

Copped a brilliant Annual Lunch!



Joe Piggott - President

The 8th Annual PICT lunch was held on Friday 3rd March, in the new City Suite at the Riverbank Park Plaza hotel on London's south bank. The lunch followed the Trust's AGM, which was held earlier in the same hotel (minutes from this meeting are on page 5).

After pre-lunch drinks, proceedings kicked off with Joe Piggott saying grace in his own inimitable manner. A Venison Terrine starter was closely followed by the usual and well-loved game of heads and tails, which was presided over by the industry's own MC, Peter Bothwick. After only seven spins of the coin it was down to the last three standing guests, who were then asked to join Peter on the stage to decide the final outcome, Bothwick joked: "They look like the paper industry boy band 'wrong direction'!"

Once the winning participants had retaken their seats, Andy Thompson joined Peter to announce details of the fundraising auction that would take place during the afternoon and, in fact, they took the opportunity to

auction the first couple of items – namely Four Ball Golf at Westerham and an overnight stay at the Park Plaza hotel.

An excellent addition to this year's lunch - diners were treated to a couple of magicians going around the tables performing various magic tricks. Apart from being highly entertaining it was also baffling as to how these tricks were performed in such close proximity. An interesting fact on this entertainment, which was provided by Essex Magicians, one of the illusionists Nick Brown, had changed his career from paper (working for both Howard Smith Paper and Antalis) to go into a career of full time magic – "Just like that!"

Anyway, back to the lunch itself, following a delicious Chicken Rossini main course, the auction then continued, with further top class items going under the hammer – these included an England Rugby Training Shirt signed by the England squad; and two tours for four people of Sky TV Studios including lunch. A delicious pudding of warm Victoria Plum Tart Tartin was then served, along with coffees and liqueurs. A quick comfort break and then it was the turn of Peter Bothwick to formally introduce PICT's new President Joe Piggott to the guests in his own inimitable style that we have all come to expect.

He began by saying that Joe was born in Harrow, moved to Cornwall, and then moved to the Midlands when he was still quite tall! And that he was an ardent Aston Villa fan. He continued by saying that Joe was renowned for his wines, adding: "He knows exactly the right wine to go with eight pints of Pedigree!" With regards Joe's career, he told the assembled diners that Joe had achieved 52 years in the paper industry. In summing up the new President, Peter said that Joe would hold the office with immense enthusiasm.

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Hon Editor:
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annual lunch

Thanking Peter for his introduction, Joe Piggott then took to the podium and said that he was honoured to be PICT's new President. He thanked everyone for their support of the Charity and especially the financial support "for those less fortunate than ourselves". He went on to introduce his special guests at the dinner, who included amongst others, William Alden MBE DL, Clerk to The Stationers' Company and Peter Millington, President of the Lancashire Paper Trade 25 Club.

Joe's next task was to present Nick Gee with his past President's badge. On doing so he said how Nick had been very supportive of all the sporting activities during his term, participating in the majority of events.

Following this, he talked about PICT and its mission, commenting that the Charity was probably unique in Europe and possibly even the wider world in its achievements. He added that the fun and friendships in the sporting sections were all raising monies for the charity. He then made a plea for the generous support of the charitable trust, mentioning that many colleagues' lives are a struggle and that members can help to alleviate these by not only participating in the auctions and events at the lunch, but also participating in the sporting and other events during the year. Finishing his speech, Joe then went on to introduce the afternoon's entertainer – Alfie Moore.

Taking the stage and setting the tone for the entertainment to follow, Alfie introduced himself as coming from the UK's City of Culture – adding most people in Hull were quite shocked at this award – and that there are now City of Hull bus tours, which involve getting on a bus and driving straight to York!

A serving police sergeant, Alfie states he came from an engineering background, and was bought up on American cop shows. "Unfortunately though I haven't got the name – Dirty Harry sounds cool – but Dirty Alf!!" he quipped. Talking of his career, he said that questions are often asked of him such as 'why aren't you out catching the real criminals?' – "Too dangerous!!" he laughed.



Alfie Moore, the after-lunch entertainer

Another anecdote during Alfie's stories to cause much amusement was on discussing Tasers. He said that they are a good piece of protection – and on a positive note – they show that everyone has a dancing ability!! Alfie Moore was definitely an excellent choice as an after-lunch entertainer, he was very funny and droll and definitely gave a different perspective on the boys in blue...!! And everyone appeared to thoroughly enjoy it.

After the laughter had subsided and all had gained their composure, Peter Bothwick and Andy Thompson once again took to the stage to auction off the final items, which included: boat trips; rugby tickets; and the use of a villa in Turkey.

Rounding off the afternoon, President Joe Piggott presented the Charity's Secretary Anne James with a bouquet of flowers, thanking her for all her hard work. He then added that the official proceedings had come to an end and that the rest of the afternoon was free for people to enjoy and network further. And that is exactly what they did, in the time-honoured tradition of the paper industry, in both the bar and the nearest public house until the small hours of the morning. Once again, a brilliantly successful fundraising lunch for PICT and its charitable causes.

