

OLYMPIAN START TO THE YEAR



Andy Thompson

The 2012 PICT year kicked off with its AGM and Olympic themed Annual Lunch held on Friday 9th March at the Riverbank Park Plaza Hotel on London's Albert Embankment.

There was a veritable turnout for the AGM held in the hotel's Plaza Suite 6, with just enough chairs to go round. The outgoing President Martyn Eustace gave his report of the year, including his own personal thoughts, adding that it was a shame that PICT couldn't persuade more from the packaging industry to join, as this was now the largest UK paper and board sector. He then went on to wish his successor good fortune and said he was sure Andy would give the position 150% to make it memorable!

The Election of Directors took place with Andy Thompson taking up the gauntlet as President, and Jeremy Martin elected as Vice President. Phil Carr was once again proposed as Treasurer and Anne James was

enthusiastically voted back as Secretary. Martyn Eustace handed over the badge of office to Andy Thompson checking first that Nick Steidl (photographer supreme) had film in his camera! Andy in turn awarded Martyn the Past Presidents' badge, thanking him for all that he would have to live up to! and gave Jeremy the Vice President's badge – almost stabbing him in the process! The rest of the business was quickly curtailed in eager anticipation of the bar and then lunch.

The trade was already in fine fettle when the call came to go into lunch, held in the hotel's Ballroom. After everyone had found their seats, and had pocketed the useful item given to each guest by Denmaur, the room was becalmed – only to be exploded into life with all eyes turned to an acrobatic dancer performing moves to music.

After the popular Heads and Tails was played – with a winner after only nine calls, Grace was given by Joe Piggott in his usual quirky manner – with Beans on Toast, delightfully rhyming with Father, Son and Holy Ghost!

Lunch was then served, as ever an excellent selection of food. Courses interspersed with toasts to presidents, committee members, winners of sporting events, president and life members.

Peter Bothwick was tasked with congratulating Andy Thompson in his role as President, and gave a witty overview of Andy's career and personal life, stating that he is a team player, and is full of energy and enthusiasm. He quipped that as Andy was a life long supporter of Birmingham City – a crowd like this [at the dinner] was something very strange to him. He finished his excellent speech by saying that Andy Thompson was a true stalwart and deserved to be President.

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sporting lunch



Peter Bothwick

Andy responded by thanking all the guests and companies that had given towards the lunch, stating that there were 400 guests this year – a record for PICT. He went on to promote the various sports societies and quiz nights, saying he wanted more young members to become involved. He presented Anne James with a bottle of champagne thanking her for all her hard work and help during the day.

With the coffee and liqueurs came the guest comedian Simon Evans, with his dry, sardonic wit, making his haughty vocabulary work in a hilarious routine, which held everyone's attention.

He then acted as Auctioneer, cajoling people to bid for a wide selection of unique and sponsored items, a great idea but due to the large number of lots on the bill, it did labour slightly - not helped by guests being keen to continue their discussions at the bar. However, all told the lunch raised £14,500 so can't be bad.

When the auction had come to a close, the guests were then able to slide off to the bar to continue in the customary paper industry style – a few more drinks. This is an excellent event on the trade calendar – and I believe all the better for being at lunchtime. Roll on next year.



Simon Evans

Report by Margaret Curle

trustees' report

REPORT FROM THE TRUSTEES WHO ADMINISTER THE FORMERLY NAMED "BENEVOLENT FUND"

Firstly a word about the heading! Since the Stationers Social Society became PICT, all the directors you elect at the AGM become Trustees and all Funds of the Charity are by definition 'Benevolent' funds.

Your Committee have decided for simplicity of operation, that three directors (currently Barry Fowler, The Treasurer Phil Carr, and Patrick Shorten) as Trustees, should have the responsibility of administrating the 'benevolent' side of the charity. Perhaps members will not be unhappy that in the future for ease of reference we continue to refer to the 'Benevolent Fund'. For the record this was explained at the AGM.

Thus the Fund has increased the number of grants it made in 2011 giving a total of seven applications approved, and just under £11,700 distributed.

Trustees make a certain number of direct grants, and some through other agencies such as The Royal British Legion and SSAFA, who apply on behalf of former employees of our industry who are in need.

The Committee gives the 'Benevolent Fund' a budget each year, which so far has not been exceeded. However, we have already had fairly significant applications this year. Members can help PICT by looking sympathetically at former colleagues who have hit hard times and drawing Trustees attention, via our Secretary Anne James, or direct to Trustees, so that cases can be investigated.

