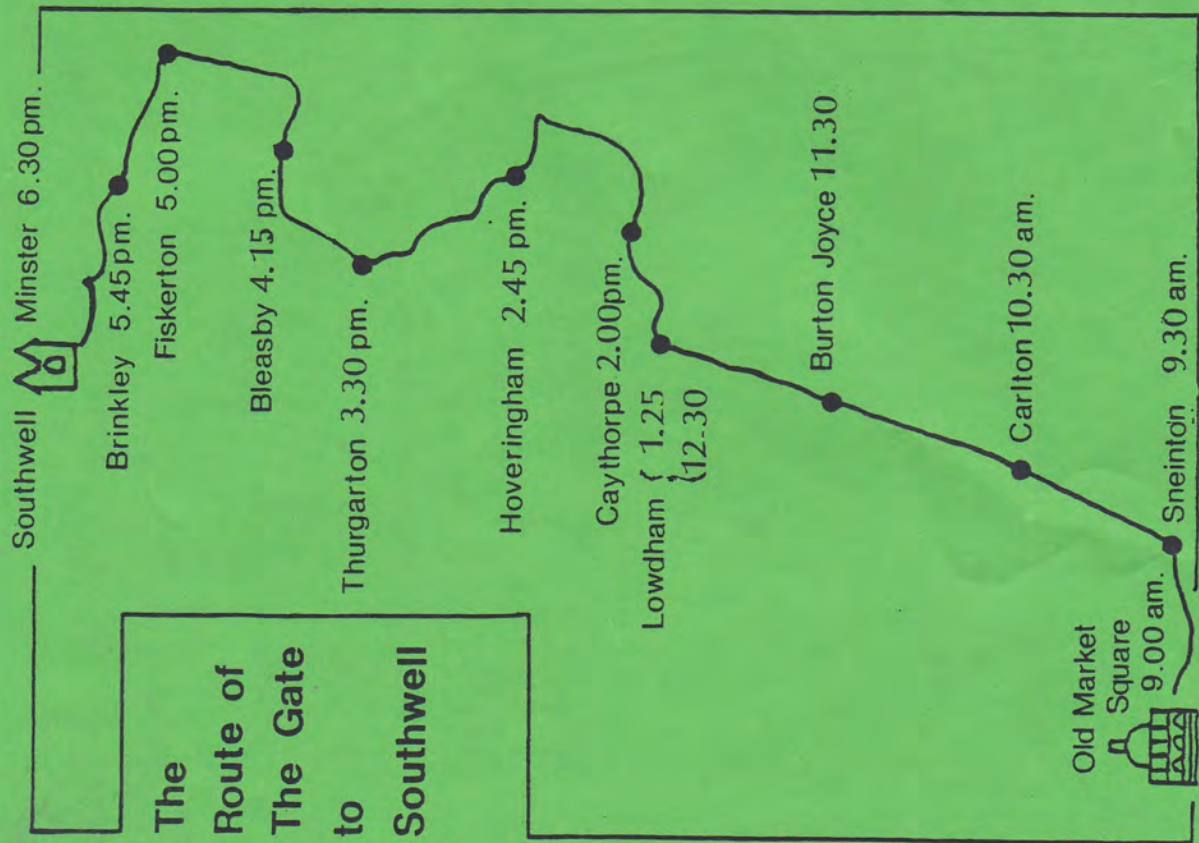




Saturday
May 21st
1988

**The
Route of
The Gate
to
Southwell**



THANKS

I would like to express the thanks of the participants in the Gate to Southwell to the many people who have helped us in our endeavour, and in particular to the Lord Mayor for turning out early on Saturday morning in order to set the procession on its way; to the Chapter Clerk of Southwell Minster and to Canon David Keene for their organisation of the special Minster service; to Terry and Glenys Gill for their music in the Minster; to Tom Huggon, of the Sneinton Environmental Society for entertaining us with his stirring annual peroration; to the Sneinton Community Centre for their hospitality; to Home Ales for their generous supply of beer; and to members of the Burton Joyce and Bulcote Local History Society for their coffee stall.

* * * * *

PS: Please make a note of the date for the Gate to Southwell next year, which is

***** SATURDAY 20th MAY 1989 *****

PPS: This is the weekend after Whitsun proper; it is the weekend before the bank holiday.



1530 + Southwell + 1109 +
Gate to
e t
a g

1530 + Southwell + 1109 +
Gate to
e t
a g

85

CHEERS! HOME ALES

CHEERS! HOME ALES

HOME ALES CHEERS!

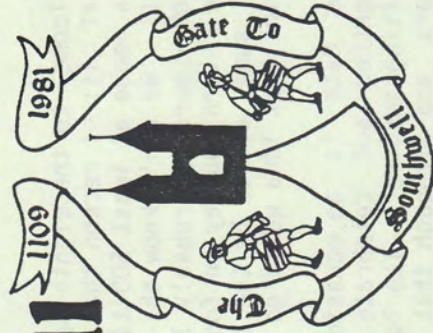
BEER TICKET
**GATE TO
SOUTHWELL
1988**

THANKS MR REYNOLDS & BRAMLEY APPLE



The Gate to Southwell

The Traditional
Nottinghamshire
Whitsuntide Procession



THE 1988 PROCESSION : WHEN AND WHERE

The 1988 "Gate to Southwell" will assemble in the Old Market Square, Nottingham at 8.45 am on Saturday 21st May. The morris dance sides will give a dance display in front of the Council House; Terry Paling will be co-ordinating this (ie shouting at you if you are late!). After the dance display, the Right Worshipful, the Lord Mayor of Nottingham - Mr Martin Suthers - will start the procession on its way by handing over the customary annual contribution of Nottingham Borough to the Minster Church at Southwell - the Southwell Pence. This was fixed centuries ago, at a silver mark (which, as everyone knows, is roughly 67p or 13 shillings and 4 (old) pence). As is fitting it will be paid in "old money". Ted Hutchby, with his custom-built cross, will then lead the procession out of the Old Market Square via Wheeler Gate and Middle Pavement to Weekday Cross. After this point, the procession will be led, in turn, by each of the morris sides taking part.

The sides are distinguishable by their uniforms, and especially by the coloured cross belts (baldrics).

Dolphin wear white shirts and trousers, and straw hats. Their cross belts are red on green with a central badge featuring a yellow dolphin.

Micklebarrow wear white shirts and trousers, and chestnut and gold cross belts; their badge shows the famous Bramley apple, discovered in Southwell.