Margaret Curle



Official guests



It's that time of year againwhen thoughts turn to tennis, Pimm's and strawberries, and the other summer treat – the glorious sound of leather on willow. However, it's a shame that some of the PICT membership don't feel the same. Although the Tennis section generally does well in numbers for its tournament, the Cricket section has been struggling – as I mentioned before you don't need to be a top batsman or bowler, these events are primarily for fun and more importantly raising funds for PICT. Please try and be involved, even if only for one event during the year.

In contrast, the Angling section appeared to have two good days – particularly weather wise. The report from Tringford Lakes sounded good fun – fishing from boats what a novelty. Perhaps if this new venue is used again more members will get involved.

While on a sporting subject – there has been a couple of suggestions to start two new Sporting Sections. Firstly, until 2004 there was a strong Bowling Section in the Stationers' Social Society, and it has been mooted to restart this once popular section again. PICT member Alan Ward is happy to organise it – we just need 16 players to come forward to reinstate this pastime.

The second idea is a Walking Football section. However, PICT would need someone to organise it – so what are your thoughts on this? Interestingly enough, Walking Football has become very popular and there are now over 800 clubs in the UK. Obviously a slower paced version of the sport, it is, however, accessible to all regardless of age, health and ability. So come on, if you have any comments or interest in either of these new proposals, please contact Anne James, who can then set the wheels in motion.

Out in the wider world - I recently read some interesting up and coming initiatives primarily in the food industry. The waste management company Veolia is looking at a paper cup recycling scheme, which with support from Costa Coffee and Starbucks, intends to capture cups before they enter the general waste stream, so they can be recycled. The company is hoping that this maybe an alternative to a suggested future taxation on paper cups

Another interesting initiative is being launched by Marks and Spencer. The company is looking at laser marking its fruit and vegetables (rather than labelling) – the initiative will start with avocados. Evidently M&S originally saw this technology in Sweden. While Coca Cola's UK and Europe division is set to announce that it is to increase its target for recycled plastic in its bottles to 40% by 2020. Apparently this is in reaction to consumer and environmental pressure.

And on that note, I think that is all for the time being, apart from reiterating about getting involved in the various sports sections that PICT offers – and that it's all about fundraising at the end of the day, and having a good time with friends and colleagues. Oh and do let us know about the Bowls and Walking Football idea. So until next time, enjoy your summer whatever you are doing.

Margaret Curle

trustees' report

Once again this year has seen the Charity supporting a number of on going cases. Each year these are reviewed and assessed to ensure that they still pass the criteria to receive our help. We have also supported a number of new cases that have been forwarded to us.

As always we are reliant on members and associates of our Charity to continue to spread the awareness of our cause and to put forward for consideration any worthy case. Remember all requests received will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Peter West

It is with great sadness that PICT has learnt of the passing of Peter West, a Life Member and Past President of the Trust. An obituary will be published in the Winter newsletter. Our thoughts are with his family and friends at this sad time.

profile new president



Joe Piggott

PICT's new President is a paper man through and through, in fact this is his 53rd year in the paper trade.

Born in Harrow, Middlesex, Joe Piggott's paper career began when he answered a general vacancies small ad in

the *Daily Telegraph*, and thus he joined Gerald Judd in London's West End in 1965. However, Joe was ambitious and after 18 months left Judds saying "there's no future in this business" and set up selling newspapers outside Hillingdon Underground station. However, his attempt to emulate WH Smith failed and fortunately Murray Judd accepted Joe back to the company in 1968.

Following an acquisition in Birmingham, Judds then moved into stockist merchanting and Joe located up to the West Midlands, where he has remained ever since.

In 1993, Joe's career took him to Savory Paper, from where he 'retired' in 2010. However, this was not the end of his paper career, Joe now represents Crown Van Gelder in the UK market, as Devon Consulting Ltd.

Commenting on his career in the paper industry, Joe states that he has seen many changes, mergers, acquisitions, failures and successes, which have all given him that invaluable asset of experience.

Joe is married to Judith, and between them they have six children and eight grandchildren, three currently in Japan. A former season ticket holder at Aston Villa, Joe lists amongst his many interests – family and friends, fine wines and lunch parties on a Saturday.

With his long association in the paper industry, Joe states he is honoured to be chosen as PICT's new President. We all wish him a very successful and fun year.

Margaret Curle

200 club

The 200 Club is an established institution which helps raise much needed funds for PICT. The winners of the draw held at the AGM on 3rd March 2017 are as follows:

1st £250 Patrick Shorten
2nd £100 Darryl Quinn
3rd £50 Andy White

If you fancy joining the 200 Club and be in with a chance of winning contact Anne James by e-mailing anne@pictuk.com who will send you further information and a form. It's as easy as that.

annual general meeting

As in previous years, PICT's AGM is held in the morning of the Annual Lunch in one of the hotel's meeting rooms. As always, this is in part to attract members to come along and be involved in the AGM and it's a shame more don't take the opportunity to take part. This year we had around 20 members in attendance.

