

Kier Group Fellowship Trust

KierLink

The magazine for our people | Issue 30 | Spring 2015



Terry Delaney

**Retires as area organiser
for Maple Cross after 14 years**

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Welcome



Welcome to the 30th edition of KierLink magazine. We are pleased to bring you this spring 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 KierLink.

Kind regards
Marel Strydom
(KierLink Designer)

Editors' notes

A very warm welcome to this spring edition of KierLink, after a very stormy winter in some parts of the country.



Let's hope the summer months will bring warm weather in which to enjoy some of a hundred or so events which are being arranged by your organisers up and down the country.

In this issue we have all your local news of past events including how large numbers of you celebrated Christmas at a Fellowship event.

There is also an interesting article about the history of William Moss from its small beginnings in Loughborough in 1820 to the three Kier offices today based in Cheltenham, Liverpool and Rickmansworth.

Victor Thompson, past director of Kier International, has put together some photographs and a newspaper article about his first job with Kier in 1964 when he worked on the Ironbridge Cooling Towers as a site engineer. Some of you may remember this contract which spanned three years and certainly looked challenging.

Our crossword winner this time is Jack Thompson, a member of Maple Cross and Loughton areas. Thank you to all who sent in a completed crossword, maybe you will be first drawn out of the hat next time.

We hope you all enjoy the summer and look forward to meeting some of you at the Tempsford Garden Party on Sunday 21 June.

John Simson & Geoff Brown

John Simson: johnsimson@live.co.uk

Geoff Brown: geoffbrown42@sky.com



Our front page

Presentation by Fellowship Chairman, Dick Side, to Terry Delaney and his wife Pam upon his retirement as Area Organiser of Maple Cross Area after 14 years.

Chairman's Fellowship matters



I would like to open by making special mention of Terry Delany who is stepping down from his role as Area Organiser of the Maple Cross Area after 14 successful years. During this time Terry, with the help and support of his wife Pam, has organised over 120 events which included coach tours at home and abroad, theatre trips and holiday breaks interspersed by many lunches at carefully researched restaurants.

He was one of the first Organisers to introduce biannual newsletters - edition 13 edited by Duncan Mort was circulated to all his members in January of this year. He has also been a regular and sometimes successful contender for the annual Area Organisers prizes awarded at the Tempsford Garden Party.

Terry will be a hard act to follow, but we are very fortunate that Norman Elliott, the recently retired Director responsible for Maple Cross operations, has agreed to take over Terry's role and we wish him every success in his new position.

I am pleased to be able to report that due to the ongoing efforts of our Area Organisers and those of an increasing number of volunteer helpers the Fellowship continues to provide the high level of good quality events we have achieved in recent years.

Our membership is currently standing at circa 1,270 - over twice the size that we had at our inception in 1998 - and it will continue to grow as Kier Group expands its number of employees by organic growth and acquisitions.

As this growth continues we are always looking for new volunteers to help organise events and potentially become Area Organisers, so if you have recently joined the Trust and would like to get involved please inform your Organiser or contact our Administrator Brendan O'Boyle.

I was especially pleased to learn recently that Paul Sheffield, until last year Kier Group Chief Executive and a Director of the Fellowship Trustee, has been awarded the CBE .

Paul was recognised in The Queen's New Year's honours list for services to Civil Engineering, Construction and Charitable Fundraising.

He was named as part of the annual recognition of industry leaders, celebrities and members of the public who have made a significant contribution to British life.

I hope you will all join me in congratulating Paul on being awarded this outstanding accolade.

Dick Side



Administrator's report

We are indeed fortunate to have such a unique social organisation in the Fellowship Trust and after attending a recent event I was reminded of the importance of the Trust particularly in encouraging single members or members who have lost partners to join outings and meet old colleagues or even make new friends. Certainly the Trust offers the opportunity to visit places of interest in groups which individuals might not attempt alone.

I also noted the use of blue badge tour guides on some outings which has added real interest to the days out with the vast knowledge they possess on their specialist subjects.

I would like to offer my thanks to Terry Delany who is retiring as Area Organiser of the Maple Cross area after fourteen years service. It was always a pleasure to work with Terry and as a member of his area I was able to attend a number of his functions which were always enjoyable. His dedication to the role has to be commended.

Despite a record number of members we are always pleased to welcome new members and I would like to bring your attention to a recent change in the rules of membership whereby any

ex-employee with 10 years service is now eligible to join the Trust irrespective of age. If you have friends who previously worked for Kier who are not Trust members please make them aware of the rule change.

The Kier website has recently undergone some further changes and the Trust section has been moved and can now be found under corporate responsibility. The 'short cut' address of www.kier.co.uk/corporate-responsibility/fellowship-trust.aspx will take you direct to the Trust section of the Kier website.

New members should be aware that the website includes a calendar of future events and a 'read more' tab giving information about those events. Members are not restricted to events in their own area so if you are interested in meeting and joining other areas for a function please get in touch with the relevant area organiser.

Previous editions of our Fellowship magazine KierLink are also available on the website for members to read.

Members wishing to join or re-join the KierPlus Benefits Scheme should be aware that the Rewards Team at the Rushden service centre are unable to deal directly with them and that they will need

to provide either their Area Organiser or myself with their full name, date of birth and National Insurance number so that our records are updated first. The lists are then uploaded once a month to the Rewards Team on 20th of each month and become 'live on the system' by month end.

A small stock of limited edition 'KGFT' ties are still available to members on request at £5 each.

May I remind members to advise us of any change of address or circumstances so that they continue to receive invites to events and copies of our Trust magazine.

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

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Kier Group Fellowship Trust
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Harrow Weald
Middlesex
HA3 7DL

E-mail:
brendan.o'boyle.ext@kier.co.uk

Regards

Brendan O'Boyle

Message from the Group Chief Executive



It was so pleasing to see the incredible number, range and geographical spread of enjoyable, educational and fun activities that Fellowship members have undertaken across the UK in 2014. What is clear to me is that the spirit of Kier continues to be happy and healthy amongst all of you since leaving the Company. Congratulations to your regional Fellowship organisers – keep up the good work!

