

ECMW



English Country Music Weekend

Friday 26th ~ Sunday 28th June

Bampton in the Bush

Oxfordshire

Information and Programme of Events

Welcome to Bampton

There is more to Bampton than Spring Bank Holiday Monday and Downton.

Iron Age people were the first to settle in the immediate area and it is thought that it also marks the site of an extensive unwallled Roman settlement. Bampton, or Beamdune, is mentioned in the Anglo Saxon Chronicle and in the Domesday Book, by which time it was one of the three largest settlements in the county.

The parish church of Saint Mary the Virgin dates from the 12th century, It was built on the site of a late Anglo-Saxon minster. The gatehouse of Ham Court in Mill Street is part of the 14th century Bampton Castle, built by the Earl of Pembroke and the present day library in Church Street is housed in what was the Old Grammar School.

By the middle of the 19th century there were around 25 to 30 shops and, in spite of the low wages, the Bampton man could, apparently, always find a few coppers to buy his beer. In 1851, the town had no fewer than 10 public houses - rising to 13 a century later - the locals seem to have had, and still retain, a healthy thirst!

The annual Bampton Horse Fair took place over three days at the August Bank Holiday, reaching its peak early in the 20th century - a funfair is still held today.

Other annual events in Bampton in the 21st century include the Great Original Shirt Race, held on the Saturday of the Spring Bank Holiday and run - literally - by The Society for the Preservation of Ancient Junketing (SPAJERS). First held in 1953, the rules are quite simple in that a team of two dressed in nightshirts and with some means of unpowered transport take it in turns to push each other from hostelry to hostelry - and former hostelries - pausing at each to down a measure of ale. Various forms of transport have been used over the years from prams to wheelbarrows to wheelybins.

It has been said that the origins of the Great Shirt Race date back to either the occasion in 784AD, when Ethelred the Shirtless chased the good burghers of Bampton in order to clothe his nakedness, or to a certain action of William the Conqueror's soldiers stationed at Shifford during the beer drought of 1067.

SPAJERS also organise a Donkey Derby on August Bank Holiday Monday and some members are involved in Mumming which is performed in the pubs and big houses on Christmas Eve.

All monies raised go entirely to the pensioners of the village giving them a cash gift, often a party and always an annual outing.

A more regular weekly summer event in the pubs of Bampton is the traditional Cotswold game of Aunt Sally, involving teams of up to six players using a stick to knock a Dolly off a spike, without hitting the spike.

If there is enough interest, we might organise a game or two at The Talbot on Saturday afternoon - enquire of The Management.

This year, that other annual event that takes place outside the pubs and in the beautiful gardens of Bampton, actually took place on Whit Monday

The Management reserve the right to change any or all of the events listed herein.

Bampton Recreation Ground and Pavilion - ECMW15 HQ

The weekend is centred here at The Rec on Buckland Road, (OX18 2AA) - a ten to fifteen minute stroll from the middle of Bampton,

Please keep to the pavement whilst walking into and out of the village.

BOOKING IN – Register, collect your badges and programmes in the Pavilion

- Friday from 3.00pm until 10.00pm.
- Saturday from 9.30 am to 1.00pm and throughout the day at the Village Hall
- Sunday from 9.30am to midday and from 9.30 to 11.00am at the Village Hall

SESSIONS – There is space for Sessions in both the Pavilion and adjacent Marquee throughout the weekend.

The *Jollity Hour* is happening on Saturday at 5.00pm 'led' by Chucklemeister, the inimitable Mr Malcolm Woods, and featuring The Cocktail Girls.

As part of the Farewell Session on Sunday afternoon, there will be the now traditional ECMW Folklore Society presentation.

WORKSHOPS – Workshops will be held in the Marquee on Saturday.

CAMPING – The site has 24 hour access to toilets, showers and water. There is no chemical disposal point.

The camp site has to be cleared by 4.30pm on Sunday in preparation for a certain television film crew arriving an hour later.

FOOD – Pre-ordered breakfasts will be served on both Saturday and Sunday mornings in the Pavilion, courtesy of FOBS – the Friends of Bampton School. If you haven't pre-ordered and you ask them nicely, they may be able to help.

DRINK – Serving Goff's Ales, cider, wine and soft drinks, the opening hours for The Pavilion Bar are:

- Friday evening from 6.00pm until midnight
- Saturday all day from 11.00am until midnight
- Sunday lunchtime from 11.00am until 3.30pm

Recently, it has become a tradition for ECMW organisers to offer a 'bursary' to young musicians to attend the event. This year we welcome Francis Brown of Frittenden, in Kent - we are sure you'll make him feel at home!

