

THE GRASSHOPPER PENSIONERS' CLUB



**MARTINS
BANK**

Website: www.martinsbank.co.uk

© gut informiert!

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Autumn Edition 2024

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED AT OUR
FORTHCOMING LUNCHES
RESERVATIONS FOR OUR
55TH ANNIVERSARY
REMEMBRANCE LUNCHES
INVALUABLE MEMORIES**



CLOSURE OF KEIGHLEY BRANCH

Despite it being a sad day when another of our few remaining branches was permanently closed at 12 Noon on Friday 9th August, several of our members who worked there met to remember the good times that they enjoyed working there.



Above: On the front steps, from left to right: John Mellin, Kathleen Ratlidge (Teal), Brenda Northrop (Farey), Jane Carr (Gardner), Joan Wormald (Phillips), Dave Baldwin, Jeremy Bauer, David Baxter, Donald Wilding, Pam Pennington (Thomas), Jean Overend (Plume).

Top of next column is our happy group inside immediately after the Noon closure.



Following the closure, the day was lightened when we visited 'The Livery Rooms' (the Keighley Wetherspoons' hostelry for lunch where memories of the 60s were shared and assisted with a donation from our Club*. By luck more than management, we managed to stay within the limit of £10 per head by spending £99.98 on drinks (and food) for the ten members of staff who attended.

* When any of our remaining branches closes you can also benefit to the tune of £10 per member if you arrange a similar meeting to remember the good times of working for Martins.

MIKE SHARP

It is with great sadness that I have to advise you of Mike's death. As you will be aware, Mike was our Treasurer for 10 years during which time he arranged many memorable and enjoyable events for the Club. Our thoughts go out to Elaine, Mike's wife, and his family.

A lifelong supporter of the 'Magpies' (Newcastle United), he even named their house after them. I first met Mike when we were both on a CWIP Course at Radbroke Hall with several other 'unknown' (at that time) Martians, including **Dereck Clark**. Others (in the 'Tech Office') were **Mike Cadwallader**, **Dave Morton** and **George Martin** (and possibly others).

What a great person Mike was! With his 'Geordie wit' he made the course fly-by, just like his Brown Mark III Cortina, in which he weirdly used to pass me every Monday, in my bright orange Citroen Dyane, as it used every one of its 602 cc engine to chug up to the

summit at 'Windy Hill' on the boundary between Yorkshire and that other County on the M62. Going downhill was a different matter though and, despite my 'electrifying' acceleration (0 to 60 in 34 seconds), I always overtook Mike on the way down. I'm certain that you will all agree that Mike was a truly great person and will be sorely missed by everyone who came into contact with him.

Mike's funeral will take place at:

[Surrey & Sussex Crematorium | Dignity Crematoria Ltd \(dignityfunerals.co.uk\)](http://Surrey & Sussex Crematorium | Dignity Crematoria Ltd (dignityfunerals.co.uk))

on Friday 20th September at 12 noon in the St Richards Chapel.

CORRECTION re OLD TRAFFORD BRANCH

In the summer edition, I referred to the Manager as Vernon R Norman whereas it should have been Vernon R Norton.

BRUTON STREET REACTION

I was pleased to receive my copy of the latest Newsletter today.

In particular I focussed on the story about Clive Willis and the jolly staff-jaunt to the Nell Gwynne Club in Soho, which at that time was a customer of Bruton Street Branch.

I am not sufficiently 'ga-ga' yet, to forget that I joined one similar and enjoyable jaunt with the staff to that Club.

I was in London on a course from Cornwall and being a friend of Jean Wheeler [*formerly Taylor*] she invited me along after work one unforgettable Friday evening.

I note the relevant piece of editorial is carried under a 'nom-de-plume' but I would put good money on betting that it was submitted by that same ever chuckling lady. I note she has got herself in print in several recent editions of The Grasshopper News and perhaps she is getting embarrassed at 'hogging' the printed limelight!

Yours in fun from Cornwall,

Chris Hayne

Editor: Sorry Chris, but my lips must remain forever sealed

MORE of OLD TRAFFORD

It was good to see the inside photos of Old Trafford branch. As you know, I was the one who closed it following one too many armed hold-ups. The Manager you refer to was **Vernon R Norton** (not Norman), he was a Manchester United supporting Yorkshireman and was **Assistant Manager at Cheetham** branch when I joined the Bank on 15th August 1966. We were not allowed to disturb him on Wednesdays as he was studying form to enable him to complete his Pools coupon. He was later my manager at **Sale** branch where I was the Accountant, sadly

he died without taking much from the pension fund but he was a smoker. I also worked with **Hugh Oldham** at **Old Trafford** branch in the 1980's when Hugh was Manager and will be seeing him again at our lunch in December. You also ask about screens and Old Trafford certainly had them installed. I was Manager's Assistant, Hugh will be 84 in October and will of course be joining him to celebrate.

