

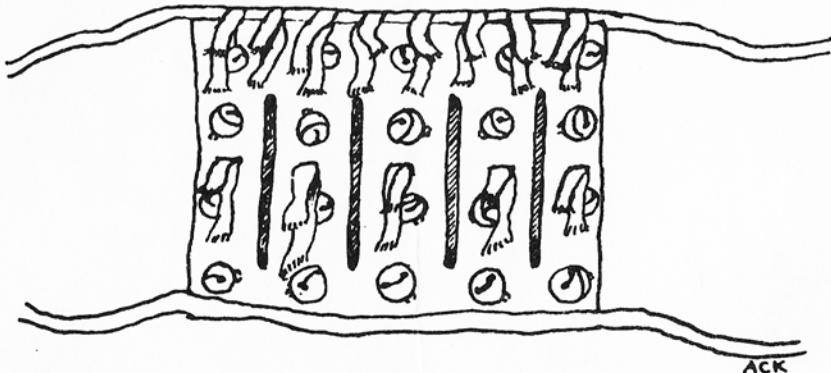
Morris Men's Bell Pads

HOW TO MAKE BELL PADS FOR MORRIS DANCERS - MEN

What you must buy for each pad - each dancer needs two pads so double quantities below if you are outfitting one dancer, or multiply by 12 if you are making for a "side" - 6 men.

A piece of pliable leather, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches square.
 3 yards, or less, of colored tape - this can be dyed.
 3 yards brightly colored braid, or equivalent, about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide. 2 shoelaces. 15 to 20 bells.

- Slit leather into five strips by making four lengthwise cuts, evenly spaced, with an uncut inch at top and at bottom of pad. Round the cuts slightly at top and bottom to prevent them from splitting further.
- Cut tape into two $1\frac{1}{2}$ yard lengths (or less) stitch one piece across the top and one across the bottom of the pad, leaving ends for tying around leg.
- Cut braid into 8 inch lengths (approx.) Fold each piece in two so that $\frac{1}{3}$ of length is on top. Stitch 8 of these folded pieces across top of pad (over the tape) so that each piece touches the next, and then stitch one piece halfway down each of the five strips (so that they all hang down, with the shorter end on top of the longer end.
- Pierce four evenly spaced holes along each of the five strips (if 20 bells are used). Knot the end of a shoelace and sew the end to the back of the pad, just above the top hole of an outside strip. Push the shank of a bell through the hole (towards the back of the pad), thread the shoe lace through the shank and knot it. Proceed in the same manner down the strip, across the bottom to the next strip, and so on. Fasten firmly on reaching the end of the last strip. Tie a second shoelace to the first one as needed. If the metal end of the shoelace is left on, it will be easy to thread.



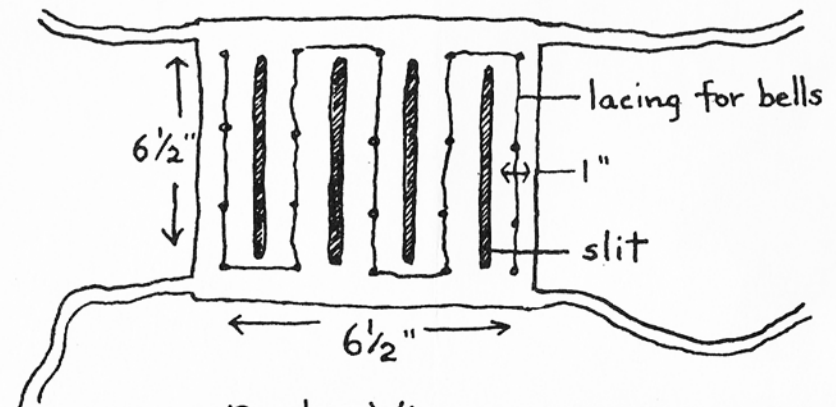
Front View

HOW THE BELL PADS ARE WORN

The pad is tied round the leg, just below the knee. The tapes are crossed at the back, brought round to the front of the leg and tied in a firm bow. The pieces of colored braid hang down over the bells. (Mark the "Top" of the pad on the back, in ink.)

