

Retired Members Section

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Newsletter

EDITION NO. 117 - February 2010

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

Diary Dates 2010

County Hall

Talks - 2pm start

Friday 26th February

Mr D Walker Talk & Samples regarding
Fisherman's Friends

Friday 26th March

Janet Nelson

A Lancashire Housewife 200 Years Ago

BranchAGM

Tuesday 2nd March 10-12noon

County Hall, Preston.

Retired Members AGM

Friday 30th April at 10.30am

County Hall, Preston.

Northern Sub-Group

Talks 2pm Headway Hotel Morecambe

Tuesday 9th March

Graham Stirrup talks about a
"History of Women in the Mines"

Walks 2010

Wednesday 24th March

A walk along the disused railway
line to Aldcliffe

Health Branch

Croyde Bay June 26th

£315 00 for 7 nights Half Board

Fisherman's Friend

The County Hall talk on 26th February is by *David Walker* of the *Fisherman's Friend Company* of *Fleetwood*. It is surprising that that this is the first visit of such an important local company to *County Hall* and, believe me, there will be a lot of surprises about what it makes and what it does. Oh yes, and ladies you had better bring your *larger handbags* for any samples.

Annual Social Evening

In the last newsletter and with this edition there is the menu for our *Annual Social* evening on Friday 16th April. It was so successful last year that we again are holding it at *Garstang Golf Club*. There will be a changed format with *Malcolm Pilling* as an after dinner speaker as well as some added activities including a *free raffle!* *Malcolm* has visited our *Northern Sub Group* where he was so funny he got a spontaneous round of applause so we just had to invite him again.

Dave Sergeant

Chairman

Executive Committee News

As mentioned in last months newsletter the *Branch* will be holding their *AGM* from **10am to 12 noon** on Tuesday 2 March at *County Hall*. Please note the

corrected times. We as retired members are entitled to attend the **Branch AGM** and it is very important that we try to get a good attendance at this important meeting. Many changes for our working colleagues have been reported in the press, and this is an opportunity for us to support them.

On 15 January we held the **AGM of the Regional Retired Members** at **County Hall**. **Kath Montgomery, Stella Talbot** and myself were re-elected to the regional committee where once again I was re-elected as the Secretary.

At our meeting this month we discussed the arrangements for the **Annual Reunion and Dinner** in



April and also our **AGM** which will be held on 30 April at **County Hall**. We are including a nomination form for next year's committee and will send out an **Agenda** with our April newsletter.

I hope that the weather continues to improve and that we are able to go ahead with the rest of our winter programme.

Maureen Vass

Secretary

Pensions Update

Lancashire Pensions Service have now received final clarification that there will be **no increase** applied in **April 2010** to any element of **Lancashire Pensions** (neither the basic pension nor the pre 88 and post 88 Guaranteed Minimum Pensions) because the retail price index last September showed a reduction over the previous 12 months. As mentioned in earlier newsletters there will be an increase in the **basic** state pension of 2.5% in April.

Pension Payslips

As part of its budget for **2010/11** the **County Council** is planning to stop sending monthly payslips to its employees as they are judged to be able to view them on-line. I have contacted the **Lancashire Pensions Service** and they have confirmed that they have **no intention at the present time** of discontinuing the practice of sending out pension advice slips as and when the amount of pension changes. Pensioners can also view their payslips on-line by registering for this facility via the **Lancashire Pension Service** website at:- http://www.lancs-pensions.org.uk/your_pension/index.asp

Roger Rymer

Vice Chairman

Annual Voluntary Contributions 2010

As a result of the **Appeal** over 12 months ago for

Members to pay more voluntary contributions, several of you agreed to pay by **Annual** cheque, rather than by deductions from monthly pensions.

Your generosity has helped to stabilise the **Sections** funds which at that time were being reduced as a rising costs of printing newsletters.

Your **continued support** during 2010 will be very much appreciated; and cheques (usually for £18) should be sent to **Ray Rudge**, 9 Blythe Avenue, Cleveleys, FY5 2LL.

Northern Sub Group

Tuesday 9th March

Graham Stirrup talks about a "**History of Women in the Mines**", a presentation which was very well received when he came to **Preston** a few months ago.

Free tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided as usual.

Ray Rudge

Treasurer

Retired Members Walking Group



Group Correspondent Don Windle, 25 The Howgills, Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire PR2 9LX.

