



Guildford Accordion Club

Newsletter 17th April 2020

Friday 17th April 2020 was the clubs 30th anniversary. What an achievement.

The club was formed by members of The Tillingbourne Accordion Band and the initial Committee members were Bill Booth, Secretary, David Small Treasurer, Janine Currey, chairperson and Pete Denman who did the music. The first player was Phil Clapcott.

The first guest artist in the October was Harry Hussey. It was a very busy evening and we were worried we wouldn't be able to fit everyone in. What a night! This really established us as the club we are today.

This Friday 17th April 2020 we would have partied the night away. Unfortunately we have to postpone this but promise a party when we all meet up again. It will be good to see you all again.

Oh when will that be? Your guess is as good as mine but I cannot wait!

Myra has been busy putting amusing and entertaining stuff on our facebook site. It's good how people can join up using the internet to play along together. If you haven't seen it it's worth a look.

Keep them coming Myra, you're doing a good job.

If anyone has any exciting news or ideas for my next newsletter I would appreciate if you could send it to me, I like to keep in touch with you all.

Unfortunately I have some sad news as well. We have lost three of our members recently but not because of this terrible virus.

Mrs Sheila Hoare was a non playing member that loved to come along with her friend Elsie to listen to the music on our club nights, often singing during the play along.

We will miss Sheila and send our condolences to her daughter Jane and her family and friends.

Mr Paul Mitchell who used to come along with his sister June, hadn't been well for some time.

Paul played fiddle and accordion.

He played with several folk groups for barn dances and social evenings. He will be sadly missed.

We send condolences to all his family and friends,

Another member that most of you know passed away on Tuesday evening. Mr Philip Wheeler.

Phil played brass before he learned the accordion about 37 years ago.

He began lessons with Trevani along with a few other players that are still playing accordion today.

He later joined a group with Graham Romani.

He enjoyed time with them. They had trips abroad one to Innsbruck and another to Russia. They visited the Conservatory where Oleg Sharov is currently Senior Professor of Music in the accordion department.

Phil was also able to go and see a Russian ballet with the group during this visit.

Must have been a lovely experience.

Phil also played with Judy Browns group Carpe Diem and the East Surrey Accordion Society.

He was on the members committee of the NAO for many years and enjoyed lending a hand at the festivals in different areas.

He joined the Tillingbourne Accordion Orchestra as a player and then took up the baton for some time. He continued becoming Chairman of the Orchestra and was always a valued member.

He always supported the Guildford Accordion Club from its humble beginnings and will be sadly missed by all of us. We send condolences from everyone in the accordion world to his son Alex and daughter Julie and their family and friends.

Next Club Night

To Be Announced !!!

Hope to see you all again soon.