

## **Account of the 2024 IPATF in Gloucester 20 – 22 September**

This year we welcomed back Juanma Sanchez as our international guest. He was last with us 22 years ago and he was as delighted to be back as we were to welcome him.

We were based in the lovely Tudor building of the Folk for the weekend.

It began as usual on the Friday afternoon with the Symposium, this year the theme being “Anniversaries and Recollections” as 2024 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cecil Sharp’s death and of the Travelling Morrice. There were six talks: firstly Juanma on “Music of Shepherds in Extremadura”; then Mary-Jo Searle on “Fossil tabor rhythms” discussing whether Fieldtown fiddlers had preserved taboring rhythms by incorporating them into the melody. Andy Richards talked about the Bucknell Morris Double Caper and the Travelling Morrice. Bill Tuck’s talk was “Parallel Lives: Cecil Sharp, Arnold Dolmetsch and their respective roles in the first pipe and tabor revival.” Gillian Guest gave a brief update on East Midlands pipe and tabor iconography, showing that the South Lincolnshire area is the hotspot for this; and the afternoon finished with Mark Perkins on “The Lyrical Pipe and Tabor emerges.” Thanks to Bill, our Symposium organiser for once again putting together a varied and interesting programme.

The Symposium was followed by our AGM and general meeting, and once this formal part of the day was over, we enjoyed a buffet meal and a social evening with ‘play or pass’.

On Saturday we began with a rehearsal of massed taboring tunes, before being joined by Taylor’s Morris to work on playing for Longborough Morris Hey Diddle Dis. The afternoon saw playing and dancing around the city, and a beginners’ workshop back at the Folk. All the organised activity was supplemented as usual with members discussing instruments, techniques, music etc.

The evening concert was the usual entertaining mix of solos, massed playing and playing for the dancers, with the added bonus of a consort as Tim Cranmore (Malvern Minstrelsy) had kindly agreed to lend his 2 bass tabor pipes again – thank you Tim!

On Sunday morning there were two workshops. Firstly, Bill and Barbara with the 15<sup>th</sup> century dance and music for El Gioioso – Rosti Boly and Petit Riens. Then with Juanma we worked on a Passacalles from his parents’ village. This was all quite demanding physically for the dancing and mentally for playing at the same time!

Most participants then repaired to The Fountain for Sunday lunch (and at times a bit of playing) before leaving for home. So concluded our IPATF for 2024. It was wonderful to be able to get together again, meet old friends and new, to share experiences and music.