As we enter a new year, I know that many of you maintain a keen interest in how we are doing. Kier performed well in 2014 and recently the construction trade press reported that we secured the most contract wins, totalling almost £2bn of new construction work continuing to strengthen our order books. At this early stage of recovery, our Divisions are performing well,

despite the challenges of inflation and resource availability. I believe this situation will continue in 2015 and overall in this coming year we should, with our increased portfolio, be presented with a wide range of growth opportunities for Kier. In the UK, this is an election year and austerity will continue to be the word on many people's lips. We have sizeable footholds in many key sectors, including road building, housing and utilities — areas of spending supported by all political parties and therefore more resilient than most, despite the financial pressures that these clients face. Our presence overseas is also growing and we are attracting some sizeable opportunities in the Middle East as our brand continues to make its mark.

Maximising the connections with different parts of the Group will improve performance and strengthen our profile with our clients who, with their own budgetary pressures, are looking for new ideas and ways of working to achieve their aspirations. With our unrivalled breadth of services, we are well positioned to help them. So I look forward to 2015 – we are ambitious in our plans and are putting in place the foundations to ensure Kier remains the one to watch!

I am looking forward to joining many of you at the next Fellowship Garden Party on 21 June at Tempsford Hall.

On behalf of the board I wish you all a healthy and happy 2015.

Haydn Mursell

Welcome to New Members

Name	City / Town	Area	Worked For	Years of Service
Jacqueline Arnold	Biggleswade	Tempsford	Kier Limited	12 Years
Richard Attwood	Norwich	Wisbech	May Gurney	20 Years
Stephen Booth	Tilehurst	Havant	Kier Southern	17 Years
Michael Brooks	Dartford	Maidstone	Kier Wallis	24 Years
Stephen Burley	Truro	Plymouth	Kier Construction Western	30 Years
John Busby	Bedford	Tempsford	Kier Professional Services	41 Years
Dot Comley	Maidstone	Maidstone	Kier Southern	23 Years
Geoffrey John Goodfellow	Bridgnorth	Cheltenham	Kier Infrastructure	17 Years
Trevor Hewer	Bristol	Cheltenham	Building Central	12 Years
Christopher Jolley	Dronfield	Boston Spa	Kier Sheffield	11 Years
Jim Kaye	Workingham	Maple Cross	Kier Southern	15 Years
Alan Keey	Bristol	Bristol	Kier Western	29 Years
William Kiely	Hampton in Arden	Cheltenham	Moss construction	18 Years
Mike Mansfield	Morden	London	Kier London	33 Years
Paul Marshall	Loughborough	Rushden	Kier Construction	35 Years
Bryan Martin-Royle	Rayleigh	Witham	Major Projects	5 Years
Indi Muttucumaru	Rickmansworth	London	Kier Construction London	39 Years
Martin Orr	Poole	Solent	Kier Southern (Solent)	36 Years
Geoff Reynolds	Gorefield	Wisbech	Kier Construction	2 Years
Sandra Smeeton	Rushden	Rushden	Kier Construction	40 Years
Andrea Walton	Brampton	Tempsford	Kier Limited	3 Years
Christine Wilcox	Sandy	Tempsford	Kier Ltd / Kier Group	20 Years
Christine Wilson	Sheffield	Boston	Kier Services (Maintenance)	11 Years
Brian Wright	Basingstoke	Cheltenham	Kier Construction	10 Years
Alan Young	Worthing	Maidstone	Kier Construction Southern	14 Years

Boston Spa

Christmas Lunch at Milford Lodge Hotel

We held our Christmas Lunch at Milford Lodge hotel which was attended by 28 members and guests and a good time was had by all. Ann organised a Christmas quiz which was won by Phil and Hillary Timson.



Planned Events

We have arranged three lunches for 2015, details of which are to follow but dates for diaries are 8 March, 6 September and 6 December.

Katherine Leadley

Golf Days

On 13 October a group of six golfers from Moss Fellowship met with a team from Bristol/Newport for a match at Lansdowne Golf Course near Bath. The weather was extremely wet and windy, but everyone soldiered on and enjoyed the day.

On 13 November a group of members met for a lunch at The Fleet at Twyning, on the River Avon, to arrange future events.

A very friendly golf day was held on 8 December for the newly created 'Moss Fellowship Golf Society' which was played at Puckrup Hall, near Tewkesbury. New members and visiting Fellowship members are welcome to join us. For details of future plans contact Sandra Lawrence at Kier Central on 01452 515100.

Cheltenham

Christmas Lunch

Finally, on Thursday 16 December about sixty members met at The Cheltenham Park Hotel for their annual Christmas lunch. It was a very happy occasion with excellent food and a good opportunity for old friends and colleagues to catch up. Members came from a wide area including Newbury and Birmingham. Sadly a few members were unable to join the party due to seasonal colds, most notably Hugh Sweet who until this year had been the Moss area organiser since his retirement from Moss and had never missed a Christmas lunch. Hugh has been spotted after Christmas fit and well.

Several new events were discussed at the lunch including the regular golf group and several pub walks, the first of which was along the River Avon at Twyning, which will be followed by one in the Warwickshire countryside in March.

Robin Butler / Sheila Heath

Devon and Cornwall

The Devon and Cornwall membership has increased slightly over the past year and those who have recently joined us have attended our lunches. The geographical area of our region is the biggest 'problem', but we do have members regularly travelling almost 100 miles per trip to attend. We have again asked the membership if they would like some alternative excursions, but once again they seem happy to meet for our lunches.

Christmas Lunch

This was well attended with twenty-two members and eleven guests attending a new venue, The New Continental Hotel – a venue well known to the Plymouth contingent as this has been used for Company functions in the past. A fabulous meal was enjoyed by all, with the usual inevitable stories of years gone by!

Planned Events

Having recently made contact with a Bristol and Newport committee member it has been suggested that perhaps a joint function could be arranged. Our next lunch will be in April – exact date yet to be decided.

We are also looking forward to continuing with our planned lunches in September and December and that our new members will be able to join us.

Shirley Riddle

Liverpool

Christmas Lunch at The Liner Hotel, Liverpool

On Friday 12 December 43 Members met for our Christmas Lunch at The Liner Hotel Liverpool. It was a fantastic lunch; the ambience and the company was excellent. Everybody enjoyed themselves and said it put them in the mood for Christmas. This is a particularly popular venue with all our members due to the location and the friendliness of the staff.

