

iCONTACT

for pensioners of the Reckitt Benckiser (formerly Reckitt & Colman) Pension Fund

No. 57, August 2013

IN THIS ISSUE



After *The Blue Makers* follow the blue road to another new book (see P3)

Thanks for the memorials



Carrow House, the Colman family home, had a factory built in the grounds as this 1880s picture shows. The factory has gone, but can the house survive (see P8)?

Northern gtgs go cherubic

(see P2)



PENSION TRUSTEES LIAISE WITH COMPANY ON TRIENNIAL FUND VALUATION

The half year Reckitt Benckiser results, reported on page six of this issue, are an encouraging background to detailed discussions on the Pension Fund which have been continuing between the company and the Fund's trustees in an Actuarial Valuation Working Group which has established a close liaison between company and trustees.

The three yearly Actuarial Valuation as at 5th April 2013, now taking place, is a very detailed exercise and the final results will not be known until the Autumn.

The Trustees of the Pension Fund have met with the Actuary to discuss his recommendations regarding the various assumptions to be used in the valuation and these will be agreed with the company in due course.

If the valuation shows a deficit in funding, the Trustees will agree with the Company a schedule for repayment of the deficit. At the last valuation, it was agreed that the

company would pay £155m into the Pension Fund over three years in order to remove the deficit shown by that Valuation.

The Company is legally obliged to fund any deficit so it is important that the Trustees look at the solvency of the company on a regular basis.

Jackie Crockford, RB's finance director – corporate accounting, gave a detailed presentation to the Trustees at their April meeting. This showed that the company is financially strong, as confirmed by the half yearly results on page six.

The results of the latest valuation will be given in the *Pension Update* which will be issued, as usual, with the December issues of *Contact* and *iContact*.

Chris joins Southern visitor team

Start at the top is a good motto, followed by Chris Mann when he responded to the *Contact* appeal for Pensioner Visitors and found Sir Michael Colman was on his Southern Region list.

On meeting one of our committee members later at the company AGM, Sir Michael said he had enjoyed a visit from Chris and, as a pensioner, is very supportive of the Association.

Meanwhile, as reported in our last (April) issue, three members of the RB Pensioners' Association, Trevor Clark, Chris Eagleton and Alistair Stewart, are due to retire next year. All three are willing to stand again and, as no new candidates were nominated by the deadline date of July 31, will be formally proposed for re-election at the October 31 committee meeting.

FINAL TEST



Carrow House may have won a reprieve but these posters paraded by demonstrators outside Norwich City Hall could be the last chance to save another historic Colman's building. Campaigners from the 120-strong Lakenham Cricket Ground Residents' Association demonstrated at a public inquiry into a planning appeal by Serruys Property Company, which wants to knock down the architect-designed pavilion and build 75 homes on the former Norfolk cricket ground in Lakenham. As reported in previous issues of *Contact* it was constructed as a memorial to Captain Geoffrey Colman. The inquiry is assessing the Council's planning refusal.

COUNTRY HOUSE ON A TOWN SITE IS NEW GTG VENUE

Norwood House, Northern Region's new venue for its September 18 get-together, was built in the late 1750s by Jonathan Midgley, a successful lawyer and three times Mayor of Beverley. The elegant building was in effect a country house set in parkland but scaled down to fit onto a town site.



Cue for angelic smiles



Happy smiles at Northern's June 11 gtg at The Goodfellowship in West Hull may get an angelic touch with these cherubic onlookers at the new Norwood House venue.

Midgley's son-in-law, William Beverley from Virginia in North America, a cousin of George Washington, also became Mayor of Beverley and was a supporter of William Wilberforce in his opposition to the slave trade.

During the Beverley's occupation the house and estate were enlarged with, in 1825, the NE wing added with its magnificent neo-Grecian style Library.

15 years since Norwich mounted current venue

Eastern Region's July 9 get-together was a lively and enjoyable occasion with 35 turning up at the usual venue at the White Horse, Trowse and many staying on for the popular lunch.

Organiser Ken Herbert notes that it is 15 years since the White Horse became the regular venue in 1998 after the closure of the Ferry Boat Inn two years earlier. Ken had retired from Colmans in 1988 and the formation of our Pensioners' Association in 1994 was followed by the sale of Colmans in 1995.

But there was already a Colman's Pensioners' Association which the company had asked Ken to form in 1991. Members of that became members of the R&C (now RB) Association but the Colmans one was not formally taken over or, come to that, disbanded!

Ken confirmed that the Remembrance Day service will be held as usual at Carrow House (see story on P8).

Now, many tenancies later, it has been beautifully restored and our pensioners will have the use of a private room.

Easy to reach

Chosen by Phil Mayor and Chris Eagleton because of its accessibility, it is very close to Beverley Bus Station, so it is easy to reach from Beverley, Driffild, Hornsea, Hull and Walkington etc. There is also a car park for customers at the rear of the building, accessed from Manor Road.

A cup of coffee and a cake or scone will be provided, so dust off your bus passes and come for a chat on September 18. Of course, the get-together could be combined with a bit of shopping or lunch and a drink in one of the town's pubs.

Please let Chris or Phil know, by e-mail if possible, so that they can make sure that there are enough cakes to go round. Chris on 01482 872765 christopher@eagleton.net Phil 01482 862563 pamayor@pamayor.karoo.uk

DIARY DATES

Forthcoming get-togethers:

NORWICH

at 10.30am at the White Horse

Trowse on:

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Tuesday, July 9, 2014

Contact Ken Herbert

01379 852854

HULL

11am at Norwood House

Norwood, Beverley on:

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

11am at The Goodfellowship

Cottingham Road on

Tuesday, October 1, 2013

Contact Phil Mayor

Tel: 01482 862563

DERBY

at 10.30am at The Orangery

Markeaton Park on:

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Contact Brian Bradley

Tel: 01526 321575

for Leicester and Derby

HIGH WYCOMBE

12 noon to 3pm (incl Lunch) at

the Reggie Goves Centre

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Contact Paul Gilliam

Tel: 01494 562843

Stoneferry QC reunion planned

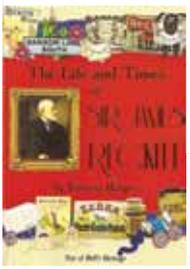
The stories of the 50th Anniversary reunion of Dansom Lane apprentices in our last two issues attracted a great deal of interest, especially the use of the Internet and e-mail in tracking down former workmates. Now a group led by Phil Slater and Carl Tyson is planning a re-union of colleagues who worked in the Stoneferry QC labs in the 70s. A get-together in a Cottingham pub in September is suggested and about 20 have been contacted. Their boss Mike Sharp, who had moved to Derby and had moved on from there, has also now been tracked down. More information is available from Carl Tyson on 01482 658318 or e-mail

carltyson35@gmail.com

We have had a lot of stories for this issue and while we ensure we cover everything on the printed pages we do have the benefit of the additional pages in the digital supplement of our on-line issue. So if you have on-line access you can see, for instance, more gtg photographs of Hull and Oadby get-togethers from this page and additions to the other pages at:

www.icontactnewsletter.co.uk

A great Christmas gift for the grandchildren – parents and grandparents will want to read it too



It's the ideal Christmas present for the grandchildren, but parents and grandparents will want to read it too. The Life and Times of Sir James Reckitt (£6.95 Kingston Press*) is colourful, informative and entertaining and a recommended read for any of our Association members, whichever company they were associated with.

