

# NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE & MEMBERS

**ISSUE NO. 16**

**JULY 2007**

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**Club Caller: Trevor Day**

## **CONGRATULATIONS!** Jackie Beavon

Congratulations to our beginners whose completion of the Basic programme we celebrated on July 9th. Although they must have worked hard to achieve this standard, it couldn't have been too laborious judging from the laughter that fills the church hall every Monday. We hope that some of them—the more the merrier—will now join us on Fridays for some extra practice and to have a laugh at the rest of us as we struggle to learn new moves. And there is ALWAYS something new to learn with square dancing because just when you think you know it all, the callers come up with another variation. But relax and enjoy—it's supposed to be fun.

Congratulations also to John Miller for completing the callers course at GSI. We know it was very hard work and I'm sure he's glad that Trevor gave him some tuition before he went so that it wasn't too great a shock. We look forward to having him call for us on club nights.

## **ANNUAL CHARITY HOE DOWN, 3.03.07** Grace Baker

This year's Club Charity Hoe Down took place at the Memorial Hall Slyne with Hest. It had been organised by Derrick and Sue. Ticket sales must have gone well as the hall was packed. The dancing started at 8.00 pm with Trevor calling to his usual high standard and Chris demonstrating some of the moves with Trevor and some unsuspecting volunteers.

The dancing was a mix of square dancing, country dancing and line dancing, so there was something for everyone, and with the alcohol flowing everyone seemed to be having a good time dancing. A hot pot supper was provided to soak up some of the alcohol, and a raffle was drawn during the interval. Thank you to everyone who donated a prize. We also had a fund-raising game of Irish Bingo,

With everyone full up with hot pot it was time to dance it off again. The second half of the evening continued with the dance floor as full as it was in the first. The atmosphere in the hall was electric with fun from start to finish. It seemed like everybody had a great time.

Big thanks to Derrick and Sue for organising a wonderful event and to Trevor and Chris for their time and effort to make it a fantastic night.

**Finally, the main reason for the dance was to raise money for our chosen charity: the Northern Air Ambulance. The amount raised was £514, a major success.**



**AT LAST!**  
A photo of the man himself.



## **SPRING DANCE, 21.04.07** David Hollely

Fiona and I really must get out more! Our experience of dancing to different callers has been limited to guest callers at Club dances. We dance in our 'comfort zone' as, over time, we learn the phrases and sequences the callers favour. So, with some trepidation, we set off with Derrick and Sue to the dance at Halton. Who's John Boxall? We'd soon find out.

Continued.....

John Boxall Spring Dance continued:

I am not a big fan of Halton as a venue. I find it big, too brightly lit with poor acoustics that make it hard to get an atmosphere going. However, with over fifty dancers—roughly split half and half Club dancers and visitors—we gave it a good go.

As Fiona wasn't dancing, Sheila and Sue took the floor with me and steered me round as I misheard or simply missed a number of John's calls. It was hard at first to tune in to the gentle lilt of John's calling, but as the evening wore on, John's voice and my feet got more in tune.

I have to say that my personal low point was when I happily set off to weave the ring only to notice everyone else did a do-sa-do. It was good to see so many friends from other clubs, renewing acquaintances and tucking in to one of the best pot lucks I can recall.

Did we enjoy ourselves? Yes we did—even managing a prize in the raffle. Good dancing, good company, good food.

We really should get out more.

**Footnote:** We realise a lot of hard work and forethought goes into organising and running these events. Without the effort and commitment of the Committee, Trevor and Chris, we wouldn't be members of such a popular and dynamic club. Sincere thanks.



Some of our visitors

Fun and Friendship set to Music

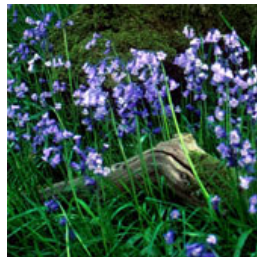
## GEORGE'S RAMBLES OR SHOULD WE SAY FABLES!

Ian & Grace Baker

**The Itinerary:** Distance about 5 miles. (The longest 5 miles we've known). Meet Sunday 13:00h car park at The Railway Bridge at Halton. Walk up the Lune to Loyne Bridge at Hornby. Meal afterwards at The George, Wray.

### The Outing.

The sun was out and there was a warm breeze that was perfect for the interesting walk ahead. We waited for a good while for a number of people who had not been able to let us know that they were unable to come, and this meant that we set off a little later than expected.



George being the foreman of the party took us at a fair pace to the first stopping point, the Crook of Lune, where we met the rest of the group. We then started the main part of the afternoon's extended stroll; the group stretched itself out over the fields depending on the level of fitness or the romance that was going on at the back: Geraldine and Hans, Ruth and Trevor. The woods were a challenge to all with their tight paths and many stiles, getting a leg over had a different perspective completely. The smell of Garlic and the Bluebells was wonderful and the sight of so many Bluebells was just beautiful. Along the way George not only kept track on his many "followers" he also told tales about the area we were in, the houses and the "stones"- even the cows took an interest.