The meeting itself is a relatively quick affair. On arrival you are greeted with refreshments and then it's down to business. In general a jovial event, with light hearted banter, attendees are updated on the charity's work and news, along with the election of officers. The new President is invested at the AGM along with the announcement of the Vice President, on this occasion Paul Johnson Knight. The

winners of the 200 Club are also drawn. Then as quickly as it started, the new President, in this case Joe Piggott, closed the AGM and it was suggested moving to the bar for a livener before the lunch. The minutes of this meeting are on page 5 of the newsletter.

The PICT AGM is by no means an arduous affair – so why not break the habit of a lifetime and before the 2018 Annual Lunch come along to the meeting, and don't worry you will still have time for a drink or two in the bar with colleagues before the main event of the day!

Margaret Curle

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 3RD MARCH 2017 IN THE PARK PLAZA RIVERBANK HOTEL, 18 ALBERT EMBANKMENT, LONDON SE1 7TJ COMMENCING AT 11.00 AM

The President, Nick Gee, took the chair. There were 20 members in attendance.

1. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4th March 2016 were proposed by S Mason, seconded by F Haines and unanimously approved.

2. The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported on his year of office. (report in Newsletter No. 21).

3. **Apologies for Absence** were recorded from:

Bairstow, Michael
 Bennett, Richard
 Carr, Phil
 Davis, Owen
 Dewey, Kevin
 Fowler, George
 Hesketh, David
 Houseman, David
 Kelly, Bernard
 Perry, Jack
 Randall, Martin
 Scott, Lionel
 Smith, Irmgard Mrs
 West, Peter
 Windett, Mike

4. **Presentation of the Accounts for the period 1st January 2016 to 31st December 2016.**

This was done by John Garlick in Phil Carr's absence.

The adoption of the Accounts was proposed by A Badcock, seconded by M Gee and accepted unanimously.

John Garlick was thanked for his enormous help with the Accounts.

5. **Election of Directors**

The President announced that the Committee recommended that Joe Piggott be elected President for 2017. This was proposed by A Thompson, seconded by B Steele and unanimously approved.

Nick Gee then invested Joe Piggott with the Badge of Office. The new President thanked the meeting and was warmly applauded.

Joe Piggott then took the Chair. His first duty was to announce that it was the Committee's recommendation that Tony Johnston-Knight become Vice President for 2017. This was proposed by N Gee, seconded by S Mason and unanimously approved.

Joe Piggott then invested Tony Johnston-Knight with the Vice President's Badge.

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

The appointment of the Secretary Mrs Anne James was proposed by P Bothwick, seconded by N Gee and unanimously approved.

According to the Articles of Association the longest serving Elected Director has to retire. Peter Bothwick retired but was re-elected. This was proposed by A Thompson, seconded by B Fowler and unanimously approved.

6. **Report on Benevolent Fund Distribution** by Andy Thompson
 "We have again this year been able to support a number of new cases. Without giving precise detail as we treat all requests in the strictest of confidence, we have been able to help trade related people with urgent house repairs, mobility requirements, medical blankets whilst also providing a small donation to a deceased PICT member's chosen charity."

"We have also declined two requests for support due to the fact the individuals involved were not trade related. From a Trustees view point you can clearly see the real need that the people concerned have from the requests we support, and the importance of our Charity in being able to help."

"Please continue to advise us if you are aware of anybody who PICT may be able to assist."

The meeting closed at 11.45 am.

London Pride Society Lunch - 27th April 2017

As has been previously described, probably more than once, since the old London Pride Society transformed itself from a fully structured Society into a luncheon club those few years ago, it has been a story of a sort of quiet success and today was an example of that.

Thirty of us met in the most comfortable surroundings of the Boot & Flogger Wine Bar in Redcross Way in historic Southwark, close to the old Bankside and Borough Market. A good table in the crypt-like rooms below made for a certain atmosphere encouraging talk and good fellowship. The food and wine provided did help, of course. It was an occasion quite unique really, where those of us with a background in the Trade could meet and greet and talk with our old friends within about as convivial a background as could be possible. There were some new faces too.

Mike Rust started the proceedings by making us all welcome and telling us of absent friends. Our great stalwart Owen Davis, owing to a very important business commitment, could not be with us at the

lunch but came to meet us at the pub afterwards. As I am sure the readership know the LPS is a loyal society meeting twice a year as close as is possible to St Georges Day in April and Armistice Day in November. Bev made the Loyal Toast and the knives and forks rose and fell. A seafood starter was followed by steak and kidney pie with vegetables, then a dessert and cheese.

Bev got to his feet again and toasted the Society, and Andy Seal followed with an idea of his own to get the golfers among us to play a match together at his local course. He had prepared some paper work, a list of our names to tick declaring our interest. We wish him good luck with that.

John Raynor encouraged us, not that we needed much encouraging, to take the short walk round to the Kings Arms in Newcomen Street, a quiet old fashioned pub, to have a couple of pints and say our farewells.

