

RUTLAND MORRIS'S WEEKEND OF DANCE : THE ITINERARY

Welcome to Sunny Rutland ! This year we are being mindful of the environment and have planned a low mileage tour...so minimum coach journeys and maximum dancing...be warned!

SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER

10.00am We leave Exton

10.30 Dance in OAKHAM in Gaol Street.

Dry stop. (No dashing off to supermarkets for early bottles) For those new to the area Oakham is the county town with a population of about 12,000. Gaol Street is theoretically pedestrianised and is the main thoroughfare twixt the High Street (Funeral Parlour) and South Street (Tesco)

11.30 Dance in Uppingham in Market Square, and Crown Passage

Uppingham is the second most populous location –just- with about 4,500 folk. Plenty of Pubs to choose from. Best two would be “The Vaults” in the Market Square (newly refurbished with decent beer at newly refurbished prices) and “The Crown” in the High Street (Rutland CAMRA Pub of the Year) We will be dancing adjacent to both.

1.00 Dance at Exeter Arms Barrowden

Probably the prettiest dancing spot for many a mile. Site of the BBC (Barrowden Brewing Company). All the ale on sale here is brewed in the brewery in the converted barn to the rear of the pub. Of interest will be “Pilot” at 2.6% ..a proper driving beer.

1.30 Lunch

3.00 Dance at Fox North Luffenham

Newly installed landlord, so no track record. There is also a South Luffenham before you ask. Quiet sleepy villages. So we are not expected to be mobbed here.

4.14 Dance at Horse & Jockey Manton

This is where we retire after our winter practice sessions. YES we do practice!!!. This pub relies heavily on the fact that it is on the walking and cycling circuit of Rutland Water, which you will see on our right after the railway bridge when we leave this spot . Watch out for Ospreys The pub has just opened its new car park , which locals still come to gasp at and declare it to be one the finest architectural sites in Rutland.

5.15 Tea & Cakes at Exton Village Hall

Hoorah! Mary's cakes are always a highlight of Rutland Morris's activities. Relax a while before our next dancing spot just over the way. Exton's village green is one of the finest in the area and is worth a stroll round at some time if you have the energy. Chocolate box cottages hide some local poverty , and in days of yore a lack of mixing with other villages has created some interesting family structures

OVER

6.00 Dance at Fox & Hounds Exton

Summon those weary limbs for one last heave before dining. It's generally getting dark by now ,so mistakes (surely not) brought on by fatigue(of course) are generally not noticed.

7.30 Feast in Village Hall

Food provided by Sarah, our favourite outside caterer. Oakham Ales **Beer**, originally brewed by a CAMRA champion Brewer of Great Britain John Wood , who, just happens to be one of our musicians. **Cider**, brewed in the village of Wymondham, provided by John Barsby again one our happy throng.

Post Feast

Dancing for as long as we can...and so to bed

SUNDAY 21 OCTOBER

8.00 am (ish) Breakfast at Fox & Hounds

This Full English is included in the "Full Monty" price . "Don't know how we do it" (Treasurer)

10.00 Dance at Barnsdale Hall

We dance in the car park outside the Hall's reception. Beautiful views over Rutland Water if it isn't raining. If it is raining then it's miserable, but we have previously bullied our way to dance on their beautiful reception carpet...even with a NW side! We'll see. Collect like crazy from tourists with more money than sense. We've got to pay for breakfast somehow.

11.00 Dance at Hambleton

A tiny village on Rutland Water's peninsula. A relaxing and reflective stop. We can sup up any remaining beer here from our mobile bar. Don't tell!

11.45 Dance at Lord Nelson in Market Square Oakham

Newly refurbished pub which will open at 12 Noon. Good range of beers again at refurbished prices.. The market square contains a "Butter Cross" with ancient stocks

12.30 Final Dance/s at Grainstore adjacent to Oakham station

This means that we will have danced at both of Rutland's breweries. The Grainstore Brewery has a national reputation and has just won (again) prestigious prizes at the Nottingham Beer Festival. Sunday lunches are available here if you want.

Thank YOU for coming to our humble event. We have had a busy time of it recently. We toured Cotswold villages last month dancing in Adderbury , Oddington , Bledington, Leafield, Bampton and Badby and other non traditional stops . This was a very enjoyable weekend and it was good to feel a bit of the tradition seeping into our (weary) bones. Also we have managed 24 dance outs including our usual 5.17am (don't ask) dance session on may 1st in Uppingham Market Square. Our thoughts will soon move to our version of Border dancing which we perform in the winter season, and ,of course, to our world famous Mummers Play which we tour the county close to Christmas . "In comes I good Dr Sirus ,known to cure...."