

KierLink

The Magazine of Kier Group Fellowship Trust

FELLOWSHIP MATTERS

Reports from Trust Chairman Dick Side & Group Chief Executive Paul Sheffield

FEATURE

Tempsford Garden Party

REGIONAL REPORTS

What has everyone been up to?

Plus much more!



Contents

- 2 • Editors' notes
- 3 • Administrator's report
- 4 • Chairman's Fellowship matters
- 5 • Message from Kier Group chief executive
- 6 • Boston Spa report
- 7 • Welcome to new members
- 8 • Bristol and Newport report
- 8 • Cheltenham report
- 9 • Rushden report
- 10 • Liverpool and Manchester report
- 11 • Tempsford Garden Party
- 13 • Loughton and Witham report
- 14 • Wisbech report
- 15 • Maidstone report
- 16 • Southampton report
- 17 • Maple Cross report
- 18 • Tempsford report
- 20 • Obituaries
- 21 • Crossword competition



Welcome!



Welcome to the 27th edition of KierLink magazine. We are pleased to bring you this autumn edition and very thankful to everyone who has made contributions - without your interest and support this magazine cannot exist.

As much feedback as possible is always welcomed and can be directed to your respective area organisers. All feedback will be taken into consideration when designing the next edition of the KierLink.

Kind regards
Marel Strydom
(KierLink Designer)

Editors' notes

Welcome to the 27th edition of KierLink which will arrive with you after a spectacular summer of sport for Great Britain, some really hot summer days and of course the arrival of baby Prince George.



At the Tempsford Garden Party on 30th June we were fortunate to have lovely weather to mark 15 years of the Fellowship Trust and we have made this event our feature article to celebrate the successful development of the Fellowship.

Part of this success has been the development of KierLink and its new format has been greatly enhanced by the help of Marel Stydom at the Loughton office in designing an attractive layout. We were very pleased that she and her partner were able to join us at the garden party.

Our crossword competition attracted a new record number of entries most of which were correct. Sadly there can only be one winner of our £50 prize and this time the name drawn out of the hat was Diane Winter from Kings Lynn. Congratulations, the cheque is in the post as they say! Hopefully even more readers will enter this time.

We hope that all your events for the remainder of the year are successful and we look forward to hearing from you about them and any interesting stories that you would like to share with us.

John Simson & Geoff Brown

John Simson: johnsimson@live.co.uk

Geoff Brown: geoffbrown13@sky.com

Features for the next edition of the KierLink

Please send all features to Geoff Brown or John
Simson by no later than

13 Jan 2014

Many thanks!





Administrator's report

On a number of occasions recently I have been asked how people qualify for membership of the Trust and in order to clarify the issue former employees should meet one of the following criteria to be eligible:

- be a Kier Group pensioner
- be of any age but in permanent ill health retirement
- be a former employee aged 50 or above
- be a widow or widower of a former member of the Trust

Employees over normal retirement age but still employed full or part time may also apply to join.

With membership now in excess of 1,250 and nearly one hundred events held annually across our thirteen areas may I again thank the 'administration assistants' at each Kier office who provide excellent support for our area organisers during this time of change in the company's structure.

The Kier Group website has recently been redesigned and now includes an enhanced Fellowship Trust section with a calendar of future Trust events and a 'read more' tab about those events. Those of you with online facilities should use the shortcut address of www.kier.co.uk/about/fellowship-trust.aspx which will take you direct to the Fellowship Trust section of the website.

A further enhancement to the website means that the contact e-mail addresses for all our area organisers are now listed by area. Members can still read previous editions of KierLink and I would like to remind everyone that a new members' application page is available online for prospective new members so if you have a friend who previously worked for Kier but is not yet a Trust member please encourage them to join. If you do not have access to a computer, manual membership forms are still available and can be obtained from your local Area Organiser or myself.

The KierPlus Benefits Scheme continues to be popular with our members with nearly 360 members joining or rejoining the Scheme since it was made available to Trust members. Membership of the Scheme enables you to earn preferential discounts and cashback rewards at a

vast array of retailers including supermarkets, electrical stores, travel companies, DIY outlets and many more.

You could enjoy 10% off at Debenhams, Boots and B&Q to name just a few or save 5% on shopping at Sainsbury's or Asda and order high street shopping vouchers with a discount.

If you have not yet joined and would like to, please provide your area organiser or myself with your full name, date of birth and national insurance number. New applicants are uploaded to the KierPlus Provider on 15th of each month and become live on the system by the month-end.

We retain a small stock of limited edition KGFT ties and these are still available on request at £5 each.

If you require assistance with any matters relating to the Fellowship please contact me by e-mail or at the address shown below.

Brendan O'Boyle
Kier Group Fellowship Trust
7 Chestnut Drive
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E-mail: brendan.o'boyle.ext@kier.co.uk

Regards

Brendan O'Boyle

Chairman's Fellowship matters

I hope that those of you who attended the recent garden party at Tempsford Hall enjoyed the event as much as my wife and I did.

Hopefully John Stamford's article and Harold Thompson's photographs featured in this KierLink will convey the ambience of an excellent day.

