

The JMO National Day of Dance 2020

January 2020 update; times and other details t.b.c.

“THE MORRIS RING IN THE NORTH WEST heartily invites you to set a course for the great maritime city of Liverpool on April 18th for this year’s Joint Morris Organisations’ National Day of Dance. Marvel at stunning architecture, delight in the famous Waterfront, wonder at the evocative Three Graces and raise a glass to Scouse glory in one (or more) of the many brilliant boozers. You’ll be dancing under the gaze of the Liver Birds, capering directly above the oldest floating harbour in the world and, who knows, even rubbing shoulders with an ocean-going liner at Prince’s Landing Stage. It’ll be Fab Four everybody!”

Where and when?

Liverpool City Centre, Saturday 18th April. The event starts at 10am at Liverpool One’s Sugar House Steps with a welcome from the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, and ends at 4pm with a centrally located closing ceremony.

Registration (inc. collecting tin/info pack allocation) from 9.15am is at Liverpool Central Library, William Brown Street L3 8EW, where visiting sides will find women’s and men’s changing facilities, toilets, secure storage and a cafe. Early arrivals will find lots of great places to breakfast within a few minutes walk, and the city is blessed throughout with a cornucopia of really fine pubs and eateries.

Are numbers restricted?

Yes. Liverpool has quite a compact, river-fronted city centre, so there are natural constraints to the number of suitable venues. Initially we are offering a minimum of 45 places, but we are still finalising our list of dance spots and hope to add to this number; this will allow us to promote later applicants from any reserve list.

Any massed Morris or associated evening event?

This is under review by the Squire and Bagman of the Morris Ring. Expect more details shortly. There is no evening event planned.

What about travel and parking?



There's plenty of chargeable parking in central Liverpool, but visitors should consider using the park and ride facilities available at many nearby railway stations. Liverpool South Parkway, for travellers from the north and east, has over 300 spaces which are free to rail users; trains run to and from Lime Street (about 6 minutes walk from Central Library) every 10 minutes or so throughout the day from dawn till the early hours. Journey time is about 15 minutes. Wirral Line stations offer similar arrangements, with journey times to/from Lime Street varying from 25 to 10 minutes. Return tickets cost less than a fiver, which is cheaper than city centre parking. Long-





distance coach services use a nearby terminus, and local buses call very close to our sphere of operations.

I want to get to know this wonderful city!

Liverpool boasts a very full range of hotel, hostel and B&B accommodation to suit all pockets. A web search will reveal the current offerings, or the Liverpool Tourist Information Centre can help: 0151 233 6800. There are no noteworthy camping/caravan sites conveniently close, but the internet may suggest creative ways of exploiting Merseyside's excellent and extensive public transport network to allow use of the more remote venues. There is disabled access at all dance venues, transport hubs and at Central Library; most pubs and cafes offer easy access.

When will detailed updates be available?

We expect to publish the draft schedule by the end of February. MR Webmaster Pete de Courcy has already set up a JMO DoD page on the Morris Ring website (URL below - we'll need to shorten this!) which will host downloadable timetables, itineraries & late changes etc.

Are the Morris Shop and the One Stop Morris Shop in attendance?

We have secured a prime location in Central Library for both Morris shops.

Who did you say is running this event?

We think it important to emphasise the collaborative nature of the hosting of this event, which is through the good offices of several local Morris Ring sides - in the best tradition of joint organisation! "Hosted by the Morris Ring in the North West" neatly encapsulates this collegiate approach to ensuring the success of the day.

How do we apply?

The three Morris organisations (Morris Ring, Morris Federation, Open Morris) will be pleased to receive expressions of interest from affiliated sides, and we very much look forward to the pleasure of your company in April.

Dave Loughlin *Event Co-ordinator & Morris Ring Area Representative*
Tony Foard *Event Secretary*

themorrisring.org/event/joint-morris-organisations-national-day-dance-2020
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