

# iCONTACT

No. 77 April 2020

## RB donated £5.5 million to help combat Covid-19 (Coronavirus) in China

In the early stages of the outbreak, RB immediately coordinated 600,000 RMB (about £60k) worth of soap and sanitizer products to help meet the cleaning and disinfection requirements in Wuhan's hospitals.

Commenting on the outbreak, RB CEO Laxman Narasimhan said: "We immediately mobilised our experts in China and beyond as soon as the outbreak was identified. In addition

to the moral responsibility we feel, we also have an important functional role to play in enhancing personal disinfection through providing enhanced access to products which can break the chain of infection. Simple steps such as frequent hand washing will aid the many efforts the Chinese government is already putting in place to protect citizens across the region."

(Press release: [www.rb.com](http://www.rb.com))

## RB's End of Year Results for 2019

RB Chief Executive, Laxman Narasimhan commented on the results as follows: "We ended 2019 broadly in line with our expectations for net revenue growth and adjusted operating profit from October, as our Hygiene business delivered another stable performance. Health remained weak from a net revenue perspective, but consumption and market share trends are encouraging.

I am inspired by our purpose-driven brands that consumers love and have seen in action the benefit they bring to

our communities. While the recent years have been difficult, I believe strongly in our ability to restore performance credibility and, over time, outperform, while making a positive impact on the world"

It was difficult to gauge the reaction of the stock market to the results as they were published in the same week that markets throughout the world fell considerably due to concerns over the coronavirus.

## RBPA Committee Elections

Three members of the committee, representing Derby, Nottingham and Hull, are due for re-election. All three,

Lorraine Muglestone, Brian Bradley and Kevin O'Berg, are willing to stand again. If you would like stand for election, please see the details on page 3.

**CORONA VIRUS  
IMPACTS ON GET-TOGETHERS  
CANCELLED  
till further  
notice**

Due to the Corona Virus, and following government and public health guidance, it is with much regret that we have taken the decision to **CANCEL** all of the arranged get-togethers in all regions. Please see Page 3 for more details

## GDPR & Pensioner Visiting resolved

As you will know, we've had quite a time trying to review our Pensioner visiting procedures and updating them in order to comply with GDPR and meet the standards expected by RB. We are now very pleased, and not a little relieved, to say that the process is now complete.

### \*\*\* STOP PRESS \*\*\*

Due to the Corona Virus, we will not be making pensioner visits, in person, at the present time. All other formats of Pensioner visiting - phone calls, WhatsApp messaging and emails - **will remain in place.**

We have also had to **cancel** get-togethers for the foreseeable future.

The following weeks and months will be a very difficult time for the older generation, but we want to reassure you that we are committed to re-commencing the personal meetings and the get-togethers as soon as public health controls allow. Please check our website [icontactnewsletter.co.uk](http://icontactnewsletter.co.uk) or your regional contact (details on page 3) for up-to-date information.

## Science & Innovation Centre

With the completion of the new Science & Innovation Centre, members of the committee are investigating the possibility of a visit by some of the Hull Pensioners. We expect that the visit may be open only to ex-R&D employees and that numbers will be restricted. We'll be in touch as soon as we gather more information.

# Get-togethers around the regions

## Hull - Cheval, Willerby

The Hull group have met twice since the last magazine - once in December and again in February.

Our destination cafe, Cheval of Willerby, had been "done up" and we were positioned on the tables that run along the newly installed "banquette" at the far end of this sizeable cafe.

Both events were - as always - very lively and well-attended affairs.

At the February meeting one bright spark (who shall remain nameless) but only because we're old and names can't easily be remembered! - suggested that the Obituary section should be renamed "Contact-less" - he has a point!



## Norwich - The White Horse, Trowse

The Norwich contingent also held a get-together in January - no photographic evidence.

Alistair, who organises this gtg, is appealing for more Norwich pensioners to go along and have a catch-up with the others. Contact Alistair (details on page 3) or just turn up!