We are grateful to Kier Group for staging the event and providing the liquid refreshment and particularly for the time that Viv Chesterfield put into organising a memorable day.

One of my duties at this annual event is to present the Chairman's awards for area organisers. Normally I would give an award for the best performing area and another for the most improved but this year the Loughton/Witham area came top in both categories having staged 15 high quality events with 780 attendees; an average of 52 people at each event and 16% up on the previous year.

I was particularly pleased to be able to recognise the hard work and organising ability of Geoff Brown and John Simson as not only do they organise events and lead their committee of helpers they also produce their own Fellowship news magazine in addition to being joint editors of the new look KierLink.

I was also delighted that the designer and composer of these publications, Marel Stydom of Kier Construction London, was able to attend the Luncheon as a guest of the Fellowship in appreciation of the excellent work she does on our behalf.



We were also able to express our thanks to John Abbott, the Kier Construction London designated director who has enabled us to have access to Marel's valuable time. A good example of the support a regional business can provide to Fellowship area organisers.

I am pleased to be able to report that overall the Trust has had another very active year with a total of 96 events, which coincidentally was the same as the previous year, but with an increase of 90 attendances taking the total well over 2,700.

Our membership has risen to around 1,250 and financially we continue to operate at a near break even level notwithstanding the recent reductions in interest rates for cash deposits. Careful management of our investments portfolio in unit trusts and investment trusts, with periodic disposals to use our capital gains tax allowance, has helped us to maintain budgets for area expenditure in line with previous years.

Please be assured that it remains our aim to use our resources as best we can to provide events in response to our members' wishes.

Dick Side



Tempsford Garden Party: John Simson (in photo on the left) and Geoff Brown receiving their awards from chairman Dick Side, in recognition of the Loughton and Witham area being the best performing and best improved area in the Fellowship for 2013.

Message from the Group chief executive

As I told those present at this year's garden party, the industry is now four and a half years into the recession. Most of you will know only too well that the world of construction presents more than its fair share of challenges and is a constantly shifting animal.

Here at Kier for example, we've seen a 35% reduction in work carried out by our regional businesses while our civils and overseas work has grown significantly. The important thing for us is to remain well positioned to adapt to changing markets and take advantage of opportunities that present themselves which is something that Kier, I am glad to say, is very good at.

We've had some exciting contract awards recently of the kind that bring the potential to showcase Kier at its best: a £450m cable-stayed bridge over the Mersey in Runcorn and a £120m redevelopment scheme at Broadmoor Hospital in Surrey. You can always find out more about our newly awarded contracts by visiting kier.co.uk, our recently redeveloped website.

With the acquisition of Norwich-based May Gurney now complete, Kier is a business that employs 16,000 people with a turnover of £2.8bn. This added dimension gives Kier a £1.1bn turnover services division whose offering is probably more diverse than that of any of the competition, with particular emphasis on local authority outsourcing. The May Gurney addition has brought new areas of expertise for the Group including highways and waterways maintenance and I am very excited about the opportunities this brings to us.

I hope you enjoy reading KierLink and finding out more about what our other Fellowship members are up to. I would like to extend special thanks to the Fellowship's area organisers whose efforts ensure that the link between Kier past and present is maintained and that a full calendar of social events is on offer. The fact that so many former Kier employees still take a keen interest in the business I see as a great compliment to the Group.

I was really pleased to learn that some of our areas organise site visits. I'm a firm advocate of visiting the sharp end whenever possible and for our Fellowship Trust members, there's nothing quite like a trip to a construction site to bring the memories flooding back and remind yourselves why your retirements are so well deserved!

My very best wishes to you all.

Paul Sheffield



Jack Hughes Obituary

We sadly lost one of our members on 21/3/13. Jack retired from Kier Construction in 1990 after 42 years. He had achieved and maintained a position of great responsibility in the days when subcontracting was rare and hence the main contractors employed everybody on site.

Jobs such as Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station had as many as 800 men working on site and Jack was the "GF" responsible for all of them. Many younger, but academically qualified, men worked alongside Jack and as their careers progressed into senior management with Kier Construction they remembered Jack as the experienced hand and driving force that helped "get the job done - no matter what". Jack kept in touch with many Fellowship members each Christmas.

Boston Spa



Milford Lodge Hotel Lunch

We had a lunch in March at the Milford Lodge Hotel which was attended by 20 people who all enjoyed the meal and the opportunity to catch up with other retired colleagues.



Voyage around the UK in aid of BADA

One of our members Bill James is on a voyage around the UK in aid of the charity BADA and also for some fun. Bill's wife Linda is one of the many sufferers of Lyme Disease and understands how important it is to raise awareness about tick-borne diseases and their prevention.

Should anyone be interested in making a donation to the above charity by sponsoring Bill and his crew aboard Freya Too (a LM27 motor cruiser) this can be done at <https://www.justgiving.com/Bill-James1>, if however anyone is interested in learning more about the charity the address is <http://www.bada-uk.org/>.

