

icontact

No. 80 April 2021

For Pensioners of the Reckitt Benckiser (formerly Reckitt & Colman) Pension Fund

Highest Growth In History

The 2020 results show that Reckitt Benckiser has had the highest annual revenue growth in its history as the Covid-19 hygiene boom led to surging sales for Dettol and Lysol disinfectants. The Company said that sales rose 11.8% on a like-for-like basis and this was the strongest figure since the merger in 1999. Revenue performance in 2021 was expected to be in the range of flat to +2%. Laxman Narasimhan, Chief Executive Officer, commented "In 2020 we successfully negotiated uncharted waters.

We have made a strong start to implementing our new strategy and proved that we can adapt and successfully respond to rapidly changing market conditions. Our portfolio is clearly resilient - with or without Covid-19 - and we are building a stronger business for the future"

The Company also announced that a sale had been agreed for the Scholl footwear business and that the Biofreeze pain relief brand had been acquired.

In addition to the financials, other items of interest show that, delivering on the

climate pledge, USA, European and Indian manufacturing achieved 100% renewable electricity in 2020.

There are 4 drivers of growth: penetration, market share, new places & new spaces.

Dettol & Lysol have a market penetration of 300 million households globally with Harpic achieving 100 million in India.



Dettol & Lysol are also expected to be in 70 new markets by the end of 2021.

Dettol & British Airways collaboration



In February Dettol announced a partnership with British Airways to offer a range of Dettol

products in the air and on the ground. The airline's updated cleaning protocols using Dettol products has been supported by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Dettol hand sanitiser stations will be placed at all BA check-in desks, self-service bag drop, lounges and departure gates in Terminal 5 at Heathrow.

As each traveller boards the aircraft, they will be handed Dettol antibacterial wipes.

Dettol is striving to drive high standards in hygiene and to reassure passengers that they can enjoy the British Airways experience and BA think that the partnership with Dettol is a great addition as a protective measure for its customers. *We all hope that safe travel will be back on our agenda in 2021!*



RB Acquires Queen V

On 20th January 2021, RB announced that it had acquired Queen V, a feminine sexual wellness brand established in the US. Founded in California in 2018 by the daughter of a gynaecologist, Queen V takes a unique and inclusive approach to making vaginal health more accessible and empowering. This acquisition demonstrates RB's commitment to innovative and purpose-driven brands. It will form part of RB's Health Global Business Unit, alongside leading sexual wellbeing brands, KY and Durex.

RBPA Committee

The Committee will be holding the first Zoom meeting of 2021 on 25th March. Later in the year vacancies for positions on the committee are reviewed. Have a think about putting your name forward when the opportunity arises. Your committee members are: Kevin O'Berg (Chairman & Finance Secretary), Trevor Clark, (Committee Secretary) and Gill Morrell (all Northern); Tony Swell (Vice-Chair), Martin Keeley (Trustee), Paul Gilliam, Lorraine Mugleston, Brian Bradley (all Southern); Alistair Stewart (Eastern).

Pension Increase 2021

RPI for the year to December 2020 was 1.2% and this will form the basis of the RB pension increase. As in previous years, the Pensions Department will send each pensioner a detailed breakdown of the application of this increase towards the end of April 2021.

Update on get-togethers & Pensioner visiting

Once again as we go to press, we are not able to let you know when the next get-togethers will be able to take place but, as the lockdown slowly eases, we will be keeping under constant review the latest guidance to see when we can safely recommence our activities and we will keep you all informed.

In the meantime we are very lucky to have volunteers, all of whom would be very happy to hear from pensioners who fancy a telephone chat or a WhatsApp/text chat. They are located in the following areas and are standing by for your call ...

Lincoln, Leicester, Nottingham, Brian Bradley 01526 321575

Derby, Lorraine Mugleston 01159 733753

West Country, Bristol, Martin Fox 01458 850468

High Wycombe, Wealdstone, Harrow, Paul Gilliam 01494 562843

Chiswick, West London, Surrey, Chris Mann 07824 446392

Hants, Dorset, Wiltshire, Mike Urry 02392 526860

Berkshire and any areas not covered above, Tony Swell 01189 691390/mobile 07519 281648

The RBPA committee is committed to keeping you all informed as to when get-togethers can recommence. Watch this space!



