

KierLink

The magazine for the Kier Fellowship Trust | Issue 38 | Spring/Summer 2019



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Neil Meixner

Chairman’s matters and Administrator’s report

It is always great to see so many of you out and about enjoying yourselves at the many events organised in your area and nationally. Last year there was some tremendous work done by your area organisers and their committees/helpers to provide a multitude of different things to see, do and eat. They organised 92 events with 2,511 attendees (compared to 101 and 2,850 respectively in 2017). Well done to all who make the Fellowship work! Of course, your local organisers could always do with more assistance so if you feel you can help please do get in touch with your area organiser. Here is the link to their contact details <http://www.fellowship.kier.co.uk/contact/>

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Norman Elliott to the Kier Group Fellowship Trust Board. Norman, who has recently retired from Kier will bring a fresh perspective and renewed vigour to the Board. We all look forward to working with him.

Please do use the website for the Fellowship at: www.fellowship.kier.co.uk The site includes a home page, membership invitation page, calendar of events, contacts page, blog, gallery of photographs from events and even all the back copies of KierLink. Do have a look around! You can add event reports and photographs by sending them to Andrea McDaid at: kierfellowship@gmail.com

Interest in the Trust remains strong with new members joining from most divisions of the company with membership currently standing at 1,342 compared with 1,331 this time last year.

We have received some excellent articles for inclusion in this KierLink magazine but as always we are seeking interesting articles for future editions. If you have been on a special holiday or have an unusual hobby, or perhaps remember previous iconic Kier projects, please contact any member of the editorial team namely, Andrea McDaid, Neil Meixner or



Brendan O’Boyle

Brendan O’Boyle and we will be pleased to assist you (email address: kierlinkmag@gmail.com)

As you meet ex-Kier employees during the year it is worth checking that they have applied to be members. It’s FREE (the application form is available online at <http://www.fellowship.kier.co.uk/joining-us/>). You might like to remind them that all members can join the Kier Rewards Scheme by contacting their area organiser or Brendan O’Boyle with their full name, date of birth, email address and National Insurance number so that central Trust records can be updated first. The information will then be passed to the Rewards Team on the 1st of each month for loading live on the system.

Please make sure that our records are current by giving us your up to date address (it is helpful to have your telephone number and email as well) so that you can continue to receive invitations to events and copies of KierLink magazine.

If you require help or information with any matters relating to the Kier Group Fellowship Trust please contact Brendan O’Boyle by the email address below:

brendan.o'boyle.ext@kier.co.uk

Regards Neil & Brendan

Editor’s note

“Happy New Year to you all! I hope you enjoyed the festive season albeit it seems a long way away now.”

Welcome to our new members. I hope you will delight in the events organised for this year.

We have a wonderful piece of nostalgia... thanks to Ray Plassard sending in our feature article on the history of William Moss & Sons Ltd. And you will be ‘shocked and stunned’ at our ‘Trust’s got talent’ article! It just goes to show you’re never too old!

I hope you all enjoy reading issue 38 and thanks once again for all your contributions.

Best wishes, Andrea



Andrea McDaid

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COVER PHOTO L-R: GRAHAM WILLOUGHBY, ROGER OSGOOD, DEREK WARD, CHRIS TOSEN AND TERRY MUNRO BY HMS VICTORY, PORTSMOUTH HISTORIC DOCKYARD



Copy deadline for Autumn/Winter 2019 issue:

**THURSDAY
15 AUGUST**

Email kierlinkmag@gmail.com

Message from the Chief Operating Officer

Welcome to the Spring edition of KierLink. I'm Claudio Veritiero, Chief Operating Officer for Kier Group. Many of you may have read about some of the recent developments at Kier.

With a change in sentiment from the credit markets towards the construction sector, we launched a rights issue last November in order to raise capital that will allow us to reduce our debt more quickly and strengthen our balance sheet. Although the rights issue had limited take-up from our shareholders, it was fully underwritten by the banks and we were successful in raising the necessary funds. With the rights issue completed, the Board felt that

we needed a new leader to take Kier forward. In January, we saw the departure of our Chief Executive, Haydn Mursell. Our Chairman, Philip Cox, has stepped up as Executive Chairman while we undertake the search for a new Chief Executive.

Our share price has inevitably been affected by the rights issue and a number of other factors, including the collapse of Carillion. Brexit uncertainty also continues to create market volatility. We remain focused on what we can directly control – our high-quality delivery to clients and customers.

The market conditions may look challenging, but our own trading remains positive. Our trading update issued in January showed that we have a strong underlying business, a buoyant order book worth £10bn,

and, after the rights issue, one of the strongest balance sheets in the sector, which critically allows us to continue to bid for public and private sector contracts.

We continue to deliver high-quality work – we've secured a number of new contracts in the last quarter, including regional building contracts worth over £600m and utility services contracts worth £300m, among others.

We look forward to updating our investors on our latest progress in March.

"Thank you as always for your continued support and interest in Kier."
Claudio Veritiero

A warm welcome to the following new members

Name	City/town	Area	Worked for	Years of service
Carol Abbott	Harlow, Essex	Loughton/Witham	Kier London/Major Projects	15
Keith Blowers	Swaffham, Norfolk	Waterbeach	Kier Eastern	12
Neil Bridge	Chester-le-Street, Durham	Tempsford	Kier Major Projects	43
Alexander Brownlow	Wellington, Somerset	Plymouth	Kier Waterways	20
Nigel Burrows	Woking, Surrey	Maple Cross	Kier Southern	43
Malcolm Burton	Colchester, Essex	Loughton/Witham	Kier Eastern/London/International	45
John Claydon	Costessey, Norwich	Waterbeach	Kier Construction	43
Lyndon Davison	Alloway, Ayrshire	Tempsford/Scotland	Kier Mining/Minerals	29
Denise Geering	Rainham, Gillingham	Maidstone	Kier Southern	3
Jason Giblett	Melton Mowbray, Leics	Rushden	Kier Eastern/Central	14
Peter Johnson	Oakham, Rutland	Waterbeach	Kier Construction/International	38
Rowena Johnson	Somersham, Cambs	Waterbeach	Kier Living	23
James Kay	Naseby, Northants	Rushden	Kier Marriott	13
Rachel Kerr	Coventry, West Midlands	Central	Kier Construction Central	11
Michael Leahy	Leeds, West Yorkshire	Leeds	Kier Construction Northern	35
Graham Littlejohn	Cheltenham, Glos	Central	Kier Central	17
Greig Marshall	Rushden, Northants	Rushden	Kier Group/Marriott	19
Diane Mealing	Bristol, Glos	Bristol/Newport	Kier Western	17
Terence Munro	Hayling Island, Hampshire	Solent	Kier Construction Southern	15
Elizabeth Parlett	Wisbech, Cambs	Waterbeach	Kier Construction Eastern	8
Judy Roach	Blunham, Beds	Tempsford	Kier Workplace Services	18
Barry Sadler	Billericay, Essex	Loughton/Witham	Kier London	30
Sailesh Shah	Milton Keynes, Bucks	Tempsford	Kier Ltd	3
Jo Shea	Basingstoke, Hampshire	Solent	Kier Workplace Services	1
Thomas Smith	Bishop Auckland, Co Durham	Tempsford	Kier Mining/Minerals	9
Andrew Taylor	Cambridge, Cambs	Tempsford	Kier Construction	12
Andrea Wood	Olney, Bucks	Rushden	Kier Integrated Services	6

