



**REMEMBRANCE
LUNCHES
SUPPLEMENT**



BIRMINGHAM Friday 11th October



(Back row from left to right and inset): *Ray Franklin, Mike Caughey, Malcolm Doughty, John Dyke, Peter Bates, David Ashby, Robert Bunn, Graham Kerby., Charles Hole, Maureen Walker (duplicated), Tony Hill* (Front row from left to right): *Carol Moore, Reg Bywell, Eric Davies, Chris Broomhall, Ruth Hole, Geoff Gallagher, Ralph Roberts, Bill Alderton, Mike Parker.*

The Birmingham Lunch was arranged by Chris Broomhall and Carol Moore with some 'then' photographs below:



**Ray
Franklin**



**Mike
Caughey**



Robert Bunn



**Reg
Bywell**



**Reg
Bywell**



**Geoff
Gallager**



**Ralph
Roberts**



**Bill
Alderton**

David Ashby writes: *There were twenty one Martins staff meeting up for what may be the last time. Many of those present had attended informal get-togethers over the years. Of course many of us are getting older and find it difficult to travel. However, the oldest of those attending was 95. Some of us had not met since our Martins days over 50 years ago. The event was very successful and enjoyed by all and our thanks go to the ladies who put a lot of effort into getting the event arranged.'*

Robert Bunn attended as the 'Head Office' representative and we must also thank Bill Ronnie who took the photograph and for obvious reasons was unable to be included in it.

LEEDS, Wednesday 27th November

Organised by Club member David Baxter was attended by 64 former members of staff and



**David
Baxter**



**Brenda
Northrop
(Farey)**



**Jean
Overend
(Plume)**



**David
Baldwin**



Jack Foster



**John
Robertshaw**



**Geoff
Helliwell**



**Robert
Dewhirst**



**Mick
Mc Clay**



**Colin
Redshaw**



**Barry
Dimaline**



**Peter
Hole**

their partners which was held at The Wheatley Arms in Ben Rhydding with David Baldwin attending as the Club's representative. Colin Redshaw travelled up to his old stomping ground from his home in deepest West Sussex to meet his former colleagues. Their 'Then' photographs appear above whilst their 'Now' images are below with names yet to be added in



due course. Everyone agreed that 50 years had passed in the blink of an eye and yet it was amazing how so few of those attending had changed in appearance over the years. In 1969, the West Riding consisted of Liverpool, Manchester and Leeds District branches, and quite a few of those attending had not realised that their Barclays colleagues were actually 'Martians' until they met at the Lunch! Two new members signed-up on the day with others saying that they would do so in the near future with several asking when the next Yorkshire/Lancashire reunion would take place.

Memories from Our Former Colleagues Who Are/Were Unable to Attend the Lunches:

Sir Brian Pearse: *Pat and I will miss you all on 12th December. 'Old Age' is a real nuisance. Our very best wishes to you all, Brian and Pat.*



David Winckles: *Please give my best regards to all present and I treasure the happy memories I have of my days in 68 Lombard Street and all the colleagues I met throughout the London District.*



*Insofar as my remittance is concerned I should be very pleased if you would use this in whatever way you choose to drink to the memory of all Martians, past and present. I remember him (Derek Lunt) well, in fact he was a distant relative as was Bobby Dyke. As for my details, they would take up too much paper and time, save to say that on 12th December 1969 I was working in 54 Lombard St LHO having been shunted up, or down, the road from 68 Lombard St. I was running for Ken Bromley who was liaising with John Quinton on certain procedural matters connected with the merger. At this stage in one's life there are so many happy memories but tinged with many sad ones. I would like to mention those friends and colleagues not with us any more...**Stuart Joynson, Vic Bateson, Bill Pearson, George Wareing, Juan Costain** and of course **The Meddlers Golfing Society** and from London, **Harry Taylor, Ken Osborn, Doug Bourne** and so many more...they made our days in Martins Bank so memorable and enabled us with affection to want to get together and re-live all those happy days. I send my good wishes and those of **Sheila** who all worked wonders on the waste and ledger machines in Liverpool City Office to keep the books and the control clerks in order! With our best wishes **Sheila and David Winckles.***

Donald Cutler: *Unfortunately we cannot attend but we send our best wishes for a happy and successful event. Good to chat about the old Craven District when we worked for a **proper caring** bank, **Donald.***

Jean Whitton: *Thank you for the kind invitation, but mostly for the contact we made. Good to hear you and quite a surprise to say the least. I am sorry I cannot be with you. Please pass on my good wishes to all, **Jean***

Alan Huck: *Many thanks for your kind invitation, which sadly I must decline because of health issues. It is with great regret that we must miss this opportunity to meet many old Martins friends, **Alan***