Broadstone wear a white on black cross belt with yellow ribbons, and their badge features the Broadstone at Retford; the side wears black breeches and black bowler hats.

The **Calverton Morrismen** wear white shirts and trousers, straw hats and a green, black and purple baldric. Their badge features a plough, reflecting the team's active interest in the Nottinghamshire plough plays.

The **Aidleys Morris Dancers** wear black skirts, blue blouses with red sashes and beads, black crocheted hats and red clogs.

The men in **Sergeant Musgrave's Dance** wear red shirts, black waistcoats, a white sash, black breeches and clogs; the ladies wear red blouses, a white sash, black skirts and clogs.

Leen Valley wear white trousers and shirts, grey top hats, white shoes and blue neckerchiefs. The badge on their blue and yellow baldrics features the bull of Bulwell.

Black Pig Border wear black tattered coats, flat caps, corduroy trousers and working boots. Their faces are blacked.

SMILE DON'T STARE

The "Smile Don't Stare" Fund is organised by the Friends of Greenwood Children's Centre at the City Hospital in Nottingham. Its aim is to support in practical ways the families of children with physical or mental handicaps. The Fund, for example, has purchased and equipped two specially-adapted holiday chalets at Bridlington and Mablethorpe for the use of families for whom normal holiday accommodation would be unsuitable and who might therefore not otherwise be able to take a much needed break at the seaside. Both chalets are fully booked through the season.

For further details about the Fund, and the money raised by the sponsored walkers and dancers on the Gate to Southwell, please contact:

Mrs Lynda Gell
Smile Don't Stare
Greenwood Children's Centre
City Hospital
Hucknall Road
Nottingham

ORGANISER'S NOTE

5 May 1988

Welcome to the eighth Gate to Southwell - in modern times that is: I reckon that in mediaeval times the procession was made at least 500 times - so we've got some way to go yet! We don't know the precise route that the old-timers took - ours is probably longer, but most of them had to do the return journey on foot as well. Judging by the state of some of us by the time we reach Southwell, I don't think that idea would go down well today!

The Gate is an occasion for local morris sides to get together and celebrate over 450 years of the morris in Nottinghamshire. The local morris scene changes over the years and although that means that some former sides are no longer active it also means that new sides with new ideas are being formed. This year we welcome to the Gate another new side - Black Pig who dance Border morris.

Bearing in mind the origins of the procession, I've always felt that on the Gate we should try to help local charities. Over the years we have raised several thousand pounds for charity by sponsorship and collections. Last year, we helped Smile Don't Stare buy a holiday chalet for handicapped children - about £700 was raised on the procession. Many thanks to the dancers and walkers who got sponsored in 1987 - your efforts are warmly appreciated.

I am grateful for help received in organising this year's Gate, especially to Rita Nesbitt, Terry Paling and the Dolphin Morrismen. If you have any ideas or suggestions for next year's Gate - which will be on Saturday 20th May - I would be pleased to hear them.

Best wishes

Bob Hine

27 Hollytree Close, Hoton, Nr Loughborough, Leics LE12 5SE

Wymeswold (0509) 880635

8.45-9.00
9.30-9.45

Old Market Square, Nottingham
Hermitage Square, Sneinton (proclamation
from the Environmental Society and coffee
in Community Centre)

11.00-12.00

Outside the Cross Keys, Burton Joyce
(coffee stall organised by the Local
History Society)

12.30-1.30

Outside Lowdham Village Hall

6.15-6.30

Massed procession through Southwell from
Easthorpe to the Minster

At the 'White Lion', Easthorpe, the dancers and walkers will line up for the final stage into the Minster, where our arrival is timed for the end of Evensong at 6.30 pm. At the North Porch the Southwell Pence will be handed over, following a long custom, to the Chapter Clerk. The 'Southwell Pence' were traditionally the offerings of each parish in the county of Nottinghamshire to the mother church at Southwell, and they amounted to £15:18s:7d in total. Since the revival of the Gate, they are contributed by the local morris sides.



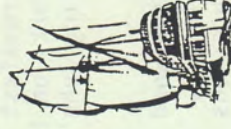
LEEN VALLEY MORRIS



Leen Valley is a mixed Cotswold morris team who practice on Wednesday evenings at the Horseshoe Inn, Bulwell during the winter. They specialise in dances from the villages of Bledington, Bampton and Headington. Among the venues at which the team will dance this year is the Mediaeval Market in Nottingham. Recruits are welcomed, especially musicians.



BLACK PIG BORDER



The Black Pig Border team was formed only in October 1987 as a mixed Border morris team. Practices are at the 'Horse & Jockey', Langley Mill on Monday evenings during the winter. On May Day the team danced at Upton for the wishing well appeal in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital. They will be dancing at the Stainsby Folk Festival 22nd-24th July and on June 18th in Chesterfield and Matlock with the Chesterfield Garland Dancers.

Nottingham Pride are a mixed northwestern clog team formed in 1982 with the ladies drawn mainly from Jacquard and the men from Sullivan's Sword. Practices are on Mondays at the Britannia, with dancing out mainly at weekends. The team has danced abroad in Nottingham's twin town of Ghent two years ago. This year on the May Day weekend the side fielded two teams, one taking part in the Arnold May Day dancing, the other travelling to Rochester for the Chimney Sweeps Procession. Other outings planned this season are to the Open Morris meetings at Scarborough, Fen Stanton Cambridgeshire and Leeds.

Foresters Morris and Sword Dance Club was founded in 1952 by men taking part in joint practices between three earlier groups - Ripley, Men of Nottingham and Charnwood Foresters. The side is based in Nottingham and dances on Monday evenings in Summer in villages within a 15 mile radius of the City. May Day was celebrated in traditional vein again this year with a champagne breakfast on Castle Green, and the team will be dancing at York on 19th June; they will also be taking part in the King John's Ring Meeting on Saturday 21st May (?!)

