they can stay in the loop!

Natalie Rolfe  
Bag, AMR

## BRANDRAGON ALE

**Justin Presser, Squire**

Brandragon have been stomping around making an exhibition of themselves for 10 years.

Come to Melbourne for the weekend of 25-27 November 2011 and join us in celebrating this occasion with:

- excellent ale on Saturday Night
- steam trains

- much dancing
- all in the beautiful surrounds of the Dandenong Ranges

A full itinerary and price will be coming soon.

Watch out for updates on:

- Oz\_Morris
- Brandragon.morris.org.au and the
- Facebook event.

## BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

### BIRTHS

**Julian James Kieran Rice**, born 11 July at 10.33pm.

Parents: Claire Marks (Brandragon) and Benno Rice.

**Liam Gareth McLean**, born 25 July at 8.40am.

Parents: Meg and Gary McLean (South-East North West, Belswagger).

**Amethyst Ann Thoday May**, born 6th September at

1:57pm. Parents: Matt May (ex-Hedgemonkey) and Pam Thoday.

Alexis Hannah Elliott, born 26 August. Parents Gail Miller (Brandragon) and Tom Elliott.

### DEATHS

**Nick Taylor**, died 9 July of cancer. Black Joak musician.

### Did You Know...?

The AMR has a mailing list and a facebook group! Keep up to date with news and gossip about Morris in Australia - you can join the mailing list on our website, <http://www.morris.org.au/mainpages/contact.html>, or search Facebook for 'Australian Morris Ring'.

# ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

## THE KYM OSBORN MEMORIAL ARCHIVES

Off the back of a lorry (well a ute anyway) out of a cold dark dungeon (OK you win, a dank shed) has come a piece of treasure (two gold at least and three experience points). The archives have started to come into the light for the first time in many years. I have collected a box of bits that were last seen in a shed up in the hills of Adelaide. Some of the exhibits don't mean a lot and I suspect are not strictly relevant. Who would like to guess what several pieces of Ochre in a small plastic bag labelled, "Innamincka Ochre" would represent in Morris terms? Or could a beaten up wooden toy train carriage be a symbol of fertility picked up by a long forgotten dancer from Peterborough? No I suspect over the years the trunk has come to hold many treasures no longer relevant and never connected to the Morris.

As I sort through these items I have an overwhelming impression that this is the history of the Adelaide Morris Men. I have pictures, bank statements, AGM records and things collected by the AMM over the years. I have very little from any other teams. The big challenge will be to turn this small collection of AMM

trivia into a more comprehensive collection of Morris History. This is where you come in. I need collectables from every



Kym Osborn: 19.4.1955 - 9.5.2009

side. What is your history? What is in your photo collection? Do you have any video, Morris trinkets, dances made up by your team and performed regularly?

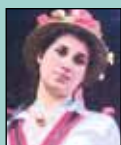
The Archives will be all media and any item I can store conveniently. So regretfully I will turn down the memorial to Percy Grainger from the Adelaide West cemetery but I will eventually post a picture of the same. Here is your chance to record your team in annuals of the Morris. If you danced with a team in the past especially if it has also since passed, let me encourage you especially to record what you can of those times. For the short term I will convert as many documents to PDF format as I can. Where copyright allows I will publish these on the internet via the ring website. Then I will follow with pictures and videos. The exact format the Archives will take I don't know yet. That will be part of the Great Morris Mystery to come. For the next newsletter I will let you know what is available and where to find it. Now for the name. Just before he moved on, Steve Dancer suggested the archive be called the Kym Osborn Memorial Archive. "Who was Kym", you ask? That sounds like the start of a modern article soon to come. I'll have to find someone to write it.



Dave Smith  
Archivist AMR



## CONTACTING THE AMR!



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**Facebook:**  
www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=117576798253325&ref=ts

**Twitter:** #aumorris

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In keeping up with my well-deserved reputation for pedantry I must draw your attention to an error of fact in the Perth MM's report of the NFF in Adelaide in 1978.

The author claimed that the SMM did 'not notice' their error in dancing a Bampton dance to the wrong tune. Whilst this is technically true, the reason we didn't notice it was because we were not at the performance - we were vigorously bagging the crowd outside at the time.

One of our entourage was at the performance though and gleefully reported their mistake to us.

Foot up

**John 'Elephant Man' Milce**

---

I was amused by the SMM minutes of long ago. What it doesn't say is that the discussions on the squiredom lasted over two hours while we two candidates waited in the bar of Tommo's drinking fine ales while the rest debated en masse upstairs (I heard several were keen mass debaters). Needless to say, we were too pissed to care by the time they decided!

Happy days

Wassail

**Bill Singleton**

---

There was a reference to 'either the Sydney or the Canberra Men' dancing at a nudist colony. I can confirm that the Sydney Men danced at a nudist colony up on the Hawkesbury several years ago. I don't know whether Canberra have also done the same

Foot up

**John Milce**

---

I was going to write a reply to Henry's item in the first edition about Pace Egging. But I stopped to do some research today and I think what he was saying is correct. This however leads me to two questions.

1. Does anyone know the name of a game played in England where two people face each other and throw a raw egg backwards and forwards, taking a pace backwards each turn? The loser is the one the egg breaks all over. I thought it was called Pace Egging, but Henry's item in the previous newsletter proves me wrong.

2. And does anyone know anything about the games mentioned in the liner notes of the Fairport Convention album "Full House". Richard Thompson wrote them, they take the form of descriptions of spoof folk-games in which various characters participate, completed by a round-up of eventual scores. For example:

AT MAIDS MONEY: Some of the hottest dice-throwing for years. The Doctor's Druids egg stood him in good stead. Later protests by 11,000 Virgins of Cologne against cruel sports. Wandering Jew killed in brawl with Hangman, hacked in two with a ploughshare.

Some of the other games include: Battledore, Gleek, Shuggy-Shew, Sparrow-Mumbling (I can type out a full list if anyone is interested)

**Russell Neal**

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## THE NZ SPHERE

For all the news on our nearest neighbours, please visit the NZ newsletter, The Sphere:

[sites.google.com/site/nzmorrisdancing/sphere](https://sites.google.com/site/nzmorrisdancing/sphere)

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## WEBSITE UPDATE!

**I'm updating the links list on our website. I would like to include the following headings:**

- Australian Friends (groups, businesses, organisations that are friends of the AMR or its members (Bygone Error, friendly pubs, etc.))
- Festival Friends (just festivals that the AMR or members of the AMR have established, ongoing relationships with (NFF, English Ale, Woodford, etc.))
- International Friends (any other specific sides or pages or orgs that members of the AMR have links with)

**Please send through your suggestions!**  
[amr.squire@gmail.com](mailto:amr.squire@gmail.com)

# SIDE REPORTS

## NEW SOUTH WALES

### Black Joak

#### Carissa Lee

Black Joak have been gigless and hibernating in our practice hall for the winter months, eating cake and sometimes dancing.

Taking advantage of this downtime, we organised a day of new dances in a little churchlet, and a practice weekend at a guides camp. At the former, we taught ourselves Lancaster (North-West), Room for the Cuckold (Bucknell), Klez Morris (Bledington), Bongo (Sydney), and Old Woman Tossed Up (Brackley).

Our foreman Thomas boldly ran through our entire repertoire at the practice weekend while Gabby made us soup, Ken played with small creatures, Steph sneezed, and everyone else played the pianos, made silly announcements at the lectern microphone, and

defaced the dance schedule. We were joined by new recruit Tom MacDonald, who on his first two days of being in the side, now knows how to do all our dances.

In other news, a jolly gathering was held at Chez Grylls for Duncan's 60th, where we reconstructed the party tent from the National, danced, and composed and sang a birthday song to the tune of 'I love to have a beer with Duncan'. Full lyrics can be found on Facebook.

The festival season will kick off for us in a month, when we join Albion Fair for the Festival of the Winds at Bondi, then drive to Dubbo for their Town Show.

Another winter almost over!

## QUEENSLAND

### Belswagger

#### Daniel Townley, Foreman

It's been a reasonably quiet couple of months for Belswagger. Our performance at the Esk Multicultural Festival delighted the locals to the point where one gentleman approached us to declare, "You guys are so much better than all the other crap I've seen today!" Preparations are nearly complete for our Birthday Ale on 24 September, which you are all welcome to attend, and

we are looking forward to dancing in Brisbane and Toowoomba over that weekend. The lead-up to Woodford is our main focus for the rest of the year to allow us to concentrate on broadening our repertoire, sharpening our style, and providing consultation to other sides in need. Our newer dancers, Sophie, Trish, Brendan and Lorelei are improving in leaps and bounds, and are without doubt turning into fine dancers, and I'm very excited for the future progression of our side!

