

SUCCESS DESPITE RECESSION...



President Jeremy Martin speaks

Friday, 15th March 2013 was a good day except perhaps for the weather. I began to type this very soon after the event when the calendar said it was springtime but winter still gripped these islands the sun being neither seen nor felt for ages and I was praying for a spot of global warming. Well, I guess my prayer was answered as I put the final touches to this deathless prose in 31 degrees Centigrade. Who would have thought? However, I have a Lunch to report but first I must tell of the PICT AGM which was held under the chairmanship of President Andy Thompson. The Minutes are to be seen under their own heading in the Newsletter but what follows is a brief overview of this important meeting which began at 11.30 am in Suite 6 of the Riverbank Plaza Hotel on London's Albert Embankment.

At the opening of the Meeting we came together for a minute's silence to remember the life and time of Tom Griffin, a much liked Past President of the SSS who passed away in February. It was a sad and touching moment.

The President gave his report of his year of office in his inimitable manner, a fuller version of which can be seen in this Newsletter but he did stress that the lesser number of Paper Merchants existent these days has resulted in reduced charity income for PICT.

The Election of Officers took place with Andy passing his badge of office to the new President Jeremy Martin who took the chair. He declared that his Vice President would be Alan Badcock who was absent on holiday at this time. Phil Carr was proposed as Treasurer and Anne James as Secretary both very enthusiastically. Phil Carr gave his report (again see elsewhere in Newsletter) and John Garlick our Independent Examiner, made a short speech praising Phil for his efficiency in the drawing up of the accounts.



The Stig sans helmet in action

It was at this moment that Barry Fowler stood and told the meeting, with the heartfelt approval of all concerned, that Patrick Shorten would receive an Honorary Life Membership for his long and selfless devotion to the Charity as a Trustee. This came as a surprise to Patrick, a genuinely shy and unassuming man. Patrick made a few words in response. It was

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sporting lunch

a very good moment indeed. The meeting was concluded and we headed upstairs to the Ballroom, or for those so blessed, to join the President for a drink before joining the troops at table.



PICT Secretary Anne James receives her bouquet

Bobby George the pro dart player was our MC for the proceedings. On the tables were forms for the "silent" and general auction plus 200 Club joining forms. The first thing you do, and it has become a regular item now, is to play the Heads and Tails game. My table was pretty well wiped out to a man on the first call but on the premise that it is better to be lucky than beautiful Ron Ingafield won. The President's speech was made with his usual eloquence pressing us to support the Charity. He thanked all the donors including those generous folk that donated the auction prizes. He insisted that Patrick Shorten stood to take a tumultuous round of applause from us all for his good work and it was then he passed the Past President's Badge to Andy Thompson. Nick Gee looking tanned and fit just back from ski-ing somewhere high and cold, responded for the Guests with a very witty well chosen form of words touching on the many facets of our new President both amusing and serious. He was followed by Ben Collins aka THE STIG who gave us a noisy and fascinating romp through motor sport with descriptions of his many



Nick Gee working very well indeed

achievements on the track and his time with Clarkson and crew on Top Gear. For us petrol heads Ben's performance at the Lunch was simply the business.

The auctions and the darts game were called by Bobby George and it is about this part of the afternoon that comment must be made.

It is something of a first for this editor to tell of negative feed back, but much of this was received. Mr George scarcely managed to keep us all together, and his language was not appropriate to this event. That we are aware we did not get it right this time is an understatement despite achieving a good result for the charity but this will not be allowed to happen again. To remedy this the committee has put together a special working party to make improvements for the future. With this in view we ask those that were offended by this part of the afternoon to give us another chance to get it right next year. It would be a shame verging on tragedy if it were allowed to interfere with the important work this charity does for those in need.

Bev Steele



VIPs with Bobby George



Looking back at the June 2012 copy of the Newsletter I noted that I started this article with something of the Jubilee mania that gripped the country at that time. No such "hook" in 2013 onto which to hang this set of words but I can tell you that there is a lot going on. We have Tennis, Cricket, SHANKS (which goes from strength to strength) Fred Haines' golf at Rothley Park and George Fowler's Angling section which is truly a thing of beauty! Do keep your eyes skinned for these dates both in this Newsletter and on the PICT web page. Support for these sections is vital.

It was sad to report on the passing of Tom Griffin and Peter Laming both stalwarts of our Trade and both committed, active members of the sporting sections of our Industry. It was a privilege to have known these gentlemen.

That we wish for better trading conditions within our industry is a given. Andy Thompson has commented on the swingeing changes that have taken place, some very painful indeed. I am sure I am not just speaking for myself as a retiree from the Trade when I say that we are all very aware of the difficulties facing so many working folk out there. They and the companies they work for are our donors and I wish to add my sincere thanks to those that support our Charity at this difficult time.