At the time of writing this report Linda has just arrived back from Whitby where Bill is at the moment having left Poole in May and travelling west along the south coast, then up to Scotland stopping off at the Isle of Man and Northern Ireland and then back south. By the time the KierLink is published Bill should be safely back having travelled more than 2,200 nautical miles.

Planned events

Lunch at Milford Lodge on 22nd September

Christmas lunch at Milford Lodge on 15th December

Katherine Leadley

Name	City / Town	Area	Worked For	Years of Service
Alan Burgess	Darlington	Northern	Kier Build	24 Yrs
Ian Burrell	Eastleigh	Southampton	Kier Southern	21 Yrs
Robin Butler	Tewkesbury	Cheltenham	Moss construction / Central	19 Yrs
Robert Chamberlain	Hemel Hempstead	Loughton	Kier Construction (London)	9 Yrs
Peter Cole	Trowbridge	Bristol	Kier Construction	7 Yrs
Christine Mary Cross	Sherburn-in-Elmet	Boston Spa	Kier Plant	17 Yrs
Ian Deeprise	Hook	Newbury	Kier Construction (Central)	8 Yrs
Lawrence Draper	Landford	Southampton	Kier Southern	8 Yrs
Andrew Eaglesfield	Steadings	Northern	Kier Construction	10 Yrs
Keith Ferry	Ringstead	Rushden	Marriott / Kier Central South	38 Yrs
Alastair Gammage	Nottingham	Tempsford	Kier Services	10 Yrs
Richard George	Wisbech	Wisbech	Kier Construction (Eastern)	50 Yrs
David Harman	Marden	Cheltenham	Kier Moss	26 Yrs
Colin Jones	Cheshunt	Loughton	Kier Islington	12 Yrs
Maureen Joyce	Bromley	Maidstone	Wallis	38.5 Yrs
Gulam Kassam	Peterborough	Tempsford	Kier Construction	7 Yrs
David Mander	Bristol	Bristol	W C French	2 Yrs
Marion Miles	Up Hatherley	Cheltenham	Kier Construction (Central)	Yrs
Julie Morrissey	Sandy	Tempsford	Kier Construction (Infra / Overseas)	19 Yrs
Olwen Neild	Wigan	Liverpool	William Moss	2 Yrs
Joseph Nelson	Potters Bar	Tempsford	Kier Build	18.5 Yrs
Tom Newman	Pershore	Cheltenham	Kier Central	28 Yrs
Maureen Pearson	Carlisle	Northern	Kier Northern	21 Yrs
Louis Thomas Price	Havant	Southampton	Kier Southern	16 Yrs
John Regan	Leyton	Witham	Kier Construction (Eastern)	13 Yrs
Alan G Rust	Wisbech	Wisbech	Kier Eastern	35 Yrs
Courtney John Thorne	Torpoint	Plymouth	Kier Western	43 Yrs
Graham Turner	Rayleigh	Witham	Kier Construction (Eastern)	34 Yrs
Keith Watson	Wellingborough	Tempsford	Kier Construction / International	5 Yrs
Philip Wicks	Chelmsford	Witham	Kier Construction (Eastern)	8.5 Yrs
Phil Williams	Peterborough	Tempsford	Kier Construction	5 Yrs
Ian Woods	Burton Latimer	Rushden	Marriott / Kier Property	22 Yrs
James George Wren	Cuddington	Liverpool	Kier Construction	6.5 Yrs

Welcome to New Members

Bristol & Newport

Lunch at Forester's Oaks

Our April meal, at the Forester's Oaks, Llandevaud, near Newport, has caused the organisers some problems. The venue and food was so good we will find it difficult to arrange one to the same standard in the future! Everyone attending enjoyed this relaxed and successful function.



Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre, Slimbridge

Since then we have met at the Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre, Slimbridge founded by Sir Peter Scott. After a short introductory talk about the Centre and the worldwide work of the Trust over a cup of coffee, members made their way around the extensive grounds.

Some grey skies and a short shower, which was enjoyed by the ducks, did not dampen the smiles. Further socialising and bird spotting took place in the tropical house and many of the group assembled in the new Greater Flamingo hide before viewing the remainder of the collection of wildfowl with wild duck flying overhead and great views of the otters. Another enjoyable day!



Planned Events

The next visit took place on Wednesday 21st August, at Hampton Court Castle & Gardens, Hereford, followed by a Golf Day on Tuesday 3rd September in Bath. Reports to follow in the next issue of KierLink.

David Priddis

Visit to Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Twenty seven members visited the Birmingham Botanical Gardens on 26th April for a well conducted and informative tour of the gardens. Situated in Edgbaston, near the heart of Birmingham, it was difficult to realise that we were close to the centre of a major city. Credit for this goes to Mr J C Loudon, the most innovative and successful garden planner of his day, who designed the gardens which opened in 1832. Among financial supporters of the gardens were two of Birmingham's famous political sons, Joseph and Neville Chamberlain.

Due to the cold spring we could probably have benefited from visiting two or three weeks later. However there was plenty of interest, well described by our excellent guide, and enough colour to make up for the unseasonal cold weather.

