



Joe Powell and the Bucknell Morris Men c. 1875

Joseph Powell (b.1845) was the taborer for the Bucknell Morris . A lot of the Bucknell tunes and dances were collected from him by Sharp and Butterworth.

Joe's Tabor

He made his own tabor from a cheese box and the head was made of parchment on which could distinctly be read the lease of a refreshment purveyor. He also made tabors for others (see page 14).

Joe's Pipe

Unlike present day tabor pipes, which are built so that they give a sequence of Tone, Tone, Semitone (TTS) and are pitched in D, Joe's actual pipe produced the sequence Tone, Tone, Tone (TTT) rather like the galoubet (a French pipe), and was pitched in E flat. Some think it was tuned TT3/4 and Joe half-holed the thumb hole. (Visit the Taborers Society Website <http://www.pipeandtabor.org> for more information). The Pitt Rivers Museum has several pipes and tabors in their collections and among them are Joe Powell's own instruments.

A very interesting account of their 'discovery' can be found in an article by Lindsay Seagram-Trinder in the pages of the *FedExtra* magazine, winter/spring 2018, pp. 8-9: <https://www.morrisfed.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/2018-winterspring.pdf>

There is also a recording of Bert Cleaver playing "The Willow Tree" on Joe's original pipe on the Taborers Society website: : <http://www.pipeandtabor.org> . Lindsay Seagram-Trinder borrowed the instruments from the Powell family and hosted the recording at her home. Geoff Jerram made the recording using the Morris Ring's digital audio tape [DAT] recorder. The Morris Ring acknowledges the contributions made to this recording by all the named individuals.

There is an excellent article about the two sorts of pipes and Joe Powell by Graham Lyndon-Jones on page 35 of the Quarterly Bulletin 96 of the **Fellowship of Makers & Researchers of Historical Instruments** (FoMRHI).

<https://www.fomrhi.org/uploads/bulletins/Fomrhi-096.pdf>

This is a sample from my resarches - I am putting together the third volume of "A Taborer's Treasury" whichi will consist of about 80 Cotswold Morris tunes for pipe & tabor, and about 40 photographs celebrating English Morris taborers.

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