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## Newsletter No. 108

January 2018

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## **Future Events**

### **2018**

19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> January      **Morris Ring Jigs Instructional, Sutton Bonington**

*The Morris Ring welcomes applications from member sides to take part in the fortieth anniversary Jigs Instructional.*

*The Jigs Instructional offers Morris men of varying levels of accomplishment a weekend of high-quality dance coaching – even those who have no ambition to perform jigs in public. Using the solo dance as a vehicle for instruction, this event offers a good basic grounding in the art and science of Cotswold Morris in general and the Morris Jig in particular.*

*There are parallel streams for improvers and for more confident practitioners, plus sessions for less experienced men covering some basic techniques of the Cotswold dance. It all happens in Sutton Bonington, just off the A6 between Loughborough and Derby.*

*The weekend offers cosy indoor camping (including showers), really good food from Friday supper to Sunday lunch, beer for the Feast, expert and patient instruction, convivial company and an abundance of music and song.*

*The cost of this magnificent event is £50 per person. The Morris Ring's Jigs Instructional Cash-Back Scheme will support first and second time J.I. participants with a £10 and £5 subsidy respectively. Reimbursement is by application to the Morris Ring Treasurer by your side's bagman after the event.*

*Morris men from the "I've just mastered the double-step!" novice to the seasoned campaigner are all welcome. Sign up via the online form on the Morris Ring website (follow the link from the Events Diary on the home page), through your side's all-knowing Bagman or by contacting the Jigs Instructional Bagman, Tony Foard, who will be pleased to answer any questions you may have ([jigsinstructional@themorrisring.org](mailto:jigsinstructional@themorrisring.org) or 0151 334 4566).*

10<sup>th</sup> March      **Annual Representatives' Meeting, Oak Farm Lodge, Hatherton**

*Application form attached as Appendix 1, see also page 5.*

19<sup>th</sup> May      **JMO Day of Dance, Peterborough**

*Hosted by Crosskey Clog (Open Morris), details to follow. Ten places available. Applications received to date from Grimsby, Rutland, Peterborough, Jockey, Anstey, Letchworth, Foresters and Ripley.*

**1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> June                      Thaxted weekend of dance**

*Please apply directly to Thaxted Morris Men.*

**8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> June                      Hartley Morris Ale Ring Meeting (meeting no 357)**

*The Hartley Morris Men will be holding their annual Ale in the format of a traditional Morris Ring Meeting (but without a Church service). The weekend will be based in the village of Wrotham (Kent), as it has for the past 40 years, commencing on the Friday evening with a hot supper plus free beer in the hall and singing/music sessions in the local pubs. After a full English breakfast Saturday morning there will be two tours by classic transport taking in local breweries, pub lunches and the Kent countryside. An early evening informal massed display will be followed by a lavish Feast provided by our regular chef and his team from the Belladonna Pie Company.*

*After a full English breakfast on Sunday morning we depart to dance at various sites in the nearby town of Tonbridge where there will be another chance for all sides to come together for a final informal display prior to a cooked lunch.*

*Accommodation, with hot showers provided, is indoor camping and a secure campsite; female musicians are welcome and the anticipated cost will be in the region of £79 per person. It will also be a bit more relaxed than previous events. Numbers are limited to 85 on a first come basis so early applications are advisable and must be received by 1st February 2018.*

*Interested sides are therefore requested to submit applications by email to [baqman@themorrisring.org](mailto:baqman@themorrisring.org) and [baqman@hartleymorrismen.org.uk](mailto:baqman@hartleymorrismen.org.uk) stating name of the side, estimated numbers and contact details (phone No. & email address). Further details/enquiries, email - [events@hartleymorrismen.org.uk](mailto:events@hartleymorrismen.org.uk)*

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June                      Helmond Ring Meeting (meeting no 358)**

*This will be a repeat of the very successful 2015 Ring Meeting. In order to keep costs down (Brexit has led to a fall in the value of the pound) there will be a walking tour in the city of Helmond (cars will be used to transport sticks etc. and to provide transport for needy dancers). The meeting will be based at a museum for historical agricultural implements. There is one single-sex sleeping room, plenty of outdoor camping, museum toilets (male and female) and a trailer with shower cubicles. Meals etc. will be in one of the exhibition rooms and there is an outside area for dancing. There are several city centre hotels for those who prefer this (details on the website).*

*The Saturday tour will visit the market, the harbour, the castle and shopping streets. On Sunday there will be an indoor show at another museum (this time for barrel*

organs). The meeting is open to all Ring sides. Numbers are limited to 100. The cost of the meeting will be €75 per person and it is up to bagmen to choose when to transfer the money (subject to date limits). Applications by email to [bagman@themorrisring.org](mailto:bagman@themorrisring.org) stating name of the side and estimated numbers.