Telephone: (01772) 713820.

Dear Member,

January 2010

Programme Briefing - Walks 2010

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to lead the walks, which will be something for us all to look forward to.

The next few paragraphs are mainly for the information of prospective members. All the walks are scheduled for **Wednesdays** to fit in with our other commitments. As the morning starts seemed to give a more relaxing day, the walks will commence at **11.00 am** with a stop to eat a **picnic lunch** and other breaks to look at points of interest. The pace is **leisurely**, routes are circular returning to the start point by mid to late afternoon, diversions may be necessary due to missing footbridges, broken stiles or similar problems and **no definite finishing times** can be given.

The walks are planned to **suit mature walkers**. When a total ascent of less than **60 metres** is required the walk will be referred to as **almost level**. Undulating walks will involve a series of moderate inclines. Should the route include ascents or **descents steeper**

than 1 in 5 for more than 100 metres reference will be made to *steep banks*. *Walking sticks* are very useful on slippery banks and for testing the depth of mud in heavily used gateways.

To ensure everyone has an enjoyable day out *please note* the following recommendations:

Leave your dog at home.

Arrive in good time and lock up your car carefully.

Listen to the weather forecast and bring suitable clothing, plus dry socks.

Wear stout footwear, footpaths and bridleways can be muddy and eroded at any time of the year.

Height barriers at 2 metres elevation and *Parking Charges* are a regular feature of rural car parks, please assume they may be present at the meeting points as they have not been specially noted.

If there are any queries for a particular walk, please contact the person leading the group for that day.

Please note that *Unison* does *not provide insurance* for any members taking part in these walks. Each participant is responsible for their own safety and if you consider insurance to be necessary, please make your own arrangements.

Looking forward to the pleasure of your company.
Yours sincerely

Flo & Don Windle

Our programme for 2010 is as follows

24th March, 21st April, 19th May, 23rd June, 14th July, 21st July (Roy's long walk) 11th August, 8th September, 13th October, 3rd November (Programme meeting)

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 first walk of *2010* is on *Wednesday 24th March* start at 11am.

Walk Leader is *Flo Windle*, you can contact her on *01772 713820* or *Mobile: 07502161755*

Meet at *CONDER GREEN* in the *Picnic Site* car park constructed on the site of the former *Conder Green Railway Station* 350 metres west of the *Stork Hotel* immediately north of the former railway bridge over the *River Conder*. Approximately three miles south west of *Lancaster via A 588. Landranger Sheet 102, Grid Reference 456 561* a



walk of approximately 7 miles. There are toilets at the car park

A walk along the disused railway line to *Aldcliffe*, then along the canal to *Galgate* and over fields to *Parkside* and the *Stork Hotel* back to *Conder Green Picnic Site*.

Flo & Don Windle

Walk Organisers



Talks are open to Everyone Members or Guests

The first talk of the *New Year* started off reasonably well with about 32 members and friends who came along to listen to *Alice Turberfield* a pleasant lady who, with humour reminisced about her childhood days and the things children used to get up to many years ago. Many of us could relate to those memories, nostalgic days of childhood. It brought home to many how times have changed, some for the good, some not so good!

I hope to see many of you again at the *February* talk everyone is welcome to join us *Members* and *Friends*. Make it your last stop after a few hours shopping in town to wind down, enjoy the talk, ending the afternoon with free tea and biscuits. It's a pleasant way to spend a winter's afternoon. Again I would like to *thank* our loyal members and friends who, come along rain or shine every month to *support the speakers*, the talks could not continue without your support.



The usual reminder for members and friends who have just joined us; the talks are held on the *last Friday* of the month during the winter months, they start at *2:00pm finishing approx. 3:15pm*, with a most welcome cup of *free tea / coffee / biscuits* and a social chat. They are held in one of the *Cabinet Rooms situated in County Hall*, (unless directed elsewhere by the security person on the day). The entrance is from the *Pitt Street Main Door*, please ensure you sign in and receive a visitor's badge, state you are a retired member and where is the talk being held. You are welcome to use the *staff cafeteria* situated near the main entrance before the talk begins, for a snack or meal, again the security person will direct you.

Please keep sending your stamps to *Derian House*. Save the stamps in a container till you get a few to



send on to the address below this is an on going stamp appeal for a very worthy cause.

