

**Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of The Rumworth Morris of Bolton  
held at The Market House, Newent, Gloucestershire on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

Meeting opened 10:10 (ish)

**Those present:** Geoff Hughes (chairman), Peter Bearon, Alison Whitaker, Ian Lomas, Jameson Wooders, Tony Dann, Andrew White, Steve Armitage, John Green, Linda Green, John Fox, Haydn Thompson, Jeff Dent, Derek Wood, Andrew Kennedy, Emma Wooders, Pete Young

**In Attendance:** David Blick

**Apologies:** John Kelly, Jim Fox, Gary Young

The minutes of the 2013 AGM had been circulated in November 2013. They were accepted as a true record.

**Matters Arising:**

- Peter went through the to-do list from the last AGM. Most items had been done
- Linda hadn't realised that she was supposed to be getting flyers printed
- No new side drummer has been located
- The posh books are still in Tony's attic
- The Hammersmith contingent are hoping to bring along a new recruit to the Burton weekend
- The kit review found that we are missing one molly
- AK now has the practice kit as well as the full dancing kit
- We have the material for making some new mollies, but need someone to do it
- Jameson hadn't circulated the pictures of Tony and himself that appeared in a book on British eccentrics

**Correspondence:**

- Jim had rung Geoff. He has been very busy with moving house. He still would like to be involved and would like to come to weekends if John is taking his caravan

**Conductor's Report:**

- The conductor read out his report which will be uploaded to the members' website
- Linda said that she had received a very nice email from 'In de Kring'
- Geoff thanked David Blick for his hospitality

**Treasurer's Report:**

- The financial statement had been circulated prior to the meeting
- We have slightly more money than we did at this stage last year
- It was agreed to keep subs as they are
- Northern practices might be moving to 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, but this will have no effect on the overall costs
- It was thought that showing last year's figures for comparison was a good idea

**Election of Officers:**

- In the absence of other volunteers, Alison will remain treasurer and Peter will remain as minutes secretary

**Review of Rumworth:**

- Haydn said that he is working away from home at the moment, and working very long hours. As a result he will be taking a break from dancing this winter. However, he is hoping to retire from work in the spring and then start practising again. As a result he is reluctant to commit to dancing out next year at the moment

- Derek is hoping to move to Sheffield. Without Derek and Haydn, London practices would be problematical. However, it may be possible for Derek to combine trips to London to go to a Hammersmith practice one day, and a Rumworth practice the day after. The southern members will sort out whether practices are viable
- Geoff said that although numbers are tight, we have had a smaller team in the past and survived
- In reality we will only manage to recruit through personal contacts

#### **Kit:**

- Given the problems in locating suitable material, we now have to accept that there will be variations in colour of the breeches
- Geoff suggested that red sashes should be pinned on either side to stop them scrunching up
- Alison asked everyone to keep an eye on the stiffening in the gold sashes. Andrew Kennedy's interfacing had come loose, but it still ironed back on OK
- We need to look at the possibility of making up some new mollies. Emma is considering the possibility

#### **Music:**

- We had a large band during this weekend, but Peter pointed out that earlier on in the year we had needed to borrow a couple of musicians for the Lymm May Queen procession. Without them it would have been very hard for the dancers to hear the music
- Peter is hoping that they might join us at the Burton weekend and will let them know the details
- Linda and John will be doing a lot of touring next year so may not be around for bookings

#### **Publicity:**

- Linda will get prices for 100, 200 & 250 A5 leaflets. These are for taking out with us so that they can be handed out to anyone who might be interested in joining us etc. The ink on the self-printed ones tends to run when hands are sweaty from dancing!
- Everyone was reminded to take leaflets to ceilidhs and anywhere else that might be appropriate. These can be downloaded and printed from the members' website

#### **Archiving:**

- Everything that Geoff has is on the website
- If anyone has photographs please upload them to the gallery
- It was suggested that we should have a get together at Tony's to get the posh books from the attic and look through them

#### **Programme for the Coming Year:**

- Invites had been received from:
  - *Sandbach Day of Dance [12<sup>th</sup> September]*
  - *Forest of Dean Morris Men [2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in June]*

Unfortunately not enough members are available on either of these dates

- A number of events were considered and it was decided to try and dance at the following:
  - *Holmfirth Festival of Folk [8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May] – Peter will contact the organisers*
  - *Abingdon Mayor Making [20<sup>th</sup> June] – Jameson is expecting that we will get an invitation to this – plus dance out somewhere on the Sunday*
  - *Ely Folk Festival [10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July] – Emma will pass on the contact details to Peter so that we can try and get an invite*
  - *Shrewsbury Folk Festival [29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August] – Jeff thinks that we will be invited. Invites don't go out until the New Year. It would be best for us to dance Sat/Sun and run a workshop on the Monday if possible*
  - *An AGM weekend somewhere [19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> September]*

- *Weekend practices will be on:*
  - *7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> November in Burton*
  - *13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> February [in Burton if available – AK to check]*
- Twice monthly practices in the north to continue as currently except that they will probably move to 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at some point.
- Monthly practices in the south will depend on their viability

## **Annual Awards:**

### **Panic Monitor**

Nominations: There were no nominations so Steve Armitage remains panic monitor for another year

### **Disorientation monitor**

Nominations: Peter nominated himself for his melodeon playing going at a different time to the rest of the team with an added two extra bars of music  
 Nominated: Peter                      Seconded: Jeff  
 Elected unanimously