Bev Steele

200 club plea

This is now a well established institution. I would like to say it is going from strength to strength but the fact is we are still short of participants. I have previously described the 200 Club as a pretty painless means of making some money for the Charity and I ask again that you look at the entry forms emailed very extensively round the Membership. Do join in and give yourself the chance to win a few bob and do some good at the same time. Forms can be obtained by emailing anne@pictuk.com

This is the result of the 7th draw of the 200 Club which took place at the AGM on 15th March:

1st Prize.....£250 - Mr B N Steele
2nd Prize.....£100 - Mr J Watson
3rd Prize..... £50 - Mr G Dean

This is the result of the 8th draw which took place at the Committee Meeting on 20th June:

1st Prize..... £250 - Peter Bothwick
2nd Prize £100 - Neil Entwistle
3rd Prize..... £50 - Dennis Cole

trustees' report

The Trustees meet on a regular basis. 2013 has opened without any major upset to the Trustees' budget, although each year differs from the previous.

The Trustees continue to make regular payments to three individual applicants. Two are widow pensioners, one of whom is over 90. As always the Trustees will continue to investigate the applicant's financial situation to see if there have been any changes.

The Trustees have arranged a payment to a former employee of the paper industry who is without a job and who is approaching bankruptcy. They have liaised with another charity under which this individual also qualifies and together the two charities are improving the situation. The Trustees are monitoring progress.

A payment has been made to a family with a very seriously handicapped child. The Trustees continue to liaise with RBL and SSAFA. Finally the Trustees are liaising with other larger charities in allied industries to see if improvements can be made in which information regarding applicants' financial status is sought without becoming overly intrusive. If anyone knows of any former or indeed current employees of the industry who have fallen on hard times or who otherwise need help to kindly contact either Anne James or one of the Trustees who will treat every approach in the strictest confidence.

From the Trustees of PICT

profile new president



Jeremy Martin

It will be a pleasure to introduce you to our new President. We seem blessed as an organisation in finding men of action to head the Charity which for them makes it a big year. They are called from senior, busy positions in the Industry yet give of their time and energy to do this work. Jeremy beyond doubt is another of these.

He was born in 1960 and from a very young age was besotted with sport especially tennis at which he reached a very high standard playing for Leicestershire with Mark Cox no less where they represented the Juniors both at tennis and squash. He moved up to seniors playing mostly squash at various international events and was ranked within the

top 50 in the UK. It was during this period he decided to become a professional and coached in both games. He opened a sports shop at the age of 18 to exploit his sporting success and ran the business successfully for eight years. Something of a Mozart-like prodigy here to do so well at such a tender age. However, wanderlust kicked in and he decided on a Grand Tour to travel the world visiting many places but tells me the highlights were India, the Far East, Australia and the Pacific Islands. He returned to the UK after about a year deeply in need of a job. This is where his career in paper began in 1988 when one of his ex-sports shop customers, namely Michael Bairstow, advised Jeremy to contact Stephen Mason at Robert Horne for a position.

He became a trainee at Hornes working his way through the sales force ranks with stints in Leeds, Milton Keynes and Leicester branches and helped to establish the Business Papers Division, then on to ADP Plastics as Commercial Director.

As we draw breath it becomes apparent our new President knows his way around the Trade becoming Sales and Marketing Director of M6, then recently bought by Robert Horne. This was then followed by the big leap to Burgo in 2003 where he is currently the Managing Director.

He met his wife Kelly 24 years ago on a squash court when she played for the Yorkshire county team. She probably let him win but whatever the truth of that, they married 22 years ago, have two children, son Brogan aged 11 years and daughter Neve aged 8. His hobbies include golf, tennis and ski-ing and having fun with the children.

So, no slouch here; that I think is for sure, and I am also sure that under his leadership the Charity will prosper.

Bev Steele

quizzes 2013

No dates or venues have been decided upon at the time of going to press but September is the favoured month. It will be a regional event as before. Kindly keep your eye on the PICT web page and emails will be sent signalling the details as soon as they are known.

The Editor

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 15TH MARCH 2013 IN THE PARK PLAZA RIVERBANK HOTEL, 18 ALBERT EMBANKMENT, LONDON SE1 7TJ COMMENCING AT 11.00 AM

The President, Andy Thompson, took the chair. There were 20 members in attendance. A minute's silence was held in memory of Tom Griffin, President in 1992, who had sadly passed away in February.

1. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 9th March 2012 were proposed by J Piggott, seconded by M Kerlogue 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: G Fowler, L Scott, T Spicer, M Bairstow, A Badcock, M Windett, O Davies, P West, J Perry, B Kelly.

