

North Staffs Accordion Club

Newsletter
October 2015
No 459

The North Staffs Accordion Club

welcomes all accordion enthusiasts playing or non-playing.

We hold a 'Clubnite' at

at 8 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month

where entertainment is provided by club members or guest artists.

We have a band rehearsal all other Tuesdays

and a beginners' class every Monday at 7.30 pm and a class for schoolchildren on Mondays 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Phone 01782 823668.

**All at Goldenhill
Workingmen's
Club**



**COMING
IN
OCTOBER**

**NOVEMBER 17TH
CLUBNITE**

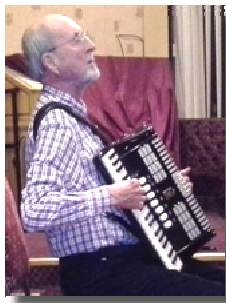
**DUET &
GROUP
PLAYING**

Hi EVERYONE I HOPE YOU ARE ALL WELL AND PREPARED FOR THE WINTER (PLENTY OF CANDLES AND TORCHES)! I KNOW I AM.

SEPTEMBER 15TH CLUBNITE

There were about 24 people present at our September clubnite and the evening started with our annual general meeting. Your secretary, Steve Hughes, has comprehensive minutes but the following is a brief summary of two of the main points:

1. All your existing officers/committee members were re-elected for another term but they will be joined this year by Norman Brown. Norman has been a club member for many years and I know that



'once he's got his feet under the table' he'll be a big asset to the committee - welcome onboard Norman.

2. As a direct result of the disruption that took place at the Holditch in February of this year, our various club activities now take place at three different venues, namely the Goldenhill Workingmen's Club (clubnites), the Bradwell Workingmen's Club (band practice) and the Holditch (our Young Players and the Monday Group). This situation has resulted in an increase in our club's annual expenditure by about £850, so our club members need to make a concerted effort to cover these additional costs

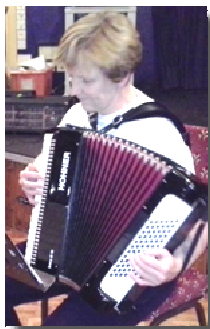
by attending our clubnites. There are no significant advantages for our club, financial or otherwise, in moving all the club's activities back to the Holditch where the costs have increased.

The AGM finished at about 8.25 and it was immediately followed by a playing circle. Several members of the Monday group were included (they had been practising some of the playing circle music) and I hope they thoroughly enjoyed the experience. In fact, I hope that from now on they'll play in many future circles.

It was my birthday the day after our clubnite (16th), so I was presented with a lovely birthday cake by Barbara. Everyone else had an opportunity to partake of many other of her home-

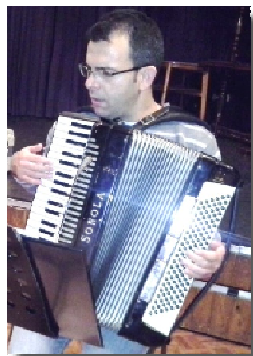
baked delicacies (*picture top of page*), including her legendary lemon drizzle cake, so a great time was had by all.

Once again we had a super-raffle, with almost enough prizes for half the audience. Then the following players had an opportunity to perform their 'party pieces':



Helen Brown (*above*) - *Flower of Scotland / Leaving of Liverpool*
 Geoff Capewell - *Sands of Islay / There's Always Room at Our House*
 Geoff Burndrett - *Harry Lyme Theme / Scotland the Brave*
 Brian Shufflebotham - *Santa Lucia / Brahms' Hungarian Dance Number 5*
 Don Bebbington (*top left*) - *Under The Bridges Of Paris / The Ash Grove*
 Derek Wilton - *Isle Of Capri/How Are Things In Glocca Morra / Long Way To Tipperary*

Vicente Da Corta (*below left*) *Gouveia / Carnival Of Venice*. Well done Vicente. Vicente is a new member having joined the Beginners/Improvers group on Monday nights. He ventured to play a solo after only 3 weeks' playing.



Norman Brown (with his new 'committee member' hat on) (*above right*) – *Mississippi / Streets Of London*

Another 'Beginners/Improvers' member, Ken Marek (*right*), who retired last year and returned after a four months (yes, four months!) holiday on the canal - *Leaving Of Liverpool / Fields Of Athenry*

Mike Richards - *Sorrento Thoughts / Under Paris Skies*

I'd like to take this opportunity of thanking those of you who were present on the night for your attendance at the AGM and, of course, I'd like to thank Barbara for making this night very special for me.

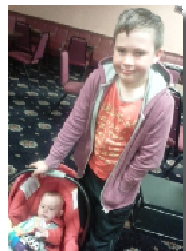


Best wishes, **Mike**.

