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**Newsletter No. 92**

**December 2014**

**2014 80th Anniversary of Foundation of the Morris Ring**

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## Morris Ring Display Boards

Reminder: Please look for opportunities to use these; Contact your Area Rep if you can make use of a set of the Morris Ring Display Boards.

Arrangements can be made to get them to you!



**Available through your Area Rep:** Please remember to keep them informed about your programme and performances. They are willing to assist and support you in many ways - including by getting these Display Boards to you - you only have to ask!

Area Rep.: East	Mike Stevens	MikeStevensPE11@aol.com
Area Rep.: North	Paul Cross	pakcross@gmail.com
Area Rep.: North West	David Loughlin	Dave.Loughlin@ernestgriffiths.com
Area Rep.: South West & Wales	Tim Sercombe	timothy.sercombe@gmail.com
Area Rep.: West Midlands	Pete Simpson	simpsonfam@live.com
Area Rep.: North East	Brian Pollard	bripol@sky.com
Area Rep.: North Midlands	Ben Robinson	ben@packingtonmorris.org.uk
Area Rep.: South Midlands	Roger Comley	No email address
Area Rep.: South East	Cliff Marchant	cliffmarchant@btinternet.com

Greetings All.

You will have already received information about and application form for attending the 2015 ARM on Sat 7<sup>th</sup> March. This is being hosted by Uttoxeter MM and bagged by Mac McCoig. Huge thanks to them and to Mac, Pete Simpson and John Edwards for stepping into the breach.

I have already heard criticism because this only being a one day event with the meeting on the Saturday with a Feast in the evening with overnight accommodation for those who want it. I appreciate that this is a change from what had become the 'traditional' whole weekend but it proved difficult, no impossible, to find a side that was prepared to take on the task of hosting the event - with the associated and increasingly difficult task of finding appropriate accommodation and catering at an acceptable price. So I have to say to the critics please seriously consider volunteering along with your side as hosts for 2015, 2016, etc. as we currently have no hosts or venues for future years.



The nomination date having passed and having only received one nomination for the post of Bagman of the Morris Ring I can reveal that Jon Melville is likely to take over from me in the Spring. There will be a period of 'handover' and I will 'dance out' at the Thaxted meeting. I hope that you will be as supportive of him as you have of me over the past ten years.

Jon was nominated by Harthill Morris whose Statement of Support is on the next page.



### **Nomination of Jon Melville for Bagman of the Morris Ring**

To say that Jon Melville is steeped in Morris tradition is a massive understatement. His father, an eminent Morris musician; father-in-law, Past Squire and Past Bagman of the MR; brother-in-law, incumbent Squire of the MR; wife, Morris musician; son and daughter, both dancers and Squires of their respective sides. Not only can Jon rely on huge family support but the two sides with which he dances are renowned for the excellence of their organisational ability and both have pledged backup for him whenever needed.

Jon's own experience in Morris Management is profound. He has served as Squire and Foreman of two sides and Bagman of one. An accomplished musician and sublime dancer, he will be determined to encourage all sides and individuals to maintain the highest standards of dance, music and Morris image.

His vocation as college lecturer underlines his communication and presentation skills. As department head he is well-used to managing time, people and resources. In this age when much of a Bagman's function is conducted from a computer keyboard, Jon has all necessary experience as the PC is the everyday tool of his trade.

Harthill has always found Jon to be pleasant, intelligent, dedicated and approachable. These inherent attributes will serve him well in the position.

Filling the boots of the retiring Bagman will be a daunting task. A hard act to follow but we are confident that Jon will bring strength in depth to the role and we urge clubs to support his candidature.

## Jon says of himself

"I began dancing at age 11 with the Derby Morris, following in my father's footsteps, and followed him as a musician at age 16. I have subsequently danced with, and played for, Derby Morris, my university team, Dolphin Morris, Anker Morris and East Suffolk Morris. I am also an honorary member of Cambridge Morris and play for First Class Stamp Appalachian, a Federation side.