Spotlight on the Committee



Continuing our feature "Spotlight on the Committee", where we take a look at the pensioners who represent you on the Reckitt Benckiser Pensioner's Association, we put the spotlight on our Committee representative from Norwich, Alistair Stewart.

Alistair has been involved with the Pensioner's Association from its inception when he was one of the

visitors in the Eastern Region. In 2005 he was elected to serve on the Pensioner's Association Committee and became the organiser of the Norwich get-togethers, following the retirement of Ken Herbert.

His working career started out on the Scottish Railways and he was posted to a small station in whisky country as a Junior Clerk. After 12 years on the railway, including 5 years as an Assistant Controller in Perth Control, he trained in Work Study. The threat of redundancy, due to the effect of the Beeching report, prompted Alistair to take an interest in work outside the railways and so, in 1969, he was recruited as a Work Study Engineer at Colman's.

During his time at Colman's he worked in the Industrial Relations department as the Production Superintendent of the Condiments department. Alistair completed his career at Carrow working as a Senior Production Planner covering Dry Sauce, Mustard, Condiments and Preserves.

On his retirement, he was able to spend more time on gardening. His collection of cactuses led him to spend two holidays in Arizona in cactus country. Alistair and his wife Pat also developed a love for safaris and made three visits to Kenya and Tanzania, visiting the Masai Mara and the Serengeti amongst other interesting places.

Back home he continues to be the Eastern Region Representative and organiser of the Norwich get-togethers along with Pam Gulliver. Alistair hopes that they will soon resume but meantime he is happy help any pensioner and is available for a chat on 01603 436391.

In recent years Alistair has co-ordinated the Annual Memorial Service at the War Memorial, Carrow House. The closure of Colman's and the future for Carrow House has obvious implications for the War Memorial and he is keeping in touch and awaits developments.

Any ideas? The spiral staircase can be found in the Lighthouse, 11 Mitchell Lane, Glasgow, formerly housing the Glasgow Herald.

£50 Photo Competition

Sadly we're unable to show you the winning entry of the photo competition we ran in our last edition - **we didn't receive any entries!!** Perhaps the ad. for the competition was too small and tucked away, so we're going to give it one more shot and hope that - even in lockdown - you will have a photo or two to send in to us. The prize is £50 for the photo judged to be the most interesting by the editorial committee (Kevin O'Berg, Alan Oliver & Gill Morrell).

Closing date for entries is 11th June 2021.



Any ideas? Do you know which city and which building houses this intriguing 134 step spiral staircase? Here's a clue: it was the first public commission for Charles Rennie Mackintosh and this part of the building was originally used to store 8,000 gallons of water.

Home schooling? Brain Teaser

Have you been helping out with home schooling the grandchildren? If you have, then you may have come across this primary school maths question. Either way, can you work out the answer? *Find the solution on Page 4*



Here are 3 cards



On each card there is a **cube** number.

Use these calculations to find each number.

$$A \times A = B$$

$$B + B - 3 = C$$

$$\text{Digit Total of } C = A$$



PS: A "Digit Total" is the sum of the digits in a number - so for example, the digit total of 18 is 9 (1+8), the digit total of 304 is 7

GDPR & Request for a Pensioner visit/contact

Due to Covid-19, we are unable, at the moment, to offer visits in person. However when it is safe to meet up again and 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 plc, Dansom Lane South, Hull, HU8 7DS.

NAME: _____

TEL No: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

You remembered ...

