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## Newsletter No. 103

January 2017

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*Please read this Newsletter carefully; there are details on Ring Meetings and the JMO Day of Dance and the Bagman needs your responses on this as a matter of urgency.*

## **Future Events**

### **2017**

27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January      **Ring Jigs Instructional**

18<sup>th</sup> February              **Dancing England reboot**

*Sheffield City Hall, for more information see  
[www.dancingengland.co.uk](http://www.dancingengland.co.uk) .*

4<sup>th</sup> March                    **ARM Oak Farm Lodge, Hatherton**

*Application details etc. on page 6.*

25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> March        **Histories of the Morris in Britain**

*Historical Dance Society conference (in conjunction with EFDSS and the morris organisations) at Cecil Sharp House.*

13<sup>th</sup> May                    **National JMO day of Dance, Leicester**

*Hosted by Leicester Morris Men. More details on page 9.*

12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May           **Helmond Morris Men weekend of Dance**

*For more information visit the club  
website <http://morrisdans.nl/helmond/ring.php> which will be  
frequently updated. Numbers are limited so early application is advised.*

2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> June              **Thaxted Morris Meeting**

9th – 11<sup>th</sup> June

**Ring Meeting no. 354: Hartley 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting**

*2017 marks the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of Hartley Morris Men so to celebrate they will be expanding their long established weekend Ale to offer more places in the form of a Meeting of the Morris Ring. Based in the village of Wrotham, there will be indoor and secure outdoor camping accommodation, modern shower facilities, a professional caterer plus free beer in the hall from 7pm Friday onwards. Saturday tours will be by vintage transport with the massed display taking place in Tonbridge Castle midday on Sunday.*

*Numbers are limited to 120 at an anticipated cost of around £70.*

28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July

**Ring Meeting no. 355: Ravensbourne London Meeting**

*2017 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of Ravensbourne Morris Men. Dance with the backdrop of some of the most iconic sites in London! These include the Tower of London, St Paul's Cathedral and The Globe Theatre. Take a leisurely perambulation on London Underground and historic buses via the magic of the Oyster Travel Card to the walking tours, taking in a number of delightful pubs that Ravensbourne have already arduously vetted on your behalf at prime tourist spots in London. This is based in an East London school with indoor camping at around the £90 mark (less if possible) which covers:- Indoor camping / Supper on Friday night / Breakfast on Saturday & Sunday / Lunch on Saturday / Saturday Feast with Ale ! / Travel on the Tube and London Buses on Saturday. It's close to good road and public transport links. Potentially maximum 120 guests. Photos, map and contact details etc. all available at [www.ringmeeting.org](http://www.ringmeeting.org) **Now full.***

18<sup>th</sup> August – 4<sup>th</sup> September **Australian Morris Ring National Ale**

26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August

**Ring Meeting no. 356: Saddleworth Rushcart Meeting**

## **Applications to attend Ring Meetings 2017**

Sides may still apply for places to attend this summer's Hartley Ring Meeting (9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June), please note that the Ravensbourne meeting (28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July) is now fully subscribed.

Please email [bagman@themorrisring.org](mailto:bagman@themorrisring.org) with the following information:

1. Side name
2. First choice meeting
3. Second choice meeting (if you could manage both, if not leave blank)
4. Approximate number of attendees

### **Notes**

1. The Bagman, in consultation with the host side, reserves the right to limit the number of applicants from one side to maximise attending sides.
2. Not putting a second choice will not increase your chances of acceptance for your first choice.
3. Priority will be given to sides who have recently hosted Ring Meetings, then on a first-come-first served basis, within logistical constraints.
4. Saddleworth Rushcart is not limited on numbers; please apply directly to the Rushcart Secretary.
5. Thaxted and Helmond are not Ring Meetings, please apply directly to the host clubs.

## **Ring Massed Dances**

Please will sides practice these dances through the winter season and in advance of any Ring events they are attending; please only get up to perform dances you are confident of doing and remember the overall impression is what is important for massed morris, rather than one side's particular interpretation.