4. Presentation of Accounts for the period 1st January 2012 to 31st December 2012. 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 B Fowler, seconded by P Shorten and carried unanimously. John Garlick congratulated Phil Carr on excellently presented accounts.

5. Election of Directors
The President announced that following a Past Presidents' proposal, the Committee recommended that Jeremy Martin be elected President for 2013. This was proposed by M Gee, seconded by P Bothwick and unanimously approved.

Andy Thompson then invested Jeremy Martin with the Badge of Office. The new President thanked the meeting and was warmly applauded.

Jeremy Martin then took the Chair. His first duty was to announce that it was the Past Presidents' recommendation that Alan Badcock become Vice President for 2013. This was proposed by M Eustace, seconded by B Fowler and unanimously approved.

Alan Badcock was unable to be present due to previous holiday commitments but sent his apologies for non-attendance.

The appointment of the Treasurer Phil Carr was proposed by J Garlick, seconded by J Piggott and unanimously approved.

The appointment of the Secretary Mrs Anne James was proposed by M Gee, seconded by P Shorten 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. Barry Fowler retired but was re-appointed. This was proposed by P Bothwick, seconded by M Kerlogue and unanimously approved.

6. Report on Benevolent Fund Distribution by Phil Carr.
"As Treasurer and a Trustee and member of the Grants sub-committee it is my pleasure to give the report on behalf of my fellow Trustees Barry Fowler and Patrick Shorten, on the Benevolent grants made by PICT during 2012.

I would remind members that the ability to make grants depends entirely upon the success of fund raising and therefore members' generosity during the year and of course mainly upon the Sporting Lunch we are about to enjoy.

The Directors of PICT gave the Fund a budget of £15,000 again for 2012. This figure has been maintained for the last three years. Grants during 2012 amounted to £11,156 – some 600 below last year.

We had the usual contacts with SSAFA and The Royal British Legion, and these contacts will be maintained during 2013.

In addition caring members of PICT have brought one or two names to our attention, and the Trustees encourage members of PICT to continue to do this, as sometimes it is possible to overlook signs of hardship in those amongst our friends who are too proud or embarrassed to ask for help."

The meeting closed at 11.30 am

After the formal proceedings had finished Barry Fowler stood up and announced that the PICT Board wished to announce that they had awarded Patrick Shorten Life Membership of PICT. Patrick had been a Trustee since 2004 and was President in 1996. Patrick Shorten responded to this accolade and was warmly applauded by those present.



Our very determined top table



Barry Fowler delivers the Honorary Life Membership to Patrick Shorten

where are they now

Martin R Perry – Purchasing Manger, Slater Harrison & Co

We at PICT might have caught Martin a bit early as generally we do this feature for retirees. However, he tells us he retires in October this year so figured we would sort of catch him early.

Martin is a southerner that moved north. Born in the East End of London he moved to Hornchurch, Essex in 1957, then to Macclesfield the following year, his father following his trade in the silk business. He left school at 15 and went to work in a mens' outfitters but was playing a lot of tournament tennis at the time and tells us working at the week ends was not conducive to good tennis so, upon seeing an advert for an office boy at Slater Harrison he went for it and started work for them in October '63. He worked his way up through several tiers of management and is currently Administration Manager.

He has had a very considerable effect on the social side of the Trade in the north of England. Past Captain and President of Macclesfield Golf Club, Past President of The Lancashire 25 Paper Trade Club and Past President of the Lancashire Paper Trade Golf Society. He married Lorraine in 1979, has 2 children Robert, 30 this year and Joanne 28 this year. He is about to become a grandfather.

As for hobbies, golf comes pretty near the top but he is a keen gardener and walker, mostly to the pub he says.....

Bev Steele

lps luncheon club



Harry Miller presenting LPS donation to the Fitzroy Boxing Club with Owen Davis and Bev Steele in attendance



A very happy band

It is with great pleasure that I can tell the readership of our very successful lunch on 2nd May at the Boot & Flogger wine bar in Red Cross Way which is becoming our "spiritual home" and rendezvous. The staff and management there look after us so well with good food and service. They have that flexible approach we seem to need. What was especially pleasing was the number of still actively working individuals that came along which with the retired element made for 21 in all, a record by our standards. Also we received 21 apologies for absence which indicates more are interested, so at our next Lunch on 21st November this number could well be exceeded. I have suggested that we should tentatively approach the management of the Albert Hall with the O2 as a further possibility. You never know... Seriously though, for once, and in truth, it is a joy to report some good news.

