

Nottingham Folk Dance Group AGM on March 12 2024

Secretary's Report

2023 was a busy year for the club with four Saturday dances and a number of extra club nights.

On February 4th 2023 we held a Saturday evening dance at Woodborough with Louise Siddons calling and Ali and Mollie providing the music. It was a great evening with the band and caller very well received. 35 people attended. Angela will cover the financial situation for each dance in the Treasurer's report.

The Playford Ball was held in the fabulous Georgian ball room at Newark on April 22nd 2023 with Albireo providing the music and Victoria Yeoman calling. It was the first time we had booked Albireo and they played some lovely music and of course Victoria was as brilliant as ever. We had 69 dancers which is close to the maximum for the ball room and everyone enjoyed a wonderful evening of dancing.

This year the ball is on April 20th 2024 with Keeping Thyme playing and Matthew Vernon calling. All tickets have been sold but there is a waiting list if anyone would like to be in with a chance of going.

On May 2nd 2023 we held a special club evening at Oxton with Cis calling and Contrary Faeries playing for us. We had 38 dancers who were mainly club members. The evening was more expensive at £2.50 for members because Oxton hall is more expensive than Lambley. We have decided that in future we will stay at Lambley when we have visiting callers and bands on club nights.

Our summer party was held on July 18th 2023 and a good time was had by everyone with some great dancing and the bring and share supper was enjoyed by all.

For the first time we held club evenings in August including bring a child evening, international dancing and a ceilidh with Bernard and Jill playing and Malcolm calling. We had an Evening of Spontaneous Delight when members demonstrated their other various talents. Overall these evening were considered successful and we will look at doing something similar this year.

We held our contra dance on September 30th 2023 with Seth Tepfer calling and Vertical Expression playing for us. We had 37 dancers. We are holding another contra this year on October 5th 2024 with Diane Silver calling, band to be arranged. We are considering whether we want to continue with a specialist contra dance in 2025 and may have a mixed Saturday dance earlier in September.

Our last Saturday dance of the year on 11th November 2023 featured Brian Stanton calling and Knotted Chord providing wonderful music. 43 people came and enjoyed the dancing.

The Christmas party was held at Lambley on December 19th 2023. Kurly Kale played for us alongside a number of club member musicians and we are lucky to have so many talented friends and members of the club. The bring and share supper was excellent as always and the callers provided a lovely mixture of dances.

I have booked all the bands for 2025 except for September and have started booking callers.

We continue to use the website for all Saturday dance registrations, which is working well. Our web master Malcolm continues to maintain and enhance the website. As we have said before if you are not online or you don't want to pay for tickets online, registration and payment can still be done on club nights when you pay your subs.

The club continues to thrive and grow, which allows us to enjoy some fabulous dances and I would like to thank all the people who make them the success they are.