

# Lancashire UNISON

## Retired Members Section

# Newsletter

EDITION NO. 85 - March 2007

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

**Maureen Vass - Secretary**  
email:- [maureen.vass@btinternet.com](mailto:maureen.vass@btinternet.com)  
telephone:- 01257 271480

**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 - 2007*

### LCC Retired Members AGM

**11am Friday 27th April**  
at *County Hall* - followed with a  
talk by *Barbara Rudge* (see below)

### County Hall Talks - 2pm

**Friday 30th March**

*Heather Davies*

talks about detective stories in the  
conservation of paintings

**Friday 27th April**

*Mrs Barbara Rudge*

Talks about one of their fantastic  
holidays in South Africa

### Northern Sub-Group

### Canal Cruise with Buffet Lunch

**Tuesday 8th May - 10:30am**

Meet us at the Tithebarn Hotel  
Garstang, come earlier if you want to treat  
yourself to a coffee before the cruise.

### Summer Lunch

**Tuesday 17th July**

Come & join us for lunch and a pleasant  
afternoon at the Elms Hotel Morecambe

### Next Walk

**Wednesday 14th March**

A walk through Hothersall & Longridge areas

## *County Hall Talks Change of Plan*

I know you all carefully read you Newsletter in every detail. So you will have read last month that *Fran* had a talk on quilling lined up for the talk on 30 March. However, life has its complications for everybody (I thought it was just me!) and the speaker can't make it. Therefore, with her customary aplomb *Fran Francis* has arranged a substitute.

You will have all seen *Antiques Road Show* and read of goings on at auctions about old paintings being genuine etc. The talk arranged by *Fran* for 30 March is about **detective stories in the conservation of paintings**. This talk is the real thing given by *Heather Davies*, *Conservation Manager, Lancashire Conservation Studios*. The studios are run by the *County Council* and *Heather* a County employee, so we can expect she will have dealt with most of *Lancashire's* antique art.



Her talk is titled "Angels with Dirty Faces."

## *Aphrodite of Penwortham.*

The talk on 23rd February was by *Carol* and *Darren* of *Aphrodite* on herbal remedies. We all are aware of the growing interest in herbal remedies and, I suppose like me, you can get confused by the complications. *Carol* and *Darren* certainly demonstrated how complicated it is. They showed a massive range of

UNISON BRANCH OFFICE - Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ.

Tel. 01772 533072 or email:- [unison@unison.lancscc.gov.uk](mailto:unison@unison.lancscc.gov.uk)

herbal products for all sorts of needs and plied us with statistics that made you wonder.

If you ever wondered at the popularity of herbal remedies we



were given examples of government statistics which show that

intensive farming has lead to huge reductions in minerals in food. Examples of reductions since 1940 include 75% loss of magnesium in carrots, 75% less calcium in onions, 45% less iron in the good old potato. Even fruit such as apples and oranges have 60% less iron, and, yes, spinach is down 60% too. A big subject.

**Dave Sergeant**

Chairman

**News from the Executive Committee**



We spent some time considering our **Annual Reunion** and **Dinner** which took place on 12th February. Sadly,

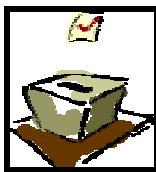
our numbers were reduced this year but those who attended had an enjoyable time. The food at **Barton Grange** was excellent, the company good and we

all enjoyed the music and entertainment provided by **Ray**. I know that a number of members could not attend this year because of illness but those who



could not attend missed an excellent social event. As already notified we will be holding our **AGM** at **11am** on **Friday 27 April** at **County Hall**. A

nomination form is included with this newsletter and this year we are inviting nominations for the following officers: **Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer**



and **Welfare Secretary**. Also we would like nominations for **14** committee members.

There is a closing date of **31 March**. In the afternoon **Barbara Rudge** will give a talk on her holiday in **South Africa**. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Maureen Vass**

Secretary

**Northern Sub-Group**

**Canal Cruise with Buffet Lunch Tuesday 8th May - 10:30am**

**Tithebarn Hotel, Garstang**

This year's **Annual Trip** where Members & friends use their own transport to arrive at the chosen Venue, has been



arranged for **Tuesday 8th May**. A large canal boat has been hired, and a **four hour** cruise has been arranged including a very good buffet lunch (a bar is also available). We will meet at the **Tithebarn Hotel Garstang** (which is on the side of the canal) at **10:30am** – or come earlier if you want to treat yourself to an early coffee before the cruise.

