



SQUIRE: Simon Newman,
14 Redacre Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5DX
Email: squire@themorrisring.org

BAGMAN: Peter Austin, 8 Pease Close, Warwick
Warwickshire, CV34 7BA
Tel: 01926 339351
Email: bagman@themorrisring.org

TREASURER: Clayton Francis
Tel: 0208 3957821
Email: RingTreasurer@themorrisring.org

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Future Events (DEPENDING ON RESTRICTIONS)

2021

21st-22nd August **Saddleworth Rushcart Ring Meeting**

4th September **Plymouth Morris Muster Ring Meeting**

Yet another postponement we're afraid, and now rearranged again. Understandably the low take up of places combined with government policy re restrictions has made the latest July date unviable. They have now postponed the event to Saturday 4th September in the hope that they have a better response. Should sufficient interest be forthcoming they plan to extend the event to a full weekend. For more information contact Marion Reece baqman@plymouthmorrismen.org.uk

25th September **Peterborough Morris Ring Meeting**

A Day of Dance in Peterborough without the Feast originally proposed. There will be no charge for the event. Please contact baqman@peterboroughmorris.co.uk to register interest

2022

5th March **Annual Representatives' Meeting, Oak Farm, Cannock**

Thanks to Peter Copley (Stafford) for organising. They may be able to support online streaming for those unable to attend as well.

9th April **Joint Morris Organisation National Day of Dance - Liverpool 2022**

They say 3rd time's a charm! More details to follow

15th July **Letchworth Centenary Ring Meeting**

Date fixed, details to follow

In Brief

Greetings!

Hello and advanced apologies for the later than planned arrival of this missive. Between taking over as Bagman from Jon, work, family and other commitments, I suddenly have found myself in mid-June with no newsletter to show for it! I wanted to again personally thank Jon for his sterling work as Bagman and for his unwavering support to me as we have worked through the handover. I hope to live up to the standards he has set during my time in office. Now read on!

Minutes of 2021 ARM

If you have not yet had a chance to review these, they are available here

<https://themorrisring.org/sites/default/files/docs/bagnews/minutes-morris-ring-arm-6th-march-2021.pdf>

Changing faces

As well as my handover from Jon as Bagman, there are a couple of new faces on the Advisory council. Matt Turvey of Shakespeare Morris has been voted in as West Midlands area rep, thanks Matt! Meanwhile, Darren Nugent of Harthill Morris has taken over as North area rep from Jono Millward, also of Harthill. We all thank Jono for serving his time as area rep and wish him all the best as he continues his vital work looking after his patients in face of Covid-19.

Housekeeping – Side Information

Most teams are now practicing again, and with this in mind I would request all teams to check their details on the Morris Ring website are up to date (specifically contact email addresses, phone numbers and website links). This will help potential new members and booking enquiries so please treat this as critical if you haven't updated details lately. You can update contact details anytime you wish by using the teams portal on the website. Any support required, please let me know.

The Morris Circular Archives

Our Web Editor has turned sleuth and found an electronic copy of Issues 31 – 40 (Spring 1998 – Spring 2002) in addition to many newly scanned back issues. These are now available on the website to view at leisure. <https://themorrisring.org/publications/morris-ring-circular>

Events

With the end of Covid restrictions currently open ended (at time of writing the target is July 19th depending on case numbers), can I request that any teams who like the idea of dancing at particular Ring events please let the organising teams know of their desire to attend asap, even if you're not sure of availability yet. There are spaces available at both Plymouth and Peterborough, and it would help in the planning of these events if organisers knew they had enough teams coming!

Squire's Commission on Morris Ring Constitution

Following on from the ARM, the committee chaired by Simon have been meeting once a month with a view to updating the constitution to make it more relevant and accessible for the new decade and beyond. At time of writing, we hope to present our proposals in the Autumn with a view to receiving feedback from the membership, with a final draft being published before Christmas. If this is achieved, the membership should be able to vote on the new document at the 2022 ARM.

JMO

As part of work within the JMO, the Morris Ring officers are currently supporting various sub committees looking at a variety of tasks including a new JMO website, collating the various morris side databases available to make them more accessible to the general public and providing advice for sides intending to dance in the EU when travel restrictions are lifted.

In addition, we had a very good virtual Day of Dance in lieu of the planned event in Liverpool where multiple workshops were held. Thanks to all who attended and also thanks to those from the Morris Ring who helped with workshops and sessions. A good time was had by those who attended, here's hoping next time we can do it in person!

Morris Dancers Honoured

The Queen's Birthday honours were announced on June 11th and among the names listed were 2 morris dancers, one in the UK and the other in Australia. The officers of the Morris Ring congratulate Sir Martin Landray, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, Oxford University, on being awarded his knighthood for services to public health and science. Martin dances with The Bampton Traditional Morris Dancers.

Congratulations also go to Geoffrey Wark of Adelaide Morris Men, on being awarded the Order of Australia Medal for 'services to Morris dancing'. Discussion online has brought forward the possibility that the last time morris dancing was specifically cited in an honour was the MBE awarded to Father Kenneth Loveless in 1990. As always, anyone who can advise otherwise can let us know in the usual manner. Congratulations Geoff!

Morris Ring Publications

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

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

On-line Links:



The main MR website with millions of pages stuffed to the gunnels with all you need to know about the MR: <https://www.themorrisring.org/>

The Morris Ring Google Group (MRGG). Private Forum for debate or announcements. <https://groups.google.com/group/the-morris-ring>

Contact the Morris Ring Bagman to register to use.

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

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

Call for Contributions

Any items of urgent Morris-related news, please send to me at bagman@themorrisring.org for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Less time-dependent updates and longer pieces to Tony Foard, please, for the Circular.

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

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

