

The Douglas Pickering Memorial Fund

The Fund is open to further donations. If you are interested in donating, please contact chair@open-morris.org.

Doug Pickering lived in North Wales and was involved in Morris dancing from the late 1970s. An Individual Member of OM for a dozen or more years, Doug was a member of various sides as dancer, Mari Lwyd - a Welsh hobby horse – and tambourine player. Mostly a member of Cotswold sides, he also occasionally danced Border Morris. Many of you will have seen photos of him inside Guinness, our Mari Lwyd – they made a very photogenic pair! Doug enjoyed making Morris sticks from hazel and willow trees he coppiced in our woodland. He would sit on a bench in the sunshine in the front garden, surrounded by strips of bark as he prepared the branches. They would then be left forgotten in an outbuilding, to season for months or years until our sides, or those of friends, needed replenishment. Our four sons and I are very grateful for the generous donations we received at Doug's funeral. We felt that passing on some of these donations to Open Morris, for a practical use, would be appropriate and would fit with Doug's philosophy while allowing his name to live on in the Morris world.

Nicki Pickering

What is Available?

The Fund has been set up with money donated by Doug's family. Any newly formed Open Morris member team may apply for up to £50, to be spent on equipment. We will require paperwork for any purchases made by successful applicants, in order to maintain an audit trail.

How to Apply

In order to apply for a grant from the Fund, please email chair@open-morris.org.

Your application should include:

- ~ Your contact details
- ~ Your group's name
- ~ The date your group was established, a brief history, and details of your connection to Open Morris
- ~ Information about the equipment you need, such as cost, source, and the timescale within which you hope to acquire the equipment
- ~ Details about how your group is currently funding equipment. We don't require accounts, but we would like to know that you are also working towards your own fundraising goals, and that an award would enable you to achieve those goals

The Grant Award Procedure

The Fund is administered by a Subcommittee formed of Nicki Pickering, plus the serving Chair and Treasurer of Open Morris. All appropriate applications will be considered, and grants will be awarded to successful applicants according to availability of funds and suitability of the application.

We will endeavour to inform successful or unsuccessful applicants of the decision within a month of receiving the completed application. Decisions made by the Subcommittee are final.