

THE MORRIS FEDERATION

MINUTES OF THE 44th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at the Salutation Hotel, 30 – 34 South Street, Perth PH2 8PH Saturday 28th September 2019 from 1632 hours.

1 INTRODUCTION

Melanie Barber (President) welcomed everyone to the 44th AGM of the Morris Federation, and welcomed Nikki Pickering (Chair of Open Morris), Simon Newman (Morris Ring).

In addition to the usual housekeeping, she asked that as not all candidates for the position of President were at the meeting, that no one post the result on social media until 1930 hours today, when she has had the chance to ensure that all were aware of the results.

Fee Lock (Secretary) read out those teams attending:

Belfagan Women's Morris	Maltby Sword
Berkshire Bedlam	Mockbeggar Morris
Betty Lupton's Ladle Laikers	Mons Meg
Beverley Garland	New Esperance Morris
Black Diamond Morris	Nonesuch Morris
Carlisle Sword & Clog	Pateley Longsword
Chinewrde	Persephone Women's Morris
Cricket on the Hearth	Reivers Border Morris
Customs & Exiles	Richmond Castle Clog
Flag & Bone Gang	Ripley Green Garters
Hannah's Cat	Ripon City Morris Dancers
Harlequin Women's Morris	Saddleworth Clog & Garland
Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green	Strictly Clog
Highside Longsword	Three's A Crowd
Jackstraws	Trentside Holmes
Kinfauns Step Dancers	Windsor Morris
Mad Jack's Morris	Winkleigh Morris
Malkin Morris	

Sue Swift, Honorary Member
Val Parker, Honorary Member

Nikki Pickering, Chair, Open Morris
Simon Newman, Morris Ring

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Fee Lock (Secretary) read out the list of apologies for absence:

Acorn Morris	Blue Anchor Morris
Aldbrickham Clog & Step Dancers	Boss Morris
Amble Sword	Bower Street Morris
Ansley Morris	Bradninch Millers Morris
Armaleggan	Broad Swords
Babylon	Chiltern Hundreds
Bare Bones Women's Morris	Chingford Morris Men
Beetlecrushers	Clausementum
Belle d'Vain	Clogarhythm
Belles of London City	Crook Morris
Bishops Morris	Cuckoos Nest
Black Gate Morris	Dacre Morris
Black Horse & Standard Morris	Dartmoor Border
Black Sheep Border Morris	Dead Horse & Broomdashers

Devizes Jubilee Morris
Ditchling Morris
Dorset Buttons
Dorstep Clog
Dr Turberville's Morris
Ebor Morris
Ellington Morris
England's Glory
English Miscellany
Enigma Morris
Feet First
Fiddlesticks Border Morris
Five Rivers Morris
Fleet Morris
Fool's Gambit Morris
Four Corner Sword
Frome Valley Morris
Furness Clog Dancers
Furness Morris
Fylde Coast Cloggers
Galliard Folk Dancers
Goathland Plough Stots
Great Western Morris
Green Ginger Garland
Haddenham Morris & Mummers
Hammersmith Morris
Haughley Hoofers
Hawksword
Herring Gals
Hexhamshire Lasses
High Spen Blue Diamonds
Hobo's Morris
Hornbeam Molly
Horwich Prize Medal Morris
Huginn & Muninn
HuMP
Invicta Morris
Jerusalem Jammers
Kingston Spring Grove Morris
Kirtlington Morris
Knaresborough Mummers
Knights of King Ina
Leap to Your Feet
Locos in Motion
Loose Women
Mabel Gubbins
Makeney Morris
Malmesbury Morris
Marlings Morris
Martha Rhoden's Tuppenney Dish
Medlock Rapper
Medusa
Milkmaid Molly
Minster Strays
Morris