As author Victoria Harper notes in her introduction, when current success is often related to personal wealth it seems fitting to understand that our best success may also be used to benefit others.

Contact does not need to review the book as the Foreword, right, and other extracts convey both the flavour and provide the "taster" – but the publishing trail is a story on its own. Victoria's father Michael knew Hull well enough to take her on a quick tour of the Hull sites starting with the Blue Road at Morley Street. That's Dad's footprint among the tyre marks on our P1 photograph (the inside covers of the book).

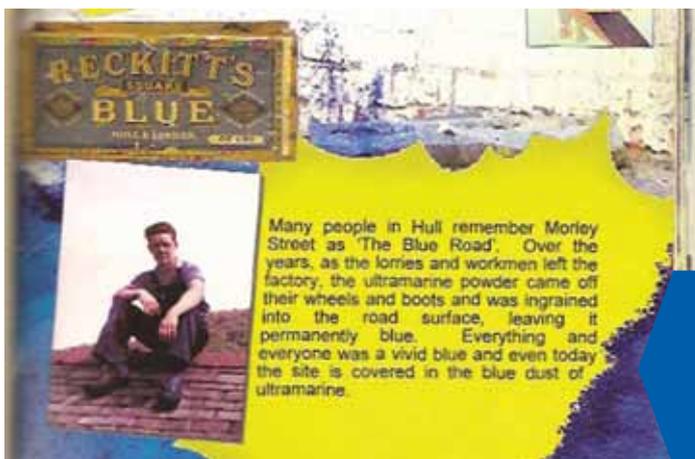
The Blue Road led to Backbarrow

Unexpectedly the trail then headed north to Cumbria. The Morley Street buildings were being demolished and one of the demolition contractors, Shaun Johnson (credited in the book), passed over some crumpled illustrations of an ultramarine works he had rescued from the skip.

The words "Leven Valley" could be deciphered and a check with the local history library identified Backbarrow where Victoria subsequently found herself in deep discussion with Ron Mein whose Reckitt's Blue museum in the former cartoning works we featured in May 2010 (Contact No.47).

Ron duly put her in touch with Gordon Stephenson at the Dansom Lane Heritage Centre and the book was soon well on its way.

*Kingston Press is the publishing imprint of Hull City Council Library Service, Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF. Tel: +44 (0) 1482 210000. e-mail: kingstonpress@hullcc.gov.uk www.hullcc.co.uk/kingstonpress



During his lifetime Sir James Reckitt was described as "the uncrowned king of Hull". James was born on 14 November 1833, the youngest son of Isaac and Ann Reckitt.

James's parents were members of the Society of Friends. This made him aware of the Quaker principles that shaped the decisions he made in business and in his charitable work. When his father Isaac died, he left his business to James and his brothers. James continued to expand the company throughout his life and today Reckitt's is known worldwide.

The Life and Times of James Reckitt will take you through the early years to James's death in 1924. The desire is for readers to experience what was going on around James and his family through the years and enter into a fascinating journey as the pages turn.

James's last words to his grandson were "There is one thing that really matters in the world and that is love. I want you to remember what an old man says".

Honor Pallant
SpinOff Productions

This book has been funded through The James Reckitt Library Trust, which has continued to benefit the work of public libraries to this day. Its funds enable activities and engagement in literacy and learning providing authors, books and events, making them accessible to all. The Trust provides money for The Hull Children's Book Award and as part of the remit, this book has been commissioned to tell the story of their founder.

We have featured the James Reckitt Library in the past (most recently in December 2011 when the Holderness Road building was offered for sale) but the Library Trust has been less known. In 1892 the library, founded by Sir James in 1890, was given to the Council to be held on Trust. The Trust Deed provided for the establishment of "...a Public Library, known as 'The James Reckitt Free Library', for the use of the inhabitants residing in that portion of the Borough of Kingston upon Hull which is situated on the east side of the River Hull.."

When opened, the library was fully furnished and stocked. The Trustees were vested with "...other personal estate and effects..." to provide future funding for the continued refurbishment and stocking of the library. Over the years income arising from the Fund's investments has exceeded the running costs of the James Reckitt Library, and therefore the surplus has been used to provide funds for the upkeep of the general libraries' budget, including maintenance of the book stocks and buildings of all the Council's libraries.



Linked by their morals, their beliefs and steadfast generosity – with a £1.6m 2013 legacy to prove it

The new book, right, says “it is impossible to tell the story of James Reckitt without including Thomas Ferens.” Two public announcements, made shortly before we went to press, endorse that statement – the first revealing that Hull is one of four cities shortlisted for City of Culture 2017; the second the Ferens Art Gallery’s acquisition of a significant art work which will remain in the country for the benefit of the UK public.

The £1.6m purchase was made using £856,000 from the Gallery’s Ferens Endowment Fund with the Heritage Lottery Fund and Art Fund awarding £758,000 and £200,000 respectively to Hull City Council.

The rare and beautiful early Renaissance painting, *Christ between Saints Paul and Peter* (dated c.1320) by Sienese artist Pietro Lorenzetti and pictured here with the Ferens’ curator Kirsten Simister, was placed under a temporary export bar by the Culture Secretary due to its high quality.



The Lorenzetti has been bought in memory of the Ferens’ highly esteemed and popular former Director, John Bradshaw (d.2001), using his bequest. The majority of local funds came from the Ferens Endowment Fund, a trust ring-fenced for the purchase of art works established by Thomas Robinson Ferens, the Gallery’s founder, in 1928.

Painted in tempera with a gold background, the panel probably formed part of a larger altarpiece. A quintessential

Thomas Ferens

It is impossible to tell the story of James Reckitt without including Thomas Ferens. The two men worked together for most of their professional lives and were as linked professionally as they were by their morals and beliefs and their steadfast generosity. Today, the name Thomas Ferens is recognised in Hull. It was his hard work and dedication to Hull that brought about Ferens Art Gallery bearing his name and Ferensway is one of the main roads through Hull. He was a generous benefactor, successful businessman and represented Hull as a member of parliament.

Born the son of a County Durham miller on 4 May 1847, Thomas was fourteen years James’s junior. He came to Hull aged sixteen with only two shillings to his name that his mother had given to him. Little did he know the success and wealth that he would amass and how his hard work and generosity would benefit thousands in Hull and the surrounding area.

Thomas held James in high esteem, stating that in his opinion James Reckitt would have made a success of any business he undertook, describing James as an ‘active man’ and ‘master of detail’. Thomas observed that James did not waste even five minutes, and in respect of his faith, saw that James did not easily speak about this but that his Quaker principles affected everything he did.

James liked and respected Thomas, particularly the way in which he pointed out mistakes, which was a skill that James in some way lacked.

In 1888 Thomas joined the Board of Directors of Reckitt’s and also became a director of the Garden Village. When James died, thirty six years later, Thomas became joint chairman.

Thomas was a devout Methodist and made many charitable donations throughout his life. These included the Ferens Art Gallery, the land for the East Park and Boating Lake, the YPI Recreation Ground and a donation of £250,000 for the establishment of the University College, now called University of Hull. The University’s motto is ‘Lampada Ferens’, meaning ‘Carrying the lamp of learning’.

Thomas remained a modest man who saw giving as a moral duty. He died in 1930 aged 83. Ever the benefactor, as he had outlived his wife Esther and had no children, Thomas donated his home Holderness House as a rest home for poor gentlewomen. It remains such to this day.

work by the artist and his only fully autographed work in the UK, it is considered to be of outstanding aesthetic and scholarly importance. The terms of private treaty sale that followed the export stop ensured that the Ferens gained the best possible value for money so the cost of the Lorenzetti reduced significantly from its full market value of £5 million to £1.6 million.

When James was in charge of Reckitt’s there was a real time of change in Hull, due in no small part to the efforts that he made to improve the lives of those around him and in particular those who worked for him. As Quakers, the Reckitt family brought a new dimension to developing a business. As part of their religious beliefs, exploiting their workers in the way that many business owners were doing during Victorian times was not something that they wanted to do. Isaac and his sons believed in treating their workers well. Whilst this was a generous attitude, it worked both ways. Reckitt’s employees were happier and more educated, so they generally worked harder and better for their employers. They were fitter and healthier so productivity was higher and workers took less days off sick.

There have been Quakers in Hull since 1652, when members met in their own homes. From 1678 the Hull Quakers had their first meeting house and in 1851 moved to Mason Street. In 1879 James, by then a prominent member, gave land and offered to furnish a permanent meeting house on the condition that the other members would pay construction costs.



Today, the Hull Quaker Meeting House is on Bean Street, Anlaby Road. This follows the most recent move from Percy Street, which was bought in 1919 and was perhaps the best known location for the Meeting House in Hull. Throughout his life, James was a dedicated member of the Hull Quakers and the Reckitt Room at Bean Street is named in his memory.

DELIVERING THOSE BELIEFS



THEY BELIEVED IN TREATING THEIR WORKERS WELL

Beekeeper Dr. Chris Coulson, our regular contributor to these columns on Reckitt family and business history, has made a particular study of Quaker families in Hull and a talk he gave to a local Quaker meeting attracted BBC Radio Humberside who interviewed him on the subject in June.

Chris’s study of Quaker burial grounds had highlighted a significant difference in lifespans of those who lived in the city (average 64.4 years, Spring Bank Quaker burial ground) and those in poorer areas outside (18.3 years, Spvvee Street, ex-Sutton). Whilst this was clearly attributable to the widely differing social conditions, it led the interviewer to ask, looking at names like Reckitt, Goodman and Priestman on the city gravestones, how was it that Quakers had such a great influence on the city’s industrial development.

The answer was: “They weren’t politicians. Their non-conformist beliefs did not allow them to swear oaths of allegiance or adopt political policies. They also listened to their workforce.”

So this new book continues the social commentary that we took up two years ago. Remember the front page headline on *Contact No 50 (March 2011)*: “More than a responsibility – an obligation. OUR BIG SOCIETY 100 YEARS AGO.”

Reckitt's listened to their employees and a Reckitt's Works Council was set up in 1907 to firstly make suggestions to the Directors about how Reckitt's could be improved and secondly, look after a Recreational Fund that paid for employees' leisure activities. This was a new idea and it was unheard of - but it worked. One of the many suggestions from the Works Council was a cycling club, which was set up in 1921.



New ideas for improving working conditions were put into practice. Evening classes, a recreation ground and a social hall were all created for the workers. James and Thomas pioneered education, particularly for women, and provided sports facilities for all. Reckitt's employees had playing fields, a swimming baths, social club, squash courts and workshops to learn new skills, to name but a few.



That listening produced a Works Council and a Recreational Fund with another legacy



Carrow's 1936 Olympic trophy is the only one left in Britain



The massive media coverage of the 2012 London Olympics and the Anniversary at the Olympic Stadium last month (July 2013) contrasted with the less frenetic coverage of the 1936 Berlin Olympics when one of the four British golds came to Norwich. To quote *Carrow Works Magazine* of October 1936, we were not expected to win any event so "it is therefore all the more remarkable, and likewise commendable, that our Mr. Boardman should have quietly walked off with the honours in one of the keenest of all International Yachting Classes."

Christopher Boardman, who ran the seed department at Carrow, was helmsman of the yacht *Lalage*, pictured below, which with fellow crew members Moles Bellville, Charles Leaf, Russell Harmer and Leonard Martin beat off the much fancied American and Scandinavian teams to win the six metre class.

The Hitler Oak

The *Works Magazine* went on to say: "Carrow is proud to have provided Great Britain with a representative, but prouder still that in these days when laurel wreaths appear to be hard to come by, he should have brought one home."

The team received their gold medals but there was not a laurel wreath. However there was an oak sapling which Chris brought home and planted at the family farm at How Hill, bordering the River Ant to the North of Ludham.

The German Olympics Committee awarded 130



saplings to winners in the hope they would plant German oak all over the world.

With the Nazi threat beginning to loom they became known as the Hitler Oak and not many have survived. One of the four awarded to the American sprinter Jesse Owens has survived in Ohio but the How Hill one is believed to be the only British survivor. It came out of near obscurity this year when it appeared to be dying and tree surgeons advised pollarding (cutting off top branches) to save it.

How Hill is now a national Nature reserve and the How Hill Trust, chaired by Peter Boardman, nephew of Chris, is an environmental study centre for the Norfolk Broads. For a glimpse of Colman history you can see the How Hill Hitler Oak and also have an interesting family visit and a rewarding day out. See www.howhilltrust.org.uk

The How Hill Nature Reserve, above, and the pollarded oak, below.



Our last issue (*Contact 56, April 2013*) showed Dave Bodecott, Mike Sowerby and Steve Roberts, above, from the Class of 62 apprentices reviving FRI snooker-playing memories following their 50th anniversary re-union.

But did they ever make it to the spacious Men's Club billiards room (as it was then) pictured in the Recreational section extract, above left, from the *Life and Times of Sir James Reckitt*?

Ken Woolias, now 92, who retired from Packaging Development in 1980 and was secretary of the Mens' Snooker Club for 30 years tells us that apprentices were unlikely to use club tables 50 years ago as the club was licensed. A full size table and two smaller tables (half size) were in the Education dept on top floor - so that Big Society got education and leisure together. Pensioners played in the afternoon after the steward had gone home.

Game, set and match to Ken's powerbrand

"Quite a powerbrand legacy you helped to create, Ken," we commented in last December's issue (*Contact No.55*) when reporting the award of an MBE to Ken Woolcott, former sports liaison officer for Robinson's Barley Water, in the Diamond Jubilee Honours.

At the time Britvic, which now owns Robinsons, was engaged in highly-publicised merger talks with Irn-bru makers A.G.Barr but, despite making much bigger volumes of international brands like Pepsi-Cola and 7UP, was still referred to as the maker of Robinsons.

The £2billion merger was referred to the Competition Commission but by the time their provisional approval arrived this summer the interest had cooled. Britvic had a new strategy and the pressure to merge was off.



Mr. Mucinex outperforms a strong market in first half

When RB pensioners get together “How’s the old firm doing?” is a natural topic of conversation and the latest report presents an intriguing and encouraging (especially if you’re a shareholder) picture. Reckitt Benckiser sales for the first half of the year were up six per cent at £4.6 billion and profit up three per cent at £1,163m.

Whilst these figures are encouraging in the present economic climate the intriguing aspect for our older pensioners is the “old firm’s” dramatically new face, with not only new products (many from overseas acquisitions) but a rapidly expanding international market.