... Even more on beautiful covers



Bob Davies sent in his information about Harold, the ROC magazine covers artist. "It must have been 1948 when I first met Harold. It came about like this:

In 1947, at the age of 16 and straight from school, I was appointed as an Office Boy in the Advertising department of R&C (Overseas) Ltd. which, at that time, and due to heavy bombing of the Dansom Lane site, had its offices in a large house in Hesslewood with the name of Quarry

Bank. A gentleman called Russell-Sienesi (known as "Skipper") had

the responsibility of making sure that all the R&C products bore the correct 'Directions for Use' in the appropriate language of the country to which they were exported. In addition, Skipper was responsible for the creation and supply of what were called "show-cards", which were advertisements included with each product shipment. Most featured elegant ladies whose lives had been made so much more agreeable, thanks to our products. Harold Crawford was the creator of most of these showcards. Whilst I worked in this department practically all the artworks had, at some time during their design, been transported by me on my way by bus or train from home in Hornsea, catching another bus at Paragon Station to Dansom Lane and then walking to the old converted chapel where Harold had his studio along with another artist who, I think, was called Les Suddaby, both of them Company employees. Harold was quite short in stature, had a soft Yorkshire accent, was somewhat taciturn but very friendly and quickly understood what Skipper was getting at with his comments that had been entrusted to me.

Harold must have produced hundreds of these show-cards over the years, all beautifully painted, each one a work of art. I hope there's a collection somewhere of this slice of R&C history."

"Trust" in R&C... More about Bob Davies ...

Bob sent us some more information about his early career at R&C (Overseas) Ltd. with an insight to working life at that time and how his career progressed thanks into a grant from the Philip Reckitt Educational Trust - a fine example of how R&C invested in its employees:

"I had stayed on at Bridlington School, hoping to find a way of going on to study architecture. A well-known firm of architects in Hull had accepted me as student learner - but without remuneration. Penniless study was not an option, so an alternative had to be found, hence my application to R&C (Overseas) Ltd.

I was interviewed by Arnold Capron who, presumably liking what he saw, offered me a job as an Office Boy in the Advertising Department. The department occupied the attic of Quarry Bank.

Later, as a very junior assistant, I reported to the aforementioned Skipper who was an ex Ghurka-Officer.

Charles Hewson (Research Manager), with his assistant Audrey Fellowes (?), had an office to themselves; Skipper shared his office with someone whose name I have forgotten (ex-Navy). The other members of the team, all very nice people, were in one biggish room. They were; Gwen Sawyer (ex-WREN), Claire Scholes, Hazel Kay, Shirley Pollard, John Scruton (wounded at Narvik), Gilbert Stocks (ex-Royal Corps of Signals) and last but not least, me, Bob Davies. The Director, Leslie B. Cort, had his office on the first floor.

The overgrown 'quarry' of Quarry Bank actually existed in the garden and it was big enough to play a game of cricket in - and there were many times in summer when this took place during the lunch-break.

My travels between Hornsea and Hesslewood came to an end in 1949 when King George VI called me up to join the REME and wear khaki for the two years of National Service.

At the end of this patriotic experience R&C, fortunately, made no fuss about my going back to work. Brand new offices in Dansom Lane awaited me, as well as most of the nice people I had known before.

There were new faces too: John Bull (yes, it's true), Arnold Boulton and a new boss, Ray Bloomfield, who had replaced Leslie Cort. Everyone warmed to Ray and I was no exception. He suggested to me one day in 1952 that I should apply for a grant from the Sir Philip Reckitt Educational Trust. It seemed to take no time at all from not knowing that the Trust even existed, to having £500

(£12,000 nowadays) in my bank account and being accepted to attend the "Cours de Civilisation Française" at the University of the Sorbonne. Charles Wildblood, Marketing Manager in the French Branch House, provided accommodation on the Ile de la Cité, ten minutes' walk from the Sorbonne. Three months there and another three months hitchhiking from Paris to Vienna and back through the North of Italy and the South of France, with a brief weekend in London for Queen Elizabeth's Coronation, and I was back in Dansom Lane. Not for long however as in 1953 it was suggested that someone with a knowledge of French should go to the Belgian office, with an accountant, to sort out some disagreement regarding advertising expenditures. Fortunately, the someone was me (thanks Sir Philip!) and for the next six months I worked in the offices of S.A. des Usines Destrée (as it was at that time) at Haren, just outside Brussels. St John Mann, who was assistant General Manager, decided I could be useful and made an application for a Belgian Work Permit. I had to return to Dansom Lane whilst waiting for it but that didn't take long and I was soon back with a challenging and fascinating job as Chef de Publicité. In 1958 I swapped positions with John St Lawrence, who was in the French Branch, and I eventually became Marketing Manager, first under John Cowl, then Sidney Smith and finally under Bill Williams.