Mortimer's Morris
Mutineers
Mythago
Nancy Butterfly
New St George
Newburgh Morris
North Star Rapper & Clog
Northgate Rapper
Old Glory
Old Palace Clog
Outside Capering Crew
Pecsaetan
Phoenix Clog
Phoenix Morris
Plum Jerkum
Pretty Grim
Quayside Cloggers of Poole
Rag Morris
Ragged Robin Morris
Rainbow NW Morris
Rampant Rooster
Red Stags
Ripon Spur Rapper
Rivington Morris
Rockhopper Morris
Rumworth Morris of Bolton
Sarum Morris
Seven Champions & Seven Sisters
Sharp & Blunt
Sheffield City Morris
Shrewsbury Morris
Shropshire Sharpshins Rapper
Silhill Morris
Silver Flame Rapper
Singleton Cloggers
Somerset Morris
Somerset
Southern Lights
Southern Star
Spirimawgus Morris
St Albans Morris
Stone the Crows
Stony Stratford Mummers
Sussex Junction
Sutton Masque
The Fabulous Fezheads
The Tattered Court
Thrales Rapper
Three Horseshoes Morris
Three Shires Morris
Twostep
Wakefield Morris
Whip the Cat Rapper
Willington Morris
Wreckers Morris

She received a round of applause (!)

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

These had already circulated and taken as read. They were proposed correct by **Sel Adamu (Customs & Exiles)**, and seconded by **Diane Moody (New Esperance)**. Nem con.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

4 OFFICERS' REPORTS

These had been previously circulated and taken as read (see Appendix 1). There were no queries on the President's; Secretary's; Archive Officer; Notation Officer; Newsletter Editor's. However, **Diane Moody (New Esperance)** explained that the blank column in the accounts of the expenditure of the 2018 AGM in London represented a pledge of support of £1200 for the shortfall of that event by Knees Up Cecil Sharp, the ceilidh series which formed part of the AGM weekend, to make up for the lack of collection on a miserable, rainy day.

5 MOTIONS

To amend the Terms of Reference of the Constitution, Section 4, Committee The officers shall be elected to their posts at the Annual General Meeting, except in the case of a post becoming vacant between AGMs, when an Extraordinary General Meeting may be called to elect a replacement. Their terms of office shall run for up to three years, beginning on 1st January of the year after that in which they were elected, until 31st December of the third year inclusive. In the event of a post becoming vacant before the full three-year period has expired, the term of office of any elected replacement shall run for a maximum of the period remaining of the term of office of the outgoing officer.

For clarity, the changes are shown below, courtesy of **Val Parker (Honorary Member)**, who pointed this out at last year's AGM. The ~~strike throughs~~ illustrate the removal of text; the *italics* illustrate the proposed changes.

"The officers shall be elected to their posts at the Annual General Meeting, except in the case of a post becoming vacant ~~before the term of office has expired between AGMs~~, when an Extraordinary General Meeting may be called to elect a replacement ~~to complete the original term of office~~. Their terms of office shall run for up to three years, beginning on 1st January of the year after that in which they were elected, until 31st December of the third year inclusive.

In the event of a post becoming vacant before the full three-year period has expired, the term of office of any elected replacement shall run for a maximum of the period remaining of the term of office of the outgoing officer."

Proposed by **Sam Ross (Newsletter Editor)**, seconded by **Jenny Everett (Treasurer)**.

Rationale This clarifies both the circumstances when an EGM can be called in the context of within the new, three-yearly cycle of tenure, and the situation concerning the completion or otherwise of a three-year term.

There were no queries or comments from the floor.

Postal votes received:

For: 618.5
Against: 6.5
Abstentions: 37

Votes cast at the meeting:

For: 252
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

Total: 870.5 in favour; the Motion was carried.

SHOULD ALL OUR MEMBERS BE MORRIS DANCERS?

Over the years, our membership has expanded from what we all understand as Morris dancing, in its widest sense, to include teams who don't strictly dance Morris. The first to be included was Appalachian, which we happily accepted as an allied tradition, often danced by people we knew in the Morris.

