

The eagle and the grasshopper – an invitation to ALL former Martins Bank staff...



An elderly eagle, out for a walk, came to a pleasant stream. Beside it stood an old but lively grasshopper, still plump and chirpy. ‘Hello again!’ said the grasshopper, nervously vaulting behind a stone. ‘AGAIN?’ replied the eagle. ‘Yes, AGAIN’ said the grasshopper. ‘I must confess I am not sure I recognise you’ replied the eagle. ‘Well it has been half a century’ said the grasshopper, looking slightly sad. ‘I don’t really look anything *like* I did when we met in 1969’. ‘Oh’ said the eagle, the faint light of recognition in his eye, ‘it’s YOU!’ ‘Of course it’s me’, replied the grasshopper, ‘things have changed so much, and people don’t seem to stop and chat like they used to’. ‘I know what you mean’, said the eagle, ‘no-one seems to have time for anyone – I’m not sure that’s how we thought things would turn out?’ ‘Indeed, no’, said the grasshopper, ‘the world has changed so much that everything we once stood for has been turned on its head by that *world wide web* thingy’. ‘WEB thingy!’, snorted the eagle – show me the spider that spinned that mess and I’ll have him for lunch!’ ‘Ah, now LUNCH would be a good idea, we mature grasshoppers need regular meals to keep us going these days, and companionship, AND a familiar face now and then’. The eagle pondered for a moment, and suddenly the spark of a good idea made him flap his wings excitedly. Startled, the grasshopper darted once more behind the stone – ‘are you alright?’ he asked. ‘Of course I am, my *dear* fellow, I’ve just had the most wonderful idea – why don’t we go out to lunch and talk over the old times again?’ ‘Oh yes’, said the grasshopper ‘let’s bring along ALL of our friends and make it a real occasion’. So off they went together, looking for the best former Martins branch to have been turned into a restaurant. And so it was that their friendship was both reignited and reinforced. ‘After all’, noted the eagle sagely, ‘none of us is getting any younger’... To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Merger between Martins Bank and Barclays Bank, special lunches will be held at 12 noon for 1.00 pm in London on 12th December 2019 and 12 noon for 1.00 pm in Liverpool on 16th December 2019. If you have not already done so then please make contact with David Baldwin, Secretary, The Grasshopper Pensioners’ Club who will ensure that you receive an invitation in due course.

THE GRASSHOPPER PENSIONERS’ CLUB



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