

Barrowford Dance

10 Introduction and Sources

Introduction

There are no details of the Barrowford Morris Dance other than mentions of the Barrowford Rushbearing (Stringfellow, Garry: Mytholmroyd, 2018, *Rushbearing and Rush Strewing in Churches across Northern Counties*)

Helm, Alex, Collection, University College Archives, also supplied by Alan Seymour, Colne Royal Morris Member, provides notes by Julian Pilling, 28th August 1961, with a 75 year old Nelson man who claimed he knew of morris dancers in Barrowford and that they set out from "Bowling Green." He thought it was around 1900.

Pilling 1971 quotes "There was also a Morris in Barrowford where the Rushbearing ceremony was a very grand affair according to Alfred Burton in his book "*Rushbearing* ," published in 1891 and very wild, according to letters published in the local press according to members from non-conformist churches (sic)."

12th November 1961 interview by Julian Pilling with Minnie Barker suggests that there was a Barrowford Dance (Helm Collection, University College, London, Vol 19/2 page 584) around 1890-1900 with dancers wearing a light coloured skirt and a dark jacket, with two sticks, performed to the tune of *Old Ninety-Five*, played on bagpipes or a brass band.

The same information was also independently supplied by Alan Seymour, Colne Royal Morris Men and Manchester Morris Men archives.

Sources

Helm, Alex, Collection, University College Archives, notes by Julian Pilling, 20th August 1961
Helm Collection, University College, London, Vol 19/2 page 584 around 1900, interview by Julian Pilling with Minnie Barker

Manchester Morris Men also supplied the above: *"Copyright in these archives will be retained by the Manchester Morris Men but free and unlimited access will be allowed under the Creative Commons 4.0 BY-SA license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)"

Pilling, Julian, 1971, "*The Royal Morris of Colne*"

Seymour, Alan, previous member of Colne Royal MM: information re Barrowford team

Notes from Stringfellow, Garry: Mytholmroyd, 2018, *Rushbearing and Rush Strewing in Churches across Northern Counties*