Around the regions



Bristol and Newport



The Piercefield Inn

Our successful Summer programme concluded with an additional meal at the Piercefield Inn at St. Arvans, near Chepstow. This was a new event and venue for us. Following the meal, a number of members enjoyed a short, guided tour of the nearby listed St. Arvans Church by their area organiser,



St. Arvans Church

David, who was a Churchwarden of this ancient church. It is the only one dedicated to the Celtic Saint Arvan, believed to be a hermit who fished for salmon using a coracle on the nearby River Wye. David's 'retirement' from Kier commenced by him being the chief fundraiser and then project manager for the £250K new roof. As a former design & build manager, he was well placed to keep the church architect and contractor on a tight rein, all resulting in an excellent new slate roof to the church. The unusual pyramid-shaped octagonal stone roof to the tower was also re-roofed at the same time.

We had to change venue for our Autumn meal in October, where we have held meals for several years, due to management changes. Our chosen new location, the Old Barn at Llanmartin, near Newport, was much enjoyed by all, including Sue who valiantly arrived in a wheelchair despite a broken ankle. We chose to ignore the Old Barn's fairly near proximity to a new crematorium!

We are delighted that the high tolls on the bridges crossing the wide tidal River Severn, which divides our spread-out area, were removed just prior to Christmas. We are hopeful this will



The old Barn Inn



make arranging future events easier and lead to even more participation.

Our 2019 programme will commence with a visit to the British Aerospace Museum at Filton. We were able to have an early site visit to Concorde there last year just after it had been positioned in the new Kier-built hangar, and we look forward to returning to what is understood to be an excellent exhibition showing a wide range of items ranging from a horse-drawn carriage right through to guided missiles.

David Priddis

Central

Worcester Country Park: 22 August 2018

Twenty members gathered at Worcester Country Park where John Turner had arranged a BBQ and treasure hunt. It was a lovely sunny day and after a coffee in the cafe we set off to look for the treasure hunt clues around the park. It was an interesting walk and we managed to discover most of the answers. While we were enjoying our walk, John and Wendy were working hard back at base cooking marvellous sausages and beef burgers. We all enjoyed a delicious lunch, after which John's suggestion of playing walking rounders was declined as we were all well fed and happy to enjoy the sunshine and chat. The winners of the treasure hunt were declared as Jo and Jacky Taylor.

Sarehole Mill, Birmingham: 13 September 2018

Our Autumn/Winter programme began with a visit to the suburbs of Birmingham, the highlight being Sarehole Mill. We were introduced to the mill by an experienced guide from the Birmingham Museum Trust. The Mill was built 250 years ago and in its time was used to grind wheat, bones and flatten metal into sheets.



Sarehole Mill



Moseley Bog boarded walk members

The renowned engineer, Matthew Boulton, owned the mill for some time, but it is better known for its connection with J.R.R. Tolkien who used it as a playground and lived across the road. On completion of our visit to the mill we retired to a local pub which had been successfully converted to an Indian restaurant. The food was exceptional, which you would expect for the 'Balti capital of Britain'.

After the meal we rounded off the day with a boarded walk around 'Moseley Bog', another adventure playground for Tolkien. This wood is normally very wet but due to the dry Summer there was no sign of the bog. When we had completed the walk, we thanked our organiser Paul Tucker for arranging a successful event.

Gloucester Bus Station: 19 September 2018

Sixteen members paid a visit to one of Kier Central's current local sites, the new Gloucester Bus Station. We were greeted by the site team, led by contracts manager Paul Fowles, and marketing manager Anthony Wheatley. The station impressed us all and there were some amongst us who enjoyed getting back into the 'hard hats' and 'yellow jackets'.

Historical tour, Gloucester: 9 October 2018

Sixteen of us joined Denis Wood (one of our members) on this historical tour. Denis lives in Gloucester and had researched details of the many historical buildings and events that have taken place in the city. Denis did a brilliant job ably supported

by some of our local members who had worked on sites that we passed and were able to relate tales of their experiences.



Gloucester Bus Station



Wadsworth's Brewery

their old work colleagues. Ben Ramsay and Alan Wooldridge (current Central region directors) were also able to join us and enjoyed catching up with some old colleagues. After lunch Ben kindly gave us an interesting insight into events in the local company in the last year. Everyone had a very enjoyable time which continued, for some, in the bar afterwards.

Sheila Heath



Christmas lunch

Wadsworth's Brewery: 20 November 2018

Fifteen members met at Wadsworth's Brewery in Devizes and enjoyed a very interesting tour around the brewery including a visit to the stables to see the beautiful Shire horses who still deliver beer to the local pubs on a daily basis. The tour ended back in the bar where we all enjoyed sampling the end product.

Christmas lunch: 13 December 2018

Finally, our major get-together of the year took place at The Double Tree Hotel, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. This was a very happy occasion when members (some of whom can only manage to meet up once a year), were able to catch up with

Devon and Cornwall

The Devon and Cornwall group met at our favourite 'watering hole' The Marsh Mill Beefeater on 11 September 2018 where we once again enjoyed good food and conversation. We were somewhat depleted in size as a few of our group had other commitments or holidays. Those present were happy to confirm our Christmas lunch should be held again at The New Continental Hotel.

The Christmas lunch (pictured below) was held on Tuesday 4 December where 26 members and guests were treated to a lovely meal and good company – a great time was had by all.

Our Spring lunch will be held late March/early April once a definitive date is set by the members.

Shirley Riddle



Leeds

We have had two lunches since the last report – the first in September and the second, Christmas Lunch which was attended by 32.