The Benevolent Fund is grateful to all who have attended all events during the year, and hopes most strongly that those who have yet to join the 200 Club will do so quickly (forms from Anne James). It is an easy way to help your friends.

Barry Fowler

Phil Carr

Patrick Shorten



Australia doing other things but it was a joy to read Margaret Curle's cracking account of the proceedings. 383 Members and Guests attended this event which is a record. We have a new President in Andy Thompson, not a man to let the grass grow. He shall be in for a busy year round the sporting and social circuits and he tells me regional Quizzes are back on the agenda for late autumn so do look at the PICT web page for details about that. Mike Robertson is making plans for Cricket and George Fowler has broken his duck, which I understand is what anglers do if they are not careful, and had his crew out bending their rods at Coltsfoot Mill in April. John Victoros will be organizing a summer of Tennis but there is a tinge of sadness within this as Anne James tells us that the PICT Golf Section is a thing of the past due to lack of support. However SHANKS just goes from strength to strength. The Spring outing has been played and reported upon by the editor so don't expect journalistic fireworks but I can tell you it was a lot of fun and a good fundraiser too.

The 200 Club which was established a few years ago, is suffering. We need new participants to make it work. We have just 51 at present but it requires at least double that to make it properly viable. At its best it is a neat and comparatively painless way of raising funds as it requires little administration but it does need more donors. Andy Thompson is writing to the membership about this and he shall include an entry form with his email message. Do please look at this. It is one of those win/win

As I put the metaphoric pen to paper it is June. Jubilee-mania has gripped much of the country. Republicans may shake their heads but it has been shown yet again that perhaps man really does not live by bread alone, that collectively we need a standard to rally to and the Queen has given us that in hearts and spades. The Jubilee has given pause for those so minded to reflect upon the past. The glories, the failures, the simply getting through the rough and tumble of life. I have noticed that as much as I enjoy travel, each journey has been crowned by the anticipation of the return.

It is odd to think that as I look through the rain besmirched windows of what I call my Turret (the box room over the front door of my house) my bones say it is closer to November. The wettest April since 1910 makes this drought a sort of paradox with a strict hosepipe ban still in force. The garden is a lush green but my car is respectably dirty.

For things PICT our senses are still reeling from the success of the Olympic Lunch in March. It is all hearsay to me as I was away in

things that makes funds for the Charity and some distinctly un-filthy lucre for the lucky winners.

Many know I have a soft spot for the London Pride Society and I ask you to note the short report on the AGM and the various changes there.

This year will be deeply special for the country what with the Jubilee, the Olympics and a bunch of other things. "Follow that" comes to mind when thinking of 2013 when we subside into what passes for normality from the heights of what will have been an extraordinary year. I am sure we at PICT will think of something to make 2013 special too.

Do note that the date for the 2013 PICT Lunch will be Friday 15th March 2013. The venue will again be the Park Plaza Riverbank, Albert Embankment.

Finally we at PICT wish to thank our supporters and donors both corporate and individual for all the things you do which allows us to give the support to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Bev Steele



Andy Thompson

That our new President is what might be described as a character I believe is not in dispute. Those that have met or had dealings with Andy Thompson will know he is an interesting man of many parts with, and how can I put this, a considerable track record. With almost every sinew girded I shall make a start.

Andy first saw the light of day on 13th January of that Festival year 1951. He was educated in Birmingham at Hall Green Bi-Lateral School (Andy, what the heck's a Bi-Lateral school?) and later at Hall Green Technical College. He must have shone as he went on to achieve business qualifications from the Institute of Banking, Institute of Purchase & Supply, NAPM 1&2 and qualifications from the Institute of Paper. From all this we can see that he had from early on in his career a good grounding in the theory of our Trade.... but did you know...Andy Thompson had ambitions to become a professional footballer?

He left school to join Aston Villa FC moving on to Walsall FC before finding out in his words, that he was not good enough to do the one thing that really mattered to him in those days.

With a total change in tack he joined the Birmingham Municipal Bank but his career in paper began in 1974 when he joined 3M selling abrasive papers moving for a while to Samuel Jones who were owned at that time by Wiggins Teape. He tells us he enjoyed 11 informative years mainly on the WT side of the business. It was here he became manager of the Newcastle Branch. In 1986 he joined McNaughton Paper as their Midlands Regional Director where he admits he had the most wonderful time and where he met and worked with one of his best friends Will Bourne. Under the guidance of John Trumper and Ian George they put in place and developed the central business.