However, in the past few years, some other groups have been accepted for membership. Often, the only link is that they appear at folk festivals alongside Morris dancers. These include historical and social dance groups, and foreign dance teams. They tend to join so that they can enjoy the benefit of our public liability insurance. Is the membership content that we should include such groups and where should the boundary lie?

Led by **Jenny Everett (Treasurer)**.

Jenny Everett (Treasurer), as recipient of the registration form, has to make a judgement call on relevance. She has recently accepted Ghurkha dancers and Polish dancers,

Melanie Barber (President) read out **Somerset Morris'** view:

"We did talk about the discussion at our meeting. The feeling of the side was that the Federation should focus on membership from sides and groups performing traditional UK dances (or those continuing to develop these traditions into new forms), but felt that performance to live music was key. We felt this would help those leading the Federation to be able to focus on specific remit, rather than trying to encompass the needs of a much wider group."

She then read out **Galliard Folk Dancers'** view:

"Being one of those groups who joined to enjoy the benefit of your public liability insurance, I would have liked to join in the discussion whether all members should be Morris dancers. It is a pity that some feel a need to divide our wonderful folk traditions into compartments. We all love folk dancing. Within our small group our members dance, or have danced, English, Scottish, Manx, Welsh, and Morris. We dance socially and in display and feel that our brand of folk makes a nice contrast when sharing a sport with a different tradition. When a Morris dancer is approaching 80 and his knees have given up, he'll be glad that he can find folk with a gentler pace. Members of the public often think we're Morris dancers too and we don't mind!"

Sel Adamu (Customs & Exiles) said that she favoured the Federation promoting Morris dancing specifically – other cultures and countries are more proud of their cultures than in England and the English are, so she would not want anything to dilute anything that reduces that.

Diane Moody (New Esperance) read out thoughts from her side, and said that if people are joining simply for the insurance, is there not a more appropriate organisation for them to join, such as the EFDSS? Should it only be a dancing team? But, we have to consider mummers: much mumming is done by Morris teams, which suggests a rather woolly boundary to the term 'Morris'; but is belly dancing appropriate? Often they are scheduled alongside Morris dancers at festivals; we don't mind if this is the only way they can get public liability insurance, but if there were to be enough belly dancing teams, should they then be encouraged to form their own organisation? Would that then lead into extremes like aerial dancing, for example?! If it's a dance team based in the UK where there's no other form of insurance, then she feels we should let them in. But if they're a Ghurkha team in India, we wouldn't want to join them as this would not be appropriate; however, if there was an overseas Morris team we would be okay with that.

Melanie Barber (President) said that we may be putting other organisations in jeopardy eg Polish dancers coming from a Polish dancing society, etc. Morris is largely an umbrella in many ways.

Sel Adamu (Customs & Exiles) clarified her point by quoting the aims of the Morris Federation as described in the constitution: this includes any group that will continue to promote Morris dancing, and that is the main area she would want to continue to accept teams.

Jenny Everett (Treasurer) thanked the meeting, and said that it is helpful to know that we are all in one mind. This is helpful.

7 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

Under the three year tenure voted in last AGM, two posts, President and Newsletter Editor, were up for election, the others remaining in post unless someone else stood.

(a) President

Melanie Barber (President) is standing down. There have been five candidates. In accordance with the change in the constitution last year, four of the remaining posts do not need re-elected.

1/5

LINDA POUND

Proposed by Persephone Women's NW Morris, seconded by Chinewrde Morris

Postal votes received:	229
Votes cast at the meeting:	13
Total:	242

2/5

HEATHER LEECH

Proposed by Hannah's Cat, seconded by Mad Jack's Morris

Postal votes received:	108.5
Votes cast at the meeting:	2
Total:	110.5

3/5

SEL ADAMU

Proposed by Ebor Morris, seconded by Belle d'Vain

Postal votes received:	350
Votes cast at the meeting:	70
Total:	420

4/5

PAULINE WOODS-WILSON

Proposed by Downes-on-Tour, seconded by Rivington Morris

Postal votes received:	462.5
Votes cast at the meeting:	60
Total:	522.5

5/5

DIANE MOODY

Proposed by New Esperance Morris, seconded by Thrales Rapper

Postal votes received:	102
Votes cast at the meeting:	16
Total:	118.

