



THE TOWN CRIER

VILLAGE GREEN ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCERS

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING IS FRIENDSHIP SET TO MUSIC



May 2013

Visit our website at <http://www.villagegreenenglishcountrydancing.org>

Hello, Everyone:

At the AGM I thanked executive members, teachers, and everyone who is a member of Village Green, naming, especially, the executive members who are leaving the Board. I neglected to thank Iris Moehring, publicly: Iris, dedicated and wonderful dancer, is also a volunteer extraordinaire. If there is ever anything that needs doing, Iris is there—washing dishes, stacking chairs, decorating a hall and removing those decorations at the end of the evening. Thank you, Iris, for all.



Highlights of the meeting:

- A new tradition, two years old: dancing at the AGM!
- A class fee increase in the Fall, from \$42 per term to \$50 per term. We hope to maintain this fee for more than one year
- 2014 Weekend workshop—Robin Lynch will be teaching dances of the British Isles: English, Scottish, Welsh, and Shetland dances
- Check your email: Graham and Christine Smith from Hawk Green will be in Winnipeg this summer, August 12th to 19th. A weekday dance is planned as well as a Saturday or Sunday potluck and dance at Art Quanbury and Mary Louise Chown's farm .

Have a wonderful summer, everyone! Welcome to Sandy McKenzie who will be the president of Village Green this year! I promised Linda I would be brief, so I have to end this!

Cheers,

Katherine Himelblau

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM



Message From the New President

Welcome to the enthusiastic 2013-2014 Village Green Executive, who were elected at the May 8th AGM. Our team includes: **Secretary:** Marilyn Armstrong, **Treasurer:** Molly Pind **Publicity / Town Crier:** Dave and Doreen Froese, **Social Convenor/s:** Sandra Johnston with assistance from Arlene Cutts, **Member at Large:** Karen Burton and **President:** Sandy McKenzie. The **Vice Pres.** position remains open, so if you feel so inclined we would be more than glad to have you be part of the group! And a big welcome to Liz Goossen as the **Teachers Rep.** Again a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to those who served on last year's Executive- it was a pleasure working with all of you! Kudos especially to Katherine Himelblau for her dedicated and thoughtful leadership throughout the year. Watch for emails/phone calls reminding you of the summer events, as the details of the Smiths' visit are finalized and Demonstrations confirmed. Have a safe and enjoyable summer everyone!

Sandy McKenzie

Village Green President 2013-2014

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

FIRST CLASS NEW SEASON:
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

CHRISTMAS DANCE:
DECEMBER 7, 2013



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DANCEOPHILE'S CORNER

Thanks for the Memories...

The outgoing Town Crier Co-editors always imagined the Danceophile's Corner as a way to regenerate and reinforce good dance practice for Village Green dancers. Most postings in this corner were derived from the English Country Dance Manual published by Village Green in 2000.

We sincerely hope readers have found this information a helpful way to enrich their dance experience.

Anne Morton and Linda Clark
Town Crier Co-Editors 2012-2013

2013-14 Village Green Executive

President	Sandy McKenzie
Vice President	
Secretary	Marilyn Armstrong
Publicist and	Dave Froese
Town Crier Editors	Doreen Froese
Treasurer	Molly Pind
Social Conveners:	Sandra Johnston
	Arlene Cutts
	Karen Burton
Communication/Member @	
Large	
Past President	Katherine Himelblau
Teachers' Rep	Liz Goossen
(non voting)	

2013-2014 Season

Sept. 11, 2013	First class
Oct. 26	Saturday Dance evening
Nov. 13	Tea Night
Last class	
Dec. 7	Christmas Dance
Jan. 8, 2014	First class
Feb. 19	Tea Night
Mar. 8	John Trevenen Dance
April TBC	Weekend Workshop
April 30	Last class
May 7	Annual General Meeting

Watch future Town Crier for any changes.



Picture a Dancers of all ages (and heights) dance around the Maypole



Picture b The Spider Web dance



Picture c Plaiting the Maypole



Picture d The Village Green Morris Men entertained us- and broke a few sticks!



Picture e Hell's Belles performed a garland dance



Photos Credit for Ado About Something Ball and May Day Celebration *Iris Moehring.*

Ado About Something Ball



by Anne Morton

The date of the ball, April 20th, was the inspiration for its theme, as it is so close to April 23rd, the date of Shakespeare's birth and death. The Ball Committee – Sandra Johnston, Arlene Cutts, Jackie Soble and myself – began meeting in the spring of last year and really enjoyed immersing ourselves in Shakespeare's world. An unhandy person myself, I was amazed at what the others first dreamt up and then so deftly created. Dollar stores and basements were searched for just the right item – once three of us went to a vast pet store to buy only one small ship, intended for an aquarium; we needed it for *The Tempest* centrepiece. At another time we assembled tissue-paper Tudor roses, used to cover the tape which fastened the heraldic banners to the walls. (You can spot the roses in the pictures.)

Much as we enjoyed ourselves, the real purpose of our activity was for others to have a good time too. And it seems that they did. Almost 60 people turned up, magnificently dressed, for the evening of dining and dancing. We were entertained by the music of The Whim and the Fayre Companie, speeches by Henry V and Prospero, the dancing of the Village Green Morris Men, not to mention their hilarious 'several plays for the price of one' version of Shakespeare. Who knew tragedies could be so funny? The Fine Companions played for the dancing; Jeannie Gilbert, Liz Goossen and Jackie Soble called the dances; and Sandra Johnston M.C'd and kept things moving smoothly along (just as she had as chair of the committee). As we enjoyed our "revels, dances, masks, and merry hours," *we could almost forget that outside was the modern world with its railway tracks, IKEA and Golf Dome. But the evening had to end, and we said farewell after savouring the Banbury cakes, baked by Katherine Himelblau from an 16th-century recipe. (**Love's Labours Lost*, IV, 3)

Special thanks to Chef Craig Guenther of Urban Prairie Cuisine and his staff, for cooking and serving the delicious dinner, to the staff of the Khartum Shrine Centre for their work before and during the event, and to Bill Johnston and Tom Cutts for all their help.

Ball Photo Gallery



More About the VG May Day Celebration



Village Green made the most of May Day falling on a Wednesday this year by holding an open house. VGers and their guests, including the homeschooling families who have been introduced to ECD by Sue Stanton and Liz Goossen, came to 'keep up the day'. We danced, we watched dancing, and we ate. Thanks to the Fine Companions for the music and to Jeannie and Liz for calling. Liz also taught the Maypole dances.

Entertainment at the Ball

Village Green Morris Men at the end of their Shakespeare Mummings Play. Shakespeare (Ian Fillingham) lies dead but Polonius (Dan Stone) is about to resuscitate him. Others: Hamlet (Al Thomson), King Lear (Mike Lynch), Juliet (Jim Palmquist), Macbeth (Harry Skene), Lady Macbeth (Art Quanbury), and Mark Antony (Alan Reglar).



"Much Ado About Something Else"



Left: Prospero (Anne Morton) giving his "Our revels now are ended" speech from *The Tempest*, IV, scene 1.



Right: King Henry V (Bob Harris) inspiring the English troops before the battle of Agincourt – "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers" – from *Henry V*, IV, scene 3. Bob showed his versatility by also appearing as the Wall from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (see photo on page 3).



Above: Fayre Companie, l. to r. – Shannon Crooks, Monica Hultin, Margaret McKenty, with Kevin Scott. Shakespeare has the phrase "three-man-song-men all." (*The Winter's Tale*, Act IV, scene 3.) Fayre Companie are 'three-woman-song-men all', for one song with a man to sing the fourth part.