After 10 years he moved to Howard Smith Paper for 7 successful years with the likes of Martyn Eustace, John Mellon, Fred Haines, Stephen Paul, Tony Wood and Andy Harding and the aforementioned Will Bourne.. In Andy's words, a fantastic team and great fun.

Ever the entrepreneur he had the opportunity to get involved with Premier Paper which though an interesting 3 years did not culminate in the wished for team buy out from M Real. The business was eventually bought by Graham Griffiths and Courtney Candler who have gone on to make a big success with it. Andy, ever the philosopher tells me "you can't win 'em all"

The last 3 years at Robert Horne he says have been exciting, challenging and enjoyable despite the difficult business climate. He tells me he has a dedicated team there to help him spend his final working years in a definitive and successful way.

He lives with his partner Jan Cornwell who used to work in the Trade. He has 4 children from previous marriages, 3 boys and a girl and 4 grand children and has a number of hobbies. Football is close to the top of course where he and his brother are Birmingham City season ticket holders and long time sufferers he says. He loves music. Bit of a rocker actually. Goes to a lot of live gigs, has a heap of CD's but majors on Bruce Springsteen, The Stones, The Eagles, Rod Stewart, the Beatles and the like. He wishes to tell of a couple of highlights, one of which was the opening night in Boston, Mass. of the Stones "40 Licks" tour, the other an RNIB Dinner at the Dorchester seeing Rod Stewart entertain 400 guests. Some night he says.

So there we have it. A multi-faceted, generous natured, big hearted man, in so many ways ideal for this important role as President of our Charity. He considers himself lucky to have been elected to this post and to have worked in an Industry that prizes both hard work and good fun.

We wish him a good and successful year.

Bev Steele

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 9TH MARCH 2012 IN THE PARK PLAZA RIVERBANK HOTEL, 18 ALBERT EMBANKMENT, LONDON SE1 7TJ COMMENCING AT 11.00 AM

The President, Martyn Eustace, took the chair. There were 27 members in attendance.

1. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th March 2011 were proposed by J Piggott, seconded by J Garlick and unanimously approved.

2. The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported on his year of office.

3. Apologies for Absence were recorded from: R Bolton, O Davis, R Dickens, C S Dixon, G Fowler, M Gee, P Gibson, P James, Mrs J Mannix, J A Perry, L R Scott, B Steele, J Vanderpump, P West.

4. Presentation of Accounts for the period 1st January 2011 to 31st December 2011.
Phil Carr presented the Accounts.

John Garlick, the Independent Examiner, was thanked for his enormous help with the Accounts. The adoption of the Accounts was then proposed by J Martin, seconded by B Kelly and carried unanimously.

5. Election of Directors
The President announced that following a Past Presidents' proposal, the Committee recommended that Andy Thompson be elected President for 2012. This was proposed by P Bothwick, seconded by N Steidl and unanimously approved.
Martyn Eustace then invested Andy Thompson with the Badge of Office. The new President thanked the meeting and was warmly applauded.

Andy Thompson then took the Chair. His first duty was to announce that it was the Past Presidents' recommendation that Jeremy Martin become Vice President for 2012. This was proposed by M Kerlogue, seconded by P Bothwick and unanimously approved. Jeremy Martin was then invested with the Vice-President's badge and thanked the meeting. He was warmly applauded.

The appointment of the Treasurer Phil Carr was proposed by J Garlick, seconded by M Lane-Ley and unanimously approved.

The appointment of the Secretary Mrs Anne James was proposed by B Campbell, seconded by K Dewey and unanimously approved.

According to the Articles of Association the longest serving Elected Director has to retire but is eligible to stand for re-election. Patrick Shorten retired but was re-appointed. This was proposed by K Dewey, seconded by J Piggott and unanimously approved.

6. Report on Benevolent Fund Distribution by Barry Fowler.
"Before I give the report, I will say a word or two of clarification with regard to the terminology that has been used in mailings, and has caused one or two questions to be asked. To remind you, all the Directors you have just elected all become 'Trustees' of the Charity. Under the old Stationers' Social Society there was a Benevolent Fund. Now under the charitable status de facto all funds of the Charity are 'Benevolent Funds'. Each year the Trustees give a budget to the two Trustees tasked with administering grants, namely Patrick Shorten and myself, working as a sub committee. We two, for obvious reasons, have co-opted the Treasurer Phil Carr. However, rather than preface every communication with this or a similar explanation which would tend to bore recipients into binning it before reading, we have tended to continue to refer to 'The Benevolent Fund' and Phil, Patrick and myself as 'Trustees of the Benevolent Fund'.