George Hamilton

Regarding Old Trafford branch's positioning. Chester Rd ran across the top - and was the main entrance - giving the branch it's postal address of "555 Chester Road". The road at the bottom was Talbot Road - where the long corridor is. I think the square block 'intruding' into the branch premises was a barbers'.

WOOLER BRANCH

Before Martins started using bullion vans to transport cash, coin was often transported using vans or lorries. I had only been in the bank for three weeks when the manager took a call from District Office. I was to report to **Grey Street Newcastle Branch** (our main branch in the region) the next morning to take charge of a bullion run up to **Berwick**.

I reported to the Chief Cashier the next day to be told that the journey involved distributing coin to various branches throughout the Northumberland coast area as far as Berwick. The vehicle would be staffed by a driver, a porter and myself. I was the only bank clerk on board therefore was in charge of the operation.

The Chief Cashier told me to wait by the front door and advise him when the vehicle had arrived. I expected nothing less than a limousine and was very disappointed to find out that it was a lorry owned by the local scrap metal merchant who banked at the branch. We loaded up and set off.

After a while the driver announced that his boss had a holiday home near Seahouses and we were to call en-route to pick up some timber. This was an unexpected diversion. Nevertheless upon arrival I climbed up on to the back of the lorry and helped to load the timber, following which his boss gave me a generous tip. I was very pleased as I had started work on the princely sum of only five pounds per week.

Shortly before Berwick we pulled in to a transport cafe for lunch. I was quite concerned leaving the lorry unattended, but was assured that we 'always stop here'. The other two tucked in to their bacon and eggs, but I could

not enjoy mine as I spent the whole time looking out of the window to check on the lorry. If anything had been stolen then my banking career would have ended after three weeks. Fortunately all was well and we continued our journey up to Berwick,

We returned via **Wooler** Branch. When we



arrived it was 3.30pm, the branch having closed at 3.00pm The Manager's wife had prepared a lovely strawberry cream tea for us which was laid out on the counter.

Those were the days, happy memories!

Alan Appleton

Alan continues:

I was amazed to discover that one of my local shops was still using a Burroughs adding machine identical to the model which I used when I first started the bank. The adding machine was the only



device in the branch apart from the manual typewriter in use by the secretary.

The adding machine was complete with a lever on the side. I remember that after entering every amount you had to pull the lever to register the transaction. There were buttons for sub totals, and totals, for which you also had to pull down the lever to obtain the answer.

After a while I became so used to the machine that the operation became a blur. Eventually either the machine was adapted, or we obtained a replacement Burroughs machine which had a bar at the side which you tapped after every transaction rather than pulling a lever. (Editor: **A Burroughs 160 Alan?**)

Technology has moved on leaps and bounds. In those days who could have imagined that, one day, everyone would own and operate their own computer?

MY APOLOGIES

(for losing the name of the member who sent these memories)

Just a few observations relating to the newsletter, firstly it was nice to read the contributions from three of our Manchester members **Hilary Currah, Sue Windeler and Maureen Walkden**.

Hilary mentions **Barbara Slater** and **Hugh Oldham** in her recollections. Hugh has been a colleague and friend to me since 1968 when I first met him on relief at Martins **Broadheath** branch. We still meet at least weekly where a group of us go walking (either on a Tuesday or Wednesday). I remember Barbara from the past but alas have no contact details and wonder whether she is still in the area. She also mentions **Arthur Jackson**, her manager at **Sale** branch and my recollections of him are of a very severe, pedantic, stickler for the rules with a very stern exterior. If I remember rightly he used to live with his sister and I can remember one Saturday morning when I was on relief at **Sale** and, as Hilary said, he wouldn't let anyone leave until the whole office had finished their work and everything balanced. I had balanced immediately after doors closed at 11.30, posted the ledgers and was anxious to leave, as I had a football match in the afternoon. It got towards 1 p.m. and not everyone had balanced and he still wouldn't let me leave the premises, so this 18 year old took the wind out of his sails by telling him I was leaving, left the branch and never heard from him again!!