## DIARY DATES 2020

### Contact Details for Future Get-Togethers

#### NOTTINGHAM

Contact Brian Bradley  
Tel 01526 321575

#### DERBY

Contact Lorraine Mugleston  
Tel 01159 733753

#### LEICESTER

Contact Brian Bradley  
Tel 01526 321575

#### NORWICH

The White Horse, Trowse.  
Contact Alistair Stewart  
Tel 01603 436391

#### HULL

Contact Phil Shearsmith  
Tel 07858 137178  
alloa@alloa.karoo.co.uk

#### CHISWICK/LONDON (W)

Contact Chris Mann  
Tel 07824 446392

#### HIGH WYCOMBE

Contact Paul Gilliam  
Tel 01494 562843

#### WEST COUNTRY POP-IN

Contact Tony Swell  
Tel 01189 691390 or  
Martin Fox Tel 01458 850468

#### BOURNEMOUTH POP-IN

Contact Tony Swell  
Tel 01189 691 390 or  
Mike Urry Tel 02392 526860

## Pension increase (2020) & Update

RPI for the year to December 2019 was 2.2% and this will form the basis of the RB pension increase in April 2020. As in previous years, the Pensions Department will send each pensioner a detailed breakdown of the application of this increase. However, due to the disruption caused by Coronavirus, the letters and payslips confirming this and your P60 may be delayed. Rest assured that there will be no disruption to your pension payments or the payment of the increase.

You will all have received the DB Pensions update by now, We are pleased to see that in the triennial valuation of the fund (2019 - on the technical provisions basis) it shows a healthy state of being 99.9% funded.

## RBPA Committee Re-elections

(Cont'd from front page)...

Any member of the Association may stand for election to the Committee. As provided for in the RBPA Constitution, nominations can be made on forms obtainable from The Secretary, Reckitt Benckiser Pensioners' Association, c/o Pensions Department, RB plc, Dansom Lane South, Hull, HU8 7DS, to arrive before **Friday 28th August, 2020.**

## Informal GTGs

**We asked you to tell us about the times when you have informal get-togethers - like the Supervisors dinner that Brian Huggett organises. Two pensioners have been in-touch with us to share their meetings and photos.**

Bill Forman writes: Cyril Young retired from Reckitt's and settled in Kerflec'h, a small hamlet of about 10 houses situated in Brittany. At his retirement gathering Cyril said: "Everybody is welcome to visit - but don't all come at once!". The property in which he settled needed some renovation, the French builder said it would take six weeks, Cyril said it took exactly six weeks - spread over nine months! In a previous edition of Contact some of us may remember how Cyril resurrected the village still and, being a chemist, this was not a difficult job for him. I seem to remember being told that, under French Law, cider produced locally can be distilled to produce Calvados, whether there's any truth in that.... Cyril is now vice president of the local OAP group which is a mixed group of French citizens and ex-pats. In the 30 years since

his retirement Cyril has made regular trips back to Hull and tries to catch up with a few of his former colleagues for a quick pint at a local pub. On this most recent occasion (Christmas 2019) he was in Hull for about five weeks so eleven of his former colleagues met up for a lunch time drink and chat at the Beech Tree in Kirk Ella and a good time was had by all. Apologies to any old colleagues who weren't invited but Cyril will be back in Hull in early April. Cyril says he has still not lost the taste for the local delicacy - fish and chips. Let's bear that in mind, there's a nice chippy at Hornsea!

*If you have not had the pleasure of partaking in Cyril's favourite delicacy, the Yorkshire clan of RB pensioners urge you to come over/up - especially to the beautiful seaside resorts - and give them a try: fresh haddock or cod, cooked to perfection and truly unctuous. The beer's good too!*

A Christmas get-together of Production, QC and Lab pensioners was organised at the Minerva pub on the 4th December and, as always, a good time was had by all. The Minerva was established in Hull in 1829. Sitting between the pier and the entrance to the Marina, it features one of the smallest pub rooms in Britain - clearly not the one in the picture!



Back row: Dave Haddlesey, John Nichols, Phil Caygill, Tony Martin, Carl Tyson. Middle row: Bob Allison, Ted Parker, Geoff Samuel. Front row - Cyril Young, Keith Sumner, Bill Forman.