Sharon Jenkins

Features for the next edition of KierLink

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

03 August 2015

Many thanks!



Bristol & Newport

Bowls at Bradley Stoke, Bristol

This introductory morning was kindly arranged and facilitated by a former colleague of several of us, Roger Edwards, at Bradley Stoke, Bristol. The nine people who attended had a most enjoyable morning followed by an informal meal. Our thanks go to Roger and Alan Jones for the arrangements and to the Bowls Club for the use of their facilities.



Golf Day at Landsdown, Bath

In September our Golf Day at Landsdown, Bath, was a somewhat new venture as we invited Kier Moss Members; a team of six being fielded by each area on a day with driving rain and saturated bunkers. David Orr had re-found a cup, the 'Wallis Trophy' and had it engraved.

After a welcome hot shower and lunch, Jack Laughton duly presented the trophy to Robin Butler representing the Kier Moss winning team. We hope to re-gain the cup for our area next year!



October Meal at Dewston Golf Club

Our October meal took place in the Clubhouse at Dewstow Golf Club, near Newport. A pre-meal drink and chat took place in front of a roaring fire followed by a most enjoyable meal. The twenty six members attending stayed on afterwards for socialising. We were pleased at this lunch to welcome new members, Denis and Carol Lawler who had recently moved to our Area.

Meal at Thornbury

In addition to the above, a few members met for an informal meal at Thornbury, very much reminiscing on former days.

Planned Events

Our next planned functions are a theatre trip to see 'Romeo & Juliet' in Bristol; a Spring lunch; a visit to The SS Great Britain and a castle visit later in the summer.

David Priddis (Secretary)

Maple Cross



Long Service Luncheon

Friday 17 October

The Fellowship was again invited to the 25-year dinner which was held at the Aldenham Golf Club. Thirty-six members attended and it was enjoyed by all.

Winter Warmer Luncheon

Friday 14 November

Thirty-one members enjoyed an excellent lunch at our new venue Shendish Manor.

Terry Delany

Planned Events

Fri, 20 Feb

Valentines Luncheon at
Freddies Restaurant

Fri, 27 Mar

St Patrick's luncheon at
Aldenham Golf Club

Christmas Lunch

A record number of forty-six attended the Maple Cross Christmas luncheon held this year at the Aldenham Golf Club. This was the ideal forum for the Chairman of the Fellowship Trust, Dick Side, to recognise and applaud the service and dedication given to the Fellowship by our Area Organiser Terry Delany. Terry has, over the past fourteen years, guided and greatly expanded the activities of the Maple Cross area with the introduction of a whole host of events.

It was therefore most appropriate that Dick Side presented a gift from the Trustees to Terry and a lovely bouquet of flowers to his wife Pam, without whose support he would not have been able to claim to be the longest serving Area Organiser throughout the whole of the Trust.

With that the whole of the room raised their glasses and toasted Terry and Pam.

Terry's term of office will draw to a close at the end of March and the end of the Fellowship's financial year when Norman Elliot will take up the baton.

I am sure that we would all like to thank Terry for all his hard work over the years and wish him and Pam an enjoyable retirement.

Christine & Duncan Mort



Loughton & Witham



Eltham Palace and River Thames Trip

In August fifty-two members and guests had an enjoyable morning at Eltham Palace. After tea or coffee on arrival we were taken on a guided tour of the property. The original palace was given to Edward II by the Bishop of Durham and used as a royal residence for over 300 years, but in the mid 1600s during the English Civil War the palace and gardens fell into disrepair for a further 300 years.

In 1933 Stephen Courtauld and his wife Virginia acquired the palace and built their mansion adjoining the Great Hall and this is what we see today. They created an Art Deco masterpiece that captures the glamour of the period.

We then boarded our coach for the short trip to the O2 complex for lunch, and at 3.30pm boarded a Thames Clipper boat for a trip up the river to the Embankment where we were picked up by our coach for the journey home.

Bure Railway and Broads Cruise

Forty-six members travelled to Aylesham to join the train for a forty-five minute journey in mini railway coaches which passed through some very attractive countryside.

Our coach was waiting at Wroxham to whisk us to the boat in time for our two-hour cruise on the Broads. A very good day was had by all in the September sunshine.



National Golf Day at Channels Golf Club

In September twelve of our members had a great day and we were lucky to pick up three of the five prizes including 'overall winner'. Congratulations to Ian Tidey, Ted Staples and Dennis Charlton.

A Dickensian Christmas

In December thirty-six members travelled to London by coach, picking up our guide en route.

The day started at the Shooting Star public house in Middlesex Street, for coffee and biscuits. After our refreshments the tour of the east side of Dickens' London began, visiting the old Billingsgate Fish market, Pool of London, over London Bridge past Borough Market, left down Tooley Street past Hayes Galleria, formally Hayes Wharf, where the tea clippers and other dry goods were unloaded. Then we headed back over Tower Bridge to the City and round to Leadenhall Market, before returning to the Shooting Star again for Lunch.

In the afternoon we headed upmarket to the West End and Mayfair to see how the other half lived in Dickens' time and on to Piccadilly and then to the Burlington Arcade and Fortnum and Masons to do some shopping. We were also fortunate to see the Christmas lights in Piccadilly and Piccadilly Circus on our way home.



Musical 'Barnum'

For our theatre trip in October we went to see the musical Barnum at the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend. Our group of twenty-eight, arrived in good time for lunch before the performance. This production was a cross between a musical and a circus and was enjoyed by all.



Christmas Lunch

This year we chose a new venue, the Little Channels Golf Club near Chelmsford. After aperitifs sixty-nine members and guests enjoyed a very good three-course lunch and raffle, all in excellent surroundings.



Geoff Brown & John Simson

Rushden

Cotswolds

Since our last report in June, we have been active with plenty of excursions. On the last Sunday in July forty-six members boarded a coach for a mystery trip to the Cotswolds stopping in Broadway and Bourton on the Water. The weather was kind and everyone enjoyed the day.

Shrewsbury Flower Show

On Saturday 9 August, forty-three members took the coach to Shrewsbury for the annual Flower and Music show. Warm sunshine greeted the group who enjoyed the experience.