His replacement **Jim Kay** was a breath of fresh air for the branch staff and customers.

'Martins go to extremes to be helpful'

(and I believe that we continue to)

A few weeks ago, I received an unsolicited email from a Brian Bezzant and was cautious. However, after several exchanges of emails I discovered an interesting relationship exists between Brian and his former colleagues and Martins Bank! So, read on and I hope that some of our members will be able to expand on

Brian's story follows:



Hello Dave - I have lost my Grasshopper tie and wonder if you know of a source from which I may purchase another one? My case is unusual in

that when I was a Defence Ministry apprentice (for EID Aquila) in the 60s I lived in a Ministry hostel (**Above**) in Chislehurst. The hostel mascot

was a flat brass grasshopper mounted on a wooden plaque that had been presented to the hostel in the late 50s by the manager of **Martins Bank Chislehurst (Then below)** on the promise that the apprentices would stop



pinching his Grasshopper from outside his bank land Now, below every time that they exited, drunk, from **The Ramblers Rest**

(below) pub nearby! The manager obviously had a sense of humour and we hostel members adopted the Grasshopper Tie as 'Our Tie'. We ex-



apprentices still meet up to remember old times, as your members do but I just feel a bit naked without my 'Hostel Tie'!

Hello again Dave - a grassy slope separated the Martins bank and Bromley Road in question (at the top) from **The Rambler's Rest** (at the bottom).

In my day there were not so many trees at the top of the slope and it was easier to see both the pub and the bank at the same time. The bank and the hanging Grasshopper sign could be seen from where Bromley Road met the top of Old Hill. The grasshopper sign was mounted such that it pointed out toward the road. The other day I took a screenshot via Google Street View of a building that seemed to be in the right place for the bank (attached) but to me it seemed a bit too big for a bank so I thought that it had replaced the bank - but the picture on the website you sent me corresponds very well to my screenshot. I include a screenshot of **The Ramblers Rest** (just visible between trees and over the traffic). My friend doesn't have any information regarding earlier years of my apprenticeship but there are others that I can ask when I can find them - I can always forward info later if it becomes available. While we are nattering my details are thus: I think that at some time the hostel moved to a location at Foxbury (the packing place) but I was already gone by then. EID Aquila was our

headquarters and I did training there and also at Woolwich Arsenal and Kidbrooke Government Buildings. We started out as Ministry of Aviation went to Ministry of Technology and finished up Ministry of Defence!

How could I not help Brian? I did have two 'spare' Grasshopper ties and offered them to Brian in exchange for a donation to one of our recently-deceased members, Julian Taylor's charities: The Penlee Lifeboat Station and crew.

Hello Dave - I remember The Penlee Lifeboat Disaster - I am not currently diving but am still a member of the BSAC (Ed: **British Sub-Aqua Club**) and like the idea of donating to the Lifeboat Association. I have donated £XX (Ed: **I will not embarrass Brian but I will say that he donated a generous amount in exchange for the tie and because of this, I sent both**) via the link and understand that the Gift Aid will add another X quid etc.. The chap that I asked earlier about earlier apprenticeship years has not yet come through so I will wait until tomorrow before my next email. Oh I would prefer the wider tie if that is alright please. I will try and attach screenshots of my donation for Julian's family's records as one of them carries a transaction ID.

Thanks Brian.

MORE MEMORIES FROM MICHAEL BROWN

I have received the latest edition of our Grasshopper Club magazine (Summer Edition 2024) which is a lasting tribute to Jonathan Snowdon who does a magnificent job in recording the history of our Bank. Included in the magazine is a photograph of the old premises of Preston 38, Fishergate, which was demolished in 1963. This was the Head Office of the Preston Union Bank. As a boy aged 16 entering the Bank on 1st November 1951 I stood on the steps of these premises before reporting to the Branch Manager, Mr Leslie Tomlinson, on the first day of my 42 years service ! As I stood there some friends saw me and asked if I had left school. I puffed up my chest and said "I am a Bank Clerk with Martins Bank". This pride followed me all the time I was with Martins and only a couple of years before I retired I felt Barclays was not what Martins used to be ! In the banking hall there were no anti-bandit screens above the counter. There were two brass Avery Weighing Scales on the counter (one of which was given to me on the demolition of the old premises and this has always since been displayed in the hall