Details will be regularly updated on [www.helmondmorris.nl](http://www.helmondmorris.nl)

**29<sup>th</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> July      Whitchurch celebration weekend**

*Whitchurch's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a celebration of the Morris for all morris sides including Open and Federation. A similar format to a Ring Meeting with Friday evening meet and greet, Saturday tours in and around the Vale of Aylesbury and the Chilterns. Formal Feast in the evening, with speeches and party pieces with dancing. Sunday: Church service and mass morris with the departure after lunch.*

*Based at the world famous Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the Birthplace of the Paralympics, just on the outskirts of Aylesbury. Accommodation will be single sexed, dormitories with full bedding supplied. All facilities include showers. (HOT and cold). We can accommodate up to 180 for the weekend and a further 200 for the day including feast.*

*We hope to be able to operate with a pick and mix system where attendees can pay for what they have. Separate day attendees on Saturday and/or Sunday will be equally welcome to those attending the whole event.*

*All Ring Sides are invited to apply and in addition Whitchurch MM will be sending invitations to other sides with whom they have close connections. Further details will be available towards the end of the year. If you wish to make a reservation please contact [www.whitchurchmorris.org](http://www.whitchurchmorris.org).*

**25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August      Saddleworth Rushcart Ring Meeting (meeting no 359)**

*This is open to all; no need to apply via the Bagman, please inform the Rushcart Secretary of your interest directly.*

**Any clubs seeking to host a Ring Meeting in 2019, please contact the Ring Bagman urgently.**

## **Morris Ring ARM, Oak Farm Lodge, Hatherton, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

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.

### **Elections**

At the 2018 ARM we shall be electing a new Squire of the Morris Ring, a new Treasurer of the Morris Ring and several Area Representatives are due for triennial election/re-election.

### **Squire of the Morris Ring**

There is one candidate for Squire of the Morris Ring, Peter Simpson of Jockey MM, nominated by Chalice MM; the letter of nomination is attached as Appendix 2.



*Peter's statement:* I discovered the joys of Morris dancing on joining Jockey MM 20 years ago. Being a member of Jockey I've danced Cotswold, Border, Rapper and some Longsword. I'm also a member of the Original Welsh Border and, last year, I proudly became a life member of Green Man Morris. Over the years I've served Jockey as Archivist, Deputy Foreman and Foreman.

Nine years ago I was asked to become West Midlands Area Representative for the Morris Ring. It's a role I thoroughly enjoy, enabling me to meet clubs, make friends and stretch my dance skills. As Area rep'

you're at the heart of the Morris Ring, giving you a unique insight into its workings, your own area and of the JMO.

In recent years, as AR, I've helped breathe life into the first regional JMO at Warwick and put a team together to organise ARMs. I have helped and supported 18–30, enabling them to come to Birmingham. Currently I am looking for a way to revitalise the Lichfield tradition.

I regularly attend Saddleworth Rushcart, Thaxted, JMO meetings and days of dance, happily dancing with scratch sides if my own club is not there.

For me the big issue is the future of the Morris Ring. Recruitment is a big part of this, not just young men but capable men of all ages. I've strong opinions on the importance of dance and display standards. We are, after all, dancers and should be careful to maintain the Morris Ring's high standards.

### **Treasurer of the Morris Ring**

There is one candidate for Treasurer of the Morris Ring, Clayton Francis of East Surrey MM, nominated by Greensleeves MM; the letter of nomination is attached as Appendix 3.



*Clayton's statement:* I have been dancing with East Surrey Morris Men since 2000 and have been Bagman from 2007-17 (this is a combined secretary and treasurer role). During the course of my tenure the accounts which were barely breaking even were transformed to have enough working capital to see the year through and create a deposit account with a healthy balance.

In my professional career I have had full Profit and Loss responsibility for Europe for a medium sized business and run my own Consultancy business. Currently I am a teacher of Computer Science and Business to 11 - 19 year olds in a secondary school. I have also held the Treasurer role for Balham Cycling Club for 8 years up to 2002.

I put my name forward to become Treasurer of the Morris Ring having had proven experience in managing the accounts of East Surrey MM for 10 years. I have exercised prudent financial management but significantly am not afraid to spend money when it is necessary.

