



The Prancing Pony

The Official Newsletter of White Horse Morris

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White Horse Prances Again



18 weeks ago we decided that we needed to stop meeting as a side due to the growing severity of the spread of COVID-19. During that time all the side has been training hard in their personal gyms following videos on YouTube such as <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBMk30rjy0o> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IeGrTqW5lek> As a result, when the opportunity came to dance at Bishopstrow on the 5th July, super fit athletes took the village by storm. All that practice really paid off with not a single mistake made by anyone and nobody even broke into a sweat.

It was fantastic to be able to do something after all this time and the modifications made to the dances ensured safe distancing. Thanks to the following people who made it happen:

John, Mark, Andy, Mike P, Helen, Ali, Kate, Nic; Bob; Reuben; Cliff; Maggie

We hope to do some more dancing over the summer but in the meantime here are some comments from Sunday:

- Thank you so much for organising the dancing today. It was lovely to see Morris people again and I felt refreshed and energised afterwards. Love Ali X
- Hi Mike, Great to be back out performing. More importantly to see good friends. All done in a safe environment. Thanks for organizing Andy
- Socially distanced Litchfield heys are hard work! Nic
- Hi there, What a lovely get together - so good to see you all! Wonderful to get out from shielding to such an occasion!! The chap who did the sound did such a great job too !! Was excellent!! Till next time. Maggie
- I agree with Maggie. John
- Hi Mike, Would love to be have been at Bishopstrow on Sunday. Mari
- Bishopstrow on a Sunday lunch time just after so called "super Saturday" dancing on grass in a field as part of an illegal gathering where social isolation had slipped to 1.0m+ so what more can one say. Most interesting element for me was the mid to late 19th Century * prefabricated cricket pavilion with its cast iron brackets to the front of what would originally have been a veranda – pity they have filled it in. Bob

* *Bob, you were partly right. The pavilion was offered to the men of Bishopstrow in about 1879! It was never a



shed with a veranda, just a hut. The snooker players moved an outside wall many years ago to allow the use of normal length cues.

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Also this week we have both Wippells cast away, and Bob's musings on *The Archers*, which will probably mean nothing to those who are not regular listeners.

Forever Inseparable, this week both Wippells are castaway at the same time, but on different islands.

John Wippell 's Desert Island Choices

Music tracks

Kommt in den Wald, Rundfunk Kinderchor Berlin

<https://youtu.be/f9Kn-JjfHNU>

I will, the Beatles

<https://youtu.be/IJ6bAHOvPHO>

Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Pietro Mascagni

<https://youtu.be/BIQ2D6AIys8>

One April Morning, Norma Waterson

<https://youtu.be/4ANgVGV-EWM>

Danzon No.2, Arturo Márquez ~

Orquesta Sinfónica Simón Bolívar,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXeWiixwEz4&feature=youtu.be>

Norrskén, Frigg

<https://youtu.be/1Xm1a35mJt4>

Film: *Kanal* dir. Andrzej Wajda / Poland / Drama / 1957

<https://youtu.be/Za7r82hRXRA>

Luxury item: Martin acoustic guitar

<https://youtu.be/B2GxliA4sL4>

Drink: Piña colada - well, it is a desert island

Morris Tune: *William and Nancy*, Bledington

<https://youtu.be/lmb-9VLKYuw>



Carol's Desert Island Choices

Music Tracks:

First Born Son: Kate and Anna McGarrigle

<https://youtu.be/QkoF7vVUi1w>

Myfanwy: Treorchy Male Voice Choir

<https://youtu.be/4FFaxOv3nnU>

Canadee-I-O : Nic Jones

https://youtu.be/KIFKwY_YgZ4

Everybody Knows: Leonard Cohen

<https://youtu.be/59sFfjA2Nmg>

Paco Pena: Missa Flamenco

<https://youtu.be/MdgARS9i7BE?list=PLZQs6MDMWq8oAuOGRb7mO-GUjG5AdU6vV>

Tonight we'll Fly: Divine Comedy

<https://youtu.be/ypeedgF7GyM>

Favourite Morris tune: *Old Tom of Oxford*

https://youtu.be/bzpj_lqAh1Q

Favourite Film: *Far from the Madding Crowd* 1968

<https://youtu.be/5nUcxGMWrkk>

Favourite drink: Rioja

Luxury item: Photograph of the grandchildren

(No YouTube clip available - yet)

Any more items for the next *Prancing Pony* to Mike Perry by Monday 13 June. Please.

Kate "Front Page" Brooks reports.....

Having made the front page of *Chilmark Village Voice* earlier in the summer, Kate now reports that WHM has again made the front page. You can see it by following this link:

http://www.raggedapple.com/The_Village_Voice/copy/VillageVoice_July_August2020_PRESS_2.pdf

Bob's thoughts on *The Archers* (Caution: it may not make much sense if you are not a listener)

A common theme of après Morris discussions is on the theme or content of that long-running radio broadcast soap drama *The Archers*.

As someone who has been a regular listener, even though being somewhat peripatetic in my choice of channels and outlets, the way they continued long into the lockdown period had me wondering how they were going to get back into the real world. While I accept this is really a place in the imagination of the writers and the perceiver I could not really see how they were going to easily cope with the transition from a Trumpian universe where the sun till shone and hospitals could deal with normal emergencies to a grey world of turgid Government press conferences and forecasts of doom.

Then, with the re-incarnated *Archers* after the hiatus of the *chance to listen again to the most turgid bits*, it all became clear.

The explosion in the kitchen at Grey Gables was a fake!! What really happened at the start of the outbreak was an explosion of some psycho-reactive drug, perhaps a bit like rohypnol on speed, that made everybody in the community think they were living normal lives. In fact they were all in a deep stupor so they would not mix and therefore spread the virus while at the same time they were slowly having their minds conditioned to imagine what might have been occurring according to Cummings.

That now accounts for the new rambling and incoherent episodes we are having to endure where the character speaking seems to be in a complete daze or confused state. They show all the symptoms of somebody having been brought back out of a drug or alcohol-induced delirium and are trying to pull together their thoughts as to what is real and what came from awfully bad dreams they have recently encountered. Is that really life? or is it me who is in some altered state?

Bob



White Horse and Hob Nob on 6 July 1951 in Shrewton. Can anyone spot any current members?