Melanie Barber (President) announced the clear winner to be Pauline Woods-Wilson with a total 522.5. She offered her thanks to **Linda, Heather, Sel, Diane**, as their nominations had brought much discussion and support to the Federation, thereby promoting awareness. She also thanked Nikki Pickering, Chair of

Open Morris, and Simon Newman, representing the Morris Ring, for their assistance as tellers. All candidates received a well-deserved round of applause.

(b) Newsletter Editor

This post, under the new, three-year tenure, is up for re-election at this AGM and the post needs to be filled. **Sam Ross (Newsletter Editor)**, the incumbent, is willing to stand again and is proposed by **Fee Lock (Secretary)** and seconded by **Mike Everett (Archive Officer)**. There have been no other nominations received. No postal vote was conducted.

(c) For: 300
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

Individual Members:

For: 2
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

Sam Ross (Newsletter Editor) was re-elected 302:0

All other officers were willing to continue, and no other nominations received:

- (c) Fee Lock (Secretary)**
- (d) Jenny Everett (Treasurer)**
- (e) Mike Everett (Archive Officer)**
- (f) Jerry West (Notation Officer)**

Jenny Everett (Treasurer) said that the posts of Treasurer and Archivist will be open to re-election next year.

Melanie Barber (President) noted that the new membership application being online had made things easier for the Secretary, and that we were hoping to make public liability insurance certificates available online due course

Mike Adamson is co-opted for IT support.

8 DATES OF THE NEXT AGM

Saturday 26th September 2020 in Reading, courtesy of Customs & Exiles.

2021 – Darlington, courtesy of Black Diamond.

2022 – we need a volunteer! If you would like to organise the 2022 AGM Day of Dance, please get in touch with a member of the committee. Offers of AGMs in further years will not be turned down!

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None raised.

10 VOTES OF THANKS AND PRESENTATION

Melanie Barber (President) presented Butterworth badges to our hosts, Kinfauns Step Dancers. Nikki Pickering, Chair of Open Morris, presented an officer's badge to **Melanie**.

There being no further discussion, the meeting closed at 1715 hours.

ANNUAL REPORTS

(a) President

This is my final report as President of The Morris Federation, and I would like to start by thanking everybody for their support and encouragement over the last six years.

As always, there are still things that I hope to achieve before the end of the year, and hopefully by the time we get to the AGM in Perth I'll have ticked a few more items off my list and, if not, then by the end of December when I hand over to my successor.

Many thanks to New Esperance for hosting our 2018 AGM in London. Despite the weather the streets were full of dancers, with many team representatives staying on for the AGM, at which John Bacon received his EFDSS Gold Badge. The evening proved successful, and it was great to see a good number of people attending the Sunday morning workshop, and that teams, both local and further afield, stayed for the Sunday lunchtime dancing.

Myself, Fee and Jenny attended the JMO annual meeting in February, which was hosted and chaired by The Morris Federation, and was very much business as usual.

30th March saw Medlock Rapper host the JMO National Day of Dance in Manchester on behalf of The Morris Federation, which received very positive feedback. I would like to re-iterate my thanks to Medlock for all the hard work that went into the day, and to Waters Green for representing The Morris Federation in the show dance.

We have continued to develop the new membership database and hope that teams have found their way around updating their own details. This is really important, especially as officers change, so that hard copies of FedExtra and email broadcasts find their way to the right person within the team. If you haven't as yet checked your details, then please do so asap as we will shortly be sending out 2020 membership renewals. We hope, but can't promise, that teams will in future be able to download their PLI certificates from the system.

