

# GREEN MAN DAY



SATURDAY 18th JULY 2009  
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## ABOUT PILTON FESTIVAL

Pilton Festival, sometimes known as “Green Man Day” is a day of fun and entertainment for all. Pilton is a self-contained community within Barnstaple which enjoys a unique village atmosphere.

The Festival provides enjoyment and spectacle for people of all ages as well as a valuable platform for local charities to raise funds.

The Festival is non-profit making and we are eternally grateful for the generosity of businesses and individuals who cover the considerable costs incurred in the presentation of the event through sponsorship and freely donated services.

## THE PROCESSION

The Procession starts at 11.00am on The Square in Barnstaple and makes its way through the town centre entering Pilton at the bottom of the street. It will proceed up Pilton Street and turn right into Pilton House ready for the first performance of The Pageant at 12.00noon.

All are welcome to come and join in - Look for the large Green and Red masks leading the way!

## THE PAGEANT

**(12.00noon & 3.00pm in Pilton House grounds)**

The Green Man is an ancient Pagan symbol of nature and fertility frequently depicted in carvings in old churches as a face sprouting foliage.

The Pageant is a dramatic representation of how the church incorporated ancient beliefs into Christian ideology. The story of how the Green Man ultimately meets the Prior has always been at the core of our annual festival.

## PILTON ARTS, MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES (PAMELA)

PAMELA is a Pilton based group committed to providing entertainment for everyone. Events include music, art exhibitions, children's shows, theatre and bingo. Look out for posters or join our email list by contacting -

**[piltonfestival@aol.com](mailto:piltonfestival@aol.com)**

# WHAT'S ON - SATURDAY 18th

## TOP STAGE

- 10.30 Captain Banjo
- 11.00 Hot Punch
- 12.00 Stiltskin Creative Arts and Theatre Company - Those Peshky Pishkies
- 12.30 The Wanderers
- 13.00 Captain Banjo Street Band
- 13.30 Samba Sol
- 14.00 Elfic The Juggler
- 14.45 Barnstaple Jazz Society Orchestra
- 15.15 Hot Punch and friends

MIDDLE STAGE sponsored by:



- 10.30 Colin Shaddick
- 11.00 Elfic the Juggler
- 11.45 Bedlam Boys
- 12.30 Pilton 'Stars in your eyes' winners
- 13.00 Frenetic Engineering - Femme fatal
- 13.45 Fruit of the vine
- 14.15 Rattlebox Theatre - Dave Oliver
- 15.30 Frenetic Engineering - Femme fatal
- 16.00 Colin Shaddick

## BOTTOM STAGE

- 10.15 Malachite
- 11.00 Jax
- 11.45 Hollywood Pranksters
- 12.30 OMS
- 13.15 Cable Car Catastrophe
- 14.00 The Artists
- 15.00 Yum Yums
- 16.00 Liquidators

## OPEN MIKE BOTTOM STAGE

Come and hear the best of local talent!

## CHICHESTER ARMS

- From 1.00pm - Disco
- Afternoon - Amy Newton in the garden
- Evening - Disco

## REFORM INN

- Beer Festival all weekend
- Evening - Live music with "Shine" - Gypsy Jazz

## INFORMATION

Further information is available from Pilton Stores.

First Aid is available at Pilton House and at the bottom of Pilton Street.

### **Lost Children collection point is at Pilton Stores**

Or speak to "Call me Dave" the Harlequin - Our Festival Compere - who will be walking up and down the street with a microphone!

This program was correct at the time of going to press. However, due to the dynamic nature of the festival there will certainly be last minute changes.