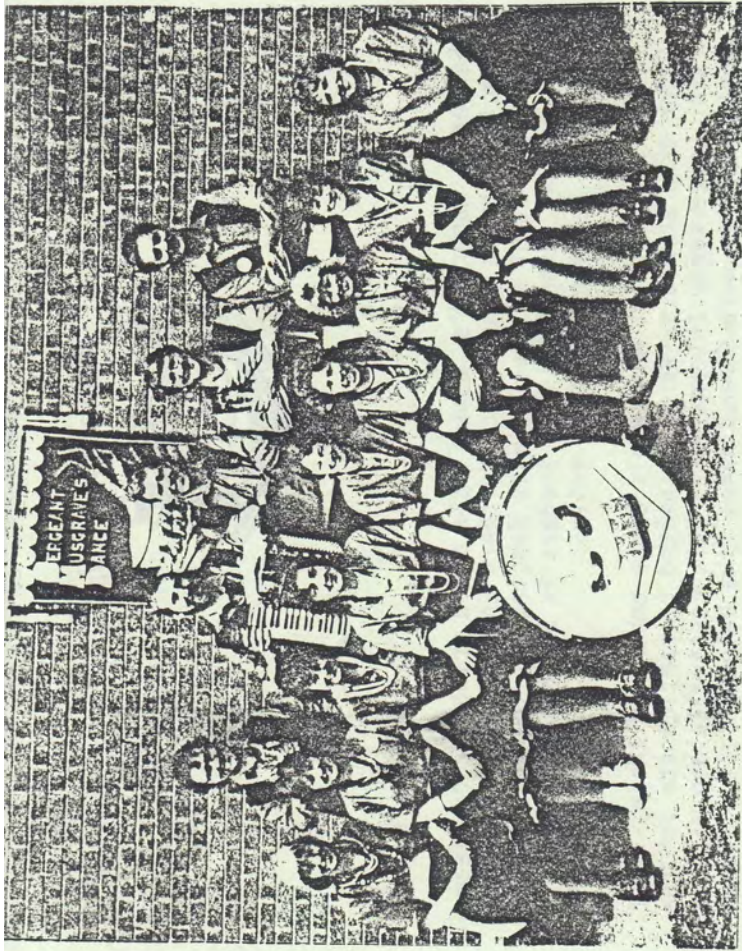
Greenwood Clog, established in 1974 by a group of "morris widows", perform clog dances from northern England at functions in the East Midlands during the summer and at Christmas.

The approximate times for the procession, and the sides leading each stage are given below:

Dolphin	D	Calverton	C	Leen Valley	L
Broadstone	B	Aidleys	A	Black Pig	P
Micklebarrow	M	Sgt Musgraves	S		

all	8.45	*assemble Old Market Square, Nottingham
all	9.00	Lord Mayor starts procession
DLA	9.15	Weekday Cross (via Wheeler Gate and Low Pavement)
MCP	9.30	*Hermitage Square, Sneinton
BS	9.55	'Greenwood Tree'
DLA	10.25	*'Earl of Chesterfield', Carlton
MCP	10.45	'Inn for a Penny', Carlton
BS	11.20	Woodside Road, Burton Joyce
DLA	11.55	Junction with A612, Burton Joyce
	12.30	'Ship', Lowdham, arrive
MCP	1.20	" " depart
BS	2.05	*'Black Horse', Caythorpe
DLA	2.35	*'Old Elm Tree', Hoveringham
MCP	3.05	Gravel Pit, Hoveringham
BS	3.35	*'Coach and Horses', Thurgarton
DLA	3.55	Goverton Turn
MCP	4.15	'Wagon and Horses', Bleasby
BS	4.40	Midway to Fiskerton
DLA	5.05	*'Bromley Arms', Fiskerton
MCP	5.20	Railway crossing, Fiskerton
BS	5.40	Brinkley
all	6.15	'White Lion', Easthorpe
	6.30	SOUTHWELL MINSTER

* shows places where there will be short dance displays; more extended displays will be given at:



"Another afternoon we joined an Austrian folk dance group on a tour to Glenveigh National Park. There we danced in the courtyard of a castle by the shores of a lake surrounded by ruggedly wild and beautiful hills. We shared other venues with a Basque dance group from Northern Spain, whose dancing style was a mixture of Cotswold Morris and Turkish, and a Dutch group whose leader looked like an escaped priest!

"The weekend wasn't all work either - we did have time off to see the beautiful Donegal coast and countryside at its very best, and in climatic conditions not often experienced even by the natives! Once we had adjusted to Irish time - at least 1-1½ hours later than its English equivalent - and come to grips with the hospitality, everyone had a most enjoyable trip and we hope future ventures abroad will be just as memorable."

THE SERVICE AT THE MINSTER

In the Minster, there will be a short service to commemorate the morris dancers and pilgrims who over several hundred years made the annual procession to Southwell. After the Chapter Clerk has welcomed the procession to the Cathedral, the hymn 'Staff of Faith' will be sung (to the tune of Monks March). There will follow prayers, remembering especially the disadvantaged children who are the object of our charity appeal and a traditional English morris dance. The service will conclude with the Whitsun hymn, "Fear not rejoice and be glad". After the blessing the procession will leave by the west door.

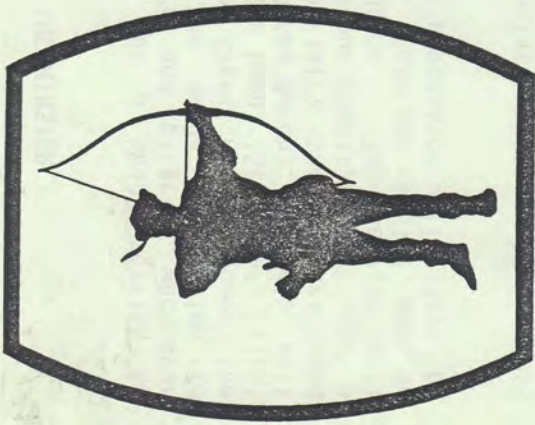
Recalling the 16th Century association between the morris dancers and the Gate to Southwell, Terry and Glenys Gill will recreate the atmosphere of that period with some early English music.

A hurdy-gurdy (called *lyra*), from Virdung's *Musica getutscht* (1511).

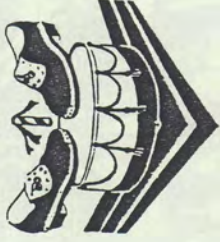


THE EVENING

After the service at the Minster, the dancers and sponsored walkers are invited to process to the 'Bramley Apple' in Church Street, where they may quench their thirst with a pint of beer provided free of charge to bona fide participants by the generosity of the Home Brewery Company Limited. For those who can still manage it there will be informal morris dancing outside the 'Bramley Apple'.



