



# East Suffolk Morris Men



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## Golden Jubilee 2008



East Suffolk Morris Men are proud to announce that 2008 is their Golden Jubilee season - 1<sup>st</sup> May to 6<sup>th</sup> Oct.

For 50 years we have danced our way around Suffolk, the rest of the UK and 14 countries over 4 continents. Now it's time to celebrate.

We have organised seven events starting at dawn on May 1<sup>st</sup> (5am) at Felixstowe Beacon when we welcome in the Summer. Coincidentally, this also celebrates the birthday of our founder Des Herring who is 80 this year and still dancing. Des also wears our Hobby Horse "Constant Billy" - both are pictured on our Jubilee logo above. Billy is much older - foaled at Summerhill School Leiston, he started dancing with the Suffolk Men in 1935.

In our Jubilee events we are engaging many communities hoping that more people become aware of what we do and come to join us. Our Jubilee concert features the Demon Barber Roadshow – a high energy folk dance and music spectacular featuring Morris, Sword and Clog dancing. We will be holding a Children's Festival where we will introduce Suffolk schoolchildren – the next generation of musicians, singers and dancers - to their heritage.

Over the years we have made many friends overseas – and have entertained them here in the UK. This year we will be hosting Zonne from Belgium and Kursiu ainiai from Lithuania to dance and sing around Suffolk. Of course we are not forgetting our Morris friends from the UK and Europe who we will be entertaining on our traditional Whit Monday tour of the Suffolk Wool Towns and later in the year at other East Suffolk locations.

Finally, we will be hosting a celebration for Friends and Family where we hope to bring together as many of our 122 members past & present who can still lift a foot and caper to join with those who have helped and supported us over the years.

If you would like to join in our celebrations or want more information, please visit our website [eastsuffolkmorris.com](http://eastsuffolkmorris.com) or email us at [esmm@btinternet.com](mailto:esmm@btinternet.com) .



A data DVD Archive containing thousands of pictures, documents, audio and video clips from our 50 years is now available – details on our website.



# East Suffolk Morris Men



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## East Suffolk Morris Men - Profile

East Suffolk Morris Men (ESMM), based in Ipswich, have been dancing since 1958. You may have seen us at events dressed in white with blue waistcoats. Our “Ship” emblem is taken from the Ipswich & Felixstowe insignia, and decoration from Ipswich colours.

We mainly perform the Cotswold tradition of dances, but in winter we also include dances from the Welsh borders dressed in colourful tatter coats. Some of ESMM perform sword dances from the North East of England, and traditional Mummers Plays.



There is a long history of dancing Morris around Ipswich. We have picture archives of people dancing around the turn of the C19. “Billy”, the Hobby Horse was made at Summerhill School, Leiston in the 1930s for the Suffolk Morris Men, he then joined ESMM in 1968.

“Billy” has been with us on our many tours around the County, the rest of the UK and abroad – 49 overseas tours, 14 countries across 4 continents including Arras in France which is twinned with Ipswich, Pakistan, Jordan, U.S.A. and Taiwan.

We have often been asked to represent the British Council, East Anglian Tourist Board, civic and commercial bodies at Festivals, Trade Fairs etc. worldwide. In the UK, some of our Members have been involved in running and performing at Folk Festivals such as the Felixstowe Folk International Festival.

Through our contacts, we have brought many visitors to sing, dance and play music in Ipswich. This year in June we will host performers from Lithuania (seen right) and Belgium.



Our aim is to enrich our community’s cultural experience by bringing the best of local English and overseas heritage of music, song and dance to Ipswich and surrounding areas.



### East Suffolk Morris Men in Numbers

- 1274 Club night performances in Ipswich Area
- 1265 Man-years of dancing over 50 years
- 122 Members – 34 currently performing
- 76 Dance repertoire – 17 traditions + Sword
- 74 (average) Suffolk performances per year
- 49 Overseas tours, 14 countries 4 continents



# *East Suffolk Morris Men*



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## *Golden Jubilee 2008 – Events*

**May 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Celebrating start of Summer - and East Suffolk Morris Jubilee Season**

Dancing at Dawn (5am) Felixstowe Beacon followed by breakfast at Felixstowe Ferry

**May 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Spring Bank Holiday traditional tour of Suffolk Wool Towns**

Throughout our 50 years we have made a tour of Suffolk Wool towns. This year we will be at Sudbury Mill 11:00am, Long Melford – The Bull at 12:00pm, Lavenham Square 16:30pm and Kersey watersplash 17:30pm

**June 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Friends and Family Celebration**

An evening of music, dance and song with our families and our many friends who have supported & assisted us over the years

**June 25 – 1<sup>st</sup> July**

**Overseas Guests from Lithuania and Belgium**

We are delighted that some of our friends from Europe are coming to join with our celebrations. They will be singing and dancing in locations around Suffolk

**July 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Children's Festival**

The next generation of singers, performers and dancers are important to us. In association with SCC education Dept., we have organised a series of events where schoolchildren can dance traditional dances, hear East Anglian songs and see the Morris danced. We hope to inspire them to keep our traditions alive

**July 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Concert – The Demon Barber Roadshow**

**(in association with Peppery Productions and Ip-art)**

This is a high-impact concert of music, song, Clog and Morris dancing – showing what the younger generation are up-to

**Sep 13<sup>th</sup>**

**East Suffolk Jubilee Tour**

We have invited some of our English and European Morris friends to come and dance with us around our Suffolk Villages. You can see us at Rendham Village – White Horse 10:30am, Snape Maltings 12:00pm, Aldeburgh - Moot Hall 14:30pm and Earl Soham – The Victoria 17:00pm.



