

# Lancashire UNISON Retired Members Section

David Sergeant - Chairman  
email:- [davesergeant@yahoo.com](mailto:davesergeant@yahoo.com)

Maureen Vass - Secretary  
email:- [maureen.vass@btinternet.com](mailto:maureen.vass@btinternet.com)

## Newsletter

EDITION NO. 107 - March 2009

Edited & Produced by:

Mrs Christine Shaw  
Buzon 139,  
Camino Tossal 5,  
03729, Lliber,  
Alicante, Spain.  
email:- [casashaw@gmail.com](mailto:casashaw@gmail.com)



On the web at :- <http://www.unisonlancs.org.uk/retired.asp>

### Diary Dates 2009

#### County Hall

##### Talks - 2pm

**Friday 27th March**

**Mr G Stirrup** on "Women in the Mines"

**Friday 20th March**

**Annual Social Evening**

At Garstang Golf Club - see page 5

**Friday 24th April**

**Retired Members AGM**

Followed by a talk in the afternoon on the  
"History of the Lancaster Canal"

#### Northern Sub-Group

##### Blackpool Trip

**Tuesday 12th May**

to *Glasform, Singleton*, see

**John Ditchfield - Master Glassblower**

##### Walks 2009

**Wednesday 18th March**

A walk along the River Ribble to  
Brungerley Bridge & onward

**Wednesday 22nd April**

A moorland walk including  
**Darwen Tower.**

#### Danger Women at Work

The *County Hall* talk on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March is by **Graham Stirrup** who will go through the history of working women from before 1800, when women worked the mines, to 1950/60. All the legislation will be covered and the talk is well illustrated. Graham says the illustrations bring out oohs and ahs from women present but men just watch!



The talk by **Joyce May** on 27 February was attended by over 30 members who were well entertained with dialect poems that were as good as any from **Pam Ayres**. The punch lines at the end always produced laughter.

#### Bus Passes

A couple of months ago I told you we were writing to **MPs** asking for extensions of the free bus pass provision, notably to get to hospitals and doctors outside the defined free ride time. We have received much information from many **MPs** and two government **Ministers**. It would appear that the system is still in need of further work due to the imbalance of costs roughly between **East and West Lancashire Districts**. Under the circumstances further extensions are not immediately possible.



However, the point has been made that under certain circumstances it is possible to claim travel costs at

the hospital. The hospital cashiers office will make payments if you have a **Jobcentre Plus** office letter less than three months old. A tax credit exemption certificate or an **NHS Low Income Scheme** certificate will also suffice. Further information is available through **NHS Direct on 0845 46 47**.

**Dave Sergeant**

Chairman

### **News from the Executive Committee**

At our meeting this month we finalised the details for our **Annual Reunion and Dinner** which takes place on 20 March at **Garstang Golf Club**.

We also discussed arrangements for our **AGM** on 24 April. If anyone wishes to join the **Committee** there is still time to send in a nomination form before 31 March. An agenda for the meeting will be included with next months newsletter. The **Annual Report** and **The Statement of Account** and **Auditors Report** will be available at the meeting, however, if anyone wishes to receive one before the meeting please contact me.

During the discussion at the meeting it was noted that we often receive our newsletter back when a member has moved from the address we hold without letting us know of the change. If you are moving house or going into a residential home, please let us know so that we can amend our records.

I recently received, by e-mail, information about The **ICE (In Case of Emergency) Campaign**. The campaign is about a method of providing a method of contact during emergency situations. All you need to do is store the number of a contact person, under **ICE** with a telephone number, in your mobile phone so that someone, such as a paramedic or the hospital or police, can make contact in an emergency. If you want to list more than one name then this can be done by entering **ICE1, ICE2, ICE3** etc.



**Maureen Vass**

Secretary

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

I don't know whether it has anything to do with the economic situation but there have been an increasing number of cases of bogus callers targeting and gaining access to elderly residents' homes. For example, people pretending to be **Water Authority** officials claim to be investigating water leaks are allowed into the house and then steal property. It is important to ask such callers to show proof of identification **but also** make sure you keep the telephone number of the **Utility Companies** by the telephone and if someone does come to the door stating that there is a problem with gas, water etc ensure that the caller stays on the doorstep until a quick telephone call has been made to the relevant company. **A genuine caller will not mind waiting while you check out they are who they say they are!**

A golden rule is: **Never** do business on the doorstep or with **"cold callers"**

**Internet scams** are very much on the increase. Never respond to offers promising vast lottery wins or **'get rich quick'** opportunities and never disclose personal details such as bank account details, credit card details or passwords in response to emails even when the request **appears** to come from an official source.



For free, independent, easy to follow advice about online safety, visit <http://www.getsafeonline.org>. For more information on scams in general and what to watch out for visit further [http://www.consumerdirect.gov.uk/watch\\_out/scams/](http://www.consumerdirect.gov.uk/watch_out/scams/)

### **Postal Costs**

Just a quick reminder that postage costs will increase next month by 3 pence for standard letters to 39p for first class and 30p for second class – so stock up before then.