The inclusive cost is **£17:00**, and a form is enclosed with this Newsletter which should be returned to **Ron Clement** at the address shown. Please note that this trip is open to **All** Members & friends, not just those in the sub group.

**Summer Lunch, Tuesday**

**17th July, at 12:30pm**

**Elms Hotel Morecambe**

A private room has been booked for this popular event, and the menu includes a choice of four starters, four main courses and four 4 sweets.



The price inclusive of coffee & chocolates is **£12.95**; and afterwards **Barbara Rudge** will give one of her adventure holiday talks.

A form will be included in future Newsletters.

**Ray Rudge**

Treasurer

**Retired Members Walking Group**

**Lancashire County Branch of Unison Walking Group Correspondent:**

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



See the full Programme Briefing in the previous (February) Newsletter.



**2007 WALKS**

**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 **Ordnance Survey Map Outdoor Leisure 41 Forest of**

**Bowland and Ribblesdale**, has distinctive blue

arrows pointing to several of the rendezvous points we regularly use and referred to where applicable.



**Diary Dates for the 2007 programme are:-** 14th March, 18th April, 16th May, 13th June (4th July Roy's long walk please note 10.00am start). 11th July, 15th August, 19th September, 17th October, and in 2008 the 9th January.

There will be a **Programme Meeting** at 25 The Howgills, Fulwood, Preston at **2.00pm** on Wednesday **7th November 2008**. Each walk will be published in future Newsletters.

**Wednesday 14th March**

Walk starts at 11am, Walk Leader is **Tony Ingham**, you can contact him on 01772 782480



Meet at the Pay and Display Car Park in **RIBCHESTER**, opposite the playing fields.

Take the **B6243** from Preston to Longridge. Bear right at the Old Oak at the edge of Longridge and stay on the **B6423** until reaching the Corporation Arms. At this point bear right onto the **B6245** and follow it into **Ribchester**. Go straight on at the **Black Bull** and turn right into the car park and toilets after about 200 metres.

**Landranger Sheet** - 102, **Grid Reference** 649 352, **Explorer** 19 West Pennine Moors. A walk of approximately 9.5 miles.

***Flo & Don Windle***

Walk Coordinators

***Members - Talks at County Hall***

The usual information for our new members, the talks are held in **COUNTY HALL PRESTON**; starting at **2:00pm** usually lasting for **1 to 1½ hours**, they finish with



tea or coffee and a social chat. Please use the **COUNTY HALL ENTRANCE IN PITT STREET** and sign in at the reception area. Hopefully we will again see many of our usual members who support these talks and bringing along their friends who are most welcome. Do come along, not only to enjoy the afternoon's performances but also to make new friends and renew old acquaintances. It's a pleasant way to spend a winter's afternoon.

***Fran Francis***

Social Secretary

***Members***

***Membership Secretary's Report***

Since our last report we have had 5 new members, and 1 transfer in We offer them a warm welcome. They are:

- Mr G Allison (Street Lighting - Surveyors) Chorley;
- Mrs C Bell (Holy Trinity CE School) Burnley;
- Mrs D Oldham (Flakefleet School) Fleetwood;
- Mrs S Roberts (Homecare) Morecambe;
- Mrs DM Snape (Hoghton) Preston.

**Transfers In**

Mr Johnson Gaye Accrington.

***Deaths of Members***

Sadly 3 of our members have died, we offer our condolences to their family and friends.

- DT Nicholson (Social Services) Southport;
- JC Strong (Social Services) Morecambe;
- SD Swindells (Resources) Crosby.

***Derian House Stamp Appeal***

Please keep sending your stamps to **Derian House**, this is an on going

stamp appeal, and an extremely worthy cause.

**Derian House Stamp Appeal, The Appeals Office, Derian House, Chancery Road, Astley Village, Chorley, Lancs. PR7 1DH.**

**Our membership is 1862 (including 28 associate members)**

***...and to finish - from your Editor.....***

**The 2006 Darwin Awards**

"Yes, it's that magical time of the year again when the Darwin Awards are bestowed, honouring the least evolved among us. Here then, is the glorious winner:

**When his** 38-caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked....

***And now, the honourable mentions:***

**2.** The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat-cutting machine and, after a little shopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and he also lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.

**3.** A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.

**4.** After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to

Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.

5. An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, the lad told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.

6. A man walked into a Louisiana Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, he man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer...\$15.