# Science & Innovation Centre: Up,

**RB's inspiring new Science and Innovation Centre** combines state-of-the-art research and development facilities with the talent and passion to drive forward the latest discoveries in consumer health. It is RB's largest healthcare development centre in the world and the biggest single investment in the company's history. Scientists will work with consumers to develop highly innovative products to be sold in markets across the globe, generating significant revenues and delivering huge benefits for the local and regional economy. The centre provides a vibrant workplace, with cutting-edge laboratories, a novel sensory suite for product testing, and collaborative working spaces that encourage ideas to flourish. It will be a magnet for scientific talent and help to inspire and develop the next generation of British scientists.

RB has no less than 179 years of history and heritage in Hull and retains a powerful presence in the city. RB employs around 1,400 people in Hull, with 800 in science-based roles. R&D teams for seven of RB's biggest brands are based in Hull, while more than 300 million consumer units, comprising 1,000 different products, including Nurofen, Lemsip, Disprin, Bonjela, Dettol and E45, are

manufactured at its city site each year. The Science and Innovation Centre is a fusion of old and new. It incorporates the Humber Suite, a historic office building dating back to the 1920s, which has been remodelled and seamlessly connected to a high-spec, three-storey facility. A listed First World War memorial, a landmark on

the site, has also been fully refurbished and is the centrepiece of a new sensory garden. At the heart of the building is the "Innovation Pathway", a large open-plan atrium that can accommodate up to 170 people and is designed, along with other collaborative areas, to drive a culture of community, innovation and partnering.



Bruce Charlesworth & Laxman Narasimhan reveal the opening plaque

The new centre will support RB's three-year, multi-million pound innovation pipeline, including iconic brands such as Air Wick, Gaviscon, Nurofen, Scholl, Strepsils, Mucinex and Veet.

Scientists will work with consumers in cutting-edge facilities such as the Product Innovation Suite, where 3D projection technology can be used to create a range of consumer environments, while Skype-compatible cameras allow scientists from around the world to take part in sessions.

This novel sensory suite also includes "wet testing" booths, such as showers and bathrooms, for trialling products such as Scholl and Veet in controlled and private,

conditions.

The centre includes 13,000 sqm of laboratories, created to bespoke specifications and employing technology such as the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) – software that automates and streamlines processes in order to reduce the risk of manual

error.

In the formulation lab researchers combine the ingredients that make up RB's world-leading health products, while the

analytical lab is used to test the quality and safety of products throughout their development.

A microbiology laboratory ensures the risk of bacterial and fungal interference is minimised; while in the stability facility, product samples are stored behind glass, allowing researchers to monitor over time how they react to various temperatures and humidity levels.

Hundreds of sensors placed around the building feed information to a central control system, ensuring that, in the laboratories, optimum conditions are maintained at all times.

When studies in the labs are successful, researchers will use a 10th-scale pilot plant to make a test batch of the new product, without having to break into production lines at the main factory. This efficiency allows RB to speed up the process of delivering new products to market.

Dr Bruce Charlesworth, Chief Medical Officer for Relief, Hygiene and Wellness who heads up the Hull site, said: "As a leading consumer health and hygiene company, RB's mission is to create

innovative solutions for healthier lives and happier homes. The new Science and Innovation Centre supports that mission, helping us identify unmet needs and create superior solutions that put self-care in the hands of consumers around the world.

"One of the many exciting practical advances is our new tenth scale pilot



facility. It's essentially a mini factory in which we can develop, scale-up and validate the manufacturing processes for our innovations without interrupting our vital factory lines.

"It's this sort of best practice that we're championing here in Hull to be cascaded across the RB network. We're all about local focus with global impact and the new Science and Innovation Centre is a true leap forward for us in terms of our research and development capability."

The Science and Innovation Centre will help RB to attract and retain the best scientists

# running and ready for business ...



with a focus on improving lives through discovery and development. Over half of the company's Hull-based employees work in science, and 48 per cent of the global R&D workforce is based in Hull. Tony Earl, R&D Facilities Manager, said: "This significant investment has enabled us to transition to a state-of-the-art centre designed purposefully for R&D."