All of those teams take pride in the quality of their dancing and I have always endeavoured to dance with vigour and precision. They also all have a strong Fellowship aspect, being welcoming, friendly and inclusive. I have served as Foreman with two clubs and Squired two, and have been involved in the organisation of significant Ring events on several occasions: I am currently on the organisational committee for the Anker Ring Meeting for September 2015.

I had an excellent apprenticeship as a musician and have always endeavoured to play sensitively, to the dancers, on piano accordion, English concertina or melodeon. I was honoured a few years ago to be invited to become a regular musician for the Ring Jigs Instructional.

I have a great love for English tradition and the position and role of the Morris, and of the Fellowship aspect of the Morris and the Ring. I am a strong advocate of good quality dancing and of entertaining performance. The "day job" involves lecturing and managing academics, so I am both well versed in effective communication and experienced in herding cats."

**Morris Ring Squire's Diary:** Since I took on the mantle of Squire I have enjoyed a number of really pleasant events. These shall be detailed fully in the forthcoming Circular. Looking forward to 2015 the diary is filling up rapidly! Many thanks to all those clubs who have sent invites I am so grateful for these, it's just a shame I cannot physically be in all places at once; please accept my apologies if I am unable to attend this time but perhaps in the future I can enjoy your company.

**Currently my diary for 2015 is as follows:**

- January 10th Bullockers Day in Hinckley
- W/E of January 17th Jigs Instructional
- January 31st Ripley Feast
- February 7th Leicester Feast
- February 8th JMO AGM
- W/E March 8th ARM
- W/E April 11th JMO Event with Rag Morris in Bristol
- May 2nd Westminster Day of Dance
- W/E 9th May Helmond Meeting of the MR
- May 9th Moulton Festival
- W/E May 30th Thaxted Meeting of the MR
- W/E June 27th Oakworth Village Weekend of dance
- W/E July 11th Hartley Meeting of the MR
- August 15th Mersey Meeting of the MR
- W/E August 22nd Saddleworth Meeting of the MR
- W/E September 5th Anker Meeting of the MR



All the best for the Yuletide Season, I hope everything runs smoothly for you and let's hope 2015 is a prosperous years for all.

Galley Right

Adam Garland

**Morris Ring 2015 Annual Reps Meeting:** Attached is the application form for those planning to attend the Morris Ring 2015 Annual Reps Meeting. Whilst you have known the date for many months we have only recently been able to coerce a 'committee' to source an appropriate venue within a reasonable budget and to host the event. I want to record here my thanks to Mac McCoig, Pete Simpson (West Midlands Area Rep), Peter Copley and John Edwards and their sides for their research and especially to Mac McCoig of Uttoxeter Morris Men who 'volunteered' to act as Bagman for the meeting.

The 2015 ARM will be held at Oak Farm Hotel, Watling Street, Hatherton' Cannock, Staffs' WS11 1SB (Handy for the M6). It is a one night (Saturday) ARM. I repeat that it has proved to be extremely difficult to find appropriate accommodation (both for the meeting and sleeping) within anything like a reasonable budget. We appreciate that this will mean an early start for many on the Saturday morning *but it will save you money.*

Please send **Application Forms**, along with cheques payable to **Uttoxeter Morris Men** to Mac McCoig whose address is on the form. He is the Bagman for the event.