Chief executive Rakesh Kapoor said: “I am pleased that our strong focus on Health & Hygiene Powerbrands is working and our improved company growth rates confirm that we are making the right strategic choices.

“Our Health portfolio has had an excellent first half, with Mucinex outperforming a very strong market with excellent innovations such as Sinus-Max and the continued success of our Fast-Max line.

Digital communication

“Durex also delivered an excellent performance supported by creative digital communications across the world, particularly in China which has now become the largest Durex market in the world.”

For our Hull pensioners and their families the reassuring news is that in Hygiene, Dettol and Lysol are performing strongly across the world, once again confirming the vast potential of this franchise.

The half year report notes: On Suboxone, we have always been aware of the challenges of operating in a post generic environment. However, we continue to see strong patient and doctor preference for film over tablets and we are very pleased that the film has maintained its volume market share of 69%.

Suboxone was developed as a treatment for drug addiction from the analgesic buprenorphine launched (as Temgesic) by Reckitts in the 1980s. There is continuing discussion in the USA on packaging and film versus tablets.



AT THE END OF THE BLUE ROAD



Author Victoria Harper started her *Life and Times of Sir James Reckitt trail at the Blue Road* (see P3) but, with the demolition going on around her, was also witnessing the end of that road. This beginning and end is graphically illustrated by the top two pictures, above, in *The Blue Makers* book, the launch of which was featured in our last issue.

Frank Davies’ book is a most comprehensive and colourful Reckitt history and the first picture, top left, appears near the beginning and shows the Morley Street works in the 1920s.

Demolition started in 2008

The right hand picture, taken in 2008 from the same viewpoint (the adjoining Cargill, formerly Croda, oil seed crushing mill) has the Blue Road standing out in the centre.

The picture of the start of demolition, taken in 2008, shows the top of the 106ft high St. Mark gasholder which, as we went to press, was also being demolished. Built in 1898 it was a vital part of

the local gas supply system and was decommissioned in 2010.

The *Blue Makers* continues to arouse interest and Frank gave a presentation on it at the University of Hull in May.

Copies of the book have been sent to former employees, several of them overseas, who were unable to attend the launch.

Anyone who did not receive a copy can contact Frank Davies on 01482 650449 Email: francisvdavies@live.co.uk or Joanna Houldridge on 01482 640208 Email: Joanna.Houldridge@holliday-pigments.com



Pensioners’ key role in reaching company club’s 40th anniversary

The reminder on P5 of the founding more than 100 years ago of the Reckitt’s Recreational Fund coincides with the 40th Anniversary of the company Rambling Club and raises the question as to how many other company social and leisure clubs are still in existence.

As recorded on the previous page the Cycling Club was set up in 1921 but walking is an activity continued in retirement and pensioners have been key members of the Rambling Club from the outset.

When we reported the 25th Anniversary in 1998 pensioners,

founder mem-bers among them, were taking the active role they always have.

For that Anniversary more than 80 members attended a dinner at Hull University Staff House and among the events they celebrated organising were

The Meltonian Marathon, a national walk which raised money for shoe trade charities, and the Dove House walk which they still organise to raise funds for the hospice built on the former Reckitt recreation ground.

Our pensioner colleague Rae Hampson was recorded then as secretary and a founder member. She is still secretary so we have asked her for an Anniversary report which appears in our digital supplement where non-pensioner employee members can see it as well as this story via the company Intranet link.

This photograph referred to in Hanneke Wood's letter was from pensioner's widow Dorothy Knaggs (nee Dodsworth) and was published in Contact No. 50, March 2011. The youngsters from Reckitt's Blue manufacture and the Canister Works were on a visit to Holland organised by the company's Youth Club. It was taken at the Reckitt factory in Utrecht "where we were given huge cheese sandwiches and offered jobs if we wanted them." Dorothy, who lives in Keyingham, is second from the left on the second row.

The young lady is my mother



From: Hanneke Wood, Glaisdale, Nr Whitby, North Yorks.

Catherine, 92, started at Colmans at 14 years old

From: Mrs. Catherine M. Latten Norwich

I am writing to thank you for the 'Contact' you have sent me every month since I lost my husband, Harry, almost eight years ago.

I must also thank you for the pension you send me every month. It is such a big help and enables me to carry on living in my own home, with the help of carers.

I am 92 years old and so cannot get about much.

My husband worked at Reckitt and Colman of Norwich for 49 years, except for his war service in the R.A.F. He was initially on the Blue mill. So I was very interested in the magazine this month.*

I started work at Colmans when I was 14 years and 1 day old and it was there that I met my husband to be. We married in 1942 and had two sons. The older one became a chemist, and manager of the Norwich Water Works, My younger son became a doctor and worked as a GP. They are both retired now and are a great help to me.

Thank you once again for the magazine and pension.

Catherine M. Latten

*That would be our last issue (No 56, April 2013) covering the launch of The Blue Makers book.

An inspiring letter, Catherine, that reflects all that was good about Reckitt & Colman. It was nice to get an impeccably typewritten and signed letter like yours - Editor.

I was looking through some paperwork recently after the death of my father Alastair Weir (W.A. Weir) who was a Reckitts employee for many years from the 1950s to the early 1970s, and spotted the photograph in the article on the youth club trip to Holland 60 years ago.

The young lady on the far right top corner is my mother, Cora Weir (formerly Meijer) who was at that time the secretary to the manager in the hosting Dutch branch of Reckitts.

She met my father who was sent there on training and married and came to England.

My father worked for Reckitts in Hull and in Calcutta (a very exciting period in our lives) and looked back on his time there with great enthusiasm.

On another subject entirely, there is another elderly lady in my village who remembers my husband from his early years in the Hessle office where she was a secretary. She has

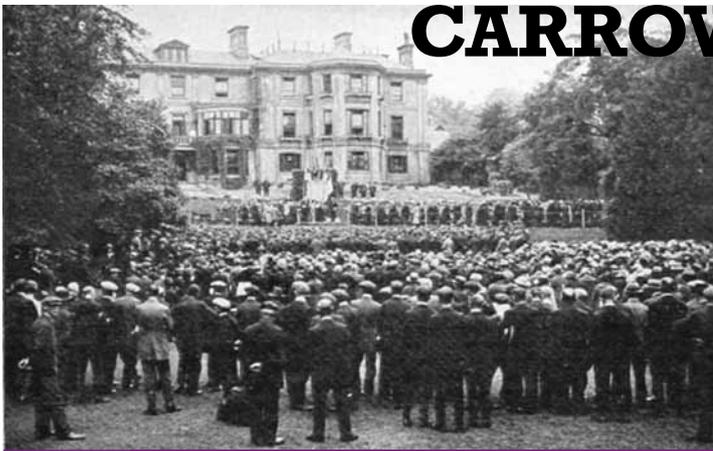
good memories from that time and loves to keep up with the memories.

Editor's note: Alistair Weir's death at the age of 84 after 44 years service was notified to us last December when we had already gone to press with that issue (Contact No.55) to meet the printing and enveloping (Pension Update to be added) schedule. However, as we always wait two or three days until the presses are rolling before pressing the button on iContact, we were able to add him (and Doris Roe of Hull, 91,22 years' service) to the on-line edition. Even then some of his former colleagues may have missed it because everyone knew him as Alistair whereas the company record we have to rely on had William A. Weir.

