

# iCONTACT

No. 82 December 2021

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

## Dettol™ Up Play On

Some of you watching the World Cup qualifier between England and Hungary might have seen the above phrase moving around Wembley Stadium on the electronic display boards. A quick visit to the Dettol website reveals that the Dettol brand is making sure that over 17,000 grassroots clubs (1.4 million players!) are “equipped with what they need to play on”, by sharing educational materials and giving access to the wide range of Dettol hygiene products proven to kill 99.9% of bacteria and viruses.”



### History of stadium pitch-side advertising

Project11 (a sports advertising company) has an interesting page on their website about the history of sports advertising. It tells us that in the 1900's static advertising boards first started to appear on football stands and these were used to promote domestic brands. It wasn't until the 1960's, when the “beautiful game” had increased in popularity and media coverage was on the rise, that companies wanted to further increase their involvement through sponsorship and advertising strategies, that static pitch-side perimeter advertising boards started to be used.

The development of LED technology offered a more dynamic option but, perhaps surprisingly, it was the Spanish team Real Madrid that led the way in the 1994/95 season. English clubs were slow to pick up on this technology and it was some 11 or so years later when West Ham was the first English club to have them installed. *(Please refer to [www.p11.tv](http://www.p11.tv) for more on the history of sports advertising.)*



### Did you know ...

The Lemsip brand has 6 product ranges and 15 products. There are 3 formats - powders, capsules and liquids

## Don't Forget - it's your mag

Please keep in touch. Write in (details on page 6), 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!

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

## RBPA Committee

We held our first face-to-face meeting in over 18 months on 9th September at the Sibson Inn Hotel. Tony Swell (vice-chairman) and Alistair Stewart (Norwich) were unable to attend due to ill-health.

### Get-togethers

It was noted that get-togethers were now planned and in the diary, with a Hull event being held just the day before. As expected, numbers were down but we hope that we'll see these increase in future (Covid-19 permitting!).

### Elections

Tony Swell and Martin Keeley (Pensioner Nominated Trustee) were both re-elected unopposed.

### Future Elections

Three of the committee members gave notice that they would not be seeking re-election when their 3 year term is completed: Brian Bradley (Nottingham & Leicestershire) will step down after the next committee meeting (31<sup>st</sup> March 2022); Trevor Clark (Secretary) and Kevin O'Berg (Chairman and Treasurer) will both step down at the end of 2022. The committee thanked them all for their valued input and support for the pensioners over many long years.

## We need you!

With the obvious gaps that the RBPA committee will face over the coming year, we are looking for replacements.

The Committee oversees the various regional get-together. It organises pensioner visits on request, produces the iContact magazine and appoints the Pensioner Nominated Trustee to the RB Pension Fund. It also provides a valuable communication link between the Company, Trustees and RB pensioners. The committee holds two meetings per year in the Peterborough area.

If you feel that you can help in any way or require further information, then please email [rbcontactmag@gmail.com](mailto:rbcontactmag@gmail.com) or, if you would like an informal chat about joining the committee, then the vice-chairman, Tony Swell (tel 01189 691 390), would be happy to hear from you.

## RB Outperforms in Q3

The Company reported stronger than expected third quarter trading as sales of cold and flu remedies increased. The shares of RB rose 6% on the news which was the biggest gain on the FTSE 100 that day.

Laxman Narasimhan, chief executive, said, “We've delivered growth in each of our three geographic areas and nine of our ten largest brands are up double digits on a two year basis. We now expect like-for-like net revenue growth for 2021 in the range of 1-3%”.

# Get-togethers



## WE'RE BACK to a venue near you

Since our August issue we have managed to get the get-togethers back on track. Compared to pre-pandemic, numbers haven't been as badly affected as we'd thought they might be but the organisers are always happy to welcome new attendees.

As we keep hearing, we do now live in strange times and it's certainly difficult to plan ahead with absolute confidence. However, our dedicated team of organisers will endeavour to keep the get-togethers on the go and you will see **new dates in the diary for 2022**. We hope that the Covid situation continues to

improve and we can, once again, get back to normal.