### **Health Suggestion**

Why not take another step towards a healthy lifestyle and come along to some of our walks which are detailed in these newsletters. We are a very friendly group and are always happy to welcome new members and their better halves!

**Roger Rymer**

Vice Chairman

## Blackpool Trip Tuesday 12 May

Using our own transport *Ron and Gill Clement* are organising a trip to *Glasform Singleton* near *Blackpool*. *John Ditchfield* an international famous glassmaker, will tell us about his work and we will have an opportunity to watch his glassblowers using tools and techniques developed over 100's of years. There is also a showroom to browse through.



The visit will be followed by a lunch at the *Millers Arms*, only a mile away in *Singleton Village*.

The cost including a choice of menu is £14.99, further details with an application form are enclosed (to be returned to Ron Clement at the address shown) there is only 25 places available so please book early.

## Speakers 2009/2010

*Ileane* is finding it more difficult to find speakers for our monthly *Talks* at the *Headway Hotel*, particularly those outside the *Northern sub group* area and who are willing to travel to *Morecambe*, if you know of any please ring *Ileane* on 01524 852835.

## Summer Lunch Elms Hotel

An advance date for your diary – the *Annual Summer Lunch* will be held at the *Elms Hotel Morecambe* on Tuesday 7 July.

Ray Rudge"  
Treasurer

**Retired Members  
Walking Group**

**Group Correspondent: Don Windle**, 25 The Howgills, Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire PR2 9LX.  
Telephone: (01772) 713820

## Walk Dates for 2009

18th March, 22nd April, 20th May,  
17th June, 15th July (Roys long walk),  
22nd July, 19th August, 16th September,  
14th October, 4th November (Programme meeting)  
The 13th January 2010 walk to be arranged.

## Grid References give

## Location of Meeting Points

If you are not familiar with grid references, the

meeting points can be located from most regular 4 miles to 1 inch motoring maps.

The next walk will be *Wednesday 18th March* start at 11am. Walk Leader is *Flo Windle* you can contact her on 01772 713820.



Meet in the pay and display car park at **EDISFORD BRIDGE** situated on the south side of the B6243 Clitheroe to Hurst Green Road approximately one mile west of Clitheroe Castle.

**Outdoor Leisure 41 Forest of Bowland. Grid Reference 726 413.** A walk of approximately 7 miles there are toilets in Waddington

Along the River Ribble to Brungerley Bridge, through Waddington to Page Fold, Cow Hey and Bashall Hall then back to Edisford Bridge.



The *April* walk is on *Wednesday 22nd* start at 11am. Walk Leader is *Roy Rich* you can contact him on 01772 454601

Meet in the car park at **Roddlesworth Information Centre, TOCKHOLES**. The car park is reached by driving in through the **Royal Arms Hotel** car park. The **Information Centre** is located 1 1/2 miles along the Tockholes road on the east side of the A675. Turn off the A675, 2 miles north of **Belmont**

**Village** (right hand turn) or 4 miles south of junction 3 on the M65, (left hand turn) almost 3 miles south of **Abbey Village**. **Confused!** do not worry this is an isolated junction, where the A675 crosses moorland some 900 feet above sea level. **Ignore Slipper Lowe Car Park** on left.

**Ordnance Survey: Grid Reference 665 214, Landranger Sheet 103 & Explorer 19 (West Pennine Moors).**

A walk of approximately 9 miles, there are toilets in the car park.

A moorland walk including **Darwen Tower**.

Flo & Don Windle"

Walk Organisers

**Membership  
Secretary's Report**

Since our last report we have had 8 new *Members*, we offer them a warm welcome They are:

**George Alker**  
 Penwortham;  
**Celia Costello**  
 New Longton;  
**Christine Fletcher**  
 Padiham;  
**Harold Halliwell**  
 Adlington;  
**Ian Mycock**  
 Rochdale;  
**Christine Margaret Ormrod**  
 Bacup;  
**June Singleton**  
 Kirkham;  
**Maureen Wilkinson**  
 Nelson.



Sadly 5 of our members have died, we offer our condolences to their family and friends.

**A Dixon**  
 Clitheroe;  
**John Kearsley**  
 Chorley;  
**Mrs MN Reynolds**  
 Leyland;  
**CA Titley**  
 Blackpool;  
**John Ashcroft**  
 Fulwood.

**Our membership is 1902**  
**(including 34 associate members)**

**Available to Rent**

"Luxury 2 bed pent house apartment on exclusive **La Finca** championship golf course **10 km** inland mid way between **Alicante & Murcia, Spain** for rental. **Sleeps 4.**

Well equipped and beautifully furnished. Breakfast balcony and spacious roof-terrace with stunning views of the Course and of the surrounding countryside.

