

THE FUTURE BRIGHTENS



The President quietly impassioned telling us of his vision for the future.....

The PICT Lunch is always special. It is that occasion when once a year Trade people meet for lunch to talk and enjoy and to be entertained. Friday 7th March was certainly one of those. It began in Suite 6 at the Park Plaza Hotel on the Albert Embankment with the AGM the Minutes of which shall be shown elsewhere in this Newsletter but I can tell that it was well attended and lasted for 30 minutes. During this time the out-going President Jeremy Martin briefly summed up his year in office, all the ups and downs of his time and passed the President's Badge to Alan Badcock. With the new President firmly ensconced, Andy Thompson was elected to become the Vice-President despite having been President in 2012 and was given his badge of office. John Garlick delivered the Treasurer's Report in his own measured and concise manner followed by Patrick Shorten with that of the Trustees. Regarding Patrick it was an especially poignant occasion in that he announced his retirement from that post which he has held for ten years. He was

applauded to the echo for his sterling work and his counsel will surely be missed. Peter Bothwick was elected to become a Trustee so he with Barry Fowler and Andy Thompson make up our complement of three. The 200 Club draw was called and the meeting was concluded. We then left to join the other Members and their guests who for the record numbered 234 in all, in the Thames Suite, a lovely room offering an inspiring prospect of the Thames with the Houses of Parliament just across the water. This really was impressive and made a splendid backdrop to our proceedings. Peter Bothwick was our Master of Ceremonies for this occasion, a role he played magnificently and much aided by a very good sound system. He began the proceedings telling us all of what was to come and for us to elect Table Captains to oversee the various charity happenings round the tables. The Heads and Tails game proved as popular as ever and Chris Godfrey was the winner and received a £100 wine voucher. Not bad for standing up and sitting down a few times!



Our own Peter Bothwick working the room in full sardonic mode.....

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The President presenting PICT Secretary Anne James with her gift....



Guest Speaker Gary Richardson showing us no mercy.....

Peter started the auctions early, a very good move as from past experience it can be a drag on proceedings but all went very well at a good clip and good money was made for the Charity.

The Raffle was another success, the lucky winners being:-

- 1st Simon Pilkington.....Wine vouchers
- 2nd Colin Fulford.....Hotel voucher
- 3rd Peter Bothwick.....A Damon Hill print
- 4th Peter Walsh.....Camera

Then we were to be entertained by our guest speaker Gary Richardson Sports journalist and Commentator sans pareil. A very, very funny man indeed. His "day job" is with the BBC heard on Radio 4's flagship Today programme that goes out weekday mornings. Those that know the programme will have heard Gary managing to shoehorn within his reporting duties amusing stories and asides. His act is largely about these in a more developed form and of his mistakes both on and off air. Hilarious stuff. For my money he could have stayed with the microphone for the rest of the afternoon. A very well chosen performer. In addition he kindly offered as auction prizes two 2 hour visits, accompanied by himself, to Broadcasting House to watch a sports programme being broadcast.



Mike Gee telling us all of our President's past....

What with Mr Richardson and our very own Peter Bothwick, no mean performer himself, we were very well entertained. With the guest speaker's conclusion the afternoon came to its formal end and the members and guests gently eased away many to the hotel bars or other more local watering holes. In retrospect a very good day indeed and another very successful Lunch.

Bev Steele

Then the speeches. Mike Gee spoke of the commitment of the donors to PICT and then proceeded to give an extensive account of the life and times of our new President Alan Badcock, As I have made a profile of Alan's life further along in this newsletter I will not enlarge further here on what Mike had to say but rest assured it was all very amusing and positive. Then came the President's turn and he told us of his aims and vision for the Charity in a speech that was quietly impassioned if that is not too much of a paradox, which were to encourage progress and make a drive to increase membership and of course to find more of those in need. He thanked Patrick Shorten for his many years of dedication.



Heads & Tails Finals....



The year is half gone as I put pen to paper with this short article. It is a sort of valedictory address as I am standing down as the Editor of the PICT Newsletter, a role I have played for close to 7 years now but things happen in your own life, very good things in my case that I wish to indulge before the final trump so to speak! I am extremely pleased indeed to have secured the services of a very talented person as my successor namely Margaret Curle, a lady many of you will remember as the editor of Paper Focus back in those other times. Do read my introduction to her to find out just how well connected and experienced she is in all things to do with the Trade we all know and love.