NOVEMBER CLUBNITE

The November clubnite at the Goldenhill Workingmen's Club will be for duet and group playing with a wish that players team up with another member or non-member instrumentalist or vocalist. Don't let it put you off coming if you haven't teamed up, and bring your accordion, I'm sure we'll fit you in.

MONDAY NIGHT FUN & GAMES



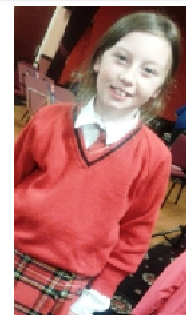
Fun and games on a Monday night!!! From 5-6pm the North Staffs Accordion Club 'Young Players' meet to develop their playing skills and music theory. In the photos you can see Scarlett and Hollie getting to grips with music theory.

Wolfy is pictured with his baby brother Cobalt. Cobalt is our youngest player!!

Tilly looks extremely smart in her school uniform. The children have one to one tuition, training in music theory and play as a group.

Not pictured are Jade, Grace, James and Keith. New members are warmly welcomed. The young players will be playing at the club's Christmas party/ 30th anniversary celebration on the 15th of December. Get your tickets and come along.

Helen



FOSTER AND ALLEN



On the 6th October 2015 Radio Stoke featured an interview by telephone with **Foster and Allen** promoting their forthcoming UK Autumn (40th anniversary) Tour which includes, as nearest venues, Cannock and Stockport (14th and 17th November respectively). Members Dennis and Pauline Wakefield were warmly mentioned in the chat, Pauline being founder/secretary of the Foster and Allen Appreciation Society.

Following the radio programme I phoned the Wakefields and Pauline subsequently posted her latest Foster and Allen newsletter to me. Taking some facts from this:

- The 40th anniversary relates to the time they have been together as a performing and recording duo. Prior to that they were in the same band.
- They appeared on Top of the Pops in April 1982

- They have had three gold and three silver status albums since 2003
- They have sold almost 1.5 million albums
- They are celebrating the anniversary with the release of a new album, 'Celebration' containing 20 tracks
- They have a full promotional team working on the album with a plan to attain interviews with 350 radio networks nationwide within 10 days
- They have just completed a tour of New Zealand and are currently on tour in Canada
- Of 17 concerts on the New Zealand tour – 15 were sell-outs, and two, with 2000 capacity, were 75% full.
- They had two albums released on this tour, the first, 'The Very Best of Foster & Allen,' rose to no 2, and the second, 'Gold & Silver Days,' went to no 11 in the charts.

Anyone wishing to join the appreciation society (annual subs £12) contact Pauline Wakefield on 01270 878894 and be prepared for a lengthy call (!) or write to her at 74 Cranberry Lane, Alsager, ST7 2NX.

Steve Hughes

TICKETS ON SALE

Tickets will be available at the October clubnite for the following, both of which will take place at the **Goldenhill Workingmens Club**:

The Christmas / 30th Anniversary Party is on the 15th December. This party will feature the **Barry Schmitt Bavarian Band** and there will be the usual superb Christmas buffet and an anniversary cake modelled as an accordion. Tickets are **£8.50**.

The ever popular annual **Jazz Clubnite** featuring **Harry Hussey** on accordion, all the way from Glasgow, and **Lily's Weepers** including yours truly on double bass. Tickets **£4** (£5 on door).

SOLO SESSION AND CHORD WORKSHOP

With two or three apologies, only four of us turned up at the afternoon 'Solo Session' on Thursday the 8th October, held in the lovely lounge of the Bradwell Workingmens' Club. Moira Hague, John Hirst, Jeff Brundrett and I played a few solo pieces in turn with an agreement that if anyone else knew the piece they could join in.

The session turned into a very enjoyable two-hour bash with three of us playing by ear and Moira following my fingering (no, not the diatonic this time). Returning the glasses to the bar before leaving I was greeted by, "That was b...y lovely. When are you here next?" A nice reaction.

We hope to have a few more joining in next month.

The chord workshop has now discontinued until further notice due to lack of take-up. Anyone interested in joining in on a future date, just let me know.

Steve Hughes.

THE BOSLEY CONCERT



Last July's devastating explosion at the Bosley Wood Treatment Mill has left about half the work force of the mill affected, and four people were killed. Many events have raised thousands of pounds in support of families affected by the explosion, such as charity bike rides, pool competitions, netball and football matches and golf tournaments etc, etc.

Our band is to take part in a concert at the Bosley Church on Friday, November 13th, sharing the stage with the Bosley Church Choir (*left*) and moneys raised will go to the fund.

