

Wayford Workshop 1 - an introduction to Cotswold Morris Dancing for Novices

Town Hall, Saturday, 11.45 – 13.15

Presented by Dr Turberville's Morris from Crewkerne, Somerset.

Andrew Knight, Foreman of Dr Turberville's Morris from Crewkerne in Somerset will present an introduction to the Wayford tradition for beginners in Cotswold Morris Dancing.

Dr Turberville's has been dancing and developing the Wayford tradition since its creation in 1992 and there are now around 20 dances, including set dances for 4 and 6 and a number of solo and partner jigs. The Wayford tradition is danced in big, wide sets providing plenty of room for fast and vigorous movement. The aim is for height, distance of travel, showiness and a general impression of energy, although movements should be accurate and lines should be maintained at all times. The general character can be described as a blend between Cotswold and Border styles.

Andrew Knight has danced with Dr Turberville's since 2001, having previously been a member of The Morris of Castle Cary, and Wells Morris, and has been Foreman since 2002. He has been instrumental in developing the current style of the side, while working within the constraint that Dr Turberville's strives to be an inclusive side open to people with a wide range of physical ability. Andrew has successfully taught and led workshops at all levels from the general public / complete beginners to experienced dancers, and has also taught by invitation at sessions for other morris sides. In this workshop he will be joined by a very talented and experienced band of musicians led by Tony Warren.

In this workshop, which is aimed at people with some aptitude for dancing but not necessarily any previous experience of Cotswold Morris, Andrew will teach the basics of two dances (if time permits) which serve to give a feeling for Cotswold Morris generally and the Wayford tradition in particular. The dances taught will include a hankie dance - possibly *The Blue Eyed Stranger*, and a stick dance - possibly *The Cuckoo*, both danced in sets of 6. In the course of the workshop Andrew will teach the basics of the main Wayford figures common to all dances, and the essence of some of the standard steps. There may also be time to touch on how the Wayford dances are similar to (and different from) the figures of other Cotswold Morris dances.

Detailed dance notes will be available and a book on the whole Wayford tradition will be available for pre-order, and more information can be found on the Dr Turberville's website at:

<http://dr-turbervilles.awardspace.co.uk/Index.html>

Wayford Workshop 2 - finer points of the style for Intermediate Dancers

Town Hall, Sunday, 11.45 – 13.15

Presented by Dr Turberville's Morris from Crewkerne, Somerset.

Andrew Knight, Foreman of Dr Turberville's Morris from Crewkerne in Somerset will present a workshop in the Wayford tradition for intermediate dancers with some knowledge of Cotswold Morris Dancing.

Dr Turberville's has been dancing and developing the Wayford tradition since its creation in 1992 and there are now around 20 dances, including set dances for 4 and 6 and a number of solo and partner jigs. The Wayford tradition is danced in big, wide sets providing plenty of room for fast and vigorous movement. The aim is for height, distance of travel, showiness and a general impression of energy, although movements should be accurate and lines should be maintained at all times. The general character can be described as a blend between Cotswold and Border styles.

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This workshop is aimed at people with some experience of Cotswold Morris (or fast learners!), as well as anyone who attended the introductory workshop on Saturday; attendance at that workshop will not be assumed. In this session Andrew will teach a couple of the more complex dances, revisiting the common figures and working on some of the points of detail. The aim will be to learn the dances, whilst also trying to impart an understanding of the overall stylistic aims of the tradition.

Detailed dance notes will be available and a book on the whole Wayford tradition will be available for pre-order, and more information can be found on the Dr Turberville's website at:

<http://dr-turbervilles.awardspace.co.uk/Index.html>

Biography - Andrew Knight, Workshop Leader

Danced with Wells Morris Dancers and The Morris 1992-97 and Dr Turberville's Morris 2001 to present.

- 1992 Learned the Cotswold style and danced 4 and 6 person set dances and two jigs within a year.
- 1995-7 Foreman of The Morris.
- 2001 Joined Dr Turberville's Morris.
- 2002 Fool for Dr Turberville's Morris; elected Foreman; a post held since.
- 2004 Taught workshops with Dartmoor Border.
- 2008 Started and ran the Somerton Morris Fringe in conjunction with The Somerton Summer Arts Festival. Ran workshops aimed at beginners alongside the evening dancing at the Fringe.
- 2009 Taught Cotswold Morris to and supported the creation of *The Girls with Bells* a youth side in Purley, Surrey.
- 2009 In conjunction with *The Girls with Bells*, created and directed two dances to modern popular songs.
- 2011 Taught Wayford as part of Sarum Morris' workshop day at Coombe Bisset.
- 2011 Founded *The Knights of King Ina* - a jig side studying Jig dancing and the variations in English Jigs.