

Porridge on the menu at Annual Lunch



Paul Johnston-Knight - President

Fortunately Friday 9th March was the date chosen for PICT's Annual lunch. Fortunate, as the week prior had been thick snow in most parts of the country. In fact, the new President made reference to this in his speech, saying: "I doubt we'd have seen so many of us here today, able to join us to celebrate this wonderful occasion." And a wonderful occasion it was too.

Held at the Riverbank Park Plaza Hotel on London's Albert Embankment, this the 9th Annual Lunch followed the earlier AGM and the requisite pre-luncheon drinks. When all the guests had assembled in the Plaza Suite, and the loyal toast had been given, the President drank to all the past-Presidents, the Committee, colleagues from Papico and PICT's new Treasurer, Robert Lockwood.

The starter was then served, a tasty goat cheese and caramelised onion tart, which was followed by the esteemed game of Heads and Tails – always an entertaining interlude. As usual, your Editor was out in an early round,

however, it got down to four contestants, 'Gladys Knight and her Pips' quipped adjudicator Peter Bothwick. And then it was two - Tails was called out and a winner announced.

When all had re-taken their seats, Andy Thompson and Peter Bothwick continued by giving details of the fundraising auction that would be taking place during the afternoon. In fact, they took this opportunity to auction two items, namely a round of golf at Burhill and an overnight stay at the Park Plaza Hotel, which were snapped up by the guests.

Following the main course, a flavoursome chicken dish, some further items were auctioned - a case of wine and a week-long stay in a villa in Turkey. A delicious chocolate dessert was then served followed by coffee and liqueurs. A short comfort break was announced and then it was the turn of Peter Bothwick to stand up and give a preamble on the new President, Paul Johnston-Knight, to the guests in his own inimitable style.

Thanking Peter for his introduction, Paul took to the podium. He began by thanking everyone for coming along to the lunch and for their generous support of the Trust. He then welcomed PICT's official guests, who, amongst others, included: Nick Steidl, Master of the Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers; Peter Millington, the President of the Lancashire 25 Club; Paul Tooby, from the Birmingham Paper Trade Social Society; and the immediate past President, Joe Piggott. He also gave a special mention to the charity's Secretary, Anne James "who keeps us on the straight and narrow".

He thanked his predecessor, Joe Piggott, for working tirelessly over the past 12 months to promote and support PICT. Adding that Joe

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Hon Editor:
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annual lunch

had not only been a great ambassador for the Trust but had supported the various sporting activities throughout the year. In presenting Joe with his past-President's badge, Paul said: "You were amused that you were possibly the oldest first-time President of the Trust handing over to the youngest, well, I calculate that between us, you and I have lowered the average age of the PICT Presidents on taking office – not a bad thing!"

In his speech, Paul commented about some of the UK's news and sport that had occurred over the past 12 months, including the British team's most successful Winter Olympics ever. Adding that it had been such a wonderful event that the whole country had to be treated to a week of ice and snow as practice for the next games, thanks to the Beast from the East and Storm Emma!

He went on to talk about PICT's sporting sections, saying that it would be good to revive the Cricket Section, so if any members were even marginally interested in cricket they should get in touch and get involved. He also mentioned the possibility of two new sections – Walking Football and resurrecting a Bowls Team – again contact Secretary Anne James for more information.

Paul then moved on to talk about the industry, commenting: "Sadly, we've seen the decline in fine paper volumes continue. There is, though, an increase in the volume of paper and board used for packaging. We're seeing an unprecedented backlash among consumers around the environmental issues related to plastic packaging." Adding: "So this is a huge opportunity to replace plastic with paper and board."

Talking about the lunch itself, Paul explained that it was not just the networking, socialising and fun aspect, but crucially the lunch was to raise funds in support of the charity. He continued: "Can we all say, hand on heart, that our colleagues in the office know why we are here today? And no, the answer isn't just for the wine!" He asked the guests to tell their workmates that there is a worthwhile charity within the trade that needs everyone's support, which provides valuable assistance to those in need, following their years of service in the paper sector.

He talked of ways that people can be involved including: the Annual lunch; the sporting sections; joining the 200 Club; and promoting colleagues to become members of PICT. He continued by talking of the charity's work. "The mission of this charity is to offer funding to those who've left this industry and who've found times difficult. Without your support we could not do this." He then thanked the Trustees, Peter Bothwick and Andy Thompson for all their hard work in reviewing and making donations to those in need, a role, which he explained was very demanding and sometimes upsetting. Finally, Paul thanked the Committee for their hard work, and in particular PICT's Secretary Anne James, presenting her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers, in recognition of her continual guidance and support to the Trust.

When the applause had faded, Paul welcomed the after-lunch speaker, Robbie Glen, to the stage.

Robbie Glen, a jovial, quiet Scotsman, has spent his working life in

the prison service, and from this niche career, came the majority of his amusing and sometimes downright hilarious tales. He had 'done time' at many institutions, one in particular HMP Barlinnie (a renowned Glasgow jail), known locally as The Big Hoose, or as he quipped "Glasgow's finest B&B!"



Robbie Glen

During his outpourings, he mentioned that the Scots use any excuse to party, and explained: "We are envious that Shakespeare was born and died on 23rd April, and on St Georges Day! – we Scots would be drunk for weeks!!" After regaling many stories and anecdotes, Robbie concluded by quoting, and very fittingly, some 'Rabbie' Burns – of course!

Peter Bothwick once again took to the stage and thanked Robbie for his entertaining insight into the prison service and doing porridge. He then proceeded to auction the final items, which included amongst others: Four-ball golf at Westerham; a trip on the Solent; and a private box for four people to see Barry Manilow at the 02. The winners of the table raffle were also announced.

And then that was it. An excellent afternoon of entertainment, fine food and camaraderie had come to a close. However, most of the guests did continue in the time-honoured fashion of the paper industry by 'networking' either in the bar or the local hostelry next door! We now all look forward to next year's fundraising lunch.

Margaret Curle



Heads and Tails



Happy summertime everyone – and what a wonderful summer it has been so far weather-wise. Though, as I put pen to paper – the heat has broken and we are having some much-needed rain.

However, so far the sporting sections that have held events have seen the good weather and let's hope the sun will return for the up and coming events – such as the tennis and golf. PICT is still trying to get cricket back on the agenda – so if you fancy playing and have friends and colleagues that do as well, why not contact Mike Robertson and with enough interest he can arrange a game. Walking football and bowls is still on the back burner – so again if you like the idea of getting involved in these please contact Anne James.

A lot has happened since the last newsletter; the Annual Lunch was a great success raising funds for the Charity; there have been two angling outings – they always sound enjoyable; the London Pride Society has held one its bi-annual lunches; and Shanks – well, what more can you say?! Read all the reports in this issue.

From the wider world, and following on from my comment in December, the coffee cup saga continues. Earlier this year Pret a Manger, Greggs, Paul and Costa announced that they would give monetary discounts to those customers using their own refillable cups. Costa, as I reported, is also part of a recycling initiative to turn coffee cup waste into paper. Now, Waitrose is looking to remove all its disposable cups by the Autumn and getting its customers to use refillable cups. While Starbucks has just announced it is to charge customers an extra 5p on the cost of any drink in a single-use paper cup. Not massive steps, but at least it's a move forward.

And following the recycling theme, the Stationers Company recently held its Innovation Excellence Awards and the Overall Innovator of the Year Award went to Parkside Flexibles for its Park 2 Nature range of compostable laminate structures designed to replace traditional plastic packaging.

Of course, many of these initiatives have come about following the Blue Planet TV programme showing plastics affecting sea creatures – proving that not all TV is a bad influence.

Anyway enough from me – enjoy this newsletter, join in with the sporting events and have a great summer. See you in the Winter!!

Margaret Curle

trustees' report

Again this year we have been able to support a number of deserving causes. It would be fair to say though that we have not been flooded with requests and again via yourselves and I am sure within the President's speech, we do ask for your help to spread the word of the very valuable support our charity can provide.

We continue to thoroughly vet all requests and to date we have been able to provide assistance to the vast majority. We do have to be careful though as we have received a few cases via other charities where the individual concerned at some time has worked within the paper trade but perhaps has not done so for many years. In these instances, and where approved, we calculate the amount we are prepared to pay by means of a fixed yearly rate that we multiply by the number of years worked.

Historically, we have had a few cases where we have annually provided funds, moving forward this practice will cease and we will now only support on a one-off basis. We are a small charity – but we provide huge support for individuals less fortunate than ourselves. So it is very important to get that message across.

Finally, without your support we could not help our paper trade colleagues who fall on difficult times, we really appreciate that.....THANK YOU.

profile new president



The President Paul Johnston-Knight with his new Vice President, Peter Bothwick

PICT's new President Paul Johnston-Knight was brought up with paper from an early age. His father, Tony Knight was involved in the paper trade well before Paul's time, so there was a path there for him if he chose to take it, which obviously he did.

Paul is Yorkshire born and bred. He enjoyed languages at school and studied German and Politics at the University of

Sheffield, which as he explained: "Probably stood me in good stead for dealing with paper mills in Austria and Germany."

Paul started working for Papico in 1998, shortly after leaving university. He has had several periods of his life living and working in Austria, both during his studies and while working for Papico, which he believes has helped him learn a lot about the culture and language and, as a result, has helped his career.

Three years ago, Paul took over as Managing Director and managed to persuade his father to move into the role of Chairman. Paul's eldest son now works for Papico, so as he said it truly is a family company with three generations in the office for most of the last decade.

On a personal note, Paul is married to Sarah, and they have two sons and two daughters and have this year been blessed with a grandson. They live in a very old house at the edge of a tiny village where they have lots of animals – currently 20 chickens, two dogs, seven cats and counting.

His passions in recent years have included photography and triathlons. He raced four times last year and is currently between races in Yorkshire during the summer of 2018. Travel, live music and food are his other joys – "I love cooking new recipes and as I'm now predominantly a vegan these are always unusual and tasty meals!" We all wish him a very successful and fun filled year as PICT President.

Margaret Curle

200 club

PICT has held two draws for the 200 Club since the last newsletter, and the lucky recipients are as follows:

Draw January 2018

- 1st Prize £250 - Nigel Hall
- 2nd Prize £100 - Patrick Shorten
- 3rd Prize £50 - Mike Kerlogue

Draw March 2018

- 1st Prize £250 – Maureen McKerr
- 2nd Prize £100 – Patrick Ferguson
- 3rd Prize £50 – Dennis Cole

The 200 Club, which is drawn quarterly, helps to raise much needed funds for PICT. If you fancy taking part and be in with a chance to win, it's easy, just get in touch with Anne James by e-mailing anne@pictuk.com and she will send you further details and how to sign up.

AGM Report

As always, PICT's AGM is held in the morning of the Annual Lunch in the hope of attracting more members to attend. This year around 20 members were present, with some 18 apologies for absence, and Mike Gee adding an extra one by saying his brother was "on the piste at the moment!"

Always a convivial affair, with refreshments (and this year superb cookies!!), the AGM lasts less than an hour. The agenda, amongst other items, included the outgoing President's version of his year in

office (see page 12), the investiture of the new President, and the announcement that Robert Lockwood has become Treasurer with John Garlick as independent adviser. When it was divulged that Peter Bothwick was to be the next Vice President, it caused much hilarity from the assembled members as he was handed his badge of office, with comments about the amount of silverware Peter must now hold!

The meeting concluded with ample time for all assembled to repair to the bar for a pre-lunch drink.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 9TH MARCH 2018 IN THE PARK PLAZA RIVERBANK, 18 ALBERT EMBANKMENT, LONDON SE1 7TJ COMMENCING AT 11.15 AM.

The President, Joe Piggott, took the chair. There were 20 members in attendance.

1. **The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting** held on 6th March 2017 were proposed by P Chilton, seconded by M Kerlogue and unanimously approved.

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

3. **Apologies for Absence** were recorded from: Michael Bairstow, Barry Campbell, Phil Carr, Owen Davis, Kevin Dewey, Dick Dickens, Clive Duncan, George Fowler, Nick Gee, Neil Haslam, David Houseman, John Leahy, Peter Penke, Jack Perry, Geoff Poole, Martin Randall, Mike Robertson. Lionel Scott, Patrick Shorten.

4. **Presentation of Accounts for the period 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017** by John Garlick in Phil Carr's absence.

The adoption of the Accounts were then proposed by R Ingarfield, seconded by M Gee and carried unanimously. John Garlick was thanked for his enormous help with the Accounts.

5. **Election of Directors**

The President announced that the Committee recommended that Paul Johnston-Knight be elected President for 2018. This was proposed by S Mason, seconded by A Badcock and unanimously approved.

Joe Piggott then invested Paul Johnston-Knight with the Badge of Office. The new President thanked the meeting and was warmly applauded. Paul Johnston-Knight then took the Chair. His first duty was to announce that it was the Committee's recommendation that Peter Bothwick become Vice President for 2018. This was proposed by A Thompson, seconded by M Gee and unanimously approved.

Paul Johnston-Knight then invested Peter Bothwick with the Vice President's Badge.

Phil Carr was standing down as Treasurer. Robert Lockwood had indicated his willingness to take on this role. This was proposed

by A Thompson, seconded by J Piggott and unanimously approved. The President thanked Phil Carr for all his hard work as Treasurer.

The appointment of the Secretary Mrs Anne James was proposed by A Badcock, seconded by R Ingarfield and unanimously approved.

According to the Articles of Association the longest serving Elected Director, Andy Thompson, retired but was re-elected, proposed by M Gee, seconded by P Bothwick and unanimously approved.

The election of John Garlick as the Independent Examiner was proposed by P Chilton, seconded by S Mason and unanimously approved.

6. **Report on Benevolent Fund Distribution** by Andy Thompson

"Again this year we have been able to support a number of deserving causes. It would be fair to say though that we have not been flooded with requests and again via yourselves and I am sure within the President's speech we do ask for your help to spread the word of the very valuable support our charity can provide. We continue to thoroughly vet all requests and to date we have been able to provide assistance to the vast majority.

We do have to be careful though as we have received a few cases via other charities where the individual concerned at some time has worked within the paper trade but perhaps has not done so for many years. In these instances and where approved we calculate the amount we are prepared to pay by means of a fixed yearly rate that we multiply by the number of years worked.

Historically we have had a few cases where we have annually provided funds, moving forward this practice will cease and we will now only support on a one off basis. Finally without your support we could not help our paper trade colleagues who fall on difficult times, we really appreciate that."

The meeting closed at 11.40 am.



London Pride Society Lunch - Thursday, 26th April 2018

It is, as ever, a very real pleasure to report on another most successful London Pride Society lunch. I sometimes muse upon why these lunches go so well and I think it is, in part at least, because they are based on a tradition. We have them just twice a year, the first in April on the Thursday closest to St George's Day, the second in November, again on a Thursday, this one the closest to Armistice Day and always at our traditional venue - the Boot & Flogger Wine Bar in Southwark.

On this splendid occasion, 32 of us sat down to the (also traditional) repast of a fish starter followed by steak and kidney pie and finally, cheese and biscuits, all accompanied by copious quantities of wine. We met in the bar upstairs and upon Owen Davis's call went down the stairs to our beautifully laid tables set up in sprigs of eight. Owen banged the gavel and began the proceedings with some well-chosen words welcoming us all, with a special mention of our three new faces namely Richard Worby, Andy Thompson and Danny Donovan. Glasses were raised and the noise levels went up. It's extraordinary how much noise 32 can generate.

Mike Rust rose and told us of absent friends and made special mention of the work done by Owen Davis. Owen is the quiet man behind the scenes. He does the spadework, arranging, chasing, handling the finances, all those things that need to be done to make these events happen. Mike's words were very well received.

John Rayner was in good form as our raconteur and told us of the history of the Boot & Flogger which, with its position on Bankside, the wild side of London in mediaeval times where things were allowed which would not have been allowed within the walls of the City of London, just across the bridge. Good stuff. This was a theme taken up later by Mike Gee, all most interesting diversions. We quite obviously have a deal of home-grown talent amongst our members.

Several of the members decided they hadn't finished yet and on the conclusion of the main event followed John Rayner to a pub for some final libations. It was a cracking day.

If you would like to join us at the next lunch it will be held on Thursday 8th November. Not to be missed!

Bev Steele



Owen Davis makes us welcome



John Rayner gives us a history lesson



Mike Rust tells us of absent friends



Mike Gee tells all

CHIGBORO LAKES – Thursday 15th March 2018

The area around the River Blackwater can be wonderful on a warm summer day but with a Siberian wind sweeping across the Essex marshes it can be 'brass monkeys' in the middle of March. In fact, the day started with light rain, which petered out about 10.30, leaving quite a pleasant day for those of us who chose to fish the more sheltered Home Water. Unfortunately two of our guests chose the deeper and more exposed Priory Water and phrases like 'never been so cold' were heard during a break for coffee!

I was delighted that nine intrepid members of the PICT Angling section turned out, including the two guests, coming from as far afield as Kent, Sussex, Bucks and Beds. Our last outing was in October 2017 so there was a lot of catching up chat as we tackled up before setting off to our chosen spots, encouraged by the bending rod of a non PICT angler.

Robert Taylor and I chose to move round the lake casting from several different places but didn't manage to contact any fish at any point. By the time we had circumnavigated the lake and got back to where Alan Badcock was fishing he had already taken three fish. Gerry Overy and David Gould had arrived late

after heavy traffic and they too had caught fish, we must have been doing something wrong but the exercise was good and it kept us warm!

By lunchtime the weather had brightened and we were able to sit on the lodge verandah to eat our sandwiches and natter about the morning activity or lack thereof. In fact, six people had caught and only three of us reported a blank morning.

It was my pleasure to present the Monk Trophy for 2017 to Alan Badcock, the second year in succession that he has won it.

The afternoon started on a high for me with three fish in less than 15 minutes, including a superb Brown Trout, which was photographed and duly returned to the water. I think I found the right fly because I went on to take five in total, which was matched by Alan.

I know that the majority had terrible journeys home but judging by the comments I received it seems that the sport compensated for the hold-ups. Many thanks to all who attended and for their donations that will go straight to the PICT charity – the support is much appreciated as an organiser.



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Gerry Overy trying to land a trout



Presenting the Monk Trophy to Alan Badcock



David Gould landing a trout

FRENSHAM TROUT FISHERY

– Thursday 17th May 2018

There has to be a considerable amount of organiser's luck that the second outing of the year brought another beautiful day of glorious sunshine and light winds. Frensham is a very popular venue for our members and their guests, hidden away up a winding track which opens up to five trout lakes and one that is being given over to wildlife, not that there is ever any shortage of that.

Our last visit in September showed a number of improvements but this year it was quite spectacular with the lodge now finished. Also the open fronted barn is now sporting a terrace overlooking the main lake with tables and chairs for entertaining. Jillian and her team have really done a remarkable job and I understand there is more planned.

Originally there were going to be 11 of us but due to bad backs, bad diaries and gall bladder operations we were reduced to eight of us fishing. When I returned to the car after paying my dues there was a Mayfly resting on the boot of the car, which is what every fly fisherman likes to see as this is the staple diet of trout at the time of the Mayfly hatch. This one was early but in a couple of weeks time the water should be covered with them and the sight of trout slurping them down.



A Mayfly - Ephemera Vulgata

Our day proved to be a bit more difficult and it was some time before the first fish was landed, although several had been hooked only to be lost in the ever-present fight against the angler.

We were very pleased to be joined by PICT President, Paul Johnston-Knight, who was happy to watch the so-called experts at work. Fortunately, I was able to hook, play and land a two pounder so that he could see what our sport is all about.

Paul was also able to stay for lunch and join in the usual fishing, trade and other banter. This was enjoyed on the new terrace in lovely sunshine.

With many a mile to travel home for a lot of us, some had a quick afternoon session before calling it a day.

As is so often the case one of our guests out-fished us all by catching four, but with only one member going home with an empty bag, it had been another really good day.



Lunch on the new terrace

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2018

Thursday, 6th September – Tringford Trout Lakes, Tring, Herts

We visited Tringford for the first time last year and had a super day, fishing from boats, with ghillies and breakfast and lunch provided by the Tringford Crew. There is a maximum of 12 anglers allowed – so it will have to be a first come, first served basis. This outing will be dependant on the weather during August, so I may have to adjust things nearer the time, but I will let you know.

Thursday, 18th October - River Test, Romsey, Hants

More details closer to the time.

Don't forget guests and new members are always welcome.



Secretary: Mike Kerlogue
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SPRING MEETING

Grim's Dyke GC - Wednesday 16th May 2018

Our Secretary, Mike 'Kit Kat' Kerlogue networks well and has good communications up top - so the Shanks who made their way to North Middlesex were expecting a scorching, sunny day following the tropical Tuesday. Unfortunately, Mike must have been missing Mass, so it was a little dull and overcast and had us scurrying for warm sweaters and gilets. All except for Graham Warley who insisted on playing in shorts and ankle socks. We thought he was shivering but this could, of course, have been some age-related illness!

The Grim's Dyke staff made us very welcome and coffee and bacon baguettes were consumed whilst 'Kit Kat' distributed chocolate and the infamous Team Yellow Balls. He did try to explain the scoring system but eventually gave up and delegated to a 'responsible' member of each team. In management speak this probably constitutes empowerment but in Shanks it is better classed as desperation.

Thirteen Shanks made their way to the tenth tee (Grim's Dyke trying to confuse us by

insisting we start on the 10th) together with spectator and non-playing Shanker, Alan Piper, in his Brian Hanrahan role of counting them out and counting them back in again!

Following the Bob Newhart school of accountancy, we started within a few bucks of 1.00pm despite the Secretary changing the location of the photo shoot to higher ground as his smart phone works better pointing upwards!



The dashing Shanks

Teams and Competition results.... 13 players, 4 teams.

Team A: Peter Bothwick, Alan Badcock and Chris Bell.

Team B: Nigel Howl, Mike Gee and Graham Warley.

Team C: Mike Kerlogue, Michael Black and Gary Brady.

Team D: Keith Spiers, Barry Gregory, Geoff Parnell and Matt Ingram.

Competitions Winners

Yellow Ball - The winning team was Team A, who were the only team to nurse it around the 18 holes. The Secretary didn't need to announce the points score as the other teams lost their balls too early in proceedings!



Yellow Ball Winners



Keith Spiers, best overall score with 29 points

High Handicappers - 24 and above - playing for the Syd Humphries Trophy - The winner on 25 points playing off 27 was Nigel Howl who appreciates that he is only keeping it warm for Martin Stears. Yee Ha.



The Syd Humphries Trophy was awarded to Nigel Howl

Nearest the Pin - On the 110 yard 6th green. Gary Brady being the only Shanker to land on the green – another benchmark for the section!



Gary Brady was Nearest the Pin

Steve Beckett Trophy for Shanker of the Day - There were two considerations:

Team D for managing to lose their Yellow Ball off the tee on the first hole! A splendid effort but probably understandable on a difficult tree lined par five you might think. However, on a par three with quite an open approach this took no little skill.

Chris Bell of Team A. When their Yellow Ball was struck into a hedge bordering water, the intrepid Chris, with no thought to his own safety and wellbeing, plunged into the water and searched among the brambles. Trench foot, lacerations to the arms and torn Gucci polo notwithstanding, he emerged triumphant with three Yellow Balls – one of which was Team A's. The Captain 'yes me' Bothwick, laconically commenting "Well done Chris, great teamwork." For the reply, please send an opaque self-addressed envelope and a small charitable donation to PICT.

In the end, it was judged that Chris's effort in going the extra mile for his team and offering to pay his own medical expenses, meant he should be the recipient of the Trophy.

It was a delight to have PICT President, Paul Johnston-Knight, join us for dinner and to present the prizes.

Mike 'Defib Divot' Windett also joined us for dinner having taken on the role of official finisher, as his previous role of official starter was costing him too much in chocolate.

Our thanks again to Mike Kerlogue for organising an excellent day and for his rounding up speech mentioning the Grim weather, the Grim rough and the tough Grim greens leading to his new nom de plume of The Grim Reaper. As one wag commented, this was better than the other sobriquet on offer – 'Dyke Head'! A splendid day with £90 being raised for PICT funds.

Nigel 'the scribe' Howl

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY 2018

Wednesday 26th September

Aldwickbury Park Golf Club

Piggottshill Lane, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1AB

Meet at 12.00 noon for the obligatory bacon roll and coffee; tee-off from 1.00pm; dinner at approx. 6.30pm; and all away by 9.00pm-ish.

The cost is £55 (the same price as it has been for the past few years) and as always guests are welcome. Buggys are available. Contact Mike Kerlogue for further information or to book your place.

Following the success of the previous PICT Golf days another Charity Golf Day has been planned for **Friday 28th September 2018**. 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 9.30am start, with lunch/prize giving to follow the golf at 2.45pm. 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 valuable fundraiser for PICT – so please support it in some way if you can. For further details contact Fred Haines on f.haines@icloud.com, or to book your team's place e-mail Anne James at anne@pictuk.com

tennis



Secretary: John Victoros
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Tennis Secretary John Victoros has confirmed that the PICT Tennis Tournament will be held on **Thursday 13th September 2018** and will once again take place at the Northampton County Lawn Tennis Club, Church Way, Weston Flavel, NN3 3BX.

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

Not one to give up easily, Mike Robertson is putting out a call for interested parties to join him in the quest to get cricket back on the PICT sporting agenda.

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. Remember, guests are also welcome to join in.

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



Secretary: Mike Robertson
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Everyone (there is no discrimination in this word), many thanks for the opportunity afforded me by you all, to represent PICT over the last 12 months.

It has been a year of meeting new people, some very old friends, wishing others well, and generally distributing either bonhomie or sympathy, or both simultaneously.

The supporters of PICT are, in the majority, grey-haired. It is perhaps a relief to some members that my successor (elect) Paul Johnston-Knight is not – he exudes youth, coupled with charm and Yorkshire determination, and on looking back over past Presidents, it is very good to see a 'Northern Powerhouse' emerging, as history shows PICT with a Southern to Midlands bias so far.

The importance of looking further afield for support is clearly very necessary in PICT, to ensure its survival. This principal fundraising event for which we are gathered today will probably not break even. There are several notable absentee companies from previous table sponsors. The same supporters appear, and despite direct PICT sponsored attempts in the last 12 months to attract wider corporate support at grass roots level, from younger trade employees to be supported by their companies, time, cost and competition law fears appear to be stumbling blocks. I must thank the PICT Committee, notably Peter Bothwick and Andy Thompson, for their support in the initiative to contact companies around the country, and also mention Anne James' meticulous attention to the detail of PICT's postal communications. I think I stuck the stamps on.

Anne James, in office for a number of years, has been a stalwart in her efforts to keep me, and the Committee on the straight and narrow, following the agenda and protocol, with both calmness and patience. Thank you Anne.

Phil Carr, as has been well signalled, steps down as PICT Treasurer today, and we welcome Robert Lockwood in his place.

Phil, very many thanks for the accuracy of your accounting, but more so for the professional advice you have recently given on several fronts. All future success to you outside the paper trade. Robert, welcome.

As your President in the past year, I have promoted PICT at a damp fishing event under George Fowler's aegis, at a Shanks Golf Day 'controlled' by Mike Kerlogue, and at Fred Haines' organised Golf Tournament. At Fred's day, if I may call it that, a Dutchman called Hakkers belied his name by being a contributory part of the winning team. Sadly, cricket did not happen, and a pre-booked holiday of mine prevented attendance at the Tennis tournament, ably organised by John Vic. All the events were enjoyable, properly run on a voluntary basis, and provided help financially to PICT, besides promoting the camaraderie and good humour with which PICT events are associated. All the events were supported by retirees, members of other Societies, friends, customers and a mere sprinkling of active paper traders – please reflect on this for the medium term.



Joe Piggott

The Past Presidents' lunch at the Boot and Flogger was a convivial affair, as one might expect, and everyone apparently reached the home they had left that morning without incidents. The same can be said of the London Pride Society function in terms of conviviality, at the same venue, together with a match report on Birmingham Paper Trade Social Society lunch in Birmingham, all in the December 2017 PICT Newsletter. All events good for the trade, good for communication, but it was only the last of these three events that had many/any active paper and associated trade people attending.

PICT need not fear financially in the very immediate future. Reserves are there for the deserving. Reserves will diminish fast if losses continue on this event today and in subsequent years. Treasurers old (Phil Carr) and new (Robert Lockwood) do not pull their punches in warning of a slide in 'free' income with which to support the charitable aims for which this Trust was formed.

Please enjoy the lunch today. Give as generously as you can, think about the future, and share this annual event in a spirit of warmth and friendship.

Joe Piggott

With this, my second report for PICT, I am pleased to say that 2018 is proving to be a good performance year for Apsley Paper Trail (APT). Firstly, APT is on target to achieve a record number of booked tours on behalf of schools and adult groups. We're also receiving bookings for off-site presentations.

Of particular note, is the number of prestigious institutions choosing to visit APT. Institutions recognising the significance of the mill and the knowledge of its staff and volunteers. These institutions include graduates from the Courtauld Institute as part of their Paper Conservation module, the Royal Collection Trust, who are the paper conservators to the Royal Collection, the Camberwell School of Art, and the Royal Institution Master Class in Engineering 2018. This latter group was made up of students from nine schools, and The Paper Trail was chosen because of its structural substance.

Another significant visit was that of the Stationers. On 25th June The Paper Trail played host to 31 Stationers. Not only were they entertained with a brief history of Frogmore Paper Mill, and a subsequent tour, but they also learned the background as to how the Apsley Paper Trail came about. The reason for this latter point being made to the Stationers was the fact that the paper master in 1986, George Mandl, set the ball rolling by inviting Paper Publications (Peter Ingram) to plan and stage Paper 500. On completing the mill tour the group retired to nearby Shendish Manor Hotel for lunch. Shendish was built and completed in 1856 for Charles Longman, a stationer, powerful publisher and a partner of John Dickinson. But more on this event in the next issue.

On the paper equipment front, we have in full operation PM4, the world's first research paper machine and its sheeter, (both 1902 Hemma's) originally supplied to Manchester, then sent to Bury College before being gifted to The Paper Trail. It is a Fourdrinier machine delivering a good paper width of 450mm (SRA2). Not only does it delight all visitors that come to see it in operation, it is run commercially – for example, it runs various inclusion grades including the popular seed papers.



Lush UK's paper wrapping produced at Frogmore Mill

Also, rather a coup, PM4 has produced the world's first fairtrade papers for cosmetics company, Lush UK. The paper is made from Banana plant fibre, which is usually waste, and is formed into fibre sheets by a co-operative in Zambia. It is then turned into paper on Frogmore's Fourdrinier no.4. Lush is then having it printed and using it as wrapping material for a product launch. This paper is not only beautiful to look at ... but also to touch.