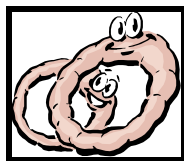
7. Seems an Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinderblock through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So he lifted the cinderblock and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinderblock bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. The liquor store window was made of Plexiglas. The whole event was caught on videotape.



8. As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give

them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, "Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from."

9. The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan, at 5 a.m., flashed a gun, and demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man, frustrated, walked away.



10. When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges, saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had."



**Well, I never knew that !!!**

***In the*** 1400's a law was set forth that a man was not allowed to beat his wife with a stick thicker than his thumb. ***Hence we have "the rule of thumb"***.

***Many years*** ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden"...and thus the word ***GOLF*** entered into the English language.

***The first*** couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred and Wilma Flintstone

***Every day*** more money is printed for Monopoly than the US Treasury.



***Men can*** read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.

***Coca-Cola*** was originally green.

***It is*** impossible to lick your elbow.

***Intelligent people*** have more zinc and copper in their hair.

***111,111,111*** x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321

***Q.*** If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter "A"?

***A.*** One thousand.

***Q.*** What do bullet-proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers all have in common?

***A.*** All invented by women.

***In Shakespeare's*** time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase..... "goodnight, sleep tight."

***It was*** the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

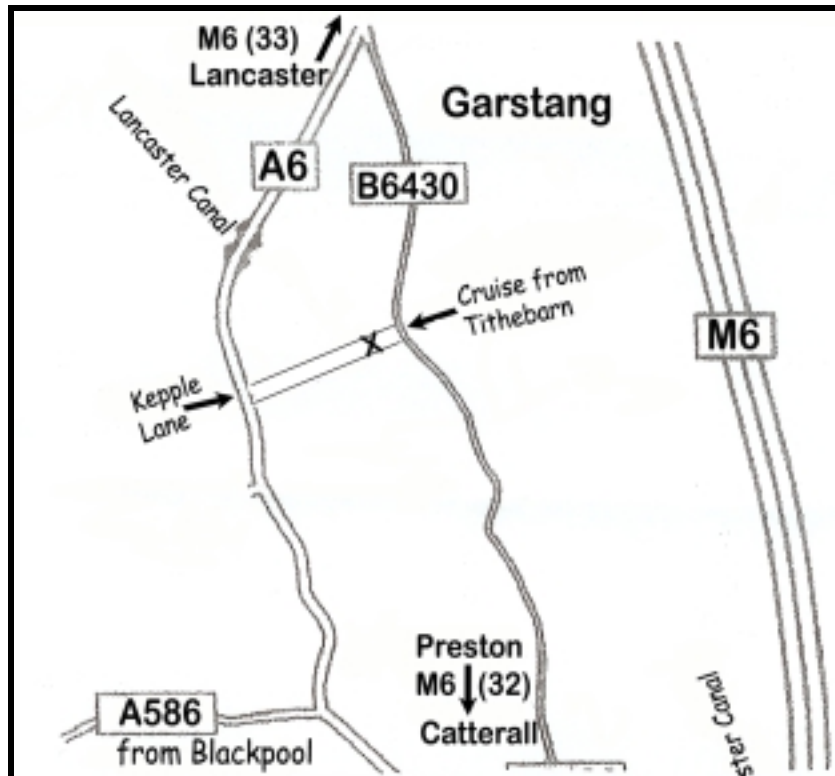
***In English*** pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts... So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them "Mind your pints and quarts, and settle down." It's where we get the phrase "mind your P's and Q's".

**Lancashire Unison Northern Sub Group**

**Canal Cruise with Buffet Lunch**

**Tuesday 8th May 2007**

This visit is by own transport again and we meet at the *Tithe Barn Hotel Garstang* at 10:30am for 11:00am *Cruise* on the boat *Swallow*. A *Buffet Lunch* will be served onboard. The *Cruise* is 4 hours and the all inclusive cost is £17 *each*.



**Northern Sub Group**  
**Canal Cruise with Buffet Lunch**  
**Tuesday 8th May**

I/We wish to attend the above Canal Cruise & Buffet Lunch  
I enclose a cheque for £..... (£17 per person)

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

*Signature* .....

**Enter your Name & Address:**

Please return this part of the sheet with payment, to:-  
**Ron Clement**  
**2 Leycester Drive**  
**Lancaster LA1 5HP**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Contact Number:- 01524 35860

Tel No. ....

