

Lancashire UNISON

Retired Members Section

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Newsletter

EDITION NO. 96 - February 2008

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Diary Dates 2008

County Hall

Talks - 2pm

Friday 29th February

Mrs June Corner a very
amusing talk *Naughty but Nice*

Friday 28th March

Mr Aled Jones

A most enlightening talk on the
Life and Times of Florence Nightingale

Friday 25th April

Mrs Barbara Rudge on the 'life of a child'
A special Mission in Thailand.

Northern Sub-Group

Talk 2pm Headway Hotel

Tuesday 12th February

A demonstration and talk about the skills
of the *woodworking* craft

Musical Afternoon

**2pm Headway Hotel
Tuesday 11th March**

A mixture of "old" popular
music, quiz, & sing-a-long.

Walks 2008

Wednesday the 12th March

A walk of approx 7 miles. A *steep* start to
go via the *Highfields Farms* to *Aughton*

It's All Go

In the Newsletter is more information about the *Annual Social Evening* on **11th April** and the *Summer Lunch* at *Morecambe* in **July**. Also, there are more details in the Newsletter about the talk *Fran Francis* has arranged, for **29th February** at *County Hall*, "*Naughty but Nice*", but we all know *Fran* is nice and I am happy to report that *Fran* is recovering well from her pneumonia. Included are more details of the talk at the Headway hotel at *Morecambe* on "*woodworking craft skills*" on **12th February**.

Ken Dagger talked to us on Friday 25th January at *County Hall*. I say "talked" but we also had some music. **Ken** has been in the entertainment business all his life and, not only provided details of his career, but performed some of his acts. His references to *Gilbert and Sullivan* were of particular interest.

Nomination Forms



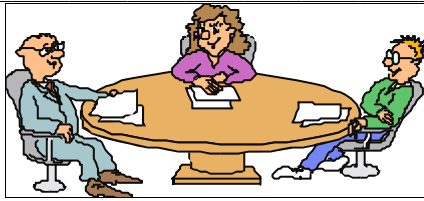
Also in the Newsletter are nomination forms for the Executive Committee elections at the *Annual General Meeting* on the **25th April**. Don't know how I had time to go to work!

At the last *AGM* we changed our constitution to allow for *Executive Committee* members to vary the extent of their involvement according to their wishes. In particular we are always happy in the *Executive* just to hear member's views on what we are doing and what they feel is important.

Dave Sergeant

Chairman

Executive Committee News



Arrangements are well in hand for this year's **Annual Reunion & Dinner** – please see the attached booking form. For those who want an enjoyable evening send your form in quickly.

Also enclosed is a nomination form for officers and committee for next year. Our **Annual General Meeting** will take place at 10.30 on **Friday 25th April** in County Hall. The Branch will be holding their **AGM** at 4pm on Thursday **6th March** and retired members are invited to attend to support our working colleagues.

At the **AGM** of the **Regional Retired Members Kath Montgomery, Stella Talbot** and myself were Elected to serve on the **Regional Retired Members Committee.**

Maureen Vass”

Secretary

Northern Sub Group

Talk 2pm Headway Hotel

Tuesday 12th February

Andrew Drysdale will give a demonstration and talk about the skills of the **woodworking craft.** Numbers were somewhat low in **December** so please come along bring your friends and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee & biscuits.

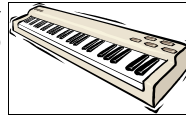
Musical Afternoon 2pm

Headway Hotel

Tuesday 11th March

Ray will bring his keyboard and play a wide variety of (**old style**) popular music to listen to, to

dance to, and to sing a long with. Also there will be a **musical quiz.** So come along bring your friends and also enjoy a free cup of tea or coffee & biscuits.



Future Events

Although the above **musical afternoon** ends our winter programme, please **make a note** in your **diary** of the following events

a) **Tuesday 13th May** using your own transport arrangements have been made to visit both a **Forge & a Fudge** factory in the **Burnley** area. Showrooms & gift shops are available & a **lunch** will be provided on arrival at the **Fudge** factory. There is ample car parking at both sites.

b) **Summer Lunch Tuesday 1st July** this has been arranged in a private room at the **Elms Hotel Morecambe.**

Further details and applications forms will be included in future newsletters.

