

LDF 2011



Cathy Hodgson's efforts for the Line Dance Foundation have been well documented in the last few months through the pages of the magazine.

John King from Kingshill Holidays has also been a fantastic supporter of the charity and recently gave Cathy a unique opportunity at one of his famed weekends.... Here's what happened in Cathy's own words.

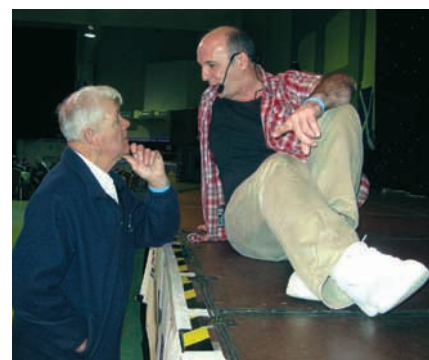
I was thrilled to be asked by John to come to one of his fab weekends to see what I could do for the LDF. I had looked at the old dance that had been written on the super track that Glenn Rogers had recorded for the charity. 'We Are Dancers' is the title and I was inspired to relaunch it with a different choreography, after Linedancer had agreed it was all systems go. You can see the script on the page next to this feature should you fancy giving it a go...

I have to thank George and Diane Jakeman who went to the Kingshill event before me, armed with LDF wristbands and lots of leaflets which they duly distributed with plenty of enthusiasm for the cause.

I arrived at the hotel at about 6.30pm on the Saturday evening, knowing that I was going on stage in a couple of hours in front of an enthusiastic crowd of over 400 people to teach the new dance. To say I was nervous was a bit of an understatement, as never in my 15 years of Line dancing had I taught to such a large group. Alan and Jacqui Birchall were really supportive, even to the extent where Jacqui and I were doing breathing exercises and I am grateful to

both of them for showing yet again what the Line dance spirit is about. They both have that in plentiful supply...

The crowd was fantastic as I went on stage and I gave a little breakdown of what the Line Dance foundation is all about and how it works. Alan and John had also very kindly spoken before me and dancers were very enthusiastic about what was about to happen.



I was really happy with the teach and should not have worried as dancers really gave it their all. I had been sent some CD singles of Glenn's track and they pretty much sold out in no time which was superb.

The track was danced twice through and then was followed by a great set by Billy Bubba King and requests were played by Alan Birchall. Again, Alan proved what a pro he is as he had stepped in at the last minute and no one would have ever known.

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A set by Magill followed later on and warmed the crowd up nicely for me to have another go at LDF 2011 at 11.30pm, which again was well received.

I was a little bit choked when John King came to me and told me how much monies were in the pot, and I was still quite emotional when I told the crowd the amount they had raised which was, as it stood at 11.30pm at night, an amazing £1,016. I invited them all to give themselves a round of applause.

The funds raised were a combination of monies over the weekend and also from the sponsorship arranged by John King inviting all in attendance to get sponsorship for taking part in the LDF 2011 dance. John had been kind enough to post the dance script out to the guests so that they could practice and then he rose to the challenge of being taught the dance and took his front row place with pride and was supported by all around him and he did a sterling job.

Pedro and his amazing dance floor was in attendance and as per norm with the pro-dance floor, was greatly appreciated by the dancers.

I have to thank Graham and John at Kingshill for inviting me to attend this event, for all their support and their fundraising efforts and for doing a top job with all the weekend events they arrange for Line dancing around the country.

I was able to provide the crowd with a higher figure on the Sunday morning only to be advised that monies were still coming in so the £1,070 is NOT a final figure so, watch this space.

Alan and Jacqui have invited me to their social in Bolton on 26th March to make a guest appearance and teach the LDF 2011 dance. They left the Norbreck armed with LDF merchandise and leaflets about forthcoming events and I was honoured to be invited and am looking forward to it. So again, if you are able to come to their event, please do and come and support the Line Dance Foundation.

C Hodgson



STOP PRESS

The final amount raised for the LDF at this amazing Kings Hill weekend was £1,100!

John King said: "I am really pleased to be able to send this cheque for the LDF charity. I had set myself a private target of £1k so this is well beyond my expectations, proving once again that Line dancers are some of the most generous people on the planet.

"I would like to say an extra thank you to Elaine Karch's Grand Canyon Kickers and Susan Oliver's Stompers from the Edinburgh District for their amazing contribution totalling £204. The LDF is a great charity, keep giving generously and raising funds for it!"