

## PICT catches the Chaser!

**W**ell, it's that time of year again when our thoughts turn to the Annual Lunch, which once again should be, as always, good fun, but this year should also be very interesting, if the choice of entertainer is anything to go by.

PICT has booked Paul Sinha, although a comedian, he is probably better known to everyone as one of the Chasers on the ITV quiz show, The Chase.



Paul Sinha

The lunch itself is being held on Friday 27th March 2020 at the Park Plaza Riverbank hotel on London's south bank, in its Plaza Suite. So put the date in your diary now! Please remember, that the Annual Lunch is PICT's main fundraising event for the year, so it is hoped that most of the membership will endeavour to attend and help raise funds for the charity. As always a great day is in store. Not only comradeship and a delicious three course meal, but there will be the entertaining Heads and Tails, a table raffle and an auction with an eclectic mix of items up for grabs. And all in a good cause – to help those in our industry that need our support.

Now back to the entertainer – Paul Sinha was born in the UK to Bengali parents and the family medical dynasty. Whilst studying medicine in the 1990s, Paul took his first steps on the stand-up comedy circuit. He pursued both careers and at the 2006 Edinburgh Fringe Festival earned a nomination for the highest accolade in live comedy, the Edinburgh Comedy Award. Shortly after this, Paul hung up his stethoscope to become a full-time comedian.

Paul is a familiar voice on radio and face on television with appearances on Just a Minute, The News Quiz, Fighting Talk, QI, Would I lie to You? and Taskmaster. His own Radio 4 series 'Paul Sinha's History Revision' won the Rose d'Or for radio comedy in 2016. A lifetime of curiosity and learning informs Paul's comedy but now also ranks him as one of the UK's finest quizzers. This has led to yet another concurrent career, this time as a general knowledge expert on the award-winning ITV quiz show, The Chase.

As in previous year's, PICT's AGM will be held before the lunch in one of the hotel's smaller rooms (details available closer to the time). This in essence is to encourage members to come along to this important meeting prior to the lunch. For those that don't know, the AGM is kept short, you are greeted on arrival with refreshments before the business takes place, along with the inauguration of the new President. And that's it. So you will still have plenty of time to mix with colleagues and enjoy a drink before the lunch at 1.00pm. So why not break the habit of a lifetime and come along to the AGM as well as the lunch. Tickets for the Annual Lunch are now available and are: Members £95; Retired members £80; and Guests £110.

## contents

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Charity Lunch 2020    | 01 |
| Trustees' Report 2019 | 02 |
| Trustees' Case Study  | 02 |
| From The Editor's Pen | 03 |
| Angling Section       | 04 |
| Tennis Section        | 07 |
| SHANKS                | 09 |
| Paper Trail           | 11 |
| Charity Golf Day      | 13 |
| Cricket Section       | 13 |
| London Pride Lunch    | 14 |
| Easy Reference        | 16 |

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So once again, hopefully all of this will have whetted your appetite and you will be making a note of the date in your diary and contacting Anne James to book your tickets / tables. And remember, PICT needs your support so it can help support those that need it. So it's a win:win situation – you get to have a great day of good

food, friendship and fun .... and it helps a good cause. So see you all in March at the Annual Lunch, and the AGM?

*Margaret Curle*

## trustees' report

Since our last report, even though there has not been a dramatic increase in requests for charitable assistance, it is pleasing to record that two new donations have been awarded.

In fact, one of these donations is featured as a case study in this newsletter (please see the story below this report). As always, confidentiality for the individual(s) in question shall be maintained.

During the remaining on site visits to PICT supporters, we shall continue to promote the objectives of the Trust, and encourage our members to spread that message amongst their colleagues.

Additionally, there are also some new promotional initiative plans, which will be developed leading up to, and at, the 2020 PICT Annual Lunch.

The task remains challenging, but it is gratifying that we have been able to contribute an increase in charity monies paid out so far this year.

*From the Trustees of PICT*

## trustees' case study

PICT has supported a really special case this year. Our assistance was sought by an individual whose child was having some very challenging issues. These challenges affected both the youngster's school and home life.