Ronnie Williamson: *Unfortunately I shall be away that week. I hope you all enjoy the occasion, I shall be thinking of you, **Ronnie.***

John Mellin: *Regrettably I cannot join you all. Memories of Keighley and Cross Hills are ingrained. Please pass on my good wishes to everyone.*

Sandra Howarth: *I am very sad not to be able to attend. I wish you all a lovely lunch together.*

Bill Turnbull: *Really enjoyed my working life at Martins.*

Ralph Roberts: *Those were the days!*

John Henry Robinson: *Hi David, I'm so sorry that we can't be with you all for the celebrations next month. My health is not good and a trip to London is beyond me. I joined Martins on 23rd September 1968 at Spennymoor with **Albert Cheeseborough, Colin Brown and Sybil Snowdon.** On 12th December 1969, I was at Willington branch with Ray Hunter, Anne and Christine. I then got Barclaytised at Leyburn,*

Anthony Higgs: *Hi David, Please give my apologies and best wishes to all at the lunches. At the time of the merger I was 1st cashier at Northenden branch, having previously worked at Brooks's Bar, Oldham Street and Birchfields branches, all of which were in Manchester.*



Bill Halliwell: *I am afraid that Bill, now 88, no longer finds it easy to go up to London for functions. I hope you have a very successful and happy lunch party.*



*Best wishes, **Bill and Rosemary Halliwell.***

Bob Drake: *Hello David. Please add my name to the list of apologies. Working at Liverpool Old Swan on 12th December 1969 also worked at Liverpool 45 Victoria Street, 325 Derby Road Bootle, Liverpool, Breck Road. Best wishes to all Martians, **Bob.***



Peter Swatton: *Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend any re-unions (my wife and I live in Somerset now and we both have some health problems these days). I worked at 68 Lombard Street for nearly 10 years rising from a so-called 'waste boy' to senior clerk in the Sanctions Office with a spell as PA to Manager **Bill Barter** along the way. I particularly remember working with **Frank Blaker, Alistair McIntosh, Ray Waterson and Ros Edwards.** I left 68 to go on Inspection in Barclays in 1971 and retired in London in 1997. I send my best wishes to anyone who recalls those days, and would be very happy to hear from anyone who might like to email. **Peter***

Dick Purkiss: *First of all, sorry we won't be with you. On 'D' day I was Manager of Martins Lewisham branch. I must admit my fears of joining Barclays were that as a Martins man I would be overlooked, but this couldn't have been further from the truth. Regarding my Martins career, I joined in 1954 as a 21 year old (late entrant) at Sidcup branch, then Edgware Road, Orpington and back to Sidcup. I then spent two years in District Office on the lending desk, No. 2 in premises (London) for a further two years, and Pro Manager At Dartford branch, opening Lewisham in 1968. Unfortunately most of my colleagues in Martins are no longer with us. Summing up my Manager at Sidcup, **Dickie Richards'**, inspired and encouraged me to take the banking exams and work hard, for which I am very grateful. My time in*



Martins will never be forgotten. Give my regards to anyone who remembers me in Martins. Best wishes
Dick Purkiss

Irene G Warburton: *Unfortunately I am unable to attend the luncheon however, I give below my information you require. On 12th December 1969 I was at South Audley Street branch but began working at Seaham and have also worked at Curzon Street. I remember Alan Armstrong, Peter Noble, Alan Macdonald, John Walton and "Teola"? Remembering happy working days and wishing everyone all the very best.* **Irene**

Andy Hardy-Smith: *Worked during my Martins career at Charles Street, Leicester with a few days relief at Hotel street, Leicester. Apologies that I will not be there but wish you every success with the lunches. The names of the people are now a bit hazy but send my regards to all my old colleagues. Kind regards,* **Andy Hardy-Smith**

Derek Lunt: *I was Branch Manager of Martins Booker Avenue, Liverpool on 12 December 1969. As regards my earlier career: I joined Martins in September 1948 at Liverpool City Office and following RAF National Service returned to the Bank at Childwall Five Ways Branch 1952 /1953, followed by Breck Road 1953 /1957. I was at Heywoods Branch 1958/1962 before going on Liverpool District Office Relief Staff for a spell before joining the Advance Control Department. In 1962 I assumed responsibility for the Liverpool District Training Branch in Castle Street. In 1967 I went to Booker Avenue Branch as Clerk in Charge and was made Branch Manager in 1969 on gaining Full Branch Status. It is a great disappointment that I cannot attend this memorable occasion which would have provided an opportunity to meet up with friends and colleagues within the Liverpool Area. Whether or not the undermentioned will be present or not I do not know but would specially mention **Harry Williams, Colin Skelton, Eric Winstanley** who have done so much for the Liverpool Pensioners welfare over a long period together with **John Barnes, Peter Hope, Colin Harris, Mick McClay, Bob Dyke and Sheila and David Winckles.** I am sure I will have missed some greatly valued former colleagues from this list. Together with apologies for non attendance due to health issues, I would wish to convey my good wishes to those friends and colleagues present who I had been greatly looking forward to meeting after a long absence from Liverpool following my wife and I moving to Hertfordshire.*

