

CHAIN REACTION SDC

Newsletter July 2026



White Rose Summer Dance June 2026 *

White Rose Summer Dance June 2026

White Rose held their Summer Dance on the afternoon of June 6th at Clifford Village Hall near Wetherby. It was called by Granville Spencer who was accompanied by his wife Wendy. This dance was Mainstream and Plus levels.

Granville however had competition as we counted 11 other callers in the dancing ensemble. During one tip there were 6 callers in one square. It was a bit like a Northern Callers Club convention.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon for Carol and myself, Chris and Trevor, Di, Terry and Muriel [Chain Reaction members] and Sue King from Lune Valley Fridays.

The list of attending callers was as follows :-

1. Ange Alexander
2. Cliff Anderton
3. Trevor Day
4. Di Green
5. Carol Holman
6. Emma Horsfield
7. Heather Innes
8. Phillip Mee
9. Terry McCann
10. Granville Spencer
11. Nick Tillotson
12. Gene Turner

The members of White Rose supplied a cream, jam and scones buffet which was very good and the event was organised by Anne and Nick Tillotson.

Does anyone know what the noun is for a collective of callers ?

Text by Brian Holman

Image by Google Gemini AI

I asked Google Gemini to take up the challenge of coining a suitable collective noun for a group of square dance callers. Here are the suggestions -

A cacophony of callers.

More uniquely suited to their specific habit of singing out rapid-fire instructions, perhaps **an inflection of callers** or **a holler of callers**.

Since they spend the entire evening telling everyone else exactly where to go, a few other amusing options come to mind:

A dictatorship of callers (because everyone has to do exactly what they say, the moment they say it!)

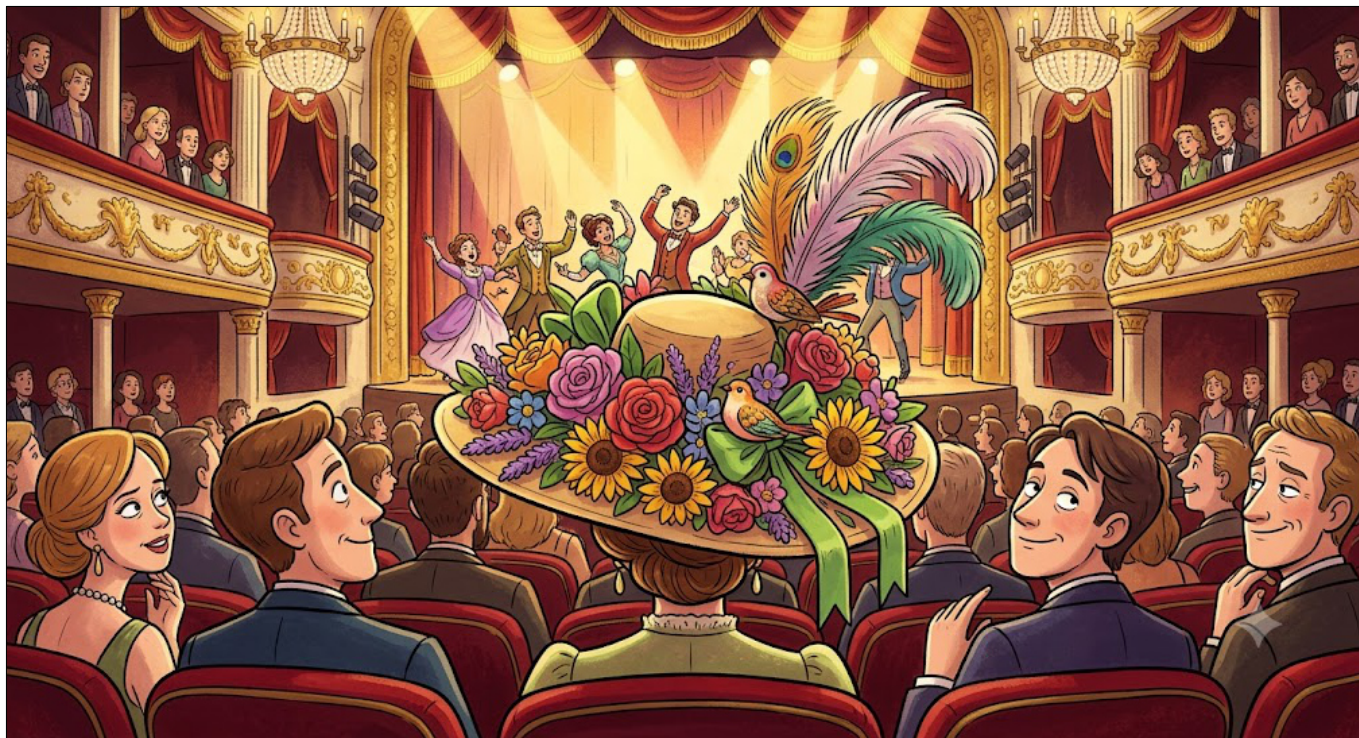
A baffle of callers (which is exactly what happens to the dancers when the calls get too fast or stacked)

