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## Newsletter No. 122

September 2021

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## **Future Events (DEPENDING ON RESTRICTIONS)**

### **2021**

- 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:baqman@peterboroughmorris.co.uk) to register interest*
- 30<sup>th</sup> October      **Fools and Beasts Unconvention 2021 - Leominster**  
*Open to all budding or experienced Fools, Beasts and Morris  
Characters from any team from the Ring, Open or Federation. A truly  
JMO event!  
Form available from website, email [triggertroutter1@aol.com](mailto:triggertroutter1@aol.com) to register  
interest*

### **2022**

- 5<sup>th</sup> March      **Annual Representatives' Meeting, Oak Farm, Cannock**  
*Thanks to Peter Copley (Stafford) for organising.*
- 9<sup>th</sup> April      **Joint Morris Organisation National Day of Dance - Liverpool 2022**  
*They say 3<sup>rd</sup> time lucky! More details to follow*
- 15<sup>th</sup> July      **Letchworth Centenary Ring Meeting**  
*Date fixed, details to follow*

**In Brief**

**Out and About**

It has certainly been a busy time for everyone since the end of July. I was delighted to meet up with Simon and Clayton in Saddleworth at the 'Non-Rushcart', complete with our various pieces of metalwork. A very wet day but nonetheless enjoyable, and we heartily thank Saddleworth MM for putting on a cracking event in the face of many trying hurdles. My hat will never be the same again...



Captions for this one on a post card please....

Simon and I went down at Plymouth on September 3/4 for the delayed 'Plymouth Morris Mayflower Morris Muster Marine Ring Meeting'. Needless to say, the weather was a lot kinder to us in Devon than it was in West Yorkshire. Another excellent event, and it was great to see so many familiar faces that we'd only seen on computer screens for nearly 2 years. Thanks to Plymouth Morris for a) bringing out the sun especially for us and b) organising an excellent tour of Plymouth. A particular highlight (though possibly to the chagrin of some locals and tourists) was the trip around Plymouth Ho by ferry with much singing....

Also noteworthy was the feast which was organised at a very good Portuguese Restaurant just out of the city centre. In view of how difficult it currently is to guarantee that organising a feast in the usual manner will be successful, it certainly offers an avenue for us to keep this wonderful tradition going until times change again.

Candle lighting at Plymouth feast



Finally, Simon and I were also present at Bromyard Folk festival on September 10/11/12. A much smaller event than usual as you might expect, but nevertheless a cracking turnout by the morris sides present including Earlsdon, Jockey, Shakespeare, Moulton and Faithful City. Well done to all involved, especially the organisers for pulling everything together with such aplomb.

Shakespeare, Jockey and Faithful City joining forces at Bromyard



## **STOP PRESS – Fools and Beasts 2021 Unconvention is go – From Rob Chrisman**

Due to various complications, including covid-19 restrictions, and notwithstanding a lot of effort from myself & Julian, we were not able to go ahead with a 2021 Unconvention in Plymouth as planned.

Instead, our Member, Jed Dunn, has offered his facilities at short notice at The Monkland Arms, Monkland, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 9DE.

- Friday evening, Jed will provide some supper.
- Provisional Saturday tour - 9.30 leave Monkland - Swan brewery in Leominster, Ludlow town centre, Ludlow brewery for lunch then Hobsons brewery in the afternoon, arrive back at Monkland for 6.
- Sunday - Workshop/ AGM, dancing in the pub car park, simple lunch - pasties, quiches which can be take-away if required.

There is limited accommodation within the pub, camping under the gazebos outside, and space for up to six camper vans in the car park. There are some showers in the pub, plus usual washing facilities in the pub toilets.

We could have an extra shower unit, but that would increase the cost. Assuming that some of the camper vans will be shared accommodation, then the limit for this year will be 35 delegates.

So, please get your applications in quickly, a quick email to me with intention to come will be useful, followed by the completed application form and some dosh.

Robert Chrisman  
Scrivener and Convenor

Email: [triggertrotter1@aol.com](mailto:triggertrotter1@aol.com)

Mobile: 07970063922

Closing date for Applications 16th October 2021.

## A Letter from the Treasurer

September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021

Dear Bagman/Treasurer,

2021 has been a difficult year as far as the Morris Ring membership is concerned as a result of the social distancing measures that are in place to stem the spread of Covid-19.

The Morris Ring Officers recognise this and that there has not been the opportunity to dance out and collect whilst at the same time sides still have costs to meet.

The JMO insurance cover that was in place for 2021 as part of your membership renewal was waived. With that in mind I am pleased to inform you that we, (MR Officers), have decided to carry over again your membership fees and cover the cost for 2022, by which time hopefully we will be out dancing again.

During the current regime it is unclear how many sides will continue into next year. Some may have decided to call it a day, others may wish not to for different reasons. The vast majority will do so.

There are some actions that you need to complete for your side to get the cover and other benefits that membership gives;

1. I have put a link to a **Google form below that you will need to complete to indicate that your side wishes to renew or not renew, your membership and take this insurance cover proposal.**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2iXVGpCBBczQbR\\_Tvz1oR81ePBd8Uf151T9rPfbD7Ng3beA/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2iXVGpCBBczQbR_Tvz1oR81ePBd8Uf151T9rPfbD7Ng3beA/viewform?usp=pp_url)

2. I know that the majority of sides pay electronically either by standing order or bank transfer. If this applies then, **please can you ensure that your 2021 payment is stopped so I don't have to give refunds as you have paid your fees.** You should have enough time to act on this.