### Ragged Band

#### Ian Redpath, Bag

The Raggies dance on, with a bunch of performances at local festivals in the Redlands, Ipswich and Beerwah. And we went sticking. At the Ipswich Multicultural Festival we were asked by the organiser to join the jam at the end, and performed the wildest African Swallows we have ever danced, accompanied by hot African drum rhythms and skirling Gypsy swing. We also discovered that Dave can dance like a Gypsy.

All this led them to invite us back for an English night at the International Café, with dances and songs and English tunes replete with hurdy gurdies. They built us a maypole with no pole! Just a hoop with ribbons attached, so Eric had to volunteer to be the pole and get well wrapped.

We worked extra hard at the Redlands Folk Festival, as we will miss their annual Strawberry Festival in September this year. Unfortunately it clashes with our favourite folk festival at Neurum Creek. Someone very kindly told us we will be much missed, but probably not by the person who I told last year "We're all wearing

red and black because we are giant dancing strawberries". They seemed to believe me.

Beerwah host a Charity Sports and Spring Carnival, with lots of horse and pony events and dog jumping into the ute competitions. It rained – that steady streaming rain that Queensland does so well. So bring on the bells and sticks! We danced in the rain, and are particularly indebted to Hilary, who did a cover of Gene Kelly's Singing in the Rain complete with umbrella and sidestep puddle kicks. And they gave us cider and strawberries and steak sangas and certificates!

In the coming months our members will be involved with collective Morris activities, including the Belswagger 21st Ale and planning for Woodford. And a bit of dancing on the side...



# SIDE REPORTS

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### Adelaide Morris Men

#### Mike James, Squire

Winter has been fairly quiet, but productive. We have managed to dance out four times in the last couple of months. We have had a tour of the pubs of Port Adelaide, and a foot up at the Brewboys brewery. We had a grand tour out north of Adelaide in the general Gawler region, and most recently a trip to Perth where we danced at the PMM's Ale. It's starting to get towards

the busy time of year and a few paid gigs are on the horizon, so practice will probably get a bit more intense. We are still progressing towards organising a meeting of the English Morris Ring in Adelaide on 5-7 April in 2013, and plans are coming along nicely. Our next tour of the UK will be in 2014, and we need to start work on that one soon too. Our website has actually been updated, and you can find more detail about our winter hi-jinks at [www.adelaidemorrismen.com](http://www.adelaidemorrismen.com)

### Hedgemonkey

#### Bronny Lloyd, Squire

Not a lot to report on the Hedgemonkey front - most of the winter has been taken up with training up our four new people - Paul, Ati, Christian and Lisa - all of whom are doing remarkably well. Their enthusiasm is infectious! They will all be debuting with us at the Port Adelaide Festival in early October.....with the Fleurieu Folk Festival several weeks later. We are sharing both gigs with our sister side Hot For Joe - and are really looking forward to it....although having so many dancers in both sides makes it challenging for us organisers!

I love this time of year - the advent of spring, festivals and coming out of morris semi-hibernation! Fleurieu is a great little festival - held at Willunga, south of Adelaide - if you can possibly get there, do!

In other news, 'Little Rach' Neild has made a very fast recovery from her ankle surgery earlier this year and is back dancing again which is great - we really missed having her in the dances, although she was at rehearsals every week watching, learning and helping with the QC - now \*that's\* commitment! .....and that's about it from us!

## TASMANIA

### Jolley Hatters

#### Mary Blake, Foreman

Never a dull moment in Tassie!

News from the southern-most Morris side is that we know how to get warm in the winter – dance at an aged care facility! Recently the Jolley Hatters did a foot-up for residents of Glenview Home. The temperature was tropical! The audience was captive (well physically anyway) and we had some great fun.

We didn't have our own fool, but one member of the audience generously took on the part, called out at regular intervals and seemed to enjoy herself immensely. Afternoon tea was particularly good, my favourite was the mini chocolate éclairs, and oceans of tea served from giant teapots.

Some people were keen to engage us in conversation too. One sprightly woman told me that her own dancing career



was cut short as a teenager when she was involved in a log truck accident out the back of Oatlands sometime in the 1950s. She lost both her legs just above the knees. We were in high demand afterwards, posing for photographs with just about every member of the audience – the home has a noticeboard and everyone is keen to get their picture on it. And to top it off we got 50 bucks we weren't expecting!

On the practice front...Trish Williams, a Jolley Hatter of old, has been teaching us the North Skelton Sword Dance. This has been relatively easy to learn and we're enjoying doing a different style of Morris. At Vera's request we've also learned Speed the Plough – thank you to Black Joak and YouTube for that, although we wouldn't mind knowing what the calls were (couldn't hear them all clearly – speak up next time!)

# SIDE REPORTS

## VICTORIA

### Red Raven

#### Lindsay Hamilton, Squire

Red Raven enjoyed a jolly day at the Daylesford Cidery in mid-May. It was their inaugural Mangelworzel hurling event. The aforesaid is a pastime to rival the likes of Dwyle flumping (spelling?). The contestants stand in a bucket and hurl a Mangleworzel in competition with their teammates. Much free cider and dancing was also indulged in.

The next weekend we headed off to Geelong for possibly the first ever exhibition of Morris dancing brought to Geelong. We made the paper. We mustered to an overcast sky which brightened to a lovely day. Neil had done his homework; good cafes and pubs but too much blood was donated to the mosquitoes in the botanical gardens. Most of us retired to Hazel and Rob's for splendid vittals, some of us even stayed the night and went marketing the next day.

In June we danced for Whitsun at an Anglican Church in the Daylesford surrounds. We attended a Whitsun church service which included children running wildly within the church in fancy dress. Father Ken preached an interesting sermon about our loss of spirituality in the West. At the offertory we danced Chook Chasing in the Church and finished the service with Winster processional down the aisles. Tea, beer, wine, more dancing and sandwiches in the church hall then off for a pub lunch. We then moved on to Henry Harcourt's cidery where we were plied with cider, sausages and hamburgers. All in all, an excellent day out.

After the dance outs in May, we decided to have a bit of a rest in June; the fact that two ballets were on in June didn't have too much to do with this.

In July we made another pilgrimage to Violet Town market for a morning of shopping and dancing. We retired to Pete and Judith's country retreat in Strathbogie to rest up or practise music. The Morris provided a band and nearly half the punters for a Bush Dance in Strathbogie hall that night then sang and played the night away back at Pete's. Splendid! Made the paper again.

August has seen another market dance and shop out at St Andrew's; the greatest country, hippy market in the world (or at least the Shire). We grabbed a falafel or sour dough loaf and drove down the road to our own little piece of Tuscany. Bevo was tempted to get his emotions balanced before leaving but thought the better of it. The Panton Hill winery is a ramble of hand built stone buildings with tastings of delicious wines in a baronial hall, complete with minstrel's gallery and a huge, roaring fire. The weather being fine, we danced, ate antipasti and imbibed away the hours in a fragrant garden arbour...whoever wants to work?

There are two more ballets coming up so we don't have much Morris planned till October and then it looks endless.

Yours in Morris

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### Perth Morris Men

#### Steven Mansfield, Squire

We have done a few more stands since the last newsletter including dancing at a nursing home to celebrate one of our musician's Mum's 100th birthday. Robert Bannister's Mum Margaret turned 100 on 21 July and it was only fitting and proper that the Morris side turned out and danced for her.

The main news since the last newsletter is the very successful visit by the Adelaide Morris Men to Perth in the second weekend in August. Seven Adelaide men (and one wife) made the journey across. It was the first visit to Perth by another side since 1985 when the National Folk Festival was held in Perth and apparently Hong Kong Morris came on tour. Adelaide had toured previously to this and they have promised not to wait so long till they tour again!

The tour kicked off with the traditional "Meet and Greet" at Little Creatures in Fremantle where both sides entertained locals with various dances. The establishment provided some ale and food to ensure that our visitors felt welcome.

The next "official" event was the Swan Valley tour where four places were visited over six hours. A very congenial bus driver, George, took us to Ironbark Brewery, Oakover Winery, Elmars and Feral Brewing Company where much dancing and drinking occurred. The Fair Maids even got back together for the occasion and entertained the crowd. Rosie Fleay did some clog dancing also.

In the evening The Ale was held at Basement on Broadway which used to be KKs and has been a traditional after practice watering

hole for the Perth Morris Men for a number of years. Its décor is a bit different from years gone by but it suited our purpose. Rob Bannister took out the prize for the bawdiest limerick whilst Rick Curtis won the prize for the cleverest. Apparently Christine Hogan, an honorary "Perth Morris Man" (she used to play for us years ago and also was part of the musical line up for this weekend), had a lot of fun touring the sex shops of Midland to source novelty prizes for the limerick competition.