I will try not to turn this into a litany of thanks to the various luminaries, sports section secretaries etc., but how can I not thank them other than most fulsomely for their support? Those cracking reports, golf, tennis, angling et al have been things of beauty. Thank you gentlemen for all of those. On such occasions the editor's chair has been a good place to be. I must also thank my colleagues on the Committee and the successive Presidents for their hard work for the Charity given without demur, but I must save a special few words for that veritable star Anne James. I know we shower her with thanks at the Lunches in March but the fact is, and I know this from first hand, she really is just so good at all she does. Anne has steered me through a few boulder strewn journalistic passes without too much damage I can tell you. Thanks a million Anne. I will miss the working time we had together. So, time to move on and move out. I wish the Charity good luck and may it continue to prosper under the guidance of the Trustees. With very best wishes to all.

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 10th draw which took place at the AGM on 7th March 2014

1st Prize..... £250 - Mike Kerlogue
2nd Prize £100 - Neil Haslam
3rd Prize..... £50 - Peter Squire

trustees' report

The report this year mainly features Patrick Shorten's decision to stand down after many years of dedicated service to the Charity and in particular his activities in his role as Trustee. Patrick has decided that the time is now right to dedicate more of his attention to his family and hand over the reins. On behalf of everyone involved with PICT and I am sure of all of those that have benefitted from his tireless work we pass our many thanks and good wishes for the future.

Barry Fowler who has also dedicated many years of support to the Charity has also decided to stand down as a Trustee at the end of the year. Again all involved would like to thank Barry for his many contributions in particular helping deliver the change from The Stationers Social Society to the PICT Charity and of course his work as Trustee.

We are pleased to advise that Peter Bothwick and Andy Thompson have agreed to be appointed as Trustees and we are assured of their intention to continue the excellent work of Peter and Barry.

The intention of the Trustees moving forward is to continue to search for trade and trade related cases that are in need of support and to maximise the amount of funds distributed. This year we have distributed £9000 but with additional funds to our Annual Lunch promised this year we should be in a position to pay out more in 2015.

From the Trustees of PICT



Alan Badcock

Alan was born in Fulham in 1948 to parents Jim & Mabel. Alan made it clear to the editor that he was very proud of his father who was awarded the DFC for his achievements as a navigator/bomb aimer in WW2.

He was educated at Sir Walter St John's Grammar School and was an avid badminton player at Wimbledon Badminton and Squash Club where he played in the 2nd Team and eventually secured a place in the Middlesex County 3rd Team. He tells me he progressed to playing squash club matches and some doubles tournaments which were dangerous but fun. He moved down to Brighton where he learned to sail and windsurf, the latter activity being responsible for meeting his wife Denise. They married in 1983 but sadly children were not possible. They have lived in West Sussex for all of their married life.

As for hobbies he puts pretty near the top food and drink and enjoys cooking especially barbecues. Favourite tittle is Bollinger but also partial to St Julien. Nothing wrong with the taste buds then. He likes to play golf and enjoys fly fishing but his major interest is boating. Alan owns a Fairline Targa 38 capable of 38 knots as well as driving around in his Bentley Continental GT Speed model. I think a few of us could get used to that!

As for employment he has experienced a mere 45 years in the Industry. From 1965-1975 he was with Capital Paper starting as a sample boy graduating to telephone sales, his first area being Northumberland and Cumberland which was later expanded by two more English counties and finally assumed responsibility for sales to Scotland. In these early years he obtained NAPM Intermediate 1 and Advanced 11.

1976-1978 he was with Star Paper based in Hemel Hempstead and Tonbridge under the watchful eye of Terry Elliot. His representative role was to look after stockist merchants based in London and the Southern Home Counties focusing on papers from the Barnsley and Blackburn Mills.

1979-1980 Now this came from "left field" as they say. He was a self employed carpenter, successfully running his own chippie business making bespoke bedroom and kitchen furniture but soon realised his real vocation was back in the Trade.

1981-1987 he was with WWF Paper Sales UK initially as inside sales support to sales director Tony Fagan. He continued with WWF for 7 years rising to Sales Office manager for the indent division. When Tony Fagan resigned to set up Precision Papers Alan developed business opportunities to end users and the Book & Magazine Publishing sectors.