Both parents had full time jobs but the issues meant that one had to give up their job in the paper trade because of the situation. Having attempted to get help from the local doctor and hospital, which was forthcoming but unfortunately unsuccessful, it was decided that alternative help was required.

At this stage a request was made to PICT to see if we could help to access specialist help - an assessment process had to be gone through, which as you may imagine, was time consuming, stressful and due to the travel involved, expensive.

PICT looked at the circumstances and decided it was a case we would support. We provided a sum of money to assist in the matter

and we are really pleased to report that through the expertise of the specialist the child is improving and the parents coping well.

We were only too pleased to support a paper trade colleague during a very concerning time for their family.

This is another example of the kind of assistance that PICT can give to former or current members of our paper industry, who may be facing difficulties. Should you know anybody who we may be able to help, please, in the first instance, contact PICT secretary Anne James.

Just to repeat, any applications will be treated on a strictly confidential basis.

*From the Trustees of PICT*



Well it's that time of year again, with the printed version of the PICT newsletter landing on your desk. However, by the time you read this, Christmas and the New Year festivities will be a dim memory .... and we'll be heading into 2020 and looking forward to a hopefully bright and successful year.

Looking back to 2019, PICT has had a successful year in respect of its sporting sections and monies raised towards charitable causes. One of which is the subject of a case study in this issue, of someone in the paper industry who has been helped by PICT, please do read it and see how the Trust supports those that need it.

As mentioned all the sporting sections had an enjoyable year, turnouts overall weren't too bad – however, extra participants are always welcomed. Again, the weather appeared to hold for all the events, which always helps. The only sporting section not to have seen a good year was Cricket – even though Mike Robertson had some participants wanting to play, he was unable to get the required amount needed to field two teams – please do contact him, perhaps we can get cricket back on the agenda in 2020.

PICT is also looking at some new sporting events for the New Year – in particular, cycling and running, as well as hopefully, reinstating a Skiing Section. If any of these appeal to you, please, in the first instance contact PICT's secretary Anne James to register your interest.

For information on any of the sporting section events, always keep an eye on the PICT website and the Facebook page, as all event dates, venues and contacts will be listed there – so don't miss out!

Of course, PICT's big news for 2020 is the up and coming Annual Lunch, the charity's largest fundraiser for the year. This year, PICT has secured the services of Paul Sinha, one of the chasers from the TV show, *The Chase*, as its entertainer for the afternoon – so it

should be an interesting day. Enclosed in this newsletter is an order form for tickets/tables – so don't miss out, let colleagues and friends know, complete the form and return it to Anne James to get your tickets to the Annual Lunch on Friday 27th March.

So, in summing up, don't forget to book your place at the Annual Lunch and why not make it your New Year's resolution to support the PICT sporting events during 2020. So until next time, I wish you all a belated Happy and Prosperous New Year – and I look forward to seeing you all in March at the lunch and hopefully the AGM too!!

*Margaret Curle*

## past presidents' lunch



A round dozen PICT Past Presidents made it to the delightfully jovial lunch in London on 11th November, held at the Boot and Flogger in Southwark, London. Hosted by Paul Johnston-Knight, those in attendance were (l-r): Brian Henry, Stephen Mason,

Nick Gee, Alan Badcock, Richard Cossens, Paul Johnston-Knight, Peter Chilton, David Houseman, Ron Ingarfield, Geoff Poole, Nick Steidl and Barry Fowler.





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A glorious morning greeted me as I looked out over the beautiful Chiltern countryside, the sun was just rising over the horizon and there were already two hot air balloons slowly drifting across the sky.

This was going to be our third visit to Tringford Trout Lake, one of a series of lakes situated just outside Tring, Hertfordshire, and on this occasion there were going to be eight members, friends and family in the form of my son Andrew. We tackled up in the car park before following the scent of bacon and sausage along the track where we were greeted by Head Bailiff, Bob Menzies and his welcoming group of Tringford members. There was the usual banter as we ate our rolls and enjoyed a cup of coffee before embarking on the four rowing punts.