"Healthcare is a changing workplace and the construction of this facility propels RB to where we need to be in terms of healthcare capability. It is a great platform for us to move forward with R&D in the future and develop innovative solutions for consumer healthcare needs."

## Brothers keep up family tradition going back almost 100 years

Simon and Alistair Campbell are not just brothers – they're work colleagues continuing a family tradition dating back almost 100 years.

As with many Hull families, RB, now a leading consumer health and hygiene company, is in their blood.

Based at the company's Dansom Lane site, Simon and Alistair have followed in the footsteps of their father, Duncan Campbell, and great grandfather Lucas Howiantz in working for the company still known as "Reckitts" by so many.

Born in Armenia, Lucas became a prisoner of war in Crimea during the Russian Civil War for being a Christian, but he escaped with the intention of reaching the United States by sea to start a new life.

Instead, he left the ship when it reached Liverpool and worked in Pontefract, West Yorkshire, before taking up the position of Pressman in the Reckitt Blue Factory in Hull in the early 1920s, hand-making Reckitt's "Dolly Blues", a laundry product which made whites whiter.

"He came to Hull because he saw the role as an opportunity to better himself and he then met our great grandma, Sarah Stephenson, who was a teacher," said Simon, Regional Packaging Director for Health (Europe, Middle East, Africa and Pakistan) at RB.

"He started a charity at Reckitts called the Sunshine Fund, collecting a ha'penny a week from the workers, which went towards under-privileged children in the area and later elderly people. They caught the train to Withernsea for day trips."

Lucas was also the official photographer for the company, taking pictures of King George V when he visited the site, and went on to retire in the 1960s before passing away in 1968.

Employment at Reckitts then skipped a generation for the family until Lucas' grandson, Duncan Campbell - Simon and

Alistair's father - began his 25-year career in the Export Department in the mid-1960s. Simon and Alistair said the memories of their father working for such a large company inspired them from a young age. Simon said: "Reckitts was a big company and it was always classed as a job for life. As kids growing up, we thought it was amazing that our dad spoke to people in



India and the Middle East. Even then, the company had that global spread."

The brothers learned to swim in the pool on the Hull site and the squash court played a big part in their lives. Alistair also remembers work experience at the age of 14 and having his first alcoholic drink in the on-site pub when he turned 18.

"Our father was mad on squash and he used to play games there with his friends every weekend," said Alistair, now Technical Manager, External Manufacturing Organisation, Europe, at RB.

"I was about four years old and there was a viewing platform with wooden lockers. I remember the smell of squash courts and sweat, and the games felt like they took all day.

"When I knew dad had finished his game, I used to hide in one of the lockers when he came to collect me. For years, before they knocked the court down, it never changed. When I eventually came to work at RB, it was nice to look at it. I even remembered which locker it was."

Aged 16, Simon was the first of the brothers to

follow in their father's footsteps, joining the company on a Youth Training Scheme (YTS) in 1989 and becoming a Formulation Chemist before progressing to Project Manager in the Packaging Team.

Alistair followed in 1992, starting his career in the laboratory and joining the company in a permanent role in 1995, working in research and development for Mr Sheen and later in the New Technology Group.

Simon said: "You either went to university, or got a job. Reckitts offered us both – to earn some money but also go on day release to Hull College and then on to the University of Hull where we both got a degree in Chemistry.

"The opportunity was incredible and we were fortunate to get into Reckitts in the way we did."

Although Simon spent eight years away from RB, setting up his own product design and development consultancy in the early 2000s, and Alistair briefly left to gain experience working in the pharmaceutical industry, they both returned and have worked with many of RB's best-known brands, including Veet, Gaviscon, Lemsip, Strepsils and Nurofen.

Simon and Alistair even met their wives, Claire and Renata, while working at RB and all four continue to work in the business.

The brothers said they were proud of the company's continued investment in Hull, as the world-class Science and Innovation Centre puts the city at the forefront of consumer health innovation.

"We sometimes struggle to get people to come to this area and this will hopefully encourage people to come and stay," said Alistair.