<b><u>Adderbury</u></b>	Lads-a-Bunchum Black Joke
<b><u>Bampton</u></b>	Bobbing Around
<i>(finish on rounds)</i>	Rose Tree Quaker
<b><u>Bledington</u></b>	Young Collins William & Nancy
<b><u>Brackley</u></b>	Jockey to the Fair
<b><u>Fieldtown</u></b>	Valentine Balance the Straw
<b><u>Headington</u></b>	Getting Upstairs Constant Billy (short sticks) Blue Eyed Stranger
<b><u>Lichfield</u></b>	Vandalls

## **Morris Ring ARM, Oak Farm Lodge, Hatherton, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

The ARM will be at its now customary location of Oak Farm Lodge, Hatherton (Watling St, Cannock WS11 1SB).

Application forms for attending are located in Appendix 1 of this document. Please be prompt in applying as places for accommodation are limited.

Motions and agenda items from Members to be submitted to the Bagman by 4<sup>th</sup> February, please.

The post of Area Representative for South West and Wales will be vacant, following the resignation of Tim Sercombe. Two nominations have been received, Colin Andrews (Exeter MM) and Paul Reece (Trigg MM). Any side in the South West and Wales area unable to attend the ARM can submit a postal vote to arrive at least seven days before the ARM date.

## **Recruitment, from the Squire**

Ed Worrall, Squire of the Morris Ring, writes:

*In November I tasked the Advisory Council and specifically your Area Reps, to discuss recruitment at a meeting. There is no more important and urgent issue in my view to sides in the Morris Ring. We have been collecting data on the number of active side members in clubs as part of the subs renewal process. I have tasked the Area Reps to:-*

- 1. Contact sides who have not given information on this, to complete the picture*
- 2. Establish the reality behind the numbers in their areas, which sides are really struggling?*
- 3. Identify those sides to me and the other Officers so we can offer concrete help.*

*The recruitment document first put together by Pete Halfpenney and updated by Adam Garland provides a wealth of ideas. We need to put that theory into action.*

*I, the Officers and your Area Reps will do all we can to help you. However, you must meet us halfway and work with us if you want help. Demand more of us and your Area Reps.*



# Joint Morris Organisation's National Day of Dance

**Saturday 13th May 2017**

**Leicester**



The Morris Ring, Open Morris and The Morris Federation come together each year for a spectacular Morris event. This year in Leicester there will be more than 60 Morris and Sword Dance sides from across the country dancing around the City.

To attend please apply through your Morris Organisation.

For further information, visit our [Facebook page](#).

Sides will be provided with a programme for the day detailing the 22 dance venues, all of which are within walking distance, along with information about local cafes, pubs, restaurants, parking and public transport (including Park & Ride).

**Free to attend.**

## **JMO Day of Dance, 13 May 2017, Leicester**

### **Hosted by Leicester Morris Men**

Of the number of sides which can be accommodated, there are 12 places available for Morris Ring clubs (9 for the Open Morris and 39 for the Morris Federation). At time of going to press, there is **one** vacant place for Ring clubs, so if you are able to commit a team to the event, please let me know urgently.

I need the following information, emailed to [bagman@themorrisring.org](mailto:bagman@themorrisring.org) :

#### **Side name**

- Contact name
- Contact email
- Contact mobile phone
- Website address
- Dance style (e.g. Cotswold, North-West, Rapper, Border, Molly, Longsword, ...)
- Approximate number attending (only for information)
- Will your side be staying in the Leicester area for Saturday evening?
- Any additional notes (e.g. children's side...)

### **A note on Insurance**

The attention of Member Sides is drawn to the fact that if you are considering using flaming torches or dancing with lit sticks that the standard Liability Insurance does not cover you for use of naked flame, fireworks etc.

You are also reminded that if you are planning a trip to North America (USA or Canada) or if you are planning a Ceilidh with tickets being sold to members of the public, you will need additional insurance.

In any of the above cases, please contact Michael Stimpson on 01923 770425 between 11.30 am and 7pm Monday to Thursday and 11.30 to 5pm Friday.