As a reminder (or a lure!) these get-togethers are funded by the RPPA for all of those who wish to attend, so no need to bring your purse or wallet!

As well as photos from the recent get-togethers, these pages give you the venue and contact details for the forthcoming events. If you do plan to attend, please let the organiser know and then they can let you know of any changes, should the Covid situation change.

**Hull** Phil Shearsmith has arranged a number of dates - all on Wednesdays at 11am at Cheval of Willerby cafe, Green Lane, HU10 6NT. The next dates are: **8<sup>th</sup> December - and for 2022 - 16<sup>th</sup> February, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 15<sup>th</sup> June and 7<sup>th</sup> September.**

Phil's contact details are:

Tel 07858 137 178,

email [phil.shearsmith@gmail.com](mailto:phil.shearsmith@gmail.com)



The Hull group have held two sessions since our last magazine (September above and October below). The smiles weren't just for the camera! - the group remembered the production of old products (like Haematogen - Bull's blood), old colleagues (prompted by photos brought in by Bob Allison) and working practices that would have health & safety experts running for cover these days!



**Norwich** Your Norwich get-together organiser is **Alistair Stewart** and the dates for the **2022** get-togethers are, **11<sup>th</sup> January, 12<sup>th</sup> April, 12<sup>th</sup> July and 11<sup>th</sup> October - all of these are Tuesdays and start at 10:30am.**

The venue is The White Horse, Trowse, NR14 8ST. You can contact Alistair by phone on 01603 436 391.

A successful get-together was held by the Norwich group in October and was attended by 15 pensioners - a very healthy number.

Alistair tells us that the purchase of Carrow House by Norwich City Council is now complete but that the memorial service, usually held at the War Memorial, will not be able to be held due to building works. The hope is that permission will be given to hold the service next year.

Norwich City Council are planning to spend in the region of £1.4m refurbishing and repurposing Carrow House - a Grade II listed building - to provide 50,000 square feet of floorspace for a range of start-ups and small businesses.

## Sidmouth

### West Country drop-in

Martin Fox has arranged a get-together for **next year** on **Thursday 25th August**, at The Victoria Hotel, The Esplanade, Sidmouth, EX10 8RY - starting at 2:30pm. All are welcome to drop in for afternoon tea, cakes and a chat. You can contact Martin by email [martin\\_fox28@hotmail.com](mailto:martin_fox28@hotmail.com), by phone on 01458 850 468 / 07903 220386, or contact Tony Swell on 01189 691 390.



Martin Fox writes, "We had a beautiful summer's day for our drop-in meeting at the Victoria Hotel in Sidmouth. As well as the regular attendees it was a pleasure to welcome, for the first time, Angela Symes and Malcolm and Mary McNair. We found lots to talk and laugh about over afternoon tea as well as being pleasantly surprised when Phil O'Connell, whose father Chris covered the south Wales area for Colman's, turned up. Unfortunately Chris died earlier this year but Phil had seen the details of the meeting in a copy of iContact at his father's house and arrived from Wales with some very interesting old documents, photographs and anecdotes of Chris' life as a representative."

## Bournemouth drop-in

Tony Swell has arranged a drop-in for **2022** on **Tuesday 12th April**, at The Royal Bath Hotel, Bath Road, Bournemouth BH1 2EW - starting at 2pm in the lounge area. The hotel is close to the pier and is next door to a car park. All are welcome to drop in for afternoon tea, cakes and a chat. You can contact Tony on 01189 691 390.



## Leicester

The Leicester get-together was held on 5th October at the Fox Pond. Organiser Brian Bradley writes, "Nice to see faces again after Lockdown. Unfortunately a regular pensioner couple, John Whiles and his wife, phoned at last minute to say that John was not so well and we hope he is feeling better soon. On the other hand it was good to see Brian Farmer ex-medical sales force and his wife joining us again after not seeing them both for some time. All seven of us enjoyed our day out to the Fox Pond." NOTE: A date for a 2022 get-together will appear in one of our future magazines.



