

John Gasson Jig Competition 2008

Please reply to: Tracey Rose, Oastview, 64 London Road, Faversham, Kent. Telephone 01795 530335. Email: traceyrose7@btinternet.com.

This competition is organised in memory of John Gasson, who was tragically killed on his way to Sidmouth Festival in 1987. John was himself a fine jig dancer. Whether dancing or playing, his personal standards were high, and raising the general standard of display dancing was something very dear to him. Hopefully this competition may in some way help further that aim. This competition is sponsored by Pete Collinson, Ian Campbell, Trefor and Rhian Owen, Janet Dowling, Chris and Tracey Rose.

Rules of the Competition

1. The competition is for English jig dancing.
2. The competition is not open to step dancers, or to Irish jig dancers.
3. Members of teams booked at the Festival may enter.
4. Dancers must be accompanied by live music.
5. The competition will be held on Sunday 3 August 2008, in the Blackmore Gardens Dance Marquee at 2.00pm.
6. Closing date for entries is Sunday 3 August 2008 at 10 a.m. Telephone: 07885 832567 to find out where to hand in forms. Try and send them to me before hand so that we know how many entrants we have. Or hand them into Artists Information.
7. Entrants will be judged according to the following criteria:
 - Dance technique Artistic appreciation
 - Presentation Music
8. The judges' decision is final.
9. The winners of the John Gasson Memorial Trophy may not enter the competition the following year but are required to start that competition with the winning jig of the previous year.
10. The solo jig section is for a maximum of two people per jig. The double jig section is for a maximum of two dancers and one musician per jig.

The judges will have a wide range of expertise covering the criteria to be assessed.

The winner will be presented with the "John Gasson Memorial Trophy" which may be held until the following year, when it must be returned to Tracey Rose by Saturday 1 August 2009.

Double Jigs Section. This is sponsored by Ian Campbell. There are two additional prizes. One (sponsored by Pete Collinson) is for the Best New Entrant. The dancer must not have entered the competition before but the musician may have. The other is The Audience Appeal Prize. This prize is intended to recognise that the "best" jig by technical standard is not necessarily the one with most audience appeal. The judging criteria is deliberately flexible: it may be that the winning jig is chosen for its impressiveness or for some particular feature or it may be a very simple dance, but performed with a warmth of spirit or good humour, or with a special audience rapport. The performance must be technically competent, but not necessarily excellent. The prize will not be given for a "spoof" dance, created primarily for an audience of fellow dancers, though it might well be given for a novelty jig in the spirit and tradition of, say, the Bampton Fool's Jig.

There is an additional category (sponsored by Janet Dowling) for Best Dancer Aged Over 40 Years of Age. The dancer can either be entering the double or solo jig sections and will be entered for all the above categories as appropriate and the additional category.

Although this is a competition, it is hoped that everyone will benefit from the resulting improvement in the general standard of dancing, which is the aim of the competition.

There is a limit on the number of entries, so please do not delay your entry. Please email Tracey Rose on traceyrose7@btinternet.com as soon as possible before Thursday 3rd July 2008 to let me know you will be entering. Any queries telephone 01795 530335/07885832567. Please report to Blackmore Gardens Dance Marquee at 1.30 pm for running order.

John Gasson Solo Jig Competition 2008 - Entry Form

Please accept my entry for the above competition, which will be held on Sunday 3 August 2008 at 2pm in the Blackmore Gardens Dance Marquee. I have read the Rules of the Competition and agree to abide by them. I understand the Judges' decision is final.

Name of Dancer(s)

Home Address

Mobile Telephone Email

Name of Musician

Type of jig (e.g. Cotswold, Molly etc.) Name of Jig

Are you a new entrant? YES / NO (Please delete as applicable) Are you over 40? YES/NO

Is the jig traditionally danced to the tune you have chosen?

Which category are you entering? SOLO / DOUBLE (Please delete as applicable) Name of Team

Signature Date