1987-1994 went to AH James as a main Board Director maintaining his specialist interest in the end user/publishing side of the business where he stayed for 7 years.

1994-2001 AJB Publishing Papers Ltd, a company he started with the backing of Capital Paper and it ran for a successful 7 years until Capital Group failed to meet their obligations.

2001 to retirement December 2012 he re-joined WWF to assume responsibility for their magazine division. The WWF Magazine division had undergone shrinkage over several years but from this came a re-launch of the division under the name of Paradigm Publishing Papers Ltd (P3). At the end of 18 months trading turnover had gone from £5M to £18M. Alan was asked to take over in the role of MD both Salehurst and P3 which were merged in 2008 and the rest he tells me, is history.

Safe hands I think.

Bev Steele

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 7TH MARCH 2014 IN THE PARK PLAZA RIVERBANK HOTEL, 18 ALBERT EMBANKMENT, LONDON SE1 7TJ COMMENCING AT 11.00 AM

The President, Jeremy Martin, took the chair. There were 20 members in attendance.

1. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15th March 2013 were proposed by M Kerlogue, seconded by M Gee 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: P Carr, O Davis, C Duncan, G Fowler, N Haslam, B Kelly, J Mannix, D Monk, J Perry, L Scott, J Vanderpump, P West, M Windett.

4. Presentation of Accounts for the period 1st January 2013 to 31st December 2013. John Garlick presented the Accounts in Phil Carr's absence.

The adoption of the Accounts was then proposed by P Bothwick, seconded by A Thompson and carried unanimously.

The President thanked John Garlick for his enormous help with the Accounts.

5. Election of Directors
The President announced that the Past Presidents and Committee recommended that Alan Badcock be elected President for 2014. This was proposed by S Mason, seconded by B Fowler and unanimously approved.

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

Alan Badcock then took the Chair. His first duty was to announce that it was the Past Presidents and Committee's recommendation that Andy Thompson become Vice President for 2014. This was proposed by M Eustace, seconded by P Shorten and unanimously approved.

Alan Badcock then invested Andy Thompson with the Vice President's Badge.

The appointment of the Treasurer Phil Carr was proposed by B Fowler, seconded by M Kerlogue and unanimously approved.

The appointment of the Secretary Mrs Anne James was proposed by M Kerlogue, seconded by Mrs I Smith and unanimously approved.

According to the Articles of Association the longest serving Elected

Director has to retire. The President announced that Patrick Shorten wished to stand down but that Andy Thompson and Peter Bothwick have agreed to stand for election.

Andy Thompson was proposed by Patrick Shorten, seconded by M Gee and unanimously approved.

Peter Bothwick was proposed by Barry Fowler, seconded by S Mason and unanimously approved.

Patrick Shorten was thanked for his enormous contribution as a Trustee since 2004 and was warmly applauded by those present.

6. Report on Benevolent Fund Distribution by Patrick Shorten

One of the responsibilities of the Trustees is - unlike some Chancellors of the Exchequer - to be ready, in financial terms - for the oft quoted rainy day.

Thus some years we do not distribute every penny of the surplus raised by the year's activities. In this last year in particular there were only a small number of new one-off applicants, whilst there were no new applicants granted regular payments. Indeed the Trustees continually audit regular grants to ensure applicants' circumstances have not changed.

Having said that, the Trustees really want members - and indeed others connected with our industry, to keep their ears open to learn about any employee or former employee, in the industry, who is in a straitened financial situation, and then to mention the name - in strictest confidence, either to Anne James or any one of the three Trustees. It is far better that the Trustees have to go back to the Board to ask for an addition to their budget, than to learn that a family is suffering hardship which could have been avoided. We will find the money because that is what PICT is here for.

Our new President is particularly interested that PICT raises its profile in the vital area of helping those who have given service in our industry and are in need.

In 2013 we have in all distributed £9,000 covering both one-off and regular payments. The Trustees are not satisfied that PICT's message is getting through so with your help let us follow the President's lead and make PICT truly charitable.

The meeting closed at 11.30 am.

