

# Lancashire UNISON Newsletter

## Retired Members Section

EDITION NO. 98 - April 2008

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 2008

#### County Hall

#### Annual General Meeting

*Friday 25th April*

We will be holding our *AGM* at  
*11.30am* in *County Hall*.

#### Talks - 2pm

*Friday 25th April*

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

*Friday 31st October*

*Mr Aled Jones* on The Life and Times  
of Florence Nightingale

*Friday 28th November*

*Mrs J Twigger*

Demonstrates Festive Flowers

#### Northern Sub-Group

#### Visit to a Forge and a Fudge Factory

*Tuesday 13th May*

Come and join us on this *Annual*  
*May* trip further details in this Newsletter

#### Annual Summer Lunch

*Tuesday 1st July - Elms Hotel*

Further details in the *May/June* Newsletter

#### Walks 2008

*Wednesday the 14th May*

An walk of approx 7 miles

### Bus Passes & Suratt

*Suratt* is a young girl living in northern Thailand just about to leave school. For the last 16 years *Suratt* has been sponsored by our *Treasurer, Ray Rudge*, and this year *Ray* and *Barbara* visited Thailand for the first time to meet her before she left school. On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April *Barbara Rudge* will be giving a talk on her and *Ray's* visit to Thailand and their meeting with *Suratt. Thailand* is one of those so called developing countries which seems, at the moment, a copy of the Wild West, so there will be no shortage of interest in *Barbara's* talk.

*Barbara's* talk will start at 2.00 in the afternoon of the 25<sup>th</sup> and will follow the Annual General Meeting starting at 11.30 and the buffet provided by the Chair of the County Council.

The 11.30 start to our *Annual General Meeting* has been set in recent years so members from the more spread out parts of the *County* can make it without too much trouble. In previous *Newsletters* I have mentioned that we are trying to keep up with the new changes in bus pass systems which have come in to effect this April and a feature of the Annual General Meeting will be a presentation by *Terry Carter* of the latest information on the new bus pass arrangements in *Lancashire*.

### Miss Speak

O.K. I've never been to *Bosnia* and no sniper has taken a pot shot at me, but, I have to admit to a miss

speaking, sort of. At the *February* meeting I told everyone the next talk was about *Florence Nightingale*, and it wasn't you see, because *Fran* had had to do an emergency change of speaker. *Fran* had arranged, nearly at the last minute for *Bill Poole*, one of our members, for a talk on *bee keeping*. It turned out to be vastly more fascinating and complicated than I certainly thought. You may have noticed my cryptic reference to the talk in the last *Newsletter*, I have to tell you I sent Chris, our editor, a write-up on *Florence Nightingale* and, noticing, the difference between my programme and *Fran's*, *Chris* sensibly cancelled mine and patched in *Fran's*. Therefore, it wasn't me pointing out all the worker bees were female!

**County Organisation**

Many of our members might have been a bit confused from time to time reading of new members or deaths of members. If you had worked in. say, *Treasurers Dept.* you might wonder what the *Resources Directorate* is. Therefore with our *A.G.M.* information we have included a summary of all the changes in the *County since 1998*. Hope it helps what has been happening.

***Dave Sergeant***  
Chairman

**Executive Committee News**



**F i n a l** arrangements are now in place for our **A n n u a l** *Reunion and Dinner* which takes place at *Barton Grange Hotel* on

Friday 11 April and we are looking forward to a very enjoyable event.

Our *AGM* takes place at 11.30am on Friday 25 April at *County Hall*, a copy of the *Agenda* is enclosed. One of our committee members attended the *National Pensioners Convention Transport Conference* on our behalf and he will give a presentation at the meeting. After lunch *Barbara Rudge* will tell us about the important trip she and *Ray* made to *Thailand*.

Recently I received a telephone call from one of our members regarding the changes made to the benefits offered by *Medicash*. Many of us have contributed to this scheme for many years and it is felt that the changes made to our expectation of benefits is unfair. Particularly the dropping of the *payment of a death grant*. Whilst this was not a large sum it could make a significant difference to the family of many of our members. Perhaps we can get this reversed if all those who subscribe to *Medicash* write to complain.

***Maureen Vass***  
Secretary

**Recycling Tips**

Are you confused as to which plastics can currently be recycled? In *Lancashire* at present only plastic bottles made from *PETE or HDPE* can be recycled. If in doubt, look for these letters on the bottles, together with the associated symbol which consists of arrows in the form of a triangle. Other types of plastic such as plastic meat wrappers and yoghurt pots cannot currently be recycled.