Now to the report:
As you will see from the Annual Accounts we have been able to make grants totalling £11,690, an increase of £6,150 on the previous year. The number of grants totalled seven. We have received recently an increase of cases through SSAFA, but fewer than usual from the Royal British Legion. We are grateful for a number of needy cases that have been brought to our attention by individual members of PICT. Please could I ask all members to continue to keep on the look out for those with whom we have contact, who may fall into this category. I assure you we handle each case with both confidentiality and sensitivity. Last year's financial progress should enable us to meet all anticipated demands."

Martyn Eustace was thanked for an excellent year in 2011 and warmly applauded.

The meeting closed at 11.30 am.





Tim Elliott

The National Association of Paper Merchants (NAPM) held its 92nd Annual Dinner on Thursday 19 April in the stunning Thames Suite, overlooking the River and Houses of Parliament, at the Park Plaza Riverbank on London's southbank.

Around 250 people from the paper merchant trade along with their suppliers, spent an enjoyable evening, with excellent food and fine wines, being entertained by three witty and eloquent speakers.

The incoming President of the NAPM, Tim Elliott of Elliott Baxter, welcomed the guests and delivered a speech on the state of the industry, whereupon he gave a rallying call to the trade to rise to the challenges currently faced. During his speech he stated that merchants needed to adapt to the changing times and that unnecessary costs, which included layers of management, must be identified and quickly removed. He also divulged that it is important that merchants must always add value to their customers – if they do this, he believes their future is assured. He added that “As the NAPM President I will do all I can in my two year term to ensure our reputation remains at the highest level.” Tim ended his speech by paying tribute to Ian George, CEO of Antalis McNaughton, who retires this year after a long career in the industry.

Responding on behalf of the guests was Pascal Lebard, Chief Executive Officer of Sequana, owners of Antalis McNaughton, who gave an interesting perspective from the position of a multi-national merchant.

The entertainment was provided by Ian Robertson, the BBC voice of Rugby Union and a former Scotland international, who gave an amusing speech, filled with anecdotes from his long career at BBC Sport.

Then, with formalities over, as with all these industry events, business continued into the wee small hours in the bar, providing much entertainment!

Next year's NAPM dinner will be held on Thursday 18 April 2013, again at the Park Plaza Riverbank. For further information contact Tim Bowler on 0115 841 2129 or email info@napm.org.uk

Margaret Curle

lps luncheon club

AGM & Lunch Thursday 26th April 2012

It may be noted from the title above that we have changed from a Society to a Luncheon Club. You will have read in the December edition of this Newsletter that we were at that time setting a date for an AGM to change our constitution from that of a fully structured Society to a Luncheon Club under which guise those that wish can meet twice a year at a watering hole somewhere in London and be convivial...and who needs an excuse to do that? Before pressing on I shall declare the names of those attendees for this special and for us Members, important occasion.

Mike Rust, Ken Howard, John Garlick, Ivan Gunn, David Monk, Ron Thompson, Richard Fowler, Chris Wakelin, Owen Davis and Bev Steele and those joining us for lunch a little later were :- Phil Worsley, Dave Cole, Barry Staddon, Gus Elk.

The AGM was followed by a lunch all at the Boot and Flogger wine bar in Redcross Way, SE1.

We have a benevolent fund accrued over the years, and the main task of the meeting was to select beneficiaries. Cutting a long story short a substantial amount of research work was done by some members to select London based small charities. From a

short list two were chosen and these shall be approached shortly. Decisions had also to be made as to the disposal of the several sporting trophies. Proposals were discussed and Members volunteered to approach some Trade based bodies to find for these trophies a fitting home where they can be seen on public display.

At the time of writing there is still work to be done and more to report. This may have to wait to be seen in the end of year edition of the PICT Newsletter but it was agreed by all to have been an interesting and constructive meeting and the lunch was very convivial indeed. How could it be otherwise?

So, the LPS which was first convened in 1952, has become 60 years later, a Luncheon Club. This is our way of keeping within the ashes of the LPS, an ember of interest burning which may in the future, who knows, become a beacon light for something similar to come into existence. No one is holding their breath regarding this but then again.....

Bev Steele

Coltsford Mill

Thursday, 22nd March 2012

A fantastic start to the new season with a total of 15 members and their guests turning out on a day of perfect weather for the outing to Coltsford Mill which has to be one of the prettiest fisheries on our agenda.

The venue consists of the original Mill Pool that used to feed the Watermill, a series of Cascade Pools, which have been created from the run off and Willow Pool, which was dug out a few years ago.

