

## CHAIN REACTION NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2018

### SAMLESBURY MEMORIAL HALL

Samlesbury Memorial Hall appears to be dedicated to men of the area who were killed in the First World War, and the photographs in the foyer seem to imply that it was also the village school. My own memories from the 1950s are that it belonged to Samlesbury Young Farmers' Club, so there is obviously a lot of history to this building.

### SAMLESBURY HALL

However, seeing the photographs of the wonderful architecture of Samlesbury Hall has prompted me to write a little article about Samlesbury Hall itself, the historic stately home, as distinct from the Memorial Hall where we dance. The photograph below gives some idea of the magnificence of this hall. It was built around 1325, and there are many ghost stories and accounts of strange happenings since that time. It is a Grade I Listed Building and a Trust was set up in 1968 to preserve the building and its wonderful history.



They hold ghost tours and cater for functions, as well as providing a large area for sales of antiques and other collectors' items. We did hold our Christmas lunch there one year, but it was so cold that we were left wondering how people survived the cold winters of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, with only one huge fireplace in the great hall, so we moved our Christmas lunch to the much warmer local pub. However, Samlesbury Hall is well worth a visit. It's on the Blackburn Road, A677, and only about a mile from the roundabout where we turn into Cuedale Lane.

*Jane*

### HEALTH NEWS

**Muriel** has successfully had her shoulder replacement operation and is doing well. She is home from hospital and said a "hello" to all of us.

**Nell** had her cataract operation earlier in July and is also making a good recovery.

### JONNY PRESTON at SYMONDS YAT

In June Bob and I went to the annual Johnny Preston week held at Symonds Yat close to the Welsh border near Hereford. We were joined there by Jackie B and John & Sandra Miller. John & Sandra sent their best wishes to us all. The evening dancing is all Plus and there are morning workshops at A1, A2 and Plus and also two afternoon dances – one at A1 and one at A2

This was the third time we had been. The A1 and A2 workshops seemed easier this time but one of the Plus workshops produced some good moves. Jackie tells us we were actually dancing C moves when he called outsides chase left whilst insides chase right from out-facing lines of four. He also did an interesting variation on a move we all know - ping pong circulate, men go twice, ladies zoom. It flowed very well.

The hotel is already fully booked for next year although there is space for anyone staying B&B nearby or in a caravan. There may, of course, be cancellations nearer the time.

The hotel is in pleasant grounds near the River Wye, the catering is excellent and it has an air-conditioned ballroom! We had a good 4 days of dancing.

*Bob & Joanne*

### AND THEN IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE:

The American caller Johnny Preston was doing a one day stand at Bottesford, a small village a few miles South East of Nottingham. There was an A1/A2 session in the afternoon and a plus session in the evening. There were a few C.R. members present, Terry and Di, Brian and Carol and Trevor and Chris. The A2 session had about 6 or 7 squares and was very good with nicely flowing calls, not too difficult but not too easy either.

A BAASDC question and answer session followed in the interval before the evening plus dance.

A few more people arrived for the plus dance (about 8 or 9 squares) and this was like the A2, very flowing and not too easy but not too difficult either, a very good balance.

*Brian & Carol*

## SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

In September John Laws will be doing his annual hundred-mile cycle ride for charity and we would like to help by raising sponsorship from our members. We will put a collecting box on the stage so anyone who wants to can make a contribution.

*John says:*

The Manchester 100 event is being held on Sunday 2nd September and is a 100 km or 100 mile loop round Cheshire, starting and finishing at Wythenshawe Park in south Manchester and routed via Knutsford, Northwich, Tattenhall, Nantwich, Middlewich, and Wilmslow.

The main benefitting charity is The Christie.

I have taken part in this event several times over the years and like to do it as a personal challenge and to raise money for The Christie where my late wife, Christine, was a patient with breast cancer.

*John Laws*

**MANCHESTER 100**  
SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER - THE CHRISTIE

START AND FINISH  
MANCHESTER  
Wythenshawe Park

NORTHWICH  
KNUTSFORD  
WILMSLOW  
MIDDLEWICH  
TATTENHALL  
NANTWICH  
MIDDLEWICH

Start Wythenshawe Park, Wythenshawe Rd, Manchester M22 6AA  
Start Times:  
100 mile ride: 8.45am-8.11am  
100 km ride: 8.15am-8.03am

Best Bike Road/hybrid bike recommended on 100 mile route  
Bridging (see p1)  
100 mile ①  
100 km ②

WHICHEVER RIDE YOU CHOOSE, IT'S AN ACHIEVEMENT!  
RAISING VITAL FUNDS FOR MANCHESTER'S FAVORITE CHARITY, THE CHRISTIE, FOLLOW EITHER 100 MILE OR 100 KM ROUTES  
ACROSS THE CHESHIRE PLAIN IN SEARCH OF CYCLING GLORY - AND A WELL-EARNED CERTIFICATE AT THE END, ALONG WITH  
FRISBEE, REFRESHMENTS AND MASSAGE!