It was with considerable sadness that we learned from Tim Bowler early in the year that the NAPM, that venerable organisation, has been wound up as of 31/12/2013. At a Policy Group meeting held earlier in December it was decided that without two of the major companies being in membership the organisation would not be truly representative of the UK Paper Merchandising Industry and would not be a viable concern. Although the NAPM ceased to function at the above date as a Trade Association it will be pleased to continue to be available to former members in the months to come to give them any help or advice with regard to the previous activities of the Association or indeed to answer any questions relating to the dissolution.

The NAPM was formed in 1920 but the industry is having to change rapidly particularly with regards to cost savings as it confronts the continual onslaught in the decline of the consumption of fine and graphic papers through the UK printing industry. This coupled with the ever present spectre of competition law requirements due to our industry now having 2 companies each with a very significant market share has not made it easy for the NAPM to continue to hold meaningful meetings.

Bev Steele

lps luncheon club



London Pride Society doing what it's famous for - eating, drinking and telling stories....

Lunch 17th April 2014

Mike Rust tells me, as I unfortunately could not attend this one, that good fun and fellowship were very much in evidence at this, the Spring gathering and the eighth outing for the LPS in its now established format as a luncheon club. Once again the Boot & Flogger in Redcross Way provided an excellent 3 course meal washed down with copious amounts of wine exciting many reminiscences of bygone days. Mike added that the breadth of industry experience gathered there happily reflected the golden times, and there was much discussion regarding the strains and challenges confronting the market today.

New attendees welcomed back from the "old " society included Messrs Ron Ingafield, David Little, Murray Colebrook and Martin Randall. Martin attested to over 40 years of visiting this well known watering hole originally with his father for whom the "Boot" was once a daily lunchtime haunt at a time when deals were done and surely the spiritual home of the paper trade just south of the river. Our hearty group restricts itself to 2 visits per year the next being Thursday 13th November. So there it is. New Members very welcome. No subs, just tell us that you would like to come, bring a guest if you wish. Good time guaranteed.

Bev Steele

COLTSFORD MILL – Thursday 27th March 2014

Another splendid day at this super venue which was looking at its best with all the banks trimmed, trees cut back and wildflowers beginning to show in the warm Spring sunshine. You see fishing is not just about catching fish but enjoying nature and the pleasure of chatting to like-minded people, especially after a 5 mile tail back to the Dartford crossing!

Our numbers were somewhat diminished with 4 people pulling out at the last minute so we ended up with 6 PICT members and 3 guests. When I finally arrived at 9.00 one of our guests Ron Gorin had already caught one and on the far bank Keith Huxtable was playing a lively Rainbow Trout, so things looked promising.

After tackling up I made my way to the roadside bank so that I could greet even later arrivals than myself and after a couple of casts saw the line inch out to indicate a gentle take. In this case too gentle as I was unable to set the hook properly and the fish managed to get off. However it was not long before I had another bite and having woken up a bit more I managed to land a nice fish of 3lb 12oz – yes, we haven't yet followed the trade down the metric path!

The morning progressed well with reports of

fish being caught on both lakes and the cascade pools and as we were being allowed to fish catch and release for the first time it meant that we could get a couple over our limit which were returned. By lunchtime Keith had had caught 6 and was able to dash off for something called a business meeting in the afternoon having left home at 5.00am.

Six of us adjourned to the bar to eat our sandwiches and mull over the proceedings of the morning which all agreed had been very enjoyable. I presented Robert Taylor with the Monk Trophy for the second year running – congratulations to him for his consistent catching.

We returned to work after lunch and with a few spots of rain about I caught my final fish before departing for the day. Apparently it took Gerry Overy a bit longer to get his three but they included one over 4lb and it is remarkable how often he manages to find the bigger fish. Martin Fagan and guest Granville Ainley both had 5 apiece and Sandy White, 1 and several misses.

So ended a very enjoyable day when the weather had been very kind to us and the fish very co-operative, leaving everyone looking forward to the next outing.



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Gerry Overy



Granville Ainley (guest)



Russ Ward (guest)

CHIGBORO LAKES Thursday, 22nd May 2014

It was great to see a new face at one of our fly-fishing outings and much needed it was too as the final turn-out was just 3 members and 1 guest.

Tony Spicer has been an ardent coarse fisherman for years but has recently "invested" in a fly rod. He and I had enjoyed a preliminary skirmish to Rib Valley where he managed to hook and land a Rainbow Trout on only his third cast but as we later discovered there is such a thing as "beginners luck"!