In order to make the day more interesting and to get people moving around, I put up a prize bottle of wine for the first person to catch one

fish from each of the different lakes. It wasn't long before one or two rods were bending although fishing was never really easy with a number of fish hooked but not landed.

As we approached lunch it was clearly a race between my son Andrew and myself and at 12.12 I helped him land his third fish (I'm still not sure why!) only to net my third 5 minutes later. It's called keeping it in the family! So at least two of us were able to relax over our picnic lunch, which was taken outside overlooking the stock ponds and the Cascades.

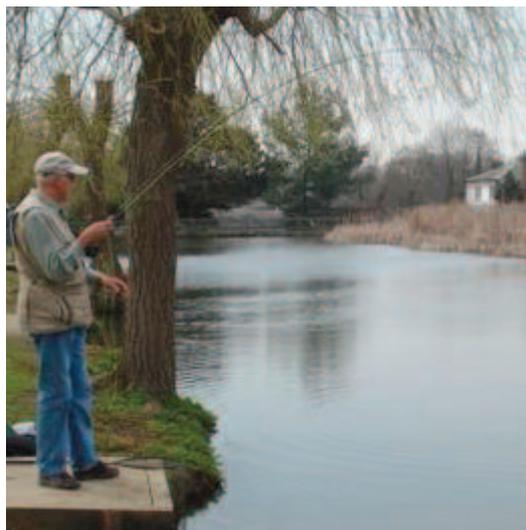
Some people just can't stop for lunch, so



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Sandy White in action - Top Cascade



Dennis Cole with rod bent

while we chatted we were able to watch Sandy White catch his first fish of the day from the Top Cascade.

By the end of the day nearly everyone had caught their limit with only one blank who shall remain nameless. It had been a great day, with wonderful fishing, good company and leaving us all eager for the next trip.

FRENESHAM LAKES

Thursday, 3rd May 2012

One can't be expected to pick the right weather every time but it did seem more like midwinter than May when thirteen hardy anglers turned up to Frensham Fishery on a particularly grey and drizzly morning.

At about 8.10, as I turned off the M25 to head on to the A3, I took a call to ask what time the fishery opened, as the gates were locked. Three of our intrepid party were already waiting, eager to get on with the fishing. Several calls later I established that they had finally been let in but it was only when I arrived that I heard the full story. The gate was closed and had a rope and padlock wound round it but was not in fact locked and could have been easily opened so just one more item for the Secretary's book of fishing tales!!

In order to get people moving about the fishery I had set a challenge, to catch one fish from each of the six lakes. I had achieved 5 from 6 in the

past but it is not easy to achieve the maximum. Several of our party took to the challenge and rods were soon bending into fish on different lakes and people were moving about as intended.

Lunch was a bit disjointed due to people arriving at different times but eight of us managed to squeeze round a table and enjoy a chat and a sandwich. It was clear that Dennis Cole and Ron Gorin, one of our regular guests, had done well by each taking 4 from 4 but could they complete the challenge?

By the time I left mid afternoon, it was clear that it had been a good day with everyone catching something but by then nobody had claimed the prize so I waited eagerly for the returns to come in by email. Unfortunately, following computer melt down I will have to report on the outcome at a later date!



Andrew Smith



David Gould

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2012

Friday, 19th October – River Test, Hants
Thursday 8th November – Rib Valley Lakes, Ware, Herts.



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SHANKS Spring Golf Meeting Park Wood Golf Club, Westerham, Kent 9th May 2012

One can never, when arranging outdoor events on this island of ours, tucked as it is into the North East corner of the great Atlantic Ocean, guarantee stable weather conditions. We all know this of course, but by any yardstick, the 9th May 2012 was a brute. Did it rain? Yes, constantly. Were we in cloud? Oh yes....a portable ball searching radar would have been deeply useful and all the birds I saw were walking. However, with General Mike "Kit Kat" Kerlogue in firm command the Troops assembled in the

very comfortable club house of this high on the North Downs golf course. In better conditions Mike said, and one must take his word for this, we would have had "stunning" views across the chalky escarpment of the Kent/Surrey border country in one direction, and the thrusting high rises of London in the other. What we actually saw was about 100 yards of murk. Were we down hearted? Not a bit.

Coffee and bacon baps were made available

from 12 noon, the plan being to get out there by 1pm. Kit Kat got the cards together with handicaps sorted and with choccy bars of that description issued, away we went. The Author was schmoozed (persuaded) into playing just the first 9 holes by our camera man Nick "The Lens" Steidl. The truth is I didn't need much persuading, so as a three, Nick, myself and Martin Triggs, sans golf shoes (more of which later) we teed off first, aiming in the general direction of Kent.