*Apologies for non-attendance or enquires concerning the business of the ARM please address to me, the Bagman of the Morris Ring, please.*

**Draft Programme of the day:**

9:30 - 10:30	Arrival	Tea & Coffee available	(Garden Room)
10:30 - 11:30	Workshop: Lichfield: Millie's Bequest		(Paddock Suite)
11:30 - 12:30	Area Meetings	Tea & Coffee Available	(Various venues)
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch		(Garden Room)
14:00 - 15:30	ARM		(Paddock Suite)
15:30	Tea & Coffee		(Garden Room)
16:00 - 16:30	Workshop: Lichfield (Nuts in May/Castlering)		(Paddock Suite)
16:00	Advisory Council		(Bistro)
16:30 - 18:00	Informal Dancing		(Paddock Suite)
19:00	Feast (in kit)		
00:30	Bar Closes		

## Squire's Massed Dances for 2015

Bampton	Rose Tree
	Maid of the Mill
Bledington	William and Nancy
	Young Collins
Brackley	Jockey to the Fair
Bucknell	Queen's Delight
Fieldtown	The Valentine
	Balance the Straw
Headington	Constant Billy
	Getting Upstairs
Lichfield	Vandals of Hammerwich

## MORRIS RING ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2014-2015

Your new Third Party Public Liability Insurance document will run from the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2015. Documents will be e-mailed out Steven Archer, the MR Treasurer, in January before the renewal date of 25<sup>th</sup>. If you have any queries concerning your Insurance Documents please contact him directly.

For a policy schedule, please see:-

<http://www.themorrisring.org/sites/default/files/attachments/Joint-Morris-Summary-2011V1.pdf>

Please do not confuse this with the **Joint Morris Organisation - Personal Accident Cover**. This is exclusively for dancers and musicians who are members of a Morris side which is in turn a member of the Morris Federation, the Morris Ring or the Open Morris. (Cover for 2015 with Chubb Insurance Co. of Europe S.E.)

The 2015 Application Form is included with the Printed version of this Newsletter and is available on the Morris Ring Web Site. The deadline is 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

*Please remember that if any person in your side wishes to receive their own personal copy of either the Morris Ring Newsletter or Circular, please contact the Treasurer for the 'Individual Publication Subscription' form.*





## Changes to The Morris Dancer

You will be aware that *The Morris Dancer* is no longer produced as a hard copy and is only available as a PDF download from the Ring website. To formalise this status as a serial e-publication, I requested and have been assigned the ISSN number 2056-8045 and this will appear on the front cover of all future copies as '*The Morris Dancer (Online) 2056-8045*'.

The ISSN number uniquely identifies a title regardless of language or country in which published, without any further bibliographic description being necessary. The ISSN itself has no significance other than the unique identification of the serial.

Now that *The Morris Dancer* is 'above the radar', as it were, the Morris Ring, as the publisher is now required to lodge copies with the British Library. By law, a copy of every UK print publication must be given to the British Library by its publishers, and to five other major libraries that request it. This system is called 'legal deposit' and has been a part of English law since 1662. From 6 April 2013, legal deposit covers e-books, e-journals and other types of electronic publication, plus other material that is made available to the public in the UK on handheld media such as CD-ROMs and microfilm, on the web (including websites) and by download from a website.

I shall therefore be depositing copies of *The Morris Dancer* as required, since I have no wish to see the Squire of the Ring carted off to the Tower in chains, but then again.....

The next issue of *The Morris Dancer* is due to be published in March 2015.

All submissions gratefully received.

All queries regarding *The Morris Dancer* to Mac McCoig  
mac.mccoig@btinternet.com

# The Morris Dancer

Volume IV Number 2

May 2010



*The occasional journal of the Morris Ring*

In this issue:-

The Lancashire Morris Before The War  
The Millbrook (Stalybridge) Morris Dance  
The Medlock Morris Dance  
New Mills Morris Dancing  
Manorsley Morris Dancers Reassembled  
Rushbearing and Morris Dancing in Glossop  
Morris Dancing in Lysons  
Morris Dancing in Lysons

**Letchworth Morris' Morris Musicians workshops** at the Three Horseshoes, Willian, nr Letchworth SG6 2AE, from 8.00 - 10.00pm.

Cost £2 per person per session.

The plan is to explore the role of musicians in the side, as well as how to turn a tune into a Morris tune, with discussion, notes and practical use of instruments. These workshops are open to all who wish to improve their musicianship within the Morris environment.