# WHAT'S ON - SATURDAY 18th

## PILTON HOUSE GROUNDS

**12.00 Pageant**

14.00 Tarka Morris

**15.00 Pageant**

15.30 Tarka Morris

16.00 Captain Banjo Street Band

Chucklefoot

## WANDERER AND OTHER

### ENTERTAINERS

Mr P and his Amazing banjo

Those Peshky Pishkies

Colin Shaddick

Hill Billys

Stiltskin (The Green Man)

Matt Lemon

## PILTON CHURCH

Saturday All Day and Sunday Afternoon –

Flower Festival and 'Our World' Exhibition

## PILTON HALL

All day - Come into the "Oasis" run by local Churches, for free refreshments, live music, prayer for healing and displays about how the Church is serving the community.

## ROTARY GARDENS

2.00 Matt Lemon workshop

Dave Oliver and Rattlebox Theatre

Daisy Ivans

Silver Man

Merry-Go-Round

Embroidery

Card making

Jewellery making

Garden Green Man masks

Handmade vintage inspired handbags

Driftwood sculptures

Making brooches

Making small felt rugs

Rag rugging

Encaustic art

Greek olives in balsamic vinegar

Craftwork with recycled paper

Stick making

Birds of prey rescue

Face painting

Ceramic Green Man masks

French knitting

Basket making

North Devon Spinners

Stone carving

Indian head massage

ReptoBug

Willow workshop

... and much more !!!

# WHAT'S ON FRIDAY 17th

## REFORM INN

Beer Festival all day

Live music with "Red Dirt" from 8.00pm

There was a Piltonian Lady  
Who met the Green Man in his heyday  
She batted her eyes  
And to no-one's surprise  
She got her comeuppance on May Day

Noel Harley

# WHAT'S ON - SUNDAY 19th

## PEDESTRIAN TREASURE HUNT

2.00pm Onwards. Starting from Pilton House grounds. Follow the clues during a gentle walk around Pilton ending up at the Victoria Tea Rooms to treat yourself to a cream tea (from 2.00pm).

## ALSO IN PILTON HOUSE GROUNDS

Beer tent

Live music

Games

## REFORM INN

Beer festival concludes

## PILTON CHURCH

7.30pm 'Our World' concert of words & music

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## THANK YOU !

The organisers of Pilton Festival would like to thank all those individuals and organisations who have generously helped make the event so special including:

Barnstaple Town Council, Parker, Rawle, Gammon & Baker Ltd., South West Highways, Devon & Cornwall Police, The Fire Brigade, Small & Tidmas, All of the residents of Portmill Court and everyone else who has helped in any way!!

### REMEMBERING NOEL

In April, we lost a dear friend in Dr Noel Harley. Along with his wife Pet, Noel was a stalwart of community life here in Pilton and was a founder member of the re-incarnation of Pilton Festival. Noel was the inspiration behind many of us who are involved in a broad spectrum of activities today, all of us fueled by his enormous sense of fun and touched by his generosity of spirit. Speaking of spirit, if you keep your eyes peeled, you might just spot Noel's uproarious Festival tights, dancing in the breeze from a favoured tree!

*Ced Piper*

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## PILTON FESTIVAL - A SHORT HISTORY by NOEL HARLEY

Details of early versions of the Festival are not written in any documents to be found now. It is believed that a Charter was granted in 1344 by Edward III for a Market and Fair in Pilton to be held annually in July, which would certainly have been accompanied by entertainment, feasting and carousing. Oral tradition recalls dancing on what was a green triangle where Dark Lane joins Bellaire and Northfield Lane still taking place shortly before World War 2.