of my home). Unbelievably there were also 4 SNUFF BOXES which were used regularly by several customers before they conducted their business. In my first interview with the Branch Manager, Mr Tomlinson advised me that to make progress in the bank I should be dedicated in my work, pass my bank exams AND USE MY INITIATIVE. During the first few days in the Bank I looked to spot an opportunity of using my initiative. One day I was given a batch of BPVs (Branch Payment Vouchers), which had passed through the system, and told to change the date of a rubber stamp and STAMP ALL THE VOUCHERS "PAID". This is what I did. A few days later at the same desk and by myself I saw a batch of BPVs and using my initiative I took the rubber stamp, changed the date and stamped each one "paid". Unfortunately these vouchers had only just been signed by the Accountant William Coupe ready for despatch. The Accountant hit the roof when he learned what I had done as he had to sign each one of the vouchers in that second batch. He (William Coupe) said I SHOULD NEVER USE MY INITIATIVE AGAIN! From that day I could do nothing right for Coupe - even pinning vouchers together was criticised! The late Keith Nicholson kindly gave me the outside plaque from one of our Cumbria Branches and this I have hung on the garage wall in our back garden which constantly reminds me of my Martins roots. I was of the third generation serving Martins. My paternal grandfather entered Dale Young & Co of South Shields and became No 2 at their Jarrow Branch and then served as Branch Manager of Hebburn for 17 years. Eventually this bank was taken over by Martins. My father returned from the war to Gosforth Branch (this was the branch from which he was enlisted in 1941) in Newcastle upon Tyne and eventually retired in 1972 at St Annes on Sea Lancashire. As a junior I had responsibility of looking after the postages and I was in dire trouble if there was any discrepancy. I also had to take the post to the Post Office together with another junior. This involved walking through a maze of back streets. Occasionally we had to take a package of Scotch and Irish notes for posting and these were valued at £5,000. In those days theft and security was never an issue! Another duty I had was to machine list outgoing cheques showing the bank code on the left and the amount on the right. It was not infrequently that I inadvertently switched these two columns. I then had to start again with all the

delay that caused. In the old premises of 38 Fishergate there was a fresh water spring which was used in a bullion lift taking cash from the strong-room to the counter. At the time the Deputy Manager only had a tiny area to interview customers and during open hours customers had to enter this small area, closing the door. This area was in fact on top of the bullion lift. One day a new entrant, Bert Shepherd, entered the side door at 9.15 am and not knowing where he should stand entered the customers' interviewing space. Unfortunately the 1st cashier in the strong room, not knowing there was someone in the customers' interviewing space, started the lift and Bert panicked as the floor rose. Hastily he opened the door and jumped outside. ! After 18 months or so at 38 Fishergate I was transferred to Clifton St Blackpool. At that branch we held the account of Blackpool Tower Company and especially after a busy bank holiday during the season we had thousands of the old white fivers paid in which had to be taken to the Bank of England in Manchester. One day the 1st Cashier instructed me to arrive at the branch at 6am the following day and I was given one set of keys to the strong-room whilst he had the other. Unbelievably the previous day all this money had been placed in a wicker basket and tied with rope and only sealed with a bank stamp. We all believed this was fully secure and safe. On the morning of the transfer a taxi arrived and together we had to place the wicker basket on top of the very small lid of the boot of the old London Taxi. We did so and went to Blackpool North Station where I was instructed to bring a luggage trolley. We took the trolley along the platform to the guard's van and put the basket inside. Next adjoining the guard's van was a 1st class compartment. When the 1st Cashier told me he would sit there I asked him about me and he said "YOU CAN SIT ON THE "b*****" BASKET"! At Blackpool I served at North Shore sub branch under Frank Box and also Bispham where the Clerk in Charge was Mr Aked who lived in the flat above. His wife always cooked him lunch which he had with her in the flat. Mr Aked made it very clear that customers were not welcome during the lunch break and generally it was quiet! These flats provided a cheap form of accommodation and were very much in demand. However the day would arrive when the Clerk In Charge was moved or retired. Sadly this did cause distress when inadequate arrangements had been made for an alternate place to live. This cheap form of