## GDPR & Request for a Pensioner visit/contact

If you would like to be contacted by one of our Pensioner Volunteer Visitors (Covid-19 conditions providing), 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: \_\_\_\_\_

# ... more on Get-togethers

## Chiswick

Chris Mann has arranged a get-together on **Thursday 17th March, 2022**, at The Wheatsheaf, Virginia Water starting at 12 noon. All are welcome. Please contact Chris on 07824 446 392

Chris writes, "We held a get-together for the Chiswick Group on Thursday 21st October at The Wheatsheaf Hotel, Virginia Water. The lunch was attended by 22 pensioners; this would have been more but several members had booked holidays for the first time following Covid. What was pleasing was to see several new faces, one of which was Socie Berrera-Fletcher - a result of seeing the details in 'iContact'. We also had a sales member, John Capps from Colman's, who managed a sales territory in West London, and who lives in Ealing. More pleasing was that the lunch was attended by Gill Moores, wife of the late Peter Moores, who was my predecessor, and who was accompanied by her son Chris. It was a pleasure to welcome both of them. All in all a great occasion and great lunch which was appreciated by all and some 2 years since the last one!"



## High Wycombe

Paul Gilliam has booked the Paper Mill (Brewers Fayre), Loudwater, High Wycombe for the **2022** get-together on **Wednesday 6th April from 12 noon, 12 noon**. All are welcome. Please contact Paul on 01494 562 843.

Paul writes ... The High Wycombe group of pensioners met at the Brewers Fayre on 6th October. Everyone was pleasantly surprised to see so many former colleagues and we even had one new member, which prompted a discussion of how we could attract more former employees.

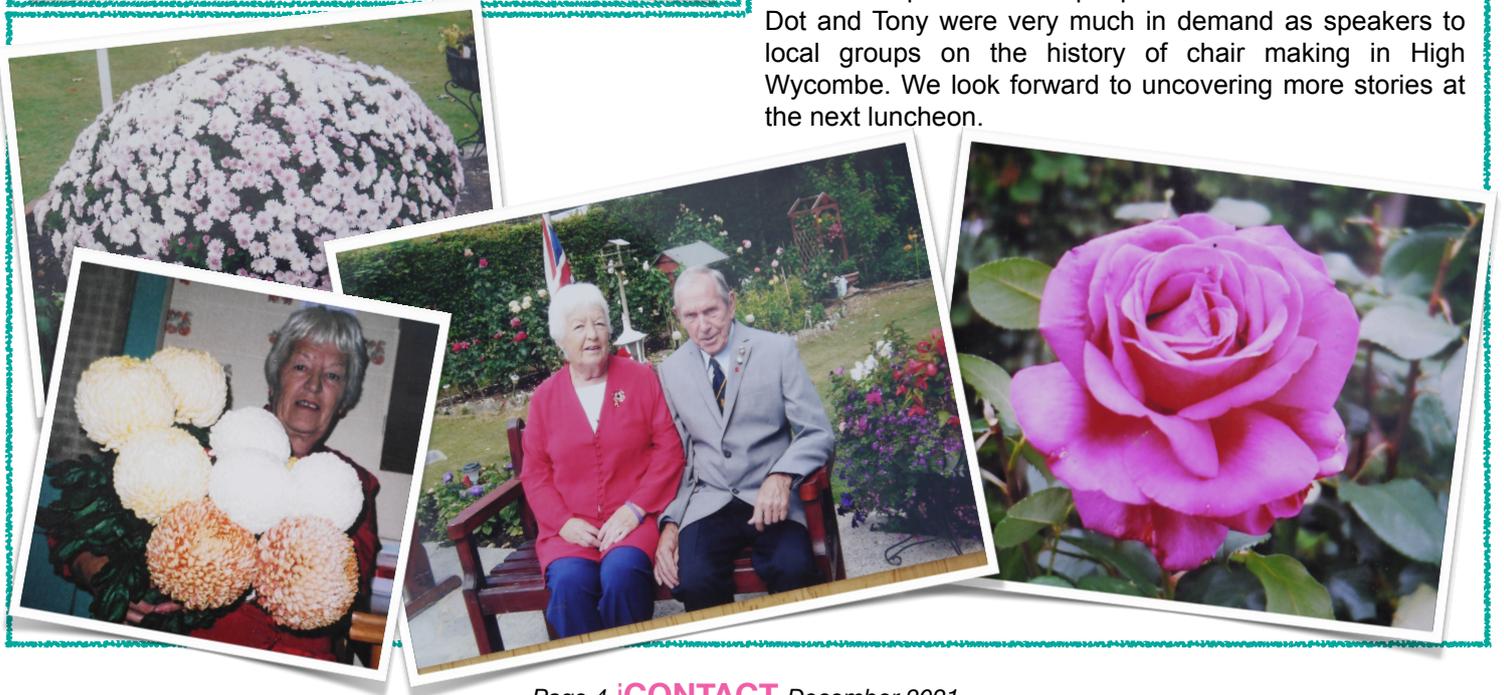
Tony Collier provided two fabulous gifts of Chrysanthemums for the raffle and these were won by Jane Walker and Celia Carter. Tony has been supplying beautiful flowers for every meeting with his bunches of flowers often chosen by raffle prize winners in preference to a bottle of wine and other gifts!

