

Welcome to Greenfield . . . the Nashville of northern England

Pictures by
**CHRIS
SUNDERLAND**



MEMBERS raise a glass to the new look Chew Valley Music Club



JUDITH and Rod Postill get ahead with a hat

Country back on the map

COUNTRY music is enjoying a big revival — not in Nashville but nearer to home in Greenfield.

This time last year, numbers at Chew Valley Music Club had dropped to 30 or 40 and the club, established 13 years ago, was facing closure.

But a move from Boarshurst Band Club to a new venue at Greenfield Conservative Club has led to a three-fold increase at the monthly music meetings ensuring the club is well in tune for the future.

by **GEOFF WOOD**

Organiser Trevor Thwaites, of Mossley, said: "We have a good room, popular with members and the bands who come to play. It certainly seems to be working."

Blend

Dressing up is optional but expect to see a few cowboy hats and Western waistcoats. And there is a definite feeling of American pie with flags, many of them Stars and Stripes, festooned across the stage.

Judith Postill, from Stockport, there with her husband Rod, said: "We have been members for two years.

"We always enjoy the club nights and attendances have picked up well now."

Barry Renton, from Diggle, said: "I have been coming to the club for 13 years. I enjoy the music and the dancing. I have always been into country music."

Country music has its roots in the Southern States of the USA and the Appalachian Mountains. It is a blend of Celtic music, blues, gospel and old-time music and has produced two of the top selling artists of all time.

Elvis Presley appeared at the Louisiana Hayride country music show for three years and went on to define rock 'n' roll. Garth Brooks is another massive success.

Whatever the attraction, the music and atmosphere is a big hit in Greenfield and looks likely to continue for some time to come.

Anyone who would like to get involved, should call Trevor or Lynne Thwaites on 01457-833 421.

● During a recent evening, a presentation of £130 was made from club funds to Saddleworth Special Needs Play Group.



WILD Angels . . . the group get the audience on the move on the dance floor



CHEERS . . . country music gets an upbeat reception in Greenfield



ALL dressed up . . . Pamela Stanworth and Barry Renton