Unfortunately the weather at Chigboro was not ideal for casting a delicate fly on the water and whilst it remained dry and mild, the wind built up during the day to epic proportions after lunch. I have never had to remove so many flies from various parts of my clothing!

The water was crystal clear, there was a good ripple, fish were topping the surface and apart from the dreaded wind, it looked as though it should be a good day but in the event the fish just didn't want to know about any of our flies. Robert Taylor, winner of the Monk Trophy for the last two years and guest Granville Ainley were unable to connect with

a fish so it was bad luck that Tony decided to make his PICT debut on such a poor day. I managed to entice one 2lb trout which was obviously too stupid to ignore my offering so at least one of us went home with a fish. We were able to sit outside in the shelter of the lodge and enjoy our picnic lunch and to have a good old natter which was most enjoyable and it wasn't long before we were back out to brave the wind but by 3.00p.m we all decided "enough was enough" and said our farewells.

As we joined the A12 to make our way home, the sky blackened and we ran through heavy rain which didn't last long. However when I got home on dry roads I found that my wife had been fighting a torrent of water being blown under the front door and my rain gauge had recorded 13mm of rain during the day so although it had not been the fishing we were hoping for, maybe some luck had been with us after all.

As an organiser I can only hope that you have the following dates in your diaries and that we have a better turnout for these autumn meetings.



Presenting Robert Taylor with Monk Trophy for 2013

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2014

October 2014 – River Test – date to be confirmed

Thursday 6th November – Frensham Lakes



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SHANKS Spring Golf Meeting Hampton Court 8th May 2014

A return to this historic golf club for the fourth time, founded in 1895 as Home Park Golf Club, and situated in the grounds of Home Park within sight of the palace (apparently Queen Victoria was quite pleased!).

The present course was designed by Willie Park (more remembered for designing the old course at Sunningdale) and although not particularly long at 6514 yards (Par 71) the damp blustery weather and hostile heavy rough provided a testing afternoon for the 14 Shanksers who turned up. Jack Nicklaus once said "the older you get the stronger the wind gets, and it's always in your face" which was certainly the case today. Actually we were very lucky with the weather, as the forecast was for much heavier rain and stronger winds. Even then, we would have been safe, if dangerous conditions had prevailed, due to Lee Trevino's advice that "If caught on the course and you are afraid of lightning, hold up a 1-iron. Not even God can hit a 1 iron". Various apologies for absence (mostly justified) were received from several non attendees, and these will be considered for further action as required.

Hon Sec "Kit Kat" Kerlogue obviously had a bad journey around the M25 as he found it almost impossible to formulate pairings for the afternoon. Was it 4x3+2, 3x4+2 or 6x2+2? He eventually settled on 2x4 & 2x3, which had made sense to the rest of us about an hour before!

Coffee and compulsory bacon baps were eagerly consumed before battle commenced with the normal format of a team (yellow ball contest) and individual challenges for the prestigious "Syd Humphries" trophy and the renowned Steve Beckett Cup, plus longest drive and nearest the whole on Par 3 & 4 holes, whichever turned out to be the most appropriate!

Captain "Faldo" Bothwick was unable to play due to the lame excuse of being lame (something to do with hip replacement surgery due the following week) and therefore supported the day by touring the course on his buggy, encouraging the competitors and intermingling with the natural wildlife (and animals). "Divot/Niblick" Windett acted as starter, which hopefully was not too stressful for him prior to departing for holiday the next day (another lame excuse for not playing!).



Keith Spiers being presented with the Syd Humphries trophy
by Captain Faldo Bothwick

Team E (Green, Gee & Benwell) kicked off the proceedings and managed to retain their yellow ball until the third hole, where a slightly off-line drive was unjustly penalized, with the yellow ball disappearing forever into the cow fodder. Thereafter Team E relaxed and concentrated on their individual games and course management techniques in order to negotiate around the 270 deer that roam the park plus other distractions including rabbits, ducks and the odd Asian golfer, not to mention the thousands of trees that always seem to be in line of sight .

Ex captain Jacko" Steidl and "Suede Shoes" Triggs bailed out after 12 holes, blaming the weather, but the cause was more probably due to remembering that the bar stayed open all afternoon which gave them a better chance of winning the "nearest the pint" competition!

