

# WILDMAN OF THE WOODS

Hyperlinks embedded in text and images

The wild man, wild man of the woods, or woodwose/wodewose is a mythical figure that appears in the art and literature of medieval Europe, comparable to the satyr or faun type in classical mythology and to Silvanus, the Roman god of the woodlands.

The defining characteristic of the figure is its "wildness"; from the 12th century, they were consistently depicted as being covered with hair. Images of wild men appear in the carved and painted roof bosses where intersecting ogee vaults meet in Canterbury Cathedral, in positions where one is also likely to encounter the vegetal Green Man. The image of the wild

man survived to appear as a supporter for many heraldic coats-of-arms, especially in Germany, and well into the 16th century. Many renaissance engravers in Germany and Italy were particularly fond of wild men, wild



Postcard depicting 'A Wildman of the Woods' Artist Hans Holbein II



Wildman with wooden club  
Semi-postal issue benefitting the Red Cross

women, and wild families, with wonderfully executed examples of artists Martin Schongauer (died 1491) and Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528) among others.



Mr. and Mrs. Wildman



Commemorative cancel - man and wife



Modern seal  
Settlement Commission  
Western Prussia & Posen