accommodation then was seen in a different light! In July 1953 I was called up for my 2 years National Service and when this came to an end I returned to 38, Fishergate. Later (in 1957) I acted as a cashier on one of the three Mobile Branches attending numerous Agricultural Shows and at the end of the season I again returned to 38, Fishergate. Each year the District held a Dinner Dance at the Grand Hotel in Manchester and at Preston we hired a small coach. This photo included my dear friend Geoff Millward and sat next to me is Mrs Chadwick. Standing at the back are Jim Chadwick Branch Manager of 38, and his son with whom I worked on Inspection. These were very happy times. In 1951 I was accepted on to the Graduate Training Course and for 3 months in 1963 I worked in the basement of Water Street (known as the Sunshine Room as there were no windows!) on a Rights Issue for Martins. This was a bitter winter and as we had accommodation at the Seacombe Ferry Hotel we had to cross the Mersey each day. It was so cold that the sea froze and each time the ferry docked it had to break through the ice. Incredibly the established custom was for commuters to walk anti clockwise around the deck. When the ferry docked only the nearest person to the barrier stepped on it and all the rest completed another circuit! 1961 saw my first appointment as Pro Manager at Hyde Branch and thereafter I served at Manchester District Office, 38 Fishergate (on my return there once again), Preston District Office, Blackburn Darwen St, London Regional Office, Maidstone District Office and South East Regional Office at Haywards Heath from where I retired in 1993. Overall I enjoyed my time in the Bank, especially Martins, and would certainly not have wished for any other career.

MICHAEL BROWN

Dear David, I was interested to read the article in the latest copy of your Newsletter about the number of Martins Bank branches that are still open (at the moment).

My father, Dennis Caughey, was the Manager of Worcester branch from 1946 until he retired in 1965, after 43 years service. He moved from Liverpool, where he was on Inspection and then Manager of Childwall Five Ways and during his time at Worcester he had four deputies who also started their careers in Liverpool: Jim Davies, Hugh Williams, Cam Bater and Bob Raw, also originally from the North.

I suppose that, enthused by my father's enjoyment of his work, I applied to work for Martins in 1953 and was successful with my application. I worked for the bank until the merger with Barclays when I was based in Oxford District where I worked until I retired, finishing my career as Manager of Kidlington branch in 1994. Yours sincerely,

Mike Caughey

David,

I was completely unaware that Kinrise have "opted out". Their vision for the building seemed like they were extremely committed to the project.

I wonder what happened? Could it be that the restoration costs exceeded any projected future income projections?

I hope that the building is completely re-purposed as planned!

Robin Lucas

Robin, I have been attempting to establish a relationship with the new owners since Kinrise opted out of the Water Street but to no avail, I'm afraid.

I will ask Kinrise for assistance in doing so again later today and live in hope that we will be able to arrange a lunch in Water Street once its restoration has been completed in the near future.

David

DEATH NOTICES

Evans	EDG*
Gibbens	Mrs J.
Hamer	'Betty', 1 st May 2024 aged 94
Sharp	'Mike' on 16 th August 2024

*EDG **Evans**. When the last Newsletter returned with the message 'Deceased'

and ALTHOUGH NOT A MEMBER

My Uncle had a cousin, Elizabeth Hamer (Betty Hamer to colleagues), who I vaguely recall knowing as a cashier at Liverpool City Office, 4 Water Street when I worked in HO Staff Department in the mid-1960s. Betty Hamer was born on 24th October, 1929 and died 1st May 2024. Her funeral took place at Landican Crematorium, Birkenhead on Friday 31st May, 2024

Editor: I am certain that everyone will agree that it is always sad to learn of the death of a former colleague, whether they be a member or not, which brings me to a request:

We must all know former colleagues who are still not members, some are your wives and/or partners, so can I ask you to encourage anyone that you know to become a member of our Club?

ALMOST, BUT NOT QUITE, I'M AFRAID

I am writing to inform you of my new address and also to challenge the title of 'youngest female pensioner'. My maiden name was **Jacqueline Pearce** and I was born on XX August 1951. I started as a junior in **Halton House, Holborn** branch in September 1967. Mr **Chalkley** was the Manager.

Kind regards

Jackie Chubb

CONTACT LOST

A name that was mentioned when **Keighley** branch was closed: **Kathleen Buck**, who became **Kathleen Hodson**. 'Katie' joined at **Keighley** 1963, and transferred to Silver Street, Halifax on her marriage in 1969. Does anyone know where Katie is now?

Another returned Newsletter: **PD Gash** was returned: No longer at this address.

Does anyone know where they are now?

Via Jonathan (and just in time)

An interesting article from the **WESTMORLAND GAZETTE**

'The Ambleside bank where a US President opened an account'

By Catherine Mackinlay

An American President and Beatrix Potter were among just some of the customers of an historic Ambleside bank that is set to be converted. The Lake District National Park Authority has approved plans from Casterton Leisure Ltd to transform the former Martins Bank at Skylark House into a café.