The modern Festival was inaugurated in 1982 by the then Vicar, the Rev Anthony Geering, 1,100 years after the establishment of Pilton as a Burgh by King Athelstan. A whole series of events were planned for a month from Midsummer's Day. The programme began with a concert in the Church by local artistes. The first weekend saw a 3 day Flower Festival in the church on the theme "Enter his gates with praise", an exhibition in the Bluecoat School entitled "Pilton Past and Present" including many items related to industries and works in Pilton and photographs from personal collections, all loaned by local residents. Many a face was recalled from years ago. The grand culmination was the Mediaeval Market and Pageant, with a mediaeval period as its theme. The market spread up Pilton Street and extended under the arch into Church Path. It was rich with costumed entertainers and traders, and blessed with a warm and sunny day. The Pageant in the afternoon depicted events from the history of Pilton, as seen by the mythical Green Man (played by Anthony Geering). The participants assembled in Pilton Park and made their way through the Street into the grounds of Pilton House. It included Celtic residents of the hill fort on Roborough, Vikings, King Athelstan and knights, lepers from St Margarets Hospital, monks, Puritans and many more. A packed day finished off with Country Dancing on a wonderfully balmy evening in the playground at the Bluecoat School to the music of Hayseed and Axolotl with accompanying lamb roast.

The next Festivals were held in 1984, 1987, 1989, 1991 and 1993, in various forms. In 1995 the Festival included the usual street market, some entertainers, and a Pageant based on a new principle, that instead of trying to depict a new theme every year, a street play would be repeated perpetually, featuring an encounter between the Pilton Prior and the Green Man, explaining the apparent incongruity of the Green Man carving in the Church. An innovation in 1996 was a costumed procession from the Barnstaple Museum in the Square through the High Street back to Pilton. The Festival has continued to evolve, with the Pageant becoming a more complex performance, and eventually Pilton Street became so congested that it became necessary to expand the venue to allow visitors a reasonable chance to watch. An arrangement was therefore negotiated to extend into the grounds of Pilton House and Rotary Gardens, reverting to the arrangements of 1982.

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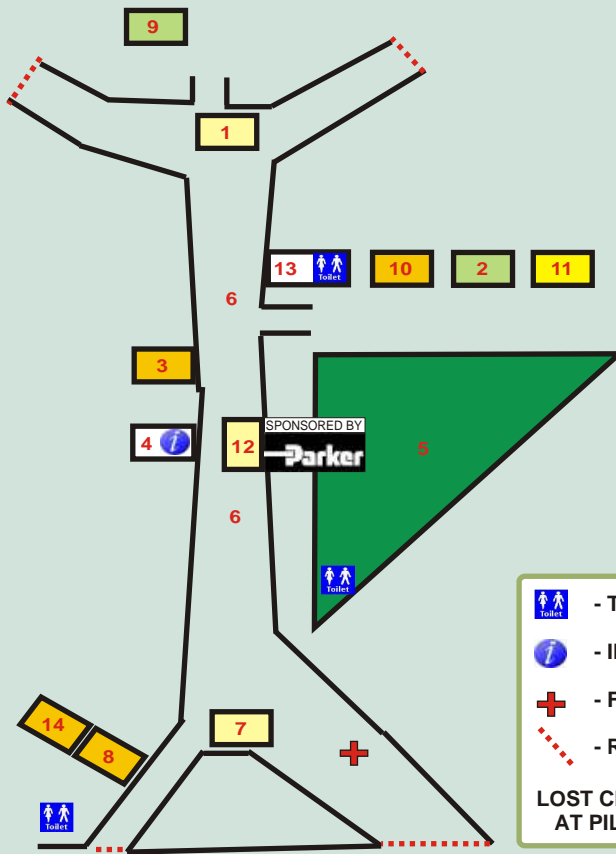
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# PILTON STREET - JULY 18th



- KEY:**
- 1 - TOP STAGE
  - 2 - PILTON HOUSE
  - 3 - CHICHESTER ARMS
  - 4 - PILTON STORES
  - 5 - ROTARY GARDENS
  - 6 - STALLS
  - 7 - BOTTOM STAGE
  - 8 - REFORM INN
  - 9 - CHURCH
  - 10 - THE GREEN MAN INN
  - 11 - PAGEANT ARENA
  - 12 - MIDDLE STAGE
  - 13 - PILTON HALL
  - 14 - BEER FESTIVAL

- TOILETS
  - INFORMATION
  - FIRST AID
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- LOST CHILDREN POINT IS AT PILTON STORES (4)**



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