If you are unable to obtain colored braid (wool is best) substitute any material that does not fray or curl - flannel or thin felt might be used. A variety of colors can be used, or just two, e.g. red and blue arranged alternately.

C.D.S. imports morris bells from England - we have been unable to find any in this country that have a good ring. We can supply you at 75¢ a dozen; but we cannot supply braid. The above requirements are for men's bell pads. For boys, the pads could be smaller and with fewer bells, as few as six on a pad. Strong canvas or other strong material could be substituted for leather. Bell pads are sometimes made in the style of a small rag rug, with the bells sewn in between the tufts.



Back View



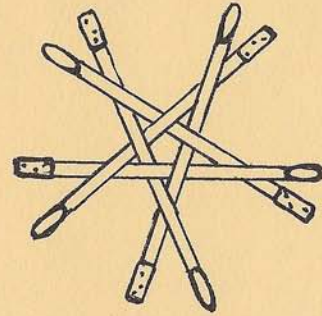
THE GREAT ENGLISH CAPER

Morris Dancing survives as the most live part of a ritual, designed to shake off the dark and evil of winter and celebrate the coming of spring; to promote growth and fertility in man and crop alike.

The Pinewoods New Englanders, a team of the Pinewoods Morris Men (U.S.A.) embark May 27 for a month of dancing with English teams by Pub, Village Green, Market Square and festival in Merrie Englands - the first American side to go over and dance where it all began long ago.

We seek your support! Share in the Morris luck! Show your loyal spirit! Every ha'penny increases the magic and assures the dancing life - contributions of all sorts are cheerfully accepted on the spot, and by post to our Bagman, Fred Breunig, Box 41, Wilton, New Hampshire, 03086 (603-654-6094).

UP WITH THE MORRIS IN AMERICA!
Help the men off on the
Great English Caper



THE MORRIS, AMERICA, and ENGLAND

The origins of the Morris are now lost to us but the dances, traditionally done by men, were probably part of a larger ceremonial to celebrate the return of spring. Until about a hundred years ago almost every Cotswold Village in England had its own 'side' dancing at Whitsuntide, its own local variants of the Morris dances. In other places in England similar dances have survived such as the Derbyshire or Lancashire Morris and from further north the Rapper and Long Sword dances.

While the social changes of the last century had a discouraging effect on the Morris, it did survive without a break in a few places. At Bampton in Oxfordshire the annual Whit Monday dancing in the village is unbroken and at Headington, near Oxford it was not forgotten, for it was here on Boxing Day, 1899 that Cecil Sharp first saw the Morris. His efforts and those of others began what is now an extensive, vigorous and enthusiastic revival of the dances, tunes and street plays. In addition to the eighty-odd Morris teams in the Morris Ring, there are many other local and informal groups. Morris has quietly become once more a basic part of English life.

The men who dance the Morris, dance it because they enjoy dancing it and also because they find that others enjoy watching it; we hope you have, and if you wish to know more about us or the Morris in general we shall be very pleased to talk with you.

The traditions of men's Morris and Sword dancing were introduced (along with English Country Dancing) into the U.S. in the Twenties and Thirties, and an enthusiastic group has kept these traditions very much alive. The (U.S.) Pinewoods Morris Men is the only overseas team accredited to the English Morris Ring.

We seek support for our team--The Pinewoods New Englanders--to go to England in June and dance with English teams by pub, green, market square and festival. While a handful of individual Morris dancers have individually visited and returned with rich memories and renewed spirit, we feel it is a right time for the first American team to journey to the source, share the dance and spirit, and acknowledge something of deep significance that is larger than either country or any team. We hope our experiences will add to the vitality of Morris in America. There are good grounds for anticipating a future visit by English teams to this Country.

Our minimum budget for a 22-day trip (eight men plus musician) is \$3000. We shall be most grateful for any contributions toward support of this venture. Contributions may be made directly to the team or to our Bagman, Fred Breunig, Box 41, Wilton, New Hampshire, 03086. ('Phone 603-654-6094).