Tunes are available beforehand via Dropbox. For further information please contact: Theo Thomas of Letchworth Morris Men on 07702 339702



### **Morris Ring 80th Anniversary Polo and Rugby Shirts.**

It is still not too late to purchase polo or rugby shirts in a selection of colours embroidered with the Morris Ring 80th Anniversary logo, and have your own wording as well from [www.snappycrab.co.uk](http://www.snappycrab.co.uk).



You can use debit cards, but not credit cards for your purchase; choose your colour and add your own wording on the chest or sleeve.

Go to the website, select Home and scroll down to The Morris Ring, or use the following link: <http://www.snappycrab.co.uk/products/92/-the-morris-ring/>



### **Youth fund**

A special thank you to all the sides who answered our appeal and made a donation to the Morris Ring Youth fund, in particular Mayflower, Green Man's, Peterborough, Thames Valley, Kemps Men and Thaxted. The fund now stands at over £1,500.

If your side has ideas for a Youth-focused initiative please contact the Squire.



## Children in Need.



**Raised in 2013-2014**

Please remember that the three Morris Organisations' charity is BBC Children in Need.

The total raised so far this year by member sides of all three organisations (on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014) is a rather disappointing

**£1,150**

But your side might be amongst those who have yet to pay in their collection / donation.

It is planned that the monies raised in 2014-15 will be presented to a representative of Children in Need at the National JMO Day of Dance on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015 hosted in Bristol by Rag Morris on behalf of Open Morris.

We encourage every team or side in the country to see if we can raise £10,000 over the year.

A reminder of the bank details for donations to the JMO Charity Appeal:

Sort Code: 40 - 41 - 44

Account number 01729780 (HSBC)

**Please do not pay it directly to Pudsey.**



# The Morris Shop

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Morris Shop. On the left is a sidebar menu with categories like 'Books & Literature', 'CDs - Easy Listening', 'Instruments', and 'Events'. The main content area features several product grids: 'Audio CDs - Easy Listening', 'Miscellaneous', 'Books', 'Instructional Audio CDs', and 'DVD's'. Each grid contains small images of the products. On the right side, there are promotional banners for shipping, gift certificates, and social media links (Facebook, YouTube). Below these is an 'Events with The Morris Shop' section with a table listing dates and events.

Date	Event
19th Dec	Mendip
20th Dec	Stokcks Hill (Not with a pitch so let me know in advance if you want me to bring anything)
Boxing Day	The Lamb: Stoke Goldington (Not with a pitch so let me
1st Jan	

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

**MORRIS DANCE RESOURCE PACK**  
£20.00

[Add to Cart](#)

1) MORRIS DANCE FOR YOU(TH) - DVD & CD. 2) 6x A5 'The Morris Tradition' booklets. 3) 1x A3 size poster designed by Ollie King (Devils Dyke MM) for an art project

2009. We can also put you in touch with Morris side/s near you who are usually more than willing to offer advice and guidance to Morris beginners of any age.

[READ MORE.....](#)

**Malcolm Taylor Bursary Fund** To honour the support and sustain the work and the approach to the work that Malcolm has fostered over many years at the EFDSS they have established a bursary fund to support the maintenance and archiving of the records of small folk organisations such as dance clubs, festivals and display dance sides.

To donate please send a cheque made payable to EFDSS and send c/o Jane Gregory, Membership Administrator, EFDSS, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London, NW1 7AY with a note to say it is for the Malcolm Taylor Bursary Fund. Alternatively you can make a payment by electronic transfer to the account below; please use the reference MT Bursary Fund.

*If you are able to add Gift Aid to this donation, please enclose a note authorising EFDSS to claim Gift Aid on this donation for cheque payments or email Jane at [membership@efdss.org](mailto:membership@efdss.org) to let her know.*

Bank: HSBC, 176 High Street, Camden, NW1 8QL  
Account No: 10333034  
Account Name: English Folk Dance & Song Society  
Sort Code: 40-02-03



## **The Goathland Plough Stots host the 2015 SDU Longsword Tournament**

Saturday 3rd October 2015

"With dance locations around the picturesque village with the final showcase being held in the Village Hall you have the choice of exhibiting or competing, dancing your own dance or traditional."

