



## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2013/14**

I would first like to thank a number of people who have ensured that I have had to do little as chairman, particularly the treasurer and rest of the committee but also the tea, coffee and biscuit fairies who have caused supplies to arrive as if by magic each week, those who have sold tickets organised raffles and composed a treasure hunt. And, our primary purpose being dancing, the programme secretary and the club callers who have managed not only an interesting selection of dances but kept a seamless continuity.

The club had 53 members during the year with three honorary members

We held 42 dance evenings with attendance generally being between 27 and 35 in the winter and 23 and 35 in the summer. The highest was 42 on 9 October and the lowest 19 on 29 January when a number of members were away dancing in Spain. These included party nights with the Osbands and with Paul St Clair taking us from the sublime to the ridiculous.

The hall was booked for New Year's Day before we expressed interest and there was a general feeling that another date would encourage better attendance. So we held a Tenth Afternoon, that is nearly twelfth night Tea Dance, with Roy calling accompanied by Deo Volente. Our other set piece was the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Dance with Victoria Yeomans calling and Dave and Caroline providing the music. Both were oversubscribed and went very well.

Other activities began with the usual LOROS walk which was effectively washed out for a second year. However Bronwyn provided us with a very pleasant day and £171, including one large donation, was still raised. Heather led the New Year's Day walk, again curtailed by the weather but rescued socially by our hostess. There followed an excellent annual lunch held at the Leicester Bowls Club with dancing again called by Roy. In the Summer we went to Kilworth to see South Pacific and Margaret Darlaston and Freda concocted a Treasure Hunt followed as usual by Fish and Chips.

Sadly Mary Moore and Dorothy Winfield, two very long standing members of the club, died during the year and a number of us attended their funerals. Dorothy's daughters gave her country dance music collection so that members of the club might take CDs in return for a donation to the British Heart Foundation. The Rutland Folk Dance Club of which Dorothy was also a member has taken the balance of the collection and members have access to it as part of their library.

Looking ahead, because of the concentration of activities after Christmas it has been decided to move the Annual Lunch to mid November, that being our next main event. This time John and Margaret Pollard will organise the wine.

As the treasurer has said we await information on any increase in charges for use of the hall. However, given the generally good financial position of the club we would like to consider more evenings with live bands. This is dependent on our ability to ensure that we have enough people to make it worthwhile and generate a critical mass.

Whilst we could not easily cope with a sudden large influx of new members a trickle particularly from the Burton Overy area would obviously be very welcome. Heather has put an advertisement in the Great Glen newsletter and anyone else's thoughts would be welcome.

Finally, thank you all for supporting the club over the year just finished.