All good fun and our next Lunch has been scheduled for Thursday 9th November. Book early!

Bev Steele



Andy Seal tells us about golf



Most of the assembled host



Mike Rust calls the company to order



Ron Ingarfield caught between smiles

COLTSFORD MILL
– Thursday 16th March 2017

The first outing of the season saw a very good turn out, on a wonderful sunny day with light winds creating a gentle ripple on the water, which should have been perfect for sport. There were eight members and three guests fishing and we were joined at lunchtime by Les Bidewell. There was the usual banter in the car park while we tackled up, after which we went off to find our favourite spots on the three lakes that make up the mill complex, which was looking immaculate.

I headed for the roadside edge of Mill Pool so that I could greet latecomers and it is an area that often produces a good return, but on the day there was a slight algal bloom colouring the water that made things harder than usual. One or two fish were being caught by regulars but it was a long time before the first fish came to my net.

Elsewhere it seemed that Willow Pool was the most productive with a few fish also coming out of the Cascade area, but these are smaller waters with limited bank space. The weather was so good that we were able to enjoy an 'al fresco' lunch on the terrace,

bathed in glorious sunshine. My first task was to present the Monk Trophy to last year's winner, Alan Badcock. This was followed by a discussion about our next outing to a new venue at Tringford Trout Lakes, where we will be fishing from boats. This replaces the scheduled visit to Chigboro. General discussion continued about the paper trade and a range of topics before we all returned to the fray.

Despite the good prospects, fishing turned out to be what can only be described as 'patchy' and if you found the right patch it was good but otherwise it was quite hard going. Nevertheless, everyone caught at least one and Alan showed why he was the new holder of the Trophy by catching three Rainbow and three Brown Trout, whilst Dennis Cole and guest Granville Ainley caught five each. A couple of Blue Trout were also caught to add to the mix. The largest fish of the day was caught by guest Russ Ward at 4lb 12oz.

All in all it was a very good start to the season and everyone went home having enjoyed a successful day.



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Presenting the Monk Trophy to Alan Badcock



Ron Gorin on Mill Pool



Andrew Smith on Willow Pool

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2017

Thursday 7th September 2017 – Chigboro Lakes, Maldon, Essex
Monday 23rd October 2017 – River Test, Romsey, Hants

Don't forget guests and new members are always welcome

TRINGFORD TROUT FISHERY

– Thursday 18th May 2017

This was always going to be a new experience for PICT members and it turned out to be one that met with universal acclaim and requests to return to this fishery. Some members may have been put off by the geography, or that boats were involved, but they missed out on a day of good fishing, good camaraderie and to my relief good weather.

There had been 34mm of rain during the previous two days but the dawn of a new day brought broken cloud that had virtually cleared by the time I arrived at Tringford. Tony Spicer and Robert Taylor were already there along with Bob Menzies and his tremendous crew of members, a gazebo had been set up, bacon and sausages cooking and a hot coffee thrust into my hand – a good start!

Slowly but surely others arrived and after our welcoming breakfast, we tackled up and made our way to the jetty where our boats were moored. We had already chosen our boat partners and each boat was allocated a Tringford member to act as ghillie, oarsman and advisor. It wasn't long before guest Christopher Ainley's rod was bending into the first fish of the day and for him it was to be the first of many. I missed a pull, but after half an hour connected with a beautiful Rainbow Trout that was incredibly powerful, I managed to get it to the net wielded by our ghillie, Steve. All the fishing was catch and release and the fish was duly dropped back into the water.

The day got sunnier and warmer and we changed flies regularly, but

apart from a few missed pulls Robert and I did not catch another fish before being rowed to the jetty for lunch, which was a wonderful spread of sandwiches, pork pie and selection of cheeses, accompanied by beer, orange juice or coffee. We had the friendly Tringford members to talk to as well, so the conversations were a lot more varied than usual.

By the time we were ready to resume fishing, the clouds were building up, but it was about 3.30pm before it started to drizzle, more fish had been caught and we all sensibly called it a day before getting too wet. It was time to thank Bob and the members who had given us a day to remember and I am sure we will return to Tringford again, hopefully with a few more participants.

PICT were completely outclassed by our guests, Christopher (13), Granville (7), David Gould (3), yours truly (2) and one apiece for Robert Taylor and Andrew Smith. Tony Spicer ended without getting one to the net after it jumped off, but has the consolation of being in the only action photo taken.

I am writing this report on the morning of Friday 19th and overnight we have had another 13mm of rain, which is still falling! How I managed to find six hours of idyllic fishing weather is truly amazing but the whole experience of Tringford was an organiser's dream come true. Our thanks go to Bob Menzies and the Tringford crew who gave their time voluntarily to make this a special day.



Tony into lost fish, David catching one



Robert and our ghillie Steve



PICT with the Tringford crew



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SPRING MEETING

Badgemore Park - Thursday 4th May 2017

Mike (nee Kit Kat) Kerlogue convened this Spring meeting on an overcast day, which in prospect looked set to improve, only a fresh northerly breeze was present to remind us all that it was still only early May.