✧ RING O' BELLS ✧

You are watching Ring o' Bells, a New York City based morris team, doing English Morris dances. Our team name comes from the title of a morris dance from Lichfield, England.

Morris dancing is one of the surviving rituals of renewal and fertility. It was danced, traditionally by men, to insure the reawakening of the earth each spring. The stamping feet, jingling bells, and clashing sticks are used to rouse the earth from her winter sleep. Traditional characters often accompany the team: the Fool, Unicorn, Hobby Horse.

The tour, during which the team visits various village greens and pubs, makes it possible for many people to participate in and enjoy the spirit of the rite. On-lookers may also share in the morris magic through the 'luck cake' and by contributing to the support of the dancers, who have given their own time and money for costumes and rehearsals to bring these dances to the public. (We also get very thirsty dancing!)

Morris dancing was 'rediscovered' at the beginning of the century by Cecil Sharp who was interested in keeping traditional English dance and music alive. He did this by collecting the folk songs and notating the morris dances he found in English villages. Each village has its own style and repertoire of dances which have been passed down from generation to generation. Some of our dances come from the village of Headington, near Oxford, where Sharp first saw morris dancing. Other dances are from Ilmington in Warwickshire, and Brackley, Northamptonshire.

The team is available for performances and workshops. If you would like to know more, feel free to ask any one of us. We hope you enjoy our dances.



WE ARE RING O' BELLS,

a morris team based in New York City. Morris is the traditional springtime dance, most often done by men, of the villages of southern England. It has been around since at least the Renaissance, and some scholars think it goes back to pre-Christian fertility rituals. It is thought that the clashing sticks and jingling bells awaken the earth and that the ceremony ensures good luck for the coming year.

THE TOUR,

during which the dancers visit various pubs and village greens (or street corners) makes it possible for many people to join in the spirit of the occasion. Onlookers can share in the morris magic by tasting the "luck cake" and by contributing a coin to the "bag", which helps pay for our rehearsal expenses and liquid refreshment.

RING O' BELLS

was formed in 1974, and has helped to spearhead the morris movement in this country. We have performed at festivals, schools, and museums throughout the northeast, including appearances at South Street Seaport, The Cloisters, One World Festival, the Citicorp Building Atrium, and WBZ-TV in Boston. In 1979 we became the first American women's team to tour England.

The group is available for performances and workshops. Please feel free to ask us for more information.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, 8:00 — 9:00 P.M.
7 TEMPLE STREET, CAMBRIDGE
MEMBERS \$4.50; REGULAR \$5.00

Discounts for team and series registrations

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre
presents
MORRIS AND SWORD DANCE CLASSES
1984-1985

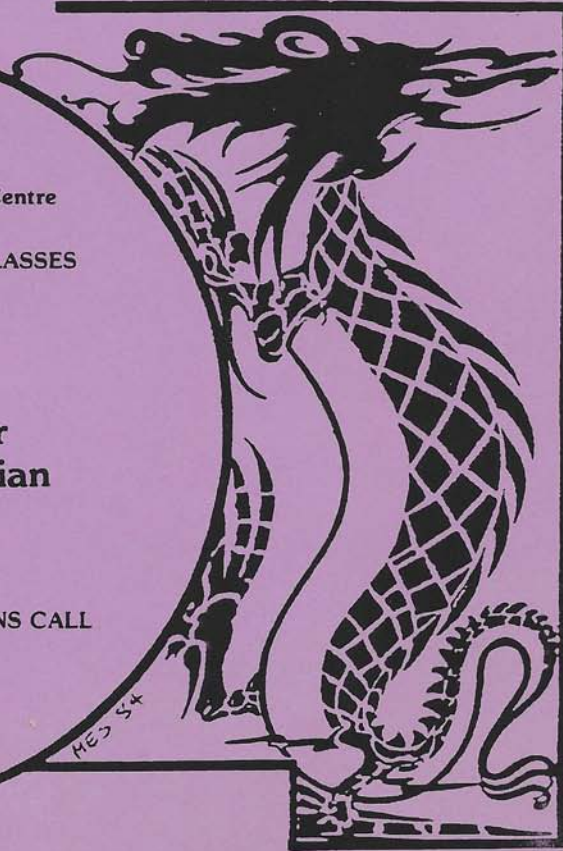
APRIL 3-APRIL 24
Jody Evans, Teacher
Tom Kruskal, Musician
Morris, Brackley

FOR BAD WEATHER CANCELLATIONS CALL
CDS OFFICE: 617/354-1340

Wear sturdy shoes.