The tour of the gardens was followed by an excellent lunch at the Edgbaston Golf Club, reached after successfully negotiating the Birmingham traffic. It was good to have an event in the West Midlands to enable more former members of the Birmingham office to attend. We were accompanied by Marianne Irwin-Boers from the Cheltenham office, and thanks are due to her for organising a very successful event.

Hugh Sweet

Cheltenham

John White Golf Club

After an inhospitable winter we started our year with our first lunch which was considered a great success. The venue was John White Golf Club and our speaker was Tony Norman the Marriott Chairman, who was the originator of the Marriott M25 Club. The event was attended by 48 Members – not bad for a first venture.

Ascot Racecourse

On Sunday 7th April 43 members went racing to Ascot Racecourse and had an enjoyable day. We started with a behind the scenes tour – changing rooms weighing room and parade ring, followed by lunch in the Grandstand. Several smiling faces at the end of the day proved that winners were in evidence.

Royal Albert Hall

The following Saturday, 13th April, 47 Members joined our Annual Pilgrimage to The Royal Albert Hall London for The Mountbatten Festival of Music – ceremonial pageantry by the massed bands of H.M Royal Marines – always a winner with the audience.

Northern Portugal break

During the following week 23 members took a five day break to Northern Portugal – the hidden area where the British tourist doesn't seem to visit – flying from Gatwick to Porto. On arrival in Porto we had a city tour before visiting Taylors Port for a generous tasting. Two nights in Porto offered us ample opportunity to explore the city before we moved up the coast to Esposende – a seaside resort where we had excursions to Braga, Bom Jesus do Monte and Barcelos Market. En route back to the airport we visited some exceptional gardens and a vineyard tour with more wine tasting, all very enjoyable.



National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire

On Sunday 2nd June we ventured closer to home with a visit to the City of Litchfield and the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire - we were blessed with warm sunshine and plenty of moving moments. Thirty five members took advantage of this excursion.

Two blue badge guides took us for coffee and a leisurely walk around this medieval city before escorting us to the Hedgehog Public House for lunch. The afternoon we spent at the N.M.A. where we boarded a land train which circled the site taking in all of the major landmark monuments including the Armed Forces Memorial. We concluded the afternoon in one of the hospitality areas where a sumptuous tea was served with so many cream cakes we had to take them back on the coach for supper.

The N.M.A. is well worth a visit for any area to consider.



Annual Golf day – Pavenham Golf Club

Our Annual golf day with the Tempsford area was played at Pavenham Golf Club and the winners are recorded in the Tempsford Report.

Tempsford Hall Garden Party

On Sunday 30th June the Tempsford Hall Garden Party was enjoyed by all 67 members who attended. The weather was sunny and hot with the new siting of the marquee perfect. Good food, plenty of drink and music from Jenny and the Mantas made for a good afternoon's entertainment. Congratulations to Viv and all her staff for the organization.

Planned events

Several further trips are arranged:

Wednesday	4th September	-	National Golf day at Harlow
Sunday	29th September	-	Malvern Autumn Show
Saturday	16th November	-	Christmas Shopping
Sunday	8th December	-	London Guard Chapel Carol Service
Monday	30th December	-	New Year Break in Breda

We also have several trips in the offing which may be incorporated within the above list.

Lunch - Venue to be decided.

BBC Christmas Concert

3 Day Weekend break at Potters Leisure Resort Hopton Sands

Royal Military School of Music Kneller Hall.



Foreign Trip 2014

Our Foreign trip next year (2014) will be to the Italian Dolomites for 7 days. Provisional dates June 27th until 3rd July 2014

Brian Hill

Liverpool / Manchester

Houghwood Golf Club lunch Planned events

A lunch was held on Thursday 16th May 2013 at Houghwood Golf Club, which was attended by 23 members.

A further lunch is planned at the same venue on Thursday 12th September.

Our Xmas Lunch is to be held at The Liner Hotel in Liverpool on Friday 6th December

Sharon Jenkins

Tempsford Garden Party

Sunday, 30th June 2013

John Stamford, trust board member, records his thoughts of the Garden Party in the 15th year of the Fellowship.

Some describe the event as “our Ascot or Henley” but regardless of description the Tempsford Garden Party once again proved to be the key function in the Trust’s year.

With all the construction work proceeding around Tempsford Hall the 2013 event took place on the Tempsford sports field which proved an ideal venue for the large marquee and services.

In near perfect weather some 270 members converged on the marquee with the Rushden and Loughton/Witham areas achieving record attendances. Some drank their Pimms outside in the sunshine whilst others renewed friendships and acquaintances in the marquee.

I acted as MC for the day and got proceedings underway inviting John Boddington of Rushden Area to say Grace.

Those present then enjoyed a delicious three course lunch and whilst eating pitted their wits in a Trivia quiz. Two tables tied having scored incredibly high points which meant that Viv. Chesterfield and I had to come up with a tiebreaker question which was won by table number 1. Well done to them.

We were delighted that Paul Sheffield, Kier Group Chief Executive, was able attend once again and he gave us an update on the Group’s recent progress.

