



RESULTS OF THE AWARDS FOR ALL LOTTERY FUND SPEND

In 2008 RPM were granted, an Awards for All Lottery Grant of £4,300, to add to the £2,000 of Club donations. Members of RPM have worked very hard, giving of their own time, and without expenses, to ensure that all the money was spent in the furtherance of Square Dancing.

Our initial objective was for 10 New Clubs and 10 New Callers. We developed a contact list of established and trainee Callers, but, despite our entreaties, few were prepared to open a Club. Therefore, when it became obvious that we were not going to achieve our objective, we went back to the Lottery Fund and sought an extension of time, and permission to use some of the grant to rejuvenate existing Clubs.

When all the money had been spent, we were pleased to report to the Lottery Fund that 5 New Clubs had opened and that we had helped 36 existing clubs in their recruitment of beginners. These efforts resulted in 447 New Square Dancers. RPM were also able to assist 7 New Callers. We send our thanks to all who helped us in our efforts.

Awards for All have told us they are happy with our results. However, we should all be aware that during the period of the Lottery spend, at least 9 Clubs left BAASDC. RPM are also greatly concerned to hear of several old-established Clubs sliding towards closure; it is, therefore, essential that we all work together to keep the momentum of RPM recruitment going.

BAASDC & SDCCGB have asked RPM to continue in our efforts. We, in our turn, have asked that SDCCGB put the bulk of their resources behind Callers who are prepared to either open a new Club or to rejuvenate an existing Club by taking on Beginners. Also that BAASDC make the recruitment of New Dancers their primary objective for the future. We have also asked that both Associations make a commitment to invest a realistic proportion of their financial resources in the recruitment of new Square Dancers. For without new Dancers there will be no need for Clubs, no need for Callers, and ultimately, no Square Dancing for any of us.