**Derian House
Children's Hospice**

The Appeals Office, Derian House.

**Chancery Road, Astley Village,
Chorley Lancs. PR7 1DH.**

Fran Francis"

Talk Organiser 01772 742459

**Membership
Secretary's Report**

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

Lesley Hayes

Carnforth;

Joan Pomfret

Ribbleton, Preston.

Deaths of Members

Sadly one of our members have died; we offer our condolences to his family and friends.

Mr L Heap

Acrington.

**Our membership is 1917
(including 35 associate members)**

Health Branch Trip

Contact Irene Cottam on 01772 492936

Croyde Bay in Devon, Unison Holiday Village

Excellent Facilities. - 26th June to 2nd July.

Coach to Devon and return £315.00, Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.

Includes 3 day trips out **Entertainment and Dancing nightly**. Many activities during the day.

Apartments 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.

And for the colder winter months (yes it does get cold

in Spain) we have a newly added 'whoppin grate' cast iron wood burner.

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

£300 - £325 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

Fully equipped 1 bedroom apartment (sleeps 2/4) in Gran Canaria. **£250.00 for the week. 10% Off for Unison Members.**

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, with relaxing sun loungers, table & chairs and 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 7pm 01772 742459

**Tom Finney's
Forgotten Season**

Fifty years ago on 30th April 1960, one of the **greatest footballers** of all time, **Tom Finney**, played his final game for **Preston North End**.

It was an emotional occasion for **Sir Tom** as he led the team out for the last time at **Deepdale** and he would be the first to admit that on the day he was not at his best in the **2-0 victory** over **Luton Town**.

Over the years a number of books, together with magazine and newspaper articles have been written about this **iconic player** who entertained football fans everywhere he went. Many of these tend to finish with the details and pictures of his final game. **But what of the rest of the 1959/60 season?**

It may surprise readers to learn that **Tom Finney**

played more *League* and *Cup* games in that season than in any other season since his debut against *Leeds United* in *August 1946*. He was also *Preston's* leading scorer for the only time in his career. *North End* topped *Division 1* for three weeks in November and December *1959* following a sequence of seven successive victories.

'*Tom Finney's Forgotten Season*' by *J. Paul Harrison*, takes you back to that black and white era



in the days of the maximum wage when football was still fun.

Details of the *Division 1* results, Tables and main stories unfold on a weekly basis and there are match reports for every game played by *Preston North End* during the season. It is £8.95 and a must for all *North End* fans and football

enthusiasts.

It can be purchased directly from the shop at *St. Catherine's Hospice*, Lostock Lane, Lostock Hall, Preston PR5 5XU or by post from the same address marked *for the attention of John Nickson*, enclosing a cheque for £10 (to include postage and packing) made payable to *St. Catherine's Hospice*.

E - m a i l e n q u i r i e s t o lizlinpublishing@virginmedia.com All profits from the sale of this book will go to this most worthy organisation.

Scotch with two drops of water

A lady goes to the bar on a cruise ship and orders a Scotch with 2 drops of water.

As the bartender gives her the drink she says,

'I'm on this cruise to celebrate my 80th birthday and it's today...'

The bartender says, 'Well, since it's your birthday, I'll buy you a drink.

In fact, this one is on me.'

As the woman finishes her drink, the woman to her right says,

'I would like to buy you a drink, too.'

The old woman says, 'Thank you. Bartender, I want a Scotch with 2 drops of water.'

'Coming up,' says the bartender

As she finishes that drink, the man to her left says, 'I would like to buy you one, too.'

The old woman says, 'Thank you. Bartender, I want another Scotch with 2 drops of water.'

'Coming right up,' the bartender says.

As he gives her the drink, he says, 'Ma'am, I'm dying of curiosity. Why the Scotch with only two drops of water?'

The old woman replies,

'Sonny, when you're my age, you've learned how to hold your liquor.'

Holding your water, however, is a whole other issue.'

'OLD' IS WHEN...

Your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot

'OLD' IS WHEN...

You are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of by the police

'OLD' IS WHEN...

'Getting a little action' means you don't need to take any fibre today.

'OLD' IS WHEN...

'Getting lucky' means you find your car in the parking lot.

'OLD' IS WHEN...

An 'all nighter' means not getting up to use the bathroom.

