

THE EXISTENCE of morris dancing today in the village of Adderbury owes a huge debt to the work of Janet Heatley Blunt and Cecil Sharp who noted and recorded the dances. In 1916 Janet Blunt began interviewing the 80 year old William 'Binx' Walton, who had been the foreman of the Adderbury side for twenty years in the mid-19th century. In 1919 Janet Blunt introduced Binx Walton

to Cecil Sharp, who watched Walton's performances and published detailed descriptions in his Morris Book. There may

have been three morris sides in the village performing in the 19th century, although this had died out by the

JANET HEATLEY BLUNT 1859 - 1950

Folk song and morris dance collector

lived here 1896-1950

1880s. A revival side was established at the village school in Edwardian times and this developed into a men's side before the First World War. Sadly only one of the dancers returned from the war and that revival of morris dancing in Adderbury died out. Fortunately the dances had been recorded in such detail



by Janet Blunt and others from surviving members of the 19th century team that they could be performed by a newly formed revival team, the Adderbury Morris Men, led by Tim Radford and Bryan Sheppard. So, in 1974 the dances came back to Adderbury and the dances were reconstructed and practised before their first day of dance on Saturday 26th April 1975.

The side split later in that year, forming two morris sides in Adderbury: the Adderbury Morris Men and the Adderbury Village Morris Men. More recently a third side, Sharp and Blunt, has formed, so Adderbury once again has three morris sides. In 1982 the musicians of the Adderbury Morris Men recorded the music of their tradition. This cassette tape was re-released by The Morris Federation in 1990 to accompany the publication of 'Adderbury Tradition - Cotswold Morris Dancing' by Tim Radford and the Morris Federation. This is its first release on CD. in the year in which both the Adderbury Morris Men and The Morris Federation celebrate their 40th anniversaries.







Stick Dances:	01	Sweet Jenny Jones	sw
Street Barreco.		Washing Day	BM
		Cobb's Horse	CL
		The Bluebells of Scotland	sw
		Constant Billy	sw
		Beaux of London City	BM
		The Happy Man	BM
		Cuckoo's Nest	sw
	09	Landlord Fill the Flowing Bowl	BM
		Roast Beef of Old England	BM
		Brighton Camp	sw
		Lads a'Bunchum	sw
	13	Postman's Knock	ВМ
Handkerchief Dances:	14	Haste to the Wedding	sw
	15	Princess Royal	CL
	16	Bethlehem	sw
	17	The Buffoon (or The Fool's Dance)	ВМ
	18	Black Joke	sw
	19	Old Woman Tossed Up in a Blanket	sw
	20	The Anniversary Jig	CL
	21	The Bell	sw
	22	Stourton Wake	ВМ
	23	A N Other (tune Young Collins)	sw
	24	Betty Windsor	CL
	25	The Lollipop Man	sw
Processional:	26	Shepherd's Away	& BM



Musicians:

Stephen Wass (SW) – melodeon, Bryan Martin (BM) – fiddle & vocals, Chris Leslie (CL) – fiddle

Vocals:

Ian Harris, Ian Gow, Tim Radford, Tim Marris, Phil Le Mare.

All titles traditional and arranged by The Adderbury Morris Men, except 'Cobb's Horse', 'The Anniversary Jig' and 'Betty Windsor' by Chris Leslie. © The Adderbury Morris Men 1982.

Recorded at Woodworm Studios, Barford St Michael, Oxfordshire, on 24th and 31st January 1982. Engineered by Dave Pegg and Mark Powell.

The original tape also included a jig, 'Jockey to the Fair' played by Chris Leslie. This has been omitted because of time constraints in CD format but will be included on a compilation CD celebrating 40 years of The Morris Federation.

Package design by Mick Toole. Front cover painting by Jane Russ. Thanks to the Adderbury Morris Men and Philip Le Mare for permission to use photographs from their log books and website.

