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Newsletter No. 112

November 2018

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Future Events

2019

18th – 20th January **Morris Ring Jigs Instructional weekend (details to follow)**

2nd March **ARM, Oak Farm Lodge**

1st – 2nd June **Thaxted Morris Weekend (not a Ring Meeting, please apply directly to Thaxted MM)**

22nd – 23rd June **Utrecht proposed Ring Meeting (meeting no 360)**

The Utrecht Morris Team started dancing back in 1979 (unfortunately none of us today were there) so in 2019 we celebrate our 40th anniversary. For this reason we will be organizing a Ring Meeting in the weekend of 21-23 June 2019.

It will be in the lovely town of Utrecht, famous for the lovely canals, the highest church tower of the Netherlands and 50 percent of Dutch Morris dancing. There are some lovely dancing spots in town. Janskerkhof, Ganzemarkt, Domplein, Mariaplaats, Vismarkt, Ledig Erf and many more. The Dutch audience is great too.

We'll give you a warm welcome on the Friday evening, with some food and of course lively Dutch beers. Some great short walking tours in the mediaeval town center during the Saturday including Lunch and a feast in the Dutch Railway Museum. On Sunday there will be a canal boat trip and a final show in front of the Old Town Hall.

What we don't organize is breakfast, the travelling and accommodation. Although we do have a list of convenient hotels, hostels and a campsite (included here as Appendix 2) and can give you good advice. So please book your ferry, plane, train or whatever yourself. We know from experience going the other way at least once every year that the most convenient option for you strongly depends on where you are in England. But one thing is certain, the train system in the Netherlands is great, and all of the Netherlands is at maximum a 2 hour journey by train away from Utrecht. Essentially a city trip with bells on (except if you are a rapper or sword side).

What we are offering will cost you about 80 euro. Thanks to the Brexit we don't have a clue what that will be in pounds in a half year's time, but at this moment is around 70 pounds.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me. I'll try to get answers in about two days or less. On behalf of Utrecht Morris Men, Arnold Madderom

madderom13@zonnet.nl

Mgr. v.d. Weteringstraat 79, 3581 ED Utrecht, Netherlands

19th - 21st July **Jockey MM 70th / Shakespeare MM 60th Ring Meeting (meeting no 361)**

Jockey Men's Morris and Shakespeare Morris invite you to join them for a weekend of dance from the 19th-21st July 2019 as part of their respective 70th and 60th anniversary celebrations. Based at Henley-in-Arden School in Warwickshire, coach tours will run across the county showcasing the beautiful countryside (and pubs!). Dance spots include the city of the Birmingham and the historic towns of Warwick, Leamington Spa and Stratford upon Avon. We also intend to include the traditional morris villages of Ilmington and Bidford-upon-Avon. Details are being finalised, however the expected cost for the full weekend will not exceed £90 per person. Applications to be sent in writing to ringmeeting2019@outlook.com

24th – 25th August **Saddleworth Rushcart (not a Ring Meeting, please apply directly to Saddleworth MM)**

Squire's Massed Dances for 2019

Massed dances are one of the things the Morris Ring can do well, they are made better if we can do them with some uniformity. With this in mind I have added notes to some of them so we are all doing the same thing. If your club has a different interpretation please don't think for one minute I am trying to dictate to you a correct way of doing things, I just want us to put on a good massed dance for the public.

Adderbury: - Shepherds Hey (2notes then walk round, singing)

Bampton: - Rose tree (finish on rounds)

Bledington: - Idbury Hill, Young Collins.

Brackley: - Jockey to the Fair (long version, Jockey MM take note)

Bucknell: - Queens Delight.

Headington: - Constant Billy (Foot up, Cross over, Back to back and finish on Whole hey)

Fieldtown: - The Valentine, Balance the Straw.

Lichfield: - Vandalls (In the chorus show the first time and clash the second except the last time when it is show twice).

Miscellaneous News

Dancing England

The line-up for Dancing England 2019, being held in Nottingham Playhouse on Saturday 26th January, has been announced. There will be performances from teams including Abbots Bromley Horn Dancers, Aelgythe Border Morris, Chipping Campden Cotswold Morris, Flamborough Longsword, Earlsdon North West Morris, Knaresborough Mummers, Lancashire Wallopers, Nottingham Dancing Butchers, Orcadia Carnival Morris, Old Glory Molly, Snap the Dragon, Toby & Jon Melville, Thrales Amble Sword Dancers, and Whip the Cat Rapper. There will also be a ceilidh with the Melrose Quartet. Tickets are available from Nottingham Playhouse, <https://www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk/whats-on/dance/dancing-england/>

Morris Ring ARM, Oak Farm Lodge, 2nd March 2019

The ARM will take place at the same venue as last year (Oak Farm Lodge, Watling St, Cannock WS11 1SB) on Saturday 2nd March 2019.

An application form for attendance is included in this Newsletter as Appendix 1.

The Bagman of the Morris Ring is up for re-election, although happy to continue in role. The same is the case for the Area Representatives for North East and East.