This is already included in the Insurance Advice on the webpage:  
<http://themorrisring.org/sites/default/files/attachments/JMO%20InsuranceAdviceToBagmen2016.pdf>

## **Sadly Missed**

### **Peter Halfpenney**

From the Squire of the Morris Ring: I wish to mark the passing of past Squire Peter Halfpenney in December. Many of you will know Pete and have your own memories of him. I was Morris Ring Treasurer in 2010 when Pete became Squire and I came to know him well as a fellow Officer and friend.

Pete took office just as the long running issue of female musicians in Morris Ring teams came to a head with the introduction of the Equality Act. It was his fate to lead the Morris Ring through the debate that issue caused and onwards to where we are today. The hard work and leadership he showed during his term of office in sometimes difficult times, were instrumental in helping shape a new chapter in the Morris Ring and achieve a unity among us as sides. We owe him a huge debt.



A copy of Ed Worrall's eulogy from Peter's funeral is attached as Appendix 2.

*(Photos courtesy Joe Oldaker)*

## **John Slinger, John O'Gaunt Morris Men**

John Slinger died in Lancaster Royal Infirmary on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December following a very severe stroke from which he did not recover. He travelled a great deal throughout Britain and performed as a singer at folk clubs and festivals. He had an extensive repertoire of songs that he had researched thoroughly in order to perform them in their original versions.

John was also a mainstay of "John O'Gaunt Morris Men" and served in various roles for them over the years, as Treasurer, Squire and North West Foreman. Latterly John also danced with Wrigley Head Morris, a side based in the Manchester area, where he became a very valuable member of the side being one of the more competent dancers.

John will also be remembered in his role as "the doctor" in the Lancaster "Pace Egg Play" for which he took on the responsibility of organising for many years.

John was a man who will be remembered by a lot of people for a long time and he will be sadly missed by all who knew and in particular by his children, his family and his partner Hilary.



## **Morris Census 2017**

From Jack Worth, Headington Quarry and Bristol MM:

In 2014 I sent out a survey to all the morris sides in the UK and beyond. The survey revealed that there are 13,000 morris dancers in the UK and many more facts and figures about the demographics of side members, performances, recruitment and kit. Check out the full set of results from 2014 on the website: [www.morriscensus.uk](http://www.morriscensus.uk).

I'm now doing the survey again. It is an online survey and is open for responses now. You can complete the survey on behalf of your side by going to <http://bit.ly/MorrisCensus2017> (you can also type this link into a web browser). The survey takes around 10-20 minutes to complete, and you shouldn't need to consult your side to complete it accurately. Please make sure your side responds before Sunday 5th March 2017.

**Follow this link to the Morris Census survey:** <http://bit.ly/MorrisCensus2017>

I want to hear from morris dancers, sword dancers, mummers, and appalachian and clog steppers, in the UK and internationally. Please send the link to any sides you know based in other countries, or who are not members of a UK organisation, as they are particularly difficult to contact. More responses from more sides means the survey gives a more accurate picture of the morris world.

So why do the survey again now? In the three years since the last survey several sides have folded, new sides have formed, and many sides have changed and evolved. The survey will provide a snapshot of what morris sides are like in 2017, and how they have changed since 2014. It's also an opportunity to ask new questions on topics that are relevant to understanding morris dancing right now.

I look forward to receiving a response from your side. If you have any questions about the survey, please get in touch with me at [morriscensus@gmail.com](mailto:morriscensus@gmail.com).

Jack Worth

Headington Quarry Morris Dancers, Bristol Morris Men

## **Centenary of Percy Manning - The Man who collected Oxfordshire**

2017 sees the centenary of the death of historian, folklorist and archaeologist Percy Manning (1870-1917).

It would be hard to overstate Manning's influence on the revival of morris dance in the twentieth century. Perhaps most crucial is the fact that his work in reviving the Headington Quarry Morris Dancers made possible and stimulated the subsequent work of Cecil Sharp and others in collecting dance material and promoting a folk revival.

A variety of events are planned in Oxford to commemorate Manning's life and the breadth of his work including exhibitions, talks, concerts and dance displays.

