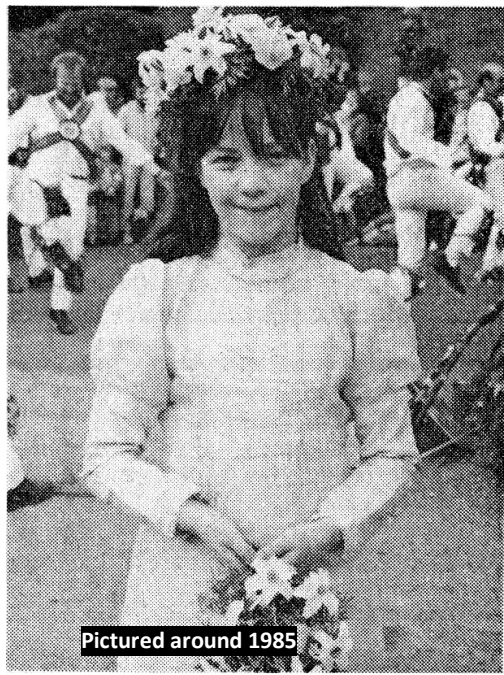


Bygone Days of Ansty

This series 'Bygone Days of Ansty' looks at the more recent past as outlined by local newspaper cuttings and other articles carefully saved and cherished by some long standing Ansty villagers and their families.

This offering takes us back 20 to almost 40 years ago when local newspapers reported on several Ansty May Day events. We were not able to attribute the source or exact date of some of these cuttings but would be delighted to if someone can inform us.



Pictured around 1985

MAY DAY REVELS AT ANSTY

PUPILS from Chilmark First School took part in the traditional maypole dancing at Ansty on Monday, narrowly missing the late-afternoon downpour.

The 21 children had just finished their display when the heavens opened, said the headmaster, the Rev Michael Cartwright.

There was a procession through the village to the 98-foot maypole where 12-year-old Sonia Gale of Holwood Farm Cottage, Ansty (pictured left) was crowned may queen.



Unknown Source

PUPILS of Chilmark primary school gave a country dancing display at the annual Ansty village May Day festivities on Friday evening around the village's tall maypole. Shown with the pupils is their headmaster, Mr Jim Penny, who retires in June.

The Morris's minor

The Journal around 1990



□ **TEN-YEAR-OLD Alexandra Stratton**, this year's Ansty May queen, is held aloft by the White Horse Morris Men near the 96ft maypole during the annual May Day festivities in the village.

The Journal 1989



Twelve-year-old Jayne Feltham is held aloft by the White Horse Morris Men as they proclaim her Queen of Ansty May, beneath the village's 98-feet high maypole.

Unknown Source around 1982



A view of last year's May Day celebrations before Mr and Mrs Thomas bought the inn and renovated it.



Unknown Source c1985

CHILMARK first school pupils, trained by teacher Jill Palmer, get into the swing of things around the 98-foot maypole.



The Western Gazette. Early 80s?

THE VILLAGE OF ANSTY came alive on Saturday for the May Day celebrations. Our picture is of this year's May Queen, 12-year-old Linda Gardner, in procession with her attendants from the Manor House to the village maypole for the crowning ceremony.



Village Brownies dancing round the maypole in Ansty last night during the annual May Day celebrations.

Fun around the Maypole

By David Humphrey

VILLAGERS at Ansty near Salisbury celebrated a 500-year-old ritual yesterday with celebrations around their 96ft tall Maypole, one of Britain's highest.

Reigning over the proceedings was May Queen Susan Spicer, aged 11, a pupil at Tisbury's Nadder Middle School,

attended by Elizabeth and Alexandra Stratton, all from Ansty.

Tisbury Majorettes, Wilton Youth Band, Morris Dancing and a guest appearance by actress Annie Hully—who stars as Karen Moore in Emmerdale Farm—made it a memorable May Day.

The present pole went up in 1982, but Ansty has always been famous for its Maypole

Unknown Source; mid 1980s



Unknown Source. 1990?

IN action are the ladies of the Dorset Trump Dancers who were making their third consecutive appearance at the bank holiday celebrations.