Sergeant Musgrave's Dance



Sergeant Musgrave's Dance is a mixed clog dance team, specialising in dances from Northern England. The side's practice night is Tuesday with dancing out in the summer on Tuesday evenings and Sundays in South Notts / Derbys / Leics. Sergeant Musgrave writes:

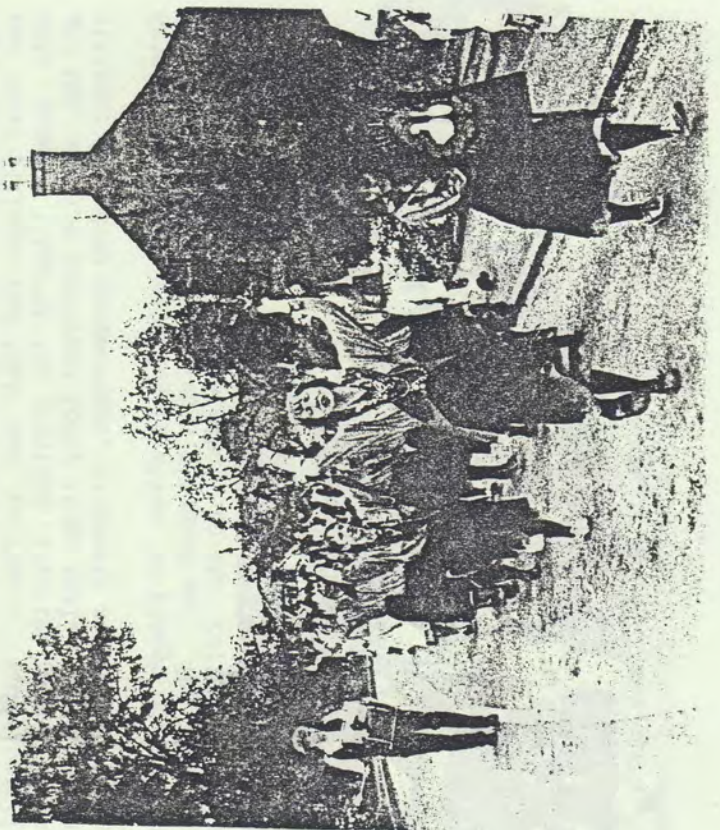
"1987 saw Sergeant Musgrave's Dance embark on their first major trip abroad. We were invited to participate in the 19th Letterkenny International Folk Festival along with a host of other more famous names like Ralph McTell, Ossian and Clann McPeake to name but a few. So it came to pass that an intrepid troupe of North West morris dancers crossed the Irish Sea (some better than others!) on August 20th last year.

"Within half an hour of our arrival in Donegal, the torrential rain of the past week stopped and the clouds rolled back to reveal the sun which never stopped shining for the next 5 days. The festival was a marvellous success - during its 4 days we took part in a host of superb events. We danced outside on a minute stage which, at 6 feet off the ground, gave a new meaning to a small set! We took part in an enormous parade through the town of Letterkenny which almost defies description as it contained marching bands, clowns on stilts, floats, horses, goats, agricultural machinery, new and vintage cars, lorries, tractors and a few motley crews of bemused morris dancers slipped in at intervals behind the odd tanker lorry. Dancing is not at its best while breathing diesel fumes! In the end we must have danced a mile and a half non stop in this parade and it was only the exhilaration of the event which kept us going.



and at over 15 or 10 venues in the locality of Calverton and neighbouring villages the team regularly collects in excess of £200 on the Plough Play weekend. This is donated to NSPCC. The team continues to research into the history of the plough play in the area.

Aidleys Morris Dancers were formed in 1981 as a ladies team performing traditional northwestern clog dances. The side is named after the family of the founder member whose relatives danced with the traditional Goostrey, Cheshire team. The side practices at Queens Walk Community Centre in the Meadows, Nottingham on Thursday evenings during the winter. Beginners night is Thursday 15th September. This "lively, keen, energetic, enthusiastic" team (Jill Huckle) has a repertoire which includes Goostrey, Horwich, Peover, Preston, Colne, West Houghton and Hyde. In addition to Thursday night tours in Notts, the team will be dancing at the Beverley Folk Festival, June 17th-19th.



The Gate to Southwell

The Gate to Southwell is a traditional Nottinghamshire event that dates back to the year 1109, when the Archbishop of York - Thomas of Beverley - wrote to each of the parishes of Nottinghamshire asking them to contribute to the building of a new mother church at Southwell. This resolved a dispute as to whether the Notts offerings should be given to York or to Southwell. The offerings - the Southwell Pence - were brought to St Mary's Southwell in an annual procession at Whitsuntide. The procession began in Nottingham and was headed by the Mayor and Corporation in their best ceremonial robes. Apparently, the mayor was allowed a certain discretion and sometimes did not come "because of foulness of the way or destemperance of the weder". Behind the Mayor came clergy who could use the occasion to get up to date on church business, and ordinary people combining a pilgrimage with a holiday excursion.

According to one author, "Southwell was very gay on Whit Monday with the representatives of two hundred and five odd parishes riding into the little town. Whit Week was long regarded as Southwell Feast Week, when merry village sports and other pastimes made a welcome break in the peaceful progress of the year. The greatest attractions were the donkey and pony races from Burgage Green to the top of Hockerton Hill and back. Nothing is left of all these enjoyments now, and the whole feast has degenerated into Southwell Races, which are held at Rolleston".

We do not know precisely when the annual procession was ended, but it seems likely to have been in the 16th Century when the reformation of the Church, and especially the break of the link with Rome, undermined the religious purpose of the procession. In the late 18th Century, the annual church meeting which used to be held in conjunction with the procession was abolished. Even after the procession had long ceased to be held, the Chapter Clerk kept up the custom of attending in the north porch of the Minster, where his predecessors had collected the Southwell Pence.

The Gate to Southwell is of particular interest to traditional dance enthusiasts, because the Nottingham Borough records show that in 1530 entertainment on the procession was provided by a team of morris dancers. They were rewarded for their efforts by payment from the Borough for their bells, coats and the ale that the dancers "drank at all times".

THE MORRIS DANCE

Although the precise origins and functions of the English morris dances are obscure, it seems likely that the dances are derived from an ancient fertility rite performed in the Spring to ensure good crops in the following season. They are distinctive as ritual rather than social dances, performed usually by a team of six dancers and a musician. The dancers weave a sequence of patterns punctuated by a series of more specialised hand, leg and arm movements. These movements are often accentuated by the use of handkerchiefs or sticks. The detailed patterns of the dances vary widely according to the particular villages from which they originated.