There are several excellent B&B accommodation in the village as well as the local public houses. There will be hard standing for caravans & campers but the space is limited and it will be taken on first come basis, there will be indoor camping in the Reading Room again this is limited for space. For further information please contact [john.atkinson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:john.atkinson@yahoo.co.uk) or [goathlandlongsword@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:goathlandlongsword@yahoo.co.uk)

**Traditional Christmas events** Please let Peter de Courcy, The Morris Ring Website Editor and Fool extraordinaire, have information about any up-to-date Boxing day/ New Years' outings events that your side host or take part in for the Morris Ring web site's:



[Traditional Christmas events page.](#)

You can check the current entries using this link:

<http://www.themorrisring.org/traditional-morris-events/traditional-morris-events-christmas>



### **The Morris Ring Musicians' Weekend: 30 Jan - 1 Feb 2015**

**Venue:** Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire.

**Hosts:** Ripley MM (coinciding with their annual Ale Feast, which all attendees are cordially invited to attend.)

**Target group:** Squires and Foremen as well as musicians. Dance is a partnership between musician and dancer, and it is important that each understands the other's role.

**Cost:** £50 for the whole event (including Friday evening meal, ale feast, lunches, teas, coffees and other beverages). Accommodation will be at the Church Hall or at the nearby Scout hall, and will be suitable for both ladies and gentlemen.

To book places or for further information email Malcolm Frier at [ripleymorris@btinternet.com](mailto:ripleymorris@btinternet.com).

***This is an event for members of any Morris Side. Members of Morris Ring, Morris Federation and the Open Morris sides all welcome.***

## MORRIS RING PUBLICATIONS

☺ **Anthony Foard:** Editor of the Morris Circular  
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01785 851052  
[mac.mccoig@btinternet.com](mailto:mac.mccoig@btinternet.com)



See article about *The Morris Dancer* on Page 9

The latest edition of **The Morris Dancer** is available for download  
<http://www.themorrisring.org/publications/morris-dancer>

### ☺ 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.

*Contact Morris Ring Bagman to register to use.*

<http://groups.google.com/group/the-morris-ring?hl=en&pli=1>

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

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



**Dave Bloomfield** past away on the 27th September 2014 after battling cancer for the past two and a half years. Dave danced with a number of teams including Royal Earsdon, Newcastle , Durham rams and most recently Monkseaton.

He will be sadly missed.

Andrew Morris Monkseaton



**Colin Reynolds.** It is with a heavy heart that I have to report the death , after a short illness of Colin Reynolds. Colin recently returned to the Morris to dance with Lincoln & Micklebarrow after some years away from the Morris. Many of you may have known him when previously he danced with Chingford and Mayflower. He will be sadly missed.

Ian Thomson Bagman Lincoln & Micklebarrow MM



## 2015

16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Jan

### **Morris Ring Jigs Instructional**

Dancers at ALL levels of competence a full weekend of high-quality dance coaching - even if you don't aspire to be a solo performer. [jigsinstructional@themorrisring.org](mailto:jigsinstructional@themorrisring.org)

Jan 29<sup>th</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> Feb **Musicians Instructional** Hosts: Ripley MM

Venue: Kirky-in-Ashfield

Open to male and female musicians from three Morris organisations.

Sat 7<sup>th</sup> March ARM Hosted by Uttoxeter Morris

Venue: Oak Farm Hotel, Watling Street, Hatherton' Cannock,  
Staffs' WS11 1SB (Handy for the M6).

Please send **Application Forms**, along with cheques payable to **Uttoxeter Morris Men** to Mac McCoig, Bagman for the meeting, whose address is on the form.