Sunday morning was breakfast beside the Swan River adjacent to the University. Paul Mangini, who does an excellent job organizing May day morning breakfasts at the barbecues in Kings Park, once again stepped up to the plate (no pun intended) with assistance from Phil Hamilton so that everyone could enjoy bacon, eggs, sausages etc. A few dances were enjoyed before we decided to capitalise on the crowd at the University open day. After a few more dances we adjourned to the "Lucky Shag" for some refreshing ales and lunch. The barman did the right thing when prompted and bought our guests a round of drinks. We managed to find some space for some more dancing until the Adelaide contingent had to go to the airport.

From my point of view, after having put a fair amount of effort into the organisation of the event it was great to see it happen in the first place and also wonderful to see everyone having such a great time. Thanks to the Adelaide Morris Men for making the effort to come across, thanks to the Fair Maids and Rosie Fleay for their inputs and thanks to the Perth Morris Men for their enthusiasm and efforts that went into making the weekend such a success.



# THE MORRIS QUIZ

1. What tradition does Hedgemonkey dance?
2. What was the name of the travelling Morris teddy bear that came to Australia in the late 90s?
3. What side 'kidnapped' the bear and held him for ransom?
4. How old is Belswagger turning this year?
5. At Woodford Ragged Band danced the Dark Morris for Martin Pearson's book reading, performed in the dark without bells, clashes, music or any other sound. What book was Martin reading from?
6. Who were the two winners of Mr Average?
7. Two
8. Which famous folk duo played for Morrice Rampant for a stage foot-up at a National Folk Festival?
9. Which side has a Green Man?
10. What famous English folkie stole one of Morrice Rampant's musos (and he missed his stage foot-up!) at the 1997 National Folk Festival.
11. Which Belswagger member is currently studying a Ph.D.?
12. What did the number '1610' stand for on RapsCALLION's baldrick badge?
13. At what age did Leila Redpath become Squire of The Ragged Band Border Morris?
14. What are Hedgemonkey's bellpads made from?
15. What Aussie side appeared on the kid's show, Simon Townsends Wonder World, back in the late 70s?
16. What Member of Moreton Bay Morris was awarded an OBE for his help with the Bali bombing aftermath?
17. Who danced the infamous g-string fool's jig at a Moreton Bay ale?
18. Which side dances in the Cities Christmas Pageant?
19. The Raggies do a dance in which we are "statues in the house of madness". To what song do we perform this dance?
20. Which two sides were formed in the same conversation?
21. What Morris styles has Belswagger performed?
22. What impetus behind the formation of Morrice Rampant in the mid 90s? (Some say those thugs never should've!)
23. Which side was named after an old pub?
24. Which former member of Brindabella is the sewing whiz behind Black Joak's hobby horse and camel?
25. Who designed Belswagger's logo?
26. Who was the first recipient of the 'Order of the Carrot' at a Moreton Bay ale in the mid 90s?
27. Who are the three founders of Hedgemonkey?
28. There is another dance Ragged Band do called Herne's Oak. Who the hell was Herne?
29. Which side has an octogenarian still dancing with them?
30. Which Black Joaker was in the 'No Gary No' Nicorette commercial?
31. Who is Belswagger's Squire?
32. Which Morris side dances on May Day at 4,000 feet?
33. Which Sunshine Coast side was an offshoot of Moreton Bay Morris?
34. Which Belswagger member is missing the middle finger of their left hand?
35. What Moreton Bay/Belswagger member inadvertently 'showed' his bum to a crowd of Japanese tourists one May Day morning?
36. The Ragged Band/Dark Side have been invited to perform in the Woodford Fire Event on how many occasions?
37. Which Adelaide side has a stained glass church window dedicated to one of its members?

SOLUTION → PAGE 18

# NEWS FROM THE MOTHER COUNTRY

## THE DEMON BARBERS

The Demon Barbers Roadshow, a stomping success, is a folk dance hip hop extravaganza. A unique combination of folk music, street dance, rap, clog stomp, sword and Morris dancing is set to leave audiences in awe. Riverdance just got sexy.

The show is now immediately in-demand at festivals too with its dynamic songs, tunes, dance and folk-rock.

“Time Gentlemen Please” featuring The Demon Barber Road show starts its major tour. Lead vocalist, Damien Barber had this to say “This tour is set to break the boundaries of traditional folk music and dance conception. Our performances are not only visually stunning but highly engaging for anyone with a passion for music and dance, this major tour signifies a great opportunity for us to prove that we

really are The UK’s No.1 Folk & Hip Hop Dance Extravaganza!” Demon Barbers were winners of the Best live act at the BBC Radio Folk Awards 2009 and their steady stream of albums have already reflected the band’s development, coming in like updates from folk music’s front line. The band are currently promoting their new album The Adventures of Captain Ward.

In 2010 The Demon Barbers took things a stage further, adding street dance to the mix. Time Gentleman Please has developed from this and is a full-fledged stage performance with an elaborate set, a dynamic narrative and a breadth which ranged from the paganism of the Abbots Bromley Horn Dance to the syncopated acrobatics of street dance. [www.thedemonbarbers.co.uk](http://www.thedemonbarbers.co.uk)

## THE CECIL SHARP PROJECT

### MORRIS AND FOLK

Inspired by the Darwin Project, The Cecil Sharp Project is a multi-artist, residential commission to create new material based on the life and collections of the founding father of the English Folk Revival, Cecil Sharp.

The selected artists lived together for a week in a cottage in Shrewsbury which took place in March 2011. This was immediately followed by concerts in Shrewsbury and London, with the artists also performing the results of the project at the Shrewsbury Folk Festival in August 2011.

The artists are: Steve Knightley, Jim Moray, Jackie Oates, Andy Cutting, Patsy Reid, Caroline Herring, Kathryn Roberts and



Leonard Podolak, Jim, also a dancer and morris muso with Nonesuch Morris, and Andy, taught the collective to dance as part of the concerts ...with amusing results.

Checkout the website, CD and DVD: [www.cecilsharpproject.com](http://www.cecilsharpproject.com)

## WAY OF THE MORRIS

### A DOCO...

A heartfelt ode to his agrarian roots, ‘Way Of The Morris’ follows award-winning filmmaker Tim Plester, from the village of Adderbury, on a journey from the English village green to the killing fields of The Somme, as he searches for a connection with the much-maligned native dance traditions that run deep in his blood.

Featuring contributions from singer/songwriter Billy Bragg and Fairport Convention’s Chris Leslie, what emerges is a poignant and evocative exploration of the origins and impulses behind Morris dancing, and an attempt to understand its place within enchanted albiion’s ongoing story...

Currently screening around the UK and the Docutah Film Festival, Utah, USA. DVD available soon.

[www.wayofthemorris.com](http://www.wayofthemorris.com)



# NEWS FROM THE MOTHER COUNTRY

## FROM THE TELEGRAPH - UK

### Morris Men Must Allow In Morris Women – But Not To Dance

Traditional morris dancing clubs have been forced to accept female members to comply with the new Equality Act – but the women will still not be permitted to dance.

For centuries, traditional morris men have been able to shake their hankies and wield their sticks and bells unencumbered by female involvement.

Now Labour's Equality Act has forced the country's men-only morris dancing clubs to open their doors to female members.

To head off the threat of a legal challenge, the Morris Ring, the country's oldest morris dancing organisation, has changed its constitution to allow women to join.

Equality, however, only stretches so far: women will be allowed as musicians and in other "organisational" roles but will still not be permitted to dance with the men.

The Ring's hardline stance on women has divided the morris world for decades and its partial lifting of the ban on women has not gone far enough for many, with critics accusing them of being "anti women".

The Ring, which represents 200 morris clubs across England, claims that the folk dance is a traditionally male activity and that because of its arduous nature, women should not be able to dance with men.

Under the new rules, women will be able to provide accompanying music on instruments such as the accordion, melodeon, concertina, fiddle, pipe or tabour, a type of drum.

Peter Halfpenney, squire - the equivalent of president - of the Ring, said: "I would liken it to Manchester United not having any females in their first team. Their prime performers are men because they are physically stronger.

"The physical difference is not going to change, but of course, we recognise that ladies have as much ability to organise or play music."

Morris dancing dates back to the Middle Ages and the role of women has been fiercely debated for decades.

The Ring, which represents 200 clubs across England, was founded in 1934, following a revival of interest in folk dancing, but because of its exclusion of women, two other rival organisations, the Morris Federation and Open Morris, have been established more recently.

The Federation, which now has about 450 member clubs, allows men's and women's sides, while the Open, with 130 clubs, has mixed teams.

Although relations between the groups has thawed in recent



years, women's morris dancers have criticised the changes being introduced by the Ring as "too little, too late" and accused it of continued chauvinism.

One, who declined to be named, branded the group "boring old farts".

Jan Dickins, from Belfagan Women's Morris, a Federation group from Cumbria, said: "The Ring has certainly given the impression of being anti-women and anti-women dancing. I don't think their older, traditional members are embracing this change very easily.