I have been a huge supporter of the Morris Ring partly coming from a founder side, and as a result have a long heritage and commitment to make it an organisation to be proud of. I believe that I can be a positive influence within the Morris Ring and the Morris world beyond and will apply my skills in partnership with the Bagman to support the Squire in the future. I would be honoured to be elected and serve as Treasurer.

### **Area Representatives** (year of re-election in brackets)

North Midlands, Ben Robinson (2018)

South Midlands, Roger Comley (2018)

Northern, Paul Cross (2018)

North West, David Loughlin (2020)

North East, Brian Pollard (2019)

West Midlands, Peter Simpson (2020)      *May require replacement, see above*

Eastern, Nigel Strudwick (2019)

South Wales and West, Paul Reece (2020)

South East, Cliff Marchant (2018)

## **Motion for Constitutional Change**

Proposed by Leicester MM:

### **Motion for Morris Ring A.R.M. March 2018: The Future of the Morris Ring**

Aim: To ensure that the Morris Ring is credible, relevant and representative of morris in the future.

As is made clear in its founding objective the Morris Ring it is an umbrella organisation under whose auspices Morris, Sword, Mumming and Molly sides shelter for mutual support, encouragement, friendship and insurance purposes, leaving Member sides totally autonomous, with their own philosophies, constitutions and reasons for existence. Whatever their longevity or history, sides which subscribe to the Morris Ring all make a conscientious decision to abide by the Morris Ring's Constitution. However the constitution is worded, it is understood that the Morris Ring exists for a fundamentally positive agenda: to maintain and build upon the history and traditions of the Morris and encourage high standards of dance through mutual support, encouragement and friendship. These universal themes bring MR sides together etc. and this common purpose is what unites us.

Like the Morris itself the Constitution of the Morris Ring has evolved over time, e.g. the Cotswold focused organisation of the 1930s evolved as the membership grew and became more diverse following the Folk Revival of the 1970s. Changes have not always been painless as too frequently the Morris Ring has been forced by circumstances to adapt. The acceptance of female musicians at the 2011 Mendip (Clevedon) ARM in response to the Equalities Act being an obvious example. It upset a few but this change enabled several sides which had had female musicians for quite a while to 'constitutionally' remain in membership rather than having to live a lie.

We are now in a similar situation regarding female dancers. We are in danger of losing even more valuable, long standing member sides because simply to survive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, with very different social norms and expectations, they want or need to accept female members. Long gone are the days when a Morris Ring side would refuse to perform at the same venues as 'female' dancers and the majority of Morris Ring sides now have positive, close working relationships with their neighbouring sides, regardless of their gender makeup.

The changes to the Morris Ring constitution proposed below will **not** force changes to the constitutions of individual member sides in any way but it will enable some sides to remain within the organisation that they have loyally supported, in many cases for many decades. It will also demonstrate to all that the Morris Ring is a proactive, forward looking, encouraging organisation that is determined to promote high quality morris and morris values, widening the historical perspective, improving opportunities for sides regardless of gender to participate in the fellowship Morris.

Proposal to modernise the Morris Ring Constitution to open membership to sides that are willing to embrace the spirit, aims and objectives of the Morris Ring, through amending the 'Objects and Definition' section of the Morris Ring constitution to omit all specific references to "Men".

*The proposed revised Objects and Definitions would be:*

- 1. The object of the Morris Ring shall be to encourage the performance of the Morris, to maintain its traditions and to preserve its history; to bring into contact all the Morris Clubs or Teams. The purpose of the Morris Ring is not to replace or supersede the existing organisations, but to sub-serve them. The Clubs shall in all respects retain their independence.*
- 2. The Morris Ring shall be an association of Morris, Sword and Mummers Clubs and Teams. Any established Club or Team which meets regularly for Morris or Sword Dancing or Mumming, and endeavours to uphold the standards and dignity of the Morris, shall be eligible for Membership of the Morris Ring.*

**Charlie Corcoran**

December 2017

Leicester Morrismen

### **Comments on the Proposal by Leicester MM to Change the Morris Ring Constitution**

To all Morris Ring member clubs,

You will have seen from this special issue of the Bagman's Newsletter, that we have received a motion to change the Constitution. This is to remove the restriction on mixed or female sides being members of the Morris Ring.

I encourage all member clubs to carefully consider the underlying issues raised by the motion

The Morris Ring was founded on the fundamental principle of fellowship. It exists to bring sides together reflecting a shared enjoyment in Morris dancing and a shared concern for the standards of its performance; the Morris Ring was established to preserve and develop the traditions and to promote the formation of new sides to carry those traditions on into the future, hopefully in perpetuity.