### **Wally of the Year**

Nominations: Andrew Kennedy for leaving the dancing kit in his lodgings in Dunkerque  
 Nominated: Geoff                      Seconded: Jeff  
 Elected unanimously

### **Wally of the Century (a new award to be held in perpetuity)**

Nominations: Andrew Kennedy for leaving the dancing kit in Preston when we were dancing in Newent  
 Nominated: Geoff                      Seconded: Jameson  
 Elected unanimously

### **For Services Above and Beyond the Call of Duty**

- Andrew Kennedy for getting up at 3am driving to Preston to collect the kit and then return in time for the first dance spot at Newent

### **The Superior Accommodation Award**

- This was given to the entire team for using the Market House for the AGM. Peter will send a thank you letter to the Town Council

### **Any Other Business:**

- The drum case that Dave Bennett made for the side drum has eventually had to be retired. Alison has bought a new case and checked that it was OK for her to claim for this as the drum does belong to the team. It was agreed that she can.

Meeting closed at 11:50

## **Conductor's Report 2014**

Well, we're still here and it's been a successful and enjoyable year.

Unfortunately John Kelly decided that he no longer wanted to perform in public but his continued presence at practices has been of benefit. Hopefully he will change his mind about performing but in practical terms it hasn't had too much of a negative effect. Keith has been absent all year due to his new job and also his back problems have returned so we've effectively lost 2 dancers on the same side but it has enabled Pilotman to return to his roots on certain Royton based occasions.

The additional Monday practices "up north" have proved beneficial (especially for Andrew Kennedy) and the London practices also seem to have had the desired effect enabling us to use the weekend practices to polish up and improve performance rather than spend a lot of time learning dances. Thanks to Andrew K for suggesting the Burton venue which was so good we're going to do it again!

We've actually managed 4 outings this year and every one has been different and highly enjoyable. The trip to Dunkirk, although very brief, was an excellent start to the season and despite only having a bare team because of illness and other commitments (like work! What's that?) the dancing was very good (once the kit and the spare pair of clogs appeared). We managed to dance 5 spots without repeating a dance so well done to everyone, especially our newest member! Hopefully In de Kring enjoyed it as much as we did.

Moulton Village Festival was a complete contrast and the mixture of processions and dance spots allowed us to show what we can do, even on unsuitably small patches of tarmac. There was also a good mix of other teams there who were very appreciative of our dancing. It appears that we have a standing invitation to return whenever we want to.

The June weekend was potentially going to be a bit of a low point with John and Linda unavailable and not a lot of choice in terms of venues but thanks to the team's "Cheshire set" the Saturday turned out to be a very enjoyable day out, the highlight being a good, long Royton procession like the good, old days. Thanks to Peter for the addition of two temporary band members on concertina who proved an excellent addition. I don't think the procession would have been possible without them. Sunday at Middlewich Festival was also very enjoyable and the standard of our dancing was excellent – Duncan Broomhead even called us the "awesome" Rumworth Morris on his Facebook photo page and in conversation with him at the Bullring spot he was extremely complimentary, especially about Godley Hill as the higher viewpoint enabled him to appreciate the shape of the figures. Once again Anne and Robin's concertinas were a welcome addition to the band. It made a huge and noticeable difference to the sound when they arrived during our first spot and joined in half way through a dance. Hopefully we haven't seen the last of them at Rumworth events. Ann even described us as "gentlemen"!

I am writing this report before the Newent weekend so I can't comment (yet) on how it turned out but Steve has done an excellent job in organising the weekend.

Despite our reduced numbers, provided everyone's health stays good we can look forward to another season of excellent dancing in 2015.

**To do list:**

*Peter – try and get Holmfirth & Ely invites*

*Emma – give Peter the contact for Ely Festival*

*Someone (no-one identified at AGM) – organise AGM weekend*

*Andrew Kennedy – find out if Burton venue available for February practice*

*All/Emma – consider making up new mollies*

*Geoff – upload conductor's report to website*

*Jameson – scan and circulate pages from British eccentrics book*

*All – find a new side drummer!*

*Linda – get quotes for flyers to be printed*

*Tony – retrieve committee minutes and Posh Books from attic.*

*Geoff (with whoever else he asks to help) – digitise and upload Posh Books*

*All – see if there is anyone that they think would be suitable for joining the team*

*All – upload suitable photos to website*

## 2014/2015 dates

### 2014

**Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup>**

| **Practice w/e**  
**| Burton upon Trent**

### 2015

**Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday February 15<sup>th</sup>**

| **Practice w/e**  
**| venue tbc**

**Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>**

| **Holmfirth Festival of Folk**  
**| (organiser – Peter)**

**Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup>**

| **Abingdon Mayor Making**  
**| dance out (organiser - Jameson)**

**Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup>**

| **Ely Folk Festival**  
**| (organiser for w/e – Peter)**

**Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**Monday August 31<sup>st</sup>**

| **Shrewsbury Folk Festival**  
**|**  
**| (organiser for w/e – tbc)**

**Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup>**

| **AGM weekend**  
**| (venue & organiser for w/e – to be decided)**



### Practices

*Due to the uncertainty of practice dates I haven't included them in the programme above.*

*Northern Practices*

*1<sup>st</sup> Monday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month  
until changed to 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays*

*Southern Practices*

*To be arranged by southern members if practical*