Woburn Golf

At the end of August Travis Perkins offered the group eighty tickets for the European Senior Masters Golf at Woburn Golf Club and these were distributed throughout the Fellowship group. There was a good response from members who attended over the week-end. The winner of the tournament was Colin Montgomery.

Fellowship Golf

On Wednesday 3 September, six members and guests attended the Fellowship Golf Day at Channels Golf Club Chelmsford and enjoyed the golf, meal and camaraderie.

Tempsford Hall

On a Thursday evening in September a small number from Rushden attended Tempsford Hall for a talk and tour which was well received. The buffet and drinks at The Wheatsheaf Public House was even better!

Ferret Racing

Another enjoyable fundraising evening was held on Saturday 18 October 2014 in aid of the Higham Gateway Club, which is the social side of Mencap, and raised over £900.

Chatham Dockyard

The next day, Sunday 19 October, thirty-two members boarded the coach for an interesting trip to The Historic Dockyard Chatham, with a guided tour round a submarine - Not everybody's cup of tea.

Shopping

Christmas shopping this year took thirty-seven members to the Westfield Centre, Stratford East London where several of the men preferred to explore the Olympic Park Site.

Lunch

On Thursday 2 October forty-eight members attended another three-course lunch at John White Golf Club with plenty of chat and joviality enjoyed by all.



Carol Concert

On Sunday 7th December fifty two members made the coach trip to Central London for a three course lunch at The Sanctuary House Hotel, followed by a short walk to The Guards Chapel for the Annual Carol Service - the real start of Christmas.

New Year 2014 in Germany

Fifty members enjoyed the New Year break in Monschau Germany. Plenty of food and drink with fellowship and camaraderie first class.

We met at 4.15am for a 4.30am departure from Marriott House and because of illness only forty six members travelled instead of the expected fifty.

We arrived in good time for our Eurotunnel crossing to Calais, and our ongoing journey to our hotel. At the Carat Hotel in Monschau Germany we were greeted with a welcome mug of Gluhwein and had ample time to freshen up before dinner. We weren't too late retiring as it had been a long day!

On New Year's Eve we met our guide for a walking tour of Monschau and our guide explained a lot of interesting aspects of the



Planned Events

Next year we have already arranged 3 European trips.
 May 2015 Bruges - 4 days 3 nights.
 October 2015 Sensational Sicily - 6 Days 5 nights
 December 2015/January 2016 - Bruges for the New Year 4 days 3 nights.

The year 2015 is Marriott's 125th Anniversary and we are planning a Hog Roast/Disco in July to celebrate.

town which was very much involved in the wool trade. When our tour was over the rest of the day was free and after a hot chocolate with brandy some of us shopped and then back to the hotel for a relaxing swim or sauna. It was time then to prepare for New Year's Eve celebrations.

A champagne reception, superb buffet and plenty of wine the 'girls' in their gowns and 'lads' in DJ's, all very chic! This was followed by music for dancing, fireworks and more champagne at midnight plus soup if required, absolutely superb.

On New Year's Day we had a trip out to Aachen. The guys enjoyed it because the stores were closed for New Year, but we managed to get a hot chocolate and enjoyed our 'breath of fresh air'.

Once back to the hotel we prepared for the evening which was our fancy dress evening. The theme this year was red. Everyone entered into the spirit of the night we had Ladies in Red and their partners, the Virgin air crew, the Red Arrows and many more.

We departed the hotel in the morning for our journey home and stopped in Bruges on the way to Calais and then on to Rushden.

An absolutely fabulous time was had by all!

Brian Hill



Maidstone

Southend by boat

On Sunday 24 October our little group of twenty-two guests chose to take the Princess Pocahontas from Gravesend to Southend and return.

We left our cars at Gravesend and were pleased to observe that parking was free on a Sunday! We left Gravesend just after 10.30 and whilst cruising, the Captain on the Princess Pocahontas gave a detailed commentary on different points of interest on either side of the river.

En route we saw several old barges racing and I finally managed to get a close up of one just before we left Southend quayside.

We took the train along the pier which is 1.3 miles in length and is the longest pleasure pier in the world! Some of us caught the train back along the pier and whilst waiting for our return crossing on the Princess Pocahontas we indulged in a delightful 'Rossi' ice cream.

Some of our group visited 'Neptunes' fish and chip restaurant and ate some delicious fish and chips, really the only lunch to eat at the coast, and then continued down the road to see the Kursaal which opened in 1901.

The entrance to the Kursaal, which is a Grade II listed building, has been restored as

it appeared in the 1950/1960s and there is a plaque on the wall stating that after 1970 there was a slump in trade when many families took to going abroad for their vacation, which financially forced the Kursaal into the doldrums. For several of us it brought back happy memories of the good times we had spent there.

This was a delightfully 'different' Bank Holiday Sunday which all of our party thoroughly enjoyed and we arrived back at Gravesend quayside just after 6.15pm.

The sun shone all day which made this an absolutely delightful trip!!!

Royal Albert Hall

Our visit on Sunday 23 November to listen to a classical concert was one of the best although our journey was not without its own excitement. Due to an excessive amount of rainfall which caused a large amount of flooding in London and despite the best efforts of the Fire Brigade, it was too late for us and we had to deviate from our original route, along with many other travellers, but fortunately for our coach party, our very proficient driver who was able to alter our route and we arrived at the Royal Albert Hall only five minutes late.

Needless to say, at this very special venue, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance. There is somehow nothing which seems to quite prepare you for the thundering cannons towards the end of the show and the indoor fireworks. After the show, we re-assembled on the coach and during our journey to the fish and chip shop in Waterloo Road, Trevor, our driver, pointed out to us some of the festive lights along the route which all looked very attractive.

Christmas Lunch

On Tuesday 16 December we held our Christmas Luncheon at Hadlow Manor Hotel, and seventy-three members were able to join us this year. We had decided it was time for a change of venue from previous years and this has proved quite favourable since now the facilities are on one level.

The Fellowship were delighted to welcome Richard Bush, Deputy MD of Kier Construction, to our Christmas Lunch and after he had made his speech he was presented with a retirement card signed by all those present. Richard was thanked for his support for the Fellowship and was wished all the very best in his retirement.

