

## Ethel Creemer Rowe (1875-1965)

### Character in the Sherborne Pageant:

Choreographer of the Morris Dance in episode 7 and was one of the dancers.

### Episode 7:

Maid Marian appears, in a gown of russet and Lincoln green, her nut-brown hair adrift in the breeze. Led by her and Robin Hood, a merry troop of damsels with their swains now combine in the gayest of Morris dances. The men with ashen staves, the damsels with wreathes of ivy and flowers, intertwine in a charming dance: while a rustic musician, perched on a barrel, keeps time with pipe and tabor to the old English melody sung by a Dramatic Chorus in Lincoln green; a diminutive jester piles his impudent bladder; a benevolent Dragon stalks solemnly and ludicrously around; and Friar Tuck, Little John, and two other outlaws, curvet and prance as grotesque hobby-horses, bowing acknowledgments to the rapturous applause that greets this delightful interlude. Robin Hood and his company quit the scene, only to be recalled by the persistent demands of the spectators, who will brook no refusal, for a repetition of their dance, which is accordingly renewed with variations.

Ethel Creemer Rowe was born in 1875 in Kensington, London to Robert Rowe (1843-1912), a glass merchant, and Francis Amelia Rowe (née Cooper) (1845-1937).

She trained at Dartford Physical Training College.



Rehearsals taking place for the Morris Dance

She joined Sherborne School for Girls in 1900, just one year after its founding, and remained until her retirement in 1935. As Assistant Mistress she was responsible for physical education (teacher of Swedish Gymnastics, chip carving, fencing), and in 1910 she became the first Housemistress of Aylmar.

She retired in 1935 to Sandy Down, Boldre, Lymington, Hampshire and died on 3 November 1965.