Manning's interest in Morris and other folklore developed whilst he was an undergraduate student at Oxford University in the 1890's. His influence in researching collecting and reviving Morris traditions was substantial. He collected information on dances, and associated customs – most of which had ceased to be regularly performed and lectured and published for the folklore society. Perhaps most crucially he revived the Headington Quarry Morris Dancers with a concert just a few months before they met Cecil Sharp. The stimulus which this meeting gave to the subsequent collection and revival of morris dancing is well known.

His notes in the Bodleian Duke Humfrey Library ('Folklore' Seasons) also allowed the reconstruction of the dances from Stanton Harcourt, preserved and regularly danced in the village by the Icknield Way Morris Men wearing Stantonised kit.

Current planned events are as follows

Exhibition displays

18 February 2017-23 March 2017 Bodleian Library (Weston Library) "Percy Manning: The Man who Collected Oxfordshire" – Blackwell Hall display  
20 February 2017-15 May 2017 Pitt Rivers Museum Percy Manning in Oxfordshire Folklore – Museum trail  
4 March 2017-22 April 2017 Museum of Oxford Mummers and Maypoles, in celebration of Percy Manning  
March 2017 - tbc Ashmolean Museum Percy Manning: The "keen field antiquary" – display, Medieval gallery

Lectures and Events

18 February 2017 Percy Manning – The Man Who Collected Oxfordshire  
<https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/the-man-who-collected-oxfordshire> Continuing Education Study Day, Rewley House  
21 February 2017 "Old cats of both genders: Percy Manning and the OAHS" – Oxford

Architectural and Historical Society lecture (open to all) – Mike Heaney see <http://oahs.org.uk/lec9.php> Rewley House, 5.30 pm  
 12 March 2017 “Seasonal Songs and Forgotten Tunes “ Bodleian Libraries/ Music Faculty half-day workshop – Alice Little – free, open to all Denis Arnold Hall, Music Faculty, St Aldate’s, 2 pm, contact [alice.little@music.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alice.little@music.ox.ac.uk)  
 22 March 2017 “What happened to the extraordinary collections of Percy Manning” – Bodleian lunchtime lecture, free, open to all – Mike Heaney Weston Library lecture theatre, 1 pm  
 24 March 2017 Percy Manning Centenary Celebration Concert – Magpie Lane and Headington Quarry Morris Dancers St Andrew’s church, Linton Rd, 8 pm  
 8 April 2017 Blue plaque unveiling Banbury Road, Summertown, 11 am Morris Dancing in the Stanton Harcourt Tradition by Icknield Way Morris Men  
 6 May 2017 Bark-horn making, two half-day workshops – Chris Park – free, open to all Blackwood Seminar Room, Pitt Rivers Museum, 10 am and 1 pm, see <https://www.prm.ox.ac.uk/talks>

26 May 2017 "Percy Manning's explorations in Finstock and its neighbourhood" - Finstock Village Music Festival, village Hall, 8 pm - Mike Heaney

In addition a book is coming out in February, "Percy Manning: The Man Who Collected Oxfordshire" (Archaeopress – edited by Mike Heaney)

Kirtlington Morris have contributed to the Pitt Rivers Museum display which features the morris costume bought by Manning’s agent Thomas Carter in 1894. The Pitt Rivers display will incorporate photos, elements of kit and it is hoped music from the current Kirtlington side as well as other related items such as the Whitsun horns from Ducklington. There will be workshops on whit-horn making and the seasonal songs Manning collected. The current Kirtlington side hopes to dance at the opening and at Oxford folk weekend.

Headington Quarry Morris Dancers will perform with the group Magpie Lane in a restaging of the 1899 concert.




A further Morris display – by Icknield Way Morris Men - of the Stanton Harcourt tradition which Manning collected is planned at the unveiling of the blue plaque on 8 April.

## Morris Ring Display Boards

Are you making full use of this asset?

If you have any opportunity to make use of one of the five sets we possess please contact your Area Rep or the Ring Bagman.

If you want to use them, even if a set is not currently in your area, arrangements can be made to get a set to you.