I stayed in France until 1973 when it was considered I should brush up on my Greek history - and I was appointed General Manager of the Greek Branch, leading to an exceptionally rewarding experience, people, business, living and indeed, history wise. I stayed in Greece for five successful years, so successful that I was posted as General Manager to Brussels. There, with many product launches and two major moves of premises, it was as though my architect ambitions had been met after all."

Hull to Hornsea Railway Line

The Hull to Hornsea line, that Bob used to travel on Hull, was a casualty of the Beeching report that led to closure of a large number of branch lines. Wikipedia tells us that the last passenger journey on this line was made on 19th October 1964. Initially proposed circa 1845, the first sod was cut by Joseph Armytage Wade (a Hornsea resident and Hull Timber Merchant) on 8th October 1862, apparently using a silver spade and ornate wheelbarrow.

... and more ...

cont'd ... Hull to Hornsea



The line was officially opened on 28th March 1864, with the first train departing from Wilmington station at 12:00 noon.

The line had been planned to terminate at Hornsea Bridge, but a decision was made to extend this to the seafront. Due to boggy land requiring extensive piles to support the infrastructure, the cost of construction increased from £68,000 to £122,000 (the cost of a small house these days!).

The train geeks among us will know that a typical goods locomotive seen

on the line would have been the Class J type 0-6-0. Passenger trains also pulled by 0-6-0 tender locomotives as well as ex-GCR class 9Ns and ex-Great Northern Railway 4-4-2 locomotives during the MNER period.

Following the closure of this branch line it was turned into a cycle track, The Hornsea Rail Trail, which is part of a National Cycle Network (route 65) and also forms part of the Trans-Pennine Trail. The trail is 13 miles long and a diversion can be made along the way to visit Burton Constable Hall. The flat nature of the Holderness landscape makes it an excellent route for those cyclists looking for an easy route with a rural outlook. The trail can of course be used by pedestrians and horse riders alike.

Quarry Bank



Bob mentioned that the R&C Overseas department had moved out to Quarry Bank house in Hessele (left) following the bomb damage at Dansom Lane.

In recent years the house was used as a residential care home but has recently been sold to a community of 18 nuns and two hermits intending to turn the property into their new convent.

This Anglican order - the Community of the Holy Name - was based in Derbyshire and the reason for the move to Hessele is to "down-size".

At the rear of Quarry Bank is the Humber Bridge Country Park, a lovely place to go for a walk through woodland, chalk cliffs and ponds that fall and rise according to the amount of rain. It opens out onto Hessele foreshore and gives access to the pedestrian and cycle pathway over the Humber Bridge - often very "bracing" walks!

Don't Forget - it's your mag

Please keep in touch. Write in (details on page 3), respond to our articles and let us know about your hobbies, special events, sporting achievements, informal get-togethers and any other items of interest or things you'd like to see in the magazine.



THANK YOU!

The editorial team sends a massive thank-you to all of those who took the trouble to write in and supply their interesting stories.

1964 - Carrow Queen

Pam Gulliver (Norwich Pensioner visitor) sent us this picture and note. "Jaqueline Chapman (now Welham) is a friend of mine who has recently returned to Norwich after living in France. She won (aged 18) the Carrow Queen competition and I thought this might be of interest to see whether any of our pensioners remember the event & the people in the picture." *Thanks Pam. Now over to the readers - what do you remember about this event? Did you take part? Do you know the participants or judges?*



CARROW QUEEN COMPETITION
to R: Mary Gay, Linda Bishop, Jacqueline Chapman (Carrow Queen), Ann Thompson, Patricia Newland, Linda Tooke, Kay Woodard. The Judges were Mr and Mrs H. J. Starling and Mr C. S. Morley

BRAIN TEASER SOLUTION:

The answers to the Brain Teaser are A=8, B=64, C=125 & the digit total of C=8. Thus the digit total of C=A

What's in a (brand) name ...