Refreshment stops:  
100 miles: 18 stops | 100km: 14 stops  
All stops provide refreshments, a pump, repair kit and a well-earned rest for you and your bike.  
www.bike-events.co.uk/Manchester100

For parking and track entry please check our website  
For the latest news on all our events  
www.bike-events.co.uk/events/Manchester100  
www.bike-events.co.uk/Manchester100

ENTER ONLINE AT [WWW.BIKE-EVENTS.CO.UK](http://WWW.BIKE-EVENTS.CO.UK) OR BY POST P39

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(Don't worry if you can't read this, there is a full-sized version on the notice board.)

## A Few Comedy Corner Clips from by David

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

What is the difference between ignorance and apathy?

I don't know, and I don't care!

What do you call a belt made of watches?

A waist of time.

Just been to an emotional wedding.

Even the cake was in tiers .....

## EUROPEAN CONVENTION

I believe 9 of our members went to the Netherlands for the 2018 Convention, but we may have to wait till next month for reports as some dancers are extending their trip and are not yet back home.

It also appears that Di picked up a couple of tricky moves which she sneaked into our innocent minds on Sunday!

## MESSAGE FROM KEVIN & BIRGIT

Could you let members know that we have finally sold our house and moved down south to be closer to our son and family. We had planned to say "Good Bye" but in the end it wall went rather quickly. We are planning to come to Southport in November and hope to see you all there.

Off to find a club down south now. Any suggestions for the area around Brighton?  
All the best to everyone,  
*Birgit & Kevin*

REPLY: There are 7 Sussex clubs listed in the square dance magazine. You would need to go to [www.uksquaredancing.com](http://www.uksquaredancing.com) and look for clubs to see which is best for you. Keep in touch and let us know how you get on. Best wishes to you both. *Jane*

## **LOTS OF NEWS OF TREVOR & CHRIS'S RECENT TRAVELS**

**NUTS IN MAY** - Chris, Trevor, Heather, Philip, Carol & Brian attended the above weekend - 4-7 May and danced to Terry & Di attending the A1-2 dance during the weekend.

**TILEHURST SQUARES** - On Saturday 9th June Chris, Trevor, Heather & Philip went to an A1/A2 dance called by Trudy & Simon. This was our first venue since finishing the A2 programme. We were a bit shaky but succeeded and had a great time.

**NORTHERN AREA BAASDC DANCE** - Two squares of Chain Reaction dancers went to the NA BAASDC event at Bottesford Village Hall on Saturday 23rd June.

In the afternoon we danced A1/A2 dance called by Johnny Preston which was followed by a meeting and MS/Plus in the evening.

(Hopefully we will have some piccies next month from Brian and Carol,)

**ECTA - EUROPEAN CALLERS & TEACHERS ASSOCIATION** - Trevor & Chris visited Bad Salzetfurth - south of Hanover, Germany (28-30 June) - calling and lectures but no A dancing on this trip.

**AMSTERDAM DANCE CONVENTION** - 20-22nd JULY - Chris, Trevor, Di, Terry, Peter & Pauline, Carol & Brian ventured across the Channel to attend the above. At the trail-in dance. We joined 550 people dancing B/MS - the convention was attended by 2,000 dancers, 104 of which were from England.

During the convention we had a choice of B/MS/PLUS/A1/A2/C1 - think everyone

had a good time. We had the opportunity to dance 12hrs a day.

Looking forward to attending the next one in Sigtuna, Sweden in 2020 - hope you can join us.

## **COMING EVENTS**

Our joint dance with the Lune Valley club will be the first Saturday in October. PLEASE put this date in your diary. This year the caller will be Terry McCann, assisted by Di for both the A dance in the afternoon and the mainstream plus in the evening.

## **JANE'S BIRTHDAY**

My thanks go to all those of you who sent me birthday greetings on Facebook. I had a lovely birthday lunch at a canal-side pub with some of my family, then another lunch and went 10-pin bowling with other family members on Saturday. All this and still during the heat wave. Lovely.

## **TRAVEL**

We had 3 squares dancing at CR last Sunday and want to say "Well done!" to all those dancers who battled against the serious traffic problems on the M6 to reach us. We hope your trip home was a little easier.

## **COMING EVENTS**

We look forward to seeing most of you at

## **Lytham**

to support Terry and Di and to dance to the new Swedish caller.

We also hope to see you all – and anyone else you can bring along – at our

## **Summer Dance**

on Saturday, the 18<sup>th</sup> August.