If you need to get rid of an old computer and don't want to take

it to the *Household Waste Centre, Computers for Charity* will collect – phone 01288 361177

You don't need to remove labels from bottles or cans before recycling. Just rinse them out.

There are furniture recycling units such as *International Aid* in all Districts. Contact your local council for details if you are not aware of your local outlets.

If you dispose of shoes in a shoe bank, remember to tie a pair of shoes together.

If you have a quantity of unwanted wood and cannot take it to your *Household Waste Centre, Prosperity Recycling* in *Accrington* will collect and recycle in the area.

If you have had enough of this "throw away society" and want more information about recycling you can obtain an *A to Z Recycling Guide* from your local *District Council*.

***Roger Rymer***  
Vice Chairman

**Northern Sub Group**

**Visit to a Forge and a Fudge Factory, Burnley**  
**10.15am Tuesday 13th May**

The *Annual May* trip, using your own transport, has been arranged to visit both a *Forge* (displaying and selling a wide range of wrought iron etc) and a *Fudge Factory*, situated close to each other in the Burnley area.

After your visit to the *Forge* you will travel to have lunch at the *Fudge Factory*.

The price is **£13.99** inclusive and details are set out in the attached Form to be returned to **Ron**

*Clement* at the address shown. Please note that there are only **40** places available, and the *Trip* is open to all *Members/friends*, not just those in the *Northern Sub Group*.

**Annual Summer Lunch.**  
**Elms Hotel Morecambe**  
**12.30pm Tuesday 1st July**

This popular event has been arranged in a private room at the *Elms Hotel*. Further details will be in the *May/June* Newsletters.

Ray Rudge”  
Treasurer

**Activities at  
County Hall**

**Friday April 25th** will be the **LAST TALK** with the **A.G.M.** before the summer break; **Mrs Barbara Rudge** will give a nostalgic talk about her first meeting with a young girl they have sponsored since she was a child, it will take place at the usual time at 2:00pm. The **A.G.M. starts at 11:30am** followed by a **FREE** buffet lunch for everyone who attends the meeting.

I have booked some very interesting speakers to start in **October** after the summer break they are as follows: -

**Friday October 31st** we welcome **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.**

**Friday November 28th** Just to get everyone in the Christmas spirit **Mrs J Twigger** will give a super demonstration on **FESTIVE FLOWERS**

**Friday December 12th** Once again with Christmas in mind **Mrs Irene Cottam** will relate her time organising an Xmas Party **TWAS CHRISTMAS DAY in the WORKHOUSE**

Everyone is welcome to join us at these events, bring your friends it is a pleasant way to spend an afternoon, finishing with free *tea / coffee biscuits* and a social chat. Once again I would like to thank our regular members for continuing to support us we could not carry on without your support.

Hopefully our new (*youngish!!*) members who seem to be growing in numbers every month, would like come along with new ideas, it's a nice way to spend a wet and cold afternoon, you could always meet up with friends and colleagues in the **VIC and STATION** for lunch before hand!!

The usual reminder for our new members and friends about the talks, they are held on the last Friday of the month they start at 2.00pm finishing approx 3.15pm. and are held in one of the cabinet rooms at **COUNTY HALL**, (unless directed elsewhere by the security person on the day). The entrance is from **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.

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.

**Dates for the 2008 programme are:** 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 *May* walk is on **Wednesday** the **14th**. Walk starts at **11am**, walk leader is *Flo Windle*, you can contact her on Tel: **01772 713820.**

Meet at *WHALLEY* in the car park at *SPRING WOOD PICNIC SITE* situated on the east of the A 671 one mile south of the junction with the A 59.

*Landranger Sheet 103, Grid Reference 741 360.*

A walk of approximately 7 miles

There are Toilets in the car park.

After a walk around *Spring Wood* to look at (hopefully) a lovely display of bluebells we will go up to the *Nick of Pendle* and *Wiswell*

### *Flo & Don Windle*

Walk Coordinators

**Crook O'Lune**  
**12th March 2008**

With gale force winds forecast for the day and people being told to stay at home if it wasn't necessary to go out, only 5 stalwart ramblers turned up for the first *Spring* walk.

