



Chris Swadkin – from Planning in MEGP to President of Kent County Cricket Club

In 1970 Chris Swadkin was recruited by Shell-Mex and B.P. fresh from studying Economics at University and joined the company's Brains Trust in "Marketing Economics and Group Planning". He believes his developing cricket prowess may have been a factor as one of his interviewers was the cricket nut Nigel Haygarth! In a 28-year career with SMBP and Shell Chris was a member of very cerebral teams of Planners who analysed the present and peered into the future. And all the time he was playing cricket at the highest recreational level. We look at how Chris balanced his two worlds and how in retirement his contribution to cricket in Kent has been marked by his appointment to the highest honour in the Hop County's Club. The story begins on Page 4

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Welcome

Are you missing out on the Digital revolution?

An old friend, ex SMBP and Shell, wrote to me a lovely letter recently, but in it he apologised for having “no link with modern technology (Internet, Google or Amazon) but still rely on the old telephone and snail mail systems so no email or mobile phone access”. That is his choice, of course, but I think that he is missing out and thought I’d share with you why.

A common defence is that someone is not ‘Computer literate’ and I think this is at the heart of the problem with those of our generation who eschew modern technology. They think that they are avoiding it because they don’t know about computers. If they think about it they are actually indirectly using computers every day without realising it. Every modern appliance has a computer chip in it and your car, unless it’s a pre-1980 model, is a computer on wheels. Using a smartphone or a tablet is no different.

You can have a mobile phone with minimum features and the older we get, especially if we drive, I would say a mobile is essential. Don’t break down on a country road (or a motorway) without one. But if you’re getting one pay a bit more and get a smart one. The Smartphone illustrated is a Sony and costs about £80 and then a monthly fee to the phone company of £5 to £10. Not a fortune. The phone is ‘smart’ because it has Internet access both at home and as you travel.



Let’s talk about Internet access. A smartphone or a tablet can call up via an ‘App’ (Application) whatever you need to know. The weather forecast, the latest news, the football results, a movie, a newspaper, a book - even the 44 Club News! It is literally (a) unlimited in scope and (b) very, very easy to use. Absolutely no computer knowledge required!



A Tablet is a bigger version of a smartphone without the phone (usually) so you need a WiFi signal. To have WiFi installed in your home is very straightforward and these days the costs are quite low. The one illustrated is a Kindle from Amazon but again there are hundreds to choose from – many in the range £50 - £100 depending on screen size.

So what do we use these gizmos for? I’d put the practical benefits first and top of my list would be email and online shopping. The former helps us keep in touch with friends and family (as do text messages of course) as well as those who supply us with all we need to live our lives – insurance, travel, energy supply etc. etc. The latter is a boon especially for those of us who welcome home delivery. Amazon is astonishing in its range but there are lots of other very good web-based retailers. A smartphone or Tablet can be a Radio or a TV. You can watch films or live sport on it. You can store music on it or access online streaming services like Spotify – and so on.

To many Club members what I have written here is not new – they use a smartphone or a Tablet or both every day. Each of us finds special things on the device and we are all different. I don’t play games on mine – but many do. So my plea is this. Don’t miss out. The digital revolution has progressed to the extent that we can all be part of it – even those of us who once saw the computer as the work of the devil!

Paddy Briggs



Noticeboard

Club Website

Gradually more members are visiting the website, www.44club.co.uk. If you haven't already had a look there is quite a lot to see. The most recent addition is some old cine film of Dingle Motor Club in the Memories section. If you have any photographs etc. to share please contact Elaine Ellen. Details are on the Contacts page.



Time runs out for the Company in Shell-Mex House

An email was recently sent to staff in the London offices (of Shell) as follows: *'In Q4, colleagues will leave 80 Strand and Bank Street to come together on the Southbank in our new Shell London Campus.'* The 'colleagues' referred to are employees in Shell Trading and '80 Strand' is better known as 'Shell-Mex House'! Company employees first occupied floors in Shell-Mex House when Shell-Mex and B.P. moved into their custom built new home early in 1933. There has been continuous occupancy ever since – including the

Petroleum Board years and finally a floor or two for the traders in recent times. So after 86 years it's farewell to The Strand.



Teeside Branch

Ces Tate is standing down as the organiser of Teeside Branch. The Club is very grateful to him for his years of volunteer service to the Branch. If anyone would like to take over from Ces please contact Brammer Allport (ballport@googlemail.com Tel: 0191 587 1193) or Colin Hill.

Lensbury Centenary Celebration

Unfortunately the planned 44 Club Christmas lunch on **Thursday 12th December** will not now take place.

Branch Support

Members will be encouraged by glancing through 'News from the Branches' and seeing how very active many of our Branches are. However some branches are in abeyance, not because there are no potential members but because there are no volunteers to take on Branch duties as Secretary or Chairman. We are very sympathetic to those who have given sterling service for years but who feel that the demands of this, as they get older, are too onerous. The Bournemouth & Southampton and South Wales stories show what can be done and we throw out the challenge. Do you live in an area with a Branch which is not active at the moment? Do you need help to get it up and running? Let the Secretary know, and we will help with ideas and organisation.

Eco-Friendly Packaging

Following the successful introduction for the last issue, your 44 club news has again been wrapped in a potato starch based polywrap, it can be composted, placed in a Green waste bin or Food waste caddy. Please check with your local authority if unsure.

Welcome New Members

Mr John Driver - Berkhamsted

Mr Rodney Lamb - Southampton

Mr Dennis Thomasson - Clotton Hoofield, Chester

Chris Swadkin - Shell-Mex and B.P. was an ideal place to work for a top Club cricketer – and now he's President of Kent County Cricket Club!

Chris Swadkin joined Shell-Mex and B.P. in September 1970 at the age of 22 and with a good Economics degree from York University. By the late 1960s SMBP was recruiting Graduates into the company in significant numbers and was active in the 'Milk Round' which visited universities looking for talent. Chris reckons that he was lucky in that one of his interviewers was the legendary Nigel Haygarth who was a self-confessed cricket nut. Chris had been a good School and University cricketer and was now playing for top London Club Blackheath (which he would go on to Captain the following year). There was a discussion about the relevance of cricket to building business skills – he was a shoe-in for SMBP!

MEGP

Given his academic qualification it was no surprise that Chris Swadkin's first job was in 'Marketing Economics and Group Planning' (MEGP) that uber-cerebral Division headed by Don Lindsell where his first boss was Mike McMonagle and where he worked closely with Peter Cast. Mike he describes as a 'mentor' guiding him thorough the mysteries of the world of oil and SMBP's utterly dominant position in it in Britain and helping him "mould my academic naivety into the real world of Business". 'Planning' involved the coordination of the SMBP 'planning cycle' that annual event where the planners (the men whose 'balls were made of crystal') worked with the harder-nosed marketing managers who supervised those who actually sold the products. At the more theoretical part of the exercise there was room for esoteric discussions about the extent that SMBP was an 'oligopolistic monopoly'. At the practical level the factors influencing (say) the growth of the Fuel Oil market or of the number of road vehicles in the UK were part of

the overall planning role. It was, Chris recalls, a 'pleasing work environment' smoothed along by the occasional 'Aviation meeting' – a euphemism for going to the pub!

Brand Separation

I asked Chris whether there was much of a sense of the changes that were around the corner with the OPEC led quadrupling of Oil prices not far away and the increasing exploitation of North Sea gas dramatically affecting the Energy balance and the competitive situation for SMBP. He says that there was very little of this - though the announcement in April 1971 that SMBP would 'Brand Separate' by 31st December 1975 was especially to concentrate the minds of the Planners as well as everyone else. The Planners search for sectors where there was a 'sustainable competitive advantage' became even more important.