Also attending the Fellowship Lunch was a very special member, who had pulled out all the stops to be there and that was our Mr Alan Munday, who, when working at the Maidstone branch, was our Accountant. Alan was also the very first Fellowship Organiser for Maidstone and arranged the very first annual luncheon. Thank you to Alan and also a big 'Thank You' for being our pioneer and for setting such a good standard for Bob Palmese and finally myself, to follow.

Anne Ransley

Tempsford

Lunches

As ever, our focus has been on lunches with one held each month from July to December.

Attendances varied from eight to thirty, with the biggest being the Christmas lunch at the Tavistock Pub & Carvery in Bedford. Despite several being unable to attend due to illness or last minute hospital appointments, including yours truly, it was reported that everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable time. Thanks to Stephen Jarvis for taking charge of the event.

Our October lunch was also very well attended with twenty two at the Green Man, Stanford.

Thursford

We had a successful and enjoyable outing to the Thursford Christmas Show on 1 December, when our members shared a coach with a party from TT Tours (Tina Theodorou) making a group of thirty five in all.

As in 2013, we stopped for lunch at The Green Man, Little Snoring, where mine host made us most welcome and laid on a wonderful carvery.

Harold Thompson



Wisbech

Unfortunately the area organiser, Andrew Pallant, had a serious accident last autumn and so only one event has been held. We are pleased to hear that Andrew has made a good recovery.

Christmas Lunch

Thirty two members enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the Crown Lodge in Outwell and we have the photographs to prove it!

Planned Events

Wed, 18 Mar
Lamb and Flag, Welney

Wed, 20 May
Hare Arms, Stow Bardolph

Wed, 15 Apr
Woolpack, Terrington

Wed, 17 Jun
Evening meal at Arbuckles,
Downham Market



Sonia Webb

Solent



Fellowship Walk

16 September 2014

The weather was splendid, a perfect day for walking around the Chidham Peninsular with glorious warm sunshine, a gentle breeze and a clear blue sky.

The Peninsula can be found between Bosham Hoe and Thorney Island within Chichester Harbour and is well known locally for its fine views over this unspoilt and remote section of the harbour.

En route we passed an active sailing school and a reclaimed wetland with curlews, terns and redshank. The path then took us along the foreshore and luckily for us the tide was out. From the foreshore we saw the remains of a dam built in the early 19th century to reclaim a tract of land, but soon after completion it was overtopped and breached in a great storm.

Shortly afterwards we turned towards the pub and everyone appeared to speed up! The Old House at Home did not disappoint anyone.

Peter Barker

Taster for those thinking about cruising

A small group of Solent members had a day on board the beautiful ship Azura from the P&O fleet whilst it was docked in Southampton. They were treated to a guided tour around the ship followed by lunch on board.

The original visit to Aurora was scuppered by hurricane Bertha causing it to dock too late for a visit. P&O very generously refunded the charges and rearranged another ship's visit free of charge.

Ian Burrell

Down and Valley

'Walking is the best way to stay healthy and live longer. Just heard it on the telly. It's amazing how years of research at universities have suddenly concluded what most folk of our age know as common sense.

So ten Solent members, on a January day, set out again to aid more research. We started at West Meon village in Hampshire's beautiful Meon Valley and followed the track of the old railway line.

The path then turned left climbing up to Old Winchester Hill (650ft), a historic fort and burial ground on the South Downs. The photo shows Roger Osgood, Roger Miller, Louis Price, Peter Wallbank, Hilary and Dave Fleming and Ian Burrell on the Hill with Cheesefoot Head in the distance.

Just after this photo we were blasted with a cold shower but the path was down and every step closer to lunch time at the pub in East Meon. Two late walkers, Phil Knetchel and Bill Evans as well as three more diners joined for some research of the local ales. The sun returned in the afternoon, a red kite soared overhead and we finished the 10.75 mile walk in good spirits. More research next month!



High Flying New Recruit

Our latest member is Martin Orr pictured here in a Spitfire at Southampton's Solent Sky Museum during his retirement party in December.

Martin is crazy about flying. His first French Kier site in 1979 was Dinorwig in Snowdonia cutting rock tunnels for the hydro generation scheme. After work he would climb the nearest mountain and leap off holding a hang glider landing back at his digs.

He has flown microlites, powered hang gliders and also a machine that resembles a lawnmower strapped to his back with a propeller.

Martin's 36-year Kier career has taken him to Plymouth, Barrow in Furness, Kier London and finally to Henry Jones/Kier Solent as Director.

Whilst he still flies crazy machines (as well as Harley Davidsons) his latest, more comfortable, love is a 1946 American Luscombe single engine aluminium plane. "Martin, just had a great idea about a Fellowship event....."

Graham Willoughby

From the Archives...

History of William Moss & Sons Ltd



Liverpool office and Moss traded successfully for 80 years in the north-west. Between the wars the company made steady progress and by this time William Moss, a grandson of the founder, was Chairman and an office was being built at Staples Corner, north-west London which was opened in 1941 and became the head office in 1947.

During the Second World War Moss was involved in the war effort and carried out work for the Air Ministry and other Government departments. The new office was lucky to miss damage from the bombs and the infamous 'Doodlebugs' and the third floor was used as a soup kitchen to feed people who had to leave London after the air raids.

The years following the end of the war found the company branches busy with a new office opened in Cheltenham together with a joinery shop.

In October 1961 'The Rolling Stones Club' was formed by twenty site agents and foremen as a social club which went on to be joined by all grades of staff and held regular meetings, ladies nights and social occasions until it was disbanded in 2010. Its 49 very successful years will be long remembered by many. Members were then invited to join the Fellowship which has continued to provide social occasions for all past staff of

The original company was founded by George Moss in 1820 in Loughborough. It was subsequently passed on to his son William Moss who made for himself a justly deserved reputation as a builder who carried out the restoration of Quorn Church and Bardon Hall and the erection of St. Mary's Church, the Ratcliffe College, and the Catholic Church in Stratford upon Avon to name but a few.

In 1869 his son took over the business and in 1890 Mr Moss took his son into partnership, thus constituting the firm of William

Moss and Son. The company was based in Baxter Gate, Loughborough with a yard and workshops to the rear of the office and nearly a hundred artisans employed. Mr Moss was a prominent citizen in the town and became Mayor in November 1891.

