



## ***Chair's Report to the 2024 AGM***

After the hustle and bustle of 2023, with the excellent JMO 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events as well as our Exeter DoD hosted so expertly by Beltane, 2024 has been altogether quieter!

The usual JMO activities have been ticking along. In March I was pleased to attend the Morris Ring's Annual Representatives Meeting in Cannock, and in September the Morris Federation's AGM and Day of Dance in Cardiff, with my rapper team Mabel Gubbins also in attendance to enjoy an excellent day of dancing. My thanks to both organisations for their hospitality at both events.

My own dancing activities this year have been somewhat limited due to knee and ankle injuries, and I'm waiting for surgery over the winter. Despite this I've been able to attend lots of events – DERT, Easter Bunnies, Oxford Folk Festival, Hastings Jack in the Green, Chippenham, Camp Clog, Brighton DoD, Pride in London, Sidmouth, Shrewsbury, Wallingford BunkFest and Swanage to name a few, and play music as well as dance a little.

Within Open Morris, we're delighted to welcome David Ball of Corby Conspiracy to the role of East Midlands Area Rep, David will make a great addition to the team.

Many thanks are of course due to all the Open Morris team for their work and camaraderie over the past year. In particular I'd like to thank John Scholey who is stepping down as Membership Secretary this year after many years. We're very sad to lose him, but hope to keep in touch through Liz who remains in post as Treasurer.

Thanks are also due to my friends and colleagues across the JMO, who continue to work together in friendship and common purpose. Between the work of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Panel, and gearing up for the JMO's input to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention, ratified by the UK Government in March 2024, we have got plenty to keep ourselves busy!

I'd like to wish everyone in Open Morris a happy and productive year.

***Jen Cox***  
Chair  
Open Morris

*October 2024*