Where do our brand names come from? (Information taken from the RB brands websites):

DUREX - Worldwide #1

The heritage of Durex goes back to 1915. The London Rubber Company (founded by Lionel A Jackson) manufactured products such as rubber gloves and waterproof sheets and imported sheaths from Germany. In 1929 the condoms were manufactured in a factory based in London. In order for the brand to grow sales it needed to rely on product qualities such as **DU**rability, **Reli**ability and **EX**cellence - and thus the Durex brand name was born. An application for a UK trademark was made and first appeared in 1929. Advertising was perhaps a challenge in the early days, but the product has moved from being behind the counter to chemists shelves and now appears in virtually every supermarket. The list of products on the Durex website numbers 52 (one for every week of the year!) ranging from condoms to lubricants to sex toys. RB acquired Durex from SSL in 2010.

MORTEIN - An Aussie brand - #1

Mortein dates back to the 1870s when J. Hagemann, a German immigrant to Australia, became fed up with the menagerie of Australian insects. He used crushed chrysanthemum flowers to produce a pyrethrum extract and created an insecticidal powder. The name, believed to have been devised by Hagemann and his French wife, is a combination of the French word **MORT** (dead) and the German **EIN** (one). Dead one? Nice one! (... and who would have thought crushed chrysanthemums would do the job!)

How much is that in old money?

Price comparisons are all the rage in the competitive supermarket advertising world. Bob Thurston, who worked in the Colman's sales force between 1961 and 1995, found a price list that he'd saved from 1963/64 and sent us this interesting article on prices from his early career days compared to current prices for these products (albeit some of the sizes are slightly different).

In 1964 a jar of **Ready Mixed Mustard** retailed at 1/6d (7½p) and a dozen would cost a retailer 14/6d (72½p). These days you'd have to pay around about £1 (13 times more).

Robinsons Barley Waters and Whole Fruit Drinks would cost a retailer £2/7/2d (£2.36) a dozen (inc. purchase tax), with bottles retailing at 1/11d (9.5p). Supermarkets now sell it at around about £1.80-£2.00 (though for 1 litre). 56 years on, that's roughly 20 times more.

In 1963 a dozen 3oz jars of **Mellors Mint** cost a wholesaler 7/6d (37.5p) and retailed at 10d (4p) and, in today's market, a slightly larger 100g jar would cost you £1 - that's 24 times as much!



Decimalisation - Golden anniversary

A good quiz question - when was decimalisation introduced? Well, it was 15th February, 1971 - yes 50 years ago. Historic UK tells us that the changeover or "Decimalisation Day" was 3 years in the planning. Initially 10p and 5p coins were introduced as direct replacements for the florin (2 shillings) and the one shilling coins. A year later the seven sided 50p piece was introduced to replace the 10 bob note (remember the complaints about how much heavier your wallet felt?). The banks were closed for 4 days prior to decimalisation and, apart for the struggle the older generation had with conversion, it went without a hitch.

The Royal Mint tells us that this changeover led to an increase in coin collection (Numismatics) as a hobby. The shape of the 50p coin made it the ideal canvas for commemorative designs, of which there have been 70.

Check your purse or wallet - the most coveted 50p design is "Kew Gardens" (left), celebrating its 250th anniversary. A small issue (only 210,000 were minted), these are reported to have been sold on eBay for up to £160 (beware of fakes!)