April 18<sup>th</sup> **JMO National Day of Dance** in Bristol

*Note Change of date*

Hosted by Rag Morris of Open Morris

8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> May **Meeting Full**

344 **Helmond 80th Anniversary Ring Meeting** will be a traditional Ring Meeting with tours and shows on Saturday and Sunday.

Information on <http://morrisdans.nl/helmond/ring.html>

29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May **345 Thaxted Morris Meeting**

The meeting is taking shape already with Cotswold teams from Cambridge, Leicester, London Pride, Victory, Whitchurch and of course Westminster. We have clog in the shape of Chester City, border with Silurian and overseas visitors from Perth who will be dancing into membership of the Ring. We have invited a couple of Sword teams and I have high hopes for at least one of them to attend.

The 2015 meeting will follow out traditional pattern: Friday night meal and informal dancing, singing and music around the pubs.

Saturday tours round the wonderful countryside that this part of Essex provides with a cooked lunch at one of the many real ale pubs that circle Thaxted. We will even try our best to avoid Greene King pubs!

There will be the usual display in Town Street by the Guildhall following the procession from each end of town before we head off for the feast. Because there is a second show in Town Street commencing at approx. 9:30 the speeches at the feast have to be restricted. This second show will, as always, culminate in the Thaxted's version of the Abbots Bromley horn dance.

On Sunday we dance in the churchyard after the service and before a buffet lunch in Bolford Street Hall.

For those who do not have to rush home and wish to stay a little longer, there is Morris and country dancing in Margaret Street Gardens just like there used to be in the vicarage many years ago.

Remember, many of you will have been before, but I'm sure there are other members of your teams who have still to experience the uniqueness of a Thaxted weekend. So please consider them when deciding which meeting your team wishes to attend in 2015.

Any team, or individual, who wants more information, or any Bagman wanting to book their team into the meeting should contact the meeting Bagman at [iandbanderson@btinternet.com](mailto:iandbanderson@btinternet.com)  
Phone 01702 466335

10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> July     **346 Hartley Meeting** *(One day low cost meeting based on Rugby Club Beer Festival. Accommodation but no feast)*

Venue: Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club as a 'bolt on' to their 2015 SIBA Beer Festival. - <http://www.southeastbeerfest.org.uk/>

We will use the substantial Rugby clubhouse, with its numerous changing rooms and showers, adjacent to the festival, for indoor camping; limited outdoor camping and campervans will also be available. Sleeping will be in the large hall *but bedding will need to be stowed away as the hall will be in use during the day.*

The proposed programme:

For those arriving Friday evening - informal socialising (drinking/ singing/ music/dance), Bar-B-Q or pub supper at cost. Bed down after Beer Festival closes at 11pm.

Saturday 11th July - showers then clear hall and stow bedding in secure changing rooms. Breakfast at cost either in hall by arrangement with caterer or at local Wetherspoons. Clear hall by 11am when Festival opens. Dance displays throughout the day at the festival plus in and around Tonbridge (possible tours to local villages by service buses). A massed display on Tonbridge Castle Lawn in the afternoon. Optional Feast (pre-booked) Saturday evening then socialising, etc. until the beer festival closes at 11pm. Most town pubs stay open until later. Bed down in the hall from 11pm.

Sunday 12th July - as Saturday until 11am, then

Regional JMO Day of Dance. A massed display Sunday morning followed by displays at the Festival throughout the day (up until 5pm) by sides present. *Lunches at cost either at the festival or Wetherspoons/pubs/cafes. The only fixed cost will be for those Ring members opting to book a seat at the Feast. Everyone has the freedom to pay as you go.*

*A "Saddleworth" in the South.*

Brian Tasker is liaising with other the other organisations whose sides are invited. This will provide for a variety of Morris presence to continue throughout Sunday. Ring Meeting attendees can of course stay on for as long as they wish or other Ring sides attend on Sunday only. *(Separate Application for to attend just the Sunday Day of Dance included at the end of this Newsletter - applications directly to Brian Tasker please.)*

August 15<sup>th</sup>      **347 Mersey MM** One-Day Meeting based in Liverpool City Centre (Day of Dance format: day time only, no feast, no accommodation.)