Our photos show Tony and his (late) wife Dorothy Rose (known as Dot to all her friends) seated in their garden together with examples of his prize winning and beloved chrysanthemums. The name of the single rose in our photographs is 'Buxom Beauty,' a name he altered slightly and affectionately gave to Dot!

Dot had been employed as the Wages Supervisor at the then Leigh Street premises of Progress Floor Treatments Ltd., before it became Reckitt Industrial after an acquisition. In fact, I was also employed for a brief time at these premises before moving to newly built offices alongside the factory in Cressex, High Wycombe.

What is not known is that in marrying Tony, she was linking up with not only a bespoke chair and furniture maker who continued to make furniture for well known 'royals' around the world but who would also build her a beautiful bungalow in Hazelmere, Buckinghamshire. We are unable to name his 'royal' clients for reasons of confidentiality!!

Unravelling the story of Tony came as a surprise but would be of no surprise to those people known to Dot. No wonder Dot and Tony were very much in demand as speakers to local groups on the history of chair making in High Wycombe. We look forward to uncovering more stories at the next luncheon.



# ... even more on get-togethers!

## Derby - new venue for 2022

Lorraine Mugleston has arranged 2022 get-togethers for **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, both at 11:30 for 12 noon.** The venue will be the **Toby Carvery**, Nottingham Road, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6LZ. All pensioners - new and old - are welcome. You can contact Lorraine by phone on 01159 733 753.

It was lovely to meet up again on 26<sup>th</sup> September, after what has been quite a long break. Twenty-six of us managed to attend and it was great to welcome newcomers Jennie and Phil Pendlebury, Bridie Brandreth and Jackie Sanderson. It was a really pleasant morning and with time whizzing by teas and coffees had to be replenished. It's thirsty work all this chatting!

The Potting Shed was full to capacity so we are trying a new venue, The Toby Carvery at Chaddesden, also new dates and times above. We're looking forward to seeing you and any newcomers there.



## Any ideas ...



Rosina Baxter from the RB Heritage Centre sent me this intriguing photo of one of the Hull site's relics. Rosina was intrigued, took a photo and asked Sue Brown (RB Hull) about it. Sue thinks it came from the old board room that was on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the KWN building. The Heritage Centre would like to throw it over to you for any more information and says "We would be interested to know what the imagery represents. The building shown above the wings in the top centre appears to show the Starch Mill where Isaac Reckitt started his business in Hull in 1840, and the date (1840-1960 (located under the building) suggests that the panel was made in 1960." *If you do know anything about where the plaque was located and what the imagery represents, please email us at [rbcontactmag@gmail.com](mailto:rbcontactmag@gmail.com) or contact the Heritage centre directly at [heritage@rb.com](mailto:heritage@rb.com).*

## Mellors Mint



Bob Thurston tells us that recently he was searching the internet for some information and stumbled across an article by author, Chris Helme, writing a book called 'Brighthouse at Work'. The article discussed 'Mellors Garden Mint in Vinegar', proudly proclaiming 'not dried'. The manufacturer, Mellors of Brighthouse (who also made a mustard product), opened in 1924 and was thought to be an unusual concern in Brighthouse given that the area was more renowned for its mills, engineering and quarrying. Apparently the aroma during manufacture was quite something! Eventually the mint product was sold to Colman's.