In 1907 an office was opened in London to start work on the Hampstead Garden suburb and other contracts followed. In 1909 the 'Moss system of reinforced concrete' was added to the list of activities which became an important part of the workload, but was suspended during the First World War because of a lack of materials and staff.

1914 saw the opening of the

all companies.

The Long Service Club was also started in March 1965 which acknowledged an employee's continuous service of 25 years with an award made at an annual presentation dinner and this practice still continues today as it does in several other areas of the company.

In 1970, the 150th anniversary of the company founding was celebrated with a dinner at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London and in later years the William Moss Group diversified into various specialist areas of construction.

The offices and yard at Staples Corner were used over a period of sixty years and gradually became more and more congested until it was time for a move. A site was found in Watford High Street and over an Easter period Moss transport and labour were used to label all the furniture and materials which were then dispatched to the new offices. Those of you who have moved house



Left to right (back row) Paul Hyde-Thomson, Tony Jackson, Maurice Bailey, Tom James, John Bower, Geoff Nail, and Ernest Woods; (front row) Bob Baker, Eric Cartwright, Nicholas Moss, Len Gayler, Mike Fletcher and John Lucas.

will know of all the problems when furniture is delivered to the wrong rooms! The old office and other buildings were demolished and a warehouse unit built in its place. Our new offices were in need of alterations and painting and there was no canteen. Even the nearby pub closed shortly after our arrival! Over time all the departments settled into parts of the yard and railway arches at the rear of the buildings.

With the downturn in work and fewer new contract opportunities William Moss was taken over by

French Kier just before Christmas 1984 and staff were relocated to a new office in Rickmansworth where we were joined by staff from the French Kier office based at London Airport.

Over more recent years our name has changed several times within the Kier Group and the areas of work and turnover has increased significantly. It is hoped that the future will reflect the standards set by the original company founded in 1820.

Terry Delany

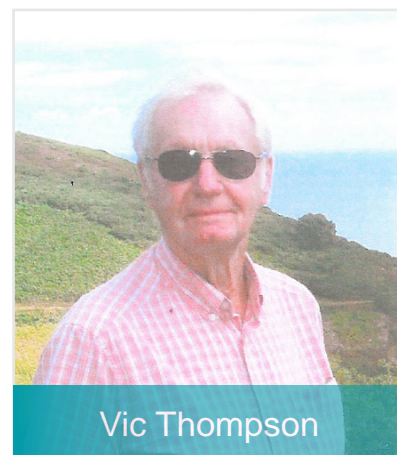


Michael Sobell Sports Centre Islington

This sports centre was built over 40 years ago and still provides first class facilities for a variety of sports.

From the Archives...

Ironbridge Cooling Towers



Vic Thompson

Fascinating images emerged today of the construction of Ironbridge's iconic cooling towers as the debate continues about their future.

The pictures of daredevil workers busy hundreds of feet up were provided by retired engineer Victor Thompson.

He was one of an army of men who built the towers, which now face being demolished as the life of the power station comes to an end.

Vic is now 80, but remembers vividly the effort to build the towers in the mid 1960s. He said: "There was a lot of sweat and tears that went into them. It was two to three years of my life that I shall never forget."

With the power station due to close in 2015, thoughts are turning to the future of the site and what, if anything, should be kept.

The pensioner today backed calls for one of the towers to be kept, adding "I was up there last summer and couldn't resist stopping by to have a look and take a few photographs. I think it's a great shame they're going to demolish them. I would like to see at least one of them retained. There's a great deal

Vic Thompson started his career with Kier in 1964 on the Ironbridge Cooling Towers contract as a site engineer and stayed on the job until its completion three years later by which time he was a Site Agent. This was followed by several contracts in the UK after which he joined Kier International for a ten-year spell overseas spent mostly in the Middle East. The last five years of his career was spent as a Director of Kier International based at Tempsford overseeing various projects in the Middle East.

The following article was published in the *Shropshire Star* in November 2013 and written by journalist Toby Neal after talking with Vic Thompson.

of controversy and a lot of people see them as eyesores. But I thought - and still think - that they are wonderful structures."

Vic, who now lives at Ferndown in Dorset, started as an engineer on the project in July 1964 and was later site agent for the contractor Kier Ltd, staying on the site until all four towers were completed in mid-1967.

He said: "It was just an open site. The power station was well under way. The contract for the design and build of the four cooling towers was a separate contract and was let after the power station had started."

The design was carried out by Kier's in-house engineering department and raised many challenges which were all successfully overcome.

Vic initially commuted to work from near Mold, but later he and his family lived in Shrewsbury. Describing the method of working on the towers, he said: "The shell was constructed in about 3ft. lifts at a time, pouring a ring of concrete. The idea was to try to get a ring a day, which we achieved most times."



The former engineer also remembers the secret formula behind the distinctive colour of the towers. He said: "For some reason the architects decided the towers had to have a pink hue. Every mix of concrete had a sort of powder mixed in with it. We had pre-packed bags of powder which went into the mix of concrete so that it gave the right consistent colour throughout construction."

This special hue of the towers was in fact designed to echo the hue of the ploughed fields in the area, in an effort to make the power station blend in better with the surrounding landscape.



From the Archives...

Ironbridge Cooling Towers (Continued)

“Everybody had to wear a safety harness, particularly the scaffolders who constructed the temporary works that everything hung on. But health and safety was not quite so stringent as it is nowadays.”

The last of the four towers, the heights of which are variously given as 374ft, 375ft, or 381ft, went up in record time at five and a half months - a week less than the rest.