After a short row out to our selected spots, we dropped our anchors and prepared to catch some of the Rainbow Trout that could be seen jumping all over

the lake. The first rod to bend into a fish was that of regular guest Granville Ainley. He was accompanied by his son-in-law Glen Jenner, who used to work for McNaughtons and who was a regular member of the angling section until a change of jobs.

Andrew soon followed with a beautiful fish that I netted for him and which then was gently returned to the water. It took me a bit longer to catch one, but it was just idyllic being out on the lake in beautiful surroundings.

We rowed back to the pontoon for what has become a traditional Tringford spread of smoked salmon sandwiches, pork pie, cheese and loads more, all washed down with a beer or glass of wine. The Tringford crew really are the most sociable bunch and with good fishing in the morning and lively conversation there didn't seem to be any rush to get back out, but eventually we set off for the afternoon session, which turned out to be just as enjoyable.

Reluctantly we had to call it a day as there were long journeys to tackle, none worse than Alan Badcock, which took 4½ hours, but he had caught five fish. New member to our group, Roy Mills, caught his first trout and Tony Spicer lost four after playing them for some time. Andrew ended up with six, declaring it the best days fishing ever! Our thanks to Bob and Tringford for putting on such a splendid day and to whoever picked the most wonderful weather!



John Cane and Tony Spicer

## RIVER TEST, ROMSEY, HANTS - Thursday 17th October 2019

It is always pleasing as an organiser to get a good turn-out to our events and this year our annual visit to the River Test was supported by a record equalling 28 anglers, made up of PICT members and guests, largely from fellow charity, the Masonic Trout and Salmon Fishing Club (MTSFC).

The enthusiasm never wanes and people set off from homes as early as 5.00am so that they could be at the gate at the appointed time between 8.00–8.30am before making their way to the car park to tackle up and have a chinwag with friends.

Each year we have the opportunity to fish 2½ miles of this iconic chalk stream with its clear fast flowing water, which varies in depth and width along its length, giving ample room for the Trout, Grayling and occasional Salmon to hide from eager anglers!

It is rather difficult to report on overall activity because we all get spread out along the banks and only catch up with each other over lunch or when passing by. I headed towards the shallower stretch with my son Andrew but he soon saw a gravel bar with a couple of trout holding station over it and it didn't take him long before his rod was bending into a lovely fish of about 1½ lbs, which was netted and returned. He tried to help me catch one, but in recent years my luck, or more probably ability, was lacking.

Late morning we were joined by PICT President, Peter Bothwick, who had made the journey from the Midlands to show his support for the Angling Section and we really thank him for doing so. Having fished through till lunchtime most people met up for an informal picnic and to swap stories of the morning, with reports that several trout and a grayling had been caught.



Andrew's Brownie

I would like to thank Dave Sea from MTSFC who had very generously donated a fly rod to raise money for PICT and with the help of Alan Badcock a draw was organised and the rod presented to the winner, Mark Vincent, by Peter Bothwick.

The weather that had started dry and pleasant, turned very wet and soaked us all, but then the sun returned to dry us out. The afternoon finished about 4.00 with another shower threatening but everyone expressed that it had been a great day. A total of 16 Brown Trout and 2 Grayling had been caught and returned.

I have a lot of people to thank for the success of this meeting, firstly David Gould, who obtains the access to the river for the day, the bailiff who manages it, the anglers from PICT and MTSFC and friends who gave their wholehearted support and especially to Peter Bothwick for adding his Presidential presence.

### MONK TROPHY

The winner of the Monk Trophy for the heaviest overall weight caught throughout the year has been won by me, George Fowler, beating three times winner Alan Badcock literally by a cat's whisker (very appropriate because that is also the name of a fishing fly!) It wasn't so much skill on my part as the fact that Alan was dragged on holiday and missed two meetings.

### FUTURE DATES

So our fishing calendar closes on another season and it won't be long before anglers and the secretariat will be clamouring for dates for next year and those will be circulated when I get my new diary! My thanks to all members who have attended meetings this year. We have also seen new faces, which is very encouraging. I look forward to seeing you all in 2020.



Alan Badcock, Gerry Overy and Robert Taylor to left with Peter Bothwick on right

The popular Paper Appreciation Course will once again be held in 2020. This informative course is organised by Tim Bowler, through his company Focal Strength, and held at the historic Apsley Paper Trail near Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire. The next course is scheduled for Wednesday 25th March.

The lecturer is John Watson, who presents these one-day courses in his own inimitable style. Commenting, he said: "The objective of this 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."

The syllabus includes a mix of technical and useful information, along with the chance to see paper being made on a small historic Fourdrinier paper machine.

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

Tim Bowler also organises another course, entitled 'Paper and the Environment – All you need to know'. As yet no date has been arranged for 2020, but as soon as it has been it will be posted on PICT's social media sites. Again, this course will be held at Apsley Paper Trail near Hemel Hempstead.

For further information on the above courses or to book your places, please contact Tim Bowler on 0115 960 9595; e-mail: [trb@focalstrength.co.uk](mailto:trb@focalstrength.co.uk)

## Shout out for new sporting sections

PICT is keen to offer some new sporting sections for its members to join. Interest has already been shown by some members in three areas – cycling, running and skiing.

With regards skiing, Paul Johnston-Knight is hoping to reinstate this section and is looking to organise a date in 2020.

If you fancy being involved in any of the above sports, in the first instance, please get in touch with PICT's secretary, Anne James, to register your interest, if you have not already done so.



## ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT - Thursday 12th September 2019

This year all the trophies were present from the winners of the previous year. But sadly one half from each of the trophy winners were missing from this year's line-ups. So both trophies would have a new pairing on them for 2019!

Jonathan Clay was missing his partner Andrew Dunning and was replaced by Olly Gale from Fedrigoni UK, who kindly stepped into Pete Stevens' shoes, who was double booked.

John Lloyd Hagger was missing his partner Martin Dibsdales and although missed, was replaced by the lovely Stephanie Spurr, who was supposed to be one of two ladies this year. This was initially sad news until I learnt that the reason the second lady was



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missing was because she was appearing in the latter stages of a National Tennis tournament, phew, we all dodged one there!

No doubt this time next year I will again be mentioning the ongoing quarterly delay of Brexit, which will still be dragging on and on and on ....

Once again, we were blessed with the weather for our day at Northampton County Lawn Tennis Club in Weston Favell.

Very welcome newbies this year included the aforementioned Stephanie and Olly, along with a full Ricoh pair of Wesley Parks joining a previously appearing Sam Ayling, along with Ted Weller pairing up with Eric Keane. The balance of the nine pairs this year are seasoned pairings.

May I at this point say a thank you to Peter (Ace my man) Bothwick, this year's President, for not only attending the day but also for kindly

presenting the trophies and, with a few others, sharing the photo duties.

Also a major thank you to Fedrigoni UK, which once again sponsored the gorgeous lunch. An equally grateful sponsoring of balls, courts, trophies and bar person from a combination of: The Navigator Company; Mitsubishi HiTec Paper UK; Premier Paper; and IFS, means that we are able to donate the sum of £360 to PICT.

A big thank you to you all!

Now to the tennis...

The round robin blatantly proved one thing, that the much sought after Wooden Spoon would be a straight fight between the Brian Garson/David Kentish pairing and Sam Ayling/Wesley Parks. With 81 points up for grabs there was only three in it in the end. The Ricoh boys got nine and the holders from 2018 retain their trophy with six.



Johnston Cup Winners

The Johnston Cup semi finals pitched John and Stephanie against Jonathan and Olly with the latter going through to the final. The other semi needed a volunteer from the Wooden Spoon pair to partner Andrew Veasey (as his partner Paul Williams was booked to be elsewhere) to play against the Ricoh pair.



Wooden Spoon Winners



Penman Trophy Runners up

Suffice it to say that the cream rose to the top in the final with Jonathan Clay and the very happy Olly Gale, ensuring that Jonathan still got his hands on silverware despite the missing Mr Dunning as they beat Mr Veasey and Mr Kentish in the final.

And to the Penman Trophy, which from the outcome of the round robin was always meant to be contested by Tony Wood/Steve Maher and last year's and the year before and the year before that's, losing finalists Matt Kidd and John Vic.

This was after Tony and Steve dismissed Eric and Ted in the semi final, and Matt and I managed to see off the wily Stephen Plaistowe and Barrie Farnsworth.

Well the final was agreed as best of three sets, which my legs did not agree with but the mind was willing and having lost the final for the last three years it was not gonna happen again! In a very tight and tense match, we finally got our hands on those pewter jugs - thanks partner.



Penman Trophy Winners



Johnston Cup Runners up

However, we still have the job of trying to retain and win against the nemesis that are Andrew Dunning and Jonathan Clay, who we hope will return as a pair again next year along with the lady who was featuring in that national tournament - must find out how she did?! Once again, thank you to all the players, sponsors and Northampton Lawn Tennis Club.

I can now confirm the date for 2020 is Thursday 17th September 2020. So save the date!

*John Vic*



## SHANKS AUTUMN HACK

### Badgemore Park Golf Club, Henley on Thames

#### – Wednesday 25th September 2019

Shanks held its Autumn meeting at Badgemore Golf Club situated near Henley on Thames. Although the rain lashed down in the morning, by the time the 10 Shanksers gathered on the 1st tee, the sun had made an appearance and the afternoon was perfect for some, even pleasant, if not necessarily good golf!

The Shanksers were competing for: the Steele Bowl Trophy, awarded to the best stableford score recorded by a player with a handicap of 24 or more; a Yellow Ball team competition; and the ultimate prize, the Steve Beckett Trophy for best, or should that be worst, shanking moment of the day.

Battle commenced at Badgemore after lunchtime refreshments and although the Shanks secretary was AWOL due to an unavoidable commitment, the Shanks captain, Peter 'Faldo' Bothwick, provided the obligatory Kit Kats for each golfer. Alan Badcock also provided more sustenance in the shape of energy bars, which would be much appreciated during the afternoon.

Either the Shanks golfers are improving (unlikely) or Badgemore Park was playing very benignly, but all three teams managed to successfully guide their yellow ball round the course. The team of Geoff Parnell, Rod Benwell, Phil Trudgeon and David Melville won bottles of wine, having recorded a yellow ball score of an impressive 70 stableford points.

The Steele Bowl Trophy was won by first time Shanker, David Melville, with a stableford score of 36, playing with a handicap, under the new handicap regulations, of 30. The highest score on the day, however, was recorded by Geoff Parnell with a stableford score of 39. David wins the trophy as Geoff has a handicap lower than 24.

The Steve Beckett Trophy, bestowed upon the player who is considered by his fellow golfers to have played the Shank of the Day, despite a considerable number of likely contenders, was awarded to Chris Godfrey. On the 7th hole Chris attempted to play his second shot with the ball in a deep divot. Despite three attempts to play a

shot, the club contacted the earth behind the ball and the golf ball, suitably unimpressed, refused to move. Luckily his fourth attempt achieved some forward motion. A worthy winner indeed.

Although unable yet to play, the Shanksers were delighted to welcome Mike Windett, who joined the players for dinner. Mike has been going through a tough time recently with heart and kidney problems. He is now thankfully through the worst of it and it is hoped he will continue to make rapid progress back to full fitness when he can, once again, start to lose golf balls on a regular basis.

It should be noted by all PICT members that several Shanksers only play the Shanks competitions and are by no means regular players. Anyone can come along and will not be embarrassed by their ability, or lack of it! The emphasis is on having a relaxing day out in a pleasant environment in good company. So please join us.

*Graham Warley*



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Steele Bowl winner, David Melville



Geoff Parnell highest score



Chris Godfrey wins the Steve Beckett Trophy

## What and why is Shanks?

Many people have asked the above question – so we have put pen to paper to let everyone know what we are about.