As the Gate to Southwell records show, morris dancing is part of the folk tradition in Nottinghamshire. However it is probably two hundred years or more since the morris dances stopped being performed and there are no records of what the local dances looked like. The dances performed by today's "revival" sides are therefore taken from the repertoire of traditional morris dancers in other parts of the country, and especially the Cotswolds. By the turn of this century, almost all of the traditional morris dance sides had ceased to perform regularly and because the dances had been handed down from father to son by example rather than written down, they were nearly lost for ever. Fortunately, thanks to the diligence of a small band of collectors in the early 1900's who tracked down the old-time dancers - often men in their eighties - a large number of the dances have survived.



CALVERTON MORRIS MEN

The Calverton Morrismen were formed in 1979 as a summer extension of the winter mummings play team. Practices are on Thursday nights in Oxtou (recruits welcome) and afterwards at the 'Cross Keys', Epperstone. During the summer the side dances out in villages in the area on Thursday evenings. The team's uniform is based on that of the pre First World War village morris side, as remembered by a local inhabitant.

The Calverton Plough Play was revived in 1976 and is now performed annually on the Friday and Saturday before Plough Monday (the Monday closest to Epiphany - ie early January). The ritual mummings play, performed by plough boys ("plough bullocks"), was once common in these parts and most villages had their own version. Unfortunately only about 8 lines of the original Calverton play remains and the version performed today is an amalgam of several villages including Woodborough, Blidworth and Tollerton.

Originally, anyone refusing to allow the plough boys entry was liable to have their lawns ploughed up. The audience these days is asked to contribute to the collecting tin,





The **Broadstone Morrismen** are based at Retford and take their name from the Broadstone in the town. They practice on Monday evenings during the winter months and dance out on Friday evenings in the villages around Retford.

It is hoped that the team will have recovered sufficiently from their May Day celebrations to take part in this year's Gate, having danced at 5.32 am at Castle Hill, Laxton, on May 1st. Other insomniac local sides are invited to join Broadstone, same time same place, next year. Further events planned this year are: a dance display at Osberton sheepdog trials, a visit to Headon Well Dressing on 25th June and Retford Day of Dance 2nd July to which local sides are invited; there will be a ceilidh in the evening.

ABOUT THE TEAMS TAKING PART IN THIS YEAR'S PROCESSION

The **Dolphin Morrismen** were founded in 1968 and maintain strong links with the Nottingham Traditional Music Club. The name derives from the 'Dolphin' pub in Nottingham where the side went for refreshment after its first practice. Dolphin are now based at Kingstons-on-Soar during the winter practice season, meeting at 8.00 - 9.30 pm at the Village Hall and afterwards repairing to the Station Hotel between Kegworth and Sutton Bonington.

This summer Dolphin is planning to dance out as usual in the villages around Nottingham on Thursday evenings from May to August. The side will also take part in the Thaxted Ring Meeting the first weekend in June.

Arrangements are now in hand to celebrate Dolphin's 21st birthday next year by staging a national Ring Meeting on the weekend June 23rd-25th. The meeting will be based at the Water Sports Centre at Holme Pierrepont and the weekend will include a massed dance display in the Old Market Square, Nottingham, bus tours to scenic localities and a Feast at Kegworth Village Hall. According to Ring Meeting bagman Nick Murphy, "This prestigious event for Nottingham will attract more than a dozen sides from all over the country". Everyone is expected to have a whale of a time added a Dolphin spokesman.



The Dolphin Morrismen



a particularly wet year on the Gate!
←



Micklebarrow Morris Men

The Micklebarrow Morris Men were founded in 176 and were originally based on Southwell Folk Club. The name is taken from the Micklebarrow Hill near Southwell, an ancient burial site where the team's ancestors are thought to be interred. On Friday evenings in the winter season the side practices at Fiskerton at the 'Bromley Arms', a notable watering hole on the Gate to Southwell.

Bagman Mike Hills writes:

"The Southwell based Micklebarrow Morris Men visited Germany in 1985 as guests of the Trachtengruppe Nieder Emmendingen (Emmendingen being twinned with Newark). The highlight of last year's activities was the return visit of our German friends in October. The party of 24, who were accommodated by members of the side, performed in Newark and York and also visited Belvoir Castle, Lincoln and Nottingham.

"Among this year's events, Micklebarrow are attending the Whitchurch Ring Meeting in Tring, Bucks., and dancing at Warwick Castle. We hope to return to Germany next year."



GATE
TO
SOUTHWELL
1988



DOLPHIN
PORTLAND
POKERS



MAIDS OF
CLIFTON
SGT
MUSGRAVE'S
DANCE





This page to be returned to the Lord Mayor's Secretary, The Council House, Nottingham, one month 1988 before the function.

Please state for the information of the Lord Mayor whether :-

- (a) Evening Dress (White Tie)
- (b) Dinner Jacket (Black Tie)
- (c) Morning Dress or Lounge Suit
- (d) Decorations
- (e) Chain of office or evening jewel as appropriate

should be worn. (Delete items not required).

Name of function The Gate to Southwell

Place (full address) The Old Market Square, Nottingham.

Day and Date Saturday, 30th May. 21st May

Name of Lady or Gentleman presiding and names of other Officers Mr. R.C. Hine

Time Lord Mayor and/or Lady Mayoress should arrive for the Reception (if any) 8:45⁵⁰ a.m./p.m.

Time of Dinner (or other function to which this form refers) 8:45⁵⁵ a.m./p.m.

Name of Toast or subject of speech (if any)

(If Lord Mayor is to reply to a toast please state name and designation of proposer)

State whether it is desired that the Lady Mayoress should also attend. YES or NO Yes

(If so and Lady Mayoress is required to wear evening dress, please state whether she should wear long or short dress)

Particulars or details which will be of assistance (in short paragraph form):

The Gate to Southwell is the traditional Nottinghamshire Whitsuntide procession from Nottingham to Southwell Minster, first held in the year 1109. In 1530 the Borough records show that the morris dancers were paid to provide entertainment on the procession, and since 1981 the Gate has been revived as an annual event by the morris dancers. Last year over £2,000 was raised for local children's charities.

Points to which it is desired reference should be made:

We would like the Lord Mayor to hand over to the procession Nottingham's 'Southwell Pence' (13s. 4d.) and we will then gladly excuse him from his customary duty of leading the procession on horseback!
Information as to the work of the Society or Association:

(Annual Reports and Agendas for meetings should be supplied).

Name, address and telephone number of Organiser or Secretary:

R.C. Hine, 27 Hollytree Close, Hooton, Near Loughborough, Leics., LE12 5SE.

Wymeswold 880635 (Work Nottingham 506101, ext. 3105).

Name and position of person to receive Civic party

If the space on this page is insufficient use blank space overleaf.