Keith "The Bandit" Spiers turned up looking as immaculate as ever, with his appearance obviously matching the condition of the course, as he proceeded to almost win every competition! The word bandit is



A few Shanksers

described as a "lawless desperate marauder" so no further comments required! So this LDM was presented with the Syd Humphries Trophy and a bottle of cheap fizz for the best stableford score by our esteemed captain. Tony Poyner came an honourable second with Kit Kat Kerlogue a close third.



Rod Benwell receiving the Steve Beckett trophy

Rod (Basher) Benwell justifiably won the Steve Beckett Trophy with an amazing birdie on the front 9. Having hit several oak trees on previous holes, including consecutive shots, he aimed at the next English goliath only to be thwarted when his ball interrupted two gay Mallards enjoying a naughty afternoon together beneath overhanging branches. The two birds eventually waddled away, undamaged physically but no doubt emotionally distraught. Mike Gee came a brave second, but his opening drive of 26.2 feet was not unusual enough to take the prize. Tony Poyner received the prize for nearest the pin and Chris Godfrey for the longest drive. (The latter was somewhat short of the record of 515 yards in competition managed by Mike Austin with a wooden club in 1974). Bandit Spiers was disqualified from both competitions for breaking Shanker's rules governing appearance! The yellow ball competition was won by team 3 - Chris Godfrey, Chris Bell, Phil Bunting and Barry Gregory. Obviously the tracker device they had on their ball helped win the day!



Tony Poyner with his nearest the pin prize and umbrella



Presentation of the Jacklin book to "Jacko" Steidl

Captain "Faldo" Bothwick presented Nick Jacko Steidl with a biography of Tony Jacklin, commemorating Nick's period as captain of the section and as an extremely grateful thanks for thinking, along with Kevin "Monty" Dewey (also in attendance), of starting Shanks Golf 12 years ago. Although "Faldo" Bothwick advised that the book was obtained at great expense, a rumour later circulated that the postage cost from Amazon was greater than the cost of the book! Apart from winning two majors, Tony is also remembered for achieving the first televised hole in one, at the 1967 Dunlop Masters at Royal St Georges in 1967.

A sumptuous dinner was enjoyed by all before departing this Royal event. The Autumn venue is yet to be decided but any suggestions are always welcome. Once again many thanks to Hon. Sec. Kit Kat Mike Kerlogue for all the hard work in arranging another splendid Shanks day and to Captain Faldo Peter Bothwick for supporting the event under painful circumstances. A small profit of £60 on the day will be added to the PICT coffers.

Commodore Bob Green

NEXT SHANKS MEETING
THURSDAY 9th OCTOBER 2014

Venue - BADGEMORE PARK G. C. – Henley-on-Thames, RG9 4NR

Gather at 12.00 noon for coffee and bacon roll; tee off 1.00pm; 2 course dinner at around 6.30pm and away by 9.00pm.

Cost - £55.00



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tennis

Tennis Section Secretary John Victoros confirms the next Tennis Tournament will be on 11th September 2014. Please contact him direct if you would like to attend.

cricket

Please watch PICT Webpage for information and contact Secretary Mike Robertson direct if you are interested in joining the Cricket Section.



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As your Past President, I can honestly say it's been another successful and eventful year, which as always seems to have disappeared very quickly.

Already we are half way through 2014, the World Cup is nearly finished and England have not lived up to expectations, at least we have 2018 to work towards and hope for better results?

Our industry too never stands still, further consolidation from mills, merchants and printers. The brighter side of our industry does appear in packaging where businesses throughout that chain are doing well. The paperless office does still appear to be an enigma, but an ever increasing younger society will unfortunately become paperless users!

However all our industry challenges do bring opportunities to focus on new demands from customers, OEM's and technology driven changes. We must all use change to adapt and explore new working methods, challenge the past and focus on cost effective supply without losing focus on the one word the industry struggles to achieve Profits! In our and others defence the Global economy is not helping, no doubt in time this will also change for the better so we must all be equipped for the improved times to come, hopefully sooner than later.

On to PICT, another year to thank many people for all their efforts and support, too many to mention individually but special thanks to the following. All sporting secs for the organisation and continued support of each sporting section and charitable contributions. Thanks to Fred Haines for the well organised golf event at Rothley Park and everyone else who has supported the charity and me during my presidency.