"I think it is being forced upon them. It is absolute rubbish to say that the physical nature of morris means men must dance with men."

Cressida Pryor, squire of Winchcombe Border Morris, a mixed side from near Cheltenham, said: "The Ring promulgates one particular view of morris dancing, which is that it is all-male, but the evidence does not support that. In terms of the physical strength of the dancers, age is the greatest ruler of how you dance."

Lawyers have advised that the organisation will be able to continue to exclude women dancers, because the clubs' "men-only" dancing is a "protected characteristic", under the Equality Act.

The legislation was introduced by Harriet Harman, the equality minister in the last government, to give women more rights in work places, but its effects are only just being felt by many organisations.

The Ring's new constitution is intended to head off any attempt to force its clubs to become fully mixed. It was voted through in February, with about three quarters in favour.

Mr Halfpenney said that some Ring sides already had women musicians and added that if member clubs wished to continue to exclude all women, then the Ring would allow them to do so. Clubs with fewer than 25 members do not have to comply with the Act.

# PUB REVIEW(S)

## ADELAIDE MORRIS RETURN TO PERTH AUGUST 2011

Our last visit to Perth in 1985 was so enjoyable, we decided to go back. Perth must be the most isolated Morris team as we were the first side to visit for over 25 years. The choice of a tour of the Swan Valley was influenced by several successful forays over the years when I was there. WA has around 40 breweries and brewpubs so choosing breweries can be fun.

We were picked up from the airport by Steve for a quick Cook's tour to Kings Park. I had friends to catch up with so started the brewery tour early with a session in the Moon and Sixpence, the home of Nail Ale. Also I couldn't resist calling in to the Sail and Anchor for a superb hand-pumped IPA all the way from the back room.



Kings Park Bill, Geoff, Mike, Ian, Steve

The "meet and greet" was in Little Creatures at Fremantle, which is a very Morris-friendly haunt, they actually want the Morris on a regular basis. We managed a number of dances in the main room and the new extension including the realisation that the Lichfield Heys done by Perth and Adelaide are incompatible. We were also joined by a couple of Fair Maids who turned out for the second time in about the last ten years. We would have been joined by Dave Smith if he had caught the plane. Copious quantities of Pale Ale including quantities on the house were enjoyed along with donated pizzas.



Little Creatures

Saturday morning found us in better condition than we deserved. A number caught the train to Guildford where our luxury charabanc was to pick us up. We had to make do with coffee as the historic pub remains a burnt out historic ruin, now with the fencing festooned with dirty socks to protest the slow progress.

There were around 40 on the tour with Fair Maids of Perth along with Perth MM and Adelaide MM both out in strength.

A short hop brought us to the Ironbark Brewery. It was initially considered not going here but the howls of protest brought it back and we could see why. A fine range of ales including one of several excellent IPA style (don't ask me about other styles!), more food than we could eat and a good dancing spot. The crowds were beginning to arrive as we left.



Ironbark Brewery

Next stop was Oakover, a winery with a beer bar sourced from local micros. A picturesque dancing spot on the boardwalk over the lake was inhabited by ducks ignoring the no-swimming signs. The boardwalk particularly suited the cloggies. We finished up with a massed Abram. A jug of each of the ales on tap was well received and enjoyed.

Then off to Elmars brewery, fondly remembered by Perth where the last visit coincided with the barmaid's hen party. The resident muso took a welcome break as we entertained out at the back.



Fair Maids of Perth at Oakover

# PUB REVIEW(S)



In the bar at Oakover, one of the jugs emptied in record time



The back bar at Elmars with a volunteer

Last day session, off to the Feral, a Morris favourite, country pub style with some wonderful ales. The place was packed as usual and they had added a marquee full of happy samplers. They also had a stretch limo full of pub crawlers in fancy dress so we didn't look too odd. The range of ales, especially the Pales impressed those new to Feral. If we had been allowed to stay, we would have but we were taken back to Guildford for trains and cars and a cuppa before hitting the delights of Broadway.



In the marquee at the Feral, well may she look worried

Perth Morris used to go to KK's in the Broadway shops after practice to sample Darling Range Ales. We danced there on the last night before a couple of years of renovations. It is now the Basement and unrecognisable from its previous layout. A dance floor and balcony area made it a perfect venue for an ale, though the food service was incredibly slow for a simple menu. The crowd here arrives late so we had the place almost to ourselves till late.

No micros here though the Fat Yak was in good form. Despite a long hiatus, the sword dance went well.



Adelaide at the Basement

On Sunday morning a cooked breakfast on the Swan was prepared ably by a joint culinary team. We drove there through blasting rain but it stayed fine enough and cleared up to a really nice day.

bbnnnnWe had a good set on the very bank of the Swan while we were still sober then, in a moment of madness; gate crashed the UWA open day with a few dances, before heading for the Lucky Shag for pints of Sharps Doom from Cornwall. This was the dance till you drop or have to leave for the airport session.



Team photo at UWA (a few missing)



Sharps Doom Ale (and Morris)

What an absolutely excellent weekend. Thanks to Squire Steve and the back-up crew for organising it and to the teams for turning up in force for good dancing and great drinking. We are already talking about next year... Wassail

Bill "The Washing" Singleton

# AUSTRALIAN MORRIS NFF

## APPLICATION 2012

Here is an abridged version of our application. To save space I have removed all the photos, the contents page, the descriptions of the sides (I assume you know who they are) and a lot of page breaks. If you want to see the full thing in all its technicolour glory, please visit the Oz\_Morris group. Only six sides applied to attend, so those were the six sides selected (duh). This was written in consultation with those Squires.

### Letter Of Introduction

Dave O'Neill  
Artistic Director  
National Folk Festival

Dear Dave,

RE: AUSTRALIAN MORRIS AT THE 2012 NFF

The 2011 National Folk Festival (NFF) was the first time that the Morris sides of Australia have applied as a unified group, and as promised in last year's letter we are keen to continue this as a standing arrangement.

Last year did not greatly vary traditional practices of Morris sides at the NFF, but did simplify the organisational burden for the NFF. We are keen to continue the mutually beneficial relationship between the NFF and Australian Morris dancing.

This year the Australasian Morris Ring (AMR) is applying to present six sides: Belswagger and South East North West (QLD), Albion Fair and Black Joak (NSW) and Red Raven and Brandragon North West Clog Morris (VIC). These sides include Cotswold, North West, Border and Molly dance in their repertoires.

These sides will present

- three 30 minute displays of the featured sides linked with three workshops,
- daily busking/street dance throughout the duration of the festival, and
- two massed Morris street displays.

This year we would like to present three special events, and one workshop, which complement the traditional displays and street dance by explaining the context of Morris and focusing on their unique styles.

- The Grand (Morris) Tour: incorporating tour guides, a large map and showing off every Morris tradition danced in Australia,
- English Clog Display: 2012 is an unprecedented (in recent years) opportunity to show off all active North West sides in Australia,
- The Fourth Jig Display: Australia's premier Cotswold

Morris event, and finally

- English Clog Workshop: the 2012 NFF will also bring together most step clog dancers in Australia. We would like to link a workshop with the step clog display for those who wish to learn a basic routine.

For 2012 we are excited to have linked with Dance Kaleidoscope, a Queensland-based dance group. While they are applying separately as most of their repertoire is not Morris, we are excited that they have accepted our offer to moonlight for one or two step clog and rapper dances in The Grand (Morris) Tour and the English Clog Display.

This is an exciting opportunity for the AMR, Dance Kaleidoscope and the NFF to present a broad spectrum of northern English traditional dance in an event normally dominated by Cotswold traditions.

Please find attached the Australasian Morris Ring's application for the 2012 NFF detailing each of these activities. We will also submit this via the electronic system.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

### Stephanie Swanson

Squire, Australasian Morris Ring  
amr.squire@gmail.com  
0403 767 685

### Natalie Rolfe

Bag, Australasian Morris Ring  
bag.amr@gmail.com  
0421 381 096

### Australian Morris Displays

#### The Grand (Morris) Tour

Experience the passion and appreciate the variety and skill of the Australian Morris community. Be taken on a tour through the intricacies and variations of this vibrant, ancient and strangely addictive folk tradition.

Be astounded by the various living English Morris traditions that have taken root in Australia. From the deft and dexterous dances of the bucolic Cotswolds; the foot stomping, the garland-waving processional dances of the North West clog; the anarchic and mad cap ranting of the Border dancers and perilous and precise North East Rapper styles. This event is designed to give spectators a "Dummies Guide" to Morris and its associated traditions.

With bells, hankies, clogs, sticks, tatter coats, painted faces, and a wide variety of sartorially splendid hats this event will educate, elucidate, entertain and inspire all who partake.