Paul started by saying that whilst maintaining the overall construction revenues at about £1.4bn per annum over the 4.5 years the industry has been in recession there has been a 35% reduction in work done by the regional businesses which has been offset by significant growth in civils and overseas contracts.

Paul also stated that although there were prospects of increased government spending on infrastructure not much is likely to be seen before 2015.

He then turned to the May Gurney acquisition which he was delighted to confirm had been completed and when fully integrated would create a £1.1bn per annum services business with a very diverse capability.





He closed by looking forward to next year's Fellowship garden party when we should be able to witness first hand the vibrant work environment being created by the refurbishment of the Tempsford Hall Estate.

Dick Side responded to Paul by thanking him and his fellow directors for their ongoing support of the Fellowship Trust. He particularly thanked the directors designated to liaise with their local area organiser and ensure logistical and financial support is available from their local regional office.

Dick reported that our membership had risen further to exceed 1,240 and that attendances at Trust events had risen above 2,700 in the last financial year when we had operated on a break even budget.

He then thanked his fellow trustees for their input into the smooth running of the Fellowship and the area organisers and their helpers for their invaluable efforts.

Dick then presented his chairman's awards for the best performing and most improved areas to the Loughton/Witham area organiser's Geoff Brown and John Simson with Brian Hill, the Rushden area organiser, receiving an award as runner up in the best performing category.

He closed his address by proposing a toast to absent friends and wished everyone a most enjoyable day.

Since the inception of the Garden Party 15 years ago John Hebblethwaite has entertained members with a number of funny tales told in his own style, John once again kept members very amused.

With the formalities over a new group of Jenny and the Mantas, a four piece band, had many of those present dancing and entertained with musical renditions.

During the interval raffle prizes were drawn with the main prize being a flat screen television won by Mary & Ken Batchelor (Maidstone Area).

There was also a teddy bear to be named with the money collected going the companies adopted charity, Barnardo's. The winners correctly guessed his name Alfie.

At 5pm the function was still going strong, but it was time to say goodbye and thank all those who had made the day so successful.

John Stamford



Loughton-Witham

Whitechapel Bell Foundry, East London

Our year started off with a visit on 16th February to the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in East London. On a cold, but fortunately fine day 46 of our members visited the oldest manufacturing company in the UK which deals solely with the production of bells and their associated fittings.



Greene King Brewery, Bury St Edmunds

We followed this with a visit to the Greene King Brewery in Bury St Edmunds on the 13th March, formed in 1799 by 19 year old Benjamin Greene, and then in 1887 it merged with the adjacent St Edmunds Brewery, owned by Frederick King. It is now the country's largest independent brewery.

Sixty two members enjoyed a wonderful tour and a meal before visiting Bury St Edmunds Cathedral and the town market.

Annual Spring Buffet

On Thursday 25th April we held our annual spring buffet, attended by 120 members and guests.

We were delighted that Dick Side (Chairman of the Trust) with his wife Liz supported by fellow directors of the Trust, John Stamford and his wife Deidre and Harold Thompson were able to attend.

John Abbott Director of Kier Construction London found a slot in his busy schedule to spend an hour or two with us.

Everyone enjoyed a very good buffet and liquid refreshments whilst reminiscing with colleagues about old times and current news.



Royal Albert Hall

Our annual visit to the Royal Albert Hall on the 2nd May was quite unique. Symphonic Rock was the title of the performance by The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by musical director Nick Davies. The programme included a tribute to Queen.

Ken Bruce the BBC Radio 2 presenter enhanced the show with his witty presentation of stories and facts about the Orchestra. Thirty Four members made the trip.



Annual Golf Day, Benton Hall

We held our annual golf day on 8th May and this year it was held at Benton Hall, Witham.

15 golfers met for an enjoyable day's golf on a fine and sunny day.



Polesden Lacy

On 19th June we visited Polesden Lacy, an Edwardian House situated on the North Downs at Great Bookham near Dorking. On a very hot and sunny day 45 members enjoyed a visit around the house and the extensive gardens.

Tempsford Garden Party

On 30th June, 60 members attended the Garden Party at Tempsford which was a record for us. Everybody enjoyed the afternoon in glorious sunshine.



Canterbury

Sixty nine members enjoyed a day in Canterbury on 24th July which included a guided tour around the Cathedral and afterwards some went on a boat trip on the River Stour, while others toured the town and the shops.

Geoff Brown & John Simson

Wisbech

Wisbech Lunches

We continue to have our lunchtime gatherings at various venues in and around Wisbech on an irregular basis but supported by a regular bunch of followers.

Tempsford Garden Party

The Tempsford Garden Party was much enjoyed by those who attended with tales of yore being recounted.

Future Trips

Future trips have been arranged to see Billy Elliott in London and to promenade to the end of the pier at Cromer for the Best of the Seaside Special.

Andrew Pallant

Greenwich Observatory and Royal Albert Hall

On 7th May a party of members visited Greenwich Observatory and in the afternoon went on to the Royal Albert Hall.