Between the huffs and puffs there were some enjoyable conversations, not all about square dancing. The walk ceased at the Loyne Bridge where there was yet another stile or challenge as in some cases. The group as organised by George had taken cars to the bridge and then returned to the starting point, (thanks to all that did this) We were then taken to The George Inn. On the way there we were able to look at some of the Scarecrows that the people of Wray put together annually. There were some very apt ones that were consistent with the news at that time. We met more friends at the George, and together we enjoyed a relaxing meal.

### **Did you know that?**

Bluebell flowers bloom between April and June.

Britain's Bluebells represent almost a third of the world's Hyacinthodes non-scripa, the native British Bluebell.

It is thought they were named by the romantic poets of the 19th century, who felt they symbolised solitude and regret.

### **The Megaliths**

There is a general consensus that many were built in the Neolithic and early Bronze Ages. The general speculation as to their purposes is that megaliths were used for religious activities, burial sites, and astronomical observatories of the sun and other celestial bodies. Some megaliths are said to possess supernatural or electromagnetic forces.

### George's Rambles continued...

Megaliths are classed in two general categories: "dolmens" and "menhirs." Dolmens, also called "chamber tombs," usually contain one or more chambers or rooms in which the dead were buried. Some dolmens also contain long, stone chambers or halls, which connect different rooms. These long chambers are also referred to as "Long tombs" and "passage-graves." Long tombs are prevalent in Wales, Scotland, and England; while passage-graves are mostly found in Ireland and western parts of Britain. Tombs, which are covered with earth to form mounds, are called "tumuli" (the plural for "tumulus").

There is evidence that dolmens were used for other purposes besides burying the dead because remains of bodies have not been found in all of them. Therefore, some dolmens may have served only as temples for the dead. If some dolmens served as temples then most likely religious activities and gatherings occurred within them too.

The group wish to thank George Scurrah for all the time and effort he puts into planning afternoons such as these.



### LOOKING AHEAD—OUR CHARITY FOR 2007/2008

Joan Black

Last year at the AGM there were many proposals for Charity of the Year. With limited time for members to make a case for their particular recommendation, the final result was a largely split vote with the winning charity being voted in by a narrow margin and few votes. It is doubtful that our next AGM will have sufficient time on the Agenda for presentations, so I would like to suggest that we use the next Newsletter for this. So, if you intend to nominate a charity for us to support in 2007/8 and if you want club members to know why you think it a suitable cause, then make your presentation in writing. Let me have a few words (no more than 150) for the next newsletter which should be out in September. **Actual nominations for Charity of the Year have to be handed to Birgit, together with a leaflet outlining the work of the charity, 4 weeks before the AGM.**

### LYTHAM DANCE WEEK, 11th—17th August 2007

Jackie Beavon

A piece of good news. The Lytham Dance Week is to go ahead after fears that it would have to be cancelled. Thank you to all those members who gave their support—I hope you enjoy some great dancing.



### BAASDC National Square and Round Dance Festival 2007 Lytham High School, Albany Road, Lytham St Annes

Callers: Paul Bristow, James Wyatt  
Evening Dances and Day Workshops  
Square Dance Shop

We need to support this event or it could be lost to us. People from all over the UK attend and have the added expense of travel and accommodation. We are close enough not to incur these expenses, whilst dancing to the country's top callers and benefiting from the many workshops. There's also a Dance shop selling anything you might need: skirts, underskirts, shirts, shoes, bolos.

*Full information on the week will be available shortly.*



### OCEAN WAVERS' DIARY

**Friday 24th & 31st August:** Trevor away—Norman Mitchell

**Monday 27th August:** No dancing.

**Friday 21st September:** 2nd Caller John Kozyra.

**Saturday 13th October:** 12th Birthday Dance. James Wyatt, Halton. Workshop 3-5pm, Dance 7.30pm

**Friday 19th October:** Club AGM, 7.15pm

**Friday 26th October:** 2nd Caller Cliff Anderton.

**Saturday 17th November:** Club Dance. Caller Paul Preston. Venue Halton.

### EVENTS TO VISIT

(ALSO See Club NoticeBoard or *Let's Square Dance*)

**Saturday—Friday, 11th-17th August:** Lytham Dance Festival (see above).

**29th September:** Allemanders Dance, Warrington.  
**Derek Bere (*Dirk the Shirt*).** A1/2 workshop 3.00pm,  
Mainstream & Plus 7.30pm. Pot Luck, Bar, Raffle.  
Phone Jane for more info: 0151 531 0555

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER SHOULD BE OUT IN SEPTEMBER. I ALREADY HAVE AN ARTICLE AND PHOTOS FROM THE BBQ. DO MAKE USE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE YOUR RECOMMENDATION FOR CLUB CHARITY, AND IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WRITE ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE OF LYTHAM OR ANY OTHER DANCE EVENT YOU VISIT THIS SUMMER, I, FOR ONE, WITH WINGS CLIPPED, WOULD ENJOY READING ABOUT IT.