Secondment

Before Brand Separation Chris Swadkin moved on secondment across the water to Shell Centre - he



worked in 'Marine Planning' where the challenge of the then crisis in the tanker industry needed innovative solutions. Chris's strength was in the quantitative part of the planning toolkit – he was highly numerate and Shell Marine wanted to tap into this in their tanker economics work.

A Life in Cricket

Chris Swadkin counts himself very lucky that in both SMBP and later in Shell his bosses helped him pursue his love of cricket as a player at the highest recreational level. He played football as well at Britanic House and in the five a side indoor games at Shell Centre. But cricket was his first love and the game at which he excelled. As Captain of Blackheath in 1971 he led his team to the National Club Cricket Championship – the pinnacle of the Club game. The Final was at Lord's in August and having



bowed Ealing out for 105 Blackheath won by eight wickets with Chris 55 not out at the close. He was to Captain the Club for nine seasons in total and also started playing for MCC over these years. In 1974 he made his debut for Kent 2nd XI and scored a very respectable 30 and 27 in a match Kent won by eight runs - he played a couple more times in 1975. I asked Chris if he was tempted to try and make it in First Class Cricket and he was very honest about that. There is a gap between recreational cricket and the professional game and the latter requires one hundred per cent commitment. His own judgment was that he would have struggled – far better to play at a good amateur level especially if you have a good job and a sympathetic employer!

Teams that Chris played for included, as we have seen, the MCC and Blackheath but also the Club Cricket Conference with whom he toured Australia and New Zealand in 1983 scoring 134* against Singapore on

the way home! As time passed he entered age-group cricket and has played for Kent at Over 50, Over 60 and Over 70 level! The county won the Over 60 Championship in 2016 and in the final versus Cheshire Chris took four wickets – he's on the right of the picture here. In 2018 he was in the England Over 70s team which beat Australia in an Over 70s 3 match ODI 'Silver Ashes' series (second from right front row).

Final years in Shell

Post Brand Separation Chris moved to Shell UK Oil where the Planning activity moved into the individual markets – Commercial in Chris's case. He felt that the people like him with an 'MEGP type' background had to prove themselves now they were much closer to the marketers. In Commercial David Soame, a very cerebral man, was supportive and Chris enjoyed the relationship he had with Soame's management team. But change was a constant and no organisation structure stayed in place for very long. Eventually Chris found himself in Shell UK Ltd in the David Varney era where he did some Energy economics work with strong links to the Energy and Scenario planning teams in SIPC. Energy planning was an area that Chris carried over into his retirement in 1998 after 28 years' service. He set up a consultancy advising on Energy at a time when Green and other issues were affecting Energy policy and plans. But now retired with a decent

pension it was perhaps inevitable that cricket would eventually get the upper hand – not just playing the game but helping to run it.

Management of Kent cricket

As we have seen Chris Swadkin has continued to play Club and representative cricket to this day but with a bit of time on his hands post retirement he became involved in the management of the game, mainly in his home county of Kent. He became Chairman of the 'Kent Cricket Board' which looks after the recreational game in the county and also started to do some coaching at Blackheath. He became a non-voting member of the Kent CCC committee and was responsible for ensuring the game at Club, School and other recreational levels was supported and funded. Not easy in difficult times. Chris describes himself as not being an egotist and he is certainly a modest and not boastful man either about his successful career or about his cricket successes, of which there are many. But his qualities were to his great surprise and delight recognised when he was asked to take over the Presidency of Kent CCC in 2019. He becomes the latest in a long line of distinguished hop county men honoured in the role - from Lord Harris via Robert Menzies and Jim Swanton to Colin Cowdrey and Derek Underwood. His message is that the game is bigger than the professional game we all see and many of us love. Chris is proud that, as he puts it, "A grammar school boy from South London" has made it to one of the highest honours of the game as President of a First Class county. And he couples that message with a tribute to Shell-Mex and B.P. who launched his successful business career back in 1970 and encouraged his cricket along the way! "SMBP friendships are lasting" he says. **PSB**



Mrs. 1970 and all that

By Maurice Husbands

This autumn, on the 18th September to be precise, it is the 60th anniversary of the launch of 'Mrs. 1970' by Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd, introducing domestic central heating for all. Oil fired of course, with small bore pipes, radiators in every room – a lovely warm, clean house. I am sure many of us of a certain age can still remember winters with an open fire in the living room, a simple boiler in the kitchen providing hot water, ice on the windows, the need for a hot water bottle. Then into the portable paraffin heater stage which did a lot to improve things but was not ideal. Your paraffin may have been delivered to your door via the Pink Paraffin Delivery Service introduced in 1956 but you still had to mess about with filling the heater(s). By 1957 Shell-Mex and B.P. started planning for the next stage – the domestic central heating market. It was decided, logically, that Kerosene and Agricultural Department should plan and launch the scheme and its name changed to 'Domestic and Agricultural'. Dickie Mott, the Department Manager, set about building up a small team to prepare for the launch – in the United Kingdom and in Ireland as well (see advertisement). The story in the 2013 Spring edition of the 44 Club News covered a lot of what occurred.

SMBP realised that plumbers needed to be trained to become heating engineers for the Distributors. A school was set up at the ex Shell Laboratory building in Fulham manned mainly by ex SMBP Industrial engineers. The week long course was free as was the accommodation. We then signed up the newly trained engineers as 'Appointed Installers'. Selected builders merchants were advised as to what was going on and the need to stock oil fired boilers and all the ancillary equipment and they became 'Appointed Merchants'. This

was all done with as much secrecy as possible.

Our Authorised Distributors (ADs) were heavily involved as they would be offering a Planned Payment scheme to domestic customers. That was novel at that time and we had to use a Finance House - the scheme was developed by Alan Flowers. And Planned Delivery came in as well, to help spread deliveries during the winter and take pressure off the AD depots – this was Nigel Mathias and Ray Goudie's baby. The three of them plus a few more were under



the guidance of Dennis Varney, who reported to Dickie Mott. The AD salesmen were targeted with signing up the customers on exclusive fuel agreements with SMBP and we also had to get the ADs to have sufficient tankers fitted with meters and 120 feet of hosepipe. SMBP helped the ADs with the cost of meters and hose reels fitted to new vehicles. A couple of years down the line the ADs also offered Boiler Maintenance and over time many more staff to be trained at Fulham. And then Central Storage came along – one or more large oil tanks supplying kerosene to an estate of houses each of which had an oil meter fitted. The ADs supplied the staff to read the meters and the AD's invoiced the customers.

All went well until 1973 and the Yom Kippur war. At a time when we were

MRS 1970 knows what she wants

And she knows just where to get it. Because the hard hitting advertising, which first sells her on the idea of installing Shell and BP Housewarming, also tells her of the superb service offered by her local Appointed Installer. The special Shell and BP Appointed Installer's sign is prominently featured in each advertisement to help her remember it.

There are hundreds of Mrs. 1970's. All looking for the Irish Shell and BP Limited Appointed Installer's sign - the sign which they know means prompt, efficient service. Hundreds of Mrs. 1970's - hundreds of systems to install and service. It's obviously very good business to give Mrs. 1970 what she wants!

For Central Heating



getting our heads around Brand Separation! Oil prices trebled and to add to the challenge along came North Sea gas. The rest, as they say, is history!

I don't think SMBP and especially Dickie Mott and his merry band ever got the recognition they deserved - It was a major and stunningly successful marketing initiative. There had been a vast injection of capital from the parent companies to launch the scheme and to finance it. And for the consumer it was revolutionary – affordable warmth everywhere in the house during the winter months. No more were British families huddling round an open fire or confined to one room with a Pink Paraffin stove. No more smoke and soot and no more ashes to be taken out to the dustbin. The nation's health must have been greatly improved. These days we take central heating for granted and assume that homes will have it. It didn't used to be like that did it?