Bev and Martin Triggs award winning shoes

I think the readers are aware that SHANKS is about golf for high handicappers where mistakes and disasters are of greater importance than good golf which, though admired, is not encouraged. So, dear reader, little will be mentioned here of what passes for "good golf" When the troops got back to the club house for a drink and dinner it became disappointingly apparent that there were few disasters this time though there was mention of some wonderfully bad play. Martin Triggs, as mentioned, played in brown suede brothel creepers (I hope that's not too offensive for this febrile age) having forgotten his golf shoes and refused to buy a pair in the golf shop. It was with nothing less than a sort of suppressed amazement that Nick and I watched Martin play in his "feet of clay". However, despite no studs in shoes with the co-efficient of friction of an ice hockey puck he actually played quite well. Bob

(Commodore) Green reported that on a par 3 over water he did a "Barnes Wallis" skipping his ball across the surface of the pond to within a putt-able distance from the pin, Nick "The Lens" Steidl scared the daylight out of a couple of squirrels who were probably doing what small mammals do at this time of year, by powering his drive into the woods, but which by blind good fortune (for Nick) ricocheted out onto the middle of the fairway, the squirrels legging it at full throttle the other way.

It should be mentioned that we had 18 players, the best ever turnout for SHANKS and this despite the awful conditions and naming names, they were: Nick Steidl, Keith Spiers, Tony Spicer, Martin Triggs, Bev Steele, Matt Ingram, Alan Piper, Barry Gregory, Neil Haslam, Mike Gee. Bob Green with guest Mike Jones, Chris Bell and guest Alan Berry, Mike Kerlogue and guest Richard Kerlogue, Chris Godfey and guest Michael Standing.



Keith Spiers taking 1st Prize from Kit Kat

shanks

Prizes went to:

1st Keith Spiers

2nd Mike Jones

3rd Bob (Commodore) Green

4) Kit Kat's brother Richard Kerlogue.

Nearest the Pin went to Mike (Kit Kat) Kerlogue

Longest Drive - Keith Spiers

Yellow Ball Team Prize - Matt Ingram's Team

The Big Prize (!) for the best SHANKS moment of the day went to Martin Triggs for his determined struggle with the brothel creeper shoes, so to him went the Steve Beckett Cup.

Mike Gee's generous auction bid for the 4 Ball at Westerham G C went for £100 which goes into the charity pot. It should also be mentioned that a further £135 was raised from this SHANKS golf day for the PICT Charity.

So there it is. A great day for us all. Dinner was very good, service first class and we repaired for home at about 9pm to dry out.

The Autumn meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER.



Bev and Martin Triggs

at Aldenham Golf and Country club which is just off the southern end of the M1 (below the M25) and you can find it on Multimap, etc with postcode - WD25 8NN.

*Report by Bev Steele
Photos by Nick Steidl*



Mike with Bob (Commodore) Green



Mike Jones with Kit Kat



Matt Ingram's Yellow Ball winning team



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John Victoros our Tennis Section Secretary tells us he has fixed the Tennis Day for Thursday 20th September. Venue and other details shall be posted shortly on the PICT Webpage. Those keen types much inspired by the happenings at Wimbledon should contact John.

Mike Robertson our Cricket Secretary is arranging a match this summer probably at the usual venue of Woollaston Cricket Club in Northants. Do keep your eye on the PICT Webpage for details of this event.



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We understand there was no ski-ing during the last winter season but if there is any change to this it shall be reported upon using the PICT Webpage.

Well I can't believe it was six months ago I last gave you an update on The Paper Trail. Summer is now here with a full itinerary of activities, and typically as soon as a hosepipe ban is announced in the south – it does nothing but rain!! With the Jubilee now over, and Euro 2012 in progress, we head onwards towards the Olympics and the holiday season.

At Frogmore Paper Mill 'Blitz and Beyond' is the name of the new exhibition officially being opened on 29 June. Housed in the mill's old stockroom, this exhibition is about the fire service and in particular their part in the Blitz. Our 1938 Dennis Ace Fire Engine is part of the exhibit along with the trailer and hand pumps. To coincide with this event, a booklet is being published about Dickinson's fire service, written by our archivists in conjunction with the

Paper Trail Heritage Fire Brigade. An informative exhibition on the Dickinson fire service will also be held in the Visitor Centre itself at the end of June. We will be promoting this new display, and in particular to schools.