Simon added: "There is local pride that a company like RB, with heritage in so many brands, is investing so heavily in Hull. I feel very fortunate for every opportunity I have had. This company has made me the person I am."



## Silversmithing as a hobby

After he retired, Ronald Wickes moved to Herefordshire where he attended Hereford College of Art and Design. He spent one day a week for three years concentrating on the art of silverware. His particular interest is in church items and domestic tableware. He has a custom-built workshop at his home where he is also able to undertake repairs to silverware and jewellery. Ronald's silverware is assayed in Edinburgh and bear his registered hallmark "RW". Here are some photos of Ronald's beautiful creations.



## Sporting Greats visit FRC



The Francis Reckitt Centre (FRC) had a men's club principally renowned for its snooker tables. An article from Reckitt's News, probably dating from 1985, says that two sporting greats of the

snooker world, John Virgo and Dennis Taylor along with the great international darts player, "Jocky" Wilson, had been invited to play exhibition matches (Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October).

Jocky played selected FRC Members in addition to some members of the audience who were chosen on the night by ticket.

The two snooker players were available for a chat from 8pm before playing together in the "Company Challenge", a competition sponsored by companies involved with Reckitt's. The article says that this match was fully booked, but a recording would be taken and the video played at a later date.

*Where you there at this event? Did you get to play against Jocky, meet John or Dennis or watch them play this match? Write in and let us know what you remember.*



## Don't Forget

Please keep in touch. Write in (details above), respond to our articles and let us know about your hobbies, special events, sporting achievements, informal get-togethers or any other items of interest.

## You remembered ...

The football story in the last edition, about **Colman's Football Penalty Prowess**, where a team from Colman's beat Chartres on penalties, prompted a memory from Martin Keeley (our Pensioner Trustee) who tells us: "I actually played in that football game in Chartres. I seem to recall it was good fun but the game was taken very seriously. We had Messrs Tony Gotts and Mally Slater 'managing us' (sort of 80's Allardyce & Guardiola). Their instructions to me were to stop their talented midfielders from playing.... All went well and whatever confrontations there were on the pitch were soon forgotten at the bar & dinner afterwards. I can remember that David Pond played. He was good on the pitch and in the bar! I think Vernon Sankey had set it up - he had previously run the French business & turned up to watch this game. Tony Metcalf, the Colman's Personnel Manager was there - I think in the capacity of finding & retrieving a few of us who had gone around some bars in Chartres the lunchtime before the game."

## Masonian Sports & Social Club celebrate Centenary



**Andrew Tucker has an invitation for your diary ...**

"Masonian Bowls Club would like to invite past employees of Cherry Blossom who played or were members of the Chiswick Athletics Club (Masonian Sports & Social Club) as we are celebrating our centenary on the

27th June 2020, at 12pm. The event will take place at the Masonian Bowls Club, Dukes Meadow, Market Drive, Chiswick, W4 2RX. If you are free, please come down to join in the celebrations." Also check out their website <https://www.masonianbowlsclub.co.uk/>

## Guardium - new product



Guardium is the new kid on the block under the Gaviscon brand. Launched in August/September last year, the active ingredient is Esomeprazole which is a PPI and, as many of you will know, a PPI (a medical one that is) is a Proton Pump Inhibitor. PPIs work on the source of the

stomach acid that's causing the heartburn, providing relief against persistent gastric reflux. For more information on Gaviscon and Guardium, when to take them and when to seek advice, visit the website [www.gaviscon.co.uk](http://www.gaviscon.co.uk) or speak to your GP.

## iContact email list ...

As we've said before, we have an email circulation list that lets you know when the latest edition of iContact has been posted onto our website. If you would like to be added to, or removed from this list, please email us at rbcontactmag@gmail.com. Being on the list doesn't mean that you stop getting the magazine through the post **but**, if you do want to go totally digital, please let us know and we can arrange for you to be taken from the postal circulation.

If you thought you were on our email circulation list but haven't been receiving emails, please let us know and we can check that we have your up-to-date email address.

# OBITUARIES

Once again we are sad to record the deaths of our pensioners and former colleagues, who are listed in these columns.