We have a further lunch booked for 7 April at the Milford Hotel which is our usual venue and favoured by the members who attend regularly.

We had raffles at each lunch to raise money for charity and a quiz at the Christmas lunch.

Our membership stays fairly stable as we have lost a few members but also gained a few.

Kath Leadley

Liverpool

For the first time the Christmas lunch was held at Houghwood Golf Club. Thirty-seven members and their guests attended and had a delicious meal containing a variety of choices, together with either red or white wine. Father Christmas, aka Barry Cook, attended as can be seen from the photograph, although this does not show all the members who attended.



The raffle, organised by Pat Rostron, with some 17 prizes was a great success with the normal good-humoured barracking regarding ticket numbers and colours of tickets.

With an enthusiastic round of applause, the organiser Sharon Jenkins was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a gift from the Fellowship as thanks for all the organising carried out during the year. After some three hours members and their guests started to make their way home after a most enjoyable afternoon.

Barry Hodgkinson

Loughton and Witham

RHS Hyde Hall and Tiptree Jam Museum: 24 July 2018

The RHS Garden at Hyde Hall, just a few miles from Chelmsford, is an oasis of peace and the garden bursts into bloom with stunning camellias and pink and white blossom. The Floral Fantasia area was a particular delight of numerous flowers in full bloom.

Other highlights were the Dry Garden, Rose Garden and the Queen Mother's Garden. This hilltop garden has wonderful panoramic views over the gardens and surrounding countryside.

After lunch it was off to the Tiptree Jam Museum. The area was farmed in the early 1700s and by the 1800s much fruit



Doris and Carol enjoying the gardens



RHS Hyde Hall and Tiptree Jam Museum attendees

was being produced. The Wilkins family in circa 1885 were fruit growers and preservers. By 1891 they employed over 400 people making jam. The Wilkins were progressive employers and built houses and other facilities for their employees.

They also started a Relief Trust Fund for pensions and welfare and the company still continues to support local community activities.

John Spray

Apples and Oysters: A Day Trip to Faversham and Whitstable

Faversham, located on the north Kent coast, is a very attractive old market town, set in an area where more apples are grown than anywhere else in the country.

Fruit from the Kent orchards and oysters from Whitstable made this the larder for London.



Setting off on our walking tour with Sue, our Blue Badge Guide, we stopped outside the Guildhall with its clock tower and suspended first floor. Sue explained that it had been constructed in the 16th century as a single storey building and was where Queen Elizabeth I had been

entertained on her visit to the town in 1572. The upper floor and clock tower were added in the 19th century and it is now the meeting place for the Town Council, with a market being held below on three days each week.

Moving on through the town, we passed the Shepherd Neame Brewery, Britain's oldest brewer. Set in the middle of the town, brewing has been taking place on the site since before the 17th century and continues to this day.

Our next stop was in Abbey Place to view the old Queen Elizabeth Grammar School. This has now been replaced by a new school, constructed on an adjacent site over the remains of part of the old Faversham Abbey. The old school building, now used as a masonic lodge, is a timber framed building

with a white boarded façade and was constructed in 1587 following a petition to Queen Elizabeth I by the Mayor & Corporation of Faversham. Records indicate the existence of a grammar school for boys in Faversham since before the 15th century. The Abbey, which covered a large area of the town was established by King Stephen in the 12th century, but taken down following the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII.



Nearby is the parish church of Faversham, St. Mary of Charity. It is now all that remains of the Abbey, although the iconic 'Flying Spire' was not added until the 18th century. The church contains a tomb in which it is said are the bones of King Stephen and his wife Matilda.



Following an excellent lunch back at The Sun, we re-boarded our coach for the short trip to Whitstable. Famous for its oysters, Whitstable has been known since Roman times and it is said that Julius Caesar visited the town because of the oysters. As far back as the 18th century oysters were brought ashore from barges and met by horse drawn carts on a cobbled access known as The Horsebridge. This carried on until the 1930's.

In the early 19th century Whitstable was an important centre for trade in and out of Canterbury. In 1830 a railway line was opened to Canterbury known as the Crab and Winkle line, followed by a new harbour in 1832. To gain income

whilst the line was being completed, the company issued passenger tickets and became the world's first regular passenger railway.

A walk around the oyster sheds completed our day and we re-boarded our coach for the journey back to Chigwell. It had been a most enjoyable and interesting day.

Trevor Franklin

**William Morris Trip:
12 September 2018**

On arrival at the museum our guide, Gail, gave us a brief introduction and allowed us to make our way around the museum.

The William Morris Museum is quite small but well worth the visit with a comprehensive story of the life of Morris and his contemporaries along with artefacts from his life and work. There is also interesting information about the family house and the history of Walthamstow. Members took advantage of the café for morning coffee overlooking the extensive gardens which, on a warmer day, would warrant a visit in themselves.

Our coach then made its way to Epping for lunch. On the journey Gail entertained us with more information about William Morris and then the history of Epping Forest.



After lunch we made our way across to Broxbourne where we embarked onto our wide beam barge for a very pleasant hour and a half or so cruising up and down the River Lea at 3mph between the weirs. An afternoon cream tea was served to us by the cheerful team on board.

John Abbott

People's Post: 10 October 2018

Our group commenced their trip with tea and coffee at the Museum of London to meet the Blue Badge Guide for the day. A short tour around the surrounding area included the 'Postman's Garden'. Lunch followed in the Exmouth Market area where members really were spoiled for choice.



In the afternoon we made our way to Mount Pleasant – the 'home' of the mail service in London and the GPO Museum. Only recently opened it has already won awards as a London highlight attraction. Included in the visit was a twenty minute 'tootle' on the Mail Rail – originally built to convey mail between the Main Line stations north of the Thames, thereby avoiding the London traffic, it closed in 2003.

Theresa Walstow

Brick Lane Music Hall

On arrival at Brick Hall Lane Music Hall, Silvertown, East London, we were all made welcome into the former church which was warm, cosy and decked out in an abundance of Christmas

decorations so there was no excuse not to be in the Christmas spirit.



The venue was fully booked and we all sat down to a lovely freshly cooked three-course Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, crackers and party hats.

Our tables, which were all close to the stage, were cleared and we prepared ourselves to enjoy Vincent's Jinglebell Christmas Show. This was an excellent non-stop entertainment with dancers/singers and Vincent Hayes MBE, comedian and lead presenter. The show was excellent with all the favourite Christmas songs, carols, comical sketches, and non-stop jokes, which had the whole audience in fits of laughter. Even one of our members, Rita Binning, hit the limelight by partaking in one of the sketches.

The whole event from start to finish back to Chigwell was a resounding success and enjoyed by all.

The Brick Lane Music Hall is the brainchild of Vincent Hayes, MBE, and his dream to keep music halls alive in this country.



In the 1980's it started in the back room of a small pub, The Lord Hood, in Bethnal Green. Being such a success it moved to a fully-fledged music hall in an old workers canteen in the former Truman's Brewery in London's famous Brick Lane in 1992, with support from Danny La Rue, an established friend of Vincent Hayes. The Brick Lane Music Hall was re-housed into a former St Marks Church in Silvertown, London in 2006.

Brick Hall Music Hall is involved in workshops for schools, taking shows to community centres, care homes, hospices throughout the East End, and performing shows throughout the year for our enjoyment.

In 2013 Vincent Hayes was honoured with an MBE for services to British Music Halls.

Chris Oats

Christmas lunch: 6 December 2018

The Christmas lunch was held at the Little Channels Golf Club, Chelmsford. The lunch was in the function room which was set out with seven tables of eight and one of nine, giving a total of 65. The room was tastefully decorated and each table had a floral centre-piece, two bottles of wine and a jug of non-alcoholic punch, all provided by KFT.

As in previous years, the food was very good and the service impressive, especially as there were four choices for each of the three courses.

The raffle was drawn after the pudding course. Our thanks to Val Bryant for organising the prizes and the sale of tickets.

At the end of the meal, our chairman, John Abbott, thanked the staff at Little Channels for all their hard work and the members of the organising committee for their support and time in organising the events of the last year.

He also thanked Derek and Val for organising such a splendid Christmas lunch and wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Derek Bryant

Maple Cross

King & I theatre trip

On 29 August 2018, 20 members including their partners met up outside the London Palladium for a spectacular musical version of The King & I. We had great seats in two rows of the stalls and everyone felt that it was one of the best shows that they had been to in the London theatres. After the show 17 members found their way across Regent Street to have a meal in the nearby Slug and Lettuce restaurant. This rounded up a fantastic day out in London and members were still discussing it at the next event!



Late Summer lunch

We decided to try a new venue in St. Albans for our late Summer lunch on 20 September 2018. Norman booked the Belvedere Restaurant in The Ardmore House Hotel, however some members thought the restaurant was a separate venue and spent a little time trying to find



it. Most were pleased that they had come as the staff were very attentive and the food was of a high standard, even though most could not pronounce the Italian food that they were eating! A good venue, waiting for us to go again in the future.

Long Service lunch

On Friday 12 October 2018 we returned to the marvellous setting of Moor Park Golf Club for our reunion of Fellowship members and existing staff with 15 years service working out of the Maple Cross office. We had a great attendance of 47 including a couple of guests, our chairman Neil Meixner and Indi Muttucumaru (Kier London). Thanks were given to the regional director Martin Reilly for picking the venue and



paying the bill (it was a shame that he was not there to enjoy it, but a golfing holiday in Ireland was a better offer!). It was a good get together and a lot of stories were remembered and relayed, including the announcement that the Maple Cross office has now been renamed as Kier Thames Valley.

Christmas lunch

As Shendish Manor have for a number of years looked after us we decided to return this year. On a very sunny but cold day 43 members and their partners arrived in our private bar at 12 noon on 13 December 2018. Christmas cards were exchanged and lots of laughing & festivities took place. The meal was excellent quality and good value as it included our own bar and private room. A couple of new members attended, enjoyed the company and said they would join us again on future events.

Norman Elliott



Rushden

Since our last report we have been as busy as ever and have received four new members to assist our numbers.

On Saturday 11 August 2018, 40 members attended The Shrewsbury Flower Show and enjoyed an exceptional day in the sunshine.

Over the first weekend in September, members had the opportunity to visit Woburn Golf Club, as guests of Travis Perkins, to spectate at The Senior European Golf Tournament.

On Friday 5 October 2018, a group of 31 boarded a coach for a four-day break in and around Bristol (see separate report).

On Friday 23 November 2018, 24 members travelled by coach to The Potters Leisure Resort on the east coast for a Christmas Spectacular weekend. The group even managed a full-scale game of indoor bowls, enjoyed by all (see separate report).

Thursday 29 November 2018 was the date for our annual Christmas lunch at John Whites Golf Club. Seventy-four members attended which included five past chairmen and directors. Brendan O'Boyle and his wife, Cathy, ventured north to join our celebrations.

On Sunday 10 December 2018, a full coach of 50 members travelled to London for lunch at The Sanctuary House Hotel before attending the annual Christmas carol service at The Guard Chapel in Birdcage Walk. This is the start of Christmas.

Our New Year break this year was to Breda in Holland – 39 members attended (see separate report).

We are now preparing our list of events for 2019 and our numbers total 152 members.

Brian Hill

Bristol report: 5 October 2018

9am on Friday 5th saw 32 members set off towards Bristol and because we had plenty of time our driver took a country route which made a pleasant change from the motorway. We had a one-hour stop for coffee at Broadway before carrying on to the Bristol Aerospace Museum. They have a wonderful collection of aircraft ranging from WWI to the modern war planes like the Harrier. The highlight being the last Concorde built – a surprisingly small passenger compartment with only two rows of seats for 100 passengers – much like an old train but faster! It was a great shame that they were taken out of service and so much technology wasted. We then took a short journey to our hotel in Bristol city centre where we checked in.

Saturday started with a guided tour around the city. We were shown a huge park area which was being set out for the morning's football matches, some idea of the size of the park was given when we were told that there are 30 pitches! After a wet and windy walk over the Clifton suspension bridge, we were taken to another of Brunel's masterpieces – the SS Great Britain – the first iron hulled propeller driven passenger liner. After years of service as a liner and troop carrier she finished up beached on the Falklands and was used as a coal and wool store. She was rescued in the 1970s and floated back to Bristol on a raft. She now stands in the dry dock in which she was built in 1843 and has been renovated to her original state. There are many costumed characters placed around the ship and the various compartments even have smells to suit the occasion – best not dwell on!

Sunday took us on a trip to Bath where we could wander around and see for ourselves some of the sites which the city has on offer. The most popular was probably the Roman Baths which are still being excavated and further discoveries made. Bath Abbey was also somewhere to wonder at the skills of masons in the 15th century – not too many battery and air



powered tools in those days. Part of the Abbey floor is being dug up to be stabilised as it is sinking.

We checked out of the hotel on Monday morning and set off for a stop in Wells – said to be the smallest city. We had a tour of the cathedral where you can see the Wells clock – said to be the second oldest working clock in the world having been made around 1390. We had time for a walk around the town centre before setting off for our final stop of the day at Marlborough, where we had time to get a meal before setting off back to Rushden passing on the way Stonehenge – said to be the earliest contract won by Kier!

This ended another busy and enjoyable break for which we all owe thanks to Brian Hill for his organisation of yet another successful trip.

Tony Ashdown

Potters Break: 23 November 2018

The festive season began on Friday 23rd where a group went on a trip to Potters Leisure Resort in Hopton-on-Sea, Norfolk which is well known for holding the Bowls World Championships.

A 'comfort' stop was made at a lovely farm shop/cafe for a bacon butty, or any other kind of sustenance to help us on our way, including an array of far too many delicious homemade cakes to choose from. There was also a 'Christmas barn' full of tempting decorations and gifts where we eventually had to tear ourselves away and continue on our journey.

On arrival at Potters, leaving our cases in the comfortable warm chalets, we headed off to the beautifully decorated reception area where awaited us a welcome glass of hot mulled wine or orange juice along with warm mince pies.

The event started off with another complimentary drink of Bucks Fizz or orange juice and a group photograph before the first meal of our stay. It was amazing how the kitchen staff managed to provide for so many people a varied, delicious menu throughout our stay, including a buffet three times a day and incredibly having food available even at midnight!

There were activities available to suit everyone's taste from Salsa and even belly dancing lessons to clay pigeon shooting, golf (ordinary and crazy), snooker and of course bowls which a number had fun playing. To test our knowledge there was bingo and Christmas quizzes on all things 'Christmassy' and I'm pleased to say one of our teams came second. For the 'outdoor types' a bracing walk along the cliff top.

On our last night we were entertained by the first showing of 'Potters Christmas Spectacular' show which brought us to the perfect end to our stay.

The following morning arrived far too soon for us to begin our journey home after a weekend that put us all in readiness for the Christmas season.

John & Greta Martin

New Year break: 30 December 2018

On Sunday 30th, 39 members made an early start catching the Eurotunnel from Folkestone to Calais for a four-day break to celebrate New Year at The Apollo Hotel in Breda, Holland. We arrived in Breda with time to relax and enjoy a welcome drink before the evening meal.

Monday was spent at leisure exploring the city.

New Year's dinner was a formal black-tie followed by a firework display which was fantastic and carried on well into the early hours. Complimentary bubbly was enjoyed by all before we retired to the bar to celebrate the New Year again UK time due to the one-hour time difference.



On Tuesday there was an optional coach trip to Rotterdam returning to the hotel in time to get ready for the 'white themed' fancy dress dinner. The ladies' winner was Veronica Major who dressed as a 1920s flapper and the winner for the men was Robin Parker who dressed as an Arab.



We left the hotel on Wednesday morning heading back to Calais breaking up the journey in Ostend and continuing to the Eurotunnel.

A very good four-day break enjoyed by all!

Maurice & Margaret Tyler

Solent

Historic canal walk



My granny used to say: **"The sun shines on the righteous."** She was wrong – it shines, particularly in January, on the lucky!

So, with the wintry sun rising in a cloudless blue sky and a cool NW breeze 14 members and two dogs set off from the medieval village of Titchfield, a rather elegant place despite being attacked by Portsmouth and Southampton conurbations.

Our aim was to settle an historical conundrum: was the 17th century canal built along the River Meon estuary for navigation, irrigation or reclamation? But before the civil engineers locked horns our route diverted us through a surprising agricultural wedge of unspoilt land that borders the Solent. Here cliffs of sedimentary river deposits over clay

have been eroded to form a beach – ideal for our walk to the Titchfield Haven – a nature reserve in the Meon estuary, the start of the old canal.

After a momentary panic when four members managed somehow to get lost following a cliff path we headed back to Titchfield along the canal. Twitchers were out in force as the Haven is a sanctuary for a variety of birds i.e. Harriers, Godwits etc.

The church bell struck one o'clock as we pushed open the pub door after a great, morning's walk – a flat 6.2 miles for most of us, longer for others. The jury is still out re the canal!

Graham Willoughby

Worldham golf day: 4 September 2018

The yearly golf competition at Worldham, near Alton took place with five entries. It was an excellent day for golf being warm and cloudy (so no shadows) and very little wind, so no excuses from us!

We split ourselves into a two and a three-ball group to do the 18 holes and a good round was had by all. Of course, there were the usual expletives, some duff shots and lost balls – that’s golf!



Pictured on the 18th l-r: David Pritchard, Gary Mackie, Ian Burrell, Linda Anderson and myself, Graham Baker

After the game we all relaxed with a well-earned refreshment in the club bar to discuss the scores. David Pritchard won the score of the day and was well ahead of the rest of us being not so far from par for the course – well done David!

Graham Baker

Mercedes World: 9 October 2018

A trip was organised to visit Mercedes World in Weybridge, Surrey. The venue is an exciting large purpose-built unit for them to show all of their cars and give people the opportunity to look closely at them, be able to sit in them and enjoy the technology and quality of build. There is of course the glitz and glamour of a new car showroom.



There are all sorts of models from the most powerful AMG to the F1 racing cars, second-hand models for sale (for those with very deep pockets) and a selection of very rare classic and vintage cars.

The site is built on the old Brooklands track and there is the opportunity to drive their big and noisy V8 engine cars around a race track and exploit the capabilities of the cars on a skid pan – all at an extra cost of course! Nearby is the well-known Brooklands Museum which we will endeavour to visit another time. There is also an opportunity for under 16’s to have driving courses around the old track.



Five of us attended being Derek Ward, Chris Tosen, myself and Nigel Powell and his wife. After visiting the three floors of the showrooms, showing all of the cars Mercedes make, we made our final stop for refreshments. I think we were all suitably impressed with the quality and specification of the cars, together with the history of the Brookland racetrack. New electric models are to be included next year... the way of the future for us all!

Graham Baker

Portsmouth Historic Dockyard: 17 October 2018

The sunny south really lived up to its reputation in 2018 – it was exceptionally sunny! Alas the weather on our visit to the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard was nautically battleship grey with more than a hint of drizzle in the air.



HMS Warrior



HMS Victory l-r: Graham Willoughby, Roger Osgood, Derek Ward, Chris Tosen and Terry Munro

Due to a couple of late cancellations our group of just six, including two new members, assembled in the booking office to obtain their admission tickets and those who had booked on line enjoyed a good discount. The event was subsidised from our Kier Fellowship funding, so a bargain was had by all and the ticket lasts for 12 months!

With a suggested visiting time for the individual attractions alone totalling 15 hours there was more than enough to see. Fortunately, most of it was under cover so we didn’t get too damp.

The notable attractions are:

- HMS Victory: the flagship of Horatio Nelson built in Chatham Dockyard in 1765
- HMS Warrior: the world’s first armour plated iron clad warship launched in 1860
- Mary Rose: Henry VIII’s Tudor warship which sank off Southsea in 1545 and raised in 1982. 19,000 objects have been recovered

- HMS M33: the only remaining ship from WW1 Gallipoli landings open to the public
- Boathouse 4: where traditional boat-building techniques are demonstrated on boats being restored
- The National Museum of the Royal Navy
- Over the water in Gosport: Royal Navy Submarine Museum and Explosion Museum – history of Royal Navy armaments.

With so much to see we split up so everyone could visit what interested them most. We convened in the Mary Rose café for lunch. Duly fortified we wore out a bit more shoe leather in the afternoon.

An excellent day for all with the opportunity to return later in the year to visit the things we missed and take a harbour tour. Maybe our new carrier Queen Elizabeth will be in dock?

If you are ever in the area, we can thoroughly recommend a day/weekend visit to the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard to immerse yourself in our naval heritage and feel proud to be British, or whatever we might be called post Brexit!

Peter Wallbank



HMS Victory

Shawford Itchen navigation walk: 8 November 2018

Eight members met at the Shawford Down car park on a particularly clement November morning to set off on our six-mile walk along the Itchen. Shawford near Winchester (meaning shallow ford) was where the future Charles II crossed the river after the Battle of Worcester in 1651. For six weeks, hotly pursued by the Parliamentary forces under Oliver Cromwell, he travelled first north, then south through the Cotswolds and the Mendips to the south coast, and finally along the South Downs to Shoreham where he made his escape to France. This route is now perpetuated as the Monarch's Way.

The navigation is a canal system constructed by improving the River Itchen in parts and was completed in the 18th century to connect Winchester with the port of Southampton to the south but soon fell into disrepair as the newly constructed railway alongside came to the fore.

Rounding one bend we came across a BBC film crew working on the 'River Walks' series with Ollie Smith wild swimming in a small lock basin. The programme was broadcast on the 10 December but unfortunately, we didn't make the editors cut!

Travelling on from there we came to St. Catherine's Hill, a steep chalk hill to the south east of Winchester, with the top of the hill ringed by the ramparts of an Iron Age hill fort, which is a scheduled ancient monument. In the centre a copse of beech trees contains the site of the 12th century chapel of St. Catherine. The hill gives wonderful views over Winchester to the west & north and Southampton to the south.

Descending from St. Catherine's Hill we climbed up again to Twyford Down before crossing the busy M3 motorway to skirt the Hockley Golf Course. We continued towards the village of Twyford and the pretty church of St. Mary, The Virgin before crossing back over the River Itchen and back to Shawford and the Bridge Inn for a well-deserved drink and lunch.

Derek Ward



Walk South of Havant: 5 December 2018

On a mild December day a group of nine walkers set off from close to Langstone Mill, a favourite subject for local artists, to cover a six-mile route consisting of urban, country and waterside paths to the south of Havant.



Part of the inland section of the route took us around the Bedhampton springs, the source of much of the water supplied to Portsmouth and surrounding areas. Fortunately the paths were dry and mud free.

The sea wall was reached at Bedhampton Quay where the wharf structures stood quietly rusting awaiting the arrival of the next shipment of aggregates.

At this point we turned along the shoreline and into a freshening wind to pass a few groups of sea birds bouncing on the choppy waters of Langstone Harbour.

Crossing a shingle beach and along a dilapidated length of sea defences the final stretch brought us back to The Ship Inn and rewarding sustenance.

Roger Osgood

New Year lunch: 8 January 2019

On a beautiful sunny 8 January, 32 members and partners attended the annual New Year's lunch, held this year at the Hayling Island Golf Club – a links course which sits behind the beach at the South of the Hayling Island.

The course was founded in 1883 by Fleetwood Sandeman, one of the Sandeman family Port & Sherry fame.

The three-storey art deco clubhouse was rebuilt in 2002 on the site of the old 1889 clubhouse. The bars and dining room situated on the first floor are complemented by the full wraparound balcony which surrounds the bars and restaurant offering stunning panoramic views across the course to the beach, Isle of Wight and along the Solent coastline.

During WWII the land to the west of the seventh tee was requisitioned by the Defence Department to erect anti-aircraft gun batteries. Evidence of these batteries and bomb craters can still be seen, despite repairs carried out at the end of the war.

The catering staff did a superb job with wonderful food and service. All who attended were impressed with the facilities, service and views.

Gary Mackie

Tempsford

Our cruise on the Ouse on 22 August aboard The John Bunyan from Bedford to Great Barford was very successful with a wonderful buffet lunch included in the price at The Anchor Great Barford. The lunch itself justified what was originally thought to be quite an expensive event at £30 per head but The John Bunyan is part of a registered charity raising money to create a new canal connecting Bedford to Milton Keynes. Seventeen participated, returning to Bedford by coach.

A tour of Jordan's Mill near Biggleswade on 4 September attracted 10 members, nine of whom had taken the optional walk around woods in Broom. An additional three had joined for lunch in the site restaurant which raises money to support the museum. Jordan's is famous for its cereal bars and muesli but, if you look closely at the packaging, you will see that they are made by Ryvita, to whom the rights were sold several years ago.

The planned visit to the National Memorial Arboretum on 25 September was cancelled due to a rather surprising lack of take-up.

On 18 October, Ann Brittain, the wife of one of our members, gave us a guided tour of Buckden Towers – originally a 12th century fortified manor house used to house the Bishops of Lincoln. The current structure is Victorian, has been owned by Claretian Missionaries since 1956 and is now used as a retreat and conference centre. After the tour, we had a talk on the Living Stones Rooms extension to St. Mary's Church, Buckden – works carried out to the listed building from 2004 by Peter Brittain and other Kier engineers resident in Buckden, with the support of their wives, under very difficult conditions and planning restrictions. The project had received several major awards and a report on it was included in KierLink shortly afterwards. The talk was followed by a buffet lunch at The Lion Hotel, Buckden where we were made most welcome.