Our second and final charity donation was made in April. The beneficiary was the Fitzroy Lodge Boxing Club based in South London (see photo above). Harry Miller found this club and it was with great pleasure Owen Davies, Harry and myself presented the donation at a short but profoundly affecting ceremony at their premises on the

Lambeth Road, SE1. The commitment by their management and staff to the care and training of these young people, many of whom are from deprived backgrounds left a deep impression on us. Their success rate is high with boxing being the route to self confidence and esteem. We were very kindly invited to a sporting dinner and a night of boxing competitions at a hotel near the Tower the same evening as our own Lunch which I can tell you made for quite a long day. In the event it was a night to remember. What impressed us all was the gentlemanly way such a game as boxing is conducted at this amateur level. Thursday, 2nd May 2013 all in all was a very good day indeed.

Speaking of commitment I must mention my colleagues Mike Rust, Owen Davies and Harry Miller who between them give their time and energy unstintingly to the London Pride Luncheon Club and its success has been largely due to their organisational abilities.

Bev Steele

CHIGBORO LAKES

- Thursday 21st March 2013

Our first outing of the season was held in sub-zero temperatures with an arctic feel about the wind so it was amazing that six intrepid anglers were prepared to brave the elements, contrast this with the 17° on the same day last year!

In fact it was so cold that Les Bidewell who had arrived very early with his regular guest Malcolm decided to sit it out rather than freeze to death. Despite the weather, the fish seemed to be very happy with the conditions and it proved to be a very productive day for all who turned out although most of the action happened before lunch.

Chigboro has a very pleasant lodge with facilities that were much used on the day including free tea and coffee and it was with great enthusiasm that we met up for lunch, to catch up on trade news and get some warmth back into our bodies.



George Fowler presents Robert Taylor with the Monk Trophy



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After some well needed sustenance and a good chin-wag I presented the Monk Trophy to Robert Taylor for his achievement last year. It looks as though he has started this year in similar good form and for the record our catches for the day, were Robert -6, Malcolm and myself -5 each, Sandy White and Gerry Overy – 2 each.

It was a great shame about the temperature because the fishing was great, the company was on top form as usual and the sun did actually shine so I am sure the five of us who fished had a really enjoyable day.

FRENSHAM LAKES

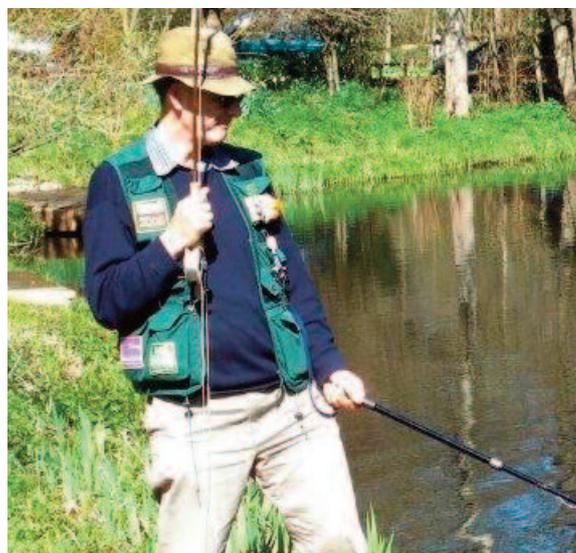
Thursday, May 2nd 2013

A glorious day and a super day's fishing just to confound those who believe I only organise cold, miserable days.

Unfortunately three of our merry band had to pull out due to health problems and we wish them all a speedy recovery. It meant that a total of nine members and guests fished on the day.

Frensham is a popular water consisting of six lakes and my challenge to the anglers was to catch one fish from each lake, thus keeping everyone on the move and hopefully interacting more. It was obvious when I arrived just before 9.00 am that someone might achieve this because several people had already caught a good number, led by Keith Huxtable who had taken seven fish but not from all lakes. It didn't take me long to tackle up and I was soon into action with a lively Rainbow Trout of about 2lb 8oz, just right for supper or on this occasion home cured Gravlax - delicious.

It was one of our guests, Granville Ainley who was first to meet the challenge taking six from six lakes by 9.50 am to be followed about 25



Andrew Smith

minutes later by Dennis Cole. I should point out that Frensham is a catch and release water so that most of the fish caught were in fact returned.

Whilst Keith fished on hoping for a bite in that elusive 6th lake and two went off to the pub, the remainder of us enjoyed a very pleasant picnic lunch overlooking the main lake. The conversation ranged from King Henry III's bones and Margaret Thatcher to William Shakespeare and the Curtain Theatre all of which are loosely connected, but I won't go into that at this stage – I felt a little more like Melvyn Bragg than Angling Secretary! I hasten to add that we also touched on aspects of the Paper Trade as well.

Suitably refreshed we carried on fishing and although the trout were not quite so ready to give themselves up, most of us caught in the afternoon as well. In total nine of us caught 48 trout which is a very high average and just goes to show that if you want to give fly fishing a try, Frensham is definitely a place to visit.