I hope that you support this course of action so that we can renew the JMO cover into 2022 however should you have any questions please get in touch with me

Regards



Clayton Francis, Morris Ring Treasurer



### **Absent Friends**

Since last I wrote, we have sadly said farewell to more friends in the morris community. Among them was David Welti, Squire of the Ring from 1976 to 1978, who passed away in Ullapool on August 31<sup>st</sup>, aged 96. His funeral was on September 14<sup>th</sup> and a full obituary will be published in due course.

Another sadly departed friend was Tony Ashley of Anker Morris, who many will remember from his time as a West Midlands area rep, who also passed away in August a few weeks shy of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. I was privileged to be present at Tony's funeral, where I counted 3 past Ring Squires, 3 past Bagmen and 2 past Treasurers in attendance along with a host of other dancers and musicians from across the country. As can be seen in the photo below, the number of past officers was a rare gathering indeed.

L-R: John Frearson,  
Eddie Worrall,  
Adam Garland,  
Richard Sinclair,  
Peter Austin,  
Charlie Corcoran,  
Jon Melville and  
Michael Garland



In due course I will publish a list of friends who have passed away since January 2020, and I hope to be able to have them read out at a suitable event when circumstances allow us to do so.

### **Morris Dancers Honoured**

As expected, my item in the previous newsletter has produced at least 1 other instance of a morris dancer being honoured for their work in folk music and dance.

Norris Winstone (also known as Win), MBE (1913-2011), founding member of Kemp's Men was honoured for 'services to folk music and dancing in Norfolk' in 2009. Thanks to Kemp's Men for putting me right!

### **Squire's Commission on Morris Ring Constitution**

As I write the committee is preparing to meet again, and our hope is to be able to submit our proposed documentation to the Advisory Council next month, followed by a wider membership consultation. Pending any changes from these reviews, we are aiming to publish our final drafts in this newsletter in late November. Please keep an eye on your inboxes/spam folders/communication modules as we are looking for all the pertinent insight we can get to help us create a constitution fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

## **Squire's Massed Dances for 2022**

In view of the fact that we have not been able to perform en masse for 18 months, the Squire has decided to make use of the list compiled by Pete Simpson in order to simplify matters for all sides. As always, these are not 'dances that must be learned', rather they are dances that are handy to know when attending larger events.

Adderbury: - Black Joke

Bampton: - Rose tree (finish on rounds)

Bledington: - Idbury Hill, Young Collins.

Brackley: - Jockey to the Fair (long version)

Bucknell: - Queens Delight.

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

Fieldtown: - The Valentine, Balance the Straw.

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



## **Morris Ring ARM, Oak Farm Hotel, Hatherton, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

The ARM will be at its customary location of Oak Farm Hotel, Hatherton (Watling St, Cannock WS11 1SB). Application forms for attending are located at the end of this document. Please be prompt in applying as places for accommodation are limited.

### **Elections**

At the 2022 ARM we shall be electing a new Squire of the Morris Ring and several Area Representatives are due for triennial election/re-election.

For the post of Squire, the Constitution requires the following:

1. A biographical statement, 250 words maximum, ideally with some general information about the candidate's history and general philosophy regarding Morris in general and the Ring in particular.
2. A photograph of the candidate.
3. A supporting statement of 250 words maximum, submitted by the nominating club on their headed paper or from their Bagman's email address. Any additional supporting documentation will not be published.

**The above documentation must be submitted to the Bagman of the Morris Ring before 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.** This is also the date for all proposed alterations to the Constitution, motions and formal resolutions to be discussed at the ARM (all submissions to the Bagman please).

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

East Midlands, Charlie Corcoran (2022)

South Midlands, Roger Comley (2024)

Northern, Darren Nugent (2024)

North West, David Loughlin (2023)

North East, Brian Pollard (2022)

West Midlands, Matt Turvey (2023)

Eastern, Nigel Strudwick (2022)

South West and Wales, Paul Reece (2023)

South East, Fred Hands (2024)

*All Representatives due for re-election have indicated that they are willing to continue.*

## **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](mailto: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](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 5th March 2022

Name of Side: .....

Contact Name: .....

Names of other attendees: ...../.....

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

Address: .....

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

Friday Night accommodation & Saturday Breakfast	No .....@ £ 30.00	£
Camper van	No .....@ £ 15	£
Saturday ARM to Sunday morning including coffee, lunch, tea and Sat night accommodation & Sunday breakfast (U16 –half price)	No .....@ £ 83.50	£
Saturday Breakfast (for campers/vans & early arrivals)	No .....@ £ 9.50	£
Saturday ARM - including feast (No accommodation)	No .....@ £53.50	£
Saturday ARM* - excluding feast (Morning Coffee / Lunch / Afternoon Tea)	No .....@ £30.00	£
Feast only	No .....@ £40.00	£
ARM only - no meals	No.....@ Free	£ 0.00
Sunday Breakfast (for campers/vans)	No .....@ £ 9.50	£
TOTAL (pay by cheque/BACS) – delete as necessary		£ .

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

Please specify number of non-alcohol drinkers ..... Please specify any dietary requirements.....

Please indicate if disabled access is required Yes / No

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

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

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

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

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**01889 567962 or 07949 309043**