The evening of West End and Christmas music at The Place, Bedford on 6 December was a joyful experience for our group of 13 in a packed auditorium. The four performers from West End shows were a delight.

We had a lunch at The Eaton Oak, Eaton Socon on 13 November when we appeared to be the only diners and we received excellent service from the new owners. Our Christmas lunch at the Pavenham Park Golf Club on 11 December was so successful that we have already booked for 2019. Thirty-nine were present and enjoyed sole use of the upstairs room with its own bar. We were delighted to be joined by Fellowship chairman, Neil Meixner. A raffle was held in aid of the British Heart Foundation and raised £100. Many thanks to those who donated the prizes – particularly the Pavenham Park Golf Club and Tina Theodorou of TT Tours.

My thanks to other members of my committee for their ideas and help in compiling the programme of events.

Harold Thompson

Waterbeach

The recent increase in new Fellowship members across the eastern region was reflected in the attendance at our Christmas lunch held at the Crown Lodge in Outwell, near Wisbech on 4 December 2018.

In total 62 members and colleagues across a number of decades sat down for an excellent meal and an opportunity to reminisce with old workmates and friends, and also to have an ever-increasing opportunity to meet ex-employees from other backgrounds within the Group and geographical locations.

As ever these events are well supported by the area business unit. Those present were interested to hear a brief update on the business from managing director Mark Dady. While the scale of the business is now massively different from that known to most, they were interested to note that many major clients remain the same as those they worked with in years gone by.

This event was also the first appropriate date to say a huge 'thank you' to Sonia Webb from regional members for her role within the eastern Fellowship.

Sonia who retired from the business and the Fellowship in April 2018 was a founder member of the Kier Fellowship and achieved over 25 years' service with the Fellowship.



*Thank you
Sonia!*

Alison Alexander

HISTORY OF WILLIAM MOSS & SONS LTD.

7th January 2019

When I left school at 16, I started work as a trainee surveyor at William Moss and Sons Ltd in January 1955 and after a varied career retired from Kier (London) Ltd at Loughton in March 2003. Since then I have attended many Kier Fellowship Trust events.

I am mindful that 2020 marks the bicentenary of William Moss and Sons foundation in 1820 (they are now encompassed within the Kier Group) and I feel that this achievement warrants some celebration and publicity as not many firms reach this age, let alone in the building industry. Over the years Moss have built many prestigious, interesting and well-known buildings and I append a list of some of them I have gleaned from old publicity brochures in my possession.

In the 1980s I worked for contractors Dave Bros Ltd who celebrated their bicentenary when I was with them. They commissioned a book on the company's history and held a reception in one of the prestigious buildings they had constructed, Australia House in the Strand attended by celebrities etc, including clients, architects, engineers, QS's etc, and this generated much favourable press and publicity for the company.

I feel that similar action on Moss's centenary would be great positive publicity for Kier Group in these rather difficult times for the building industry and I hope you can see your way forward to doing something on these lines. Might I suggest that a suitable venue for a reception would be at the Kempton Steam Museum, a magnificent building by Moss in 1926, Grade II listed and a designated national monument. I know they host corporate functions and I enclose some literature on this museum which I hope will be of interest.

*Yours sincerely,
Ray Plassard*

HISTORY OF WILLIAM MOSS & SONS LTD.

Some notable buildings by William Moss and Sons Ltd

- Manchester Reference Library: Grade I listed
- Kempton Pumping Station, West London: Grade II listed national monument
- Michael Sobell Sports Centre, Islington
- Wallasea Town Hall
- Wembley (later Brent) Town Hall
- Greenwich Town Hall
- Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Welwyn Garden City (demolished 2018)
- Nottinghamshire County Hall
- Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool
- Mersey Tunnel entrances and ventilation tower building
- King's Head Hotel, Liverpool
- Seymour Hall and swimming pool, North London
- St. Mary's RC Church, Liverpool
- Loughborough War Memorial Carillion
- Southport War Memorial
- Halls of residence, University College, Leicester
- Halls of Residence and science laboratories, Loughborough College
- Hansons and Sons Dairy, Liverpool
- Engine factory, English Electric Co., Netherton
- Speke Airport terminal and control building, Liverpool
- Generating stations: Ribble, Clarence Dock (Liverpool), Westwood (Wigan), Newton Abbott (Devon), St. Swithins (Lincoln) and Stockport
- Magden sewage treatment works, West London
- Deephams sewage treatment works, East London
- Courts of Justice, Manchester
- County offices, Cheltenham
- City University, London
- BR engineering research laboratories, Derby.

And many more!

HISTORY OF WILLIAM MOSS & SONS LTD.

Literature (replicated)

In 1820 William Moss commenced business as a Master Builder in Loughborough. He was a Bricklayer by trade and after he became established his work consisted of Domestic and Church Buildings.

In about 1860 William Moss was joined by his Son, also William Moss and the type of work carried out was much the same. Contracts were taken for the complete building, but the joinery was done by Wilfrid Harding of Loughborough.

In 1888 William Moss, the Son of the Founder, was joined by his own Son Charles, and they traded as William Moss and Son. The business then became less local in character and to the run of Country Houses and Church Buildings were added Public Buildings such as hospitals.

In 1899 two more sons joined their father and brother in the business which was converted into a Limited Company. Alan Moss had previously built up his own Plumbing Business and this was taken over by the new Company. Robert Moss, the younger Son had learned his trade under his father and, having successfully carried out several jobs as Foreman, was promoted. A Joinery Works was started, and the Company was then able to carry out every department of building except Masonry.

Branches were opened in 1907 in London, and in 1914 in Liverpool where the Company now has its own Masonry Works and a second Joinery Works. The Head Office of the Company was transferred to London in 1947.

Reinforced Concrete was added to the list of activities in 1909. The "Moss" system of reinforcement was introduced and had great advantages in those days when men were unaccustomed to the work. As modern design developed the system was gradually superseded and the Company now carries out reinforced concrete work to the designs of most of the well-known engineers. Civil Engineering and Public Works now form an important part of the business and the Company is equipped to carry out works in any part of the country.

The Company has made sound and steady progress throughout its existence and the Directors have always taken an active part in the business. Mr. William Moss the present Chairman of the Company is a great-grandson of the William Moss who founded the firm one hundred and thirty-four years ago.

(1954)

HISTORY OF WILLIAM MOSS & SONS LTD.