Within easy drives of beautiful beaches, countryside, walks, cultural sites. Excellent for active or lazy holidays."

**£250 - £300 per week + 20% off for all Unison Members.**

For more information please visit:  
<http://www.lafincagolfowners.org>  
 Or ring Bill Taylor on:-  
**07768 793 312 or 01254 668 404**

**Available to Rent**

1 Bedroom and fully equipped apartment (*sleeps 2/4*) in **Gran Canaria**.

Monday 22nd June 2009 to 29th June 2009  
**£200.00 for the week.**

The complex of **Club Puerto Calma** is situated on a hill opposite the beach and marina of **Puerto Rico** with views over the port and gardens. Access to the beach is a pleasant short walk via the marina. There is a spacious sun deck around the pool served by a bar, you'll also find a cafe and a restaurant. The resort organises events during the day and on occasions evening entertainment, the bars, restaurants and night spots of the town are all within easy reach. The apartment has a large balcony that gets most of the afternoon sun, comprising of sun lounge's table chairs sun canopy. Taxi's supermarket and restaurants are situated just across the road.

Not suitable for people with severe walking difficulties, but the complex is wheel chair friendly.

**TELEPHONE** 01772 742459 - after 6pm

***And to finish***

***The Difference between Focusing on a Problem and Focusing on a Solution***

When NASA began the launch of astronauts into space, they found out that the pens wouldn't work at zero gravity (ink won't flow down to the writing surface). To solve this problem, it took them one decade and \$12 million. They developed a pen that worked at zero gravity, upside down, underwater, in practically any surface including crystal and in a temperature range from below freezing to over 300 degrees C.

And what did the Russians do...??

***They used a pencil.***

**THEATRE RULE:**

People with the seats at the furthest from the aisle arrive last

**LAW OF TELEPHONE:**

When you dial a wrong number, you never get an engaged one.

**LAW OF MECHANICAL REPAIR :**

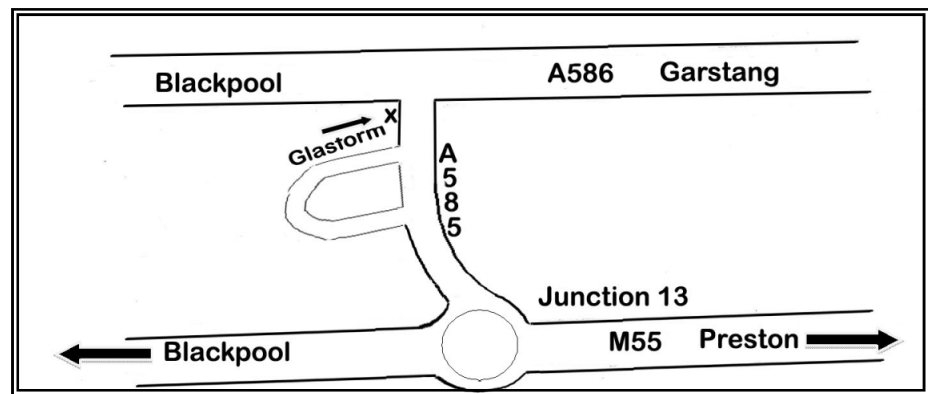
After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch.

**UNISON RETIRED MEMBERS NORTHERN SUB GROUP**

**Own transport trip to GLASFORM at Singleton near Blackpool.**

*On Tuesday 12th May, 10.30 for 11.00.*

*The visit will be followed by Lunch at the Millers Arms Singleton Village only a mile away.*



**MENU**

**MAIN COURSES**

1. ***WHOLETAIL BREADED SCAMPI with Hand Cut Chips, Peas and Tartar Sauce***
2. ***BRAISED SHOULDER of LAMB with Creamy Mashed potato and Seasonal Vegetables***
3. ***HOMEMADE STEAK and ALE PIE with Hand Cut Chunky Chips***

**SWEETS**

- A. ***CARAMEL and APPLE PIE***
- B. ***HOT CHOCOLATE FUDGE CAKE***
- C. ***WALLINGS VANILLA ICE***

*All Deserts served with a choice of Cream or Ice Cream*

**Northern Sub Group**

**Trip to Glasform & Lunch - Tuesday 12th May 2009**

*I/We wish to attend the above I enclose **my/our** meal selections & cheque for £.....(at **£14.99** per meal)*

Total amount enclosed: £.....

Please make cheques payable to:- **‘Lancashire Unison Retired Members Section’.**

**Enter your Name & Address:**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Tel No. ....

**Signature** .....

<u>Main Course letter</u>	<u>Sweet letter</u>

Please return bottom part of this sheet with meal requirement's to:-  
**R Clement, 2 Leycester Drive, Lancaster. LA1 5HP. (Contact Number:- 01524 35860)**