



NEWSLETTER No. 62

October 2017

The autumn term has got off to a good start with four new ladies, Anita, Pat, Annalisa and Reme, who is Spanish. Anita attended our Workshop in August, so it is good that we got one new recruit by taking part in the Bridport Folk Festival. [More about that later] We also welcome back Margaret Lewis, who used to dance with us many years ago; and Patricia and Paul who are coming on alternate Wednesdays.

To help our newcomers we have gone "back to basics" for the first part of our Wednesday evenings, but then giving our more experienced dancers some new and challenging dances in the second half. We hope this will give a fair balance with something for everyone.

This year it was our turn to act as hosts to Scottish Country Dancers from both the **Scots Bonnet** club who dance in St Quay-Perros and members of the Scottish dancing group from the **Knowledge Exchange** organization based in Lannion. Fifteen dancers came over from Brittany between the 13th to the 17th July 2017, and enjoyed the warm hospitality offered by members of our club in their homes. The dance on Saturday at Loders village hall was great fun with music from Skara Brae and enjoyed by some 76 dancers, so a big thank you to Ann and all the callers. This was followed by a sumptuous meal organized by Linda and her team of helpers. Many thanks to Linda and her merry band, and to Chris Watson for fantastic puds, Robert Smith for the trout, Peter and Mark for running the bar, and Petronella for tickets and much more besides. On Sunday morning Peter Wingfield led a walk round Eggardon Hill for French guests and hosts, followed by lunch at the Spyway Inn. All then retired to Caroline Temple's garden for games and tea with Amanda Acland's birthday cake. Thank you Peter, Caroline and Amanda.

Next year will be the turn of our French friends to host a party of dancers from Bridport, and dancers from both Scots Bonnet and the Knowledge Exchanges class invite us to go to Brittany for the dancing weekend from the **29th June to the 1st July 2018**. We will stay with our French friends and there will be various activities, with the ball at St. Quay-Perros on Saturday 30th June 2018. Please put a note in your diaries. Details will be available in the new year.

As part of the inaugural **Bridport Folk Festival**, we were invited as a locally based dancing club to offer a dance workshop, which we accepted because it allowed us to showcase Scottish Country Dancing in our home town. Our workshop was 2.30 - 4.00pm on Sunday 13th August 2017 in Church House. Ann, with Caroline M-S and Tony, planned a nice programme, and eleven people came along and seemed to enjoy the experience. We were ably assisted by Linda, Petronella, Celia, Frank, Jeanne, Philip, Patricia and Paul S. Whilst there were some organisational issues on the part of the folk festival team which we have taken up with them, we felt that it was a worthwhile exercise and free publicity for our club, We have promised our support for the Folk Festival if it runs in 2018.

The first Wednesday in November will be a Social Evening at Salway Ash and in December all three Wednesdays will be at Salway Ash. **The Christmas Party will be on Wednesday 13th December 2017**, a free evening with food and drink, and 20th December an evening to try out some new and different dances, perhaps with a taste of Christmas.

We shall start dancing again on **Wednesday 10th January 2018** at Church House.

There is a lot of other information on the website, kept going by Philip: