# The Bigger PICTURE



# paper industry charitable trust news

Issue No. 18 December 2015

# A magical charity lunch on the cards! contents

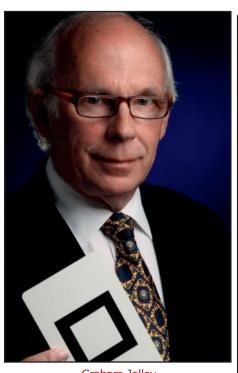
The 2016 Annual Lunch has been finalised and a 'magical' performer has been secured to provide the entertainment.

The lunch is once again being held at The Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel, 18 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TJ on Friday, 4th March 2016, however, this year it is in the Plaza Suite. Unfortunately, the hotel in its wisdom has decided to refurbish the stunning Thames Suite, which overlooks the River Thames, into a restaurant, and therefore will no longer be available for future functions. However, this information should not detract from the excellent food and service the hotel provides, along with the comradery of the industry making it a fun and enjoyable event, while raising funds for the charity.

Tickets for the lunch are now available, and have been kept at last year's prices of: Members £80, Retired Members £70 and Guests £100.

Apart from the usual Heads and Tails, Raffle and Auction during the luncheon, PICT has found an interesting performer for the afternoon's entertainment.

Billed as a psychological entertainer, Graham Jolley is one of the UK's talented and versatile magical performers, entertaining audiences with his unique style and amazing mind reading capabilities. His audiences have ranged from corporate events and private dinners, to conferences and even national television, which has included appearing on ITV's series 'Penn and Teller Fool Us'. In a career spanning more than 30 years, Graham performs astonishing feats, baffling and thrilling his audiences not only with his art of illusion but with his own particular brand of wit. Whereby audiences find themselves



**Graham Jolley** 

enthralled, amused and thoroughly bewildered!

As in previous years the AGM will be held before the lunch, at 11.15am in Plaza Suite Six. We do encourage all members to attend this important meeting, which is generally fairly short. Among the usual business matters, there is also the inauguration of the new President. The bars then open at 12 noon and the lunch itself begins at 1pm.

So, if all of this has whetted your appetite, make a note in your diary now, and contact Anne James for your tickets, and come along and support PICT for what sounds to be an interesting luncheon – and all for a good cause.

Margaret Curle

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#### Hon Editor:

Margaret Curle

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# trustees' report

uring 2015, PICT has once again donated a significant amount of money and assistance to a number of deserving individuals.

We continue to promote the PICT charity message right across our industry, but this remains a mammoth task with such a huge audience to inform.

Consequently, we always ask for PICT members to help us spread our message, by advising colleagues, customers, and business acquaintances about the work and charity objectives of PICT.

As well as promoting the charity intentions of PICT, there are also practical ways in which you can help us. Your attendance during the next year at the Annual Lunch, and some of the Sporting Section activities will help us to generate funds, which in turn will enable us to maintain the levels of help that we have given during 2015.

If you are aware of anybody in the Paper Industry or Paper Related Industries who you feel could benefit from our support, please contact our Secretary Anne James, at: anne@pictuk.com

We can assure you that all submissions will be considered and treated sympathetically, in the strictest confidence.

From the Trustees of PICT

# football focussed lunch



s part of his journey towards working retirement, PICT past President Peter Bothwick wanted to stage a football lunch, with selected guests.

Peter's plan was to invite those people from the Paper Industry who had been to a Tottenham Hotspur match with him over the years. Accordingly, including a few special guests, a total of 50 qualifiers duly arrived at the lunch venue, The Abbey Hotel Redditch, on Friday 20th November, for lunch, drinks and memories.

There was a strict dress code imposed by Peter – all attendees had to wear a replica football shirt of their supported club. Let us just say that not all the shirts fitted perfectly, but how wonderful that everyone attending conformed to the requirement, making it a truly colourful occasion.

Peter had challenged his guests to step up and tell stories about matches they had been to, whether Peter was present or not. How well the guests responded with various tales from around the different clubs, from West Ham to Manchester City, and Bolton to Aldershot,

and, of course, not forgetting Tottenham.

After the stories, West Ham fan Mike Gee recited a wonderful self-penned poem about the legendary George Best, very poignant as it coincided with the 10 year anniversary of the great man's death. Tim Elliott, an Aldershot FC fan himself, then presented Peter with a replica newspaper, representing the day that Peter had joined the Paper Industry – which was a while back!