I am amazed at the number of oil fired domestic boilers that there are still out there today, mainly in non-gas areas of course. The 'Fuel Distributors Association' is now the trade body for the UK and Ireland and they estimate that there are still 1.5 million domestic units out there in the British Isles. So Oil Distributors will be around for some time to come!

Birthday Thanks

77th While thanking you so much for my birthday card, may I say how much pleasure it gave me to see a letter from Alan Hall. I knew Alan for a couple of years when I was involved with the Pension Fund. At that time in the 1980s the IT folk at Wythenshawe spent at least six frustrating months trying to convince the Shell UK Board of the desperate need to invest c. £1.25m in a new computer (an IBM 370/158). At last permission was obtained and a two to three month project was launched to install it. A couple of weeks later came instructions to install a second identical computer, asap, an investment of a further £1.25m! This was to be for the purpose of Pensions investment analysis - sole use with a single user! Some weeks later I asked Alan how on earth he could justify this – how long did he think it would take to pay for it? “Oh, about a fortnight!” he said. And I bet he was as good as his word!

Tim Boddington

80th May I express my profound thanks to my fellow members of the 44 Club for the delightful card. The picture of Shell Mex House on the back brought to mind many indoctrination and training sojourns, stays at the Strand Palace Hotel and the odd sup in the Rose.

Reaching 80 years was, in a way, unexpected but even more surprising was the fact that I received more birthday cards at this tender age than ANY previous one.

Good luck to the membership and good fortune to the 44-Club Magazine.

Alan McChleary

80th I am still in good health and going well. I retired in 1994, after 24 years' service, having worked at Thame and Buncefield installations.

Gordon Lamont

80th My card from the 44 Club arrived on the very morning of my 80th. Thank you, a fine card with pictures of two very memorable landmarks - Shell-Mex House (now, sadly, referred to as '80 Strand') and the view from the Lensbury Club (now 'The Lensbury').

I look back with affection and, sometimes, wonderment to my years in SMBP, BP and, yes, Shell UK. The support I received from many quarters was amazing, particularly when moving from one job to another (in a few cases, without competitive interviews!).

Having become surplus to requirements in BP Oil in 1987, after 25 years of 'Group' service in Leeds, Manchester, Knightsbridge and Victoria, I had to wait 18 months to start drawing my Company pension. In that time, I worked outside of the oil industry but, by some quirk of fate, in 1989, I joined Shell UK, where I spent 10 very happy years. In 1990, I met Ted Trees at a 44 Club AGM and, when I told him I was working for Shell UK he said “that just can't happen”. But it did, and I have lived to tell the tale!

Derek Howcroft

(Ed: I think the triple whammy of having worked for SMBP, BP Oil and Shell UK – all for significant periods of time - may be unique Derek! Any more out there?)

82th My birthday celebration was marked by the arrival of a blue plaque at our home which you will



note from the photo lacked any reference to my work in the fossil fuel industry!

The summer edition of the Club News arrived the previous week and I read the piece on the Lensbury Club with particular interest. Sadly I ceased to be a member in 1968 when I left Shell-Mex House for the last time but I have great memories of the place. Charles Madge and I both ran for Lensbury Athletic Club in the 1950s, he as a sprinter and I as a middle distance runner. I never fulfilled my schoolboy promise over the distance as I discovered beer and the club bar prices were too tempting.

My wife and I have come to the reluctant decision that we have to come down from our hillside home as we find it increasingly difficult to manage the gradient and the maintenance of our piece of woodland. We will be moving down to central Cheltenham to a house within walking distance of the various festival events centred on the town. We are going to miss the view across the Severn Valley and the cooling summer breeze but not the snow clearance.

Jerry Barr

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BIRTHDAY THANKS

85th Many thanks for the welcome card which arrived in time for my 85th birthday. Doubly welcome, as several of my fellow members often point out, because the number of cards one receives falls steadily in proportion to the increase in one's age.

I must also comment on the remarkable coincidence of two featured items in the Spring issue of the 44 Club News. To see John Perry's face peering at me from the front cover was a blast from the past. He shared an office with me from 1962 in Real Estate Dept under John Bradley, as we laboriously and boringly plotted the progress of site acquisition cases on their way up for management approval. Much later on, after I had served my time on secondment, trying to sort out the Shell retail network in Nigeria, and thereafter enjoying interesting times in Eastern Region Retail at Watford, I found myself running City Petroleum with John simultaneously at the helm of our rival BP direct-managed chain Sealand

The story of John's battle to secure the rebranding from Shell of the Hemel Hempstead South site caused me a wry smile. For the other coincidence was the Editorial in the same magazine by John Bamberg, who was at that time Director Shell Retail, and to whom I reported. It was I who suggested to him that we negotiate hard to retain the South site as part of the City network, since there were serious operational advantages in its joint management with our site on the North side, directly opposite. Needless to say the matter was resolved at high level, but at least City did gain in return a plum BP site in Ealing.

In the same issue I noted with great sadness the death of my dear old friend Tony Pyne. When I became Market Development Manager in the Watford Region, Tony took over my Sales Area, and we remained close friends ever after. He used to convene a meeting of mostly ex Midland Region colleagues for an annual pub

lunch. Names that spring to mind were Peter Scott-Simmonds, Roy Elliott (also recently deceased), and Paul Kavanagh.

Apologies for my wordiness, but as I can't recall writing in before, I'm making up for lost time. To anyone who remembers me, not least the two Johns, greetings!

Gerry Hunting

85th Thank you for the birthday card. It is always appreciated and it is nice to see the photo of Shell-Mex House. Brings back memories of the twelve years I spent there. I can still pick out the window on the 8th floor where I spent several years in S.P. & A. Dept. Those were the days!

I am still keeping active, playing Crown green bowls a couple of times a week, my wife Pat is the team captain so I have to behave! Our best news is that we have just become great-grandparents for the first time. I wonder what products Shell will be selling by the time Rory starts work.

Brian Burggy

85th It has been a busy and memorable time for me because within a few days of my birthday I was honoured to receive the Royal Maundy from Her Majesty, The Queen, in St Georges Chapel, Windsor followed by a reception at Windsor Castle. Recipients are pensioners selected because of Christian service they have rendered to the Church and the community. I was recommended by the Bishop of Lichfield - it was through the voluntary work I had done for Lichfield Cathedral over a number of years. I was very lucky, that following my retirement from Shell I was able to spend time at the Cathedral and get involved in a number of projects. The major ones were raising over



£4m for endowing the music, being one of the team re-writing the Cathedral Statutes and serving on the Cathedral Chapter as a lay member for 9 years. It is good to be busy!

Peter Parsons

87th I don't know where all the time has gone and whilst we can no longer get around as we used to at least we have lots of happy memories and I would like to say hi to all the ex-employees at Thame Terminal. I had 14 great years.

Mary Pickering

89th I read with sadness that Mort Ramskill had passed away. Mort was an assistant golf Professional before back trouble brought him to SMBP via Power Petroleum. We met on a Study Group B course and shared the bottom of the pile there in respect of seniority. The course gathered for our first dinner at The Node. Victor Dawson QC was introduced to us - he was going to tell us about public speaking and how to lead a discussion. At the end of the meal he invited Bill Graham (Lubs Manager in Birmingham) to propose the toast - Bill asked us to be 'upstanding'. Mr Dawson hit the table with his gavel "Would you invite them to be down sitting? Just invite your guests to stand!" Good advice which I've always followed. Mort had to lead a discussion on changing to driving on the right. A course member said "This change could not be done overnight" to which Mort replied, spontaneously

and wittily, "No we would make the change in daylight".

Bryan Mayor

90th I spent my birthday in the New Forest with my son and daughter with lunch at the Mill Restaurant. I had a lovely day.

