

Squires ^{Gilders} ~~At~~ Report 2024. (1)

I would like to thank all the Gilders for their support over the last year. We have had some very hard times but came out of it stronger as a team in the end.

Particular thanks to Linda Beryl and Fiona for all the difficult work they put in in January and the continuing support they and the longstanding gilders have given me over the last year. Thanks too, to the newer Gilders who have borne with us, continued to learn + grow as dancers, and made me laugh.

Each and every one of you has a special place in my heart, and in the team.

You'll ~~be~~ ^{should be} very grateful that I won't go through everyone, but I just wanted to mention Zoe who has been our rising star for the past couple of years and we're hoping to keep her on the books until she returns to us in the future.

Also Jenny who despite all the battering

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her poor body has had over this last year has continued to come to practice and is such a positive presence in the team

I won't go through the whole dance out as I'm sure other people will have covered that. We've had some great days out this year, it's just a shame that people have been reluctant to commit themselves, and we have not been able to get to some of the more interesting events. Since lockdown we've managed to get 6 new gilders dancing out with another waiting in the wings.

More thanks to the band and the troupe without whom we would be presenting a much less impressive performance.

Huge thanks to Linda for her huge contribution to the team in her role as foreman for over 10 years. She has seen the team through some very difficult times over the years but has always remained a very ~~positive~~ ^{positive}

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presence at practice, and has always worked so hard to teach the dances to a succession of new gilders, maintain standards of dancing, and keep some of the bigger show dances in the repertoire.

I need to thank you for all the support you have given me since I've been squire, I'm not sure I could have done it without you. My life as squire is going to be very different now without your huge experience to guide me.

I know you have a number of projects within the team, that you've never had the time to work on. Hopefully you'll be able to progress some of these, and I'm looking forward to seeing you back in the ranks of the ~~next~~ dancers having some fun with the rest of us.