After a splendid few hours of football mania, most people set off for home. Perhaps unsurprisingly, a few hardy souls carried on, and ensured that the event became a typical paper industry lunch – by finishing just before midnight!

Peter Bothwick would particularly like to thank his dear friend Brian Garson of Mitsubishi Hi-Tec Paper, for all the help and enthusiasm that Brian gave towards the arrangements for the lunch. Also a thank you to Vince Collins for taking the superb pictures. But Peter is truly grateful for everyone's attendance at his event, which demonstrated the friendship that makes our Industry so special.

# from the editor's pen



This summer boded well for all the sporting sections – apart from, that is, the Cricket Section. With the demise of PaperlinX, Mike was still hoping that he might be able to arrange a cricket match in September, but unfortunately was unable to do so – so what we need is one of the paper merchants to step up to the plate and put forward a cricket team for next year.

The other sections appeared to have great fun – Shanks in their usual high spirits and having a great time terrifying the local wildlife, fishing in the cold and wet, and tennis, where the competitors can wear the latest gear!! But remember all these sport sections would love to see new faces join in.

The main story, of course, in this newsletter is the Annual Lunch. I must say the entertainer for the afternoon sounds interesting - I love the comment in his press release that he leaves his audiences bewildered - I would have thought we have enough bewildered people in our industry already....!!!! No seriously, it sounds a bit different and hopefully great fun. So make a note in your diary and book your tickets with Anne sooner rather than later.

And don't forget the AGM before the lunch – it would be good to see a few more members turn up for this meeting.

In 2016, PICT is also hoping to arrange a regional quiz night – so keep an eye on the website, alternatively contact Anne to show your support.

So, with Christmas only round the corner – why not make a New Year's resolution to become more involved in the PICT events during the year – make a date in your diary for the lunch – and get fit by joining one, or more, of the sporting sections, and if you are worried you are not good enough – these things are in essence meant to be fun with a large sprinkling of comradery. So just give it a go you might find out that you are a budding Andy Murray, Heather Watson or Stuart Broad.

And finally, I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – and see you all in March to be dazzled and bewildered!

Margaret Curle

# 200 Club

fter reporting in the Summer Newsletter that the PICT 200 Club was short of participants – one company took up the challenge and has pledged its support to the cause.

Warren Board & Paper took the decision to enter every member of its staff into the 200 Club.

For a number of years Warren has supported the PICT events and the company has now extended its support by entering all its 43 members of staff into the PICT 200 Club draw.

Warren has purchased £25 shares for each member of staff and this enables them to be entered into the quarterly prize-winning draws, thereby committing much needed funds for the sole benefit of PICT.

The shares, renewable annually, offer three prizes of £250, £100 and £50 each quarter.

Commenting on this support, Kieran Ferguson, Warren's managing director, stated: "We've long recognised the fabulous job PICT does in helping those in our trade that have fallen on hard times. Entering every member of staff into the 200 Club helps them better understand what PICT represents while at the same time giving them an opportunity to win some money for themselves."

So if you wish to find out more about the PICT 200 Club, you can either visit the website at www.pictuk.com/200 club or by contacting Anne James.

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### london pride society

#### **London Pride Luncheon Club 5th November 2015**

ot too much gunpowder about on this November 5th - just a lot of good fun. It was the second and final London Pride Society lunch of the year at our traditional venue The Boot & Flogger Wine Bar in Red Cross Way, SE1.

Thirty of us sat down to the repast - a shellfish and smoked salmon starter with trimmings, followed by steak and kidney pie, vegetables (chips too.) Wonderful! Oh and a cheese board and a lot of wine. The format seems to work to everyone's satisfaction. Owen Davis, who does the lion's share of the organisation, was thanked for it by Mike Rust, who does his share as well.

It was so good to meet those still working within our much reduced Trade. Some had a tale of great difficulty to tell particularly in the period since April this year, a very altered environment indeed. One thing that has not altered, however, is the pleasure, even joy we get from these meetings at the Boot & Flogger. A wonderful mix of old values and new

faces. This is really what the LPS is about. I can report that the noise levels were satisfactorily high!

Owen made the welcome toast to which Ken Moss, one of two new faces, stood to acknowledge. Norman Dinnage did a splendid job of toasting 'Absent Friends' and Mike Rust made the toast to 'the Society' and included within this our profound thanks to Owen for all the work he does. A big round of applause came from that.

Our next lunch has been booked for April 21st 2016 at the Boot & Flogger our traditional venue. Do come - though be ever aware that we can take a maximum of 40 only - so book early, as they say, to avoid disappointment. Ideally email Owen on owenjdavis56@btinternet.com

Finally, we, at the London Pride Society, wish all of our ex-colleagues and friends a happy, restful and safe Christmas and New Year, and see you in April.

Bev Steele



A senatorial Mike Rust toasts the Society



Owen Davis welcomes us all



The starter course arrives



Norman Dinnage tells us of absent friends

#### **River Test** Friday, 16th October 2015

The Indian Summer that we had enjoyed for 10 days, departed about 24 hours before we met for our annual outing to the River Test, nevertheless the weather remained dry but cloudy and reasonably mild for mid-October.

The lure of fishing on this iconic Hampshire chalk-stream brought 20 anglers from as far afield as Suffolk and Kent, all of whom arrived by 8.30am and were anxious to get tackled up. Fortunately, the numbers were once again boosted by members of another fishing charity, MTSFC, because the PICT numbers were sadly very low.

By the time I had shepherded them through the gate and joined the party several anglers were already casting a line on the water with early reports of fish being caught, so it all sounded very promising.

We fish the river for Brown Trout and Grayling using small artificial flies but there is always the possibility of a Sea Trout or even a Salmon being caught. The river was quite high and as fast as ever, which means some quick retrieving is called for. It is always encouraging to see fish rising to take insects floating downstream but getting them to accept our artificial offerings is never easy.

News of success is not easy to come by because we are spread out over two miles of bank and so it is nice when we all meet up at lunchtime to swap stories and fishing



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methods. It became clear that a number of fish had been caught including five Brownies and two Grayling by one of David Gould's guests and a regular at the fishery. More encouraging was the number caught by newcomers to the river and it seemed to be the regulars who were struggling - including me!

Lunch did not last long as everyone was anxious to get back to fishing and another regular, Mike, who had caught three, offered to show me some good places where fish lie. After another hour and half I decided to call it a day, recording yet another blank day!

We ended the day with a total of 19 Brown Trout and six Grayling all of which were returned, while several Salmon had been seen jumping though not caught. All in all another very enjoyable day and everyone went home happy and looking forward to next year.

Our thanks must go to David Gould who makes all the arrangements with the fishery.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday 17th March – Thornwood Springs, Epping, Essex Thursday 19th May – Coltsford Mill, Oxted, Surrey Thursday 8th September – Springhill, Pembury, Kent Friday mid-October TBA – River Test, Romsey, Hants

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# **COLTSFORD MILL Thursday 5th November**

was delighted that eight members and three guests turned out for the last fly-fishing trip of the year, the highest number for 2015, just as I was thinking that interest was waning!

It was a very mild day weather wise and quite a pleasant morning under grey cloud, which rather reflected the anglers feelings when I arrived at 10am having picked up Sandy White en route, he is recovering from a stroke in July, but as eager as ever to attend.

The reason for the gloom was that not a single fish had been caught by that time and one of the lakes had become virtually unfishable overnight, thought to be as a result of builders pumping out muddy water from footings further upstream. Unfortunately Willow Pool, which is usually very productive, was more like Brown Windsor soup! Coltsford consists of Mill Pool and some smaller Cascade pools, as well as the aforementioned Willow. There were plenty of fish seen in the Cascades but pulling a fly through them or even dropping one on their nose did not stir any response.

So it was that at lunchtime we met in the bar area and only one fish had been caught by Dennis Cole from the Mill Pool. However, this did not stop us enjoying our natter over sandwiches and soon saw people returning to the fray, such is the enthusiasm of our group.

Shortly after lunch the weather took a turn for the worse and it started raining so I headed home with Sandy leaving the others to battle not only the fish but the elements as well.

Neil and Paul, who run the fishery, did their best to help us in the difficult circumstances, putting more fish into Mill Pool and showing Gerry Overy and his brother-in-law, Russ, how to catch the fish in the Cascades using a dry fly. It meant that the afternoon was a little more successful than the morning with five anglers catching a total of eight fish even though some rather strange methods had to be employed!

Judging by the emails I received, just about everyone still enjoyed their day and it being November 5th I suppose one has to expect the odd damp squib from time-to-time!

#### **MONK TROPHY**

This year's winner was Gerry Overy who caught consistently at the three venues at which he fished, only missing out on the River Test, so congratulations to him. Runners-up were Alan Badcock, a close second, and yours truly a distant third.