Mrs C Bangert

90th Thank you for your always interesting magazine. The happiest and most fulfilling days of my working life were with SMBP and Shell. My job as a Lubs Sales Engineer took me into many different kinds of factories from Butter and Cheese to Steel and Aluminium. I have always been interested in how things are made and the machines that make them so my job was also partly a hobby!

We had the best of times in those days before 'Health and Safety' – but then again perhaps I'm paying a price for going regularly into noisy works as I now have to wear a hearing aid! A small price to pay for all the pleasure I gained from my work.

Neil Norman

91st I visited The Lensbury in April for three nights and was delighted to see the Courtship Dance of the Great Crested Grebe on the Thames.



Peter Franklin

96th I am still pretty active although resting at the moment, having had a pacemaker fitted a short while ago. Most of my spare time is taken up at the present working with the Research Group at Calke Abbey in Derbyshire. I have been a National Trust volunteer for over thirty years, including 15 years as a Regional Speaker, 13 years running a Property newsletter and writing a short book on the house and family. The National Trust volunteering area is



one I would highly recommend. The photograph was taken at an archives display last winter.

Since the death of my wife (after 66 years of marriage) three years ago after a protracted illness I have lived alone, seeing my daughter regularly but, otherwise, paddling my own canoe.

Norman Monahan

Thanks also received from:

Tony Wilson (81), Dorothy Latham, P. Quantock, Marie Shadbolt, Stan Unwin (97), Letsy Constable (90), Terence Bowen (81), Frank Sadlier (89), John Blackmore (75), James Panayides (75), Alan Fitzgerald, Maurice Husbands, Don Davis (88), Trevor Hardy, Jean Langley (92), Ann Powell, Mike Treasure (81), Anne Barton (81), Ann Ockenden (75), Sylvia Mogg (95), Pat Maloney (89).

Your Letters

Shell-Mex House in the 1930s

I think that this photograph of the Thames Embankment in the inter-war years is of interest to all who spent many years at Head Office. I joined SMBP in Shell-Mex House in 1957 and was fortunate to have an office overlooking the river! The postcard seems to date from early in Shell-Mex

House's life – it looks very white! I also remember walking along the tram tracks visible here as a child.

Jack Scandrett



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Power Petroleum

In Club News 161 Barrie Wilson expressed sadness that there was no news of old colleagues from Power Petroleum in the magazine. His old colleague 44 Club member Roy Hennefer picked this up and wrote to him to assure him that some ex Power people were still alive and kicking!

*"Dear Barrie,
I read your letter in '44 Club News' so I thought I'd let you know that there are still some former Power Petroleum employees around.*

I joined from school as a Marketing Assistant at Bennetts Hill, Birmingham on 22nd July 1963 and finally retired

from BP Oil UK Ltd on 31st December 2002 as a National Account Manager, which I consider not a bad innings. Ernie Rayner and Geoff Spencer interviewed me and Maxie

Hinde was the Regional Manager in those far off wonderful times.

The article about Clive Moulton in the same edition rang many bells and was a little like my own experiences in progressing from the office to becoming a representative. When Bennetts Hill closed in 1965 and we departed for SMBP, Calthorpe Road, Edgbaston, I rescued various items, including a letter opener I still use, plus an ample supply of pencils. I enclose a pencil, which I hope will raise a smile. I do sometimes wonder when I retired if I was the last ex Power Petroleum employee to depart? I thoroughly enjoyed my working life and remain ever grateful to Ernie and Geoff. "

Roy Hennefer



Golden Wedding

We reach our 50th Wedding Anniversary on 20th September (see anniversaries). We are avid readers of the 44 Club News, although we do struggle with the crossword puzzle! We love the mentions of familiar names of colleagues and friends from the past. I was privileged to have had contact with offices across most of the UK including Scotland and Northern Ireland – far and wide! Yvonne and I are both well, keeping reasonably fit and active caring for each other, a dog and two horses. My 80th birthday looms in November!

Peter Russell

Archie Johnston and Mortimer Ramskill

I was sad to hear of the loss of these two fine gentlemen. Both of them, in their different ways, epitomised the SMBP character of taking a problem and turning it into an opportunity. In each of their cases, they would do this in such an optimistic (and, often, humorous) way that a 'win-win' situation was usually achieved.

I believe Mort Ramskill had been a Met police officer, a BOAC air steward, and a golf professional, before joining Power Petroleum, which furnished him with great experience of 'how to deal with people', as well as his wonderful ability to tell anecdotes and jokes.

I first met Archie Johnston (and his wife) on a long weekend trip to Rome, in 1973, organised by the 'SMBP Guildford Area Social Club', and a group of us shared a Trattoria meal. The strangest thing is that, four years later, when I was transferred to a job in Shell UK's Bothwell Street office in Glasgow, I inherited a coat stand in my office with just one wooden hanger on it. This hanger had the initials, 'ACJ'

etched on it in black biro. I knew it had been Archie's hanger. For some reason, I took it with me when I was transferred, some years later, to SUKO Manchester Regional Office. I think I intended, someday, to give it back to Archie. But it didn't happen...

Colin Jones

Memories of Lensbury, and Dingle Bank

I joined SMBP in November 1961 when I was 19 and was given the opportunity to join the Lensbury club. I played football, initially for the 5th team, but managed to progress to the 1st team after a couple of months. I learned that every Easter the football club played a tournament involving Shell clubs from Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and France – each year in a different country. Much to my surprise I was selected to play for Lensbury in Paris.

I remember vividly that trip which involved the four matches, plus accommodation at Hotel Lutetia, a dinner in an Eiffel Tower restaurant, a coach tour of Paris and an evening at the Folies Bergère. It was my first experience of flying – on a Comet, my first use of a passport, and the whole tour was paid for by the club/company. I recall players like Gerry Kearley, John Rickards and Peter Fadden from that time, and even now still can't believe how lucky I was to have had such a wonderful introduction to Lensbury Club membership.

I also played a lot of league table tennis at the great club facilities in Shell Centre, remembering the likes of Dudley Crisp, Judy Williams, Keith Glass and Harold Pearce, the latter being the TT club chairman who was able to get the great Victor Barna to join us for various coaching events there.

I was very interested in David Roberts' piece on Haydock and the references to the Dingle Bank installation. One of my early jobs in SMBP was in

Supply & Distribution, programming shipments of black and white oils to locations on the west coast, including Dingle Bank. The restricted draught on the jetty meant regular dredging, and as SMBP shared the jetty with adjacent Esso and Texaco terminals, it was necessary to co-ordinate inward shipping movements to avoid delays and demurrage. Part of my duties was to liaise with Esso, Texaco and both BP and Shell shipping departments, in producing a regular berthing bulletin for all parties. Eventually the jetty berth was abandoned for most shipping with the introduction of a deeper mid-channel Mersey Buoy berth to

facilitate larger cargoes and faster turnaround, but the berthing bulletins were still necessary. My boss in those days was Alfie Wand, and my contact at Dingle was David Whiteley.

Alan Fitzgerald,

Peter Keating

May I just correct a couple of things in the Peter Keating 'In Memoriam' in Club News 163? Peter took over as Group Terminal Manager at

Manchester Airport from Tom Parker - he moved from Heathrow where I believe he was Operations Manager. David Dungate was Manager at Birmingham Airport which was a satellite of Manchester along with East Midlands and IOM Ronaldsway Airports but Peter was never Manager at Birmingham Airport. Peter was the kindest Manager I've worked for and my move to Stanlow was made reluctantly. He will be greatly missed.

Nick Cook

Road tanker speed limits

David Roberts remembers

Now it seems incredible that in the mid 1950s, the maximum speed on all roads for all goods vehicles of over 7½ tons and including petroleum tankers, was 20 mph. Not until after years of debate in Parliament was this limit increased to 30 mph in 1957.