The former Martins branch on Market Place closed in 2014 after a 60 per cent decline in customer visits.



*1906
Aug. 7 | Woodrow Wilson | Longberry Cottage Rydal.*

Opened in 1871, it is one of the oldest of Martins Bank Lake District Branches and comes from the amalgamation in 1893 of Messrs Wakefield Crewdson's Kendal Bank and the Bank of Liverpool.



In 1906, none other than American President Woodrow Wilson opened an account there during a stay in the Lake District. In 1928, the Bank became Martins Bank, and the floors above the Ambleside branch were later used as a rest house, run by House Warden Mrs M E McIntire for staff from all over the country to forget the horrors of war.



Manager Mr E B Totty took part in a programme about young canoeists on the BBC Light Programme in 1952 and by the 1960s, there were more than fifty branches of the bank in the Lake District.

An interest in the former Martins' branches developed and led Jonathan Snowden to create the Martins Bank Archive in 1988, when he worked in the former Head Office of Martins in Liverpool.

The collection has grown to more than 3,000 items, and since going online in 2009, Barclays Group Archives joined to tell the story – and the social history of the bank.

The galleries of staff contained on the Martins Bank website have proved very popular.

The staff database now contains career details of 25,000 members of staff with the information

available to family tree researchers, friends and relatives.

One of the most intriguing images contained in the archive is that of a rarely seen Ambleside cheque



that bears the crest of Messrs Wakefield Crewdson & Co.. The image of this cheque can be found at:

Wakefield, Crewdson & Co., Kendal Bank – British Banking History Society (banking-history.org.uk)

This is how the bank's cheques looked when President Wilson opened his account.

Martins Bank staff even had their own publication entitled 'Martin's Bank Magazine' which brought news of the changing times from 1946 to 1969.



The first and the last fronts of our Magazine and the final farewell letter from our then Director and Chief General Manager; D.O. Maxwell:



A love of the Lake District can be deduced from its pages after a visit to Ambleside in 1952.

A quote from the edition reads: "There is a great temptation when writing about a visit to the Lake District to indulge in descriptive passages, for each of us thinks that no other person can possibly have felt quite the same as we have done when faced with so much grandeur and beauty.)"But the Lakes have been well publicised by our poets and writers and their beauties are well-known to many of our readers, so we must confine ourselves to the object of our visit; that of meeting some of our colleagues who represent the Bank in Westmorland.



(from the Archive) By the time these notes appear Mr. J R Hullock will have accepted the responsibilities of married life and we would like to send him and his wife our very good wishes for the future. The two girls are Miss A. E. Battersby and Miss M. Balme. Miss Battersby has been at the branch for three years and has recently become engaged to be married. Miss Balme only entered the service in April. Those who stayed at the Rest House will remember Kathleen Dixon who was on the staff of the branch at that time. She is now living at Seascale and is the mother of a little boy; her married name is Mrs. K. M. Boys.

"For us a visit to Ambleside is like going home; we have had so many happy times there with our children and we have so many friends that to set foot in our Ambleside branch is just like returning home after a long absence."

Co-incidentally, the theme of the Martins Bank website this month is the Lake District.

To view more, visit: www.martinsbank.co.uk



One final image of the counter of the branch

RESERVATION FOR THE LONDON GRASSHOPPERS'
'55TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE LUNCH'

WEDNESDAY 20th November 2024

At: The Union Jack Club

**The deadline for returning your reservation is 25th October 2024, BUT PLEASE NOTE:
YOUR CHEQUE WILL BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT ON MONDAY 18th NOVEMBER**

WINES: Isonto Sauvignon Blanc and Isonto Shiraz/Cinsault. Fresh Orange Juice or Draught Beer

STARTER: Crayfish and Prawn Cocktail with Avocado Mousse and Roquito Peppers

MAIN COURSE: Roast Fillet of Pork with Parma Ham, Caramalised Apple and Cider Jus, Buttered Greens and Mousseline Potatoes

DESSERT: Apple Tart Tatin, Vanilla Cream Chantilly, Crushed Meringue

Tea or Coffee

DIABETIC, GLUTEN FREE AND VEGETARIAN ALTERNATIVES ARE AVAIBLE ON REQUEST

Please tick the appropriate box if you require an alternative option:

Diabetic, Gluten Free, Vegetarian, **Other (please state)**

Diabetic		Gluten Free		Vegetarian	
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OTHER:

Pay Bar available from 12.00 Noon until 4.00 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 1 p.m.