The wind was behind us going up the lane, which was a help. We crossed over fields towards a small woodland area where we stopped for lunch. The sun came out and it was nice and sheltered as we sat amongst the trees and bluebell leaves, which would make a nice carpet in a couple of months time.

The little hamlet of *Middle Highfield* has been made very attractive with the converted barns and farmhouse which are all for sale

We reached *Aughton* village (pronounced Afton) by the locals and was mentioned in the *Domesday Book in 1086* as Actun meaning "a place where oak trees grow" *Aughton* is also famous for the "*Aughton Pudding*", which is made every *21 years*. The last one being in 1992 which weighed *7,190 lbs* and mixed in a concrete mixer registered "*PUD IN*". (I hope it was clean !!)

Our return journey was by the *River Lune*, which was in full spate and flowing very fast. Huge

tree trunks had been washed up onto the banks. The wind was now facing us, making our faces glow. We stopped for a drink on some half sawn tree trunks and admired the view. We could hear the *Buzzard* calling, but was too windy for him to appear.

We entered *Burton Wood*, which belongs to the *Lancashire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve* – very muddy and a bit tricky keeping upright with a drop on the left to the river. We could smell the garlic, even though the flowers hadn't appeared. Passed the aqueduct bridge, which has had a coat of white paint with the red rose emblems standing out and looking very smart.

We arrived back at the car park, unfortunately the tea cabin was closed, but we had been very lucky with the weather, no rain, no snow and no hail.

### *Flo Windle*

Walk Leader

## **Membership Secretary's Report**

Since our last report we have had *eleven new members*. We offer them a warm welcome, they are:

**Carol A Beardsworth** (Children & Young People) Penwortham;

**Sheelagh Carricken**

Lancaster;

**Jim Clare** (Environment

[Property Group]) Fulwood;

**Christine Dyer** (School Meals)

Padiham;

**Sydney C Holt** (Children &

Young People [Youth]) Thornton;

**Barry Porter**

Walton-le-Dale;

**Margaret Mary Smith** (Adult & Community) Fulwood;

**Steve Roman** (Children & Young People [Youth]) Delph, Oldham;

**Richard Tarver**

Paighton;

**M Jean Rothwell** (Environment)

Adlington;

**Tony Hindle** (Engineering Services) Fulwood.



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

**Gladys Baker** (Motor Taxation) Fulwood;

**Anne Bucklitch** (Education & Cultural Services)

Fulwood;

**John H Cochran** (Education & Cultural Services [Libraries])

Penwortham;

**John Gidman** (Edge Hill

College)

Ormskirk;

**June Snape** (Social Services)

Thornton.

**Our membership is 1856**  
**(including 32 associate members)**

### English

Let's face it - *English is a crazy language*

*There is no* egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

*We take English* for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig

*English was invented* by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all.

*That is why*, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

**FORGE AND FUDGE FACTORY VIST (By Own Transport)**

*Tuesday 13th May 2008 at 10.15am for 10.30am start*

Please arrive at the *Forge* by 10.15am for 10.30am *demonstration* followed by time afterwards to visit the *Gift Shop* and *Showrooms*.

**HOW TO FIND THE FORGE:- LEAVE M65 AT JUNCTION 9 FOLLOW THE HALIFAX SIGN, TURN LEFT ONTO THE A679. THE FORGE IS HALF A MILE ON THE LEFT.**

After we leave the *Forge* you will be given the route to the *Fudge Factory* to arrive for the *1.00pm Lunch*.

The *Menu* is as follows, please indicate your preference on the form at the bottom of this sheet.

**MAIN Course**

- A. *Lancashire Pie served with Peas*
- B. *Fish & Chips and Mushy Peas*
- C. *Beef Baguette with Onions, Mushroom gravy served with Chips*

**SWEET Course**

- X. *Jam Roly Poly Pudding, with Hot Creamy Custard*
- Y. *Bread and Butter Pudding, with Hot Creamy Custard*

*Tea or Coffee with Truffles*

After our meal we will be visiting the *Interactive Fudge demonstration* and see how the world famous fudges, nougat, truffles & conserves are made and taste.

**Forge & Fudge Factory Visit**

*Tuesday 13th May 2008*

*I/We* wish to attend the above I enclose *my/our* meal selections & cheque for £.....at **£13.99 each** (for the inclusive visit & meal cost)  
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 Course 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)  
Please note number of places is limited to **40 only**. Please book by the **5th May 2008**.