Bob joined J&J Colman in 1960 and worked in the sales department in Norwich. Eventually, in 1963, he joined the salesforce as a junior salesman for Yorkshire. He spent his first week training with an ex Mellors salesman, Harrold Turner, who told Bob the story of jars being filled at Brighthouse with a spoon. Chris Helme told Bob that he was nearly right - they used ladles to fill the jars. Imagine that!

Whilst selling Mellors Mint, Bob recalls making a call in Halifax at Scipio Brook, who operated a Cash & Carry that was believed to be the first ever Cash & Carry. Scipio Brook ordered 600 cases. Bob wonders how long and how many workers it would have taken to fill 7200 jars using a ladle! A few years later Bob took over responsibility for the Scipio account and was amazed at the rate of sale of Colman's Semolina, which was never the best of sellers, and discovered by talking to one of the shop floor staff that they threw more away than they sold as the rats and mice used to consume it!



## Spotlight on the Committee

### Trevor Clark



Having been born in Folkestone, Kent, and raised near Leicester, I moved to Hull in 1967 to study Chemistry at Hull University where I also spent a lot of time playing Rugby Union. I represented Northern Universities - and out of necessity attended a few lectures and practical sessions!

After university it was rugby that made me settle in Hull and I played for the Hull & East Riding rugby club. As I had to earn a living, I worked for Hull City Council as a Work Study Officer; this was in the days of high inflation and the only way to get pay increases was through productivity related bonus schemes.

Sport was always at the forefront, and I got involved with the R&C Cricket Club via Ian Start and through this I joined Reckitts in January 1974, again in Work Study.

The first of many consultant-led reorganisations led to the split of Pharmaceutical and Household Products and I was moved to the Household Office Services department, helping with the move to Stoneferry Road.

Following this I moved back to the Dansom Lane site to a Central Industrial Relations role, working for Richard Graham, and I spent many hours in smoke-filled rooms negotiating with the Union. The smoked-filled rooms were literally that and, with me being a non-smoker, I used to sit there with my eyes streaming. During this time the "Management Guide to Works Rules" was created - whoopee! I also had the pleasure of attending the Works Council where the likes of Bill Walsh and Dennis Heywood would make me stand up to explain to the union representatives such heady things as why the Reckitt product range was not available to Colours etc. Oh, what fun!

I moved to Norwich in 1984 and spent 5 years as a Production Manager, again as a result of a reorganisation there in conjunction with external consultants Metro Proudfoot. I worked for Eric Schabransky alongside Tony Moore. A further reorganisation at Carrow saw me return to Hull in 1989 to work in HR for Peter Howdle and then later for Trevor Johnson. The merger with Benckiser happened in 1999 and as a result I was appointed HR Director for Pharmaceuticals.

In 2010 a final reorganisation (in my career that is) saw the Pharmaceutical commercial organisation move to Slough and at this point I became a pensioner and was persuaded to join the RBPA committee - a role I will step down from at the end of 2022.

To keep myself occupied I am now a Run Leader with Barton & District Athletics Club. A passion for running started when Alan Brooke persuaded me to do the Beverley 10k. He didn't tell me it was going to be so hilly so, being fat, mid-fifties and very unfit, it took a while longer than it should have done to complete. I now run some 10+ races a year and have just completed the Great North Run for 13th time. I also dabble in painting using acrylics, a hobby taken up 6 years ago.



This beautiful painting of Trevor's appeared in *iContact 78*

### Martin Keeley



I began my career in the 1970's in the Finance function at Colman's of Norwich which proved to be an excellent grounding in the business - great people, great brands and many factories on the same site.