The Paper Trail Heritage Fire Brigade on parade at the St Albans Steam Rally in June, with all their privately owned vehicles along with the 1938 Dennis Ace fire engine (middle of front row)

Back to the equipment for a minute. In addition to the wonderful PM4 machine, we have just received a most significant prize! Whatman's Springfield Mill near Maidstone in Kent has closed, the site is to be redeveloped. As a result, one of its three working cylinder mould machines (Cornwall) has been donated to APT. It arrived during March. The plan is to refurbish it and place it alongside PM4. The timing is purely dependent on raising the necessary funds. Its significance is that John Dickinson invented this process, his patent was recorded in 1809. So after all these years, the cylinder mould machine is coming back to the Gade Valley. Potentially we have the two working exhibits that between them changed forever mass communication and also paved the way for improved packaging materials, along with the ability to include security features in paper such as the early silk thread. Two further projects are currently being discussed, but more on them, hopefully next time.

John Watson



Robert Lockwood

As many of you may already be aware, PICT has a new Treasurer. This follows Phil Carr's resignation from the post earlier this year, following his career move from the paper industry to agro chemicals.

Robert Lockwood initially trained as a management accountant with Nestle and ITT. Once he was qualified he took up senior finance roles, firstly in London Underground and then American Brands. It was while working for the UK stationery products arm of American Brands, he was approached about joining the Merchanting and Logistics division of UK Paper. And so, he entered the paper trade as the Financial Director of Guppy Paper 25 years ago.

He remained at that operation through all its evolutions, mergers and acquisitions. This included Guppy Paper, Classic Paper, Alliance Paper, Premier Paper and Map Merchants. When Premier was sold to Beswick in 2007, Robert decided to jump the fence and entered the print business. He joined Taylor Bloxham, the renowned colour specialist litho printer, firstly as Finance Director and latterly CEO. He explained: "My mission has been to drive a diversification strategy, making them less dependent on traditional printing, this mirrors the way paper producers and merchants are broadening their portfolios."

When not at work Robert can be found tinkering with mid century classic Americana that he has collected, including cars, motorbikes, jukeboxes and pinball machines. Fortunately as jukeboxes need records it's lucky that Robert's other passion is record collecting - spanning all genres from the 1940s to the 1970s.

Robert has been married for 35 years to Sharon and they have two children, one grandchild and another on the way.

We all wish Robert well in his position as Treasurer with PICT.

Margaret Curle

Shout out for new sporting sections

It has recently been mooted about starting-up some new sporting sections – namely Bowls, Skiing and Walking Football.

Bowls Section

Alan Ward is happy to organise a competition for the Woollacott Cup, which is a singles competition played to a finish on one day. It would be on a handicap basis with PICT members and/or wives/husbands/partners being eligible to compete. Those knocked out in the morning sessions would play in a triples competition in the afternoon so that everyone has a full day of bowling. Alan would need at least 20 interested players so that there would be 16 or more to play on the day. Players can be novice or experienced and the only requirements would be grey trousers/skirts, white tops and flat-soled shoes – no heels! Commenting Alan said: "We always had great days with competitive bowls played in a friendly and sociable atmosphere. The handicap system would be generous to novices!" If you are interested in being involved please e-mail Alan Ward to register your interest alan.ward53@ntlworld.com

Skiing Section

Richard Fowler has come forward looking to re-instate the Skiing Section. So if you fancy a long weekend of fun and skiing in the Winter months, in the first instance contact PICT Secretary Anne James by e-mail anne@pictuk.com

Walking Football

PICT member Philippe Gibson has stepped up to the plate and has offered to get this section up and running. So if you are interested in playing this popular new sport please e-mail philippe.gibson@koehlerpaper.com

The Birmingham Paper Trade Social Society is holding its Annual Lunch on Friday 12th October 2018, the venue is, as usual, The Bank Restaurant, Brindley Place, Birmingham.

The event kicks off with a reception at 12.15pm, followed by luncheon at 1.00pm.

Once again the Society has booked a high quality guest speaker, namely Graham Rowntree, a former England and British Lions rugby union international, so it should be interesting. If you would like to join in please apply for a ticket by e-mailing their secretary: paul_mcdermott.t21@btinternet.com

annual lunch 2019

Hot off the Press – Annual Charity Lunch 2019

An early diary date for 2019 – make a note now that next year's PICT Annual Lunch has been fixed for **Friday 8th March 2019**, 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. Please e-mail Anne James anne@pictuk.com if you would like to reserve a table or for further information.

paper appreciation course

By the time you read this article, another of the popular Paper Appreciation Courses will have been held at the historic Paper Trail in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. However, don't fret there is another course already in the diary for 2018, and more will be coming in 2019.

Organised by Tim Bowler, through his company Focal Strength, the next paper course will be held on Wednesday 21st November, at James Cropper's lovely mill just outside Kendal in the beautiful Lake District.

As always, the 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 seminar 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; e-mail: trb@focalstrength.co.uk

easy reference

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