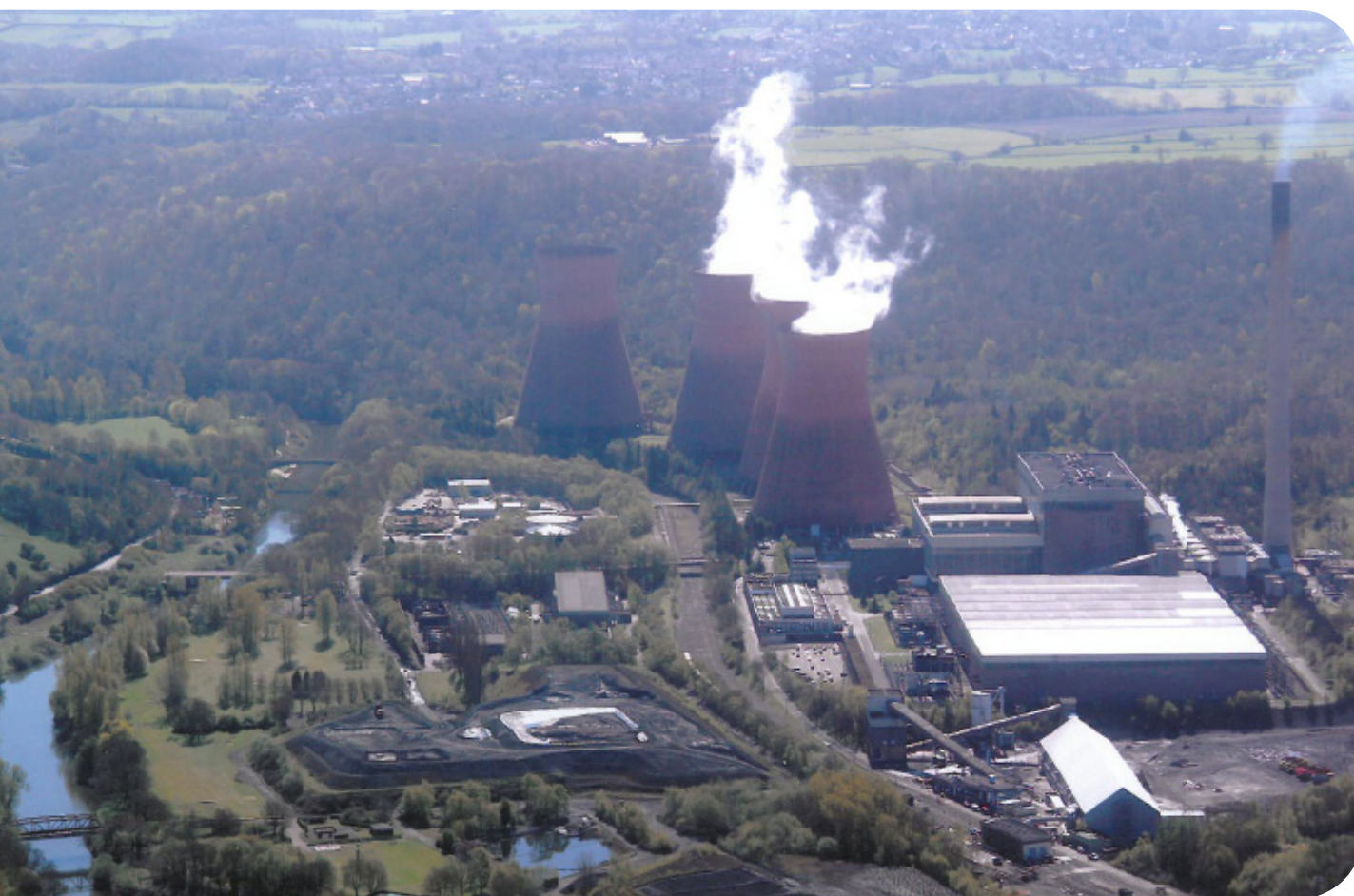
Vic said: “The foreman in charge of the towers was a particular star, an Irishman called John Costello. He built almost every cooling tower in the country and had this particular gang with him. He knew everything about building cooling towers.”

Ironbridge’s operating hours were restricted in 2008 under a European Union-wide law that

imposes a pollution threshold on power plants. In 2012, it was given permission to trial the use of biofuel. Ironbridge is due to close at the end of 2015 as it does not conform to EU emissions.

But Vic, who moved from Shropshire in 1972, said it would be appropriate to keep one of the towers.

He said; “With the changes in modern power generation, the cooling towers throughout the UK are destined to be demolished, and it would seem appropriate therefore that Ironbridge- which is recognised as the birthplace and showpiece of industry through the ages- should retain at least one of its towers so that visitors in the future could view an example of a 20th century civil engineering project.”



National Golf Day at Channels Golf Club



The 2014 National Golf Day took place at Dennis Charlton's club, Channels Golf Club, Little Waltham, Chelmsford which can only be described as a true golfer's course.

Due to age, infirmity and holidays, the numbers playing were down, but the friendship was as strong as ever. Our starter Duncan Mort somehow managed to find another golf club where he introduced himself to those present and then realised he was in the wrong club by which time it fell to me to start and photograph everyone.



John Simson of Loughton & Witham very kindly arranged refreshments at the 7th hole and provided the wine with our dinner. Duncan Mort also brought refreshments which were offered to players after the 17th hole which were very welcome!

After our evening meal and because our Chairman Dick Side was unable to be with us due to an injured ankle, I presented the prizes which this year included a cash element.



Overall Winner	Ian Tidey
Best Front Nine	Ted Staples
Best Back Nine	Julian Armitage
Nearest the Pin	Dennis Charlton
Longest Drive	Julian Armitage

We look forward to the 2015 Golf Day which will be held at The Bedford and County Golf Club, Green Lane, Clapham, Bedford on Thursday 3 September 2015. So please put the date in your diary now.

John Stamford

Obituaries

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

Name	Date Passed Away
Susan Alderton	19 Oct 2014
Walter (John) Blowes	03 Oct 2014
Michael Brophy	02 Sep 2014
John Buchanan	04 Jun 2014
Graham Cross	25 Oct 2014
Irene Cullum	20 Jul 2014
Nicholas Cummins	20 Jul 2014
Edward Cunningham	13 Oct 2014
Eric Davies	16 Sep 2014
Premella Dunton	02 May 2014
Jessie Everett	16 Sep 2014
Brian Hamilton	06 Jan 2014
John Harris	05 Feb 2015
Pamela Hulse	31 Jul 2014
Thomas Lynch	20 May 2014
Doreen Miller	08 Oct 2014
Patricia Murr	04 May 2014

Name	Date Passed Away
Pat Noden	28 Jan 2015
Morris Packman	09 Jan 2015
Ronald Pagett	04 Oct 2014
Joan Perkins	19 Aug 2014
Hubert Roberts	10 Jun 2014
Jean Rose	02 Jun 2014
Beryl Rosie	10 Sep 2014
Edna Ruddock	22 Oct 2014
Brian Sheppard	09 Jul 2014
Shirley Sheppard	09 Oct 2014
Samuel Sherman	06 Aug 2014
Stanley Smith	24 Sep 2014
Apolinary (Richard) Tecza	27 Aug 2014
Geroge Wagstaff	13 Jul 2014
Margaret Warner	21 Aug 2014
Geoffrey Wells	30 Oct 2014
James Young	12 Oct 2014



Date for your Diary!
National Golf Day 2015

Golf Course

Bedford and County Golf Club
 Green Lane
 Clapham
 Bedford
 MK41 6ET

Date

3 September 2015
 12:00 noon for a 13:00 tee off

Cost

£40 pp. usual format including coffee and bacon roll, 18 holes of golf, dinner and prizes.

