









Recently re-decorating a room called for a mammoth task of removing very many books, records and masses of other things from a room. Re-shelving the books, these four photographs fell out of the dust jacket of one of the books. I had not seen them when I first bought, read and shelved the book. The book had belonged to Rev. Kenneth Loveless. (1911 - 1995) Soon after his death, someone told me that there were masses of folk music books in one of those amazing second hand bookshops in Duke Street, Brighton. It was a treasure trove of his books that I wanted and I bought as many as I could afford at the time.

Ken's distinctive scroll was hand written in each of the books. It was a travesty that such a large and important collection should be broken up. It should have been kept intact in a university library or some such. I am no expert on Morris, but to me there are several indications that this is Bampton Morris dancing in their home village at Whitsun:-* The previous owner had a strong association with Bampton at Whitsun –

"William Kimber, and Ken Loveless, a revivalist dancer and concertina pupil of Kimber's, would sit in the Talbot Whit Saturday night and play for themselves, and people used to love to hear them play."

is quoted from Francis Shergold in Keith Chandler in his article on Francis on the "Musical Traditions" website* In the first photo there is a fiddler dancing a solo jig to his own playing. I believe that this is Bampton's William Nathan Wells 'Jinky' Wells (1868 - 1953)* Dancing on a green with a sizeable crowd points to Bampton.* The trailing hat bands and flowers at the front of the hats are indicative of the Bampton sides. I would appreciate any comments on these photos, particularly anything that might help to date the photos or identify anyone in them.





Vic Smith posting on his Facebook page, 2017-03-02

https://www.facebook.com/vic.smith.54/posts/1680834215266304?comment_id=1680883098594749

Keith Chandler “I want to say Whit Monday 1913, except for the dark jacket worn by Wells - the one extant photo from that year known to me shows him wearing one a little lighter in shade. I can identify several of the dancers, but copies with higher resolution might help. A rare and important find, and thanks for sharing.”