By now you should also have noticed that we have a new Membership section on the website, which can be accessed from the same log in details as the membership system. We've currently moved the advice and guidance for members that was previously under Resources into the new section and will be adding sections from the Member's Manual as and when they are reviewed. This is an ongoing project, so please bear with us.

We continue to support projects through our Sponsorship, Grant & Bursary Policy, which this year has seen us helping with the cost of equipment for Ripon Spur Rapper and Black Gate Morris, and travel expenses to The Morris Federation teams that performed at Dancing England.

Our next AGM will be on Saturday 26th September 2020 hosted in Customs & Exiles in Reading, then in 2021 hosted by Black Diamond in Darlington. As always, we like to plan ahead, so if you fancy taking up the mantle of hosting the 2022 AGM then please get in touch.

Lastly, but by no means least, my thanks once again to the committee for their ongoing support, hard work and dedication in running The Morris Federation; I look forward to seeing the organisation continue to develop and improve under new leadership.

Happy Dancing!
Melanie

(b) Secretary

Sides joining us since we last met:

Black Gate
Broads Swords
East Hoathly
Galliard Folk Dancers
The Ghurkhas
Mehalah Morris
Midgley Pace Egg
Ripon Spur Rapper
Sheffield University Morris
The Barrel Border Morris (Bude)
Trentside Holmes

Sides leaving us in the last year:

Crooked Steeple Morris
Hexadaisy
Maybe Morris
Penny Plain
Point Devis
Redbornstoke Morris
Sergeant Musgrave's Dance
Weaver's Morris
Wicked Belly Morris
First Class Stamp

We wish them well.

I attended the Joint Morris Organisations' annual general meeting, hosted by the Morris Federation, in February of this year. As you know, this is an important mechanism to maintain good working relationships with the Morris Ring and Open Morris, as well as keeping up-to-date with issues which may affect our public liability insurance. There is a need for this to become a more formal entity in terms of governance of any (small) funds and to ensure a transparent line of responsibility. The chair alters annually, generally depending on which Organisation is hosting the National Day of Dance, however, Steven Archer (former Treasurer of the Morris Ring) has stood as its treasurer and I agreed to stand as its secretary.

I also attended the Annual Representatives' Meeting of the Morris Ring in Staffordshire, where in keeping with their decision to alter their constitution to remove the gender bar of member sides, the first Appalachian side, First Class Stamp (formerly members of the Morris Federation) joined the Morris Ring. . Emma Melville, who proposed a Discussion point at last year's AGM on massed dancing, is married to Jon, Bagman of the Morris Ring; and her brother Adam and father Mike are both former Squires of the Morris Ring, and it was heartening to see how at home she feels there.

Although I'd planned to represent the Morris Federation at the EFDSS' AGM in November, I went down with the cold from hell and decided against infecting all I encountered. All things being equal, I will try to get there this year.

Fee x
Hastings, June 2019

(c) Treasurer

Membership and renewals

Membership levels have dropped slightly this year.

To date (14/5/19) we have 529 members (536 in 2018):

- 508 group members
- 10 individuals
- 7 junior
- 4 overseas/associate

Some of the drop in numbers is due to those teams who had joined us from the Morris Ring now returning. Sadly 9 teams have folded - Crooked Steeple Morris, Hexadaisy, Maybe Morris, Penny Plain, Point Devis, Redbornstoke Morris, Sergeant Musgrave's Dance, Weaver's Morris, Wicked Belly Morris. We have 8 new teams, and Pengwyn Rapper have reformed.

Our new membership system was up and running in time for the renewal season. Teams were able to update their own details and about 60% of members paid their membership by direct bank transfer. This all makes my job a lot easier and cuts out the possibility of typing errors when entering membership data. Lloyds bank also introduced a new system for paying in cheques via mobile phone which saved me a lot of manual logging of cheques and repeated visits to the bank.