Its foundation reflected a desire in the 1930's to establish Morris clubs as the prime force behind the development of Morris dancing. This was to be distinct from EFDSS with its system of classroom based learning and centralised control of performance. Since that time,



independent Morris Clubs have flourished to the point where there are nearly 800 in the UK and many more abroad.

The original constitution referred to the Morris Ring as an association of Men's sides. This reflected the reality of how independent clubs of the day were. However the world is very different now from when the Morris Ring was formed some 80 years ago. A whole generation of Morris clubs, and even Morris traditions, have grown and developed outside of the Morris Ring in the last 40 years.

The Morris Ring should look to speak of its universal principles of maintaining the Morris tradition, standards of dance, supporting growth in Morris, of bringing sides together. These principles being our founding purpose and drive for our development, are ever more relevant to all clubs in the Morris world today.

However for us to make this case in the modern Morris world, while retaining the bar on gender, has become an impossible task.

It is my duty as Squire to say to you, that if our fundamental principles as an organisation are to have any value to the modern Morris world, we must engage with that Morris world as it is now. We should also be mature enough as an organisation to recognise and acknowledge that we have at times in our history turned away from change and to reflect on how this may not have fully served our principles.

In my time as Morris Ring Treasurer and now Squire, I have had a firm belief in these principles, in the positive way in which the Morris Ring can enhance the Morris world.

However Leicester's proposal has brought into focus that we face a crucial point in our history. Are we willing to fully share what we are and what we believe with all in Morris, to fully contribute to the continuation of a living tradition, or do we turn away and accept decline and irrelevance?

I do not envy us this decision. However I do believe the principles of fellowship, standards of dance, tradition and learning, of taking the best of history into the future are at our core. We need to think very carefully about tomorrow's tradition today.

Turning away from another generation in Morris would be a tragedy.

Ed Worrall, Squire of the Morris Ring

## **Questions and Answers**

Q. "If the Constitution changes, would we have to become mixed gender as a club?"

**A. No. The Morris Ring Constitution does not override a Club. A Club decides for itself what its membership should be. No changes would be required.**

Q. "Would this mean the end of Ring Meetings?"

**A. No. Ring Meetings are open for all Morris Ring Member clubs to apply to attend. They would still happen.**

Q. "Would we be forced to invite sides to our events we currently do not?"

**A. No. Events organised by clubs are completely under their own control. This would not change.**

Q. "Could we still organise all male days/weekends of dance as a club?"

**A. Yes. As above, all events organised by clubs are under their own control, including which sides are invited. This would not change.**

Q. "Would we be forced to accept a non-male dancer if they wished to join our Club?"

**A. No. The recruitment policy of your Club would be unaffected.**

Q. "Would there be a change in how Morris Clubs became members of the Morris Ring?"

**A. No. The process of admission of a Club to full membership is set out in the Constitution. This would be unaffected by the proposed change.**

Q. "Would this affect the Morris Ring's membership of the JMO or our indemnity insurance cover?"

**A. No. Neither would be affected and there would be no change or break in your insurance cover**

## **Consultation on the Proposed Change to the Morris Ring Constitution**

A due diligence process has already been undertaken; the Constitution of the Morris Ring on the MR website has been checked against all previous amendments and is now current and definitive. Any questions on the validity or wider implications of the proposal have been formulated into the Q&A section above.

Any side unable to attend the ARM can apply for a postal/remote vote, by email, to the Bagman of the Morris Ring, [bagman@themorrisring.org](mailto:bagman@themorrisring.org); applications to be received before 12<sup>th</sup> February.

The Officers of the Morris Ring have noted that attendance at the ARM reflects only a small proportion of the affected membership, so the debate will be hosted via the Google Group as follows:

8<sup>th</sup> January – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018

The Morris Ring Google Group (MRGG) will open for discussion solely on this motion, which may include statements of support or otherwise, and proposals for amendments to the proposal. Any individual or side seeking access to the Google Group needs to send an email *from the email address to be used* to the Bagman of the Morris Ring requesting access. You do not need a Google or Gmail account.

All posts to the MRGG will be suspended subject to moderation on a daily basis. Posts submitted will be deleted for the following reasons (only):

- Swearing
- Sexist, racist, homophobic language, hate speech of any kind
- Personal attacks or vitriol
- Off-topic posts

A second instance of a deleted post will result in removal of the poster from the Google Group.

5<sup>th</sup> February

The MRGG will close.