Calling all Dance Teachers - update

About a year ago, the Ring Bagman issued a survey to dance teachers in sides on how they manage teaching and standards effectively. It produced diverse responses, and inconclusive data, which is why the results were not published.

The Ring proposed a Dance and Discussion Day on teaching and improving standards in Morris. This first day was aimed at Cotswold teachers / foremen / forepersons; other events are planned to follow. The intention is for all teachers to experience teaching of both new material and to work on improving standards and consistency, with an opportunity to discuss different approaches once dancing has concluded.

This event was proposed, then cancelled due to insufficient interest. It is intended to re-run the event on the day of the ARM.

If you are interested in participating in this, please apply to attend the ARM.

If you would like to offer input into the running of this, please contact the Bagman before Christmas.

Morris Ring Publications

Anthony Foard: Editor of the Morris Circular
33 Cunningham Drive, Bromborough, Wirral, CHESHIRE. CH63 0JX
Mobile Tel: 01513344566
thecircular@themorrisring.org

Mac McCoig Editor of the Morris Dancer
8 Redhills, Eccleshall, Staffordshire ST21 6JW
Tel: 01785 851052
mac.mccoig@btinternet.com

On-line Links:



The main MR website with millions of pages stuffed to the gunnels with all you need to know about the MR:

<https://www.themorrisring.org/>

The Morris Ring Google Group (MRGG). Private Forum for debate or announcements.

<https://groups.google.com/group/the-morris-ring>

Contact the Morris Ring Bagman to register to use.

Morris Ring Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/TheMorrisRing>

Morris Ring Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TheMorrisRing>

The Morris Shop *”the Bells and Whistles”*

<http://www.themorrisshop.com/>

Call for Contributions

Any items of Morris-related news, please send to me at bagman@themorrisring.org for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Longer pieces to Tony Foard, please, for the Circular.

If you have any photographs, you can send them to Duncan Broomhead, the Morris Ring Photo Archivist (duncan.broomhead@btinternet.com) and any articles, ideally accompanied with photographs, can be submitted to Tony Foard, the Editor of the Morris Ring Circular, details above.

Charlie Corcoran, the Keeper of the Morris Ring Log Book, is keen to receive stories about Ring events, both the formal and the quirky (Charliecorcoran7@ntlworld.com).



Appendix 1: Annual Representatives' Meeting Application Form

Name of Side:

Contact Name:

Names of other attendees:

...../.....

Email: Tel No:

Address:

Postcode:

Friday Night accommodation & Saturday Breakfast	No@ £ 25	£
Camper van	No@ £ 15	£
Saturday ARM to Sunday morning including coffee, lunch, tea and Sat night accommodation & Sunday breakfast (U16 -half price)	No@ £ 70	£
Saturday Breakfast (for campers/vans & early arrivals)	No@ £ 8.50	£
Saturday ARM - including feast (No accommodation)	No@ £45	£
Saturday ARM* - excluding feast (Morning Coffee / Lunch / Afternoon Tea)	No@ £25	£
Feast only	No@ £30	£
ARM only - no meals	No.....@ Free	£ 0.00
Sunday Breakfast (for campers/vans)	No@ £ 8.50	£
TOTAL (pay by cheque/BACS) – delete as necessary		£ .

There are 20 twin bedded rooms and 5 double bedded rooms. Book early to get a twin room!

Please specify number of non-alcohol drinkers Please specify how many require vegetarian meals.....

Please indicate if disabled access is required Yes / No

Please fill in this form, (even if only attending the afternoon meeting) and post it or email it.

Cheques made payable to: **Stafford Morris Men (Misdemeanours)**

BACS details are 60-22-09. A/c 64513165. (Put your name/club as reference)

Peter Copley, 5, Woodleighton Grove, Uttoxeter, Staffs., ST14 8BX

drpetercopley@gmail.com

01889 567962 or 07949 309043

Appendix 2 : List of Hotels etc in Utrecht (from Arnie Madderom)

List of optional Hotels in the town centre of Utrecht:

Stay Okay Neude Utrecht

Two years ago opened in the heart of town.

Strowis Boothstraat

A back-packers hotel with a good location. Used a long time ago by Saddleworth for their visit to Utrecht.

Hotel Sleep Well

Opened a couple of years ago.

NH hotel Utrecht

Near train station and used by Greensleeves and Taeppas Tump in past years.

NH Centre Utrecht Janskerkhof

Opposite the Flower market and a nice building.

Mother Goose, Courthotel, Eyehotel, Maliehotel and Hotel26

All boutique hotels owned by the same two people. Very nice and a warm feeling.

All the above hotels don't have parking facilities. You could use other parking facilities, but they are expensive.

If you want to park your car next to a hotel, Mitland Hotel and Star Lodge Hotel are close to the town centre, about a half hour walk. And they do have parking places.

In that same area is also Camping Berekuil. This camping is still a building site thanks to problems around ownership. Airbnb and other hotel are of course also possible.