Sales and publications

Sales of bells and dance notation books remain steady. New stocks of bells were purchased which meant a hefty rise in prices as the manufacturer has had to raise its prices.

Banking

All accounts are now at Lloyds bank, we have a current account, an instant access savings account and a fixed term deposit account. Interest on the fixed term deposit will be due towards the end of April but is shown in this year's accounts. I no longer hold petty cash.

Accounting period

Attached is a copy of the annual accounts for 2018/2019. Comparison with 2017/2018 accounts are not obvious as that period covered 15 months.

Income exceeded expenditure by £3,326.94, this profit is largely due to the efforts of our insurance officer Michael Stimpson who negotiated a very favourable deal on our Public Liability insurance. Thank you, Michael!

I see no need to increase membership subscriptions for the coming year.

Grants and Sponsorships

Grants and sponsorships have been made to:

- Lore and the Living Archive (Project with Doc Rowe)
- Morris Dance database (Project with Colin Andrews)
- Teams who represented The Morris Federation at Dancing England

No applications for grants were received for the designated fund for research into the history of women in morris.

PR

Preparations are underway to update and replace the 3 pop-up banners which are available to members to borrow.

Committee Expenses

A breakdown of the committee expenses for the period has been included. Should any member consider standing for a committee post, we have an expenses policy which pays for accommodation and travel costs incurred.

Other activities

Apart from attending the quarterly committee meetings, handling renewals and dealing with sales, this year I attended the Open Morris AGM and the JMO day of dance. Together with the Archive Officer, I hosted the JMO AGM.

Accounts inspection

These accounts have been independently verified by Eddie Worrall, whom I should like to thank for all his help and advice.

Thank you for all your messages of support and thanks over the year.
Jenny Everett

MORRIS FEDERATION ACCOUNTS 01/01/2018 to 01/04/2019

INCOME	2018/2019	2017/2018
GENERAL		
Subscriptions (including extra Newsletters)	£18,882.50	£38,441.50
Newsletter adverts	£0.00	£429.00
PRS contribution Morris Ring and Open Morris	£0.00	£166.01
Insurance refund (reduction of sum insured)		£103.38
TOTAL GENERAL	£18,882.50	£39,139.89
Mastering Performance workshop		
Ticket sales	£920.00	
TOTAL MPW	£920.00	
AGM and Day of Dance		
AGM 2018 accommodation deposit refund		£100.00
TOTAL AGM and DAY of DANCE	£0.00	£100.00
JMO		
JMO income		
TOTAL JMO	£0.00	£0.00
DONATIONS & GRANTS		
CD sales and donations to designated education account	£10.00	£86.20
TOTAL DONATIONS & GRANTS	£10.00	£86.20
PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS		
Sale of publications and PR goods (inc p&p)	£132.50	£464.35
TOTAL PR & PUBS	£132.50	£464.35
BELLS		
Sale of bells (inc p&p)	£6,240.48	£4,147.55
TOTAL BELLS	£6,240.48	£4,147.55
BANKING		
Interest on instant access deposit account	£2.11	
Interest on Deposit Account	£224.00	£131.30
TOTAL BANKING	£226.11	£131.30
TOTAL INCOME	£26,411.59	£44,069.29