# AUSTRALIAN MORRIS NFF

## English Clog Dancing

English step clog is a rhythmic and energetic tradition developed in the cotton mills of the industrial North West. Performed in wooden-soled clogs, the work boots of an era before steel-caps and rubber soles; English step clog shares elements with Appalachian, Cape Breton and Irish stepping. For the first time the Morris dancers of South East North West, Albion Fair and Brandragon come together with special guests, Dance Kaleidoscope, to perform a show featuring traditional dances and step clog routines of northern England.

## English Clog Workshop

English step clog is a rhythmic and energetic tradition developed in the cotton mills of the industrial North West. Traditionally performed in wooden-soled clogs, English step clog shares elements with Appalachian, Cape Breton and

Irish stepping. Come along to learn a simple routine from this wonderful tradition. Wear comfortable shoes with a non-stick sole, leather soles are ideal; clogs or tap shoes are optional!

## The Fourth Jig Display

The best and bravest of the Cotswold Morris dancers perform solo and partnered jigs. Come along and witness ancient traditions and contemporary inventions go head to head in our fourth jiggling display.

## Massed Morris

As per previous years, all the assembled glory and ruckus of Australian Morris in one place, at one time. A form of organized chaos on the streets of the NFF, delighting and bemusing the many passers-by.

## Proposed Morris Schedule

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
South East North West display Piazza, 11.30, 30 minutes	Belswagger display Piazza, 11.30, 30 minutes	Albion Fair display Piazza, 11.30, 30 minutes	
South East North West workshop Fitzroy, 13.00, one hour	Belswagger workshop Fitzroy, 13.00, one hour	Albion Fair workshop Fitzroy, 13.00, one hour	Massed Morris street dance In front of Instrument Makers shed, 13.00, one hour
The Grand Morris Tour Piazza, 15.00, one hour	English Clog Dancing Piazza, 15.00, 30 minutes	The Fourth Jig Display Piazza, 15.00, 1.5 hours	
Massed Morris street dance In front of Instrument Makers shed, 16.00, one hour	English Clog Workshop Any covered venue with a wooden floor, 16.00, one hour	AMR AGM* Any private room with chairs, must fit around 80 people, 18.00, two hours	
Street dance with Red Raven, Brandragon and Black Joak Multiple locations throughout the day	Street dance with Red Raven, Brandragon and Black Joak Multiple locations throughout the day	Street dance with Red Raven, Brandragon and Black Joak Multiple locations throughout the day	Street dance with Red Raven, Brandragon, Black Joak, Belswagger, South East North West and Albion Fair

## \*AMR AGM

We would again like to please request the use of a room for our Annual General Meeting. We have been extremely grateful to the NFF for providing this in the past. The NFF has more Morris attendees than any other event in Australia which makes it the ideal time for our AGM.

## Tickets and cost

As per the 2011 NFF, the Australasian Morris Ring is asking for 100 camping tickets and \$2,400.

This covers all activities and materials specified in this application with the exception of the special guest appearance of Dance Kaleidoscope in the English Clog Display and The Grand (Morris) Tour who are applying separately. That is, six sides performing almost fifteen hours of Morris across four days.

We have public liability insurance with QBE. We would like to be paid by cheque.

# ALE REPORT

## PERTH MORRIS MEN

The Swan Valley was “visited” on 13 August by a large green bus of mature years, a bit like its occupants, many of whom had done more Morris “miles” than most on Australia. This was a very special occasion for the Perth Morris Men (ably accompanied by the fair Maids of Perth). Whilst we occasionally venture east, it’s rare for visitors to cross the country from the east. The Adelaide men, six dancers and one muso, were in fine fettle as we started our tour at the city end of the valley at the Ironbark Brewery. Our bus driver George began to realise he was in for a very different Saturday afternoon as massed Morris ensued in the car park. The PMM and AMM repertoire were nicely matched and although there was no thronging crowd at the Ironbark (too early in the afternoon) we acquitted ourselves well. The owner and brewer of the pub provided proper ales (of course) and the “Warrior” went down a treat.

By the time to move on, we were joined by one or two more bus loads, and as we progressed up the valley so too did they. Oakover winery next, again very quiet, then Elmar’s (German style food and ales) with a much bigger audience on the veranda out the back. Even the security guard was quite affected by two groups of men leaving the ground in style (AMM at least). Or was that mesmerised?



But, as they say, if you ever visit the Swan valley, do not miss the “Feral”. We fought our way in as George parked the three – million – miler (pre-decimal vintage). Outside in a large marquee there was enough space for six or so men to dance and we were wondering at one point who was more entertaining, the audience or the Morris dancers.

Now if you are reading this and can muster a side, you will be looked after in style when you decide to take the plunge. George is standing by with the bus.

**Bill Parker, PMM**

## CONSTITUTION OVERHAUL

As reported in the 2011 AGM, the changes made to our constitution at the 2010 AGM were submitted to the WA Government (whom we are incorporated with). They were not accepted as our constitution does not comply with the WA Act. We have been advised that we must change our constitution at our next AGM.

We received extensive instructions on what we need to change to make it comply, including a model constitution that they recommended. We have worked very hard adapting this to suit the needs of the AMR, cross checking with the Incorporations Act, our insurance provider, and our current constitution. We are now ready to seek your input into these changes.

As this is an extensive piece of work, rather than post to the email group where threads can get off topic and emails can get lost, we have set up a website. Each rule from the model constitution has been presented on its own page, and is marked as either legally required or just recommended. We have included the parts of our current constitution to compare to the rule presented in the model constitution.

There are certain sections and clauses that cannot be changed as they are dictated by law, and these have been clearly marked.

There is a section for comments on each page, that is, for each rule, of this model constitution. Any interested party can comment on these posts to join the discussion and provide feedback. Feedback will be collated into a new constitution. Due to the complexity of this document, feedback will only be collated from comments made on this website. Please do not email! As people have questions we will set up a FAQ page on the website.


A motion to change the constitution will be circulated\* before the next AGM. As per the WA law, each person at the meeting (who is a member of a member side) will be entitled to one vote, and it must be passed by a three quarter majority. If the constitution is not passed at this meeting, we may lose our status as an incorporated body, which means we risk losing our insurance.

Here’s the link to the website with the draft constitution:  
[aumorris.wordpress.com/2011/01/21/introduction](http://aumorris.wordpress.com/2011/01/21/introduction)



# MORRIS TRADING CARDS

**Adelaide Morris Men**



Tradition: 10/10    Speed: 1/10    Alcoholism: 9/10  
Dignity: 4/10    Attack: Levitation

When these hovering hidalgos take a hop, skip and jump, they can stay in the air longer than the most tedious ukulele recital.

**Albion Fair**



Tradition 8/10    Speed 5/10    Alcoholism 2/10  
Dignity 10/10    Attack: Banshee Whistle

These lovely ladies woo you with kind smiles, then wrap you with flowery wreaths and blast you with their whistles, causing your eardrums to rupture.


**Black Joak**



Tradition 6/10    Speed 10/10    Alcoholism 10/10  
Dignity 1/10    Attack: Invisibility

Even faster than the hastiest ninja master of all time, Black Joak capers in your face so speedily you don't see a thing. Only feel it.

**Brandragon**



Tradition 3/10    Speed 8/10    Alcoholism 5/10  
Dignity 8/10    Attack: Trample

This fearless horde of great jangly-hoofed, fire-breathing jivers stop for nothing. Get out of the fucking way.


**Britannia MM**



Tradition 10/10    Speed 3/10    Alcoholism 7/10  
Dignity 7/10    Attack: Laser Eye

Many a poor wretch knows the true purpose of Britannia's ever-present sunnies. When lifted, powerful glaring lasers annihilate at will!

**Hedgemonkey**



Tradition 3/10    Speed 6/10    Alcoholism 4/10  
Dignity 10/10    Attack: Dirt Repel

Wielding powers of extreme cleanliness, Hedgemonkey's white shirts blind you, then launch fresh Guinness stains onto your trousers.

**Hot For Joe**



Tradition 1/10    Speed 5/10    Alcoholism 5/10  
Dignity 9/10    Attack: Camouflage

Indiscernible from the usual folk festival zebras, Hot For Joe will sneak up to your campsite and (g)raze it to the ground.

COLLECT THEM ALL!  
More to come in following issues

**Ragged Band**



Tradition 8/10    Speed 6/10    Alcoholism 6/10  
Dignity 3/10    Attack: Pyromania

Beware these terrifying tattered turkeys and their Upton-Upon-Severn-Degree-Burns-If-You-Don't-Get-Out-Of-The-Way dance.

# PUB GAMES:

## DWILE FLONKING

According to The Friends Of The Lewes Arms, "The rules of the game are impenetrable and the result is always contested". However, less alcohol-centric authorities provide more clarity.