Ray Rudge”

Treasurer

Activities at County Hall

Mr Ken Dagger started off the **New Year’s** programme in January with another of his entertaining talks, if you remember him from his visit last year he is a member of the **Marton Musical Society** and a very polished performer. He entertained **35** of our members with his very interesting and visual talk full of humour entitled **MY ENTERTAINING LIFE.**



On **FRI FEB 29th** a newcomer to County Hall **Mrs June Corner** will give an amusing talk on

underwear suitable for both sexes from the **1840’s** to the present day. **NAUGHTY BUT NICE.**

FRI MAR 28th will bring us **Mr Aled Jones** who has been recommended to me by one of our members. He will present a most interesting talk about the **LIFE AND TIMES OF FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.**

FRI APRIL 25th incorporating with the **A.G.M** we have once again by popular demand **Mrs Barbara Rudge** who will tell us about their holiday in **Thailand** entitled **A SPECIAL MISSION** To see the child they have sponsored for many years for the very first time.

I hope to see many of our usual members at the talks, and hopefully some of our new members and friends would like to join us. I will take this opportunity to thank everyone who comes along to support these events for making them more enjoyable for the speakers. Everyone is welcome so come along do bring your friends and enjoy a pleasant afternoon finishing with free tea or coffee and biscuits.

The usual reminder for our new members, the talks are held on the last **Friday** of the month, they start at 2.00pm finishing approx 3.15pm and are held in the cabinet rooms at **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. When you come to these talks you are welcome to use the staff cafeteria situated near the main door before the talk begins, for a snack or meal, again the security person will direct you.

Derian House Stamp Appeal

Please keep sending your stamps

to *Derian House*, many envelopes get thrown away, it only takes a minute to tear the stamp off the corner of an envelope (please leave 1 inch around the stamp.) 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 worthwhile 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)

**Members
Walking Group**

Group Correspondent: Don Windle, contact number 01772 713820.

Dear Member,

**PROGRAMME BRIEFING
WALK 2008**

We have once again managed to produce a varied programme for our **2008** walks. 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"

Walk Coordinators

**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.

Dates for the 2008 programme are: 12th March, 16th April, 14th May, 18th June, 9th July (**Roy's Long Walk**) 16th July, 13th August, 10th September, 15th October, 12th November (**programme meeting**) and in 2009 14th January.

The first walk of this years programme is on **Wednesday the 12th March**.

Walk starts at **11am**, walk leader is **Flo Windle**, you can contact her on Tel: **01772 713820**.

Meet in the car park at **CROOK OLUNE** Picnic Site on the north side of the River Lune. Turn west off the A683 Lancaster to Kirkby Lonsdale Road approximately 700 metres on the Lancaster side of CATON signed to Halton cross the bridge over the River Lune Picnic Site entrance in 150 metres on right side.

Landranger Sheet 97. Grid Reference 521 647. Ordnance Survey Outdoor Leisure 41.

There are toilets at the car park. A walk of approximately 7 miles, with a **steep** start to go via the **Highfields Farms** to **Aughton** returning via the banks of the **River Lune**.

**Silverdale Walk
9th January 2008**

It was a dry grey morning on the 9th January 2008 when **26 members** joined me at **Park Road**

Silverdale for the winter walk. We were lucky with a dry "window" in the otherwise wet period. It was encouraging to see a good turn out and to welcome members who were walking with the group for the first time.

The route initially took us north through the corner of Eaves Wood before using a selection of lesser known paths which lead by Waterslack, over the railway line and then via the rear of *Challan Hall* to join the bridleway which rounds the top of Haweswater, part of *English Natures' Reserve*. The route then heads southward through the hamlet of Yealand Storrs and on to the delightfully wooded ridge of Cringlebarrow, a descent off the ridge took us onto the bridleway approach to the *Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Reserve* at Leighton Moss.

The public causeway across the reserve allows access between the lagoons and the finest reedbeds in the north west of England, but it is prone to flooding, the route being impossible in boots which happened when the walk was reconnoitred. However the water level had dropped substantially on the day and the group splashed bravely through it.

The reedbeds are famous in the ornithology world for elusive resident *Bitterns*, *Bearded Titmice* and in summer, nesting *Marsh Harriers*.