Malcolm Rhodes: *My sincere apologies and especially to Trevor Vaughan, Brian Horn, David Baxter and everyone else with whom I worked over the years but, health-wise, I am afraid that I am unable to make the journey to Ben Rhydding. My warmest regards to everyone who remembers me.* **Malcolm.**



Stuart Bremner: *I was working at Dewsbury branch on 12th December 1969. Started there aged 18 in 1966 and enjoyed every minute. Worked with some great people - **Bob Sanderson, Alan Speight, Barry England, Liz Broadhead (who became Mrs England) and Jane, who became Mrs Speight,** to name just a few. Still in regular contact with **Peter Warburton.** Always grateful to the chief clerk **Jim Crossley,** who allowed me loads of time off to play sport! **Stuart***

Mark Dancey: *In Brief: 12th December 1969, Hedge End, a sub to Southampton Bar Gate. Started late at Portsmouth 1966. Joined as 1st Cashier to replace **Malcolm Willis.** **Mark***

Bob Dyke *I am simply not fit enough to attend the Lunch David. I should be grateful, therefore, if you would offer my apologies. On 12th December 1969 I was at Castle Street branch having spent the previous years at Liverpool City Office, Local Head Office and Victoria Street branch and others. In fact all of my Martins days were in Liverpool branches. **I had been looking forward to joining up with my former friends and colleagues and I should like you to pass on my kindest regards and best wishes to them all.** I am sure the lunch will be a very successful and enjoyable event and I know I shall get a full report from **Tom Gilkes** who keeps in touch with me. With my thanks and best wishes. Kind Regards **Bob Dyke***



Alan Appleton: *Hi David, Many thanks for sending the tie. I look forward to wearing it at the Spread Eagle Christmas Lunch. I will send you an order form for two coasters. My career in Martins Bank was as follows: Westgate, Newcastle upon Tyne (1959), trainee; Coatsworth Road, Gateshead, junior; District Relief Staff, cashier; Visiting Inspection Staff; Park View, Whitley Bay, securities, Deputy Manager's Assistant; Clayton Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, securities/foreign, Deputy Manager's Assistant. On the date of the merger the Martins Bank branch closed, and we all transferred to Barclays Clayton Street (200 yards away). Best wishes, **Alan.***

OUR VERY OWN 'ROGUES GALLERY'

Others mentioned in 'Apologies for Absence', and, for whom we have photographs, include:



Stuart Joynson



Vic Bateson



Bill Pearson



George Wareing



Harry Taylor



Jim Crossley



Ken Osborn



Doug Bourne



Bill
Turnbull



Albert
Cheesebrough,



Bill
Barter



Frank
Blaker



Alistair
McIntosh



Dickie
Richardes



Harry
Williams



Colin
Skelton



Eric
Winstanley



John
Barnes



Peter
Hope



Colin
Harris

Finally, this special supplement would never have been possible but for the time and effort that Jonathan Snowden has expended on creating the Martins Bank Archive (www.martinsbank.co.uk). We must thank Jonathan for his continuing efforts in developing the Archive without which our memories would be simply those (memories) and would have only been personal. The 'mug shots' used in this supplement have been taken from the Archive with Jonathan's approval.

What About The Future?

With so many former staff being remembered after 50 years, it has been suggested that a means of making contact with long-lost former colleagues might be worthwhile but it is entirely up to you. This facility can be trialled in our next Newsletter if you feel that it would be appreciated and I look forward to receiving your thoughts and comments and the names of your former colleagues with whom you would like to re-establish contact.

In order to produce and deliver this supplement before Christmas, the reports on the Manchester, London and Liverpool Lunches will be covered in the first Newsletter of 2020.

Please feel free to contact me with your memories of your time in Martins and we do hope that by purchasing your very own set of coasters these special times will never be forgotten.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year (when we hope to see as many of you as possible):

Bernard Lovewell
David Baldwin
Robert Bunn
Susan Sutcliffe

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Welfare Officer



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Although I have made every effort to ensure that the photographs included in this Newsletter have been correctly matched with the names beneath them, should this not be the case then please do not hesitate to contact me.