# *East Suffolk Morris Men*

*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*



*Golden Jubilee 2008*  
*Celebrating start of Summer*  
*and East Suffolk Morris Jubilee Season*  
*May 1<sup>st</sup> Dawn (5am) Felixstowe Beacon*



For many years we have gathered at dawn on May 1<sup>st</sup> to celebrate the start of our summer season of dancing. Felixstowe Beacon is a prominent point overlooking the North Sea facing the easterly horizon. As the sun rises we dance - often in the presence of the "Green Man" a traditional symbol of rebirth and optimism for the coming season of growth and fecundity.

This year is not only our Golden Jubilee year, but it also the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of our founder Des Herring who has been dancing continuously with us over our 50 years. Des also rides "Billy" our Hobby Horse who has an even longer history in Suffolk having been born at Summerhill School in Leiston in 1935 and danced with the Suffolk Morris Men until the early '60s. Des and Billy feature on our Jubilee logo as seen above.

After dancing, we move to the Café at Felixstowe Ferry for breakfast and song.



# East Suffolk Morris Men



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## *Golden Jubilee 2008* *Spring Bank Holiday Tour of Suffolk Wool Towns*

The earliest recorded event in our Archives is a dancing tour around the Suffolk Wool Towns of Sudbury, Lavenham, Long Melford and Kersey – amongst others.

This picture shows us in the Market Square in Lavenham



Over the 50 years of our history we have repeated this tradition on Spring Bank Holiday and we will be retracing our steps again this year:



Sudbury	The Mill	11:00am
Long Melford	The Bull	12:00pm
Lavenham	The Square	16:30pm
Kersey	Watersplash	17:30pm

We will be accompanied on our tour this year by members of local Morris sides.



# *East Suffolk Morris Men*



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## *Golden Jubilee 2008* *Friends and Family Celebration* *7<sup>th</sup> & 8th June*

Over our 50 years we have enjoyed the warm support of our Families and Friends. This event is a big thank you to all.

We are contacting as many ex-Members and Friends of the side as possible to join the current members for the opportunity of renewing acquaintances, testing the joints and impromptu Morris and Community Dancing. This will be based on the "Bullock Yard" at Broughton Hall – which gives adequate under cover space should the elements be against us. The Bullocks have long been evicted!



On Sunday there will be a celebratory service at Stonham Aspal Church at 9:45am. The Morris Band will provide the music which will be followed by a bit more dancing.

We will then move on to the Museum of East Anglian Life in Stowmarket for more dancing and the opportunity for refreshments.

Saturday 7th June 2008  
7:00pm

**Barbecue, Music & Dancing**  
Broughton Hall  
Stonham Aspal  
Suffolk IP14 6AD  
[broughtonhallfarm.co.uk](http://broughtonhallfarm.co.uk)

Sunday 8th June 2008  
9.45am

**Thanksgiving Service**  
Stonham Aspal Church

And afterwards...

Sunday 8th June 2008

**Dancing at...**  
**Museum of East Anglian Life**  
Stowmarket



# East Suffolk Morris Men



eastsuffolkmorris.com  
esmm@btinternet.com

## Golden Jubilee 2008 Overseas Guests from Belgium & Lithuania 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June

We have enjoyed many tours abroad as guests of Government, Commercial organisations, and of course like-minded groups of singers and dancers at Festivals and local events etc.



We met Zonne Dansegroep from Belgium at a festival in Jerusalem and Kursiu ainiai in Estonia at a Baltic Festival. Since then we have exchanged visits several times and we are delighted to welcome both groups to our Golden Jubilee.

A profile of both groups is shown over...

The two groups are of quite different styles. Kursiu ainiai are mainly singers / musicians who do a little dancing, and Zonne are the other way around.

We have arranged a number of performing events for both groups together and separately – some of which are Corporate, but you can meet us:

### Sat 28<sup>th</sup> June

Framlingham	Market Square	11:00am (in conjunction with Framlingham Arts Festival)
Peasenhall	TBD	

### Sun 29<sup>th</sup> June

Stonham Church (Kursiu ainiai)	09:45am
Ipswich (Zonne)	TBD
Framlingham Church	19:00 (Concert – Framlingham Arts Festival)

### Mon 30<sup>th</sup> June

ESMM Club Night event TBD



# East Suffolk Morris Men



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## *Folkdance Group Zonne – Turnhout – Belgium*



Folkdance Group Zonne was founded in 1957 and currently have 85 members ranging from 6 to 82 years of age.