JOAN'S ACCORDIONS

Joan Bamford, who died recently, had some vintage accordions which the family wish to sell. One is an Italian-made Casali 16 bass with box, good bellows and is nice for folk music and there is also a vintage concertina/accordion in fair condition

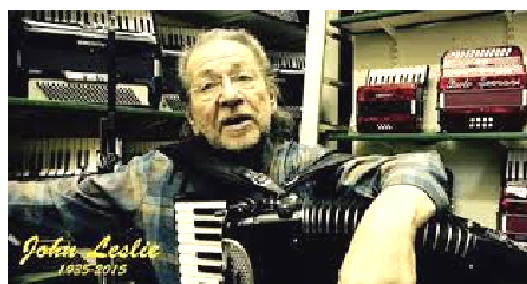
Offers please. Tel. **01782 776431**.



Obituaries

John Leslie 1935 – 2015

After a long illness accordionist and teacher, **John Leslie**, proprietor of Accordions of London passed away peacefully on the 27 September. John had connections with our club being an active supporter of, and adjudicator for, the National Composers' Competitions that the club organised 15 years ago before we handed over to the National Accordion Organisation. Our condolences go out to his wife, Jenny, and his eight children. **RIP**



Dr. Roger Raby



We have fond memories of **Dr Roger Raby** of Scholar Green, a former club member, who sadly died in September, aged 87. On his retirement, he took up the accordion and joined our beginner classes and junior band. Roger was very good company and a true gentleman.

You're never too old to learn new skills as



proven by Roger (*seen on the right of the picture*) receiving a BCA (British College of Accordionists) exam certificate. Also pictured above is the junior band circa 1992.

Roger is on the back row fifth from the right. Our condolences go to Roger's family.



His Hohner V5 is for sale. Offers please.

Joan Shepley

Joan Shepley, wife of Harry Shepley, who was a member and ex secretary of the North Staffs Accordion Club, has passed away. She died on the 12th September at East Cheshire Hospice aged 84; the funeral took place at St. John's Church, Buglawton, and Macclesfield Crematorium.

Harry and Joan were staunch members of the club but had been unable to attend for several years due to ill health. We offer Harry, his daughter and two sons our condolences. **RIP**

Diary

Every Monday 5.00pm-6.00 pm	Accordion classes for young players at the Holditch
Every Monday 7.30 p.m.	Beginners'/Improvers' night at the Holditch
Tuesdays other than 3 rd 8.00pm	Band rehearsal at Bradwell Workingmen's Club
Every 3 rd Tuesday of month 8.00pm	Clubnite at Goldenhill Workingmen's Club
2nd Thursday of month 1 p.m.	Solo Session
October 20 th	John Stuart Scottish Band
Nov 7 th to 9 th	Midlands Accordion Festival, Dudley
Nov 17 th	Clubnite Theme: Duets
December 15 th	Combined Xmas and 30 th Anniversary Party
January 19 th 2016	Harry Hussey and Lily's Weepers

Members' Adverts

Tuition

Pauline Hardwick Tel **01782 397248** accordion and/or piano
Stefan Andrusyschyn Tel **07958261024** accordion and/or piano
Mike Gibson Tel **01782 660865** piano
John Romero Tel **01606 270148** accordion

For Sale

Roland FR-18 Diatonic V-Accordion for sale **£1000** tel. **01625 432530**

Barcarole Dominante 96 bass, 11 treble, 3 bass couplers. Includes case and is in good working order - only needs seeing.

£250 (no offers). Phone **01782 323046**

Fratelli Alessandrini modern accordion. Blue. 96 bass, 4 voice, musette, 9 treble couplers, 3 bass couplers, Hohner gig bag, full decoration, miked for amplification. Modern keyboard – black notes are blue.

£1800. Tel. Rob Borrett **07428 079752**

72 bass piano accordion in very good condition with carrying case....**£150**

H Singhal student model with 34 piano keys, 5 treble couplers including bandoneon and violin

Tel: **Mrs. Robinson** on **01782 372281**

Yamaha keyboard with stand. PRS E303. Excellent condition. **£60.** Contact **Wilf Bailey** tel **01270 213643**

President	Brian Shufflebotham	
Chairman	Mike Richards	01782 642101
Secretary	Steve Hughes	01782 787935
Treasurer	Mike Richards (acting)	01782 642101

Committee

Tony Britton, Helen Brown, Norman Brown, Graham Butler, Graham Hughes,
Lily Lynch and Greta Moseley.

Web address - **www.northstaffsaccordionclub.co.uk**

Editor Lily Lynch email - **accordions@northstaffsaccordionclub.co.uk**