Doubtless there are members, especially tanker drivers, who will recall the events leading to the 30 mph limit and negotiations on SMBP's new scheduling as a result of this change. The routing of deliveries and thus the number of vehicles and drivers required, had to be based on the 20 mph limit. But everyone knew that the actual speed was well in excess of this. The question of what the drivers did with all the spare, but paid, time was glossed over. In Parliament it was accepted that the speed limit was unobserved but there was opposition to increasing it, the main thrust of the argument against raising it to 30 mph was that actual speeds would then increase to a dangerous level. That the 20 mph limit was not observed was never referred to officially and I can well remember attending a meeting at

which a senior police officer addressed a number of tanker drivers asking them whether they were satisfied that they had sufficient skill to drive tankers at the higher limit of 30 mph – straight faces all round.

John Bisiker, of Motor Department, and I took out a 2000 gallon articulated tanker with the objective of finding out whether keeping strictly to the 20 mph limit was feasible. John, driving, found it difficult to keep within this slow speed limit as the vehicle's engine was obviously not designed for it. Also, returning from High Wycombe on the A40 (there were no motorways then) we caused such a monumental traffic jam that we had to abandon the exercise as driving within this limit was clearly impractical.

Any changes to the delivery schedules had to be negotiated with the Transport and General Workers Union with the oil companies through a centralised Conciliation Committee under the chairmanship of SMBP's Sidney Colwell. The companies did not negotiate individually. In



return for accepting schedules based on a maximum 30 mph, the TGWU wanted an assurance of 'no redundancy' and 'no loss of earnings'. This caused some difficulty with Regent (predecessors of Texaco) whose Board wanted to restrict any settlement to an increase of 5/- (25p) per week. Eventually the two TGWU demands were agreed. It was estimated that the savings in transport costs, carrying the two TGWU conditions, to SMBP was £124,000 pa - £4m pa today.

Today the speed limit in England and Wales for heavy goods vehicles, outside urban and other restricted areas, is 50 mph on single carriage ways and 60 mph on dual carriage ways and motorways – but new HGVs are still fitted with a speed limit device restricting the maximum speed to 56 mph.

News from the Branches

Inverness

Contact: Keith and Mary Pickering

Coming up:

We continue to meet for coffee, chat and a raffle on the last Thursday of every month at the Kingsmill Hotel, Culcabock Rd, Inverness – we generally have 15-20 members attending. The Kingsmill is a nice venue and we are always made welcome.

Aberdeen

Contact: Graham Walker

Coming up:

Monday Events to be held in Michies coffee shop 391 Union Street Aberdeen.

Monday 7 October: 10:30 to 11:30 for a coffee morning

Monday 11 November: 10:30 to 11:30 for a coffee morning

Tuesday 10 December: Christmas lunch at the Double Tree Hotel Beach Boulevard Aberdeen. 11:30 for 12:30.

Monday 10 February 2020: 10:30 to 11:30 for a coffee morning

Monday 10 March 2020: 10:30 to 11:30 for a coffee morning

Glasgow

Contact: Elaine Ellen

Seventeen of us met up for our Summer Lunch on 21 August and enjoyed excellent food and excellent company. Amarone Restaurant in Glasgow served up a lovely lunch and



Glasgow Branch

we were so impressed that we will probably go there for our Christmas Lunch this year.

Coming up:

10 October: Maid of the Loch. David Hunter will talk about the progress being made with renovating the Maid of the Loch, Loch Lomond's paddle steamer. (Preceded by AGM)

21 November: Antiques et al. Mr Watt returns to share more of his knowledge with us.

12 December: Christmas Lunch

16 January 2020: Kamchatka – Land of Fire and Ice. Kathleen Cartwright takes us to far flung places.

20 February 2020: Family History and more. Christine Millar returns to continue her stories.

19 March 2020: The Jim Currie Quiz

Please do get in touch if you would like to join us, the more the merrier!

Belfast

Contact: Norman Mavitty

Londonderry

Contact: Mr. A.T. Hoy

Northumbria

Contact: Keith Taylor

Coming up:

Wednesday 11 December: Christmas Lunch 1200-1230 The Sea Hotel, Sea Road, South Shields NE33 2LD. Contact Keith.

West Riding

Contact: Bram Allport

Coming up:

Thursday 21st November. Christmas Lunch 1200-1230 The Queens Arms (A61) 201 Harrogate Road, Leeds. Contact Bram.

Teesside

Contact: Ces Tate

Coming up:

Thursday 5th December. Christmas Lunch 1200-1230 The Bay Horse, 88 High Street Gt. Broughton, Stokesley TS9 7HA. Contact Bram Allport,

South Yorkshire & Lincolnshire

Contact: Jim & Audrey Broughton

Coming up:

Christmas Lunch. 1200-1230 Tuesday 26th November. The Holiday Inn (A1M Junction 36) High Road, Warmsworth Doncaster South Yorkshire DN4 9UX Contact Jim & Audrey.

Manchester

Contact: Pat Withers

North West - Western

Contact: Norman Waterfall

North Midlands

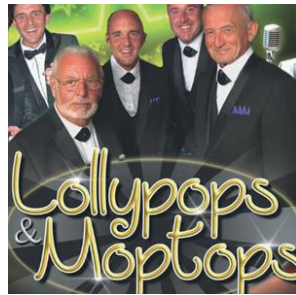
Contact: Frank or Carol Barnett

Yet again this year our group visited Bodenheim Arboretum & Earth Centre at Wolverley near Kidderminster, for a Carvery Lunch on 19th June 2019. We had thirty-two members and guests attending the lunch which was sadly not quite up to its usual standard - there was far less desserts to choose from, such a shame as these are usually mind blowing. Our weather was very good this year and we were all able to sit by the lake to enjoy the scenery and feed the fish and ducks. Some members of our group spent time looking at and purchasing plants for their garden. It is a popular venue that can get very busy and we still had to queue for the food – we are not sure if we will be returning there next year.

In July thirteen of us headed by coach to Weymouth in Dorset for a 5-day holiday. We stayed at the Crown Hotel which is at the top of the town by the Quay Side and Marina. Our driver for the week was John, one of the best drivers we have had. He

played CDs with music from our era and sang to most of them (although he did not have a singing voice!) but we all joined in anyway and the journey seemed to pass very quickly.

We had excursions to Swanage and Poole on the Tuesday - it had rained before we got to Swanage but we all managed to stay dry while we were there. It did brighten up when we reached Poole but we were very disappointed with the place - it is in need of a great deal of TLC. We also visited Dorchester and Portland Bill on the Wednesday and the weather was very kind to us with plenty of sunshine although a little windy. Our group decided to go to a show at Weymouth Pavilion - 'Lollipops & Moptops'. It was a great night out covering 50s & 60s music with



The Dreamers - Alan Mosca is the only remaining original member of Freddie and the Dreamers, The Temple Brothers (The 'Everly' Brothers) and Buddy Walker (Buddy Holly). If you have the chance to see this show, it is well worth it.

On free day, Thursday, the weather turned out to be wonderful with everyone doing their own thing. The beach was crowded and there were many paddle boats on the sea, it was a pleasure to see and everyone had a great holiday.

What can we say about our Bowls on Wednesday 14th August 2019 other than it was a washout! Most of the morning it had been raining very heavily, which left the bowling green at Cookley in pools of water. What a disappointment! There were more showers during the afternoon, but we were unable to play. We did however have our raffle with our Chairman giving his usual chit chat

to the group while calling out the winning numbers. One saving grace was the wonderful carvery lunch at The Island Pool which was attended by 31 members and guests. Everyone commented that this lunch was better than ever so it was not a wasted day!

South Midlands

Contact: Malcolm Bury

In late May we held a most enjoyable pub lunch at The Greyhound, Wigginton just outside Tring. This was a new venue for us and Brian Lovell did an excellent job organising a special 44 Club menu which provided something for everyone. The Greyhound staff responded with some fine pub food and excellent service and we shall certainly plan to return there at some time during next year's programme. More than thirty members supported the lunch and it was good to welcome back Ron and Jackie Spalding to one of our events after a considerable absence.