Morris men lead merry dance to the Minster

NOTTINGHAM'S Old Market Square was alive with colour and music at the weekend when jolly morris dancers jiggled their way on the *Gate To Southwell*.

The medieval tradition dates to 1109 when each parish in Nottinghamshire was asked to contribute to the building of a new church at Southwell.

The offerings — the Southwell Pence — were taken in a procession at Whitsuntide.

And in 1530 borough records show that morris dancers were paid to provide entertainment

on the long walk to Southwell. The tradition was resurrected by morris dancers in 1980 and has become an annual event.

Nottingham's Lord Mayor, Coun Martin Suthers, handed over the Southwell Pence — 13s 4d — which by tradition excused him from leading the procession on horseback.

Morris dancers came from many parts of the county to take part in the event which leads them on a 20-mile trek to the Minster.

Organiser Bob Hine said:

"Over the last eight years people of the city have come to accept that one day a year will be disrupted by us dancing through.

Proceeds

"And in Southwell people have come to expect it as an annual event."

All proceeds from the journey were donated to the *Smile Don't Stare Fund* at the City Hospital, which helps the families of children who have physical or mental handicaps.



● Coun Suthers joins the merry making as he sees off the Morris dancers on their way to Southwell

POSTPHOTO R3577/13

Gate 1988



Gate 1988

Gate 1988



Gate 1988

TEL. No. 483500



THE LORD MAYOR'S PARLOUR,
THE COUNCIL HOUSE,
NOTTINGHAM, NG1 2DT.

LMS/PB/8
13 April 1988

Dear Mr Hine

Thank you for your letter of the 8 April 1988. The Lord Mayor designate, Councillor Martin Suthers, will be pleased to start The Gate to Southwell Procession from the Council House at 9 am on Saturday the 21 May 1988.

Please could you kindly arrange for the enclosed form to be completed and returned to me as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

David Taylor
The Lord Mayor's Secretary
Mr David W Taylor

MR R C HINE
27 HOLLYTREE CLOSE
HOTON
NEAR LOUGHBOROUGH
LEICS
LE12 5SE

21st May 1988

77 Trent Road
Sneinton,
Nottingham

Dear Bob,

Herewith our gift with
best wishes

Tom Huggon

Bob Fine
The Gate to Southwell

6 National Westminster Bank PLC
Nott Ingham, Walton House Branch
31 Maid Marian Way, Nott Ingham NG1 6GP

21st May 1988

54-21-49

of order
£ 15-00p

MR T HUGGON

Tom Huggon

Pay
The Gate to Southwell
Fifteen pounds

Branch Order

⑈000206⑈ 54⑈2149⑈ 08936854⑈

Gate 1988



Gate 1988

Gate 1988



Gate 1988

15 March

8 April 1988

1/51/88

Your ref HQ(OSD)T F1/~~95/87~~

The Chief Constable
Nottinghamshire Constabulary
Sherwood Lodge
Arnold
Nottingham NG5 8PP

Dear Sir,

It is planned to hold the eighth annual Gate to Southwell procession this year on Saturday ¹³ 21st May. The route and timings are the same as last year. That is, the Lord Mayor has been asked to start the procession in the Old Market Square at 9 a.m. and the procession should arrive at Southwell Minster at 6.30 p.m.

I should be grateful if, as ^e previously, you could help us to negotiate the traffic on the first part of our route to Sneinton, and also if you could arrange for parking for six cars/ minibuses in the Old Market Square for a short period on either side of the 9 a.m. start. At Southwell it would be helpful if "no parking" signs could be placed on the road from Easthorpe to the Minster for ^p about 50 yards opposite the White Lion, where the procession lines up for the final stage of the journey.

Yours faithfully

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold ⁰⁵⁰⁹ 880635 (home)
~~Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)~~

8 April 1988

Your ref THF/SAM

Mr T.H. Farr
Marketing Manager
Home Brewery PLC
Daybrook
Nottingham NG5 6BU

Dear Mr Farr,

I am writing to you concerning this year's Gate to Southwell, the traditional Nottinghamshire Whitsuntide event to be held on Saturday 21 May. The Home Brewery has generously supported the Gate to Southwell in previous years by providing a pint of beer to those participants who successfully complete the journey from Nottingham to Southwell. Please will you help again this year?

As usual, in addition to maintaining the oldest known Nottinghamshire custom, we plan to raise money for local charities, including a new one to provide short-term care and accomodation for severely handicapped children.

Yours sincerely

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold 880635 (home)
Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)

8 April 1988

Mr W.D. Edwards
Burton Joyce and Bulcote LHS
8 Wellington Road
Burton Joyce
Nottingham NG14 5GQ

Dear Warwick

Just a note to remind you of the date for this year's Gate to Southwell: Saturday 21 May. We would be very glad if you could maintain the custom of providing a coffee caravan at the Cross Keys. The timetable is the same as last year's, I will send you some programmes nearer to the date.

If any of your members would like to join us on the procession they would be most welcome. In the afternoon we leave Lowdham at 1.30 to arrive at the Minster at 6.30. At the North Porch we hand over the Southwell Pence: perhaps a representative of the Society might like to hand over the Burton Joyce contribution?

Yours sincerely

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold 880635 (home)
Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)

8 April 1988

June Newstead
Sneinton Hermitage Community Association
376 Sneinton Dale
Nottingham NG3 7ED

Dear June,

Just a note to remind you about the date for this year's Gate to Southwell: Saturday 21 May. We are looking forward to calling at the Centre at 9.30 a.m.

Yours sincerely

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold 880635 (home)
Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)

8 April 1988

Tom Huggon
The Sneinton Environmental Society
77 Trent Road
Sneinton
Nottingham

Dear Tom,

It's April and there is a cold wind blowing in off the North Sea, so it must be time to start preparing for this year's Gate to Southwell. The date for the procession is Saturday 21 May, and we would be most delighted if in your customary fashion you could again grant us safe passage through the ancient and highly esteemed locality. Timings are traditional i.e. Sneinton Hermitage 9.30 a.m., presentation of Southwell Pence at the Minster 6.30 p.m.

In case any of your worthy locals has any doubt about the Sneinton parish contribution reaching the Minster's coffers, I invite them and indeed you to be present at the Minster to undertake the solemn task of handing over the said monies!