Way back in 2003 two past PICT Presidents – Kevin Dewey and Nick Steidl – had the vision to establish the Shanks Golf Section for like minded golfers who were not eligible for any serious golf activities and just wanted to have a day out with other hackers to enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship of paper trade chums in the fresh air.

Over a decade later we continue with those objectives by playing golf at a number of courses around London and the South East and into the Midlands; meeting around midday then wandering around the golf course and finishing with an early dinner in the evening – which of late we have managed to retain at a price of £55 for the day.

Everybody and guests are welcome, the good and the bad and those who are new or cautious about giving golf a try. You don't need an official handicap, membership of a golf club or even a set of clubs – it's all about the enthusiasm of enjoying a day of relaxation with colleagues that is the driving force. We'll find you some clubs and introduce you to other rookies so that you can get the flavour of Shanks golf. Shanks is for all genders and ages, which is another plus point.

Come and give us a whirl at one of our next Shanks Golf Days.

*Secretary – Mike Kerlogue (alias Kit Kat)*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2020

Shanks Spring Golf meeting will be held on Thursday 21st May 2020 at the Abbey Hotel and Golf Club in Redditch, Worcestershire.

Meet at noon (12.00hrs) for the obligatory bacon roll and coffee, tee off at 1pm, rounding off with an early evening dinner and prize giving.

Cost has been kept at £55 for the day. Buggies and overnight accommodation is available – let me know.

Contact Mike Kerlogue to book your place or for further information.  
E-mail: [mike@kerlogues.plus.com](mailto:mike@kerlogues.plus.com) or call 07970 148056.

## STOP PRESS

The Autumn Shanks meeting has just been announced – it will be held on Thursday 24th September 2020 at Westerham Golf Club.

It has been a very busy and fulfilling period at The Paper Trail. It has seen a record number of visitors and school trips, along with a very full order book for Frogmore paper, not to mention some well received support.

One of the problems facing schools is the lack of funds to support outings. Epson, through its Horizon Education Project, has gifted money to Apsley Paper Trail (APT) that will enable worthy schools to apply for monies to help pay for a coach to bring classes to Frogmore Paper Mill. Additionally Epson has gifted a powerful teaching aide, which includes a camera and wireless projector. This facility will allow the whole class to view at one time microscopic fibres and close-ups of various print process characteristics amongst other things.

PICT has kindly donated monies that have gone towards equipment in APT's Have-A-Go papermaking area, and the local Boxmoor Trust has gifted a new outboard motor for the Bryan Donkin visitor boat.

Other very rewarding events have occurred be it via a somewhat convoluted route! The Archive staff at Frogmore Mill were asked to verify the authenticity of a letter supposedly from the Titanic. Timothy Towers, letterpress historian and expert witness in the USA, asked if this letter was genuine. The letter had been written on Croxley Script. Within the APT archive exists a recorded list of all John Dickinson Dandy Rolls and their original production dates. As a result, Mike Stanyon, senior archivist, was able to confirm the

letter was a fake, in that the first Croxley Script Dandy Roll was manufactured in 1950, somewhat later than 1912?

Mike Stanyon himself has just retired. A surprise party was held in order to celebrate his 19 years with the APT archive. As a special thanks for all his efforts over that period his name will continue to be associated with APT. The Archive has been named the Michael Stanyon Archive.

Whilst talking of the USA, Frogmore Paper Mill received a very interesting guest. James Fenn, the great, great, great, great, great grandson of Henry Fourdrinier, came over from the USA to see at first hand where the first commercially operated Fourdrinier machine was housed.

**APT remembered.** At precisely 11am on the 11th November a number of ex-Dickinson staff joined APT personnel at the War Memorial in the grounds of the John Dickinson Cottage to remember the 362 John Dickinson employees who fell during the First and Second World War.

Sadly, not everything at APT has gone well. Due to the lack of support it was necessary to cancel the dinner (celebration of Paper) at Stationers' Hall. It is hoped to reschedule it in the New Year, but at a quieter time and possibly during the day. Watch this space.