A promenade of callers

Suggestions by Google Gemini

I think a baffle conveys the dancers' answer perfectly but a dictatorship is the most amusing.

Alan Chard



The Lady In Front Of Me *

Sister Act - Theatre Visit Report

I received an email from Di Green inviting me to attend David Walker's most recent performance on stage "Sister Act" at Chorley Little Theatre. David played the part of a Priest.

We had a meal at 'The Anatolia' before attending the theatre, this was a new Restaurant that we were trying out. The cuisine was Turkish/ Mediterranean. Everyone who was at the restaurant said they had an excellent meal. I choose Salmon, which was delicious.

We were lucky this year that the parking was within walking distance of the restaurant and just over the road from the Theatre.

I was very impressed with all the singers; they were very good. They were also acting and dancing, so they could be labelled as being 'A triple treat'.

I did have one problem, a lady sat down in front of me, with her hair piled up on the top of her head, consequently I could not see the stage very well and had to dodge sideways for most of the evening. At the end of the performance the same lady stood up clapping and cheering but she completely blocked the view of those behind her.

The whole company did put on an excellent show, I enjoyed the evening. We were able to congratulate David at the end of the evening.

Sheila Court

Photo supplied by David Walker



David Walker in Sister Act

Summer Holiday Contributions



Bodnant Garden



The Laburnum Walk at Bodnant Garden

Brian and Carol Holman recently visited North Wales where they enjoyed the rhododendrons and laburnum walk at Bodnant Gardens and Caernarfon Castle. Bodnant Garden is a National Trust property with around 80 acres of gardens. The house at Bodnant was originally constructed in 1792 and the garden extended in 1874, it was gifted to the National Trust in 1949.

The laburnum arch was created by the garden's Victorian founder Henry Pochin in 1880. At 55 metres long this is believed to be the longest such arch in Britain and also the oldest. Each year the



Caernarfon Castle *

arch flowers for about three weeks at the end of May and beginning of June; around 50,000 visitors view the arch each year.

Gill and Alan Chard spent two nights in the North East of England, with visits to Beamish Museum