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

John Edward Arnold (88) 23
Enid Barker (84) 11
Peter H Blackburn (92) 18
Charles George Bolton (93) 28
Thelma Dalton Goldspink (74) 6
Murray Mackintosh Ferguson (81) 21
Keith E Godfrey (90) 23
Elsie Jaques (97) 44
Eileen Joyce (88) 14
Patricia Ann King (77) 12
Valerie Horsley Kirby (84) 19
Peter James Gorton Moores (85) 30
Leng Boon Ooi (75) 29
Charles Percy Welch (89) 7
Ronnie Whittaker (85) 27

HQ/Hull:

Barry Edmund Robinson (84) 29

EASTERN

Norwich:

Geoffrey Ernest Bush (88) 24
Brian Albert Durrant (77) 21
Cyril Griffiths (93) 42

John Richard Holman (85) 32
Gilbert Michael Jones (79) 13
Molly Kathleen Oakes (89) 29
Leslie Rippon (95) 26
Dorothy Gladys Scales (89) 20
Barry Alan Shorten (74) 17
Roy Kenneth Slade (87) 13
Arthur Storey (82) 11

SOUTHERN

Derby:

Ann Hunt (74) 25
Elsie Hursthouse (68) 15

Jeyes High Wycombe

Royston Wilson Britt (88) 14
John Stanley Walker (87) 16

Chiswick HQ:

Edna E Littleboy (94) 27

OTHER

Services Division Depots:

Harold Bingham Jones (92) 10
Brian Bulleyment (76) 9

Bletchley:

Winston Michael Crompton (74) 11

PMUK /Industrial:

Robert John Nelson (87) 7
George Waddington (97) 30

Expatriate (HQ):

James Roger D Hermon (91) 26
Richard Henry Jeffrey (85) 23
Roy Henry Mitchell (93) 21

Wealdstone:

Olive Bird (94) 13
Shirley Douglas (90) 20
Graham George Giles (92) 5
Pravinchandra S Shah (68) 9

Reeves/Leic:

Michael Joseph O'Halloran (74) 7

Enfield:

Kenneth D Newman (100) 43

Stevens Lowestoft:

Irene Maud Lowne (84) 24

Porters Paints:

Tony Axe (87) 9

Peter Moores 1935-2021



We are sorry to hear of the death of Peter Moores. *Tony Swell* recalls:

Peter worked in the Personnel department at Chiswick HQ before moving on to become Personnel Director for the Household Division at Hull. When he retired, he and his wife Jill, moved back to the south of England to be close to family. Peter was a member of the RBPA committee. Peter and his wife were very keen supporters of the Reckitt Benckiser Pensioner's Association and he set up the highly successful Chiswick get-togethers at the Wheatsheaf Hotel in Surrey.

OBITUARIES

Barry Robinson 1936-2021



A tribute by Gordon Stephenson:

Barry Robinson, who was known to many as a scientific information officer in Reckitt & Colman's former Hull-based Library and Information Service, died in Hull Royal Infirmary in October 2020 aged 84 years. He leaves a widow Gwen and two children Jenny and Andrew.

Barry was born in Barton in Lincolnshire. He graduated in Chemistry at Leeds University and it was whilst studying there that he met Gwen who was to become his wife. He then served his spell of National Service in the RAF based mostly in Germany working on radar scanning duties. His first opportunity to apply his chemical know-how came to him via employment in Birmingham working for the Dunlop Rubber Company. His next employment brought him closer to home when he joined Capper Pass working in their laboratories situated just to the west of Hull. With these experiences behind him he was well suited to seek and gain employment within the Reckitt laboratories in Dansom Lane, Hull in 1965.

At that time the Library, into which Barry was soon to be recruited, had been known from pre-war days as the Laboratory Library and served only the needs of laboratory personnel but, under the leadership of the well-respected Head of Information Tony Reid, a move was afoot to create a more widely-based service which would benefit the whole site, or indeed the Reckitt business world-wide. At the peak of this development the newly named Library & Information Service grew to employ 26 staff members to perform a myriad of tasks including the preparation and dissemination of a wide range of Information Bulletins as well as the handling of enquiries relating to all aspects of the Company's operations. This was the environment into which Barry fitted admirably. He was well able to communicate with like-minded scientific researchers and earned their respect through the attention to detail he was able to extract from them in order to ensure that his assistance would be relevant and useful to them in their endeavours. Barry took his retirement in 1995 having served more than thirty years with the Company.