Cost: FREE TO MEMBERS, £10 per guest. MAXIMUM 1 GUEST PER MEMBER

These prices include table wine or fruit juice and gratuity. Please state your preference to ease administration:

Red Wine		White Wine		Fruit Juice		Beer	
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Please return your Reservation Slip to arrive before **the closing date of 25th October 2024 to:**

Mr. K.W. Quirk, 119 Fernhill Road, Cove, Farnborough, GU14 9D

Contact details: kenneth.quirk@sky.com or 'Phone: 01252 521044

Please reserve me place(s) for the December Lunch at The Union Jack Club, on **Wednesday, 20th November 2024** for which I enclose my cheque payable to The Grasshopper Pensioners Club for £..... and confirm that I was a member of Martins Bank Staff on or before 12th December 1969.

Please tick this box to confirm that you are a member of The Grasshopper Pensioners' Club.

Names of those attending (capital letters please)
(Member/Guest) (Member/Guest) My contact number:
..... My email address: Seating
preference (Although this cannot be guaranteed) I will make my best effort to ensure that it is.

Name. **BEFORE** completing, please ensure that **YOUR GUEST** will be attending:

**ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN PAY DIRECTLY INTO OUR ACCOUNT AT: 20-31-52 a/c: 80540137
INSERTING: LONDON , AS YOUR NAME(S) WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE INCLUDED WITH
YOUR PAYMENT IN THE REFERENCE FIELD**

RESERVATION FOR THE LIVERPOOL GRASSHOPPERS
'55TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE LUNCH'

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2024

At: The Racquet Club, 5 Chapel Street, Liverpool, L3 9AG

**The deadline for returning your reservation is 25TH October 2024 BUT PLEASE NOTE:
YOUR CHEQUE WILL BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT ON MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER**

WINES: Sauvignon Blanc and Shiraz, Fresh Orange Juice or Beer

PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR SELECTION WHERE AN ALTERNATIVE IS OFFERED:

STARTER: Smoked Salmon with Potato Salad and crème fraiche **OR** Tomato Soup

MAIN COURSE: Roast Chicken Breast served with Seasonal Vegetables and Roast Potatoes.

DESSERT: **Sticky Toffee Pudding OR Lemon Tart OR Ice Cream**

Tea or Coffee

Please tick the appropriate box if you require an alternative option:

Diabetic, Gluten Free, Vegetarian, **Other (please state)**

Diabetic		Gluten Free		Vegetarian	
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OTHER:

Pay Bar available from 11.00 a.m. until 4.00 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 1 p.m.

Cost: **£10 per guest. MAXIMUM 1 GUEST PER MEMBER**

This price includes table wine or fruit juice and gratuity. Please state your preference to ease administration:

Red Wine		White Wine		Fruit Juice		Beer	
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Please return your Reservation Slip to arrive before **the closing date of 25th October 2024 to:**

Mr K W Quirk, 119 Fernhill Road, Cove, Farnborough, GU14 9DS.

Contact details: kenneth.quirk@sky.com or 'Phone: 01252 521044.

Please reserve me place(s) for the December Lunch at The Racquet Club, Liverpool, on **THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2024** for which I enclose my cheque payable to The Grasshopper Pensioners Club for £..... and confirm that I was a member of Martins Bank Staff on or before 12th December 1969.

Please tick this box to confirm I am /am not a member of The Grasshopper Pensioners' Club. (Please delete whichever does not apply).

Names of those attending (capital letters please)

(Member/Guest) (Member/Guest) My contact number:

..... My email address: Seating preference (Although this cannot be guaranteed) I will make my best effort to ensure that it is.)

Name(s). **BEFORE completing, please ensure that YOUR GUEST will be attending:**

**ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN PAY DIRECTLY INTO OUR ACCOUNT AT: 20-31-52 a/c: 80540137
INSERTING: LIVERPOOL, AS YOUR NAME(S) WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE INCLUDED WITH
YOUR PAYMENT IN THE REFERENCE FIELD**

**RESERVATION FOR THE 2024 NORTHERN GRASSHOPPERS
'55TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE LUNCH'**

To be held on:

**MONDAY 16th DECEMBER 2024 at
THE OAKWOOD HALL HOTEL, Lady Lane, Bingley BD16 4AW**

The deadline for returning your reservation is FRIDAY 22nd November 2023

WINES: A good red and white

TO START:

MAIN:

VEGETARIAN ALTERNATIVE:

DESSERT:

As the menu is unavailable at present, we are exploring the option of a buffet lunch, subject to your approval, which will provide more time to talk with your friends and former colleagues but this is subject to your approval. Please give me your thoughts.