*If you have any recollections or memories of former colleagues, please email them to us and we will endeavour to print them in our next issue.*

## NORTHERN

### Hull: (age) service years

Peter Adamson (95) 28  
Clifford Carter (88) 23  
Ann Clint (79) 25  
Elizabeth Constable (82) 6  
Brian William Davie (71) 33  
Stuart John Finn (77) 31  
John W Grimsby (92) 45  
Anthony Charles Lane (81) 33  
Reginald Raper (85) 41  
Freda Elizabeth Roberts (75) 30  
Malcolm Ruddiforth (80) 33  
Eileen Simpson (88) 10

Kenneth Thacker (91) 18  
Colwyn James Walters (95) 9  
Kenneth Whitehead (93) 34

## SOUTHERN

### Chiswick HQ:

Gladys Bridle (96) 24  
Margaret Winifred Jones (87) 10  
John Henry Small (89) 18  
Joan Bessie Watts (94) 27  
Joan Wills (93) 32

### Derby:

Patricia June Coxon (77) 10  
Jean Dorothy Farnsworth (87) 21

### Nottingham:

Joscelyn Maurice Broderick (77) 1

## EASTERN

### Norwich:

Theognosia Michael Allen (83) 16  
Linda Jane Bastick (61) 13  
Stephen Richard Bell (67) 11

Cathleen Hamilton Bryant (93) 35  
Sydney Charles Butcher (87) 12  
Brian Andrew Cooper (82) 30  
David John Flint (77) 20  
Colin Brian Kett (80) 18  
Anthony King (82) 23  
James C G Mepsted (92) 27  
Alan William Spilsbury (93) 31  
Michael John Wilsea (74) 12  
Brenda Florence Wilson (89) 18

## OTHER

### Leisure:

Clarence Leslie Partridge (93) 20  
Ralph Stewart Harrison (97) 42

### High Wycombe (Jeyes):

Dennis Williams (93) 22

### Cardiff Depot:

Lawrence Peter Sutton (72) 13

### Cleaning Services:

Jean Lilian Hayler (86) 4

## Thoroughly examined ...

*The editor writes:* In the space of two days I was reminded how valuable Reckitt's had been to the education and development of its employees. Firstly, at the funeral of Malcolm Rudderforth, the celebrant told us that Malcolm, who'd left school at 15, went on to take further studies in business and "rose through the ranks", finally retiring as a Procurement buyer of raw materials. A day or so later when I visited the Heritage Centre, Rosina Baxter handed me a "surprise": It was the January 1987 issue of *Reckitt News* that included a full page spread of the exam awards for the previous academic year and had me (along with photo) as the lead in the article. Apparently at the awards two years previously I'd said that I wanted to take a course in computing and so there I was in 1987, fulfilling that promise and receiving an award for an HNC in Computer Studies. In total, I took 5 formal qualifications and attended endless training courses covering a wide variety of subject matter from management techniques, pensions legislation & investments, glass moulding to 6 sigma, all of which contributed to my very own experience of "rising through the ranks".

In 1987 there was also special mention of David Price (M.Sc. Analytical Science) and Peter Haigh who achieved a B.A. Honours degree after 10 years of hard study - that's real dedication.

The other awards covered courses such as RSA 1, II and III in typing and shorthand, Occupational Health Nursing certificate, a very wide range of B/TEC, TEC and HNC's, Accounting, Admin, Personnel management and perhaps the strangest (in today's world) an award from the Institute of Animal Management. *Tell us about the courses or training you took and how it helped your career.*

## The Good Old Days of Wine

Many pensioners will remember the wine business that the Company had in Norwich and might also remember how popular the wine was in the various site shops! Bull's Blood was particularly sought after! March 1988 saw the end of production for the Coleman's factory in Westwick Street, Norwich when the site was sold to B&Q (Retail) Ltd. The business itself was sold to Hedges & Butler, a subsidiary of Bass plc. *Do you have any memories or photographs of Colemans? If so, let us know!*

## Reckitt's History Word Search

Look at the digital versions of *iContact 77* to see the results for the "Brand search" that was published in the last magazine.