Bring white hankies.

This is an open morris class.





RITUAL DANCE PROGRAM

1983



EXPERIENCED MORRIS

APRIL 27 - MAY 25, 1983

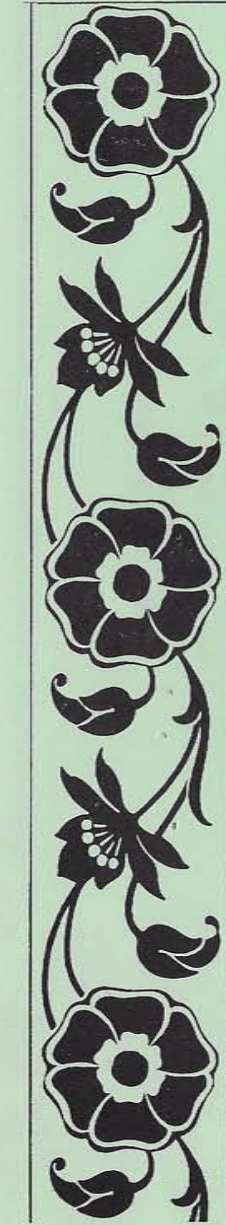
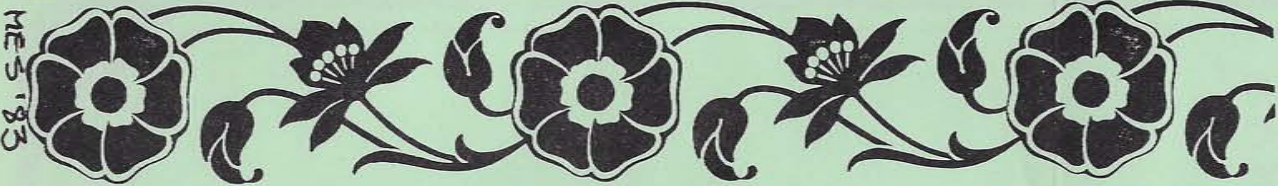
Tradition: "Ascot Under Wynchwood"
Leader: Jody Evans

Previous Morris Experience Requested

Fee:	Members	Non—Members
per class	\$3.25	\$3.75
series	\$16.25	\$18.75,

For bad weather cancellations or other information call CDS office:
617/235-6181

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre
309 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02181





Country Dance Society
Boston Centre
presents

MORRIS AND

SWORD DANCE CLASSES

1983-1984 SEASON

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
8:00-9:00 P.M.

7 Temple Street
Cambridge, MA
(Central Square)

Starting September 14:
BEGINNING MORRIS DANCE
TEACHER: JODY EVANS
TRADITION: SINGLE-STEP
BAMPTON

ALL WELCOME!

Bring white handkerchiefs and sturdy shoes
Cost per class: \$3.50, members- \$4.00, non-members
Series discount will be available

The Morris dances have a more checkered past. They grew, most likely, out of processional and similar ceremonies, but their history has been interrupted by numerous gaps. The Lancashire, or North-West, Morris may be closest to its processional origins; many of the dance figures are used to move from place to place. The Cotswold Morris has evolved into a sophisticated set dance, with a few solo "jigs" for dancers of exceptional ability. The Lichfield tradition from the Midlands is a curious mixture; it shares qualities of both Cotswold and North-West Morris. These dances are characterized by the bells which the dancers wear on their legs to accent the rhythms, and by the waving handkerchiefs which heighten the flow of the dance.

For bad weather cancellations or other information call CDS office:

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MES '83