HOT SIT-DOWN MEAL	OR	BUFFET
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I look forward to receiving your thoughts about this suggestion ideally with your Reservation although telephone or email will enable a timely decision to be taken.

Contact me should you prefer an alternative vegetarian option and I will see what others are available Freshly Filtered Coffee/Tea and Chocolates

Please tick the appropriate box if you require an alternative option:

Diabetic		Gluten Free		Vegetarian	
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SOFT DRINKS available from 12.00 Noon until 4.00 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 1 p.m.

Cost: free to members, £10 per guest Maximum 1 Guest per Member.

These prices include table wine or fruit juice or beer and gratuity.

Please state your preference to ease administration: Red, White, Fresh Orange Juice

Red Wine		White Wine		Fruit Juice		Beer	
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RESERVATION FOR THE GRASSHOPPERS' 55TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE LUNCH

Please return your Reply Slip to arrive **before the closing date of 22nd November 2024** to:

Mr. D Baldwin, Lower Windle, Windle Royd Lane, Warley, Halifax, HX2 7LY OR BY EMAIL TO ME AT: grasshoppers@btinternet.com Please reserve me place(s) for the Lunch at The Oakwood Hall,

on **Monday 16th December 2024** for which I enclose my cheque payable to The Grasshopper Pensioners Club for £..... and confirm that I was a member of Martins Bank Staff on or before 12th December 1969. Please tick this box to confirm I am /am not a member of The Grasshopper Pensioners' Club. Please tick this box to confirm Names of those attending (capital letters please)

..... (Member/Guest)

(Member/Guest) My contact number: My email address:

..... Seating preference (This cannot be guaranteed but

I will make my best effort to ensure that it is.) Name(s): I would like to sit with

.....

..... To assist with catering do you have a wine

preference for yourself and guest? Numbers:

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY IN RESPONDING AS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF OUR BOOKING, WE REGRET THAT CANCELLATIONS OR REFUNDS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER AS YOUR CHEQUES WILL BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT ON MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER.

ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN PAY DIRECTLY INTO OUR ACCOUNT AT: 20-31-52 a/c: 80540137 INSERTING: BINGLEY IN THE REFERENCE FIELD, AS YOUR NAME(S) WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY INCLUDED WITH YOUR PAYMENT

IN ADDITION TO OUR REGULAR LUNCHES IN:
LONDON, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER AND BINGLEY
CHRIS BROOMHALL HAS CONFIRMED THAT SHE HOPES TO ARRANGE A LUNCH IN
THE **BIRMINGHAM** AREA.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOLD A 'REMEMBRANCE LUNCH' IN YOUR AREA THEN
IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR YOU TO CONTACT ME AND I WILL DO MY BEST
ENDEAVOURS TO PUBLICISE IT TO AS MANY OF OUR MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE**

Please remember that it's never too late to organise small, local functions, even if it's only for a few members and their guests. All that you need to do is make contact with me and I will see what I can arrange for you as long as you have made previous enquiries about a potential location and the kind of function you would like to arrange/attend.

And finally, in anticipation of the 55th Anniversary of our demise and, once again, brought to you by the wonders of 'Baxtercolour' we have:
The Final Board Meeting of Martins Bank Limited,
Which was held in 4 Water Street on Tuesday, 9th December 1969



JUST LIKE THE 'FABULOUS FOUR' sang:

Help! I need somebody Help! Not just anybody Help! You know I need someone Help!

Help me if you can And I do appreciate you being 'round

Help me get my feet back on the ground Won't you please, please help me?

OUR independence seems to vanish in the haze ,

I know that I just need you like I've never done before,

Won't you please, please help me?

I and my fellow Committee members hope to see as many of you as possible at our forthcoming 55th Anniversary Remembrance Lunches and hope that some of you will share your memories of your time with Martins at the one that you intend to attend.

There will be no 'arm-bending', as a volunteer speaker is far better than one who is forced, so please don't hesitate to volunteer and I look forward to hearing someone in the near future.