WELFARE TODAY – INTERNATIONALLY SUSTAINABLE

This issue of *Contact* highlights what both the Reckitt and Colman companies called their Welfare contribution to their mainly British workforces and communities. The recent Reckitt Benckiser Sustainability Report on the company's environmental programme and social contribution shows the modern approach to a much bigger international community. The report notes:

- In 2012 RB commissioned innovative research to identify water conservation priorities – taking account of water scarcity as well as actual water usage. India is the top priority geographically because it is the country with the biggest impact based on water use, scarcity and the size of RB business. Touch of Foam is an example of innovation that will help meet the water targets.
- RB reached the 2020 target to cut carbon emissions per dose by 20% eight years early. In 2012, emissions per dose were reduced by a further 5% bringing the total to 25% since 2007.
- RB extended the tree planting programme that makes its manufacturing effectively carbon neutral. It planted 371,000 trees in 2012, bringing the total since 2006 to almost six million, offsetting 1.85 million tonnes of carbon dioxide so far. Eight sites sent no manufacturing waste to landfill - 72% of total waste is now diverted from landfill.
- The Healthier Kids Happier Homes partnership with Save the Children reached more than 350,000 people supporting the charity's health work in over 40 countries, including Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Romania and South Korea. RB donated £300,000 to Save the Children's emergency fund and employees helped to raise funds for the charity – overall RB gave £3.5m in 2012.



CARROW HOUSE SALE OFF

November 11 service as usual

Eastern Region's Remembrance Day service will be held as usual at the war memorials in Carrow House following the revelation that it is not just the memorial plaques but the whole room that is listed.

Carrow House has now been withdrawn from sale although most of the former Colman's factory space around it has been redeveloped or is scheduled for redevelopment.

The historic Colman family home thus remains the property of Norfolk County Council which may now have to decide whether or not to retain it rather than sell it.

Contact does not know the full detail of the situation but, as we have noted earlier in reports on both the Carrow and Dansom Lane sites, a war memorial listing limits plans to remove them or develop around them.

It may mean tracing the full history of the Carrow memorials as the original WW1 plaques were dedicated in the grounds of the house, as the 1921 picture (above) shows. This dedication presumably set the scene for a listing.

WW2 plaques added

When moved inside the house, where they were later joined by the WW2 plaques for both Norwich and London office employees, they were mounted and framed in a quality setting which would need to be retained in a dedicated room.

Following the sale of Colmans to Unilever in 1996 and the subsequent decision to sell the Carrow factory site, plans were made to move the memorials to Trowse church where a dedication service would be conducted by the Bishop of Norwich.

That was abandoned when the church authorities found some of those named were of other religions and war memorials in churches had been abandoned for that reason many years earlier.

The house was then bought by the county council and run as a museum which was closed when the sale notices went up. It is still the responsibility of the council's Museum Service.

Ken Herbert has organised the wreath from the British Legion for the November 11 service and those wishing to attend are asked to contact Ken on 01379 852854.

OBITUARIES

Countryman Ray dies three days before wife Vera after 71 year marriage



Former Colman's timekeeper Ray Gray, pictured with some of the walking sticks he made for country lovers, was one of the most popular and active of our Eastern Region members and a countryman at heart. His death at the age of 92 was followed three days later by that of his wife Vera. They had been married for 71 years.

We regret to record the deaths of the following Reckitt Benckiser pensioners:

NORTHERN DIVISION

(Hull, unless otherwise stated)

Vera Smith, aged 98, 28 years' service; Mary Biglin (84), 17; June Parks (77), 13; Christine Hales (67), 13; Edith Morton (100), 40; Brian Cumming (81), 13; Sidney Robbins (86), 13; David Lenney (74), 21; Barry Pryor (60), 16; John Whiting (84), 41; John Williams (85), 26; David Head (86), 18; Malcolm Robinson (78), 21; Peter Fielding (89), 31; John Dobbs (85), 14; Ernest Balderson (81), 11; Albert Johnson (85), 21; James Rex (70), 39, William Weir (91), 22; Doris Roe (84), 44.

Colours - Backbarrow - Jane Howson (98), 14; Catherine Edmondson (65), 10.

Colours - Bletchley - Leonard Wagstaff (88), 42. Colours - Morley Street - Stanley Flowers (78), 29.

Export - Harold Yates, Director (92), 17.

Derby - Penelope Sheldon (65), 14; Myra Longbottom (95), 44; Derek Jackson (83), 15; Peter Hunter (64), 11.

Rothwell Depot - Veronica Pope (91), 12.

Stockport - James Procter (86), 15.

EASTERN REGION

(Norwich, unless otherwise stated)

Arthur Fasler (86), 22; John Langan (80), 36; Arthur Plevin

As a skilled and experienced beater Ray joined the Colman family shooting parties at local events and had a similar role at Sandringham with parties including Royalty.

More about Ray and his career in the *iContact* digital supplement where, because of pressures on space on our printed pages, we have put relevant photographs and other notes. All deaths notified up to going to press are listed on this page (8).

As the list shows, two of our centenarian members have died.

(81), 19; Terence Gallant (88), 8; Roy Douglas (94), 33; Anthony Frosdick (74), 19; Raymond Gray (92), 44; Tony Burt (84), 12; Peter Wordley (81), 26; Ann Barrett (77), 8; Norman Parker (83), 14; Walter Wright (87), 12; Leslie Buxton (89), 46; Arthur Barber (91), 8.

SOUTHERN REGION

(Chiswick, unless otherwise stated)

Maureen Lock (83), 24; Donald Horton (83), 30; HQ, Hull - George Hunter (100), 46; Herbert Shaw (99), 22.

Fine Arts & Graphics - Wealdstone - Mansukhlal Agheda (68), 17.

Leisure Division - Lowestoft - Evelyn Damerall (85), 10; Joseph Mitchell (92), 32.

Ascol Products - Frank Gee (93), 3.

Jeyes - Dorothy Armsby (89), 15; Joan Boyles (87), 18.

High Wycombe - Joan Short (96), 5; PMUK High Wycombe - Andrea Chapman (74), 9.

The historical content of our Contact newsletters, the product of our readers' fond memories as much as our delving into archives, is a continuing record of the remarkable social responsibility legacy of the founding Reckitt and Colman families. Newsworthy events coinciding with our publication date highlight the significant benefits still accruing from the visionary endowments made by those industrial giants. Welfare had a wider meaning a century ago.

Fostering a love of learning and reading

The Hull Children's Book Award began in 2007 with seven primary (Key Stage 2) and seven secondary (KS3) schools taking part. The James Reckitt Library Trust took over the funding in 2012 in keeping with its founding principles of stimulating a love of reading and learning, particularly among children and young people.

2013 awards funded by 1892 Reckitt trust

Hull Children's Book Award 2013

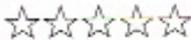
funded by



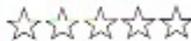
Key stage 2 shortlist



The Terrible Thing that Happened to Barnaby Brocket by John Boyne



Granny Grabbers' Whizz Bang World by Charlotte Haptie



Fizzbert Stump, the Boy who Ran Away from the Circus (and Joined the Library) by A.F. Harrold



Loose Connections by Rosemary Hayes



Billie Templar's War by Ellie Irving



The award has developed and grown each year. This year 36 primary and nine secondary schools took part with around 450 young people from across the city coming together to vote for their favourite books.

The award aims to:

- foster a love of reading for pleasure for young people
- introduce new authors and new reading choices
- extend reading skills
- perpetuate discussion with both peers and adults - so improving speaking and listening skills
- encourage reading in a non-school environment and to support and encourage family reading
- raise self-esteem amongst pupils via the exclusivity of the award
- raise the profile of the library service and to encourage non-members to join

Hull children choose the winners,

The promotional bookmarks, pictured left and right, give the key stage shortlists formulated from a longlist of suitable books published during 2012. Invitations to schools were sent out last autumn and the shortlist titles, decided in December after reading and evaluation, were issued to the schools in January. Pupils read them in the first quarter of the year before meeting to discuss the books before voting.

The KS3 voting day was at The Guildhall on May 2 with 150 students and staff from the nine secondary schools present to see Jim Carrington (*Drive*) voted winner. Other shortlisted authors Dave Cousins and Sarah Hammond were also present.

For the more than 350 children and staff from the 35 primary schools the larger City Hall was used for the KS2 voting on June 12, with last year's winning author Anthony McGowan acting as MC. This year's winner Ellie Irving (*Billie Templar's War*) was there with other shortlisted authors A.F.Harrold and Rosemary Hayes.

Hull Children's Book Award 2013

funded by



Key stage 3 shortlist



Drive By by Jim Carrington



15 Days Without a Head by Dave Cousins



The Night Sky in My Head by Sarah Hammond



Itch by Simon Mayo



Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wein



**Getting-together
...pensively...
studiously...
and quietly**



Hull



Leicester



OBITUARIES
*It's the family
albumns not
the company
records that
tell the story*

The pictures on this page show how the pictorial celebration of life adopted for the Order of Service at funerals can help us overcome the legal restrictions on accessing company records that we have to observe in reporting the death of members.

The Order of Service at Colney Woodland Burial Park carried the pictures, above, of Norwich's Ray and Vera Gray and their beloved dog Pippa. Below, in a picture that tells its own story, is pensioner's widow Florence Evelyn McLaren who has died at the age of 108.

Our other lady centenarian to die, former Dansom Lane supervisor Edith Morton, had her century last January reported in the digital supplement in our last issue (*No.56, April*) and George Hunter (100) recorded at HQ Hull under Chiswick was a former Pensions Department manager.

Stanley Flowers of Colours, Morley Street, who has died at 79, effectively had his obituary published around the same time as his role in the Yellow Oxide plant and later managing the

Dispersion Department had been described in the newly-launched *Blue Makers* book.

As the photograph above shows, Ray Gray was one of the many who started work at 15 but was called up when the war came after he had



reached 18 and qualified for a man's wage. He joined the Royal Artillery heavy guns in the first wave of 18-25 men. He served in Scotland and later Northern Ireland and attained the rank of corporal.

After the war Ray returned to Carrow and the Mustard Mill and was busy with mustard tin exports. He also worked in the Seed Department when seed was delivered in 2cwt sacks. This was piecework and, when the seed harvest came in, men humped the sacks on their backs up ladders to tip on the drying room floors.

Ray joined the Mint Department when it first started and became a supervisor and a popular one at that. His last appointment was as timekeeper of the Soft Drinks Department, which in summer was manic with the vast supply of temporary labour working 24 hours per day.



That Anniversary walk could be regarded as a pilgrimage



A route taken from the very first Reckitts Rambling Club walks programme in June 1973 will mark the 40th Anniversary reported on page six of this issue and, since it passes what has been described as a “holy well”, could rightly be regarded as a pilgrimage.

The Hudson Way, which is a very popular walk along the disused railway track between Market Weighton and Beverley, passes St. Helen's Well (one of seven of that name in East Yorkshire), a natural spring whose waters were reputed to have healing powers.

A more likely use was reportedly as a filling station for the water tanks of passing steam trains but, as the pictures above show, it has become a tourist attraction since that 1973 walk.

Rambling Club secretary Rae Hampson reports: Another 15 years have flown by since *Contact's* report on our 25th Anniversary. The President of the Club is Peter McNally (one of the founder members) and the remainder of the committee comprise Rae Hampson, Joan Farey, Megan Broadley (Reckitt pensioners), Dee Thomson (whose father, Tom, worked at Reckitt's Colours for many years) Charles Trafford (Reckitt Benckiser employee) and Jacqui Peel & Norma Cottis (external members).

Marathons supported

The Ramblers supported the Meltonian Marathon until it finished in 1999, but the Club is still involved with the Dove House marathon, providing support for the Hospice's fund raising walk.

The various routes are the brainchild of Peter McNally and Jean Prince (another Reckitts pensioner) who is the Club's co-ordinator for the event. We also support the Hull & East Riding Institute for the Blind (HERIB) sponsored walk.

Our quarterly issued programme features fortnightly walks of between 7-9 miles in the East Riding with the Wolds being of particular interest. We also hold a series of evening walks during the summer of c.3-4 miles

with refreshments at a local hostelry afterwards. Every Wednesday we offer a walk of between 3 to 5 miles followed by a pub lunch for those wanting a leisurely day out. If it's raining, a trip to the cinema is the order of the day, especially in winter, followed by lunch (some of us are becoming fair weather walkers!).

The Club also has an annual summer coach ramble offering a long distance walk, a shorter walk and usually a town trail. This year's trip was to Buxton and the splendid weather made it an excellent day out for everyone.

The current membership is 118 and its AGM, in January, attracts a good attendance. The 2013 AGM was held at a local golf club, with a presentation by Megan Broadley, who

completed the Cotswolds Way with several members of the Club last year. This was preceded by a pie and peas supper. The 2014 AGM is to be held at a local hostelry with a supper and presentation on the Viking Way by Charles Trafford and fellow rambler, Mike Wasling.

One final celebration will be a walk taken from the very first walks programme in June 1973. Unfortunately, most of them are too long for us now as we all reach pension age! but the walk planned is part of the Hudson Way and we will walk from market town to market town; namely Market Weighton to Beverley, a distance of 11 miles, sometime in October.

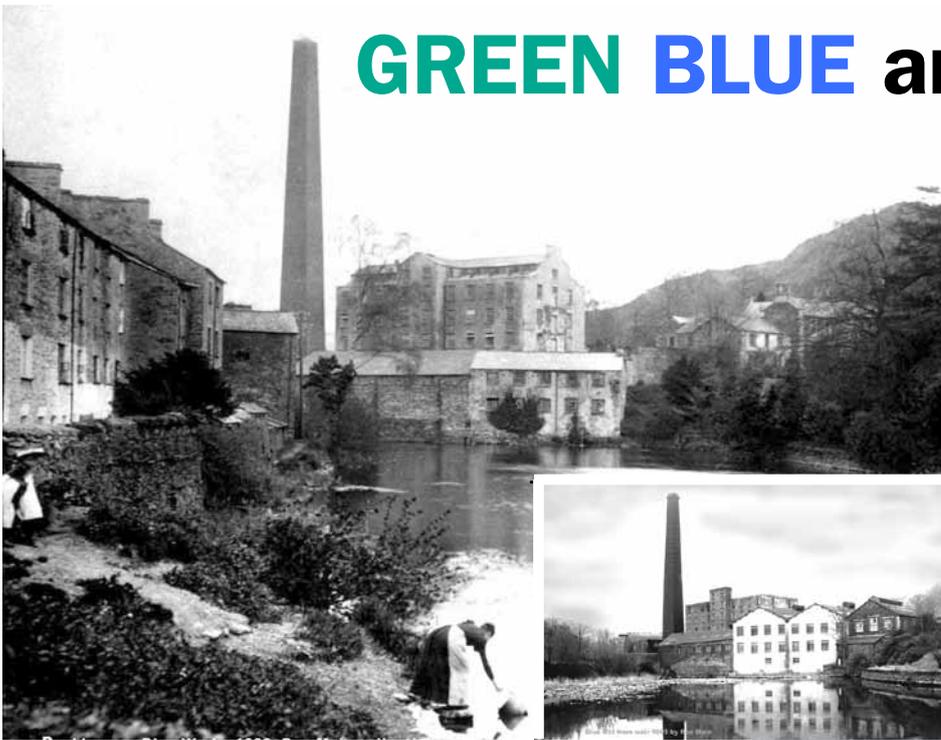
The next programme, due out at the end of August, has 7 walks on offer which takes us to the middle of December and, as we approach 2014, we look forward to another packed programme.