12<sup>th</sup> February

A statement will be issued from the Squire of the Morris Ring summarising the consultation and outlining any amendments to the proposal. Postal/remote votes can be received after this date.

## 8<sup>th</sup> March

Date when postal or remote voting closes, to ensure that all sides logging remote votes have been recorded prior to the ARM itself. There will be no proxy voting.

## 10<sup>th</sup> March

At the ARM, there will be a maximum of six people permitted to speak for up to two minutes each, three in favour of the motion and three against. The first speaker will be Charlie Corcoran on behalf of Leicester MM, proposing the motion. Other speakers will self-nominate on the morning of the ARM. In the event that there are more than two others wishing to speak in favour of the motion, and/or more than three wishing to speak against, the speakers will be selected by the Returning Officers drawing names from an appropriate receptacle in each case.

Attendees at the ARM will then vote on the proposal. It is hoped that all votes, remote and at the ARM, can be registered and counted on the day, with an announcement made before the Feast, however, in the event that this is not possible, an announcement will be made via email to all Bagmen on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March (there will be a confirmatory email sent on that date anyway to inform non-attendees).

## **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 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.

the morris ring	the morris ring	the morris ring
<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 snapping 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>founded 1934</p>	<p><a href="http://www.the-morris-ring.org">www.the-morris-ring.org</a></p>	<p>founded 1934</p>

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

## **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:

<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)).





## The Morris Ring – Annual Representatives' Meeting Sat 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018

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 .....@ £ 70	£
Saturday Breakfast (for campers* & 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		£ .

\* There is very limited camping available (for which there will be a small charge). It is essential to book in advance through Peter Copley. 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 first served basis. Please book this directly with Peter Copley. 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 print this form, fill it in and post it (with a cheque for the requisite amount) made payable to:  
**Stafford Morris Men (Misdemeanours) to:**

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



**Appendix 2: Nomination letter for Peter Simpson for Squire of the Morris Ring**

## **CHALICE MORRIS MEN**

**SQUIRE:**

Dick Shilton  
122 West End  
Street  
Somerset  
BA16 0LR

**BAGMAN:**

Chris Singleton  
101 Moorland Road  
Weston-super-mare  
Somerset  
BS23 4HS  
[chalicebagman@outlook.com](mailto:chalicebagman@outlook.com)

08.11.17

To Jon Melville, Bagman of The Morris Ring

Dear Jon

Please accept this letter on behalf of Chalice Morris Men as our formal proposal nominating Peter Simpson as candidate for the position of Squire of The Morris Ring.

We feel that not only is he an asset to the morris community in general but will be a steady hand at the tiller as Squire. He is a great communicator with all those he meets and has an easy going attitude with a natural dignity. We feel he will make a great contribution to The Morris Ring.

Yours sincerely

Chris Singleton

Bagman – Chalice Morris Men

### Appendix 3: Nomination letter for Clayton Francis for Treasurer of the Morris Ring



## Greensleeves Morris Men

2 Birkbeck Road  
Wimbledon  
London  
SW19 8NZ

020 8543 5866 (evening)  
07976 326990 (mobile)

david@legg.org.uk

21 November 2017

Jon Melville  
Bagman  
The Morris Ring  
57 Shakespeare Drive  
Nuneaton  
Warwickshire  
CV11 6NW

Dear Jon

#### MORRIS RING : NOMINATION FOR TREASURER

There has long been a close association between Greensleeves and East Surrey Morris Men. For more than 50 years we have been a regular attender at East Surrey's Peasmarsh weekend which gives a great opportunity to get to know members of the Club, both as individuals and as Club officers. Also, as one of our near neighbours, the paths of the two sides regularly cross at other events. Clayton has been Bagman for almost 10 years and, as we all know, it is the Bagman who is critical to the smooth operation of any Morris side. The ideal Bagman, as with Treasurer, is someone who is quietly efficient, on top of the job and always approachable. Clayton has shown himself to fit this description as his Club's Bagman and there is no reason to doubt that he would bring these qualities to the post of Treasurer of the Morris Ring. As an IT and business professional Clayton also brings the technical skills to manage the Ring's finances.

Greensleeves Morris Men would be honoured to nominate Clayton Francis as Treasurer of the Morris Ring.

Yours sincerely

**DAVID LEGG**

Squire, Greensleeves Morris Men

# Joint Morris Organisations



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## National Day of Dance Saturday 19th May 2018 Peterborough



**Peterborough Cathedral  
900th Anniversary 1118 - 2018**

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**For more information,  
please contact [crosskeybagman@gmail.com](mailto:crosskeybagman@gmail.com)**

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