The Badgemore Park course was in excellent condition, bearing in mind the lack of any notable rainfall in April, with the firm fairways providing that much needed extra length and assistance to all shankers. Our party, 21 shankers and Mike Windett our resident starter, was welcomed by the club with the obligatory bacon baps, piping hot coffee and tea at midday. Unfortunately, Andy Thompson could not stay due to 'pressing business commitments' leaving a total of 20 active players.

Mike Kerlogue, Secretary, formally opened proceedings with a welcome speech laying out the plans and orders for the day's play, distributing the score cards to team members and providing each team with that dreaded Team Yellow Ball. In addition, two new competitions were introduced, a 'Nearest the Pin' on the 6th and a 'Nearest the Line' on the 16th.

Mike Windett, Shankers' resident starter, got proceedings underway at 13:00 hrs with the distribution of 'KitKats' to each player. Despite the club's formal starter providing some guidance for all players, the first team set the seed for the day's play by splaying their balls in all directions with no one hitting the fairway. Good to see nearly everyone entered into the spirit of the day by showing their abilities to pepper the surrounding areas of the first fairway with only a few hitting the true target.

The weather remained fresh but dry and overcast providing encouragement for all standards of playing ability. Unfortunately, not all could stay for dinner in the evening but we were joined by the President of PICT, Joe Piggott, who kindly presented all the prizes.

Teams and Competition results ... 20 players 6 teams.

The teams were as follows:

Team A - Peter Bothwick, Nigel Howl, Rod Benwell & Gary Brady;
 Team B - Geoff Parnell, Martin Stears & Steve Collier; Team C - Chris Bell, Peter Blair & Chris Godfrey; Team D - Matt Ingram, Ben Reeves & Steve Tinniswood; Team E - John Ladd, Barry Gregory, Graham Warley & Mike Kerlogue; Team F - Alan Badcock, Neil Haslam & Alan Piper

Competition Winners

Overall winner for the day - Steve Collier with 39 points, playing off 15, won a bottle of bubbly.

Yellow Ball Competition - Winning team was 'C' who came home with the yellow ball and scored 65 points; runners up Team A with 58 points, but as two members had left by the time of prize giving, Nigel and Gary got two bottles of beer each.

High handicappers - 24 and above – playing for the Syd Humphries Trophy - goes way back to Stationers' Social Society Golf. Winner on 37 points was Martin Stears, playing off a 'bandit' 26.

Nearest the Pin - Steve Collier.

Nearest the Line - and possible longest drive - Peter Blair (guest of Chris Bell).

Steve Beckett Trophy for Shanker of the day – there were three nominations.

John Ladd for a misdirected drive from 3rd tee across the 2nd green and out of bounds, AND failing to shout "Fore" despite only just missing members of Team F who were putting on an adjacent green.

Team A for losing their way and playing an incorrect hole – made aware of this fact by another golfer who happened to be a long-standing member of Badgemore?!?!?!?

But the winner was - Neil Haslam for playing the 16th in an aboral fashion and running out of strokes. The details: Tee shot somewhat wayward leaving his ball behind rather large trees albeit there was a good opening to chip through. Second rebounded off first large tree flying even deeper into trouble behind tree two. Third shot rebounded off tree two into even greater difficulty behind tree three. Fourth shot was badly topped and whilst finally clearing those pesky trees only just managed to stay in bounds by which time his player partners were crying not in despair but in fits of laughter.

I am confident everyone will agree a most worthy recipient of this notable award.

Profit for the day £204.91. (Includes £20.00 penalty contribution from Mike Kerlogue for eating his KitKat prior to team photos before play started!!)

Alan Badcock



Team A tee off



Neil Haslam winner of the Steve Beckett Trophy



Yellow Ball Winners



The Syd Humphries Trophy was awarded to Martin Stears

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY 2017

Wednesday 27th September

The Abbey Hotel and Golf Centre

Hither Green Lane, Dagnall End Road, Redditch, Worcs B98 9BE

Shankers is returning to its Captain Peter Bothwick's (alias Faldo) home course, which is just a couple of miles off the M42.

Meet at 12.00 noon for the obligatory coffee and bacon roll; tee-off from 1.00pm; dinner in hotel at approx. 6.30pm; and all away by 8.30pm-ish.

The cost is £55 (which was the same as 4 years ago – good negotiations Captain!)

For those needing a room, it is £75 for a single room with breakfast. Buggies are available at around £25 each.

Contact Mike Kerlogue for more information.

Following the success of the previous PICT Golf days another Charity Golf Day has been planned for **5th October 2017**. This fundraising day will once again be held at Rothley Park Golf Club, Rothley, Leicestershire, which is a few minutes from Junction 21 of the M1.