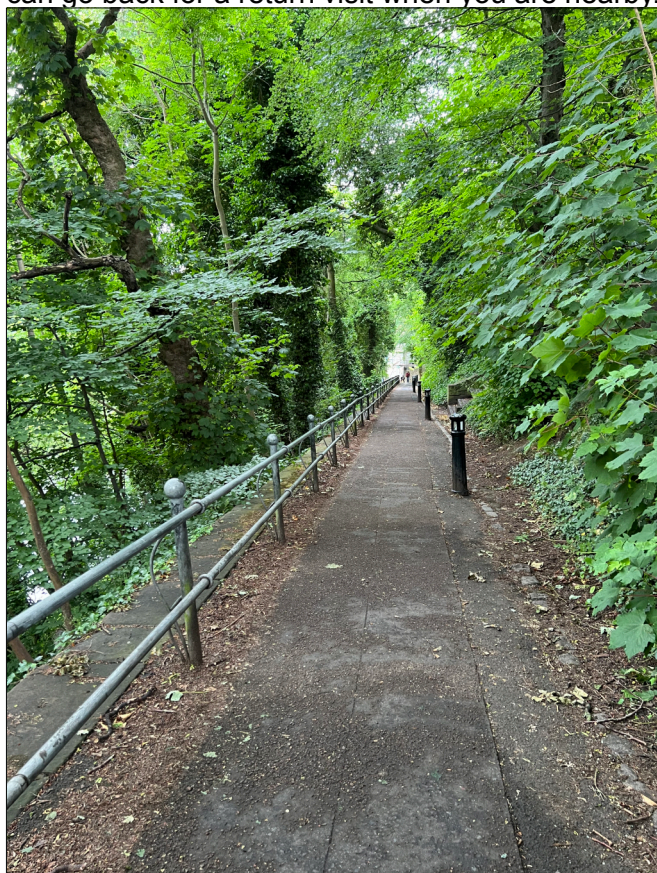
1900 Street - Beamish Museum



1900 Street - Beamish Museum

and Durham Cathedral. Beamish Museum isn't a traditional museum, the objects are not in glass cases, there are no labels to tell you what you're looking at. Beamish is an open-air museum, a 350 acre site loosely divided into areas such as the 1900s town, the 1900s pit village and 1950s town. The whole site is served by old trams and busses that carry visitors around.

Beamish Museum really needs more than one day to explore fully. Tickets are valid for a year, so you can go back for a return visit when you are nearby.



Approach Walkway To Durham Cathedral

Durham Cathedral is set high above the city, the pedestrian approach from the Walkergate car park

is long and via a very steep hill. Had I known just how steep and long I would have thought twice about visiting the cathedral.



Angel Of The North

It was a cold wet evening when we visited the Angel of the North, an impressive piece of metalwork. The thought that the plans for two different constructions got mixed up did occur to me, the wings looked so much like the balsa-wood aircraft that I used to to build.

Alan Chard

A Kind Of Humour . . .

It's not my grey hair that gives away my age;
It's my use of complete sentences and
punctuation in text messages.

No amount of evidence will ever persuade an
idiot. Mark Twain

If you don't want the truth, don't ask me.
When you want something sugarcoated eat a
doughnut.

When something goes wrong in the circus,
they send in the clowns to distract the
audience. Something has gone wrong with
this circus and the clowns are everywhere.

There's a fine line between a numerator and a
denominator. Only a fraction of people will
find this amusing.

The difference: Jim has an Oxford degree in
philosophy, 100K in student debt, can't find a
philosophy job and thinks people without a
degree and stupid. Jack did a 4-year paid
apprenticeship, has no student debt, earns
55K a year working for an electric company.
Jack just installed Jim's pre-payment electric
meter due to non-payment.

We live in a time when intelligent people are
being silenced so that stupid people will not

be offended.

At my age, a trail of clothes leading to the bedroom means I dropped them on the way to the dryer.

One day you will find someone that's obsessed with you. It's probably going to be a dog, but that's how it is.

If every computer in the world crashed, and the internet was gone, people my age are the only ones who could cope.

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Newsletter contributions to Alan Chard, please use the chainreactionsdc@gmail.com email because a contribution sat in my junk folder for a week and was only discovered by accident.

Please keep your contributions to this newsletter coming, send by 28th July 2026 for the August edition.

Summer Holiday Season

July and August many of us will be taking off on holiday or visiting friends and family. What will the other members of Chain Reaction be doing — where, with whom ?

It would be great to have some non-square-dance contributions to the newsletter so that others can share what's been happening over the summer.

Send a couple of holiday snaps and a note about your summer, I'm sure the other members will be interested.

Alan Chard

* An asterisk indicates image enhancement or production by Google Gemini