Literature (replicated)

Visit Kempton Steam Museum and help us celebrate the 85th anniversary of our two magnificent Triple Expansion Engines, which began pumping water in 1928. You will be amazed at the size of these huge engines. Built in 1926, and weighing over 1,000 tons, they stand 62 feet high.

Each pumped 19 million gallons of drinking water to North London daily from 1928 to 1980. One engine has been restored and is now the largest working Triple in the world, so come and see it running on one of our seven annual steaming weekends.

Our other engine is now a static display so join one of our guided tours and we will take you to the very top of this giant structure. It's a great spot to take photographs from and the tour is available for adults and children over 1.4m tall.



Come and see our dazzling Mercury Arc Rectifier. Children will love the eerie violet light flickering across the mercury pool as it converts the incoming AC power to the DC required by the machines in the Engine House. The original was scrapped, but this example was recovered from the Royal Opera House, London.

The Museum is housed in a magnificent Engine House built from Portland stone in 1926, it is Grade II listed and a National Monument. Its pair of towering chimneys is a local landmark and can be seen for miles around. You can't miss them.

To meet London's growing demand for water, a pair of steam turbines made by Fraser & Chalmers was installed in 1933. Coupled to Worthington Simpson centrifugal pumps, they increased the output of the Engine House to 62 million gallons of water a day.



Our steaming weekends always include some added attractions in or around the Engine House. So, whether it's model railways, stationary engines, cars, arts or crafts, see the back of this brochure for a full programme of events and be sure to check our website for last-minute additions and changes.

HISTORY OF WILLIAM MOSS & SONS LTD.

Literature (replicated)



Children will love Kempton Steam Museum! Activity packs will help them understand how the engine works and if they have a smartphone, they can scan our QR codes for kids and listen to our specially recorded podcasts. There is also a Kiddies' Corner with plenty to keep them entertained.

Delicious home-made cakes and light refreshments are always available on steaming weekends.

Audio-visual displays will show you how the Engine House was built and how the Triples work. Information boards carry scannable QR codes linking you to a spoken commentary for adults and children.

Give the ultimate gift for someone who fancies themselves as an engine driver! For just £50, they will get a day's training alongside the engineers running the engine. They will see how the water and lubrication system work first hand and, finally, they will get to drive the engine.

Take home a memento of your visit to Kempton from our shop.

Kempton is the ideal location for film makers, photographers, and a great venue for car club rallies and special interest events.

New volunteers are always welcome. We need help in and around the Museum to keep things running - and not just with the oily stuff. As well as electricians and engineers, there are plenty of opportunities in reception, refreshments and tour guide duties. So, if you fancy getting involved, speak to one of the Museum staff, call 01932 765328 or speak to the press office on 020 3565 3586.



Planning a party or a meeting? Looking for a breath-taking backdrop for a film or video? If you want to create an impact in the unique surroundings of an authentic steam engine house, Kempton could be just the venue you are looking for. Contact the Museum for rates and availability.

Obituaries

Our thoughts are with the loved ones of those who have passed away.

Alan Aitken	04/12/2018
Basil Arney	10/08/2018
Terence Bayley	03/11/2018
Ivor Beattie	18/11/2019
Douglas Bennie	11/10/2018
Janet Bowns	08/10/2018
William Bradshaw	07/01/2019
Stewart Brown	22/09/2018
Robert Carpenter	17/12/2018
Jack Chambers	21/07/2018
Rosina Clarey	27/10/2018
Philip Cutts	20/10/2018
Charles Drinkwater	02/11/2018
David Ehlen	16/01/2019
Graham Emberton-Brooks	11/10/2018
Terence Fewes	30/10/2018
John Fry	09/09/2018
Mary Gardner	09/09/2018
Alexander Gilchrist	18/09/2018
Molly Gilroy	18/09/2018
John Henley	10/02/2019

Doreen Holt	21/07/2018
Violet Hooper	26/07/2018
Robert Jenkins	07/12/2018
Hazel Keen	30/12/2018
Beryl Lievesley	28/11/2018
Vera McShee	21/07/2018
Charles Mitton	25/12/2018
Redvers Morris	21/07/2018
John Neil	09/12/2018
R H Oakley	unknown
Roger Parry	30/12/2018
Eileen Payne	13/12/2018
John Porter	29/09/2018
Elaine Rhoden	21/12/2018
Helen Richards	30/12/2018
Marjorie Ringham	21/08/2018
Elvin Royall	03/01/2019
Brian Seager	09/10/2018
Yvonne Valerio	11/01/2019
Joyce Welch	06/2018



**Redvers (Revie) Morris
1936-2018**

Revie joined Kier in June 1956 and worked as an assistant QS on a coal handling plant.

During his career he worked on several power stations including Rugeley, Drakelow and Ratcliffe on Soar and major road works at Halifax and Ware.

The last contract worked on before moving to the Boston Spa area office was the St. James Metro Station at Newcastle.

Due to ill health Revie retired in 1994. This didn't end his involvement with the company as he became the first Kier Fellowship area organiser for the north east and ran the group for 12 years before handing over to Kath Leadley and Ann Leslie.

He was married to Wendy who he met when they both worked on a sewage treatment works at Derby where David Bull was the site agent.

Revie died on 21 July after a nine-year battle with cancer.

Katherine Leadley

The Trust's got talent: DAVID BLEAY



David Bleay, 84 years old, has had a lifelong hobby of weightlifting which he has pursued in his own home-built gym in his garden.



David, who will be known to many of you, was a director of French Kier and subsequently managing director of French Kier Anglia, and has been retired for 27 years.

This year he entered the International All Round Weightlifting Association World

Championships in October which was held in Eastbourne. The event rotates between Australia, USA and the UK.

He competed in the 80+ years and 85kg body weight division. The competition consists of seven disciplines designed to test the body's overall strength. He was unopposed in his division, but being of a competitive nature he managed to break five world records, the most notable of which was a 62.5kg front squat and a 120kg dead lift.

So, he feels he deserves the title of World Champion!

David trained for the competition for a total of eight months – twice a week for two hours, then four times a week for one and a half hours for five months.

None of this would have been possible a year ago. David has been plagued by an arthritic shoulder for some time.

Reading 'Curing Arthritis' by Margaret Hills SRN made it possible by taking the advice in the book which included consuming a small quantity of cider vinegar every day.

The resulting improvement over time enabled him to lift weights overhead and break records held for some time by an American weightlifter.

He intends to continue his training and treatment which has transformed his shoulder mobility and given him a new lease of life.

John Simson