

## David Jex

Content: David Jex first came to Halsway with the Kentish travellers (display team) in the mid to late 60s, and returned around 2005 for a Yetties weekend. As well as being a dancer, he has called dances for many years and served on the EFDSS National Executive.

David had no dance in his early years in Nottingham and Chichester. He learned to folk dance at a Sussex church youth club, with Pat Longhurst and CDM1 (Community Dance Manuals) & 78s

14 Feb 1957 met wife Rosemary at a dance and married 1962

1959-61 National Service in Royal Army Pay corps

1961 Martlets Morris & (long) sword dancers

Spent honey moon in Saltsburg with display team!

Moved to West Wickham, Kent and got to know the Southerners Ken Hillier, Jack Hamilton, and Alan Corkett

Began calling at Lewisham FDC, Catford Cricket Club

1967 CDM 6 (ed Jack Hamilton) dedicated to David

1963 auditioned for Kentish Travellers Display team (formed 1955 by Keith Uttley & run by Peter French)

1967 Kentish travellers performed at Buckingham Palace for staff Christmas Ball and were also on TV in "Come dancing"

Peter French retired so David did admin with April Chandler as artistic director until 1985

Mid-late 60s 1st visit to Halsway Manor with Kentish Travellers ..good weather and danced outside

Squire of Ravensbourne Morris Men for 3 years in late 70s

Still goes out with Martlet Sword team

Paid 4 guineas to call at early gigs, Worked with recorded music but also bands Kent Cobs, Ranchers, Woolley Yeoman

Hadn't been back to Halsway until 10years ago... always been fans of the Yetties. As a Railway enthusiastic at Bluebell Railway, he heard about the Yetties Halsway weekend

Has given talks at the Yetties weekend

Enjoys singing, folk, music hall, Gilbert & Sullivan (just finished Mikado)

Doesn't dance any more and still calls

Enjoys the friendship of the Yetties weekends

Recalled 1969 Sidmouth.. Yetties and Kentish Travellers stayed at same hotel

Pete Shutler's funeral church and church hall packed

Joined EFDSS in Late 50s, became a caller trainer on courses

On EFDSS National Executive for 6 years (Nibs Matthews)

Fairfield Halls, Croydon organised barndances for 250+ people for Saturdays in July which influenced many people to get involved in dance

How has Halsway changed? Ensuites, likes idea of proposed plans

Sang Admiral Benbow ( recorded with Ravensbourne Morris)