*John Watson*



APT's archivists



Remembrance service



## 200 club

Now an established institution, the 200 Club helps raise much needed funds for PICT. The winners of the draw held at the Committee Meeting in November 2019 are as follows:

|     |      |              |
|-----|------|--------------|
| 1st | £250 | Bev Steele   |
| 2nd | £100 | Dennis Cole  |
| 3rd | £50  | Peter Finney |

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

## 2019 remembered

As this newsletter is landing on your desk in 2020, I have put together a quick round-up of PICT news and events that have happened during the earlier part of 2019.

The Annual Lunch held at the beginning of March was a successful day presided over by 'new' President Peter Bothwick. The entertainer, Daliso Chabonda, went down well and the lunch itself had attracted more members and guests – so numbers were up for the first time for a few years – which was great news for the charity.

At the earlier AGM, Peter Bothwick had announced his Vice President – Rod Benwell – who, as Peter said: "had left the paper industry, but had now slipped back into it", and it's good to see him returned to the fold.

As always – the spring and summer sporting events all went well, with all participants having an enjoyable time. And fortunately the weather held for the majority of them, which always helps.

I think, for me, the one thing I noticed most during the early part of 2019, was the sad loss of some of our well-known faces.

Alan Ward was a stalwart of the paper industry, who had worked in this industry all his life. He was also a great lover of bowls and before

his death he had been trying to reinstate PICT's bowling section.

Doug Brown passed away in May, again a paper person through and through, probably best known for working at Norske Skog – I personally knew him when Norske Skog used to sponsor the Paper Focus Awards (back in the 90s) – a lovely man.

Another great character of the paper industry, Ivan Gunn, passed away in February. Again he was a great supporter of PICT and the London Pride Society.

And finally, PICT lost one of its own, when John Garlick left us in June. Again a great paper man, John was a Life Member of PICT and most recently was the Independent Examiner for PICT's accounts. I will always remember seeing him each year at the PICT Annual Lunch and catching up with all his news and stories he had to tell over that past year. Again, a sad loss, who will be much missed.

With regards the remainder of 2019, this newsletter covers all the sporting and other events that have taken place up to the end of the year – so please do read and enjoy them.

*Margaret Curle*

## annual lunch reminder

Don't forget to make a note in your diary now and book your tickets with Anne for the PICT Annual Lunch on Friday, 27th March 2020 at the Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel.

We at PICT, all hope you will be able to join us and support this very worthwhile charitable event, while enjoying good food, fine wine and plenty of networking with friends and colleagues old and new.



This year's PICT Golf Day, held at Rothley Park Golf Club, Leicestershire, on Friday 11th October 2019, was small but beautifully put together! Unfortunately the day chosen clashed with the Birmingham Paper Makers Lunch (when did they last make paper in Birmingham?!) and it seems our industry is keener on eating and drinking than playing Golf!

However, thanks goes to the five teams of honed athletes that chose the beautiful Leicestershire countryside to compete for the PICT Trophy and enjoy some fun and some very good golf.

As always, Rothley Park was in great condition and the teams enjoyed mostly good weather until the heavens opened for the last few holes. The winning team from Devon Consulting produced a magnificent total of 90 points and a huge winning margin.

Many thanks for all the teams who took part and I'm pleased to say we raised just under £600 on the day.

I will try to ensure there are no gastronomic clashes next year and that we can get a good number of teams competing.

*Fred Haines*



The aptly named Alan Winn and his team from Devon Consulting

Unfortunately, the cricket match that had been arranged for September once again did not have enough support to go ahead and had to be cancelled. However, Mike would like to thank all of those that had agreed to play and is now hoping to get a match organised for 2020.

Just to reiterate, 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, help raise funds for PICT's good causes. Remember, guests are also welcome to join in – so why not get a few mates together and have a fun day out.

If you are interested in being part of a cricket team in 2020 or indeed, can get together a team, why not contact Mike now. We all agree it would be great to see cricket back on the PICT sporting agenda.

