

The English Morris...

...is often believed, probably wrongly, to be based on pre-Christian or Pagan ritual; in fact, its origins are unknown.

By the end of the 19th century, Morris was dying and mainly restricted to a handful of Cotswold villages. The remaining dances were rescued from extinction by a number of collectors (notably Cecil Sharp) and a revival began.

Today, hundreds of Morris sides across the United Kingdom and the wider world dance Cotswold Morris and many more perform other forms of traditional English dances.

In the North-East there are sword dances: Rapper (with flexible swords or rappers) and Longsword (rhythmic and elegant). The North-West has Clog Morris, whilst around the Welsh borders is Border Morris (a very vigorous form); in the fens the Molly dancers appear mainly during the winter. Other variants occur in different regions of the UK, such as here in Norfolk where a solo step dance is traditional.

Kemp's Men have their own tradition of "Norwich upon Wensum", largely based on the Norfolk Longdance, and reflecting many Norfolk traditions, events or places.

Want to try out the Morris? You'll be very welcome at our Wednesday practice sessions from 19:30 in St. Mark's Church Hall, Hall Road, Norwich, from 14th of October 2015.

email: kempsmen@hotmail.co.uk
web site: www.kempsmen.org.uk
facebook: <https://facebook.com/KempsMenOfNorwich>

Beeston Brewery...

...is pleased and proud to be associated with Kemp's Men. Our holistic approach to building a sustainable, traditional business in the countryside blends perfectly with the history of entertaining by dance; providing the essential refreshment required by all!

The story so far...

Beeston Brewery was founded in 2006 in a renovated farm building and overlooks Beeston Church and the tranquil valley beyond. This is a perfect setting to craft our fine beers.

Our water comes from deep in the Norfolk chalk from our private supply and is perfect for brewing real ale. Maris Otter malting barley, our main ingredient, is grown locally at Branthill Farm on the Holkham Estate. This is some of the finest malting barley on the planet.

We produce a number of real ales in different styles. Most goes out in casks to Norfolk pubs and other events, but we also produce bottles and 9-pint mini-casks. These are sold from shops in the area and direct from the brewery. Our original, award winning, and most popular beer is "Worth the Wait" 4.2% ABV. We hope you will give it a try and find that, as with the dancing, it is indeed the case.

Mark Riches (brewer) can be contacted on:
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KEMP'S MEN OF NORWICH



**Summer
programme
2015**

Kemp's Men of Norwich: History and Contacts

Kemp's Men of Norwich are a men's Cotswold Morris side named in honour of Will Kemp, colleague of Shakespeare, fellow shareholder in the Globe Theatre, Europe's most famous comic actor and Morris dancer extraordinaire.

Shakespeare and Kemp parted company and Kemp decided to prove that he was still the people's favourite, so in a sort of 16th Century publicity stunt, he danced from London to Norwich – all 117 miles.

In spite of primitive roads and winter weather, he achieved the feat in nine days of dancing (and wrote a book about it, giving us the phrase "a nine days wonder").

Our side was formed in 1956 and attracts young and old alike. The youngsters are our future, and our oldest member, 94 this year, still turns out.

This year, we welcome Perth Morris Men on 3rd June, all the way from Down Under, and we're off to the Folklore Fest at Winningen from the 26th.

We dance out on Wednesday nights from May to September and occasionally perform at fêtes, fairs and functions. To find out if we are available for your event please email us, or grab the Bagman.

If you would like to join us and help keep the tradition alive, we practise from October to April at St. Mark's Church Hall, Hall Road, Norwich, from 19:30 to 21:30. Please ask any member of the side for more details.

Squire: Mike Jones
Foreman: Pip Conrad
Bagman: --
Treasurer: Peter Mayne
Email: kempsmen@hotmail.co.uk
Web: www.kempsmen.org.uk
Facebook: <https://facebook.com/KempsMenOfNorwich>

Wednesday Dancing 2015

Whilst we fully intend keeping to the programme, there may be occasions when changes have to be made. Please check our web site for the latest information: www.kempsmen.org.uk

Date	Time	Venue	Place
May 13 th	19:45	Rising Sun	Coltishall
May 20 th	19:45	King's Arms	Reepham
May 27 th	19:45	The Mermaid	Elsing
June 3 rd	19:45	Ribs of Beef	Norwich, <i>with Perth Morris Men</i>
June 10 th	19:45	The Buck Inn	Norwich
June 17 th	19:45	Buttercross/Chequers	Bungay
June 24 th	19:45	Playhouse	Norwich
July 1 st	19:45	White Horse	Chedgrave
July 8 th	19:45	The Crown	Catfield
July 15 th	19:45	The Crown	Banningham
July 22 nd	19:45	White Horse	Upton
July 29 th	19:45	Dog Inn	Ludham Bridge
Aug 5 th	19:45	White Horse	Neatishead
Aug 12 th	19:45	Fishermans Return	Winterton
Aug 19 th	19:30	The Artichoke	Broome
Aug 26 th	19:30	Adam & Eve	Norwich, <i>with Norwich Jig Group</i>
Sept 2 nd	19:30	Wig & Pen	Norwich

Other Events We're Up For:

Friday, 1st May – 5.00 am – **May Day**, Sun Up on Mousehold Heath
– 10.00 am – Doughty's Hospital

Monday, 4th May – 12 noon – Shipdham Drynkyngs

Weekend 22nd – 25th May – Whit Tour – North Yorkshire

Weekend 26th – 29th June – Folklore Fest – Winningen

Saturday 4th July – Sheringham Potty Festival

Weekend 14th – 17th August – Knots of May Tour - Theberton, Suffolk

Weekend 21st – 24th August – Saddleworth Rushcart Week End 2015

Sunday 13th Sept – King's Men – Walking Tour of King's Lynn

Boxing Day (26th Dec) – Banningham Crown, 12 Noon - nr Aylsham