Contact

Please contact John Stamford for further details on: 01234 823 041 or email: admin@johnstamfordassociates.com

Brian Alexander Malcolm Hamilton

April 1930 - January 2015



It is with sadness that we must report the death of Brian Hamilton (BAMH) who passed away on 6 January 2015.

Brian did his initial training with a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors and qualified as a Chartered Surveyor.

On qualifying he was called up for National Service and served as a Captain in the Royal Engineer Works Services as a Surveyor of Works.

In 1957 he joined W & C French as a site surveyor and worked on contracts for the C.E.G.B. at Cockfosters, Odhams at Watford, Stones at Romford and as senior surveyor on site at the Daily Mirror.

In 1963 he was asked by Arthur Noble, the Chief Surveyor, to move into Head Office and take charge of the Contracts Accounts Department and to develop and expand the activity in the preparation of monthly results, cash flows and forecasting.

Over time this activity was developed into the Head Office Surveyors Department which, with his team, had overall responsibility for all the Company's surveying activities.

In 1968 Brian was appointed Chief Quantity Surveyor.

In the 1970s he was closely involved with the major civil engineering contracts and with his team provided support to the Contracts Directors on all surveying matters including the preparation of results, forecasts and claims.

In 1978 the Surveying Department moved to Tempsford. Brian became French Kier's Chief Surveyor.

The French systems prevailed within FK and continued until Brian left the Company to join D J Higgins in 1985.

Pip Pitts

Date

21 June 2015

Cost

Enjoy a pre-lunch drink amongst friends followed by a three-course meal all for £18 per person

Contact

Please contact your Area Organiser for further details

**Come and join us
at the Tempsford
Garden Party!**

Venue

Tempsford Hall
Sandy
Bedfordshire
Bedford
SG19 2BD

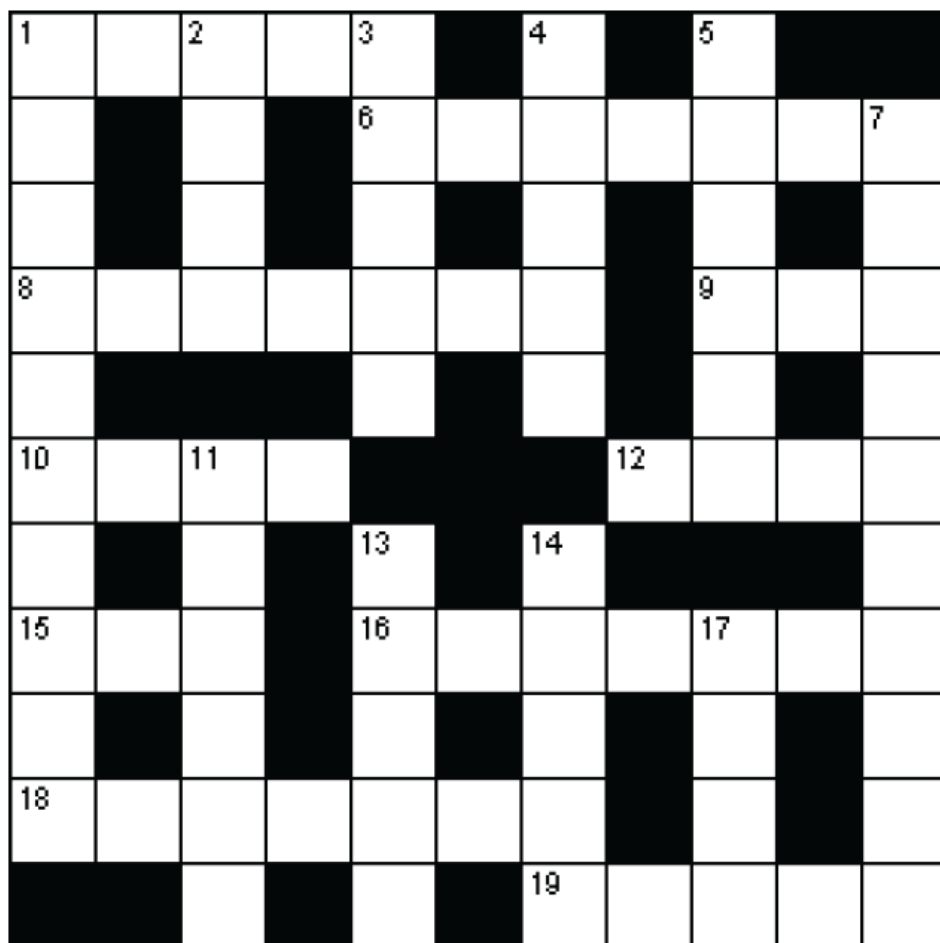


Crossword Competition

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

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

**Jack Thompson from
the Loughton
area**



Across

1.	Tugs (5)
6.	Used for treating malaria (7)
8.	Body of peers (7)
9.	Define article (3)
10.	Deficiency (4)
12.	Animal hunted for food (4)
15.	Chopping Tool (3)
16.	Pertaining to Turkey (7)
18.	Hardens metal (7)
19.	Gesture of indifference (5)

Down

1.	Propelling agent (10)
2.	Deep affection (4)
3.	Military Unit (5)
4.	Venomous snake (5)
5.	Acrid taste (6)
7.	All things (10)
11.	Containing cream (6)
13.	Opposite one of two (5)
14.	Crucifix (5)
17.	Male name (4)

**Deadline Date:
3 August 2015**

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

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 2RF

OR: johnsimson@live.co.uk