

MARTINS BANK ARCHIVE

www.martinsbank.co.uk

Lives remembered



As we come to the end of our seventh year online, we can look back at a productive number of months, in which several important new alliances were formed. That we have been able to contribute images and information to the Imperial War Museum's Lives of the First World War project is down to the incredible foresight of Martins Bank Magazine - by publishing so many images of staff, and writing in detail about their careers and War service, the Bank has inadvertently helped large numbers of people, who in this Century are researching their family tree information, and in particular the roles played by their relatives in the Great War.



Still going to extremes

Martins Pensioner Dave Baldwin has taken every opportunity to take his trusty camera out and about capturing contemporary views of Branch buildings for our popular "Then and Now" series, which is scattered throughout our 970+ Branch Network pages.



Images © D Gulliver

Dave's detective work also uncovered images and letters which tell the surprising story of Martins Bank's former sub-Branch at Cononley, Yorkshire, where the Bank of Liverpool was instrumental in helping to "prevent the young men and youths of the village from becoming delinquent"!

Co-operative banking

We continue to enjoy the generous assistance of Barclays Group Archives, who were joined this year by their counterparts at Coutts, Lloyds Banking Group HSBC Holdings, and Royal Bank of Scotland Group to help us to show what the other banks on the High Street looked like in the 1960s. We have also been able to embark on providing lists of the banks in local competition with Martins, on many of our Branch Network pages.



A new Endeavour

With the invaluable help of some of our Martins Pensioners, who show no sign of stopping "going to extremes to helpful", we were delighted to work with ITV Productions, providing information and advice for the new series of "Endeavour". ITV Studios were also helpful to the Archive - in one of ITV's 60th Anniversary programmes, a rare 1968 glimpse of Martins Bank Carnforth with the Midland Bank next door was shown, and this was later captured and provided to us by ITV staff.



Image © ITV Studios

The bank in a school



Our good friends at Francis Frith continue to keep an eagle (or should that be LIVER BIRD?) eye out for images of Martins Branches amongst their vast collection of photographs. With the help of Sedbergh School's Archivist and Francis Frith, we were at last able to track down pictures of Sedbergh Branch whilst it was still located in one of the School buildings.



Image © Frith Ltd

It is hard to believe that for more than a year the brand new building that became Sedbergh Branch in 1953 is now no longer a bank, having finally succumbed to the pressures of modern day banking in 2015.



Image © Barclays

Social rankings

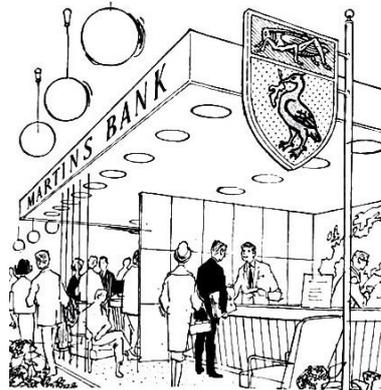
The Martins Bank Archive Facebook Page has now found its feet, and is ready to be used for comment by, and conversation amongst, our visitors and Martins Bank Staff Members along with the former Staff of Lewis's Bank and visitors to Lewis's Bank Archive. We would like to thank our legion of visitors and contributors, for putting Martins Bank Archive consistently within the top ten Google® search results, and for most of the time in the top three.



Grace, and a favour



Above all this year, we have tried to show that heritage and social history can be shared without cost and that "mutual back-scratching" by way of reciprocal arrangements can work to the advantage and satisfaction of all those involved. We were particularly pleased early in 2016 to work and share with Grace's Guide to British Industrial History - a mammoth charitable project which has made astonishing progress in mapping out the history of thousands of business ventures in the UK going back hundreds of years. Amongst their collection of images are several advertisements not previously held by Martins Bank Archive. Grace's have added a page for Martins Bank which links back to both the Archives of the Barclays Group, and ourselves, encouraging interest from visitors new to all three sites.



LONDON INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION

Martins Bank have an office at Stand No. 12, Empire Hall, Olympia and exhibitors, customers and visitors are invited to make use of the comprehensive banking facilities provided. Please ask for a copy of our booklet "An Account at Martins Bank".

Martins Bank



Image Courtesy Grace's Guide

Martins Bank Archive exists to advance the education of British social history related to aspects of banking practices and technologies, and those who offered and used them in the 1960s. We identify and evaluate in particular, records and artefacts relating to Martins Bank Limited, including its former incarnations and its constituent banks, which will be of use to current and future researchers, acquiring such items for the archive and organising procedures and systems for their storage and preservation. Martins Bank Archive is a voluntary venture, and does not profit or seek to profit in any way from the display or other use of the images and other items in its possession, and every effort is made to establish and declare their ownership. Contributors and copyright holders are prominently acknowledged. Whilst Martins Bank Archive has no connection with the day to day trading activities of the Barclays Group of companies, we are grateful for the ongoing and generous guidance, advice and support of Barclays Group Archives in the building and shaping of this online social history.