#### tennis

# **Annual Tennis Tournament Thursday 24th September 2015**



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he date was originally going to be the 17th September, but there were clashes with the Ashes and the Rugby World Cup among others, so we took the decision to move this year's Tennis Tournament to the 24th, which meant toying with the weather forecast and unfortunately those people, that could only make the original date, missing this year's annual event. However, on the plus side it enabled a few more new faces that could not make the original date.

The Clothes Show at the NEC? The Tennis section at Northampton Lawn Tennis Club? - methinks not! We have a luminous orange pair, a bearded man in pink, many Men In Black, hoping it makes them look slimmer, a few that look the part and a smattering of Men in Moobs...that included me!

Newbies this year included Derek Boyle, who flew in from Scotland just for the day, Paul Williams from Morgana, and Martin Dibsdale pairing up with John Lloyd Hagger. We also had a very welcome return of the sprightly Peter "Ace" Bothwick, hip hip hooray!



Here we have this year's motley crew in our "before" picture

A very quick thank you must go to this year's official photographer and guest Barry Gregory for quality piccies, and who also sponsored the balls. Also a big thank you to this year's kind sponsors: Fedrigoni UK Ltd for lunch, Stora Enso for the courts, and Warings Ltd for the flowers. Once again this has enabled the sum of £280 to be sent to PICT to use towards all its worthy causes.

Now to the tennis...

The Round Robin pre and post lunch were, as ever, a sounding out for those that vied for the Penman Trophy and those that calculated to ensure that they should aim for the Johnston Cup. Having looked at the pairings we had, what was for a bookie a forecastable outcome and the outcome, which was merited all round, was to be new names appearing on both trophies.

The pairings allowed for a little fun towards the end of the Round Robin, as one of the pairs was this year allowed to be a "perm 2 from any 3" in the team that was made up from the squad of 'Ace' Bothwick, Brian Garson and Kenneth Jones. In the last couple of Round Robin games they were allowed on court as a trio, to no avail though as they successfully achieved the 'Wooden Spoon 2015' Winners. Here they are against Jonathan Clay and Andrew Dunning looking like a team possessed and ready for nothing.



The Johnston Cup went to a straight one set final between newcomers Martin Dibsdale and John Lloyd Hagger against one of last year's holders Andrew Veasey and new partner Tim Bowler. I gave it away earlier by mentioning new names on the trophy - with a 6-1 win the new holders of the Johnston Cup are Martin Dibsdale and John Lloyd Hagger.



The Penman Trophy did have a one set semi final to take place between Round Robin first place Jonathan Clay and Andrew Dunning back together versus third in Round Robin Lee Smith and Derek Boyle. The other semi was second in Round Robin Paul Williams and yours truly against fourth in Round Robin Graham Hall and Barrie Farnsworth, the luminous pair.

Two very close sets saw Paul and myself sneak through to the final 6-4 and Lee and Derek 7-5.

Whilst the crowd were partaking of cakes, cheese and biscuits, and biscuits and drinks from the bar, the final, which was best of three sets, did not look like it would take long. If it was a boxing match the ref would have stopped it. The first set was 6-0 to Lee and Derek and Paul and I did not know what to do to try and at least make a game of it. However, the second set became a tight and more even

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#### tennis



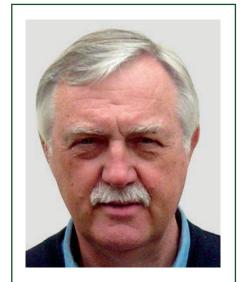
affair but the end result was 7-5 to Lee and Derek, who paced themselves in the Round Robin and were consistent in the latter stages, so the new names on the Penman Trophy 2015 are Lee Smith and Derek Boyle.

Hopefully, both sets of winners will be back to defend their titles and we will also get the missing pairs back, who were unable to play due to the date change, enabling us to have record numbers for the 2016 PICT Tennis day.

Once again thank you to all the players, sponsors and the Northampton Lawn Tennis Club.

I can now confirm the date for the 2016 Tennis Tournament is Thursday 15th September 2016. So please make a diary note now and save the date!