However special thanks must also go to Patrick Shorten and Barry Fowler for their tireless efforts for many years as Trustees for the charity, both are now standing down and we all thank you for your beneficial work. Good luck to their replacements Peter Bothwick and Andy Thompson.



Lastly on the thanks, a big well done again to Anne James, she supports all of us and organise magnificently the annual luncheon, many many thanks to you Anne.

Rounding up my report, please if you are not already a member join the 200 Club, it really could generate additional funds for the charity but we need some more members, just ask a committee member or Anne for details.

Also please support your sporting sections, hopefully we may have a regional quiz nights again late this year?. Place in your diaries next years luncheon 7th March 2015 and support our new President Alan Badcock and what promises to be another successful event.

It just leaves me to say thank you to everyone who has supported me during my Presidency, it's been a privilege and an honour.

Jeremy Martin

Keith Byatt

Keith, one of the stalwarts of the old Stationer's Social Society Shooting Club left the trade a little while ago to eventually take up living on a narrow boat, making one of those life dreams come true but the journey there was an interesting one. Many will remember him from his days at WWF and de Forende but I am getting ahead of myself.

Keith was born in Croydon in 1953, went to school at Woodside Infants, then Ashburton Junior and finally at age 9 to Christ's Hospital. He tells me that his interests there were getting out of sports, operating the signal box at a railway station and learning to smoke! He left school in 1969 and joined the British Steam Navigation Company as an Engineer Officer Cadet and went to the South Shields Marina and Technical College for two years then one year at sea mostly on the MV Chakla. He joined the ship at Calais then round Cape Horn to Singapore (what follows reads like something out of a Joseph Conrad novel), 3 ports in China then back via Cape Town, Durres in Albania, Constanza, and finally Marseilles where he left the ship. By this time Keith had decided a life at sea was not for him. Though he loved the work and the life, being served by stewards etc., distressing sea sickness was a common thread through these months.

Coming ashore he found a job with Weights & Measures, then Lloyds & Scottish Finance snatching back cars and collecting overdue payments. None of this lasted long as he met Tony Fagan through the Susuki Owners Club and applied for a job at Haynes Mawson as a sales trainee. Part of this training involved working with the technical director, Maurice Baker and he tells me he had found his niche. Sales were soon forgotten and he became Maurice's assistant. The company moved to Leatherhead as WWF. When Maurice moved to Sales Keith took over on the technical side visiting customers and printers dealing with their issues.

The market changed and Keith was made redundant. He moved to Reed & Smith as inside sales but soon a position at Danish Paper Sales arose on the technical side. They became de Forende Papir UK then Stora, moving from East Grinstead to Crawley. Here he looked after Customer Technical Services as well as becoming IT manager for the office. During this time he joined the Territorial Army Signals where he stayed for 13 years and was promoted to Sergeant.

UK Papers at Sittingbourne based at Kemsley offered him a job but this was a very short affair as when a take-over came he was again made redundant.



It was about this time he figured why not work at your hobby. As his main hobby was target shooting becoming an assassin didn't offer much by way of security but got a job in a gun shop in Brighton. After the Hungerford and Dunblane outrages guns were virtually legislated out of existence so he became redundant yet again. To keep the wolf from the door he found a job "on the buses" taking up bus and later coach driving and later still became a Controller.

He married Francis and had two children, Adrian and Hannah. This marriage did not work out and 21 years ago he married Judi a retired senior neo-natal nurse in the Army and later the NHS. When Judi retired Keith left the bus industry and they decided to live their lives on a narrow boat the Lily Maud. They both volunteered as lock keepers for the Canal and River Trust but last year applied and got a job as seasonal lock keepers at a marina near Newark and live on their boat nearby. They plan to come ashore soon but keep a small boat. Keith ends by telling me the past 4 years has given them both been many experiences but the dream has run its course.

Bev Steele

new editor



When the music title folded Margaret joined Paper Publications in 1991 and became their first News Editor and then editor of the Paper Focus magazine which so many of us remember so well. She also organised the popular annual industry awards ceremonies held at the Grosvenor House Hotel, the Spotlight Awards which promoted the use of paper, print and design.