Barry coped with Parkinson's Disease courageously throughout his adult life and went about his life with a smile on his face and had a great willingness to help others. Many will recall seeing him cycling to work from Bilton and he was well known for his many interests and activities which included music, natural history and pollution control, gardening and all things green. Most of all I will remember Barry as a personal friend with whom I had the good fortune to spend a large portion of my own working life.

Leng Boon Ooi (Dub)

1960-2021

Many people from the Hull factory will have known and will be saddened to hear of the passing of Dub. *John Benstead & Tony Pawson share their recollections:*

John Benstead: "Leng Boon Ooi, known to his family, friends and colleagues simply as "Dub", was born into a family of 11 in Malaysia and came to the UK in the mid-60s to study in London where he graduated in chemical engineering and met his future wife, Ros. He moved to Hull to work at the then Reckitt & Colman in the early-70s and settled down to village life in Skirlaugh in the East Riding of Yorkshire. In an eventful and productive 30-year career at Reckitts, Dub worked on many important engineering projects, most notably the commissioning of a new Gaviscon manufacturing facility in the newly established "liquids" factory in

Dansom Lane in Hull. He also worked on improving the water quality to the new plant which was essential to ensure the finished microbial quality of Gaviscon and other liquid products leaving the factory. Dub also developed important working relationships with many external suppliers and Reckitt subsidiaries over the years. Outside work, Dub was a keen sportsman and excelled at badminton and squash. He was also a passionate gardener and wine maker and loved classical music, good food and wine and travelling around the world with Ros and his devoted family of 3 children and 3 grandchildren. Dub was always a kind, generous, hard-working and loyal colleague who will be sadly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing and working with him over the years at Reckitts."

Tony Pawson: "I first met Dub when I joined the Process Development Team at Hull in 1983. He was very welcoming and helped me to settle down in the department. What I soon realised was how capable, experienced and professional Dub was. His friendly personality together with his knowledge and professionalism made him an immensely popular member of the team and he was highly respected throughout the pharmaceutical division. His experience was also helpful to the overseas pharmaceutical factories with which Dub liaised via the Overseas Technical Manager who was based in Hull.

George Waddington 1924-2020

First Pensioner Association Secretary



George was born in Bradford in 1924. At the age of 9, George won a Choristership at Durham Cathedral. It was reported that "He has a full, round, rich voice of unusual power for his age". He did well there, enjoying a near equal mixture of study and sport, excelling at cricket – like every true Yorkshire man aspires to.

George was conscripted into the Army in 1943 and served with the 3rd Medium Regiment of the Royal Artillery, travelling extensively during the course of the war. He had been christened Samuel Gerald but, in 1947 and never liking these names, he formally changed his name to "George".

In 1950, George married Anna Maria and started working for the Dunlop Rubber Company – a job that took them to Ceylon and Colombo. When his wife became ill with tropical asthma, they were forced to return to Britain. Initially living in Watford, George started working for Reckitt & Colman. The company wanted him to move to Buckinghamshire so he set up home with his wife and three children in High Wycombe.

George, who was the General Manager with additional responsibility for Personnel at the High Wycombe Industrial Division, retired at the age of around 60. Following his retirement, George was on the working party tasked with considering a potential Pensioner Association and, when set up, he agreed to be the first Association secretary.

After retirement George spent many years travelling with his wife and daughter. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, Wilf, Leo and Christian, watching them grow up. After the death of his wife, George moved to a house in Marlow, conveniently located close to the high street newsagent and a local café where he could complete the crossword.

In his reflections on his father's life his son, Mike, concluded that he had lived a long and varied life, had experienced some tragedies but mostly happiness. For those of us that knew him, George has left deep and loving impressions on us all. *Paul Gilliam*

This magazine is produced by the Reckitt Benckiser Pensioner's Association, Dansom Lane South, Hull, HU8 7DS