Hockney country walk, Reckitt Rambling Club members at Warter above, and, right: Audrey Collinson, David Crossley, Andrew Wilkes, Ken Foster, Anne Crossley, Sheila Foster and Linda Whitton in patriotic mood. The photo was taken in the Bridlington area during the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.



GREEN BLUE and WHOOSH!



The photograph, left, of the Blue Mill at Backbarrow was taken in 1907 but the one we printed two years ago (*Contact 47, May 2010*), inset, was taken in 1919 following a serious fire.

Official reports discovered by Ron Mein, founder of the Reckitt's Blue display in the Leven Heritage Centre now housed in the mill (see P3), provide an interesting historical insight.

The original building had an old cotton mill spinning gallery on the roof but the mill was reconstructed after the fire with a flat roof. It was found that the fire had been caused by "green blue"; this was blue with a lot of moss green material in it which had not properly oxidised in the kiln. Green blue as it was called could spontaneously self-ignite.

Mill was saved after the usual delay in getting horses

Report from Ulverston Fire Brigade Report Book.

January 30th, 1918.

To the Chairman and Members of the Gas, Water and Fire Brigade Committee.

Gentlemen,

I received an alarm of Fire from the Police Station on January 20th at 3.15am stating that a serious fire had broke out at the Backbarrow Blue Mills. Five firemen were at once dispatched off in Creighton's motor to cut the fire from the surrounding buildings. After the usual delay in getting horses. I set off with the Steamer and hose cart. On arrival at the Fire, I found the whole building involved in flames. The engine started straight away with 6 jets from 900 yards of hose, after being at work for an hour, Barrow Corporation motor landed with 7 men and started with 2 jets. Then I reduced our engine to 4 very powerful 7/8 inch jets, and combined with Barrow got the Fire under control about 8 o'clock. Saving motors, Turbines, Boilers and a large quantity of Blue in barrels, also all the surrounding buildings. The main part of them had tarred felt roofs, and stored a large amount of Dry sulphur. The Barrow Brigade leaving us about 9 o'clock. The cause of the fire was Spontaneous Combustion starting in the sixth story of the building. The damage is estimated to be about £20,000 part of which is covered by insurance. Owing to our engine having to work at a tremendous high pressure, the vibration broke one of the Lubricators on the cylinder, off by the neck of the thread, I have sent to the makers for a new one and charging the account to the insurance company. After working for 12 hours our Firemen came home. Leaving four of their own workmen on duty all night. At the managers request I returned later with three Firemen to see if all was safe for the night. Two of our Firemen were injured. J. Whitham Legs and Ankles. A. Athersmith Legs and Toes. I was with them when the accident occurred, they were working on the sixth story stair case landing, when the flag broke in the centre and let them through on to the stairs below.

I should like to report that in the near future Motor traction will have to be seriously considered. At present we are dependent on other people, and have to wait for horses, then a driver, Firemen running to the stables to help with the harness, then back again with a horse. The metal is knocked out of the men before getting to the Fire. Barrow Corporation are now advertising for Tenders, for two more new Motor Fire engines, and doing away with the horsedrawn steamers. The up keep of a motor is no more than a Steam Fire engine in fact less, and much more suitable for a town and district like ours. I respectfully ask Gentlemen that you will give this your fullest consideration.

I am Gentlemen, Your Obedient Servant. J. Gragild. Supt.

FIRE ATTENDANCE BOOK

Occupier of Premises. *Backbarrow Blue Mills Co.* Situation. *Flowerthwaite*
 Time of alarm. *3.15 A.M.* Time of return. *3.30 P.M.* Date. *January 20th 1918*
 Estimated value of Property destroyed. Estimated value of Property at risk.
 Part Owner of Property. *R.D. Neal Pearson* Address. *Clarendon St. Ulverston*
 Where Insured. Total Amount of Brigade Charge. *£ 43 6 0*
 Folio of Accounts in Copying Book. *740*

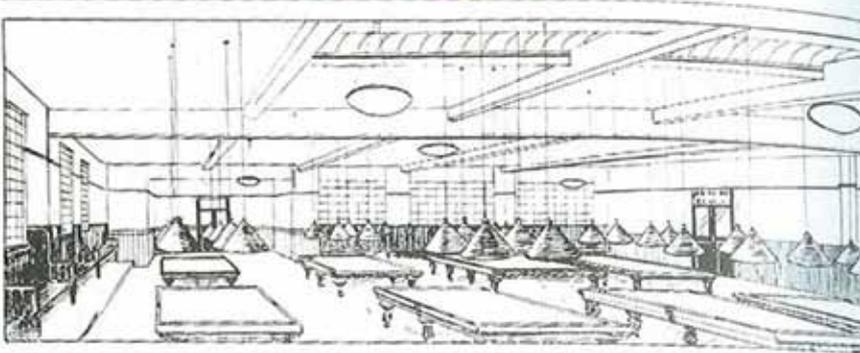
List of Members of the Fire Brigade and others who attended and assisted in extinguishing the Fire.

Names	Allowance	Remarks
J. H. Gragild. Supt	1 10 0	Owing to the engine having to work at such a high pressure, the vibration broke the cylinder oil Feed off by the neck of the thread. 900 yards of hose were in use at Fire Time at Fire washing hose etc 14 hrs. J. H. Gragild Supt
Mr. E. Woodard. Capt.	1 4 6	
Chap. Wilkinson. Asst.	1 2 6	
S. Gradwell.	1 2 6	
J. Whitham.	1 2 6	
J. J. Addon.	1 2 6	
J. Moore.	1 2 6	
M. Higg. En.	1 2 6	
M. B. H. H. S.	1 2 6	
J. Gragild.	1 2 6	
A. Athersmith.	1 2 6	
J. Wilkinson.	1 2 6	
W. Wilson.	1 2 6	
Barton.	1 2 6	
K. Thompson.	1 2 6	
J. Hinds. Ball man	5 0 0	
A. Gradwell. Ball man	5 0 0	
Stanh Fire engine.	10 0 0	
Hose cart & Appliances.	40 0 0	
W. J. Baines. for 5 horses.	1 0 0	
Mr. J. Creighton for motor, Ref. & harnesses. (oxen)	1 10 0	
B. Wilson motor.	1 9 0	
Cylinders Oil Feeders.	2 10 0	
	43 6 0	

Ten bobs worth of OXO for 12 hours firefighting

Initially it was billiards rather than snooker

Ours



Men's Social Club.