<p><b>the morris ring</b></p>	<p><b>the morris ring</b></p>	<p><b>the morris ring</b></p>
<p><b>The Morris Ring</b></p> <p>The Morris Ring is an organisation for men's clubs. Every year our members can be seen dancing out during the summer, either on their own or in the company of dancers from other clubs who have been invited along to share a day or a weekend of dance. We hold a number of special meetings of the Morris Ring each year at which clubs from all over the country come together to dance. The most important of these is the annual meeting in early June in Thaxted in Essex, the town where the Morris Ring was founded in 1934.</p> <p>You can find out more about the Morris Ring by visiting our web site at: <a href="http://www.themorrisring.org">www.themorrisring.org</a></p> <p>On our home page there are links which will enable you to find the Morris clubs in your area.</p> 	<p><b>Morris Dancing</b></p> <p>Morris dances are the national folk dances of England and have a recorded history going back six hundred years. In this display you will see examples of the various styles of dance which have developed over the centuries and which are performed today in all parts of the country. Why do we do it? That is an easy question to answer. It is because we enjoy it and for the fun and friendship which comes with being a member of a Morris dancing club.</p> 	<p><b>A Potted History</b></p> <p>Over the centuries the popularity of Morris dancing has waxed and waned but by the latter part of the 19th century dancing had died out in many parts of the country. By great good fortune in 1899 there was a chance encounter between Headington Quarry Morris Men in Oxford and Cecil Sharp, a professional musician. Following this meeting, Sharp devoted the rest of his life to the collection of English folk songs and dances. As a result of his work and the work of others who were inspired by him, there was a great revival of interest in our folk traditions in the 20th century and especially in the 1960s and 1970s.</p>  
<p><b>Fools and Animals</b></p> <p>Often the dancers are accompanied by a fool, whose job is to engage the audience with humorous banter and ensure that they are paying attention to the dance. Many clubs have made an animal head which is mounted on a pole and attached to a cloak. One of the dancers entertains the audience by going among them underneath the cloak and grasping the animal's jaws together.</p> 	<p><b>Regional Styles of Morris Dancing</b></p> <p>Most people are familiar with the Cotswold style of dance which comes from the counties of the West Midlands and which is characterised by the use of sticks and handkerchiefs. Other styles of dance have evolved in other parts of the country. There are sword dances from the North and the rapper, or shortsword dances from the North East. In the North West there are the processional dances, which are often performed in chaps. The Border style comes from the counties bordering Wales and there are the Molly dancers from East Angles. Mummers' plays come from all parts of the country.</p>	<p><b>Looking to the Future</b></p> <p>There are probably more people Morris dancing today than at any time in the past and our clubs are always keen to recruit new members. Many Clubs are involved in teaching young people to dance through programmes with schools, the Scout organisation and other youth groups.</p> 
<p><b>The Joint Morris Organisation</b></p> <p>The Morris Ring is one of three organisations representing Morris dance clubs. The other two are the Morris Federation and the Open Morris. Once a year we all get together for a combined day of dance to celebrate the Morris as a dance for everyone, irrespective of age or gender.</p>		<p><b>How about you ?</b></p> <p>Would you like to try Morris dancing to see if it does for you what it does for us? Many clubs hold special sessions for potential members to come along and try it out. Find your local clubs by following the links on our web site and go along and meet the dancers. Before long you too could be a Morris dancer!</p>
<p><b>founded 1934</b></p>	<p><b><a href="http://www.themorrisring.org">www.themorrisring.org</a></b></p>	<p><b>founded 1934</b></p>

*This is what the complete set of three banners looks like.*

## **Morris Ring Publications**

**Anthony Foard:** Editor of the Morris Circular

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**Mac McCoig** Editor of the Morris Dancer

8 Redhills, Eccleshall, Staffordshire ST21 6JW

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## **On-line Links:**



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

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

Follow the latest media reports concerning Morris Matters at <http://www.themorrisring.org/article/morris-matters>

The Morris Ring Google Group (MRGG). Private Forum for debate or announcements. <http://groups.google.com/group/the-morris-ring?hl=en&pli=1>

*Contact the Morris Ring Bagman to register to use.*

Morris Ring Facebook site: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Morris-Ring/158759257502840>

Morris Ring Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/TheMorrisRing>

## **The Morris Shop** *"the Bells and Whistles"*

<http://www.themorrisshop.com/store/index.php?route=common/home>

## Call for Contributions

Any items of Morris-related news, please send to me at [bagman@themorrisring.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Charliecorcoran7@ntlworld.com)).