My next move was to head office in Chiswick and following that I spent a few years in Portugal and the USA before returning to the UK in 1999 at the time of the merger between Reckitt & Colman and Benckiser.

Following the merger, I was appointed to the position of Group Planning Director, a role I held until 2012.

I have been a Pension Fund Trustee for at least 12 years, initially as a Company-Nominated Trustee and then, after retirement and as a result of joining the RBPA committee, I became the Pensioner-Nominated Trustee. The Company has several pension schemes in the UK, the largest of which is the Reckitt Benckiser Pension Fund. This fund has two sections, the Defined Benefits section, of which all of the retirees are members, and the more recent Defined Contribution section, to which all current UK employees belong. Both require a lot of attention and an observation shared by others is that the trustee role has become more complex over the last 5 years or so due to the increased regulation of pension schemes.

For over 20 years, I've been involved with the local Grass Roots football club, which supports over 60 teams. I was originally dragged into this by my sons playing and I took on refereeing involvements. Since retirement I've had a spell as its Finance Director.

I also enjoy travelling and undertake travel to various off-centre places like Russia, Cuba, Costa Rica, Great Yarmouth and North Korea.

*It's good to see Great Yarmouth sandwiched between Costa Rica and North Korea as a travel destination!*

## Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Tony Swell



We'd like to extend our birthday greetings to Tony Swell who has recently turned ninety. Due to the risk of Covid, Tony decided not to have one large family and friends party but was able to celebrate in smaller groups and was taken out with his wife each day for a week, which was rather nice and

extended his celebration. Tony is the vice-chairman of the RBPA committee and, as we mentioned in our *iContact 81* issue, has been involved since its inception. He is a most enthusiastic committee member, organiser and visitor in the Southern region.

## Apologies to Roy Maberly



The editor would like to offer an apology to Roy Maberly for incorrectly attributing his photo of a piper at Edinburgh Castle to Eddie Collins in the last magazine.

## Professor Peter Dettmar 1944-2021



Peter was born in Croydon in 1944 to Fred and Vera Dettmar. He spent his formative years in Welwyn Garden City with his parents and his older brother John. He married Sally in 1966 and had four children, Debbie, Harvey, Ben & Emily. He moved to Yorkshire in 1970 and stayed there for the rest of his life.

During his time at Reckitts he became a friend to many and helped them through their careers. He had a passion for research and innovation and a unique ability to bring people and teams together to develop new products and enhance the benefits of existing ones.

Peter arrived at Reckitts in 1970 from Smith Kline and French where he had worked on Tagamet, the first acid-suppressing stomach ulcers treatment. He joined the thriving Research team at Reckitts focussing on developing an opiate pain-relieving drug like morphine but without the addictive effects. The principal contender was buprenorphine, now used in Temgesic, Subutex and Suboxone. His research on buprenorphine enabled him to qualify for a PhD at Bradford University.

When the R&C research programmes were curtailed in 1980, Peter switched his focus to the gastrointestinal (GI) tract. He focussed on the use of polymers to treat various GI diseases - this avoided the costs and complications of developing new chemical entities in line with the new company strategy. By the mid-1980s, his team had shown that certain polymers could enhance the strength of the protective mucus lining of the stomach reducing the likelihood of stomach ulcers. Combining these polymers with the Tagamet drug gave an effect greater than either treatment did alone - true synergy! Reckitts' share price shot up!

This was the start of Peter's leading role in GI products at Reckitts and for the next few years, he led the development work in GI products, ultimately leading to enhanced Fybogel and Gaviscon products - notably Gaviscon Advance.

In the mid-1990s, Peter's passion for research and innovation was recognised and he set up a new Global Technology Research team. He set up networks for in-house teams, utilising expertise from universities and selected suppliers. University work was done by Reckitt sponsored PhD students, giving access to their academic supervisors as well as scientific and medical key opinion leaders. There was quite a stir when partners in Norway presented Peter with a moose head to hang on a new meeting room wall - