

CHAIN REACTION NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2024

Now to try and remember to type 2024 .. it usually takes till half-way through February for me to remember it!

I had a Christmas card from Rick and Carole in Australia. Not sure if it was meant for me or all the club, but Happy Christmas and New Year from them anyway. *Jane*

CHRISTMAS DANCE

Sunday 17th December was Chain Reaction's Christmas dance, and the last one of 2023. Di ensured we were all in a festive mood by calling dressed as a decorated Christmas tree:



Meanwhile, Terry danced with us dressed as one of Santa's elves:



During the interval we had mince pies with our coffee and tea, as well as some delicious cake which Sheila had made.

Following the excitement of a raffle, several tips included a 'Pass the parcel' game, where parcels were passed from hand to hand and between squares, until Di stopped the music, when the person left holding the parcel could unwrap just one layer. Eventually the person who unwrapped the final layer kept the contents: large bars of chocolate.

Di was presented with a festive 'thank you' from the club in appreciation of her calling and teaching over the year - no idea what was in the bag, though it clinked somewhat suspiciously!



MY CHRISTMAS PRESENT FROM SWEDEN

On one of the early Scottish holiday weekends we palled up with two lovely Swedish girls, Carin and Katrina, and I've kept in touch with Carin ever since, having also met them in Sweden. This year Carin sent me a lovely pair of hand-knitted socks, pure wool, and so warm and cosy. Lovely!

Sad News - John Kozyra

It was very sad to hear of John's death just before Christmas. John and Rose were great supporters of square dancing for many years, running their own club and attending others.

John has called at Chain Reaction several times over the years, helping us out when Di was unavailable and his choreography was always tricky and interesting. He also called at Lune Valley and played a big part in the organisation of the wonderful A weekends in Darley which many of us attended and enjoyed for years.

He will be sadly missed.

Di ended the evening with an alternative version of 'The 12 days of Christmas'. Everyone was assigned a number one of the days, as well as instructions for a suitable noise to make. I was given number 10 and 'Boing, Boing' - so when Di sang '10 Lords a-leaping', that was my cue to provide the noise. Some of the interpretations caused much mirth - the 'seven swans a-swimming', for example, sounded like they were drowning, whilst the 'eleven pipers piping' reduced everyone to hysterics.



It was a fun ending for a very enjoyable evening.

2023 into 2024

As we come to the end of another year of dancing The Committee would like to thank you all for your continued support and enthusiasm. We hope you have enjoyed all the dancing and we look forward to seeing you again in 2024.

**WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY
HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM THE COMMITTEE**