David Gould



Peter, David, Robert, Granville, Andrew - Frensham 2013

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2013

Friday, 18th October - River Test

George Fowler tells us the final meeting of the year will be on **Thursday, 7th November** at Coltsford Mill, Oxted, Surrey though this has yet to be finally confirmed. He will contact the Members in plenty of time.



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SHANKS Spring Golf Meeting Westerham Golf Club, Kent 23rd May 2013

Firstly it must be reported that our good friend and supporter of both SHANKS and PICT Peter Bothwick has been elected, which is a weasel word for steam rolled, into becoming SHANKS Captain and he took up his duties with that rank and status at this meeting. Welcome Peter.

What a joy it all was to be among 14 stalwart golfers of, how can I put this, mixed abilities. That should cover it. We met at Westerham GC on a day of unsettled weather. Sunshine and showers were forecast and this proved to

be true. The starting format was adhered to with PICT's own golf impresario Mike (aka Kit Kat) Kerlogue calling us all to his home Club for a 12 noon check in, coffee and bacon baps, issue of cards, Kit Kat choc bars and yellow team balls. For those unfamiliar with the fiendish yellow ball play, this ball is played by each player in succession round the course which makes for the team score, and with your white ball you play as an individual. With mounting excitement we approached the 1st tee.

The standard of golf within my threesome could not be described as high but we like to think we were steady. If you know Westerham GC you will be aware it is a hilly course set in lush green country on the Surrey/Kent border beset on all sides with truly beautiful views. The M25 is sufficiently far away to not drown out the sound of birdsong and curses (really quite mild curses all in all) resulting I suppose from some less than satisfactory play. At about the halfway mark purple clouds were seen piling up on the northern horizon which soon dropped buckets of

Guest winner was Geoff Parnell who is to become a PICT Member and has promised to appear at the next SHANKS meeting.

Winner of our new trophy for best in class was Alan Piper who re-takes the Syd Humphries Trophy which he had won a few years previously. Second was Killer Causer and third was Kit Kat himself.

Now for the big one, the Steve Beckett Trophy, this for the biggest mistake of the day. It went to Richard Kerlogue, Kit Kat's brother who made a chip shot that hit a tree, came back coming to rest 20 yards behind the player. I know, I know, nothing too startling as a SHANKS moment here but beggars can't be choosers.

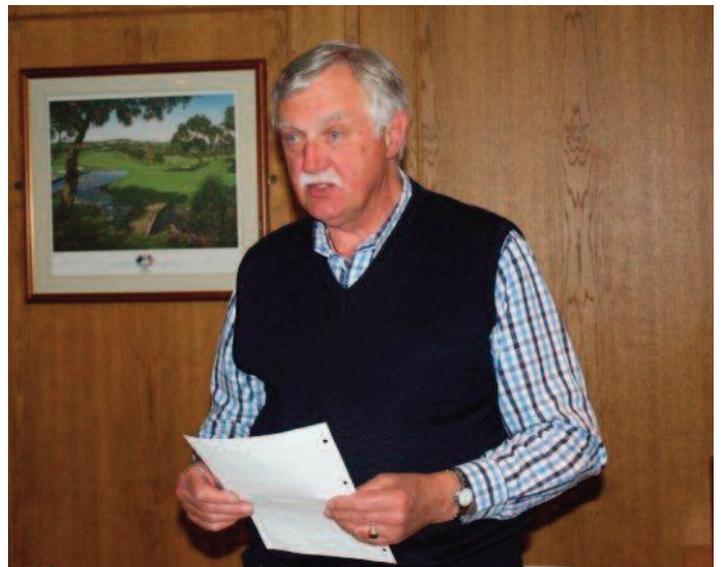
When writing up this stuff the author is aware that schadenfreude, that secret joy in the misfortune of others kicks in. That wish for some spectacular golfing disaster on which to hang a tale and ideally a photograph of the crash site so deeply embarrassing to the perpetrator,



Peter passes best golfer of the day to Alan Piper

hail and rain. Play was abandoned by most of us for about 40 minutes until the sun reappeared and the tees began to steam and play was resumed. We remained under sunny skies for the rest of the afternoon.

There were 5 teams, two of whom lost their yellow balls and the team comprising of John (Deer Slayer) van der Pump, Andrew (Killer) Causer and Rod Benwell. I can't remember if Rod has soubriquet but I call him "Exocet" as he nearly put a ball through my engine room on the 12th but I'm an uncomplaining soul. It was a cracking shot just unexpectedly long. They must have been playing some good golf as this is the team that came in with the best score.



Mike Kit Kat Kerlogue declaring the final scores

shanks

but, on this occasion there was nothing to report but a ricochet. The dinner was grand, as was the company and £189 was raised for PICT.