## **Appendix 1 - ARM application documentation**

### **The Morris Ring – Annual Representatives' Meeting Sat 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Name of Side: .....

Contact Name: .....

Names of other attendees:

...../.....

Email: ..... Tel No: .....

Address: .....

..... Postcode: .....

Saturday:                  Workshops:                                  No of men: \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday ARM to Sunday morning incl. Sat night accommodation & Sunday breakfast (£25 per person shared twin room)	No .....@ £ 67	£
Saturday Breakfast (for campers* & early arrivals)	No .....@ £ 7.50	£
Saturday ARM - including feast (No accommodation)	No .....@ £42	£
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*)	No .....@ £ 7.50	£
TOTAL		£ .

\* There is very limited camping available (for which there will be a small charge). It is essential to book in advance through Mac McCoig. There may also be the possibility of local indoor camping in the village hall in Church Easton; please notify Mac McCoig if you wish him to pursue this option. There is space for up to five campervans at the venue at a cost of £15 for the weekend (2 nights) on a first come basis. Please book this direct with Mac McCoig 07939 084374.

Please specify number of non-alcohol drinkers .....

Please specify how many require vegetarian meals.....

Please indicate if disabled access is required Yes / No

Please print this form, fill it in and post it (with a cheque for the requisite amount) made payable to  
**Uttoxeter Morris Men to: Mac McCoig, 8 Redhills, Eccleshall, Staffs. ST21 6JW**

## **Appendix 2 – Eulogy for Peter Halfpenney**

By Ed Worrall, Squire of the Morris Ring:

It is with a heavy heart that I come to speak here today. One of the sad duties of being Squire of the Morris Ring is to represent all our member sides at occasions like this. That today, it should be for a friend like Peter, makes it all the more hard.

Many of you will have personal memories of Peter from his 30+ years of involvement in the Morris world. That so many of us are here today is testament to how many people Peter knew and counted as friends through Morris dancing.

I think I have known of Peter my whole Morris life. However, I came to know him much better when he became Morris Ring Squire in 2010. I was Morris Ring Treasurer at that time. I together with Charlie Corcoran as the Ring Bagman, were what is informally known as the 'Civil Service' of the Morris Ring.

As any of you who watched 'Yes Minister' will know, it is the Civil Service's job to run the rule over a new Squire. To see what they intend to do. To advise on how 'Brave' their decisions are. Jon Melville and Steven Archer are of course, now providing me with that help and assistance on your behalf....

There were 5 other candidates who stood at the same time as Pete and when he eventually was elected, it was clear he was a popular candidate. The Morris Ring faced a difficult moment almost as soon as Peter danced in. The long running issue of female musicians in Morris Ring sides came to head with the introduction of the Equality Act.

From the earliest meetings to discuss the way forward, Peter did not complain about his fate. He rolled up his sleeves and got on with providing clear leadership all the way through to the successful resolution and unity among member sides on changes to our Constitution. The success of that period and the change it brought is still developing even now.

Many of you will recall how difficult that period was at times. It bound Pete myself and Charlie together in a way that is hard to explain. I last met Pete at the Anker Morris Ale in November. He was clearly weak and feeling the effects of his illness. Not so weak however as to stop him singing and bemoaning the fact he had to drink orange juice...

We talked over his time as Squire and the struggles we had together. Old soldiers swapped war stories if you like. He told how proud he was of what he had done as Squire. 'We did something' he said. That is how I wish to remember Pete, he did something, not because it was easy or because it was what he expected, but because it was right and he believed it to be so. That I was there to share the burden is something I will always be proud of.

When I danced in at the East Suffolk Ring Meeting in September, Pete made a point of coming down to the handover ceremony. It meant the world to me that he did so. As he told me, it

falls to me to carry forward the Morris Ring as Squire. However, Peter also showed me that as Squire, you are but part of a larger family. The fellowship of Morris that we all celebrate as a vital part of who we are. That is a lesson I will never forget and neither will I forget Peter. My friend.