EXPENDITURE	2018/2019	2017/2018
GENERAL		
Subscription refund	£115.00	£235.00
Printing and postage (newsletter, AGM notices)	£4,625.90	£6,557.61
Printing (inc. renewals)	£0.00	£2.40
Stationery & postage (inc postage of goods/bells)	£438.38	£455.94
Travel expenses	£1,698.35	£1,971.65
PRS charge	£0.00	£474.30
EFDSS membership	£76.00	£148.00
AFO subs/conference	£90.00	£727.69
OM/Ring meetings accommodation	£38.00	
JMO meeting refreshments	£34.15	
Other conferences		£90.50
Committee meetings room hire	£320.00	£400.00
Insurance	£4,872.79	£13,166.14
IT expenses	£655.72	£142.25
H&S premium	£213.00	£210.00
Preparation of accounts	£74.90	£39.10
Tim Radford notation conversion project		£96.71
TOTAL GENERAL	£13,252.19	£24,717.29
Mastering Performance workshop		
Catering	£60.15	
Hall hire	£350.00	£50.00
Leaders' expenses	£343.32	
Ticket refunds/cancellation fees	£314.50	
TOTAL MPW	£1,067.97	£50.00
AGM and Day of Dance		
AGM committee accommodation	£733.48	£979.03
AGM badges	£55.20	£123.00
AGM 2019 deposit		£200.00
AGM printing/postage		£634.00
AGM room hire		£150.00
TOTAL AGM and DAY of DANCE	£788.68	£2,086.03
JMO		
JMO day accommodation and admin	£76.50	
TOTAL JMO	£76.50	£0.00
DONATIONS & GRANTS		
Lore and the Living Archive	£450.00	
Morris Dance database project	£80.00	
Dancing England (MF team travel expenses)	£1,308.35	
TOTAL DONATIONS & GRANTS	£1,838.35	£1,600.00
PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS		
'I didn't know women were allowed' exhibition		£115.20
Publications & PR printing		£147.89
Digital photo frame		£65.18
Display stands		£139.98
TOTAL PR & PUBS	£0.00	£468.25
BELLS		
Purchase of bells	£6,060.96	
Bell refunds		£15.65
TOTAL BELLS	£6,060.96	£15.65
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£23,084.65	£28,937.22

COMMITTEE EXPENSES 1/4/18 – 1/4/19

PERSONAL EXPENSES

	Travel	Accommodation
Secretary	£490.00	
President	£525.35	£76.50
Notation officer	£127.95	
Treasurer	£60.00	£38.00
Archive officer	£434.30	
Newsletter editor	£26.10	
Co-opted IT support	£34.65	

ORGANISATIONAL EXPENSES

	Stationery	Postage	Conf fees	IT	Mtg rooms	AGM	JMO	Accts pres
Secretary	£15.95	£38.96			£320.00	£55.20		
President			£121.82					
Treasurer		£378.37	£60.15			£348.00	£34.15	£74.90
Archive officer				£4.76				
Newsletter editor		£5.10						

CASH AND BANKING DETAILS

BANKING AND CASH 02/04/2019				
	general account	designated education account	designated research account	TOTAL
Current Account - Lloyds	£22,313.28	£373.50	£350.00	£23,036.78
Deposit Account				£28,224.00
Savings Account				£3,376.94
Total				£54,637.72

BANKING AND CASH 01/04/2018				
	general account	designate d education account	designate d research account	TOTAL
Current Account - Lloyds	£20,143.99	£363.50	£350.00	£20,857.49
Deposit Account				£31,278.50
Petty cash				£0.00
Total				£52,135.99

STOCK VALUES at 1/4/19	
	03/01/2017
Stationery	£336.70
Value of bells	£10,997.80
Value of publications	£583.60
Value of promotions	£443.14
Stock held sale or return by Morris Shop	£383.25
Total	£12,744.49

(d) Archive Officer

I represented The Morris Federation at the Open Morris AGM and the JMO National Day of Dance and co-hosted the JMO AGM.

There have been a few donations to the archive and an occasional request to borrow materials this year as well as a handful of queries. More of any and all of these activities are most welcome.

In the pre-digital age, most member sides provided a paper copy of an annual update their side history. I receive very few now, so I hope sides are keeping their own archives and histories. If not, please provide me with details of your kit, your dances, officers and other relevant information whenever things change.

New acquisitions for the archive are always welcome. If you have something that you think would be useful for current researchers and future generations, please consider donating it or providing a copy for the archive.

I am willing to continue to stand as The Morris Federation's Archive Officer – but don't let me stop anyone else from taking over if they would like to! If you'd like to know what's involved, just ask...

