

Spring Newsletter 2021

Dear All,

I am hoping this finds you fit and well.

Good News

At last, the government has a plan to get us back to some kind of normal. I hope you have either had your first vaccination, or maybe like me you are eagerly awaiting the call up. We recognize that there are big “Ifs” in this plan but, hopefully by the summer we will be in a much better position to get back to dancing. So, with that in mind the Carlisle and Border Branch have a Hopeful Plan!

Change of Venue

We have been advised that Trinity Church Hall will no longer be available for Carlisle’s Monday afternoon and Wednesday evening classes as it is being sold. The Vicar has offered two alternative church halls: St Luke’s in Morton Park and St Barnabas in Raffles both to the west of Carlisle. Two committee members have visited both halls which are light and spacious, have kitchens, PA systems and options for splitting the class for beginners and more experience dancers if we wish. So, we propose to hold two dance classes, one at each hall to help decide the best venue on Wednesdays July 7th and July 14th. We also plan to follow this with a **Nice and Easy Social Dance at the chosen hall, penciled in for 14th August 2021** – we so hope you can join us.

September Classes 2021

Monday afternoon, Wednesday evening and Advanced classes are to reconvene in September. The first lesson of each class will be a free ‘taster session’ for new dancers to come and see what fun we have – so bring along your friends!

Intermediate Workshops

Gillian Hardstone plans to continue her series of intermediate workshops at Longtown Memorial Hall on the fourth Sunday of September, October, and November 2021. More details will be circulated in the late summer.

Carlisle & Border Branch AGM

To be held in September / October - date to be announced.

70th Anniversary Dance - Saturday 20th November 2021

We were really disappointed when we had to cancel our special anniversary celebration last November, but are really looking forward to dancing the night away for our 71st year at Carlisle Racecourse on the above date, so put that date in your diary and keep your fingers crossed!

Communication with Members

If you are reading this Newsletter you will have received it via the 'NW Groupspaces' email. North West Craven Branch set this email system for NW dancers on Groupspaces 7 years ago and we have been using this communication facility ever since. It has proved to be an excellent and easy way to keep in touch with around 400 dancers in the NW. Unfortunately, 'Groupspaces' is closing down from 1st April. Thanks again to NW Craven Branch another provider has been found called 'Groups.io' which has similar functionality. The email addresses from Groupspaces will be automatically transferred before the end of the month. You should receive "groups.io" emails from us and other groups in the near future.

Day School - 5th February 2022

Deb Lees will be teaching at our half day school to be held at Longtown Memorial Hall, with Susan MacFadyen providing the music.

Zoom Social Meetings

We are continuing to hold fortnightly zoom social meetings through March with the next date being the 11th. Gilda Wells has very kindly agreed to run a quiz on this date and be quizmaster, so don't forget to join us at 8.00pm. Hope to see you then, it's been really nice to see familiar faces and have a chat too.

Finally, dare I say it, let's really hope we can dust off our dancing shoes, put dates in our diaries and get ready to start dancing again!

Enjoy the spring as it unfolds.

Best wishes

Eleanor and the Carlisle and Border Committee