

Candidate statement for Chair of Open Morris

Jen Cox

I've been a member of Open Morris since joining my first side at the age of 12. As a child I loved the colour and fun my first team brought to the festivals my family would attend, and I couldn't wait to get involved. Since then, I've danced every style of Morris, as well as Rapper and Step Clog. I still dance with my first team Shinfield Shambles when I can, as well as Borderline, Bunnies from Hell, Theale Tattoo, Lepton, Enigma, Mabel Gubbins, Sharp & Blunt, Rockhopper, and my latest new team is Old Speckled Hen!

Outside of OM, I organise the dance events for Wallingford BunkFest, a wonderful community festival in Oxfordshire, and I am the Treasurer for Oxford, Oxford's long running and brilliant ceilidh series. During lockdown I've been involved with the wonderful Live to Your Living Room concerts, and I've also recently volunteered to join the Folk Weekend: Oxford Committee. I work in the care industry supporting young people with special needs, and I'm also on the committee of my local Talking Newspaper charity. I'm a whistle player, percussionist and singer.



I first became involved with the running of OM as the Magazine Editor in 2007 and fulfilled that role for a few years before stepping back. I took on the Editor role again in 2016, and in 2018 became Secretary as well as Central Area Rep. I was honoured to be elected as Chair in 2019, and I have thoroughly enjoyed working in the role alongside the excellent Open Morris team. I consider it both a responsibility and an honour to be able to contribute to Open Morris and the Joint Morris Organisations.

I believe passionately in the inclusivity and community of Open Morris, and I seek to foster and strengthen these values within Open Morris at a time when remaining connected has been so vital.

Jen Cox
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