The word search on the right uses words from Reckitt's history.

*Can you find the following names in the word grid?*

**Carrow**  
**Starch**  
**House**  
**Lane**  
**Isaac**  
**Garden**  
**Village**  
**Ultra**

**Marine**  
**Quaker**  
**Maud**  
**Foster**  
**Mill**  
**Biscuit**  
**Bag Blue**

R	Q	U	A	M	F	W	W	L	U
E	U	H	L	N	E	O	R	L	T
G	A	R	D	E	N	R	T	I	I
A	K	I	E	N	I	R	A	M	U
L	E	W	S	L	A	A	S	T	C
L	R	S	T	A	R	C	H	U	S
I	D	K	M	N	A	S	O	O	I
V	L	A	C	E	V	C	U	G	B
I	U	D	H	R	E	T	S	O	F
D	B	A	G	B	L	U	E	U	N

# OBITUARIES

## Vic Carpenter 1945-2019



It is with great sadness that we announce the untimely passing of Vic Carpenter. Vic was a stalwart of the young

team charged with forming the new Pharmaceutical Division of Reckitts in the early 1970's. He joined Reckitts in 1963 as a Development Technician and in 1969, following graduation, he was appointed Plant Chemist in the Lemsip plant. He subsequently became a leading member of Winko Cheng's process development department under Peter Fielding whom he succeeded in the role. Vic was a key member of the team who developed the Kingston Works East pharmaceutical factory which incorporated a number of new processes. In 1987 he became Manufacturing Manager in the KWE factory.

Never one to shirk his duty, Vic was always in control. He was totally dependable with a beaming smile on his face, a great colleague who had the knack of making everybody feel comfortable.

Vic was always eager to join in sporting activities. Whether it was the Pharma 5-a-side team, tennis, squash or badminton, Vic was there. Many will recall the Outward Bound courses at Parsley Hay on the Tissington Trail where Pharma employees went for "team building". On one occasion Vic led the Green Team to take on a challenge of building of a contraption to catapult a 45g drum further than the other teams. An enormous 20ft structure was assembled and loaded. Vic shouted: "FIRE!", the contraption collapsed, leaving the drum where it was! Vic left Hull to join the Derby factory as Manufacturing Manager in 1992, liking the area so much that he and Sue made their home in nearby Ashbourne. In 1995 he moved to SmithKline Beecham finally retiring in 2005.

Vic's funeral service was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November on what turned out to be the wettest November day on record in Derbyshire. Derby's Markeaton Crematorium was packed to the gunnels with some having to stand outside. Mourners travelled from all quarters to pay their respects. A fitting tribute to one of Reckitt's stalwarts who will be sadly missed. *Dave Nellist.*

## Malcolm Rudderforth



Malcolm started work at Colours. Supported by the business he took several educational courses and ended his working life in

the Procurement department. He was a lover of science and as a buyer of raw materials he would research thoroughly and become an expert in all that he was involved with. He was always willing to pass on his knowledge to "baby buyers" (new to purchasing). As a result of his patience and dedication we often heard the phrase, "Ah Malcolm, bless him". In fact such was his reputation that one day a visitor from another department asked to speak to Mr Malcolm Blesshim! Malcolm was known for his eccentricity and great sense of humour. In earlier life he lost the end of two fingers and when it was his round at the bar he would hold up his hand and ask for two pints and two halves.

Malcolm was a lover of good causes, walking, photography and classical music. He continued these into his retirement, generously giving to those he thought needed a little help in life. *Phil Slater & Carl Filby.*



## GDPR & Request for a Pensioner visit/contact

As you can see from our front page article, we now have procedures in place that enable us to recommence visiting and/or contact that comply with the current General Data Protection Requirements (GDPR) legislation.

If you would like to be contacted by one of our Pensioner Volunteer Visitors, please complete the following form and return it to us at the following address:

RBPA c/o Pensions Department, Reckitt Benckiser, Dansom Lane South, Hull, HU8 7DS.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL No: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# Solution to the Brand Word search (iContact 76)