I recently put out a request for donations of paper to be used for our children's activities, and would like to thank those companies that have very kindly responded. However, we are constantly looking for a range of paper – so if anyone else can help us – I would love to hear from you. Coloured papers in particular are great for our activities – so any old stock or colourways, please do think of us – and of course by donating it to us, as we are a charitable trust, it is not only great for your company's CSR, you may get tax relief as well.

Earlier this year, we attended two exhibitions – RAF Lakenheath, which is home to the US airforce, and the Best of Britain and Ireland exhibition at the NEC. We have already had bookings and visits from both of these events, which is positive. Unfortunately the main problem we have with our Visitor Centre - it is not that it is uninteresting – without fail everyone that visits loves it – it is its location. Sadly Hemel Hempstead is just not a tourist area – people do not come to the town for a holiday or long weekend. Of course, when the Fourdrinier Brothers put their machine into Frogmore Mill, location location was not an issue!!

Although school visits are still buoyant - the cost of coach travel is still an issue with some of the schools. However, the last week in May saw each day full with students – around 360 over the five days – 270 from one particular grammar school.

Paper activities and crafting during the school holidays are also popular, with lots of families returning time after time – and we are finding our activity sessions are increasingly of interest to childminders, who can bring their charges along and do something creative with them, while having a coffee and a chat.



On a business front – we are still running our Paper Appreciation Courses, which are given by John Watson in his enthusiastic way – if anyone can make paper sound sexy John definitely can. We have two more paper courses scheduled for 2012 – on 20 September and 15 November. For details of these please do contact me either by email or give me a call. We can also run these courses at your offices – again contact me for information.

And remember we do provide conferencing facilities at both Frogmore Paper Mill and Apsley Mills Cottage. So if you would like to hold your meeting at a venue with a difference – think of us. We are only a stones throw from both the M25 and the M1. And we can always include a boat trip or a tour of the mill during your time with us.

And finally for something completely different, I was contacted recently by a group of ghost hunters, who take members of the public on trips to ghostly venues! – these have included Bisham Abbey and the Hellfire Caves – and they are looking to use us as a possible venue. They came for a recce and their 'medium' believes she felt a presence.... Hmm we shall see eh?! But of course the old adage applies – any publicity is good publicity! Watch out for the next instalment.

And on that note.... I will depart until next time – in the meantime, if you can help us out with the supply of paper, for example, or in any other way, please do not hesitate to contact me. And remember – we are here promoting the paper industry and its sustainability to not only adults, but the future generation.

By Margaret Curle
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JOHN VANDERPUMP

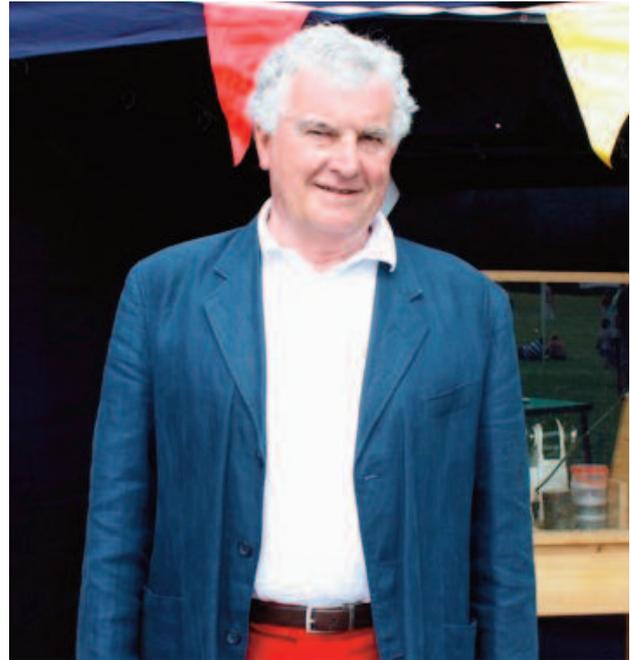
I found it hard to believe that this interesting, energetic character was 14 years ago the President of the Stationers Social Society which he tells me was the most memorable year of his life in Paper Merchanting. John was 40 years in the Industry and it has been 10 years since he parted company with MoDo Merchants.

This man of Essex lives these days mostly in the beautiful Test Valley in Hampshire but has not uprooted totally from the flat lands of his home county. He still resides part of the year in Leigh on Sea where his eldest son Mark makes his living.

