

Retired Members Section

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Newsletter

EDITION NO. 108 - April 2009

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

Diary Dates 2009

County Hall

Talks - 2pm

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

Annual Summer Lunch

Tuesday 7th July

Elms Hotel Morecambe

Walks 2009

Wednesday 22nd April

A moorland walk including
Darwen Tower.

Wednesday 20th May

Along the *River Lune* from *Lloyn Bridge*
to *Melling, Tatham and Wray*

Health Branch

Contact **Irene Cottam** on
01772 492936

Health Branch Trip

Croyde Bay in DEVON

Unison Holiday Village

Excellent Facilities

20th to 27th June

Coach to Devon and return £296.00

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Including 2 days and a ½ day trip out
Entertainment and Dancing every night

Health Branch Outings

Wednesday 13th May

Rivington Hall

Lunch, Entertainment, Bingo and Dancing

Wednesday 10th June

Blakemere Craft Centre

Lunch included at the Centre

Wednesday 19th August

Welcome Days Out

Cranford Revisited, with Carvery Lunch

Tuesday 22nd September

Oswaldtwistle Mill

Lunch & Entertainment

Thursday 10th December

Christmas Lunch

at *Bourne Poachers*

contact Irene if you require further information

Lancaster Canal

It's the time of year for annual this or that and on Friday 24 April our **Annual General Meeting** will be followed by a talk on the history and progress on the **Lancaster Canal**. I'm not really a canal person but I am aware of the tremendous progress which has been made by groups of mostly volunteers in extending and improving the canal. It is a subject which deserves publicising and would seem absolutely spot on to follow our **A.G.M.**

The time table is:- **11.30 A.G.M.** Includes **June Poole** who is on the of the **Board of UNISON Welfare** and a member of the **Regional Council**, who will talk about the many UNISON organised welfare provisions available to **Retired Members**.

12.30 Free buffet provided by the **Chairman of the County Council**.

2.00 Talk on the **Lancaster Canal**.

Annual Social Evening

Over 50 members attended our **Annual Social Evening** at Garstang Golf Club on Friday 20th of March. Not to put too fine a point on it it was easily the best annual social evening for a long time. **Ray Rudge**, our **Treasurer**, produced his usual selection of ingenious quizzes and games and **Frank Baxendale**, our **M.C.** kept things moving, it was worth going to see his waistcoat! Below is a photo taken by **Julie Palmer** who came with her nan, **Elsie Lyon** who used to work in **Surveyors**.

Dave Sergeant"

Chairman



News from the Executive Committee

This was our last meeting before our **AGM**, and enclosed with this newsletter is an agenda for the

meeting. Your committee would like to see as many of you as possible at the meeting and would like to hear your views on what we try to do for you all. After the lunch there will be the last of this winters talks which is about the **Lancaster Canal**.

After our last newsletter, which included the **Regional** newsletter, one of our members rang the **UNISON** office regarding the article about the merger of the **Halifax and HSBC**. If a Bank or Building Society collapses and Government brought in arrangements which will safeguard savings up to **£50,000**.

Our **Annual Reunion and Dinner** on 20 March at **Garstang Golf Club** was a wonderful evening, thoroughly enjoyed by all. The meal was excellent and the room was set out perfectly.

An early note to let you know that our editor is going on holiday at the beginning of **May** so our newsletter that month may not be with you until late May.

Maureen Vass"

Secretary

Health Insurance in Europe

If you are travelling in Europe you will have or should have a European Health Insurance Card (**EHIC**) which replaced the old **E111** in March 2006. It is important for emergency treatment, works regardless of age and ensures you get identical treatment and billing as that country's citizens. What you may not have noticed or may have forgotten is that these cards were issued initially for varying periods of between **3** and **5 years**. This means that any cards issued for **3** years will now have expired and will need renewing. If you check your card and find that you need to renew you can

Either Go to website www.ehic.org.uk or telephone 0845 605 0707 or write to **EHIC Enquiries**, PO Box 1114, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 2TL.

It is important to realise that the **EHIC** is not a substitute for travel insurance although you may wish to look at **EHICplus** travel insurance which is provided by the **Medical Screening Company** (www.ehicplus.com) and offers favourable rates for the older traveller.

Pension Increases

As I mentioned in the November 2008 newsletter we will be receiving a **5% increase** in our pensions

The contents of this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Retired Members Executive Committee.

this month. Even though we are told that we are likely to be entering a period of deflation pensioners can take some comfort from the fact that *currently* Government policy says that state pensions are guaranteed to rise by **2.5% if the RPI increase for next September is lower than 2.5%** (or non-existent or even negative!). This policy was introduced in 2001 and reaffirmed by the Government in 2005.



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However, if the **RPI** increase next September is zero or negative there would be **no** increase in Lancashire CC pensions in April 2010.

Roger Rymer
Vice Chairman

Northern Sub Group

Blackpool Trip **Tuesday 12 May**

Using our own transport **Ron and Gill Clement** are



Picture courtesy of the John Ditchfield web site - <http://www.glasform.com>

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.

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

**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 is on **Wednesday 22nd April** 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**.

The **May** walk is on **Wednesday** the **20th** start at 11am. Walk Leader is **Flo Windle** you can contact her on 01772 713820.

Meet in the car park at **HORNBY** on the west side of the A683 Lancaster to Kirkby Lonsdale Road on the south bank of the River Lune my edition of **Outdoor Leisure 41** has a blue arrow in the **wrong place**.

Ordnance Survey Outdoor Leisure 41.