Their dance programme is international in style – English, Balkan, Israeli, Greek, Armenian and Flemish dances. They also include Morris dance into their repertoire.

Zonne have travelled extensively to festivals across Europe and the Middle East, and have special partnerships with Folklore Gruppe Linsengericht in Germany and with Godollo from Hungary as well as East Suffolk Morris Men in England.



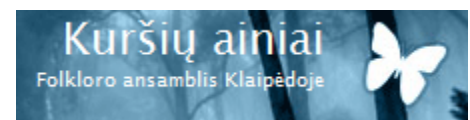
Beside the weekly dancing sessions Zonne also like to offer their members some cultural and recreational activities - guided city tours , nature walks and cultural holidays ( guided tours in Israel , Turkey , Italy and Thailand )

Volkskunstgroep Zonne VZW – Boomstraat 11 – 2300 Turnhout

☎ 014 720065 ✉ [zonne@pandora.be](mailto:zonne@pandora.be) 🌐 <http://users.pandora.be/zonne>

## *Kursiu ainiai – Neringa – Lithuania*

Kursiu ainiai was formed in 1991 and has about 30 members. They focus on the folklore of the people living around the Curonian Lagoon near Klaipeda.



The group mainly features music and song (with a little dancing) and give 50-60 concerts per year. They have travelled widely over Europe and the Baltic states, and have also given concerts in Russia and Japan. Their musical style features distinctive songs with gentle harmonies and melancholy tones with some German influences.

The band consists of bandoneón, fiddles, folk double-bass, bagpipes, dulcimer, ožragis (goat-horn), psalter, Lithuania Minor zither-harp, button accordion, panpipes, wooden trumpets, chalumeau.

<http://kursiuainiai.wordpress.com/english/>



# *East Suffolk Morris Men*



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## *Golden Jubilee 2008* *Children's Festival*



As part of our Golden Jubilee celebrations we would like to involve those who we hope will be the next generation of traditional dancers, singers and musicians – our local schoolchildren.

On 10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> July 2008, we will host a Children's Folk Festival. We will hold a series of half-day events at the Kesgrave Community Sports Hall Nr Ipswich where parties of schoolchildren can come together and dance our traditional country dances, see the Morris danced, and listen to some traditional East Anglian songs.

The music and dance will be performed by the East Suffolk Morris Men who have formed an ad-hoc band - "Billy's Boys" in honor of our Hobby Horse "Constant Billy". We are, of course, used to playing together for the Morris and at song sessions after dancing. Many of our men are involved in other bands and regularly call dances around Suffolk.



We have been working with the help and support of Suffolk County Education Dept through their PE / Dance coordinator to ensure the country dances complement the school curriculum. Their help in engaging with the Schools has also been most welcome.



# East Suffolk Morris Men



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## *Golden Jubilee 2008* *A Celebration Concert*



in conjunction with  
**Peppery Productions**  
and  
**Ip-art**



## **The Demon Barber Roadshow**

**A high energy folk dance and music spectacular!**

**Ipswich Corn Exchange Saturday 12th July 2008**

**Tickets £12.50 from Corn Exchange Box office**

Over the last seven years The [Demon Barbers](#) have gained major recognition for their original and imaginative approach to traditional music, song and dance. With Damien Barber (vocals and concertina), Bryony Griffiths (fiddle and vocals) and Will Hampson (melodeon) retaining a solid traditional English base, the band's unique sound is compounded by the driving rhythm section of Ben Griffiths and Lee Sykes. The roadshow includes some of the finest young morris and clog dancers in the country.



“with The Demon Barbers’ driven punchy tunes & songs, drum ‘n’ bass grooves, the odd touch of ska and an ever present feel that this lot know how to party, the result is one of the most exciting acts around... check them out for proof that England’s exciting song, dance and instrumental traditions are thriving, live and very kicking.” FROOTS

[About Peppery Productions](#)



# *East Suffolk Morris Men*



*eastsuffolkmorris.com*  
*esmm@btinternet.com*

## *Golden Jubilee 2008* *East Suffolk Jubilee Tour* *13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2008*

In the spring our traditional tour is around the Suffolk Wool Towns westwards of our base in Ipswich. In autumn we often invite visiting sides – especially ones which dance in different styles to us - to come and join us for a tour of the Eastern half of Suffolk.



This year we have invited our friends – the Utrecht Morris Men who mainly dance Cotswold traditions, North British Sword who perform Rapper and Longsword sword dances from the North East of England, and Rumworth Morris Men who specialise in the North West tradition of Processional Clog dancing.

You can see us on this tour on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> at:

Rendham Village	White Horse	10:30am
Snape	The Maltings	12:00pm
Aldeburgh	Moot Hall	14:30pm
Earl Soham	The Victoria	17:00pm



And on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> at  
Flatford Mill  
East Bergholt