A 'dull witted person' is chosen as the referee or 'jobanowl' and the two teams decide who flonks first by tossing a sugar beet. The game begins when the jobanowl shouts "Here y'go t'gither!"

The non-flonking team joins hands and dances in a circle around a member of the flonking team, a practice known as 'girting'. The flonker dips his dwile-tipped 'driveller' (a pole 2-3ft long and made from hazel or yew) into a bucket of beer, then spins around in the opposite direction to the girters and flonks his dwile at them.

If the dwile misses completely it is known as a 'swadger' or a 'swage'. When this happens the flonker must drink the contents of an ale-filled 'gazunder' (chamber pot ('goes-under' the bed)) before the wet dwile has passed from hand to hand along the line of now non-girting girters chanting the ancient ceremonial mantra of "pot pot pot".

A full game comprises four 'snurds', each snurd being one team taking a turn at girting.

The jobanowl adds interest and difficulty to the game by randomly switching the direction of rotation, and will levy



drinking penalties on any player found not taking the game seriously enough.

Points are awarded as follows:

+3: a 'wanton' - a direct hit on a girtier's head

+2: a 'morthor' or 'marther' - a body hit

+1: a 'ripple' or 'ripper' - a leg hit

-1 per sober person at the end of the game

At the end of the game, the team with the most number of points wins, and will be awarded a ceremonial pewter gazunder.

## Morris Quiz Answers

19. The song is Tom O' Bedlam. The word bedlam, used often in morris circles, derives from the Bethlehem Royal Hospital, which was the first lunatic asylum in England. Tom was an inmate.
20. Black Joak and Red Raven
21. Cotswold, North-West
22. Because Rapsallion wasn't resurrected after its long sabbatical.
23. Jolley Hatters
24. Judi Elliot (head of the Grylls household)
25. Kim Brown
26. Nick Wilson...he failed to remain 'intact' one May Day morning.
27. Paul Gooding, Bron Lloyd & Kim Brown
28. Here the Hunter was a Norse god who led the Wild Hunt at Yule time each year. The dance comes from The Wild Hunt Border Morris in England, two of whom now dance with the Raggles.
29. Jolley Hatters
30. Pete Kerrawn (he's in the middle)
31. Gerry Amos
32. Jolley Hatters
33. Wild Mountain Morris.
34. Gerry Amos
35. Sean Arthur!...who else? (long story)
36. The Ragged Band/Dark Side Morris have featured (dancing with fire staffs) in two Woodford Fire Events. We think this is the largest audience we have had to date. Several of our members also pulled the rushcart into last year's event.
37. The Hills Morris, dedicated to the late Sylvia Bedford.

1. Strictly speaking they don't, but dance in the style of Ascot-Under-Wychwood
2. Jinky Wells (named after the famous Bampton muso)
3. Hot For Joe...with the aid of an unnamed Victorian Morris Man. (Though for a few pints we may tell you who.)
4. 21
5. The book was Reaper Man by Terry Pratchett. It describes the "other" Morris. See it here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8C-T70bX4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8C-T70bX4)
6. Steve Brand and Henry Sisley (faux pas with a woman and a group of women, respectively)
7. Two
8. Eliza Carthy and Nancy Kerr...in return for misappropriating said muso.
9. Jolley Hatters
10. Eliza Carthy
11. Kevan Jones
12. Not the year but the time the side was formed.
13. Lelia was unborn when she became the Squire of the side. She is now four and still Squire by unanimous decision.
14. Vego friendly non-leather.
15. Sydney Morris Men
16. Phil Wilson along with his brother Mark. (yes, of the famous Wilson Brothers, though Mark wasn't a dancer)
17. Nick Wilson (of the famous Wilson brothers) & Kim Brown...not a pretty sight, particularly when they took bows and the end! Some people are still in therapy.
18. Jolley Hatters

# FARMER MORRIS

## Background

The farm known as Little Foot-up has been in the possession of the Morris Family for several centuries. One of the fields is rectangular and is known as Cotswold Mead. Below are a number of clues to figures relating to the property which must be written in the appropriate places in the crossnumber framework.

## Challenge

When completed '2 down' will give the square of the age of Mrs. Strawberry, Farmer Morris's mother-in-law. How old is she?

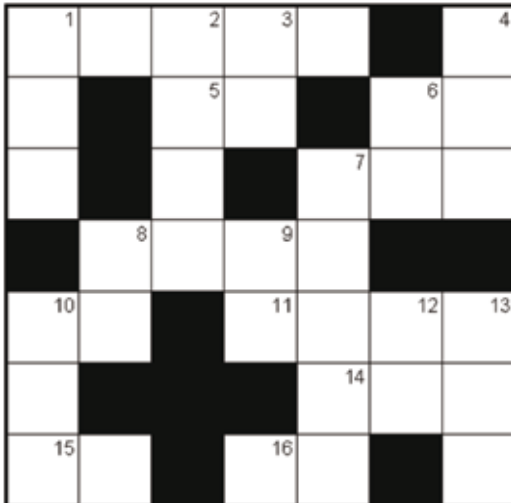
## Clues

The year of this puzzle is 1939.

4840 sq. yds. equal 1 acre.

4 roods equal 1 acre.

20 shillings equal 1 pound sterling.



## Across

1. Area of Cotswold Mead in square yards.
5. Age of Farmer Morris's daughter Martha.
6. Difference in yds. between length and breadth of Cotswold Mead.
7. No. of roods in Cotswold Mead times (x) '8 down'.
8. Year when Little Foot-up came into possession of the Morris family.
10. Farmer Morris's age.
11. Year of birth of Mary, Farmer Morris's youngest child.
14. Perimeter in yds. of Cotswold Mead.
15. Cube of Farmer Morris's walking speed in miles per hour.
16. '15 across' minus (-) '9 down'.

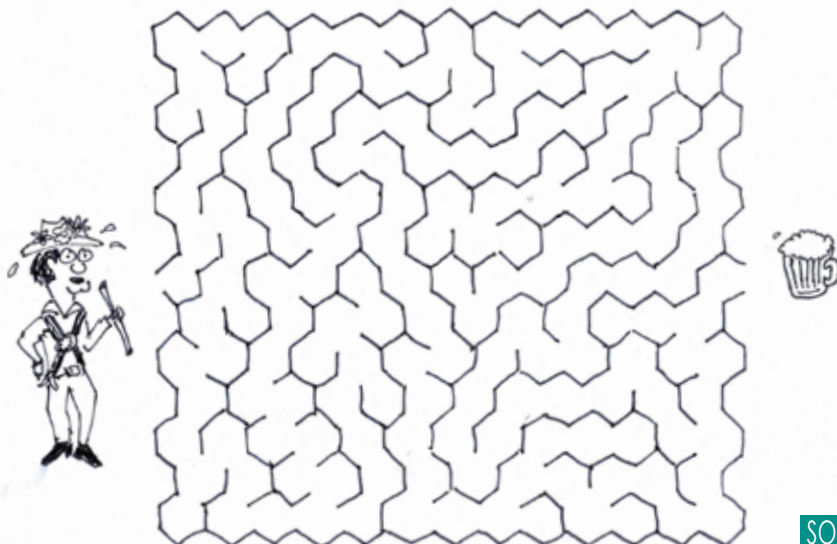
## Down (see above for 2 Down)

1. Value in shillings per acre of Cotswold Mead.
3. Age of Mary.
4. Value of Cotswold Mead in pounds sterling.
6. Age of Farmer Morris's first born, Ted, who was twice as old as Mary in 1935.
7. Square of the no. of yds. in breadth of Cotswold Mead.
8. No. of minutes it takes Farmer Morris to walk one and 1/3 times around Cotswold Mead.
9. See '10 down'.
10. '10 across' times (x) '9 down'.
12. One more than the sum of the digits in '10 down'.
13. Length of tenure in years of Little Foot-up by the Morris family.

Submitted by **John Watson, PMM**

## MAZE FUN

THIS POOR MORRIS DANCER HAS BEEN DANCING IN THE HOT SUN, HELP HIM FIND THE ICY BEER.