For our early July lunch we returned again to The Oak in Aston Clinton for a summer barbecue and once more we were able to enjoy some fine weather. Just over thirty members enjoyed The Oak's usual excellent food and our thanks are again due to Malcolm Bury for his efficient organisation and to the staff at the Oak for catering so well for our party. We were also very pleased to be joined by a good contingent of former BPA staff, including John Eaton, John Driver and Tony Williams. Although some have been 44 Club Members for a long time, we



North Midlands Branch



South Midlands Branch

continued on page 14

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

are also happy to report some new BPA recruits to our Branch.

There will be two further Branch events in 2019 and these are listed below. Our last pub lunch of the year will be held on 9th October at The Black Horse Inn, Chesham Vale which we are visiting for the first time. Then we shall complete the year with our annual Christmas lunch and AGM on Friday 13th December which will be held, as usual, at Berkhamsted Golf Club. This is always the highlight of our Branch year and we look forward to another successful reunion of many old friends and colleagues.

Coming up:

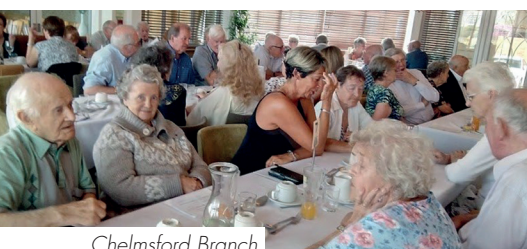
9 October: 12.00 noon onwards.
Pub lunch at The Black Horse Inn, Chesham Vale, Chesham HP5 3NS. Full details will be circulated beforehand. Contact Brian Lovell

13 December: from 11.30am onwards. Christmas lunch followed by our AGM at Berkhamsted Golf Club, The Common, Berkhamsted HP4 2QB. A separate circular and booking form will be sent to all active members. Contact Malcolm (as above) for further information.

Chelmsford

Contact: Tony Scott-Russell

Fifty-seven members and guests enjoyed our traditional summer lunch at the Oysterfleet Hotel, Canvey Island on 24th June. The food and service were of the usual high standard and the good weather and pleasant environment added to the success of the occasion. We hope to return there next year.



Chelmsford Branch

Coming up:

30 October: Autumn lunch at Orsett Hall, Orsett RM16 3HS

18th December: Christmas lunch and raffle at Langdon Hills Golf Club, Bulphan RM14 3TY

Ipswich

Contact: Tony Grayston

Or Contact: David Cattermole

On a beautiful sunny day, 46 members and guests gathered at Rushmere Golf Club on 25th June to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the formation of the Ipswich Branch. We were delighted to welcome the National Association secretary Colin Hill along with representations from



Ipswich Branch

both Chelmsford and King's Lynn branches. Although no original members were with us today we did have 104 year old Mary Green in attendance who assured us that she had only missed one or two of the original functions.

The wonderful buffet on hand was just perfect for the occasion and was



a fitting choice seeing as the very first function in 1979 consisted of a ploughman's lunch costing a princely sum of seven shillings and sixpence. As an added extra one of our members, Margaret Payne presented the club with a beautifully decorated cake for the occasion.

Coming up:

Tuesday 24 September: Autumn lunch at Bramford Golf Centre, Loraine Way, Bramford. Suffolk. IP8 4JS. Meet from noon for 1pm.

Tuesday 3 December: Christmas lunch at Rushmere Golf Club followed by the annual Grand Christmas raffle. Meet from noon for 12.45pm.

King's Lynn

Contact: Tom Cannon

A smaller group of 19 members and guests enjoyed another excellent lunch at the Foldgate Inn, Stradsett on 4 July. It included some guests and friends of members who helped to swell the numbers and included some daughters who also enjoyed the lunch and meeting some of our senior members. Unfortunately, none of our distant colleagues were able to come on this occasion owing to prior engagements. Members bringing guests seems a good way of maintaining a good sized group and providing some new talking points!?



Kings Lynn Branch

It was agreed to return to the Foldgate Inn for our final lunch of the year on 31 October.

South Wales

Contact: Viv Perry

<https://www.44club.co.uk/south-wales.html>

Greater Bristol

Contact: Roger Gamlin

Our summer event took place on Thursday, July 4th 2019 - a return

visit to 'The Woodford', a restaurant built on the banks of the beautiful Chew Valley Lake, just outside the village of Chew Stoke, a few miles south of Bristol. Our Chairman and Event Organiser, Roger Gamlin, arranged another glorious day for us. We met for coffee at 11:30 and sat outside admiring the views and reminiscing as you do at these events. We were delighted to welcome Geoff, and Jen Smith who were passing through on their way back to Cornwall. Geoff is the new South West Regional Coordinator in the BP Pensioners Society and came to say hello. We hope to see more of him and Jen in the future. We were also delighted to welcome Pat and Ruth Moxey who travelled up from Bridgewater, their first visit to one of our events. Twenty-seven of us sat down inside the restaurant having chosen food from a very varied menu. The meals were excellent and very well presented. Service was great. Roger was warmly thanked for his efforts.

Bournemouth and Southampton

Contact: Tony Reeve-Parker

Coming up:

Wednesday 11 December: Christmas Lunch with Christmas Draw, has been booked at the Carpenters Arms in Bransgore.

South East

Contact: Charles Richards

Branch in abeyance

London West & Surrey

Branch in abeyance

Harrow

Contact: Greta Chandler,

Coming up:

Harrow Branch: Thursday, 22nd November. Lunch 12.30 p.m. Miller & Carter (Leefe Robinson V.C.) Brockhurst Corner, Uxbridge Rd. Harrow, HA3 6DL (020 8954 6781). Plenty of parking available. Please advise Greta Chandler,

Wedding Anniversaries

72 years*

Jean and Tony Langley

12th July 2019

** There appears not to be a special gem or precious metal for 72 Years but we couldn't let it pass without expressing our congratulations – and awe!*

Diamond

John and Angela Swan

15th August 2019

Golden

Yvonne and Peter Russell

20th September 2019



John and Angela Swan



Paddy and Ann Briggs

Paddy and Ann Briggs

30th September 2019

In Memoriam

John Fulcher

Mike Howard writes: John was a great friend of mine for 80 years. We both joined a Wimbledon Scout Group in 1938/9 as cubs and followed one another ever since. I joined Shell-Mex and BP in 1949 and John in 1950 at London Division in No 1 Kingsway. Following his National Service in the Army he had several jobs in various London area offices and then moved to the Domestic Market in Shell-Mex House. Our decision to purchase an old London taxi in 1954 (for £25 and named "HOWORFUL") was well publicised and proved very profitable during the 1955 rail strike. Shell



John Fulcher

kindly reimbursed us for bringing some employees into Shell Mex House (including Charlie Amphlett and Roy Cole) and made good parking arrangements for us. John continued his association with the army and joined the TA, which included many duties at the annual Royal Tournament and gained several service awards.

Both John and I married young ladies from London Division and the SMBP Halford Memorial sporting events were a great opportunity to socialise. Lensbury Club became our home for sport and John joined the football section and also excelled at athletics. His timeshare purchase in Tenerife was a great success and being elected to the committee gave him many free trips to the island - not to mention the benefit of duty free cigarettes, sadly his final undoing. His last job was a transfer to Emstar under Dick Tinson. I hear he bought a greyhound and several visits to Wimbledon saw it win – sometimes! John's talent for

gambling included being a Theatre Angel for some successful London West End shows!

The funeral in Bedfordshire organised by his widow Betty was well supported by his family and friends, plus some Army colleagues. As a dedicated smoker his biggest achievement was probably to reach 84.