After crossing the *Silverdale* to Yealand lane, *Silverdale Golf Course* is encountered, luckily it was quiet on the day, otherwise 26 walkers crossing the fairways would not have been popular with the golfers. Passed the site of Red Bridge Lime Kilns and back across the railway line – giving way to the Barrow train, we arrived back at the car park.

In my opinion this is as sound a walk in winter as is practical.

Peter Kilgour

Walk Leader

Membership Secretary's Report

Since our last report we have had **5 new members** and **1 associate member**. We offer them a warm welcome.

Keith Gillies (Youth & Community) Bamber Bridge;

Susan A Hodgson (Educ & Cultural Services) Leyland;

Elaine H Howard (Social Services) Cliviger;

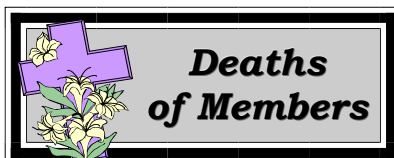
Mrs LM Jenkinson (Educ & Cultural Services)

Poulton-le-Fylde;

Mr JM Mason (Youth & Community) Blackburn.

Associate Member

Mrs Sylvia Blackwell
Penarth.



Sadly 6 of our members have died, we offer our condolences to their family and friends.

Mrs WCJ Allen (Social Services) Blackpool;

Eric Norman Blackwell (Social Services) Longton;

Norman Clark (Educ & Cultural Services) Ormskirk;

George E Davies (Resources [Property]) Preston;

Mr BK Taylor (Educ & Cultural Services) Preston;

Stephen McDermott
Nelson.

Spelling correction from last month: **John Golgan** should have been **John Colgan**. Many apologies.

**Our membership is 1851
(including 32 associate members)**

...**and to finish from Fran**

****Who Does What****

A *man and his wife* were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning. The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee." The husband said, "You are in charge of cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee." Wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides, it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee." Husband replies, "I can't believe that, show me." So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says....."**HEBREWS**"

****Women's Revenge****

"***Cash, check or charge?***" I asked, after folding items the woman wished to purchase. As she fumbled for her wallet I noticed a remote control for a television set in her purse. "So, do you always carry your TV remote?" I asked. "No," she replied, "but my husband refused to come shopping with me, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."

****The Silent Treatment****

A *man and his wife* were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment. Suddenly, the man realized that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 AM for an early morning business flight. Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and LOSE), he wrote on a piece of paper, "Please wake me at 5:00 AM" He left it where he knew she would find it. The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 AM and he had missed his flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wakened him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed. The paper said, "It is 5:00 AM. Wake up."

Men are not equipped for these kinds of contests.

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

Our Major Event this year will be held in the **GRANGE ROOM** at Barton Grange Hotel,
Barton, Nr. Preston, Lancs.

On Friday 11th April 2008 Reception 5:45 for Dinner at 6:30p.m

The price per person will be **£20:00** for the following menu

MENU

Freshly Made

Leek & Potato Soup

Medallions of Pork Fillet

Served with Cider Mustard & Thyme Sauce
Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

Sorbet Ice

Blackcurrant Cheese Cake

Freshly Brewed Coffee and Tea

With Chocolate Mint Wafers

Members and Guests are all welcome to attend this event.

Tables once again will consist of 10 or 12 persons, depending on numbers.

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

Once again we have had to guarantee a minimum number of persons attending in order to keep the cost down, so your support is most welcome; we can't continue without you.

This is a time when you can enjoy a good meal and have some fun with our **Music Maestro Ray**, who once again will provide dancing, quizzes and games. Come along, meet up with old friends and even make some new ones.

Please return the application form and cheque as soon as possible to

Fran Francis, 38 Shaftesbury Avenue, Penwortham, Preston, Lancs. PR1 0EL
Telephone 01772 742459

APPLICATION FORM

Name

Address

.....

Telephone Number

Please reserve () place/s. For the Annual Social Reunion at £20.00 each

I enclose a cheque for £.....Made payable to: **Lancashire Unison Retired Members Section**

I shall require a Vegetarian Meal **PLEASE INDICATE YES / NO**

OR

Extra Special Dietary Requirements **PLEASE INDICATE YES / NO**