

NICKI PICKERING
CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR OF OPEN MORRIS



A year ago, I asked you to re-elect me as Chair for what I planned to be a final term. Now, in view of the Secretary standing down and a potential candidate for Chair available in a year's time, I am standing again for one more year. This will allow the OM Committee to function well with only one major replacement this year and to move forward confidently following the 2018 AGM.

Many of you will know my background as a Cotswold dancer and occasional musician for the past 44 years. Starting with Red Stags all those years ago, via various other sides, I was instrumental in setting up firstly Eryri, then Cadi Ha in North West Wales and have been Cadi Ha Foreman since their inception in 2010. In true "Morris Tart" fashion I also dance regularly with Earl of Stamford in Cheshire and less frequently with Bunnies From Hell and Madcap. I have dabbled in Rapper and Border dancing and have great respect for all genres of morris.

- As OM Chair this year, I was delighted to oversee us hosting the very successful JMO National Day of Dance.
- The new competition for our younger members to win the Sue Dyke Award attracted several entries following careful planning and marketing. I look forward to seeing our winners presented with their prizes at the forthcoming AGM.
- Over the past year, I have once again helped the Committee build on the progress of the previous year. In particular, our Web Officer continues to improve and add to the website; Our Membership Secretary has revamped the renewal system and the Treasurer has redesigned the format of accounts for greater clarity and accountability.
- Networking continues amicably with the two other Morris Organisations and various JMO projects are slowly progressing.

Our membership continues to increase and, as always, I am grateful for the support I have had from longstanding and new members alike.

Once again, the Open Morris Committee has greatly benefited in the past year from having Officers with very diverse views. This can only be healthy for OM, with wide ranging discussions which broaden our horizons and plenty of "looking outside the box". I foresee that this will continue into 2019 if the Committee standing for election is successful.

Please give your support to me and to the other candidates and help us make the most of bringing exciting changes to the Morris world.