Mike Everett
1 July 2019

(e) Notation Officer

Once again, this has been a quiet year. I was pleased to receive copies of dance notation from Colin Andrews and Judith Proctor (many thanks!) and to be able to provide indirect assistance to a new team looking for somewhere to start.

The integration of the notation site (currently hosted via combination of Google Docs and Google Sites) with the official Federation WordPress site is going ahead slowly. I still have a number of large boxes of material to sort - much of it duplicates material already available but each needs to be checked since I am following a policy of keeping all variants (i.e. "versions") to allow future researchers to see how both the practice of dance, and the process of notating it, changes over time.

Once everything is on the new site, we will be able to count views and downloads much more accurately so as to get a better understanding of how these resources are used. It is my impression that the original purpose of the notation library - to provide easily accessible notation for anyone wishing to learn or teach the dances - has been fulfilled and, now, largely superseded. YouTube and social media have changed the way information is distributed within and between special interest groups. It may be that we should now be looking to capture current practice so as to provide a record not just for those who want to dance today, but also for those who come after us.

Colin Andrews has started this process by constructing a database of dance "traditions" and names (but not, yet, notation) to be found at <https://morrisdancedatabase.org.uk/> This is an ongoing project that we have helped fund and are watching with interest. Whilst still at an early stage, teams can already contribute to the database - contact Colin Andrews, at bonnygreencolin@gmail.com

As well as dance records, there is always interest in the choices teams make over their kit. The Federation has for a long time asked member teams to complete a "Side History Record" that includes details of costume worn, etc. This paper-based recording system is looking somewhat dated now! The committee is discussing how to provide teams with a mechanism to upload photographs or (short) video clips as a way to capture this unique aspect of our shared social history. There is no reason why we could not also augment paper dance notation with illustrative examples of dance performance.

By the way, did you know that you can upload a logo and perhaps a profile picture for your team (using our self-service membership system) which will be displayed when the team's entry is viewed from the TeamFinder (etc).

Finally, a reminder that JKL Video (of Sidmouth) have started to digitise all their old festival videos. If your team performed at the festival in the 80s and 90s you may be interested in approaching Bill Lankester (jklfilm@aol.com or <https://www.jklvideofilmservicesidmouth.com/>) to see what he has. Bill's intention is to copy everything onto DVD eventually but if your team video is not yet available, he has agreed, for a limited time, to produce a priority copy for only £7.50.

Jerry West
July 2019

(f) Newsletter Editor

I can only apologise for the lack of newsletters this year, family health issues have continued to create pressure on my spare time, which has not only affected the newsletter, but also my ability to participate in many things Morris.

However, things are improving. After requesting assistance last year, I now have one person helping to edit the articles, and two more potentially offering their help. This will ease the pressure on producing the newsletter and I am now more confident that the newsletter can return to being published four times per year in February, May, August and November.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued patience and particularly to those who submitted articles that had to be amended or which unfortunately had to be dropped due to time-dependant information.

We have also had some issues with people not receiving their newsletters, most of which appear to be related to the new membership database and the way in which the addresses are exported. Most of these bugs have now been fixed; however, some post has gone awry due to changes in address. It is worth noting that team secretaries/bag people now have the responsibility to keep address details up-to-date by logging into the members' area on our website. This function is available at any time, and I would encourage all teams to make sure that these details are checked at least once a year, and especially when team officers change. We can assist if you are experiencing issues accessing the system, just ask.

I am proud of the diverse membership that The Morris Federation encompasses and am keen to see the newsletter feature a range of articles from all sections of our Morris community, as well as challenge views that may be outdated or simply to provide an alternative point-of-view. If you feel a topic, team or tradition doesn't seem to get much coverage, then please send your submissions - illustrations, photos, poems, articles, research, etc. Guidelines for submissions are included in every issue of FedExtra.

I would like to thank all the contributors to the newsletter over the past year and I look forward to featuring more of your activities etc. in the coming year.

Sam Ross
29 June 2019