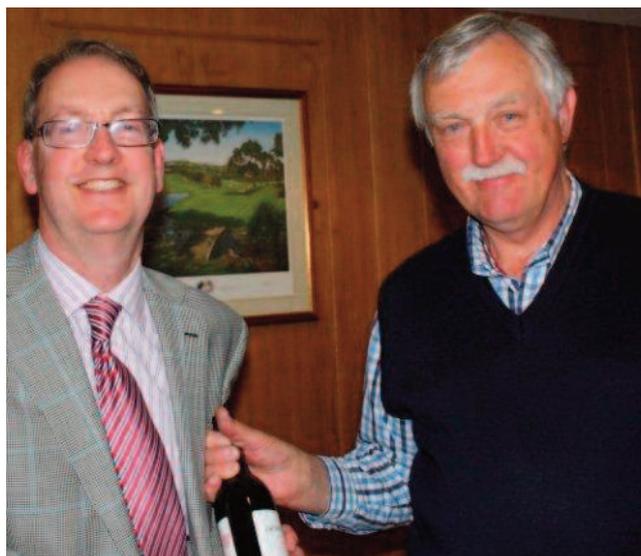
The next SHANKS meeting will be on Tuesday 8th October in Redditch at the Abbey Hotel and Golf Club and accommodation is available for the tired southerner.

Our thanks must go to Mike "Kit Kat" Kerlogue for arranging such a successful day on such a beautiful golf course.

Bev "Slicer" Steele



Alan Badcock PICT Vice President takes his ease at the SHANKS Dinner



Andrew Killer Causer receives wine



Team prize to Rod "Exocet" Benwell, Andrew "Killer" Causer and John "Deer slayer" Van der Pump



The Fortunate Fourteen



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Tennis Section Secretary John Victoros tells us that despite an operation on his leg he intends to be fit "in contention" for the PICT meeting booked for 12th September 2013 at Northampton County Lawn Tennis Club, Church Way, Weston Favell, NN3 3BX.

He adds there is the strong possibility of three grass courts being ready for play by that time so do spread the word and contact John by 'phone or ideally email and register your interest.

cricket

Our Cricket Secretary Mike Robertson, a bit like Andy Murray, has a success to report. Without further ado I rush to tell of this.....

PICT played Paperlinx UK at Wollaston Cricket Club on Thursday, 4th July. He (Mike Robertson) became unusually lyrical here on account of the "beautiful summer's evening with Wollaston Cricket pitch in perfect condition and under such excellent conditions the two sides met to play their annual 20-20 Match.

Mike Robertson as PICT Captain won the toss and elected to let Paperlinx bat first. With official umpires Vince Collins and Nigel Howl on hand to ensure a fair and sporting match play began at 6pm.

Opening the batting for Paperlinx were Matthew Ingram and Gary Ray. Matthew led the way reaching 32 before having to retire. Gary Ray showed much patience and

was eventually bowled by Richard Wilson of Webco (yes Webco are part of Paperlinx) for 19.

John McClure scored 5 before being bowled by ex-Paperlinx employee David Raven who then bowled Danny Mulvanney for 0. Julian Boulter put up some resistance before being run out for 14. Malcolm Swan was caught for 15. Mark Duckworth scored 8 and Umar Iqbal also scored 8 before being caught. Matthew Ingram returned to the crease and knocked another 30 runs. The last remaining wickets of Andy Stalmach and Michael Taylor were lost without scoring. Paperlinx scored 142.

PICT felt they could chase this total down with a strong batting line up. Stephen O'Brien of Gould Paper and David Raven of Denmaur opened the batting. Stephen O'Brien scored 4, David Raven 10. Darren Hinchcliffe of Riasca



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Paper and Print scored 33 runs before retiring. David Riddle of Webco retired after 32 runs, Matthew Boyle of International Paper scored 23 runs before being caught and bowled by Andy Stalmach. Anthony Mackie of International Paper was out for 0 and Stewart Marshall of Riasca Paper and Print scored 5 and Richard Wilson of Webco was not out for 1.

PICT reached 147 runs with 2.4 overs remaining winning the Match.

Heady stuff and I repeat a first win for PICT and our team is to be congratulated. Mike added that both teams played the match in tremendous spirits and players and supporters were entertained to a splendid buffet supplied by IP.

Well, what a year we have just witnessed, the football Euros, the Queen's Jubilee, the Olympics and the Para-Olympics. A very busy year.

The Paper Trade has had a similar monumental year as Mill, Merchants and Printers alike massaged their business models into a shape that caters for and delivers profitability in this challenging, changing and reducing marketplace that we are operating in. Unfortunately the Trade has continued to see significant failures. In the South, Alderson Brothers, in the Midlands Hawthorns, in Wales HSW and in Scotland Montgomery Litho. Also the very heavily published coming together or pack arrangement of the Goodhead Group into Polestar.

