

WHO ARE WE?

Dead Horse Morris Men & Broomdasher Ladies hail from the coastal town of Whitstable in Kent. We have been dancing for 40 years, entertaining audiences across Kent and beyond. The men's side performs a regional style of Kentish Morris whilst the ladies dance in the Border style. We dance around our home town of Whitstable and the area of the North Kent Coast that extends from Thanet in the East to Faversham in the West. Our season starts on St. George's Day (23rd April) and finishes in October with a further outing on Boxing Day. In addition to the traditional dance, we are renowned for playing traditional music, singing traditional songs and drinking traditional ale!

WHAT IS MORRIS DANCING?

The Morris tradition is extremely old. Just how old nobody really knows. The earliest written reference is thought to be from the annals of the Goldsmith's Company of London, recording a payment of 7 shillings to the 'Morys dancers', in 1448. However, it is possibly much older than that, with elements of the tradition appearing to be of pagan origin, performed at fire festivals held at the beginning, middle and end of the Dark Days of Winter. Although both Church and State have often disapproved of these traditions, and sometimes even outlawed them, the common people have kept them alive. Like all living things, they have changed with the passage of time. Different styles have arisen in different parts of the country at different times. Dead Horse, for example, bases their kit on Whitstable Longshoremen of the early 1900s, and we paint our faces as a disguise.

FAREWELL TO DUTCH

We sadly said a fond farewell to one of Dead Horse's most colourful characters, Andrew 'Dutch' Prockter, who passed away in February. Dutch danced with Dead Horse for many years but was best known for his great folk singing voice.



He also performed with Bishop Gundulfs Morris, The Shipwright's Shanty Crew and the Romanian Dance group Kitka. Dutch was also an enthusiastic re-enactor as an English Civil War Pikeman. He will be missed by many!

SPONSORS & CREDITS



A grateful thanks to all our Sponsors and Friends who help us keep our Morris Heritage alive with a special mention to Graham Ó Síodhacháin for some super pictures.

JOIN US

If you are interested in joining, please feel free to come and have a chat. We practise during the winter months in Whitstable on Monday evenings. If you can tell your right foot from your left and can count beyond three then you would be welcome to join. Have a go at our Recruitment Day in Whitstable on Saturday September 19th 11am-2pm

CONTACT US



Angali Clifton-Fearnside (Bagman)
Lesley Hoad (Captain)
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WWW.DEADHORSE.ORG.UK

WE ARE AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS,
FESTIVALS, WEDDINGS, FILM & TV

DEAD HORSE MORRIS & BROOMDASHERS DANCE STANDS 2026



40 GREAT YEARS OF MUSIC, SINGING & DANCING



APRIL

Thurs 23rd St George's Day, The Rose, Wickhambreaux, CT3 1RQ

Sat 25th St George's celebrations, Yellow Stocks, Sittingbourne, ME10 4PD (10am-1pm)

Sat 25th St George's celebrations, Goody's, Herne, CT6 7NP (3-5pm)

MAY

Fri 1st Dawn Rising Beacon Point, Whitstable, CT5 2BS and Whitstable Harbour, CT5 1AB (from 5am)

Fri 1st Whitstable Schools (9am-1pm)

Sat 2nd-Sun 3rd Sweeps Festival, Rochester

Mon 4th Whitstable May Day, Whitstable

Wed 13th Huntsman & Horn, Broomfield, CT6 7AF

Sat 16th Offcumduns Day of Dance, Deal

Tues 19th The Bear, Faversham, ME13 7AG (with Bishop Gundulph's Morris)

Mon 25th Heron Angling Society, Herne Bay, CT6 8RP (1-3pm)

Thurs 28th Red Lion, Lenham, ME17 2PG (with Boughton Monchelsea Morris)

JUNE

Wed 3rd The Bell & Crown, Canterbury, CT1 2DZ (with Wild Women)

Wed 10th The Gate Inn, Boyden Gate CT3 4EB (with Offcumduns)

Mon 15th Windmill, Burham, ME1 3RJ (with Kent Korkers)

Wed 24th The Red Lion, Hernhill, ME13 9TU (with Motley Morris)

JULY

Sat 4th Sandwich Folk & Ale Festival, Sandwich

Wed 8th The Chequers, Doddington, ME9 0BG

Wed 15th The King Ethelbert Inn, Reculver, CT6 6SU (with Offcumduns)

Sat 11th Loose Women 40th Birthday bash, Tenterden & Hop Farm, Paddock Wood

Fri 17th-Sun 19th Dead Horse 40th Birthday Morris Ale, Herne CT6 7NP & Whitstable

Sat 25th Herne Bay Folk Festival, Herne Bay (11am-3pm)

Wed 29th Golden Lion, Broad Oak, CT2 0QJ

AUGUST

Sat 1st Whitstable Carnival Day, Whitstable Library Square, CT5 1DB (12-2pm)

Wed 5th The Rose, Wickhambreaux, CT3 1RQ

Fri 7th-Fri 14th Broadstairs Folk Week, Broadstairs

Wed 19th (TBC)

Wed 26th Ale and Blooms, Tankerton, CT5 2AN (7:30pm)

Mon 31st Dymchurch Day of Syn, Dymchurch, (10am-4pm)

SEPTEMBER

Sat 5th- Sun 6th Faversham Hop Festival, Faversham.

Sat 12th Hop Hoodening, Canterbury Cathedral & Canterbury.

Sat 19th Dead Horse Recruitment Day, Zizzi's, Whitstable CT5 1BU & Whitstable Harbour, CT5 1AB (11am-2pm)

Sat 26th Black Swan Day of Dance, Carshalton

OCTOBER

Sat 10th Goody's Green Hop Day, Goodys Brewery, Herne, CT6 7NP (1-4pm)

DECEMBER

Sat 26th Mince Pie Extravaganza, Whitstable Harbour, CT5 1AB (12pm & 1pm)

40 GREAT YEARS OF MUSIC, SINGING & DANCING

Most midweek stands start at 8pm, but please note this is GMT (General Morris Time)
Stands are rarely cancelled, but check for updates on www.deadhorse.org.uk