Nigel Penny

Nigel Penny joined Shell-Mex and B.P. in 1969 and had a successful career in Finance both in SMBP and later in Shell where he reached senior management before retiring in 2003. Subsequently he worked voluntarily for among other organisations the South East Coast Ambulance Service and the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham of which he was Chairman. He was active in the Shell Pensioners Association and was Chairman of the West Surrey Branch for four years and continued by being Hon. Auditor of the Branch. Nigel was also Hon. Auditor of The Shell Pensioners Benevolent Association for many years. **Paddy Briggs** adds: "I knew Nigel in SMBP and later over the years our Business worlds in Shell interfaced from time to time. I recall an issue when I was in Hong Kong and he was a senior Finance man in Singapore. He was supportive of a rather 'innovative' (!) approach to

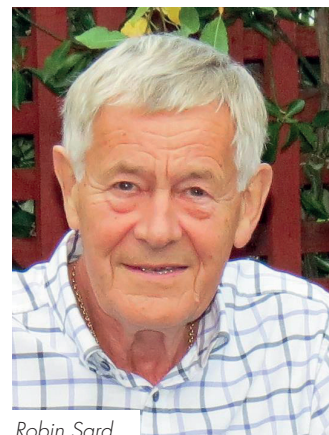


Nigel Penny

Retail performance measurement we were exploring in Shell Hong Kong – he was not the conventional Finance suit!"

Robin Sard

Robin Sard died in May having suffered a devastating stroke a week earlier. In his early life he served in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary as an Engineer Officer before joining SMBP as a Domestic Heating Householder Representative in 1966. He was later a Group Commercial Rep. working out of the Maidstone Office and an Industrial Fuels Rep. in South East Region which is where he met Alex Murray-Trimmer, Douglas Booth's secretary in Knightsbridge. They were married in 1975. Robin retired from Shell in 1990 and was later a PLR for ten years as well as being active in the Royal Naval Reserve. Robin and Alex were keen sailors and made their home in Portsmouth. We extend our sympathies to Alex and to all Robin and Alex's friends and family.



Robin Sard

Obituaries

We regret to report the deaths of the following members. Our condolences are sent to their families, friends and past colleagues.

ARTIS (85). Mr Leonard Artis of King's Lynn died on 4th June 2019. He was a Driver at King's Lynn when he left group service in 1982 after 32 years.

BATEMAN (87). Mr Raymond Bateman of Bristol died on 13th May 2019. He was a Driver at Avonmouth when he left group service in 1981 after 33 years.

BLANTERN (84). Mr Stanley Blantern of Sheffield has died. He worked as a Router at Ecclesfield, Sheffield when he left group service in 1979 after 19 years.

BUTTERWORTH (89). Mrs Thelma Butterworth of Retford died on 15th March 2019. She was the wife of the late Derek Butterfield, once a Cashier at Leeds Terminal.

CAREY (97). Mrs Alice Carey of Leighton Buzzard died on 16th June 2019. She was the wife of the late Richard Carey who once worked in Lubricants Department at Birmingham.

CHINNERY (89). Mr Derek Chinnery of Corringham died on 30th June 2019. He was a Driver at Shell Haven when he left group service in 1981 after 30 years.

COOPER (81). Mr Paul Cooper of Lymm died on 8th August 2019. He was a Marketing Assistant, Lubricants Marketing Centre, SUKO, Oxford Road, Manchester when he left group service in 1989 after 29 years.

COPPING (82). Mr Dennis Copping of Tunbridge Wells died on 11th June 2019. He was Budget Controller at Shell-Mex House when he left group service in 1984 after 27 years.

CRONK (85). Mr William Cronk of Tadley died on 24th July 2019. He was a Driver at Wandsworth when he left group service in 1987 after 31 years.

DAVIES (83). Mr Ronald Davies of Stanford-le-Hope died on 26th May 2019. He was a Driver at Shell Haven when he left group service in 1992 after 26 years.

FAIRBAIRN (75). Mr Roy Fairbairn of Sutton died on 3rd June 2019. He was a Driver at Wandsworth Terminal when he left group service in 1976 after 15 years.

FERNIE (92). Mr Kenneth Fernie of Rugby died on 11th May 2019. He was an LPG Sales Engineer, Midlands, when he left group service in 1984 after 24 years.

FULCHER (84). Mr John Fulcher of Bedford died on 8th July 2019. He was Administration Manager, Emstar, Staines when he left group service in 1984 after 32 years.

GEORGE (93). Mrs Hazel George of Willagee, Western Australia died on 19th April 2019. She was Sub Section Head, Accounts Payable, Shell-Mex House when she left group service in 1976 after 17 years.

GILFORD (86). Mr Raymond Gilford of Falkirk died on 2nd April 2019. He was a Driver at Grangemouth when he left group service in 1993 after 26 years.

GOOD (83). Mr David Good of Southampton died in March 2019. He was a Driver at Hamble when he left group service in 1987 after 11 years.

GRASMEDER (87). Mr Roy Grasmeder of Christchurch died on 7th July 2019. He worked in Estates Department, Shell-Mex House when he left group service in 1952 after 4 years.

GUNNELL (81). Mr Keith Gunnell of Stapleford, Cambs. died on 23rd May 2019. He was a Driver at Royston when he left group service in 1977 after 18 years.

HAYWOOD (90). Mrs Jean Haywood of Liskeard died in July 2018. She was a Secretary in Shell-Mex House when she left group service in 1984 after 7 years.

HUNT (75). Mr Peter Hunt of Colchester died on 1st March 2019. He was Manager, Office Systems, Shell-Mex House when he left group service in 1989 after 27 years.

IRONMONGER (92). Mr Samuel Ironmonger of Kirkcudbright died on 28th May 2019. He was a Driver at Kirkcudbright when he left group service after 26 years.

JONES (90). Mr Aldwyn Jones of Bridgend died on 26th April 2019. He was an LPG Representative based at Watford when he left group service in 1983 after 14 years.

KING (98). Mrs Dorothy King of Ashford, Kent has died. She was the wife of the late Mr George King, once a Motor Inspector attached to BP Victoria.

LEEDER (86). Mr Terence Leeder of Norwich died on 8th June 2019. He was Senior Operations Assistant at King's Lynn Terminal when he left group service in 1977 after 22 years.

continued on page 18

LIVINGSTONE (75). Mr Buchanan (Sandy) Livingstone of Haslemere died on 8th July 2019. He worked in Public Affairs, Shell UK, Shell-Mex House when he left group service in 1994 after 30 years.

LOUCH (75). Mr Bob Louch of Waterlooville died in July 2019. He was a Driver at Fulham when he left group service in 1983 after 9 years.

MACDONALD (81). Mr James MacDonald of Grimsby died on 8th May 2019. He was a Driver at Killingholme when he left group service in 1975 after 11 years.

McLAREN (81). Mr Donald McLaren of Inverness died on 14th June 2019. He was a Driver at Inverness Terminal when he left group service in 1995 after 23 years.

MELROSE (88). Mr Peter Melrose of Ammanford died on 10th June 2019. He was Manager, Manpower Resources, BP Oil Ltd (Victoria) when he left group service in 1984 after 29 years.

MOODY (86). Mr Kenneth Moody of Doncaster died on 1st June 2019. He was a Driver at Torksey when he left group service in 1988 after 21 years.

PARSONS (72). Mrs Margaret Parsons of Guildford died on 11th June 2019. She was Human Resources Adviser, Shell UK, Shell-Mex House when she left group service in 1999.

PENNY (71). Mr Nigel Penny of Liphook died on 23rd July 2019. He was Assistant Group Treasurer, Shell Centre when he left group service in 2003 after 33 years.