All the very well known household names some of whom have risen again in a different format but overall leaving a huge hole in the Trade be it sales, tonnes, margin, or most worrying of all, bad debt. It is not all bad news though with businesses addressing the issues the current market is providing for us all, challenging strongly for the many opportunities the Trade has to offer. Hardly a week goes by that we do not see a new piece of machinery, technology or product being introduced into the now mature but still aggressively growing digital arena. This, along with the various forms of diversification continue to provide major opportunities.

What does this have to do with our Charity? Well, I believe the challenges and opportunities are not too dissimilar. We have seen a huge reduction in the number of Paper Merchants over the past 10 years resulting in reduced income. We have seen reduced numbers supporting our key Annual Lunch, again resulting in reduced income. We have struggled to attract our younger colleagues to get involved. We have seen sporting sections close due to lack of interest. Many of our colleagues know little or nothing about our Charity which remains in some people's eyes as a well kept secret. However we have reacted in a very positive way and made a number of successful changes in how we go about our business.

It started in 2007 when PICT was born out of The SSS with David Houseman our first President. We then changed the annual dinner to a lunch providing a more affordable and convenient function for us all. Patrick Shorten came up with the idea and implemented a 200 Club which provides a bit of fun and a valuable income stream. Are you a member of the 200 Club? If not, please consider becoming one.

We now publish The Bigger Picture twice a year, our Charity magazine in an attempt to get our message across to all. We would appreciate your getting this in front of as many people as possible to spread the message and ensure that PICT is no longer a secret. My thanks to Bev Steele who works tirelessly putting this together and editing the publication.



In 2011 we introduced Quiz Nights which were very successful and well attended providing another valuable income stream and attracting a very different audience to the norm with a lot of our younger colleagues supporting the event and having a very enjoyable evening. They did not happen in 2012 but will be re-introduced this year.

Without doubt the most significant changes have been the move to becoming a charity and the move from a dinner to a lunch. This has seen this event become in my opinion, the best attended and most popular function in our Trade. I would like to thank everyone involved who may have contributed to these changes for their foresight, support and commitment in achieving these goals. Of course, we cannot afford to sit on our laurels and we need to embrace the subtle changes to ensure we raise enough funds to enable us to help those friends and trade colleagues of ours who have the misfortune to have fallen on difficult times.

At this stage I would like to thank the PICT committee for their support during the past 12 months and in particular Anne James for her untiring work in supporting me in ensuring the last year's Lunch was such a resounding success. Thank you.

Last year we raised over £14,000 which I am pleased to advise you is a marginal increase on the previous year and most importantly saw me out perform my very good friend Martyn Eustace, a result in more ways than one Martyn!! I am concerned however that having seen the effort that my successor put into this year's event that I could well slip down the league table. Let us hope so.

Finally it has been a highlight and an honour to be your President for the past 12 months and I wish my successor a very successful and enjoyable year.

Andy Thompson

Nick Steidl is to be congratulated on the award of a Gold Medal from the Paper Industry Gold Medal Association for his work within the Industry. This is a very prestigious award indeed and was presented to him at the Charter Dinner of the Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers at Stationers' Hall on 1st May 2013.

The citation that accompanies this award tells of Nick's deep understanding of markets and how they work and the application of this knowledge to both his own company HH Pegg Ltd, with whom he began his time in the Industry, joining his father Robert in 1968, and to the broader industry. He has held many high offices in his time and those involved with PICT will remember how instrumental he was in effecting the change from the Stationers' Social Society of which he was President in 2003 to the Charity we have become.

In 1990 he was elected a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers where he served with distinction as a Trustee of the Company's charities. He was elected to the Company's governing body the Court and commissioned a report on the future of paper and print in Europe to the year 2020.

There is so much that Nick has done for the good of the Industry as a whole but we simply do not have space here to comment on it all but I do commend the broader readership to contact the Gold Medal Association on info@papergoldmedal.org.uk to find out more about this remarkable man.



In essence his foresight, understanding and passion for the business of making and marketing paper is truly outstanding.

He does have other passions however! Nick is married to Louise and they have three daughters, Holly, Alice and Tessa and when he has time, he indulges his other passion which apart from sport, travel, food and wine is photography.

PICT wishes to add its voice to the many others congratulating Nick on this tremendous achievement.

Bev Steele

obituary



**PETER LAMING
1931- 2013**

It is with sadness that we must note the passing of Peter Laming a sporting gentlemen of the Paper Trade if ever there was. Peter spent most of his working life in the Trade other than a short exception when very early on he found employment with a wholesale grocers in East Cheap. It was during this time that he met and married Betty, his wife for 56 years.