Arrangements have been made for a 9am Shotgun start with lunch/prize giving to follow the golf at 2pm. The cost to enter a team of four players, which includes bacon roll/coffee on arrival, 18 holes of golf and a buffet lunch, will be £350. As always the event is looking for company sponsorship, whether in the form of prizes for the golf or a raffle. Please let Fred Haines know if you can help in this way.

If accommodation is required locally, Fred is happy to advise and in fact is looking to get a special rate from the Rothley Court Hotel, which is next door to the Golf Club. The event is a good fun day and a great fundraiser for PICT – so please contact Fred Haines for further details or to book your team's place. E-mail: fred_haines@fedrigoni.co.uk

tennis



Secretary: John Victoros
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Tennis Secretary John Victoros has confirmed that the PICT tennis tournament will be held on Thursday 14th September and will once again take place at the Northampton County Lawn Tennis Club, Church Way, Weston Flavel, NN3 3BX.

The meet and greet will be at 9.15 – 10.00am with tea, coffee and biscuits. There will be a pre-lunch Round Robin followed by lunch at 1.00pm. The Quarter and Semi Finals of both the PICT Trophy and PICT Plate will then be played, with tea and cakes being served as the finalists prepare to play. The presentations will be held in the bar (or outside if the weather is good) at around 6.30pm.

If you would like to join in and enrol for this year's PICT Tennis Tournament with or without a partner (we will find you one!) please send an e-mail to john.vic@paper.co.uk

cricket



Secretary: Mike Robertson
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Sadly due to lack of support, the Twenty20 cricket match that Mike Robertson had organised for 19th July in Northampton had to be cancelled.

However, Mike is not one to give up easily and is looking to organise another date possibly at the end of August or early September.

Remember, you don't need to be a hot cricketer to join in – you just need to want to have an enjoyable day out with colleagues and friends in your industry – and most importantly, raising funds for PICT's good causes.

So why not contact Mike now and let him know you are interested. It would be great to see cricket back on the agenda.

Anyone who knows me well will know that I am pressure prompted, so when I sat down last night to write these words, I turned for inspiration to the President's Report put forward last year by Andy Thompson. He started off by saying "what a year we have just witnessed", well looking back over my year as President, I think I can trump that, if you pardon the pun. 2016 will be memorable for many reasons. Britain voted for Brexit, the Americans voted for Trump and Leicester City won the Premiership. Sitting here last year, I could never have predicted that treble. All of which almost over-shadowed that Her Majesty the Queen celebrated her 90th Birthday and Team GB won a record medal haul at the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

So what impact have these turbulent times had on the paper industry? I'm sure many of you in this room will concur that trading has been tough. The uncertainty around Brexit and the fluctuation of the value of Sterling, the continuing decrease in paper consumption, and the failure of a significant number of printers, including the mighty Polestar Group, have kept us all on our toes.

It is great that in these difficult and changing times, so many in our industry put aside their busy lives to come together for our annual PICT lunch, which is in support of such a good cause. I am delighted to report that despite the challenges our trade faces we still have well over 200 attendees for today's lunch. Thank you all, and especially the PICT committee for ensuring this event remains so well supported, it is by far PICT's most important event of the year.

Thank you to everyone here for making the effort to attend and particular thanks to the committee who work behind the scenes to put on this fabulous event. Last year's lunch event raised in excess of £11,000. These funds enable the Charity to fulfil its objectives by helping those who have served in our industry, who for one reason or another, fall on difficult times and need our support.

I've been in the paper industry for more than 30 years and on days like today, I am pleased that I didn't pursue my aspiration to be a dentist. I am confident that the comradeship within the paper industry will ensure we never have to swill something as awful tasting as mouthwash at a PICT event!

The Charity's objectives remain unchanged: to attract younger members; convince employers to encourage their staff to support the charity; and ensure that PICT events remain a huge success.

In our effort to reach out to more people we have recently launched a PICT Facebook page, and may I take this opportunity to thank Mike Robertson for putting this in place.

Many thanks go to our Secretary Anne James, who ensures that all runs smoothly and has been so supportive during my year as President. I would also like to express my thanks to Margaret Curle, Editor of our newsletter *The Bigger PICTure*, to whom I still owe a drink for writing such a flattering profile of me in Issue 19.



I undertook last year to try and attend at least one of each of the sporting section events during my year in office, and am delighted to say that I achieved that objective. Without exception each was a fun occasion. Thanks to the Sporting Secretaries, without whom these events would just not take place - John Vic (tennis), Mike 'kit kat' Kerlogue (Shanks golf), George Fowler (angling), Mike Robertson (cricket) (although it was not possible to organise a match last year) and last but by no means least, Fred Haines who organised the golf meeting at Rothley Park and is doing so again this year. Whilst I was unable to attend this particular event, Denmaur did have a team there. I enjoyed attending events held by each of the Sporting Sections and would applaud the skill and enthusiasm of those who organise and take part.

Could I also thank on behalf of the Charity our Trustees Andy Thompson and Peter Bothwick.

Many of us have and are still enjoying a successful career in the paper industry, but not everybody is as fortunate and this is where our Charity PICT needs to be able to step in, it can only continue by the generosity of our members and guests.