One of our members who was on the trip, Ken Brooks, was involved in the construction of the dome roof of the Observatory in 1974 when he was working for Wallis.



Hog Roast

Fifty-six guests enjoyed our

Second Hog Roast Luncheon which was held at Hadlow Manor Hotel on 16th July and situated in the heart of the Kent countryside. This beautiful 18th century country house hotel with delightful grounds was our ideal venue for our Second Hog Roast Luncheon.



The weather was quite warm but we were able to sit under a rather 'ample' Chestnut tree to have our meal.

The hog roast was delicious which was served with stuffing wrapped in bacon, creamy apple sauce, new potatoes, homemade coleslaw, tomato, onion and cucumber salad and mixed green salad, wow!, followed by a choice of 3 sweets, coffee and mints. The ladies mostly drank Pimms as this proved to be very refreshing.

In my invitation to members, I suggested that they might like to bring along a "doggy bag". True to form, our hosts supplied everyone who wanted a 'doggy bag'.

We can't wait to visit Hadlow Manor again, next year.



Future Events

Classical Spectacular

Our visit to the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 24th November to see the Classical Spectacular has proved very popular and there is already a waiting list.

Christmas Luncheon

Our luncheon this year will be held at 'Wealden Hall', Larkfield, Aylesford, ME20 6DE on Tuesday 17th December. These premises are under new management this year.

Tempsford Garden Party

What a brilliant day on Sunday 30th June!

Twenty three of our members from Maidstone came along to enjoy our Annual Garden Party held in the marquee in the grounds of Tempsford Hall. The day was beautiful with brilliant sunshine and we were served with a fantastic meal which was topped off by a couple of members in our group walking away with first prize in the raffle!



Anne Ransley

Southampton

Havant to Hayling Walk

At 10.30 on a grey and blustery January day 14 of us assembled to partake in a short non strenuous stroll of about 5 miles. The selected route was to follow the track of the Havant to Hayling railway line sadly axed by Dr. Beeching in 1963.

Setting off from the old Hayling station, now a theatre, we were soon tiptoeing our way through a swamp before taking in the views of Portsmouth Harbour from the west coast of Hayling Island, a WW2 pill box, an old oyster bed, various sea birds and local flora and fauna before arriving at the road bridge linking the island to the mainland.

We made our way across the bridge to the Ship Inn at Langstone for a comfort break (again!) and some welcome food and drink. Fortified we rejoined the track along a more sheltered inland stretch for the last mile back to Havant station.

Peter Wallbank

Forest of Bere walk

On the 15th May 16 Kier Southern fellowship members and partners attended a 6 mile ramble, starting from the Forestry Commission Upperford Copse car park in the Forest of Bere and proceeding through the forest to the disused Meon Valley railway, this was followed to Soberton where we then proceeded to the White Lion pub for some very welcome refreshments.

The return route retraced the outward journey. Bluebells and wild garlic were in abundance along the railway walk and through the forest. Wet weather gear seemed to be the order of the day as it was overcast and there was a shower or two while we were assembling in the car park. The walk took approximately 75 -85 minutes each way at a steady pace and with lunch included about 4 hours to complete.

Gary Mackie



Maple Cross

St Geroge's Day Luncheon

St. George's Day Luncheon was held on 19th April at St. Michael's Manor, St. Albans and 25 members enjoyed a drink and a chat before enjoying a superb three course meal and fine wine. We all departed to different parts of the county and London having put the world to rights and looking forward to our next event.



Grims Dyke Cream Tea

In May thirty members gathered together in the car park of Futtocks End Manor located in the wealthy North London suburbs of Harrow Weald, on one of those very rare afternoons in May when the sun did actually shine.

After enjoying the beauty of the extensive grounds and magnificent gardens, it was time for tea with many types of sandwiches, warm scones with clotted cream and chocolate éclairs. After which it was time for another stroll around the gardens, and then homeward bound.



Summer Luncheon

Summer Luncheon was held on 24th May at the Aldenham Golf and Country Club with 35 members attending one of our most popular venues. After aperitifs we all enjoyed a three course meal with plenty of wine.

Warners Cricket St. Thomas

A group of members travelled to Warners Cricket St. Thomas in Somerset for a five day break on 28th June and enjoyed a very relaxing time at this superb venue, with its fine dining and plenty of wine.

The facilities are many and include swimming, gym, sauna and spa, plus lovely walks and then in the evening there are wonderful entertainers with music and dancing. We must not forget Lyme Regis and Sidmouth, two delightful British seaside resorts visited for a day. A good time was had by all.



Tempsford Hall Garden Party

Tempsford Hall Garden Party. Thirty six members attended on Sunday 30th June and enjoyed the weather and the company.



Forthcoming Events.

Friday	13th September	- Summer Luncheon - Freddie's, St, Albans.
Friday	11th October	- Kier Southern Long Service Award Luncheon.
Friday	8th November	- Winter Warmer Luncheon. Ruby's Bushey.
Friday	13th December	- Xmas Luncheon Aldenham Golf Club.
Friday	13th February	- Valentine's Day Luncheon - Freddie's. St. Albans
Friday	21st March	- St. Patrick's Day Luncheon. Aldenham.
Friday	25th April	- St. George's Day Luncheon. Freddie's St. Albans.

Terry Delany.

Tempsford



King's Arms

Our activities for 2013 started as last year with lunch in February at the King's Arms in Cardington - a group of fourteen attended.

Wheatsheaf lunch

In March, twenty of us had our usual lovely meals at the Wheatsheaf, Tempsford – some of us were still there at closing time (3.00pm).



April & May lunches

April and May lunches were held at The Eaton Oak in St Neots and the Danish Camp in Willington respectively and, for once, the weather in Willington was lovely so we had a stroll on the river bank.

June lunch

Seven was again the number at our June lunch at the Five Bells in Henlow where lovely food was enhanced by the excellent service from the staff. It is a pity that so many of our usual group were away on holiday.

Tempsford (Cont.)

Wimpole Estate, Cambridge

For our visit to Wimpole Estate near Cambridge on 23 May we were less lucky with the weather but the seven in our group deemed it a worthwhile outing with a most interesting guided tour of the ground floor of the hall.

In between the showers we visited the gardens and the farm and got back into our cars just before the heavens opened.

The farm was memorable for two reasons – the extraordinary smell of the piggery and the pet rabbit named Stew; the former testing the saying that pigs are clean animals and the latter a gentle hint to children as to where our food comes from.



Rushden / Tempsford Golf Day

The weather once again proved to be a glorious day for the Rushden/Tempsford Golf Day on Wednesday 5 June when 12 players took part at Pavenham Park Golf Course.

Overall winner	Roy Martin
Bes front nine	Pete Cullum
Best back nine	Dave Smith
Nearest to the pin	John Stamford
Longest drive	Terry Holland



Tempsford Annual Garden Party

Sixty of our members joined the annual garden party on 30 June at Tempsford Hall (reported elsewhere) when, once again, we were blessed with gorgeous weather, and our latest lunch was held on 9 July at The Greyhound Inn, Haynes, Bedfordshire where twelve of us had a very leisurely meal and plenty of chat.

Harold Thompson

Our deepest sympathies to the families of the following members who have passed away.

Name	Date Passed Away
Andrew Tuffield	21 Dec 2012
Bertie Thipthorpe	08 Dec 2012
Christopher Webb	16 May 2013
Dorren Weston	10 Oct 2012
Ernest Twell	30 Oct 2012
Ernest Thrower	01 Dec 2012
Frank Topliss	27 Nov 2012
Graham Wheelhouse	22 Mar 2013
Ian Urqurhart	05 Mar 2013
Joan Veneer	04 Apr 2013
John Tebutt	02 Nov 2012
Mary Townrow	30 May 2012
Mavis Slater	04 Jan 2013
Paul Stribling	10 Oct 2012
Raymond Wellard	20 Jul 2013
Sheila Venn	05 Feb 2013
Thelma Short	06 Mar 2012

James Anthony Dunster (1926 – 2013)

Tony Dunster's beginnings are a role model for any generation. He was an original thinker, a charismatic leader and an engineer with a capital E. He attended Colchester Royal Grammar School and University College School before entering City & Guilds College, one of the constituent Colleges of Imperial, in 1943.

After graduation he joined the firm Sir Alexander Gibb, to work on the design and construction of power stations. He moved on to J.L.Kier in 1949 and was employed on a range of cooling tower projects before being seconded to the Owen Falls Construction Company on a contract for a major hydro-electric scheme in Uganda. He was there for three years, and one of his oft told tales was his using his end of tour leave period to drive home, with a colleague, across the Sahara in a far from new Austin 16.....

On returning he found himself Yorkshire bound, to build coal preparation plants at Manvers Main and Cadeby Collieries near Rotherham,

followed by Skelton Grange Power Station, near Leeds. He was promoted to contracts manager in 1959, and a year later appointed project manager by the Kier Christiani & Nielsen JV, to construct the Medway Bridge on the M2. Prominent images of this iconic structure, designed by O.A.Kerensky of Freeman Fox & Partners, were to be seen at Tempsford Hall for the next twenty years!

1963 saw Tony a director of Kier Limited, heavily involved in international tendering and the planning of the High Wycombe By-Pass contract, a successful bid by the Green Cubitts Kier consortium.

Tony left Kier two years later to become managing director of Shephard, Hill & Co. a privately owned firm with offices in Ealing and Chesterfield. At this time the company enjoyed a thriving open cast coal division and a small civil engineering operation.

Much was to change over the next twenty five years as Shephard Hill was to become associated with a variety of prestigious infrastructure projects. The safe removal of the Aberfan Spoil tips, the construction of reservoirs at Farmoor, Ardingly and the now legendary Carsington dam, which collapsed during construction. Due to Tony's strenuous efforts, the cause of the failure was identified as a design error, and the company went on to successfully build a wholly redesigned structure.

Tony's lifelong driving force was engineering innovation, especially with regard to bridge construction, where he excelled in providing clients with design alternatives. One of the most successful of these was the glued segmental construction for the East Moors Viaduct at Cardiff, in association with Robert Benaim. On many such schemes he was ably assisted by designer, Norman Hough and quantity



surveyor Harry Ayres who came with him from Kier, at the outset.

Another expertise which prospered under Tony's leadership was that of breakwater construction, using both rock armour and a company designed unit known as a SHED -Shephard Hill Energy Dispersal. Developed for the Bangor Breakwater in Northern Ireland, SHEDs were later used in Jersey, Oman and Dubai.

At the end of the eighties, Shephard, Hill was sold and, a year or so later, Tony retired.

Tony leaves widow, Marian, and a family of four grown up children. She was his secretary at Manvers Main and they lived in Hillingdon and Gerrards Cross for most of their married life, only recently moving north to a village near Rotherham. Tony was in fine form when he and Marian attended the 2012 Kier Fellowship Summer Party.

My sincere thanks to the Institution of Civil Engineers, to John Mott CBE & Joe Kirk, from Kier and to Humphrey Pocock, from Shephard Hill, for their assistance in providing information to supplement that retained in my now failing memory.

David Hattersley MBE

Shephard, Hill 1966-1969 & Kier 1969-1989

Crossword Competition

£50 Prize for
the correct
solution drawn
out of a hat!

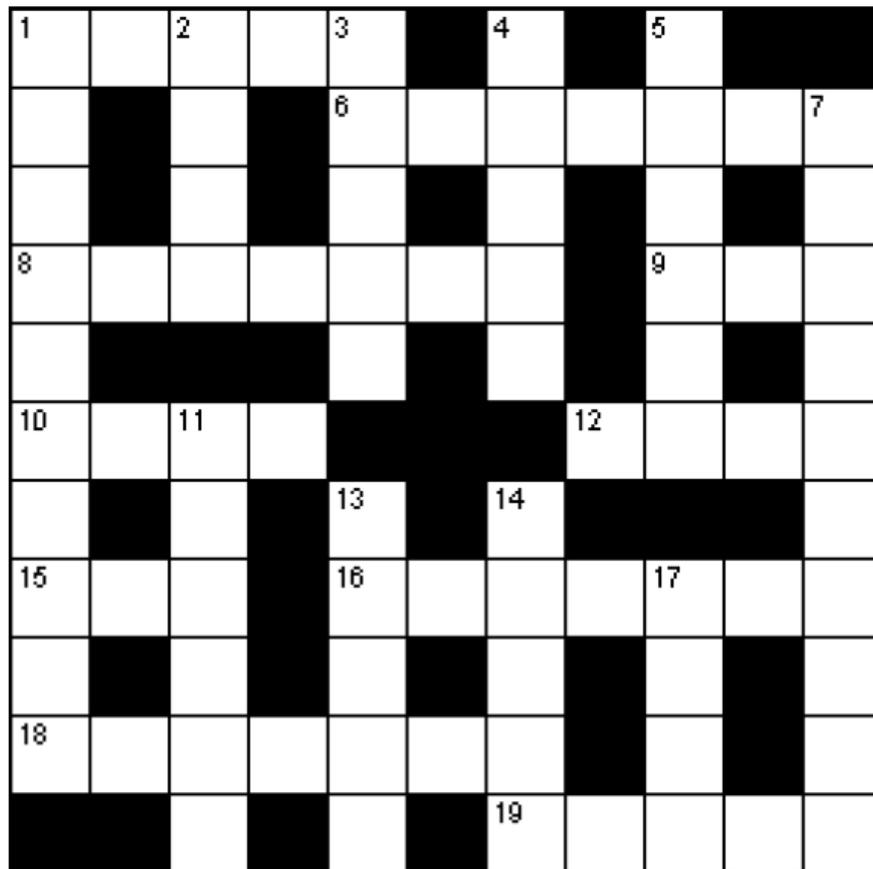
Last edition's winner
and the recipient
of £50:

Diane Winter
King's Lynn
Norfolk
PE34 3DS



Deadline Date:
15 December 2013

Don't forget to
include your name
and address with
your entry



Across

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1. | Mathematics (5) |
| 6. | Camera stands (7) |
| 8. | Public disgrace (7) |
| 9. | Minor falsehood (3) |
| 10. | Frolic (4) |
| 12. | Encounter (4) |
| 15. | Wager (3) |
| 16. | Shield (7) |
| 18. | Something
unpleasant to look at (7) |
| 19. | Flavour (5) |

Down

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Capable of being
measured (10) |
| 2. | Brass wind instrument (4) |
| 3. | Investigate closely (5) |
| 4. | Paddock (5) |
| 5. | Sweetmeat (6) |
| 7. | Replace (10) |
| 11. | Hand covering (6) |
| 13. | Ghost (5) |
| 14. | Celestial body (5) |
| 17. | Long fish (4) |

Entrants must be members/partners of the Fellowship.
All solutions to be sent either by post or email to:

John Simson, 5 Gainsborough Place, Hutton, Essex, CM13 2R
OR: johnsimson@live.co.uk