## cricket



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# london pride lunch

## London Pride Luncheon Club - 7th November 2019

Twenty-five of us sat down today for our ninth anniversary lunch, the ninth that is, of the Society as it is now constituted. It was in November 2010, almost to the day, that we met at the Boot & Flogger wine bar in Redcross Way, Southwark, and decided to transmogrify into a luncheon club, i.e. to become a grouping of individuals from the old London paper trade who would meet twice a year in April and November close to St George's and Armistice Day's respectively. Based on good fellowship and mutual understanding it has gone from strength to strength over the intervening years. So, next year will be our tenth anniversary with something more to celebrate. Not to be missed!

Owen Davis opened the proceedings at 1.00pm welcoming us all and said Grace. The starter of smoked salmon and trimmings was served with unstinted servings of white wine. Mike Rust stood to speak of Absent Friends, mentioning in particular John Garlick, an old friend, and a much missed staunch member, who passed away earlier this year.

The main course came in, the traditional steak and kidney pie with trimmings. During this time Mike Gee stood and toasted the Society and recited some of his own poetry. Very funny and apt to the proceedings. He also shared a ditty of his about Brexit. Clever stuff.

Next, somewhere between the main course and the cheese, John Rayner, our historian, rose and told us of Koops Paper Mill. Ever heard of it? No? Well neither had we. It was built on the River Neckinger in Bermondsey in 1826 and the business lasted for 10 years making white paper from rags and previously used writing paper, an early example of recycling, all very interesting.

The final semi-formal part of the proceedings was when Jon Worsley stood and became an auctioneer and a very effective one too. Some LPS ties from the old days still in their original cellophane outers had come to light. Who remembers cellophane? They were sold at good prices all in the space of a few minutes. Well done Jon. Just before the off, Mike Rust formally thanked Owen for all the behind the



A glimpse down the table



Owen Davis welcomes us all



Jon Worsley, auctioneer!



Mike Rust tells us expansively of absent friends and more



scenes work he does putting these lunches together. The applause was fulsome.

It took ages for the room to clear and many of us, reluctant to leave, headed down to the Kings Arms in Newcomen Street, off the eastern end of Union Street, for a couple of pints before winding our

various ways home. It was a cracking day. The next LPS Lunch at the Boot & Flogger will be on Thursday April 23rd 2020. Contact Owen Davis, Mike Rust or myself for further details. Would be good to see you.

*Bev Steele*



John Rayner gives us a bit of London history



Mike Gee recites his own poetry magnificently

## bptss annual charity lunch

**O**ur sister Society, The Birmingham Paper Trade Social Society (BPTSS) held its Annual Lunch at The Bank Restaurant in Birmingham, on Friday 11th October 2019.

The BPTSS President, Andy Buxton, welcomed nearly 90 Society members and their guests who had gathered for a splendid afternoon of plentiful cuisine, great social camaraderie, and important charity support.

After the traditional Heads and Tails game early in the proceedings, Andy Thompson kept all tables busy with his quiz, which ran throughout the lunch, and as usual proved to be highly competitive!

The BPTSS special guest for the lunch was Mike Olley, Director of Birmingham's West Side district, which incorporates the lively Broad Street area. So keen to speak to our audience was Mike that he turned up at the restaurant a week early! But once he had found the right date, Mike regaled us with stories about his tricky negotiations with Birmingham Council on behalf of his Birmingham business clients.

It was Mike's request that the BPTSS Charity support from this Lunch should go to the Royal British Legion, indeed a worthy beneficiary.

The funds raised from the auction of some quality items, together with the Heads and Tails game, plus the table raffle, will mean that a donation approaching £3,000 can be made by the BPTSS to the Royal British Legion.

The formalities closed just before 5pm, with everyone fully satisfied that they had once again enjoyed an excellent lunch, in most pleasant surroundings.

Please watch for details of the 2020 BPTSS Annual Lunch, and get involved – you will be most welcome

*Peter Bothwick*

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Printed on: GalerieArt Satin 130 gsm

Paper supplied by: Elliott Baxter & Co Ltd

Printed by: Optichrome Print & Digital

Paper Industry Charitable Trust  
(formerly Stationers' Social Society)  
Company Number: 5919035  
Charity Number: 1118232

paper industry charitable trust  
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