

# Great Wishford Taggott Dance

The custom of dancing a procession to Salisbury Cathedral to maintain the villagers rights to collecting wood in the Grovely Woods is medieval. It was confirmed in a charter of 1604.

The dance was definitely performed by women in the 19<sup>th</sup> century although the custom was replaced by the carrying of a garland in the latter half of the century. Since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the dance has been performed by 4 women. The tunes used are modern, but the dance is so simple that it could be of considerable antiquity.

(This information via Roy Dommett who read it in an article in a Wiltshire magazine)