'OLD' IS WHEN...

Going braless pulls all the wrinkles out of your face

AND

'OLD' IS WHEN....

You are not sure these are jokes?

Lancashire County UNISON Retired Members' Section
Annual Reunion / Social Evening / Dinner

Our major event of the year will be held at
Garstang Golf Club, Kirkland Suit and Lounge, Bowgreave, Garstang, Preston. PR3 1YE.
Telephone 01995 600100

On Friday 16th April 2010 Reception 6:00 for Dinner at 6:30p.m
The price will be £20.00 per person for the following menu (excluding wines)

STARTERS

- VEGETABLE SOUP*** - Freshly prepared, served with a bread roll and butter
- MELON*** - Half a galia melon topped with a trio of fruit jellies
- PATE*** - Chicken liver pate complimented with grape chutney
- VEGETARIAN*** - Chargrilled croute topped with rocket and sautéed garlic mushrooms

MAIN COURSES

- ROAST BEEF*** - Traditionally served with pan gravy
- SAUTEED CHICKEN FILLET*** - Masked with a Julienne of leek, white wine & cream chicken veloute
- SALMON*** - With provencal of vegetables and watercress puree
- MUSHROOM PASTA BAKE*** - Selection of wild mushrooms lightly sautéed with garlic and shallots, jumbled with pasta and cream sauce .

All served with fresh seasonal vegetables and potatoes

Followed by a

Selection of desserts of the day

and after

Freshly brewed coffee with mint confection

Members and Guests are all welcome to attend this event;
 Tables will consist of 10 or 12 persons, depending on numbers.

Please book with your friends if you wish to sit together.

This event is a time when you can enjoy a good meal with your friends; also welcome our new members during the course of the evening. This year we are having a change of entertainment, we are pleased to welcome Mr. Malcolm Pilling who is giving us an after dinner speech.. Malcolm has a super sense of humour and comes highly recommended by our Northern Branch Members where he has given talks in the past.

Lancashire County Council Annual Reunion Dinner

Friday 16th April 2010

*I/We wish to attend the above I enclose **my/our** meal selections & cheque for £.....(at £20.00 per meal)*

Please make cheques payable to:- 'Lancashire Unison Retired Members Section'.

Enter your Name & Address:

Name

Address

.....

Tel No.

Signature

Starter letter

Main Meal number

<u>Starter letter</u>	<u>Main Meal number</u>

*Please return bottom part of this sheet with meal (or any special dietary requirement's to:-
 Fran Francis, 38 Shaftesbury Avenue, Penwortham, Preston, Lancs. PR1 0EL. Tel: 01772 742459*

Lancashire UNISON Retired Members' Section
Nomination Form

Officers 2009/2010	
Chairman	D Sergeant
Secretary	M Vass
Treasurer	R Rudge
Welfare Secretary	K Montgomery
Committee:-	
F Baxendale, R Clement, S M Cunliffe, J Fenn, I Parr, R Rymer, F Francis, S Talbot, E Haydock, M Dixon, C Siddall, T Carter, A McHenry, L Carberry	

Nominations for 2010/2011

I
wish to nominate
For the *office of/Committee
(*delete as appropriate)
Seconded by
I
DateClosing date for nominations 31/3/2010

Return to Secretary:-
M Vass, 62 Lighthurst Lane, Chorley, PR7 3EQ

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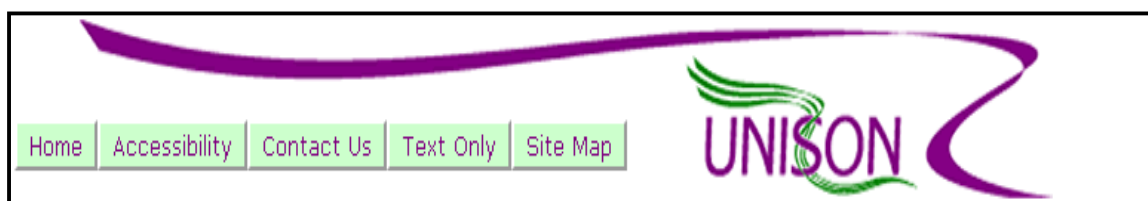
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Don't forget you can view this & previous newsletters on the UNISON website

<http://www.unisonlancs.org.uk/retired.asp>



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