#### shanks



Secretary: Mike Kerlogue Mobile Tel. No: 07970 148056 E-mail: mike@kerlogues.plus.com

#### SHANKS Autumn Hack Flackwell Heath Golf Club – 29th September 2015

beautiful Autumn sun rose on the unsuspecting wildlife and Members of Flackwell Heath Golf Club to herald a perfect day's Shanking. It all got off to an inauspicious start when we heard that 12-inch Rossiter had decided to keep the Steve Beckett Cup by not turning up - plus the attempt on your Scribe's life by Tony 'Sat Nav' Spicer who tried to run him into a ditch on the A40/M25 roundabout. However, a perfect setting and a long and challenging course lay ahead with only Basher Benwell, Mike '3 off the T' Gee and Stuart Palmer-Plumber fluffing their first shots off the 1st tee with El Presidente Bothwick immediately winning the 'nearest the tee' competition. This boded well for the surrounding flora and fauna.

In usual Goldfinger tradition, this was played to the 'usual Rules of Golf, Mr Price Bond' with some participants actually knowing how to score. Confusingly, the usual Yellow Ball Competition turned out to be an orange ball competition but it did not seem to affect the ability to lose them. Tales of exhausting fell-walking were heard as Shankers passed the clubhouse on the 12th along with Lewis Hamilton-Spicer's adventures in a gorse bush on the 10th. A random wedge was found strewn carelessly on the course, as was a Kit Kat wrapper. An orange ball, easily visible from the fairway, was found by a gorse bush on the 10th. Finally, weary Shankers plodded up to the 18th green looking forward to the end of the ordeal. A pleasant meal was provided which, as it was accompanied by crackling, we assumed to be pork, followed by a bread & butter pudding.



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It is not in Shanks' Etiquette to name names or publicise scores but the winner of the event was Chris Bell, who will be subject to a steward's inquiry, dope testing, urine sampling (by KK) and possible torture due to his unprecedented score of 38, 24 of which were on the back 9. This is not in the spirit of Shanks and he'll have to go round only armed with a putter next time. Stuart Plummer scored 28 points and, as a guest, will not be subjected to such rigorous inspection.

The Engravers' Award was given to Geoff 'I don't do rush' Parnell and his team of trainee engravers. Alan Piper was awarded Shanker of the Day for what would, in cricketing terms, be defined as 'Obstructing the Field of Play' by casually walking in front of Stuart Plummer as he was taking his shot and consequently got hit in the leg by the ball. Unfortunately, the trophy was unavailable for presentation as it was allegedly yet to be redeemed from Broadgate Pawnbrokers. The Andy Thompson Non-Appearance Award was won by 12-inch Rossiter. The Lost Wedge of the Day was returned

to El Presidente. An unusual event - Keith Spiers not winning anything - was noted.

As this was the 10th anniversary of Steve Beckett's passing, the Special 'Shanker of the Decade' was awarded to '3-off the T' Gee for his formidable record off the 1st on almost every occasion and, as Steve's former boss, this was very appropriate.

A vote of thanks was given by Badders to Kit Kat for his 'usual' organisation of the event; Kit Kat was heard to mention to anyone who was listening that he's worked out that, over the last 10 years, he's bought 320 Kit Kats - but nobody seemed that interested. Yet another thoroughly enjoyable day's hacking which produced a profit for PICT of £96. The next Hack will be in May and the area surrounding Leatherhead will be suitably cleared in anticipation.

Scribe Divot



Help is on hand to find El Presidente's ball



Orange/Yellow Ball Team Winners



Alan 'Obstruction' Piper - Shanker of the Day



Mike '3-off the T' Gee - Shanker of the Decade

#### cricket



Secretary: Mike Robertson Home Tel. No: 01943 839029 Mobile No: 07831 351465 F-mail:

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nfortunately due to the demise of PaperlinX, there was no cricket match this year, however Mike would like to get something arranged in 2016.

The cricket section is looking for one of the large merchant groups to provide the opposition. So if Antalis, Premier, Elliott Baxter or Denmaur is able to provide a side of 11 players, Mike would be delighted to work with them to arrange a fixture at a venue and date to suit both parties.

So, is there a paper merchant out there ready to take up the cudgel? It would be good to see cricket back on the agenda next year.

# birmingham paper trade lunch

took place at The Bank Restaurant, Brindley Place, Birmingham on Friday, 2nd October 2015.

The BPTSS President, Steve Chappell, warmly welcomed 45 Society members and guests, who then tucked into an enjoyable three course luncheon.

As well as the traditional Heads and Tails competition, the Society's resident quizmaster, Andy Thompson, presented various rounds of quiz questions, prompting the usual amounts of competitiveness and controversy!