In Bampton

MUSIC and SONG SESSIONS, FOOD and MONEY

There are four hostleries in Bampton, all of which are available for sessions both in the bars and beer gardens from late morning to late night - or early morning!

On Friday evening the pubs have asked that we don't start sessions until 8.00pm to give Bampton locals chance for a well-earned early Friday evening drink.

In order of proximity to the Recreation Ground, we have:

The Morris Clown, High Street, Steve Mace. (01993 850 217)

The Talbot Hotel, Bridge Street, Kathy Curtis. (01993 850 326)

The Romany Inn, Bridge Street, Mike and Glynis Drysdale. (01993 850 237)

The Horse Shoe, Bridge Street, Trevor Martin. (01993 209 052) - has a piano.

SONG and DANCE

The back room of The Talbot Hotel has been earmarked for song sessions. The best floors for step dancing are in The Romany Inn and The Horse Shoe.

FOOD

The Talbot, The Romany and The Horse Shoe will be serving food at various times throughout the weekend. The Morris Clown is proud not to do food!

- The Bampton Coffee House and Café, Market Square serves hot and cold food and drink from 8.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday and from 10.00am to 2.00pm on Sunday. (01993 850 929)
- The Biztro, Wheelgate House, Market Square is open from 6.00 to 11.00pm on Friday and Saturday evening. This is a popular 24 seat restaurant, so pre-booking is recommended. (01993 851 151)
- The Chinese Takeaway, The Bakery, Market Square is open from 5.00 to 11.00pm Friday and Saturday. (01993 851 691)
- The Falafel Burger Van sits in the Square of an evening, serving the usual takeaway fare.
- The Co-op supermarket, Market Square is open from 7.00am to 10.00pm on Friday and Saturday and from 8.00am on Sunday. (01993 852 242)
- Patrick Strainge Butchers, Bridge Street - opposite The Horse Shoe - is open until 5.30pm on Friday and from 8.00am to 4.00pm, purveying quality free range meats, pies, deli items and baguettes. (01993 850 350)

MONEY - The only ATM cash machine is at the HSBC, next to the butchers.

Talks and Presentations in the Village Hall, Market Square

Free to Weekend and day ticket holders. Single event ticket £5.00

Saturday 10.15 - 11.30am – Simon and Jo Harmer, Deb Lewis and Jigfoot

Tunes and dances collected in southern Hampshire by Alice Gillington.

Come and learn tunes and dances from Alice Gillington's book 'Songs of the Open Road' collected mainly from Gypsies in Southampton and the New Forest. Jigfoot, Deb Lewis and Jo and Simon Harmer will explain how they are bringing the tunes and dances from this collection back to life, presented with archive information and images.

Saturday 11.45am - 1.00pm – Dave Townsend

English Village Bands in the 19th and early 20th Centuries.

An illustrated talk on harmony playing in vernacular instrumental ensembles in rural England, exploring the evidence from written and recorded sources from Oxfordshire, Dorset, Lincolnshire, Somerset and Cornwall.

Bring your instruments, as Dave is hoping there will be time for everyone to join in playing reconstructions of some village band pieces.

Saturday 2.00 - 3.15pm – Keith Chandler

Morris Dancing at Bampton: When, Why, Where, Who?

The morris dancing at Bampton is one of the more popular of British customs, yet very little is known about its history and development among those who watch it and those who do it. How far back does it go? What sort of men did it fifty and more years ago, and why? What effect did the first folk revival of the pre-World War One period have on this local custom? Why are there currently three distinct sides active in the town, and when did *that* happen? All - or most - of these questions will be answered during Keith's talk, which will also feature a wealth of illustrations, from the earliest known (1894) to 2015.

Saturday 3.45 - 5.00pm – Doc Rowe

Reflections on 50 'odd' years of collecting.

Since the sixties, Doc has been recording and filming cultural tradition and vernacular arts, folklore, song and dance of Britain and Ireland. His collection currently represents the most extensive collection of audio and video material to celebrate the variety and richness of traditional folk culture of these islands.

Come along and have a look - you might catch a glimpse of a younger you!

Sunday 10.30 -11.45am – Cat Kelly, with Jack Worth and Jackie Oates

Back to the Quarry

Back to the Quarry was a Heritage Lottery funded project, set up with the aim of exploring the musical history of the Kimber family, and sharing the story with the local Headington community and further afield. In this talk, project leader Cat Kelly will take you through the materials that were gathered together (and in some cases, created) as part of the project - including some recordings of William Kimber that have never before been published - as well as looking at the new interactive web resource that has been created to house them.