Yours sincerely

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold 880635 (home)
Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)

8 April 1988

Mr Taylor
The Lord Mayor's Secretary
The Lord Mayor's Parlour
The Council House
Nottingham

Dear Mr Taylor,

I was disturbed to read recently that some doubts were being cast on the authenticity of the Nottinghamshire tradition concerning Robin Hood. However I can reassure you that there is unequivocal documentary evidence for an even earlier Nottinghamshire custom, namely the Gate to Southwell. The Gate is to be recreated this year on Saturday 21 May, and I am writing to ask if the Lord Mayor would be kind enough to maintain the tradition of starting the procession off from the Council House at 9 a.m.

In addition to preserving a colourful aspect of our local heritage, the participants on the procession will be seeking to raise a useful sum for local charities.

Yours sincerely

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold 880635 (home)
Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)

8 April 1988

Mrs J Farr
Notts Child Protection Team
The Jenny Farr Centre
1 Cranmer Street
Nottingham NG3 4GH

Dear Jenny,

I am writing to let you know the date for this year's Gate to Southwell: Saturday 21 May. The route and timings are as in previous years, and I will send you a programme nearer to the event. If anyone associated with NSPCC would like to take part as a sponsored walker, this would be most welcome - I value NSPCC's past association with the Gate and particularly your own contribution. I should, of course, be happy to supply further details.

Yours sincerely

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold 880635 (home)
Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)

The Gate to Southwell

The Traditional
Nottinghamshire
Whitsuntide Procession



8 April 1988

Mrs J Farr
Notts Child Protection Team
The Jenny Farr Centre
1 Cranmer Street
Nottingham NG3 4GH

Dear Jenny,

I am writing to let you know the date for this year's Gate to Southwell: Saturday 21 May. The route and timings are as in previous years, and I will send you a programme nearer to the event. If anyone associated with NSPCC would like to take part as a sponsored walker, this would be most welcome - I value NSPCC's past association with the Gate and particularly your own contribution. I should, of course, be happy to supply further details.

Yours sincerely

R.C. Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell

27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Near Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

tel Wymeswold 880635 (home)
Nottingham 484848 ext 3105 (work)



HOME BREWERY PLC

DAYBROOK · NOTTINGHAM NG5 6BU

TELEPHONE: NOTTINGHAM
(0602) 269741

FAX NO. (0602) 670122

REGISTERED OFFICE

REGISTERED NO. 32311 ENGLAND

PD/SAW

15 April 1988

Mr R C Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell
27 Hollytree Close
Hoton
Nr Loughborough
Leics
LE12 5SE

Dear Mr Hine

Thank you for your letter of 8 April concerning 'The Gate to Southwell'. Mr Farr in fact left the Company in July '87 and for that reason the details of the support we have traditionally given to this event are somewhat sketchy.

Would you be kind enough to let me know how many pints of beer would be acceptable and give me any information you can concerning the administration of this, ie is the beer available in a pub?

If you could give me a call at Home Brewery then I am sure we will be able to organise something.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Philip Dodd
Company Marketing Manager

HOME BREWERY PLC



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CONSTABULARY

SHERWOOD LODGE, ARNOLD
NOTTINGHAM NG5 8PP

Your Ref.

Our Ref. HQ(CSD)T F1/1/51/88

Telex 37622

Telephone (0602) 670999 Ext.

(PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE WHEN REPLYING)

18 April 1988

Dear Sir/Madam,

GATE TO SOUTHWELL PROCESSION 21.5.88

Thank you for your letter dated 8 April 1988 advising me of your intention to hold the above event.

It is my policy and that of all Chief Officers of Police to discourage events which involve the use of the public highway, since conflict is likely to be caused between participants, pedestrians and other road users and accidents could occur. Whilst I appreciate the charitable intentions, it is the duty of the Police to do everything possible to prevent road accidents and to ensure the free-flow of traffic using the public highway at all times.

The Police have considerable experience of events of this kind and although you may properly take maximum precautions in respect of participants' safety, there can be no guarantee, unfortunately, of the conduct and behaviour of drivers when approaching or passing them, which is the time when accidents are most likely to happen. I hope, therefore, that you will decide upon reflection not to proceed with the present project, but perhaps replace it with one that does not involve any use of the public highway.

If in spite of my views you still pursue your original intention and proceed with the event as envisaged, full risk and responsibility must rest with the organiser and participants. I would strongly urge that the arrangements are carefully checked to ensure that they conform fully either with the advice given in the enclosed pamphlet entitled 'Safety and Sponsored Walks', or in respect of marathons to the rules laid down by the A.A.A. and particularly in relation to young persons, the contents of which are equally applicable to other types of event on the highway.

In addition I should mention that if a vehicle is used to accompany the participants, the driver of that vehicle must conform to all traffic signs and regulations and accord to all the rules governing the use of a vehicle on the highway. Should any alleged offences be



Micklebarrow Morris Men

Squire Peter Bates

Bagman

Mike Hills

16 Henry Road

West Bridgford

Nottingham NG2 7NA

Tel: Nottingham 812460

19 April 1988

Dear Bob.

Following your phone call I have given some thought to the inclusion in the Gate to Swell brochure.

I suggest something along these lines: —

"The Southwell based Micklebarrow Morris Men visited Germany in 1985 as guests of the Trachtengruppe Nieder Emmendingen (Emmendingen being twinned with Newark). The highlight of last year's activities was the return visit of our German friends in October.

The party of 24 who were accommodated by members of the side, performed in Newark & York and also visited Belvoir Castle, Lincoln & Nottingham.

Among this year's events, Micklebarrow are attending the Whitchurch Ring Meeting in Tring, Bucks, and dancing at Warwick Castle. We hope to return to Germany next year."

Could you also note that we practice at Fiskerton at the "Bromley Arms" and that our colours are chestnut & gold not red and orange.

I look forward to seeing you in May.

Best wishes

Mike

7 North Terrace
Chesterfield Road
BELPER
Derbyshire
DE5 1HG

29th April 1988

Dear Bob,

Thanks for sending the start of the Gate to Southwell programme. I have managed to type it so far; I felt quite sad to think that I wouldn't be part of it this year, as I remembered the places on the route and the pubs we called at. Anyway, I still have a souvenir of last year's Gate - my lost toenails still haven't quite grown back completely! I trust you will keep an eye on Ted this year and keep him out of trouble.

Enclosed is a draft for you to read and correct; I have given it a quick read but will check it more carefully with the original before I run off final copies. It will be produced 2 pages per A4 sheet ready for printing/photocopying but I can't do that yet because I don't know how pages will fall until I get all the text from you.

Queries:

In the coding for sides leading procession you mention Foresters and Greenwood, but they are not included in timetable. Do I assume that they are not taking part and references to them need deleting (including descriptions of sides taking part/kit etc.)?