SAMUEL (89). Mr Peter Samuel of Tenby died on 17th May 2019. He worked in Domestic Markets, Shell-Mex House when he left group service in 1977 after 21 years.

SARD (79). Mr Robin Sard of Portsmouth died on 30th May 2019. He was Commercial Sales Manager (CSD), Watford when he left group service in 1990 after 24 years.

SEWELL (94). Mr Leslie Sewell of Bridport died on 1st May 2019. He was a Driver when he left group service in 1980 after 30 years.

SMITH (77). Mr Geoffrey Smith of Berwick Upon Tweed died on 12th June 2019. He was a Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor at Grangemouth Terminal when he left group service in 1992 after 24 years.

SULLIVAN (92). Mr (Jeremiah Alfred) Graham Sullivan of Bodmin died on 12th May 2019. He worked in Lubricants Division, Retail Market, Watford & Norbury when he left group service in 1987 after 33 years.

TUFNELL (97). Mr John Tufnell of Oxted died on 1st May 2019. He was a Senior Electrical Engineer, Distribution/Plant, Shell-Mex House when he left group service in 1981 after 16 years.

TREMLETT (83). Mr Michael Tremlett of Norwich has died. He was a Senior Airfield Operator, BP Oil UK Ltd, Stansted Airport when he left group service in 1991 after 27 years.

WALKER (97). Mr Harold ('Johnnie') Walker of Herne Bay died on 14th June 2019. He was a Disbursement Auditor, Shell Exploration & Production, London, when he left group service in 1981 after 17 years.

WARD (89). Mr Harry Ward of Stoke-on-Trent died on 9th June 2019. He was a Driver at Uttoxeter when he left group service in 1981 after 31 years.

WESTBROOK (75). Miss Margaret Westbrook of Polegate died on 21st April 2019. She worked in Shell UK Administrative Services, Shell-Mex House when she left group service in 1988 after 18 years.

WHITE (91). Mr Frank White of Gravesend died on 27th April 2019. He was a Driver at Northfleet when he left group service in 1982 after 26 years.

SPP UPDATE



THE SHELL PENSIONER PROGRAMME

The Shell Pensioner Programme is a Shell sponsored and funded service that is free of charge to SPA members in receipt of a SCPF or SOCPF Pension.

It provides a range of services to pensioners including:

- Support and guidance to find solutions to problems they are facing
- Reassurance and help to put pensioners' minds at ease
- Facilitating access to benevolence assistance from the Shell Pensioners Benevolent Association.

Pensioners in need of support can call the Shell Pensioner Programme Helpline on:

0345 850 8944

CASE STUDY

Pensioner G lives with his wife in the Manchester area. He suffers with severe Parkinson's disease, his mobility is extremely restricted and he has great difficulty getting in and out of the bath.

G approached SPP for help to access benevolence from the SPBA to convert his bathroom into a walk-in shower. SPP supported G to put forward his request to the SPBA, which was agreed. The bathroom was converted to meet G's needs, and he was delighted with the support provided.



A SMALL EVENT CAN
MAKE A BIG CHANGE
TO YOUR LIFE, SO
NEVER LEAVE YOURSELF
WONDERING WHETHER
WE CAN HELP YOU.

IF YOU'RE NOT SURE,
CALL US ON

0345 850 8944

SUCCESS STORIES SINCE THE SHELL PENSIONER PROGRAMME BEGAN

Support of applications for SPBA financial assistance to pay for walk in showers, stair lifts, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.



Help to access local community support, such as Citizens Advice Bureau, Age UK, Dementia UK and advocacy services.



**citizens
advice**



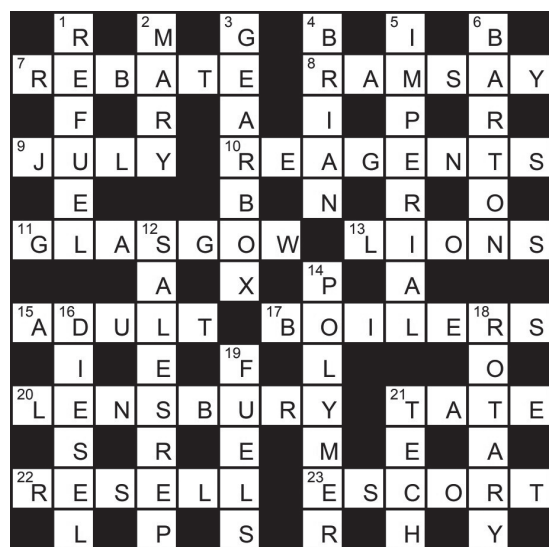
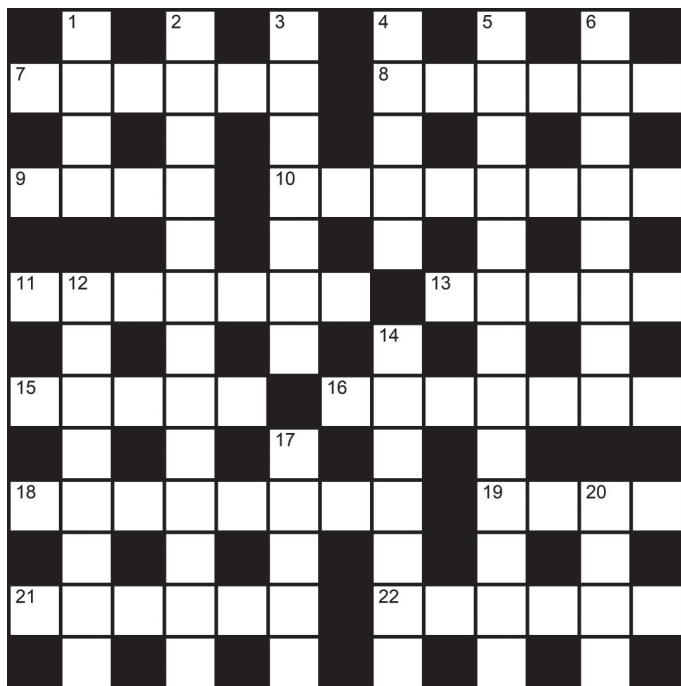
and Finally ...

Quotable Quote

Watering holes: "... a select group in Central Lubricants patronised the downstairs bar in Simpsons... we even introduced a lady, Rosemary Roome, into these sacred male portals"

Tony Page 'A History of Shell-Mex and B.P. Limited'

Prize Crossword



Across

- 7 Middle distillate fuel for a boiler (3,3)
- 8 Heat again (6)
- 9 Chris Swadkin's first Department (4)
- 10 Temperature below which water droplets begin to condense (3,5)
- 11 _____ and Old Lace (Movie) (7)
- 13 The big day at Epsom (5)
- 15 Store something in a hidden place (5)
- 16 'Product Information' was one of many (7)
- 18 David Roberts took a tanker on a _____ to check on speed limits (4,4)
- 19 John and Angela _____ Diamond Anniversary (4)
- 21 Oily, _____, Oiliest (6)
- 22 What you'd get if you mixed Shell's colours (6)

Down

- 1 Standing down after years of service to Teeside Branch (4)
- 2 Offered at petrol station to keep tyres inflated (10,3)
- 3 Brand name of a Pink kerosene (7)
- 4 A cocktail you eat not drink (5)
- 5 Pancake day (6,7)
- 6 The pachyderms helped him (8)
- 12 Fit a new design to an existing petrol station (8)
- 14 SMBP's major Lubricants competitor (7)
- 17 Mr Hunting celebrates his 85th (5)
- 20 Ship on which Jason sailed to find the Golden Fleece (4)

Last Issue's Crossword

Eleven all correct entries for last issue's crossword. Our vintage LEO selected Herbert Baseley of Bristol as the winner, thus proving that even if you've won before you can win again! Usual 'over-the-top' prize on its way to you Herbert.

Closing date for next issue
10th November 2019