In 2000 the owners of Paper Publications formed The Paper Trail and things changed. Paper & Print Focus as it became closed in 2006 and Margaret became heavily involved with The Paper Trail doing publicity and PR on a shoestring she tells me, looking after the conferencing and training side of the business. When the visitors centre was completed she attended many exhibitions to promote The Paper Trail and organised adult group visits to the Mill even turning her hand to working in the cafe and other departments on especially busy activity days. Later Margaret became Visitor Centre Manager at the Paper Trail as well as meeting and greeting the day to day visitors and overseeing the running of the centre.

She left The Paper Trail in May 2013 to go to work with her old Paper Publications colleagues at MartorUK/Safer Life.

If ever there can be an ideal for a job like this it must surely be Margaret Curle with her background in journalism and publishing and an extensive career within the Paper Trade.

Her first job was in London working in an advertising and promotions department of the now defunct music title SOUNDS alongside such luminaries as Garry Bushell (now columnist on the Daily Star on Sunday) and Paula Yates.

As for hobbies Margaret enjoys time with her horse and driving her MX5 with the hood down. She also enjoys going for walks in the Chiltern countryside and having a drink or two in the local pubs.

I mentioned something about Margaret as being a bit of an ideal. As far as PICT is concerned. I think we are very lucky to have secured the services of this talented and well connected lady. For my part, and I have known Margaret for many years, I say welcome aboard and I wish you many happy years in your role as editor of PICT.

Bev Steele

the paper trail

Although I have moved on from The Paper Trail work-wise I am still in contact and just down the road from them – so will continue to let you have all the news. Since I last wrote about The Paper Trail – a few important things have taken place. The Paper Trail has at long last managed to sell the piece of land for development at the Apsley site – so enabling them to move forward with plans for the future. The other important bit of news is that, again at long last, there are Brown Signs directing visitors to Frogmore Mill. The Paper Trail is now firmly on the tourism map. The Paper Trail also has a new 'all-singing – all-dancing' website – so if you get a spare minute why not take a look at www.thepapertrail.org.uk

One fun news story earlier this year was that with all the rain at the beginning of the year, the Paper Trail Heritage Fire Brigade helped disperse floodwater in the road behind Frogmore Mill. The drains had blocked and the road in places was under four foot of water. The Heritage Fire brigade came to the rescue with their two green goddesses pumping the water away. Phew – Paper Trail saves the day!!

An interesting new exhibit is now in place in the Visitor Centre – a 1:5 scale model of the Louis Robert paper machine. Derek Pullen, a volunteer at The Paper Trail, worked with Oskars Pantelejevs, a student from the University of Hertfordshire, to build a model of the Robert machine. It is waterproofed so that it can be charged with stock in the hope that they will be able to demonstrate papermaking on it.

Two Rivers Paper, which runs the small paper machine at Frogmore Mill, recently helped a Grammy award winning UK singer songwriter make her own unique paper. Imogen Heap worked with Jim Patterson at the mill to make unique papers for her 'deluxe' edition of her 2014 album Heapsongs, which was released at the end of March. There were 2500 special edition boxed sets produced using the paper that Imogen made at the mill.

The Paper Trail had two interesting paper industry events during early spring. A fun training day was organised for a group of 45 staff from Smurfit Kappa in Kent. Split into groups they undertook a tour of the mill and hand papermaking in the machine room. A smaller group of staff from Faber and Faber came to Frogmore to learn about paper. After an introductory talk about Frogmore Mill and its history and the charity, they went on a tour of the mill and hand made paper with Jim Patterson.

Frogmore Mill was also used as part of a professional papermaking training course. Week four of the Machineman Development Course was held at Frogmore Mill in February this year. Participants from James Cropper, Bathford and Chirnside attended and completed their course with the help of Jim and Gary from Two Rivers Paper. The Paper Trail hopes this will be the first of many such training courses.

As an aside, the popular Paper Appreciation Courses are now being run through Tim Bowler's company Focal Strength. They are still being presented by John Watson, in his own inimitable style. Courses so far have been held at James Cropper and Tullis Russell. For further details and dates of these courses contact Tim Bowler either by email at info@focalstrength.co.uk or by calling 0115 960 9595. Anyway I think that's all the news for the time being, until next time.....

Margaret Curle

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