OPENING OF THE NEW CLUB ROOMS.



DONDAY, June 2, was a red letter day in the history of the Club, for on that date we entered into possession of our new premises. Four new tables have been erected by Messrs. E. J. Riley, Ltd., who have also re-covered our four old tables to meet the increasing demands of our members. May 22 had been originally fixed for the official opening, but this was altered to enable the Senior Representatives (who were holding a conference in Hull) to be present. Together with a crowd of members, they taxed the holding capacity of the new rooms to their utmost.

Opening the Club, Mr. P. B. Reckitt expressed his pleasure at the invitation to perform the opening ceremony, congratulating the officials on the prosperity and popularity of the Club. It was owing to the interest that the members had taken in the Club, and the need for more accommodation, that the Directors had decided to make the extension, and it rested with the members themselves to make a further success of

what was undoubtedly one of the most progressive Clubs under the Firm's Social Welfare Scheme.

Mr. Huckvale (in the regretted absence of our President) tendered to Mr. P. B. Reckitt and the Directors the thanks of the members for providing such fine accommodation for our ever increasing membership, also giving a brief resume of the history of the Club since its inception in 1910. At the present time we have some 250 members and have had great difficulty in catering for their needs during the past winter. With the accommodation now at our disposal we are in possession of one of the finest Club Rooms in the City. Mr. P. B. Reckitt then declared the Club open, and a Billiard match Members v. Representatives was played, 24 aside. The Members team, of course, won easily, Mr. Huckvale acting in the dual capacity of Captain of both teams, had an exciting time in shepherding his two flocks. He would find a room opposite his How

Snooker (see P5) has been the focus of recent *Contact* sports reporting but these snippets from a 1924 works magazine report on the opening of the Men's Club show that, initially, the principal use of the fine tables which used to grace the club was for the sport of billiards.

This report said that the club, which had been founded in 1910, had 250 members (the Snooker Club later had 1,000 members) and now had one of the finest Club Rooms in the city. This opening was marked by a Representatives v Members match which Ours smugly reported "The Members, of course, won easily."

To continue the text on the page following the one we have reproduced, left, the "exciting time" enjoyed by Mr Huckvale as captain of both teams came in shepherding his two flocks.

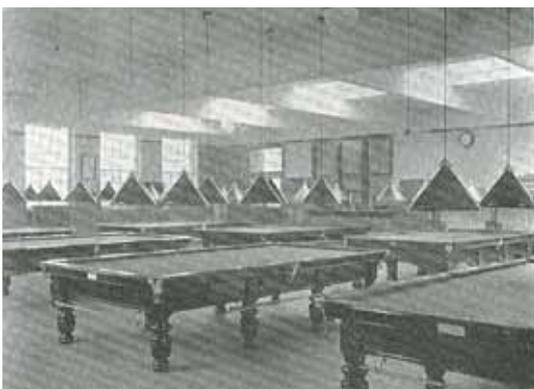
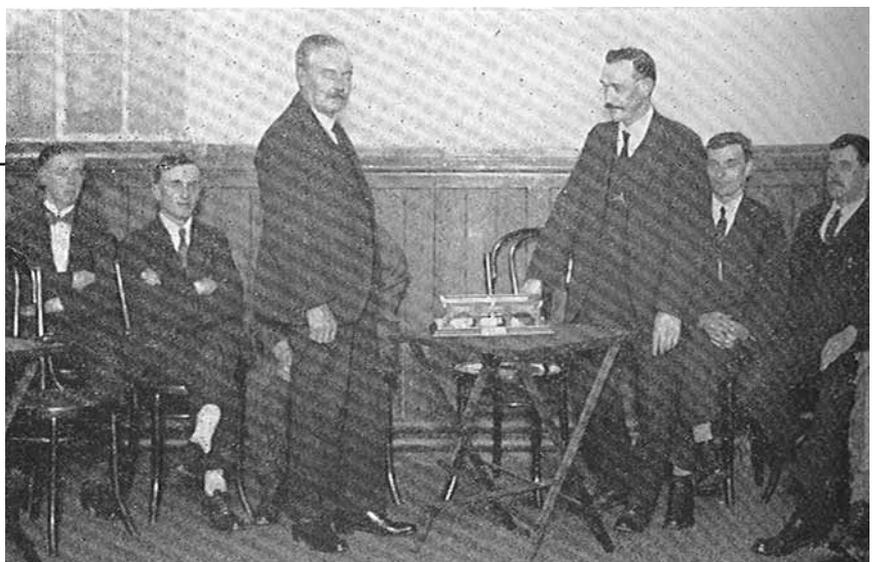
"He would find a player in one corner of the room, rush round to get him his opponent, and come back to find his first capture had escaped. However the game went merrily on, Mr.P.B.Reckitt returning the first winning card for members 100-133.

"This gave us a good start, and other favourable results coming in the members eventually won by 392 points."

The picture below shows the secretary of the Men's Club, Mr J.E.Whitelock, presenting a model of the standard billiard table, in oak, to Mr.B.L.Strachan to mark the opening.

Mr. Strachan had, at that time, been president of the Men's Club for 13 years.

The bottom left picture, which also appears in the new Sir James Reckitt book (see P6), shows the high quality of the club facilities. Four new tables had been installed and four old tables re-covered.



Reckitt team in top business quiz

Reckitt's business strategy has proved a winner for a Dansom Lane team in their battle to reach the finals of Europe's toughest business game.

Pharmaceutical Division's Martin Usher, Kevin O'Berg, Tony Pawson, Mike Fare and Ruth Jefferson with the help of Steve Sowerby and also Judith Bishop have reached the regional finals of the Reed national management game.

Simulated

Acting as the board members of a simulated company each team is given three imaginary products with the aim of maximising profit by the end of each round.

As in the market place every team is competing against each other and the board members have to take decisions on subjects such as production costs, product turnover, capital investment

and marketing.

This data is then fed into a computer which applies conditions including the level of taxation, interest rates, material costs labour costs and inflation resulting in a balance sheet which accurately reflects how the company would have performed in the real world.

High Profile

Starting as one of the original 938 entries early this year the Reckitt team stuck to a policy which they were used to - backing their premium products with high profile marketing and maximum price levels.

Company "chairman" Martin Usher said; "Its been a

great exercise in management training as well as highly exciting.

Instead of concentrating on just one section of a business you get a complete overview of the whole enterprise."

Goal

Now they must beat off the challenge of A H Marks & Company of Bradford, BR Research division of Derby, DSRM group of Darlington and local rivals J H Fenner from the North East to qualify for the national finals. And then the goal will be to reach the European final held in Copenhagen.

Below (l to r): The Reckitt team Martin Usher, Kevin Oberg, Steve Sowerby, Mike Fare and Ruth Jefferson.

Compact's Royal visitor

Two pupils from a Hull school got the chance to show Prince Charles how the Reckitt sponsored Compact is working to build closer links between industry and education in our area.

Hull Compact's delegation joined students, teachers and education officials from all round the country for the



business in the community conference held to celebrate setting up a national partnership.

Was this when they started adding "Served on company quiz team" to their CVs?



Compact presented video of the organisation. It generated a better idea of the business world among local schools and colleges through teacher secondment into industry, career discussions and other efforts.

In his speech the Prince of Wales stressed the crucial role

industry played in helping young people gain the cor-

Cont. on page eight