John has become very active in village life in Hampshire. This came through as being a very important part of John's life these days. Never a man not to be involved in things he fund raises for improvements to his village one project being the refurbishing of the Village Hall. The biggest fund raising activity is a Clay Pigeon Shoot which is held in the May of each year in conjunction with Cancer Research UK . This year it raised £13,500. It was hard work

he says but a lot of fun all in a beautiful rural setting. Here's the plug. Anyone interested in joining next year's shoot should contact John, email address: johnvanderpump@uwclub.net

He has been trained in basic first aid and runs a Community First Responder group for the village which backs up the ambulance service by answering 999 calls to give treatment during those vital first few minutes prior to the arrival of the ambulance. 5 years of doing this has resulted in John being awarded the Diamond Jubilee Medal. He tells us his own health is reasonably good though 5 years ago he did have some heart problems cured by the insertion of stents and the recent release of a trapped nerve in his foot allows



him to play golf at least to SHANKS standard!

In 2003 he started a trading company which is still active today though I get the impression he rather runs it from the back seat these days as he likes to sail with friends, play golf and travel so how would he have the time?.

He is married to Janet, they have 5 grand children which along with all the other things John does keeps him satisfyingly busy.

Bev Steele

quiz nights

Andy Thompson tells us he is arranging quizzes based on the North, West Midlands and South of the county for playing in October. We await with bated breath for further detail on this but it shall not be available for this edition of the Newsletter. Andy will be sending out flyers to the various regional bases and shall also use the PICT webpage. Please keep your eyes skinned for this important fund raising fun event.



Phil Clamp, who died in April aged 92, was a stalwart of the West Midlands Paper Merchant Trade from 1956, when he founded P.H. Clamp (Paper) Ltd, until that company was sold to Marshalls Universal in 1983.

Phil followed his beliefs and principles in his private and commercial life alike, strongly believing in fair play and honesty. His sporting interests overlapped into the paper trade, and he was responsible for organising sporting and social functions for mill and merchant staff, well into the 1970s. He played football until his 50th birthday, and squash to a competitive level after that, finally giving up squash at 85 following an operation! The Stationers' Social Society, which preceded PICT, always looked out for Phil Clamp's entry to its annual Tennis Tournament, and his skill, energy, and commitment made him a formidable and worthy opponent – he also helped the West Midlands win one of the Stationers' golf trophies.

Away from work, Phil generously supported those less fortunate than himself, was a Gold Cross standard ballroom dancer with his wife Irene, and served many offices in his local Church.

Phil Clamp represented an era of post war merchants long since gone, local companies, independently owned, serving a local market, and knowing their customers, competitors, suppliers and staff well – well enough to make everyone involved a living, and leave something over for leisure and pleasure.

200 club

Not all the luck's bad.....

Draw 9th March 2012

1st	Barry Fowler	£250
2nd	Stephen Mason	£100
3rd	David Houseman	£50

Draw 8th May 2012

1st	David Houseman	£250
2nd	Neil Haslam	£100
3rd	Bev Steele	£50

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Sporting Lunch 2013

Dear Member

May I thank you for your support at this year's Sporting Lunch, in particular to our sponsors and to those individuals who gave prizes for our auction. I am sure you will agree that we all experienced an excellent function which again saw us raise a record £14,500 for our Charity, whilst in doing so I hope everybody had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and no doubt evening.

We are beginning to plan for the 2013 event which again will be held at **The Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel, London on Friday, 15th March, 2013**. Once again we will ensure that the afternoon will consist of first class food, wine, entertainment with plenty of time for networking.

The PICT Annual Sporting Lunch is fast becoming the premier event in our trade's social calendar and I would urge you to reserve and book your tables early to support our 2013 President, Jeremy Martin, and to ensure that we continue to build on this year's success and hopefully raise another record amount.

As mentioned in last year's invitation spouses, partners and clients will all be most welcome to join in the fun.

Should you wish to be one of our sponsors the following are available:

Gold Package — £1000 (already taken)

- Guest speaker to join your table for lunch
- Opportunities for signage at the event
- Logos on tickets and programme
- Premium table position
- Inside full page advert in luncheon programme

Silver package — £750

- Opportunities for signage at the event
- Logos on tickets and programme
- Premium table position
- Inside half page advert in luncheon programme

Bronze package — £500

- Logos on tickets and programme
- Inside half page advert in luncheon programme

We look forward to receiving your advance booking which should be sent to our secretary Anne James whose e-mail address is anne@pictuk.com. Ticket prices are £75 for members, £85 for non members and £60 for retired members.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Kind regards

Andy Thompson
President, Paper Industry Charitable Trust