SOLUTION → PAGE 24

# NINE MEN'S MORRIS

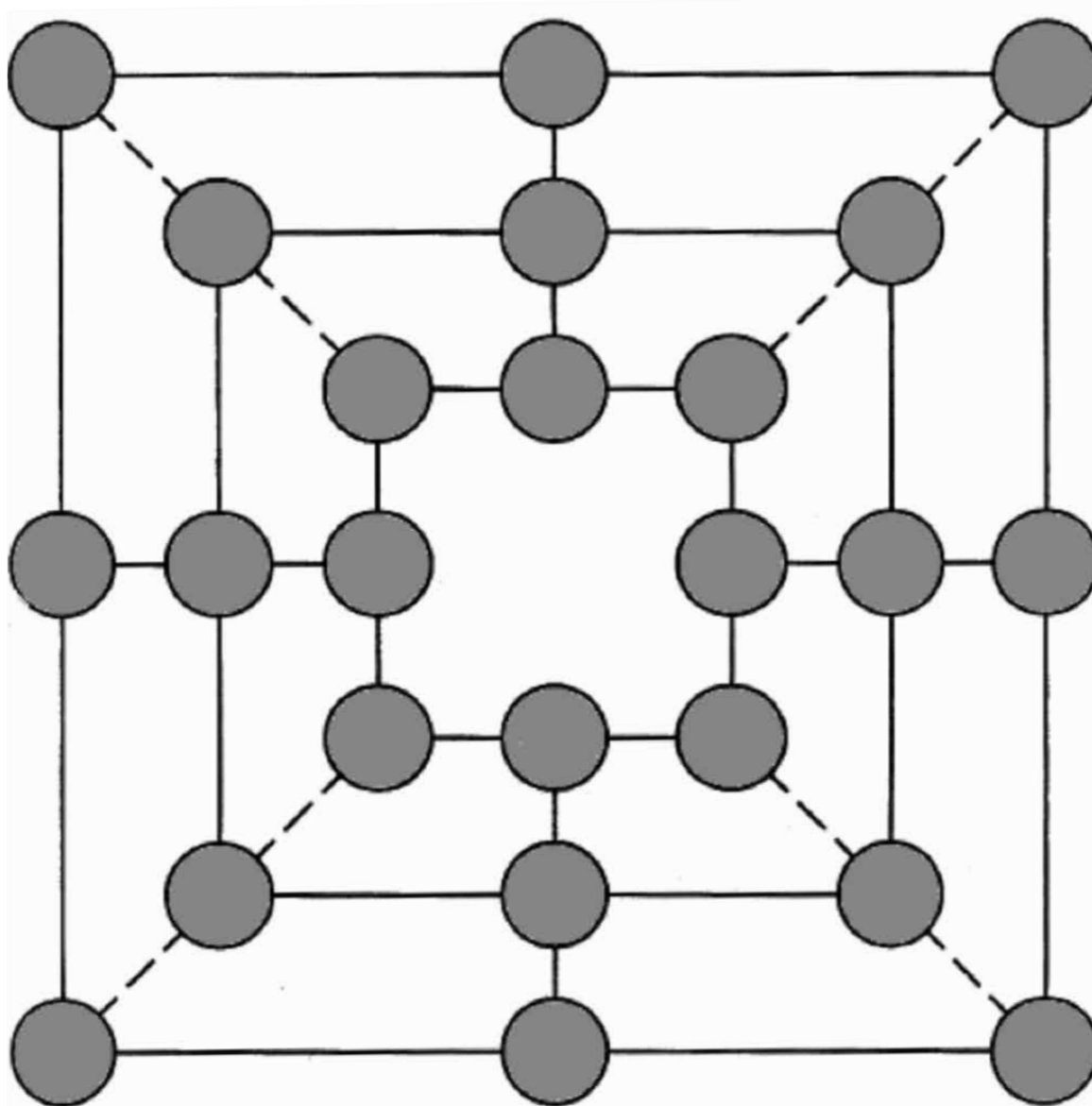
Nine Men's Morris is played on a board by two players who take turns. The players start with nine tokens each, one colour per player. To start the game, the players place their tokens on any of the available circles on the board. When all tokens are placed, the game enters the second part. Players now move their tokens. A token can be moved from one circle to another along the lines. Tokens can never be placed or moved to a slot that is already occupied.

Whenever a player forms a mill (three tokens in a row), they can take any opponent's token that doesn't belong to a mill. If all of the opponent's tokens are inside some mill then an exception is made and the player can take any token.

In the opening, it's possible to form two mills by placing a single token. The player still gets to take only one of the opponent's tokens.

The game is won by bringing the opponent to a position where they cannot move, or by reducing them to only two tokens.

Nine Men's Morris is played all over the world and it's known under many different names and spellings: 9 Men's Morris, Nine Man Morris, Mill, Mills, Merels, Merelles, Mérelles, Merrills, Mühle, Muehle, Mühlespiel, Molenspel, Jeu de Moulin...



Submitted by Terry Sweet, PMM

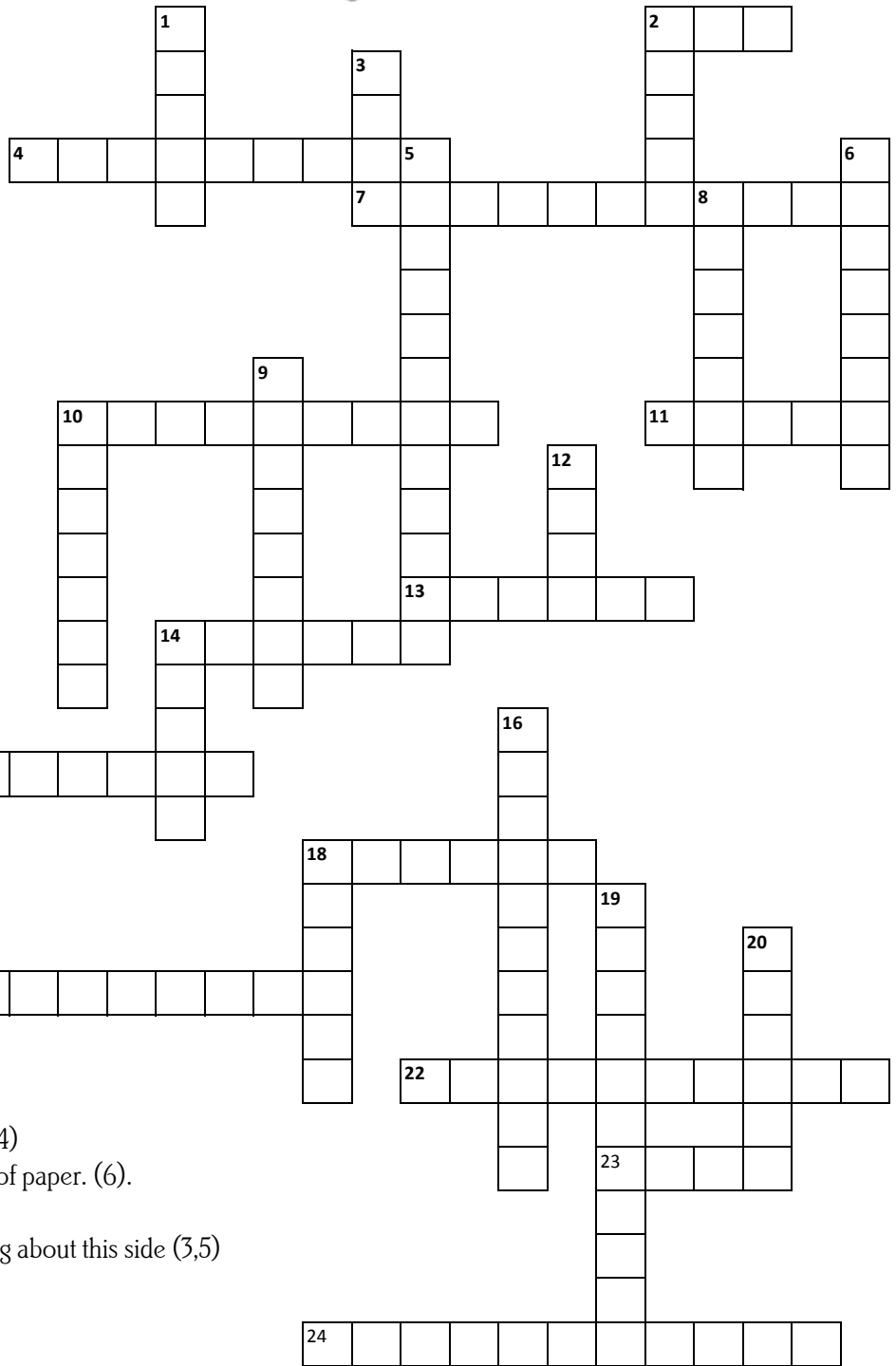
From [www.themathlab.com/games/Nine%20Man%20Morris/nineman.htm](http://www.themathlab.com/games/Nine%20Man%20Morris/nineman.htm)

# MORRIS CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

- 2. Sack the Treasurer. (3)
- 4 across, 1 down, 3 down. Follow this side's directions and you'll end up back where you started. (5,4,5,4)
- 7. Anakin would dance with these guys. (3,4,4)
- 10. S.A. Side crazy about Stalin. (3,3,4)
- 11, 13 across.  
Bet ape on this side. (5,6)
- 14 across, 14 down.  
Car driven by underage dancer? (6,5)
- 17. Graduate Politician has century old tradition (7).
- 18. Famous dance historian sounds like O Flat. (1, 5)
- 21. Lend a male mixed figure. (9).
- 22. Victoria's Grand Baron. (10)
- 24. Rings dogtail (or truant) from QLD. (11)