The Society's special guest for the day was former Crystal Palace, Wolves and England footballer Geoff Thomas. Since retiring from football, Geoff has battled against leukaemia, but is now happily in remission. He has since dedicated himself to the 'Cure Leukaemia' charity, raising funds through a number of cycling events, where he

also enlisted the help of one Lance Armstrong! Geoff's cycling exploits have included riding the Tour de France route on more than one occasion!

At the lunch, Geoff conducted a question and answer session, in which he spoke passionately about his victory over leukaemia, and his subsequent fundraising for the Charity. In response to the inevitable question, Geoff also bravely told the audience about his shot on goal for England, which nearly hit the corner flag! Geoff Thomas proved to be a fine guest, and it is pleasing to report that the BPTSS raised the sum of £1,500 to be passed on to the Cure Leukaemia Charity.

Please make a note of the date for the 2016 Annual Lunch of The Birmingham Paper Trade Social Society – Friday 7th October 2016.

Peter Bothwick

## paper appreciation course

he popular Paper Appreciation Courses will once again be held in 2016 – run by Tim Bowler through his company Focal Strength. The next course will be held on Wednesday 16th March 2016 at The Paper Trail in Hemel Hempstead – although this will be confirmed in the new year.

The course tutor is John Watson, who presents the courses in his own inimitable style. Commenting, 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 courses please contact Tim Bowler on 0115 960 9595; e-mail: trb@focalstrength.co.uk

Margaret Curle

# letter from the paper trail



s promised in the last newsletter, I said I would keep you all up to date with the latest news from The Paper Trail, the historic visitor centre in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, and site of the world's first mechanised paper machine, so here it is.

Following on from my last report with regards the problems The Paper Trail was having with the land they had sold to Dacorum Borough Council – there is now some slightly brighter news. Apsley Paper Trail's Co-Chairs of Trustees, Jacky Bennett and Derek Pullen, have just given me the following report: "We are pleased to tell you that we have made a significant step forward in our progress to financial stability. The Dacorum Borough Council Development Control Committee has approved the Planning Application we submitted for the land at Apsley Mills that we sold to the Council two years ago. We expect this approval to result in further payments from the Council, which will enable us to stabilise our financial position and move forward. There may be some more legal details to resolve before we receive the payments, but this is a very welcome outcome after two years of uncertainty."

So let's hope this is all a little bit more positive for the future, and that they will indeed receive the monies they were promised from the Council.

As far as the day-to-day running of The Paper Trail goes – the small paper machine, which originally came from Bury College, is still producing unusual grades including seed, petal and poo papers. Some of the recent commissions include an interesting order from Belmond UK Ltd (a group which includes Raymond Blanc's 'Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons') for its Myanmar River Cruises VIP event. Frogmore Paper Mill produced A4 handmade seed

and petal paper for a limited edition of scrolls, letterpress printed on the mill's Heidelberg, to celebrate Myanmar as the land of golden pagodas, saffron robed monks and oxen grazing on riverbanks. Another commission was for the University of East Anglia, which requested straw paper to be produced for its invitations to the launch event of its new Enterprise Centre, one of the most sustainable buildings in Europe, and constructed with a timber frame and straw cladding.

Still on the paper production side, The Paper Trail has forged a new engineering link with members of iMech and, in particular, Charles Clark and Richard Payne, who have spent many hours producing drawings and making a new speed controller for the variable speed drive on No. 4 machine (the small paper machine), which will greatly improve efficiency.

Frogmore Mill also recently gained from the sad closure of Springfield Mill in Maidstone. A team from the mill went down to Springfield and dismantled and acquired a medium sized beater that would otherwise have gone for scrap. This will be a great addition to its equipment base and just another step towards preserving the rich history of the paper industry.

With regards the day-to-day running of the Visitor Centre, since my last report in August The Paper Trail has had 1,331 school/college children, and 692 adults through its doors. While during Halloween, the outside company Scarenation once again hired the venue – dressed it up – and scared the life out of those members of public who had booked on the experience. The Paper Trail also held its popular Halloween paper crafting activities for children as well.

Other events have included a Christmas Fayre on 29th November - a choir sang carols while you could browse around the various craft stalls, there were also mill tours, BBQ and raffle. And during December, The Paper Trail is holding an affordable Art Fair, which displays and sells works of art by local artists - at affordable prices.

Well I think that concludes my round up of news from The Paper Trail, so until next time

#### Margaret Curle



Frogmore Paper Mill modern day

# easy reference

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