21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> August    **348 Saddleworth Rushcart**  
Pay as you go event. Limited accommodation available. No centrally organised food. No feast.

Email: [saddleworthmorris@gmail.com](mailto:saddleworthmorris@gmail.com)



4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Sept **Meeting Full**

**349 Anker Morris' 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Morris Meeting**

For a chance to explore the delightful villages and breweries of North Warwickshire, come and join Anker Morris Men for their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. Indoor camping will be provided in the village of Bulkington, just outside Nuneaton, and 2 coach tours on Saturday will take in the market towns and country villages of the area with Weston Hall hotel hosting our feast on Saturday evening. At the centre of Britain, we are easy to find and to get to wherever you come from. Female musicians are very welcome; in fact, we have one of our own! The approximate cost will be £75 for the full weekend. We haven't capacity for the world's biggest Ring meeting, so do hurry to let us know you'd like to join us!

**2016**

March **ARM Hosted by TBA**  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> June **Thaxted Morris Meeting**

8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July **Greensleeves MM 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Morris Meeting**  
(Based in Chipperfield)



The weekend starts on Chipperfield Common at 9:00 pm when Greensleeves dance around the tree planted by them in memory of Leslie Nichols, former Squire and former Squire of the Morris Ring.

For more information contact  
the bagman@greensleevesmorris.org.uk or go to the  
Greensleeves website

**2017**

March **ARM Hosted by TBA**  
TBC **Thaxted Morris Meeting**



**Museum of British Folklore in London** Simon Costin, of the Museum of British Folklore, is in the process of establishing what he hopes will be "the largest representation of Morris Sides currently dancing in the UK". So some sides have been provided with a figure and asked to dress in their team's costume.



Museum of British Folklore  
[www.museumofbritishfolklore.co.uk](http://www.museumofbritishfolklore.co.uk)  
Director, Simon Costin

*This figure of Leicester Morris was 'dressed' even down to tiny ringing bells and hand-woven hat by Lyn Mellor.*



And finally.....

On behalf of my fellow officers of the Morris Ring I hope that Santa is kind to you and yours.

*Charlie*

Bagman of the Morris Ring



A Regional Joint Morris Organisation Day of Dance  
hosted by the Hartley Morris Men  
will be held in Tonbridge in west Kent on Sunday 12 July 2015

Morris and sword sides are invited to apply for this day of dance which is being held in conjunction with the 9<sup>th</sup> SIBA South East of England Beer Festival. The festival is being held in the grounds of the Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club, (TN9 1HR), which is located behind Tonbridge Castle and close to the Railway Station and High Street with its pubs and restaurants.

The Hartley MM will hold a meeting for Morris Ring sides on the previous day. As the beer festival runs on into the Sunday it is seen as an opportunity to break new ground and invite other sides to join us for a second day of dance.

It is intended to dance at several sites around the town, possibly including Tonbridge Castle lawn as well as at the beer festival. Dancing will commence at 11.00 am and continue into the late afternoon. There will be a massed show at a suitable location at some point during the day.

At this stage we wish to bring the event to the attention of all sides within a 30 mile radius of Tonbridge plus those Kent sides whose base lies further afield. It is important that as many of the traditions as possible are represented and also to ensure a fair distribution of sides from each of the organisations. It is hoped to accommodate approximately 15 sides in all but it may not be possible to accept all the sides wishing to attend.

There will be no charge for this event and those attending will need to make their own arrangements for lunch, etc.

Further details will be posted as the arrangements are firmed up. At this stage it would be appreciated if sides interested in attending could register their interest with me as soon as possible and at the latest by 1 January 2015.

Brian Tasker

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Many thanks  
Steven Archer  
Morris Ring Treasurer

