

## BAGMAN'S REPORT 2021

As you all know not much happened in 2020 due to the Covid 19 lockdowns etc. The early part of this year was also affected. However we were able to practice from May and dance out from July when we were mainly blessed with good weather, except for the first Tuesday of July when the heat wave stopped play. There were 8 Tuesday dance outs and 1 paid event, the Eastleigh Mela. Unfortunately all festivals were cancelled and we were also unable to dance with other local sides. I had to turn down several paid events this year as they were arranged at short notice and insufficient dancers and musicians were available. We hope to be able to notify you in good time next year so that we can book more to boost our coffers.

Collections for our charity were very good considering the shorter dance season. This was due in no small part to the generosity of pub landlords who were pleased to see us back. It has become clear that many people no longer carry cash but pay by card. We will therefore be purchasing a card reader in time for the next dance out season, as we don't want to disappoint those who would give but 'only have a card'.

We had several new recruits in September 2019; most of them have fallen by the wayside for various reasons. However, Angela has stuck with us and is picking up the dances well and has become a valued member of the Side. If any of you know of anyone who would like to give Morris Dancing a try, please bring them along to our taster session on 5th October.

Congratulations to those of us who took part in the Lone Morris and St George's Day solo events.

Thanks to our musicians for providing great music both at practice and dance outs. I would also like to put on record grateful thanks to Jan who has come to practice and helped us at several dance outs this year. I hope she is able to become a regular addition to our band. Thanks also to Laura for joining us on Lymington Quay.

Thanks to my fellow committee members, Alan, Michelle, Robert and Marilyn for their support during the year. A big thank you to Marilyn, who has now hung up her bells, for her many patient years as our Foreman. A small gift was purchased in appreciation of her sterling service. I'm sure we all wish her a long and happy retirement

I would appreciate some assistance with keeping the website up to date and Corinne has come to my rescue with an offer of help.

Finally, let us look forward to a full season of dancing at pubs, festivals, with friends and paid events.