In the section describing sides you have no details of Black Pig.

The 1988 Procession : When and Where: you mention Ted Hutchby's "new custom-built cross". As this was taken from last year's programme do you want to delete the word "new"?

Look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,



753080

SNEINTON ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY

77 Trent Road
Sneinton
Nottingham
NG2 4FB

15 May 1988

Mr R C Hine
Organiser
The Gate to Southwell
27 Hollytree Close
Hoton, nr Loughborough
Leics LS12 5SE

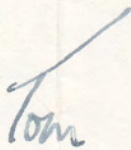
Dear Bob

Thank you for your letter of 8 April. The representatives of the Society will be delighted to meet the worthy and colourful procession at the Sneinton Hermitage and subsequently grant them safe passage through the borders of the Parish as on previous occasions.

xx Thank you also for the invitation to the handing over ceremony at the Minster in the evening. I am not yet sure if anyone will be available in the evening and am making enquiries. It would be nice for one of our people to be present. Assuming that it is not necessary to make any elaborate arrangements in advance, I will contact you nearer the time.

In any event, I look forward to seeing you all in your usual jovial mood on the 21st.

Yours sincerely



Tom Huggon

xx It is most unlikely that anyone will be available in the evening. Sorry.
h

MEMO RE GATE TO SOUTHWELL 1988

22 MAY 1988

(1) SLAB SQUARE: AS MANY SIDES AS POSSIBLE TO DANCE INDEPENDENTLY AT 8.45

(2) COMMUNITY CENTRE HERMITAGE SQUARE: ASAP MICKLETON CALVERTON BLACK PIG TO DANCE

(3) BURTON JOYCE CROSS KEYS: DISPLAY BETWEEN 11 AND 12, BROADSTONE MUSGRAVE (QUICK ONE) AT 11, DOLPHIN AIDLEYS 11.10, MICKLEBARROW CALVERTON BLACK PIG 11.30,

(4) LOWDHAM VILLAGE HALL 12.30-1.30, DISPLAY BY ALL SIDES WANTING TO; INCLUDE NOTTINGHAM PRIDE FOR A COUPLE OF DANCES

(5) MINSTER: GLORISHEARS BAMPTON: REP FROM EACH COTSWOLD SIDE IF POSS

PHONE NOS

BROADSTONE ALAN GILL NEWARK 821930

CALVERTON JOHN CRAWFORD 265469

LEEN VALLEY JANE SPICK 603899 (NB 4 DANCERS ONLY)

AIDLEYS JILL HUCKLE PLUMTREE 5615

DOLPHIN SIMON HAYDOCK 228986

MICKLEBARROW MIKE HILLS 812460

BLACK PIG JOHN HANKIN 0773 760507



BLACK PIG BORDER

Bagman ~ John Hankin, 31 Julie Ave., Langley,
Heanor, Derbys. DE7 7HW. Tel. 0773 760507



Dear BOB

With reference to your conversation with Mike
Nesbitt. This is to confirm that "BLACK PIG" will
be dancing to the GATES OF SOUTHWELL

Yours Sincerely

John Hankin

Formed Oct 87 Pat Brett (Mike Nesbitt) → Mixed border.
Capt. Pughwash' ship. — Black faces Black tattered
coat, flat caps, cord trousers & working boots.

Prachi Horse & Trolley Langley Mill Mon night

8pm. Danced out at Upton for wishes well

appeal St Oswald St. Dance out with Ripley.

Standby 22/3/8 July June 18 Chestofield

Matlock with Chestofield.

Chestofield Garland Dancers → Viv Simpson
0246 35718.

Ripley MM. Ches Arnold ~~8332~~ Derby 88140X

THE SERVICE AT THE MINSTER

In the Minster, there will be a short service to commemorate the morris dancers and pilgrims who over several hundred years made the annual procession to Southwell. After the Chapter Clerk has welcomed the procession to the Cathedral, the hymn 'Staff of Faith' will be sung (to the tune of Monks March). There will follow prayers, remembering especially the disadvantaged children who are the object of our charity appeal and a traditional English morris dance. The service will conclude with the Whitsun hymn, "Fear not rejoice and be glad". After the blessing the procession will leave by the west door.

Recalling the 16th Century association between the morris dancers and the Gate to Southwell, Terry and Glenys Gill will recreate the atmosphere of that period with some early English music.

THE STAFF OF FAITH. (8 6. 8 6. 8 8 8. 6.)

Traditional Swiss Melody.

The musical score consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The melody is written in a traditional Swiss style, featuring a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The piece is titled 'THE STAFF OF FAITH' and is noted as a 'Traditional Swiss Melody'.

1 My faith, it is an oaken staff,
The traveller's well-loved aid;
My faith, it is a weapon stout,
The soldier's trusty blade:
I'll travel on, and still be stirred
By silent thought or social word;
By all my perils undeterred,
A soldier-pilgrim staid.

3 I have a Guide, and in His steps
When travellers have trod,
Where'er beneath was flinty rock
Or yielding grassy sod.
They cared not, but with force unstinted,
Unmoved by pain, they onward went,
Unstayed by pleasures, still they bent
Their zealous course to God.

2 I have a Captain, and the heart
Of every private man
Has drunk in valour from His eyes,
Since first the war began;
He is most merciful in fight,
And of His scars a single sight
The embers of our failing might
Into a flame can fan.

4 My faith, it is an oaken staff,
O let me on it lean!
My faith, it is a trusty sword,
May falsehood find it keen!
Thy Spirit, Lord, to me impart,
O make me what Thou ever art,
Of patient and courageous heart,
As all true saints have been.

THOMAS TOKE LYNCH, 1818-71.

A hurdy-gurdy (called *lyra*), from Virdung's *Musica getitscha* (1511).



SOUTHWELL MINSTER

GATE TO SOUTHWELL 1988

PREPARATION: mobile lectern to N. Porch
area roped off outside N. Porch

SERVICE 6:30 at N. Porch

Clergy move to N. Porch immediately
after Evensong.

Welcome from the Chapter Clerk.

Response by Mr. Bob Hine

Purses received by the Chapter Clerk
with thanks

Procession to space under the tower
music by Mr. Terry Gill.

Act of Worship

Introduction DAK

Hymn - 'Staff of Faith'

Prayers DAK
Chris Mellors R.I.P. Factors
Handicapped
Whit.

Dance

Hymn - 'Fear not, rejoice and be glad'

Blessing by the Provost