Saturday Night Village Hall Hop, Market Square

From 7.45 to 11.00pm *Single event ticket £7.00.*

Local band *Yaffle*, featuring Ali Smith (bass), Dave Eynstone (guitar), Jeff Dando (melodeon) and Mat Green (fiddle) with Sheena Masson, our caller for the night. There will be a dance spot with the Morris teams of Bampton from 9.00 - 9.30.

Instrument Workshops in the Marquee

Free to Weekend and day ticket holders. Single ticket £5.00

Saturday 11.00 - 12.15 – Mat Green – Fiddle

This session will look at the morris tunes from the Bampton tradition, taught by ear and concentrating on rhythm and volume.

Saturday 2.00 - 3.15 – Andy Turner

William Kimber's morris and country dance tunes

There are recordings of relatively few traditional Anglo-concertina players. But the most famous, and arguably the most influential of them, all lived here in Oxfordshire. In this workshop we'll spend an hour or so playing the morris and country dance tunes of William Kimber of Headington Quarry. Tunes will be taught by ear, and will be suitable for G/D and C/G instruments - although if only C/G anglos turn up, we'll play them all in C, the way God intended!

And Thanks go to the following without whom:

Craig Godwin; Jeff Dando; John Grout; Johnny Shuker; Mat Green and the Morris men of Bampton for helping to get the event off the ground and for their invaluable help before and during the weekend.

All the pub landlords and landladies, named elsewhere, for their enthusiastic support for the weekend from the word go.

Glenn Wright at the Pavilion and Angy Irvin at the Village Hall, for all their help and assistance with booking and using their respective venues.

Martin Landray and Bampton Cricket Club for managing to arrange to play away this weekend!

Alice Biddiscombe and Friends of Bampton School, for such tasty breakfasts.

George and Janet Butterworth for badges and Tim Titchener, for signage.

Rod Stradling and mustrad.org.uk, for ongoing ECMW publicity.

All those named previously for their help and enthusiasm in the preparation and delivery of their talks, presentations and workshops.

Volunteer stewards and helpers including:

Aidan Hansell; Jane and Tim Titchener; Linda Fornal; ECMW's resident door-keepers Peter Crabb-Wyke and Sue West; Terese McHugh and others.

The Management:

Gareth Kiddier; Hilary Shorter; Jeremy Tozer; John Shorter and Nina Hansell.

	Rec Pavilion	Rec Marquee	Village Hall	Morris Clown	The Talbot	Romany Inn	The Horse Shoe
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FRIDAY

From 3.00pm	Arrival ↓						
From 5.00pm	Early Sessions						
8.00 - late	Welcome Sessions			Sessions	Sessions	Sessions	Sessions

SATURDAY

8.30 - 10.00	Breakfast						
10.15 - 11.30			Step Dance Simon and Jo Harmer				
10.30 - 11.45		Fiddle Mat Green					
11.45 - 13.00			Village Bands Dave Townsend				
12.00 - 2.00	Session			Sessions	Sessions	Sessions	Sessions
2.00 - 3.15			Bampton Keith Chandler		Song Back Room		
2.00 - 3.15		Kimber Andy Turner				??? Aunt Sally Garden	
3.45 - 5.00			Reflections Doc Rowe				
5.00 - 7.00	Jollity Hour						
7.30 - late	Sessions			Sessions	Sessions	Sessions	Sessions
7.45 - 11.00			DANCE Yaffle 9.00 - 9.30 Bampton Morris		Song Back Room		

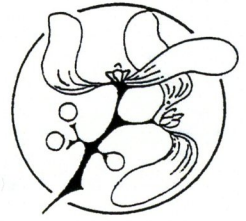
SUNDAY

8.30 - 10.00	Breakfast						
10.30 - 11.45		Session	Back to the Quarry Cat Kelly				
12.00 onwards				Sessions	Sessions	Sessions	Sessions
1.00 - 4.00	Farewell Session and Folklore Society Award						

The Folklore Society makes an award at ECMW each year in recognition and appreciation of the contribution, enthusiasm and continuing support of English Traditional Dance Music and Song. The award used to be a barrel of beer for participants, but last year the process changed.

In 2014 at Winster, Rod and Danny Stradling were granted the award for their services towards ECMW,

This year, Doc Rowe will make a presentation during the Farewell session in the Pavilion on Sunday.



ECMW15 Location Plan Bampton



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Bampton 2015