

WMFF Newsletter March 2008

• PICTURES

Send in your pictures to contribute to the BBC Midlands Today "West Midlands in Pictures" Project <http://www.inthebigpicture.co.uk/>
- aiming for 100,000 images

plus

WMFF ask again for your current photos and video clips for the WMFF website to promote your activities and represent folk traditions taking place in our region.



WMFF OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2008

Theme: Encouraging young people to engage / take part in folk art / traditional activities in the WMFF region.

Reminder: Nomination deadline Friday April 12th info@wmff.org.uk , www.wmff.org.uk or Jan newsletter for full details

YOUNG STORYTELLER 2008

This was again a very successful event and I strongly urge our member festivals to encourage and book these very talented young people for your storytelling events.

The Traditional Arts Team and Young Tongues carried out 9 school storytelling projects which were hugely successful and the best tellers of tales competed at the Young Storyteller in an Under 18 Solo and Group competition, 2 awards sponsored by WMFF.

Highfields School, Matlock, Derbyshire
Selly Park Technology College, Birmingham
Bordesley Green School for Girls, Birmingham
St John Wall RC School, Birmingham
Burton Borough School, Newport, Telford & Wrekin
Ludlow CE School, Ludlow, Shropshire
William Brookes School, Much Wenlock, Shropshire
Thomas Adams School, Wem, Shropshire
Abbot Beyne School, Burton-on-Trent

The competition standard was so high there were joint winners Hajar Akhssassi - Bordesley Green School and Lois Abena Duncan - Selly Park Technology College of the Under 18 solo so Traditional Arts sponsored a 2nd prize. The Group prize was won by Worn Shoe Leather a trio from Burton Borough. The Under 25 Storyteller of the Year was Tom Bland, one of a number of entrants from Emerson College which evidently runs a superb storytelling course.

Other sponsors of this or the Under 25 competition were the SfS, Festival at the Edge, Whitby Festival, Ogress and other storytelling clubs.

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The objects of the Federation shall be to promote and advance education in the knowledge and practice of British Folk Songs, Dance, Music and other allied traditional activities and to encourage research into their origins, development and practice and to disseminate any useful results.

Source: West Midlands Folk Federation Constitution.

Join WMFF

Any club or individual who shares the aims of the Federation can join West Midlands Folk Federation. Membership costs £10 per year and funds are used to share information and expertise, promote your activities, answer enquiries from “the public” and forward booking enquiries to members. If you would like to discuss what WMFF offers contact secretary@wmff.org.uk , info@wmff.org.uk or another of the Executive Officers / see www.wmff.org.uk

Advertise here - send secretary@wmff.org.uk your news or webmaster@wmff.org.uk for the website and **please, please** remember to update us when you change your contact, web or email address!

Priority on this newsletter is given to member news and events. News on the website is updated between newsletter issues. The next newsletter is due in September.

2008 members subs - were due on Jan 1st.
Non payers will not be included in the imminent circulation of a members list.

Folk Monthly - which covers the Midlands area will now include short articles as well as adverts. It has been taken over by the Traditional Arts Team who are looking for articles from members and also distributors (on commission terms).

Please contact the editor : pam@tradartsteam.co.uk with articles or distribution help.

Banbury Fundraiser

4 - 6 April

Song and ale weekend

Drayton Golf Centre

see

www.banburyfolkfestival.co.uk/

for full details

Newsletter edited by A Collicutt