Landranger Sheet 97. Grid Reference 584 683

A walk of approximately 9 miles. There are toilets at **Bull Beck** car park almost 4 miles back towards Lancaster.

Along the **River Lune** from **Lloyd Bridge** to **Melling, Tatham and Wray** (where hopefully the villagers will have a display of scarecrows in their gardens for the Scarecrow Festival) then back to Hornby.

Flo & Don Windle

Walk Organisers

Membership Secretary's Report

Since our last report we have had **5** new **Members**, we offer them a warm welcome They are:

George Alker

Penwortham;

Doreen Allen

Blackpool;

Janet Clarke

Morecambe;

Anne Lankshear

Gt Harwood;

Kenneth Rufus

Penwortham;

Louise O'Shahnessy

Liverpool.



Deaths of Members

We have not been notified of any deaths.

**Our membership is 1907
(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

Fully equipped 1 bedroom 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, also a licensed snack bar. The resort organises numerous events during the day with water sports. The complex has a very nice restaurant and on occasions evening entertainment. The apartment has a large balcony that gets most of the afternoon sun, relaxing sun loungers, table & chairs with a large sun canopy.

The bars, restaurants and night spots of the town are all within easy reach. Taxi's, an excellent supermarket, gift shop and a few restaurants and snack bars are situated just across the road.

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

Telephone after 6pm 01772 742459

And to finish

Frank and his wife Esther went to the state fair every year, and every year Frank would say: "Esther, I'd like to ride in that helicopter." Esther always replied: "I know Frank, but that helicopter ride is 50 dollars, and 50 dollars is 50 dollars."

One year, Esther and Frank went to the fair, and Frank said: "Esther, I'm 85 years old. If I don't ride that helicopter, I might never get another chance."

To this, Esther replied: "Frank, that helicopter ride is 50 dollars, and 50 dollars is 50 dollars."

The pilot overheard the couple and said: "Folks, I'll make you a deal. I'll take the both of you for a ride. If you can stay quiet for the entire ride and not say a word, I won't charge you! But if you say one word, it's 50 dollars." Frank and Esther agreed and up they went.

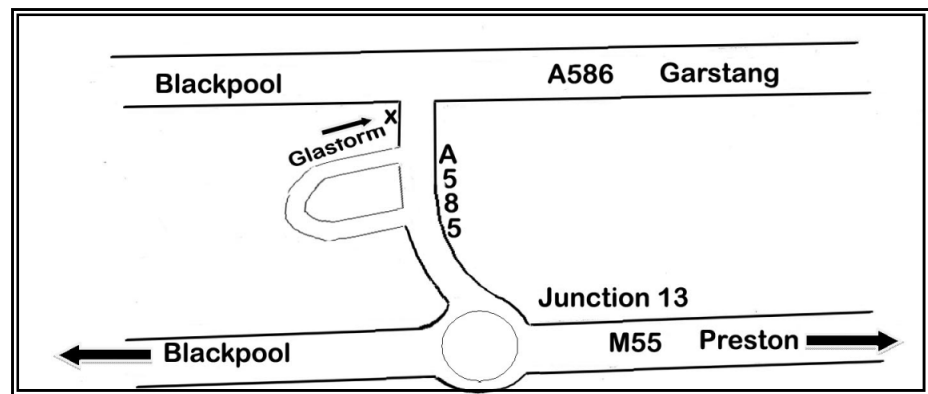
The pilot did all kinds of fancy manoeuvres, but not a word was heard. He did his daredevil tricks over and over again, but still not a word. When they landed, the pilot turned to Frank and said: "By golly, I did everything I could to get you to yell out, but you didn't. I'm impressed!" Frank replied: "**Well, to tell you the truth**, I almost said something when Esther fell out, but you know, 50 dollars is 50 dollars!"

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)



RETIRED MEMBERS' SECTION

Dear Member

Below is the agenda for the **74th Annual General Meeting** to be held in **Cabinet Room A** at County Hall Preston, on Friday 24th April 2009 at 11.30 am.

Yours sincerely
Maureen Vass

Retired Members Secretary

AGENDA

1. Opening of the AGM
2. Chairman's Remarks
3. Apologies for Absence
4. Minutes of 74th AGM held at County Hall, Preston on Friday 25th April 2008 (To be tabled at the meeting)
5. Matters arising from the minutes
6. To receive the Annual Report for the year 2008-2009.
(To be tabled at the meeting)
7. To receive the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts for the year 1st January to 31st December 2008 and the Auditor's report there on. (To be tabled at the meeting)
Anyone requiring a further Statement please inform the Secretary or contact the Retired Members' Treasurer. Tel No. 01253 855784.
8. Election of Officers for the year 2009-2010.
Nominations for Officers received by the due date are as follows
Chairman – David Sergeant. **Secretary** – Maureen Vass, **Treasurer** – Ray Rudge,
Welfare Secretary – Kath Montgomery,
Election of 14 members to serve on the Retired Members' Executive Committee for the year 2008-2009.
Nominations for the Committee received by the due date are as follows.
Stella Cunliffe, Frank Baxendale, Jo Fenn, Ileana Parr, Ron Clement. Fran Francis, Roger Rymer, Stella Talbot, Eileen Haydock, Terry Carter, Ann McHenry, Mick Dixon, Clare Siddall, Liz Carberry.
9. Speaker: **June Poole** will talk about **UNISON Welfare**

All members are invited to a buffet lunch to be served in the Assembly Hall following the meeting at the invitation of the Chairman of the County Council.