

NEWSLETTER No. 61



October 2016

The summer has simply flown by and we are now well into the new autumn term, but unfortunately no new dancers. Perhaps we can encourage some in January as it is always good to get new blood to keep a thriving Group. So far we have managed good attendances on Wednesday evenings and we are very lucky to have almost equal numbers of men and women, so do keep coming as often as you can.

Our Summer Socials all went well with several visitors and we learnt a variety of different dances which we will be bringing into our weekly programmes. We are grateful to our Guest callers, Sue Tyler, Barbara Savill, and Robert & Maggie Morgan.

Trip to Brittany: On the first weekend in July a party of thirteen dancers, one non-dancing husband, and Tess the dog descended on the small Breton town of Saint Quay Perros. We were the guests of the Scots Bonnet Scottish dancing club for their annual "bal". 2016 was the turn of our Breton dancing friends to act as hosts for this informal friendly exchange which has been active since 1999.

The members of our party were welcomed by our French hosts as house guests, and treated to their usual generous hospitality. On the evening of Friday 1st July we attended a walk/dance-through of the programme at la Salle Yves Guégan de Saint Quay Perros, and treated to a light supper of crêpes washed down with local cider.

On Saturday the 2nd some of our dancers went to the Day School taught by Marilyn Watson from Bournemouth, whilst others chose to relax with their hosts or explore the beautiful local area. At 7.00pm. we arrived at the hall for a wine reception followed by the ball with wonderful music from Ian Robertson, accordion, and John Dudley, violin. As is customary in St. Quay, there was a long break for a buffet meal from the groaning tables, and as much wine as one wished for. As well as dancers from the Bridport party and our French hosts, there were dancers from Cornwall, Guernsey, Jersey, Paris and other areas in France. The evening was a very jolly affair – perhaps even more so after the meal!

The following Sunday morning, having probably gone to bed by around 2.00am, the hardiest joined a 5km. walk on the beautiful Rose Granite coast organized by Huguette. The weekend was rounded off by lunch at a nice restaurant near the coast. Another memorable time in Brittany for which we must thank the generosity of our Breton friends.

Saturday 16th July turned out to be a proper summer's evening for the **Garden Dance**, dancing on the lawn at Brooke House to Skara Brae, followed by a catered supper in Caroline's home. As ever, the garden was a delight and the tickets were a sell-out. Linda had some nervous turns over the cooking, but the PopUp Catering Team helped it all happen and the Lasagne was delicious.

This year, St Andrew's Night falls on a Wednesday so that evening will have a special St Andrew's flavour – don't miss it.

As usual, all Wednesdays in December will be at Salway Ash. **The Christmas Party will be on Wednesday 14th December** and we hope to have live music from a new duo consisting of accordion and fiddle. The evening will follow the preferred format of dancing first, then bring and share food with wine supplied.

There will also be dancing on Wednesday 21st December for those who would like a break from Christmas preparations. The idea is to try some new and interesting dances but nothing too difficult as it must be a fun night. We shall start dancing again on Wednesday 11th January at Church House.

There is a lot of other information on the Website, kept going by Philip, so if you have few minutes to spare in this busy life, take a look. In the meantime keep dancing.