Finally, may I thank you all for your support during my Presidency and wish my successor Joe Piggott a fun and successful year.

Nick Gee

Since my last report, quite a lot has been happening at The Paper Trail Visitor Centre in Hemel Hempstead. Site of the world's first mechanised paper machine, Frogmore Mill has seen its visitor numbers increase well ahead of 2016, with 25% more school visits as well as more group tours, this year.

The Trail is also now promoting its First Wedding Anniversary Tours, which are proving popular. Couples can go along to the mill and make their own 'themed' pieces of paper, and then they are letterpress printed with the celebration date.

Frogmore Mill is also still popular as a venue for filming and photography. It was recently selected as the location for a photo shoot for Swarovski jewellery and welcomed Tom Hardy who was shooting one of the Sky Mobile commercials.

If you have ever visited The Paper Trail or one of the exhibitions it attended, you may have seen 'Bert' – the papier mache man. Well he now has some 'friends' at the mill. The renowned artist Phillip Cox, who made Bert, has allowed the Trail to display several more of his creations, which are strategically placed around the Visitor Centre.

On the subject of art – Richard Smitherman, who is an animator for Disney, Pixar, Warner Bros and many more, is running a series of Figure Drawing and Anatomy classes at the mill, which have proved very popular. And in August, the mill is playing host to an exhibition of William Heath Robinson works in its Gallery – well worth a visit I would have thought.

The Paper Trail's small paper machine has also been kept busy. At the beginning of the year trials were run with banana fiber for One Planet Café and Lush Cosmetics. Sheets of Banana pulp are currently being produced in Zambia and used to make the paper at Frogmore. Still popular, Ellie Poo, and Red Panda poo paper has been produced for Longleat Safari Park through the Exotic Paper Company. Also the mill's Papermaker Gary Fuller says he has seen a massive increase in the sales of seed paper – mostly Forget-me-Not – to GiftsKikker NL in the Netherlands.

Gary also goes out and about to talk and promote the different papers. A recent talk was to Think Tank Media/Key Production. Commenting, Gary said: "They were blown away and I've already had enquiries through them." The mill also donated 100kgs of paper to a recent exhibition in London entitled 'Echoes across the Century', which ran from March to July at the Guildhall Art Gallery. It was in conjunction with the Livery companies, and opened by the Lord Mayor of London.



The *WI Life* front cover featuring Laura Hailes with the Dennis Ace fire engine

With all this work, the old paper machine has to be kept in tip-top condition and it recently had a rebuild of its refiner, the on-site company Asset Mechanical Services did the work.

The Paper Trail's Heritage Fire Brigade has also had to work on its elderly Dennis Ace fire engine. The volunteer firemen have replaced the back axle and repaired the brakes – so now the old girl is back on the road. They recently attended both the Quainton Steam Weekend and the Potten End Steam Rally.

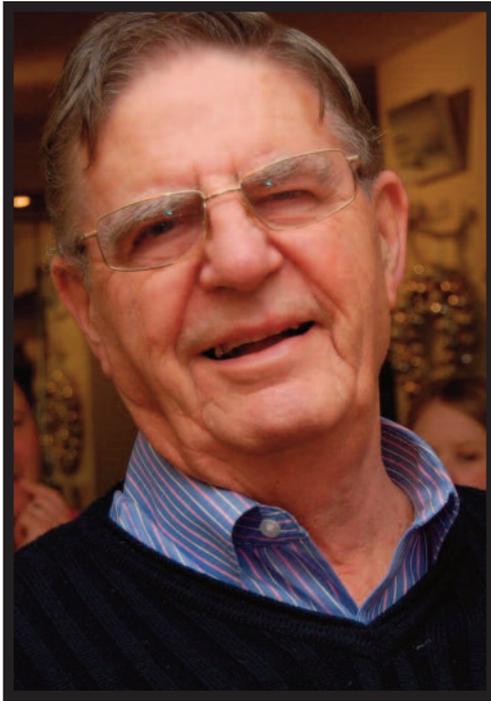
One of the female members of the Heritage Fire Brigade also belongs to the WI. The Institute was interested in a story about the forties, so Laura Hailes – a fan of all things from that period - told her story to them, which also involved posing with the 1938 fire engine. The article has appeared in the July/August issue of the nationwide WI magazine *WI Life* – front cover story!

On that note – I think that is all the news from The Paper Trail at the moment, but I'm sure there will be lots more to report in the Winter newsletter.

Margaret Curle

BERNARD KELLY

Life Member and Past President



Bernard Kelly was a genial man, a successful man, popular in the industry and beyond. He passed away on April 2nd, at the age of 86 leaving behind his Spanish wife Elena, son Richard, and grandchildren Rafa (9) and Noah (8) on whom he doted. They were a source of real happiness as he struggled with health issues in later life.