His paper trade working background began in Mill Sales with Bowaters where he was an integral part of a really rather illustrious group including such luminaries as Patrick Shorten, Clive Duncan and Philip Weir. It was when he was working for A H James that the Sun Paper & Board Agency,

then part of the East Lancs Group saw Peter's mill sales background as an advantage and he stayed with this company for 15+ years becoming Sales Director. He subsequently started his own business as an agent for a Spanish paper mill with whom he was working virtually up to his death illustrating his love for the trade and for selling.

As a youngster he was a West Ham fan and played football, tennis and cricket but his abiding passion was for golf. What follows is like a litany of golfing activity as besides being a member of Tunbridge Wells and Edenbridge Golf Clubs he was at various times Secretary, Captain and President of the Paper Agents Golfing Society where, ably assisted by his wife Betty he was awarded an Honorary Life Membership to thank him for his huge contribution. In addition to being a member of the Stationers' Social Society and Paper Trade golfing societies he was a founding member of Paper Weights Golf Society whose membership was restricted to those that worked in the Paper Trade, were non-smokers, able and willing to travel far and wide both at home and abroad for a week of golf, and all this by invitation only! His other interests included gardening, of which he was so keen he attended Bromley College to obtain a City & Guilds in plant and lawn care, and his garden at Felton Close in Petts Wood was testament to this.

Peter enjoyed life and dealt with the setbacks of failing health with courage and fortitude. His overriding characteristic was that of making the best of things and a warm good humour. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Betty.

The Editor



TOM GRIFFIN

27th October 1929 – 17th February 2013

Tom's early life involved several moves with his family settling in Bridlington in 1939 where his father managed gravel quarries. He went to Bridlington School and enjoyed all sorts of sports and was a member of the Bridlington Boys Rugby team. I understand he went from school to the army, took a short service commission in the Intelligence Corps where he met and became friends with his future brother in law Quentin Hockliffe. After army service Tom joined Spicers in Leeds but as is the way with young men he wished to expand his horizons and moved to London as a Spicers trainee at their office in New Bridge Street EC4. For a while he became a Mill Agent then joined Richard Herring, a part of Inveresk. He and Quentin bumped into each other in London and shortly afterwards met Daphne whom he married in 1956. After one year they moved to Harpenden. First

child Jenny was born 5 weeks after the move, then Kate 19 months later then Simon in '61. By this time Tom was playing golf at which he excelled. He joined Frank Judge, later leaving to form his own paper merchanting company TA Griffin in premises near Worship Street with Daphne handling the book keeping. He opened a branch in SE London and another in Luton. Beyond doubt he was a very successful paper merchant at the time. TA Griffin & Company was bought by Quai Paper. Upon David Fordham's death Tom took early retirement.

Of his sporting life, golf was his great love; no secret there. He was a member of many clubs including Woburn, Blackheath and Harpenden and was very actively involved with the Paper Trade Social Societies. He was Hon. Sec. of the Stationers' Social Society Golf Section for many years, Past Captain of the PTGS, The London Pride Golf Society and the Paper Agents Golfing Society. That he was a both good and very competitive golfer is not in doubt. Jack Perry recorded in the SSS Newsletter how full of admiration he was for the methodical and focused manner which Tom adopted in very trying weather conditions on one particular round and that year Tom won the Savory Salver. I for my sins was Secretary of the SSS Shooting Section for several years of which Tom was a very keen member. He shot very competitively with both pistol and clay pigeon shotgun and I like to think we became good friends.

We have touched on the business and sporting life but what of the family man? Daphne tells me they moved several times always to somewhere bigger, the house full of friends, relations and children's friends. Tom was very much a caring and loving "hands on" father to all his children including handicapped son Simon during his difficult times and tragic death. Daphne remembers so very well the great support he gave to her and the family at this very difficult time. He loved giving parties and good times were had. She tells of his going to the dump to bring back bikes for him to mend and have for the grandchildren when they visited. She adds that they enjoyed the same things; gently motoring in France, art, architecture, gardens, safaris, walking, sailing and "just being lazy in the sun". Toward the end of his life he became a great grandfather to three but sadly fell victim to Alzheimers, that cruellest of diseases. He failed rapidly in his final 6 months dying in hospital on February 17th. His funeral was held at St John's Church, Harpenden on Wednesday 6th March. The church was full with friends and family and many from the Paper Trade. Later we repaired to the Harpenden Golf Club for refreshments. Despite the sadness of the occasion it was good to celebrate the life of one of those larger than life characters that his generation seemed to produce. He was in every way a gentleman, kind and thoughtful with impeccable manners that seemed to come so naturally. I am sure I speak for many others when I say it was a pleasure to have known him.

Bev Steele

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