



Chair's Report to the 2022 AGM

After my election as Chair in November 2019, 2022 has been almost my first 'normal' year in the post, and it's been a very enjoyable one.

In company with Membership Secretary John Scholey, I attended The Morris Ring's Annual Representatives Meeting in Cannock in March, and many thanks are due to the Ring for their hospitality as ever. In April I was delighted to attend the long awaited, twice postponed Liverpool JMO Day of Dance - a great day out in a beautiful city – well worth waiting for to see many OM sides dancing well (and for the curry!). It was also a great delight to meet Secretary Hetty Bevington in person in Liverpool, having met only on zoom during the whole of her time in post!

The summer of dancing this year has felt as full as ever, although a little different in places, with minimal impacts from the lingering pandemic such as teams pulling out of events with short notice. As a festival organiser this has been a challenge to manage, but by and large, successful and safe events have been possible this year, and I very much hope you have all taken as much joy in this as I have. My teams are mostly thriving, with new members joining, fun had over the summer and dance-outs to look forward to over the winter season.

In September I attended The Morris Federation's AGM and day of dance in Darlington, which is something of a spiritual home for my rapper team, so I was very pleased to be able to return with them to another lovely location for an excellent event.

Work within the Open Morris team, and with the JMO, has been looking outward towards the wider future of Morris as you will hear elsewhere during the course of the AGM, it continues to be an exciting time to be involved, and I'm grateful to have the opportunity to do so.

My heartfelt thanks go out to my colleagues in the JMO for their continued friendship and collaboration over the past year, and to my fabulous Open Morris team for their customary genius, enthusiasm, efficiency and loveliness, making my role as Chair a pleasure.

Jen Cox
Chair
Open Morris

November 2022