## DOWN

- 2, 12 down.  
Crazy Kojak Cab left Sydneyside. (5,4)
- 4. Give Leader direction and 24 sheets of paper. (6).
- 5. A trio of Arseholes from Upton. (5,7)
- 6. Sounds like Skyhooks guitarist ranting about this side (3,5)
- 8. Gulls not terns hold a hankie. (7)
- 9. Stretched Limo from Tassie? (8).
- 10. Happy Milliners from lassie. (7)
- 15. English Blonde from Sydney.(6,4)
- 16. Mad girl has rose in this dance. (11)
- 18. Pickled buds whilst dancing.(6)
- 19. Ball-brained cloggers? (11)
- 20, 23 across.  
Dang Badger!! (7 across) (6,4)

SOLUTION → PAGE 24

# SINGING SESSIONS

## BALLINA WHALERS

Steph and I were driving through Eden a few months ago, a town which sits high on the cliffs of southern NSW. The town has a sad yet proud history of whaling and today nothing has changed, except they have moved from whaling to foresting. Passing through I remembered an old Harry Robertson song and it's been stuck in my head since. The song is about whaling in Ballina, some might find the song offensive, I find it a part of Australian history and a great tune. I found this quote on Mudcat, sourced from the Harry Robertson Songbook, "Whaling Songs of Harry Robertson"

I found the whale chaser, Byron I, just after midnight.

Silhouetted against the background of sleeping Ballina, she lay quietly on the Richmond River. I was expected on board and after a brief talk with the gunner, a few hours' sleep, we cast off at dawn and headed out to sea and Byron Bay.

You can walk no further east in Australia than Cape Byron without emulating a feat performed only once before by Mr J.C.; we mortals, however, relied on the timber built, engine powered ex-naval 'Fairmile' to keep us afloat while we chased the humpback whales.

The crew on board this 'Brumbie' type whaling craft, to me,

epitomised the 'Have a go, Aussies'. With no history of icy whaling tradition behind them, they fronted up to the task of capturing 40 and 50 foot whales; this was indeed a far cry from prawn net and hand line which had been their main tools as trawler men.

They knew the coast, they knew the bay and they could read the weather signs more accurately than the weather bureau, consequently, their early advice enabled us to weather many a bad blow in the comfort of a Ballina hotel. Apart from the few thousand monstrous whales we caught in various hotel bars on such occasions, we delivered the required quota to the factory.

Concrete proof and a tribute to the adaptability of the Australian.

The most recognised tune for this song is the Nic Jones version from "Penguin Eggs"; however, he names the tune "The Humpback Whale" and changes some of the original words. It is a fantastic tune and Nic Jones is/was an unbelievable guitarist. It can be heard here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_gycUmvSC8Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_gycUmvSC8Y)  
Here is another great version of the song: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=xo2bVbDtIX8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xo2bVbDtIX8)

Henry Sisley,  
Black Joak

## Ballina Whalers Lyrics and Music Harry Robertson

In 'fifty-six I sailed on board a ship called 'Byron I',  
She carried trawler men on deck, and a harpoon whaling gun.  
With a tractor as a whale winch, the ship an old Fairmile,  
Twin diesels turned the props aroon', we whaled the Aussie style.

### Chorus

Heigh-ho ye trawler men come on, forget the snapper and the prawn,  
and it's out of Ballina we'll sail, a-fishing for the Humpback whale.

So keep a sharp lookout me lads, for the whale is on the run,  
and we'll chase them into Byron Bay, and we'll kill them with our gun.

The harpoon and the line fly true, bedding deep into the whale,  
but she split the timbers of that ship, with a flurry of her tail.

### Chorus

The rigging struts were snapped in two, we reeled beneath the blow,  
then the gunner fired the killer shot, and that Humpback sank below.  
Now make her tail fast to the bow, we've got no time for bed,  
for four-and-twenty hours each day, we kept that factory fed.

### Chorus

The flensing men upon the land, some had been jackaroos,  
but they skinned the blubber off them whales, like they'd skinned the kangaroos.

One hundred whales then fifty more, to the factory we did send,  
Til a message said, "Knock off me lads, the season's at an end".

### Chorus

Back in to Ballina we sailed, tied up and stowed the gear,  
then all hands headed for the pub, and we filled ourselves with beer.

### Chorus



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# DANCE NOTES:

## BORDER

### African Swallows

This contemporary border morris dance was taught at the NFF 2011 by Ragged Band.

#### Comments:

An excellent border dance that alternates circle and triangle formations between the figures and chorus. The dance originates from Mucky Mountains Morris, St Helens, England (ca. 1995), and these notes are based on Paul Carr's notation from Molonglo Mayhem Border Morris.

#### Music:

Cocking the Chafer by John Kirkpatrick (see below).  
AABB, where chorus is the BB (low part)

#### Stepping:

Border Double Stepping (DS)

Ragged Band start most dances on the right foot, so (R,hop,L,hop,R,L,R,hop etc.)

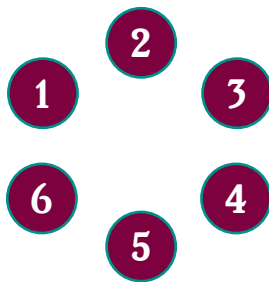
Molonglo and Mucky Mountains start on the left, so (L,hop,R,hop,L,R,L,hop etc.).

Chorus is static using long sticks (36 inches).

#### Formation:

Circles for figures, Triangles for Chorus.

Dance starts with a figure, with dancers on stage, notionally numbered thus:



#### Chorus:

Set forms a triangle: all facing up to 2 (top point) who faces down.

1 & 3 move in slightly and 5 steps forward to make the triangle.

Beats 1&2: 2 clashes 3 (clash person on left)

Beats 3&4: 2 clashes 1 (clash person on right)

1 & 3 turn to face "bottom row"

Beats 5&6: 3 clashes 4 & 1 clashes 5 (clash person on left)

Beats 7&8: 3 clashes 5 & 1 clashes 6 (clash person on right)

Clashes are forehand then backhand (2 beats) (note/ MM do backhand then forehand)

If not clashing another dancer, clash the ground for 2 beats

swinging stick from right to left and then left to right (fore, back).

Beats 9 to 16: clockwise (CLW) rounds finishing with an inverted triangular set facing 5 (bottom point), and repeat sticking:

Beats 1&2: 5 clashes 6

Beats 3&4: 5 clashes 4

4 & 6 turn to face "top row"

Beats 5&6: 4 clashes 2 & 6 clashes 1

Beats 7&8: 4 clashes 3 & 6 clashes 2

Beats 9 to 16: anti-clockwise (ACLW) rounds

#### Figures:

##### 1) Rounds:

Dance starts with dancers in circular set. 1DS facing into centre, 1DS turning CLW on the spot, 2DS dancing CLW rounds to place. 1DS facing into centre, 1DS turning ACLW on the spot, 2DS dancing ACLW round to place.

##### 2) Back to Back:

Back to back with partner (1&6, 4&5, 2&3) by the R shoulder in 2DS. Back to back with corner (1&2, 3&4, 5&6) by L shoulder in 2 DS; repeat all.

##### 3) Clover Leaf:

1st DS 1,3&5 dance into centre and nap (3 forehand clashes), 2nd DS 2,4&6 dance into the centre and nap while 1,3,5 dance L shoulder around their corners (nb. the person on their left) to place; repeat 4 times through (note/ on the last time through evens do not have enough time to clash so just dance in and back out in time for chorus).

##### 4) Circle Hey:

In circle formation, turn to face your partner, clash (forehand) and pass R shoulder, continue dancing in circle the way you are now facing (evens CLW, odds ACLW), clash the next person (backhand) and pass by the L shoulder, clash (fore) and pass R, clash (back, fore, back) with partner and clash again (fore) and pass R. 4 times through (that's twice around the circle) gets you home at the end of the music (note/ the stepping is different for this figure, mostly single stepping with triple clashes with partner to RLR on the spot).

# MASSED MORRIS

## 5) Basket:

All face in, dance to the centre in 4 steps clashing the ground behind on the way. Form basket by holding stick out in your R hand behind the person on R offering it to the person 2 places to your R, your L hand goes over the stick being placed behind you by the person on your L and

grabs the stick being offered 2 places to your L, lean back from the shoulders and brace each other (you have 1DS to set up the basket), circle L for 4DS, break the basket and dance radially for 1DS, turn in, 4 steps in clashing the floor behind and finish with sticks overhead in the centre and a mighty border roar.

## COCKING THE CHAFER (JOHN KIRKPATRICK)

AB?

(Border)

A



B



## THE SOLUTIONS...



MORRIS