Educated at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, and then Witney Grammar School in Oxfordshire, Bernard's first income came from the newly nationalised British Railway but then came National Service with REME, which not only provided a bigger salary but opportunities to change direction. A spell as a radar mechanic in a remote anti-aircraft battery in the New Territories, at the height of the Korean War also provided opportunities to appreciate local culture in the Wangchai district of Hong Kong as well as the Happy Valley Racetrack.

A mild spell of tuberculosis set him back a bit but he was still able to play cricket and both codes of football. His main career began to take shape when he applied for a position in the accounts department of Wolvercote Paper Mills in 1960. He didn't get that job but was offered a chance in the sales and production office. He had found his niche. Just four years later Wolvercote decided to set up its own sales company, Oxford Paper Co Ltd under the direction of the late James Moxon. Bernard became his Commercial Manager.

Another four years on saw Bernard move to a similar position at Donside Paper Mill, then owned by Inveresk. It was an ill-fated move, the financial woes leading to a consortium of Reeds and Bowaters taking over the operation at mill level. In May 1970, together with several other employees, Bernard was made redundant.

Next up was Tanco for whom he was Sales Manager, but within a year his path again crossed that of Wally Thom, whom he had known in his Wolvercote days. Wally was ready for a change and in October 1971 Holman Kelly Paper Co Ltd was incorporated.

After a shaky start, a sound pattern of business emerged with strong publishing connections plus a concentration on clearance lines. Bernard became Chairman in 1975, and Wally retired in 1982 on his 65th birthday. In 1996 Bernard negotiated the sale of his shareholding, and that of Wally's widow Peggy, to his own management team headed by Dennis Cole.

Apart from a brief visit to Armenia, as paper consultant on a World Bank project, that was to be the end of Bernard's working life. But not at a voluntary level. He had joined the (then) Stationers' Social Society (SSS) in 1972 and was soon recruited to the Committee where his specific responsibility was the running of the Golf Section, then very active. He also took on the Veterans' Section at his own Brighton & Hove Golf Club after being Captain in 2006.

Bernard limited his sporting activities to "playing golf at a consistently poor level" but where he, and Elena, excelled was at playing bridge. Members of the Weald Bridge Club, Burgess Hill for more than 20 years, he also served as Chairman and Tournament Director for long spells.

Elsewhere he was elected Vice President of the SSS in February 1993 and took over the chair a year later. His contribution to the Society was considerable over a lengthy period, embracing not only the golf, but the treasury and, perhaps most importantly, as a Trustee. He was known for his wisdom and wit. He relished good wine and food and perceived by most as a thoroughly decent man.

Romance entered Bernard's life way back in 1963 when he was captivated by the allure of a Spanish lady then working for Nuffield Exports in Cowley. He and Elena were married less than a year later. They enjoyed a long and happy marriage, much of it based in Janes Lane, Burgess Hill, but with frequent visits to their apartment in Begur, on the Costa Brava, or another Spanish retreat in Aguilas when it got chillier. Unfortunately ill health was to blight their later years together. Bernard was in hospital with prostate cancer and associated lesions of the spine when he suffered a heart attack from which he never recovered.

Those of us who knew him well will remember a quiet, almost studious man, but with a ready laugh and always a helping hand. A nice man.

Jack Perry

The Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers held its Charter Dinner at Stationers' Hall on Wednesday 4th May 2017.

Presided over by Master, Ian Bennett, this formal dinner was, in essence, to award The Paper Industry Gold Medal to a worthy recipient.

Since its inception in 1967, the Gold Medal has been awarded to the person considered to have done the most to further the interests

of the paper and allied industries in the UK. There are 22 surviving medallists, of whom nine are Liverymen of The Stationers' Company.

Several of those awarded are also members of PICT, for example, Stephen Mason, Nick Steidl and Peter Ingram, some of which have also been PICT Presidents. The 2017 recipient is no different – The Paper Industry Gold Medal was awarded to Martyn Eustace, who was PICT's President in 2011.

Hot off the Press – Annual Charity Lunch 2018

An early diary date for 2018 – make a note now that next year's PICT Annual Lunch has been fixed for **Friday 9th March 2018**, to be held at the Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel in London. Further details will be given in the Winter newsletter and on the PICT website.

By the time you read this article, another of the popular Paper Appreciation Courses will have been held at the historic Paper Trail, however, don't fret there is another course already in the diary for 2017.

Organised by Tim Bowler through his company Focal Strength, the next paper course will be held on Wednesday 22nd November, again at The Paper Trail near Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire. The venue is close to both the M1 and M25, and is on the mainline Euston to Birmingham railway.

The course tutor is John Watson, who presents the courses in his own inimitable style. Commenting on the course, he said: "The

objective of this one-day course is not to produce budding papermakers, but for the delegates to better understand the attributes of the various grades and what they bring to the end products."

Comments from recent participants include: "Fantastic. Enjoyed my day and will definitely recommend" and "This course will help me focus more on the end-users requirements – customer first!"

For further information on the Paper Appreciation Courses please contact Tim Bowler on 0115 960 9595; or e-mail: trb@focalstrength.co.uk

easy reference

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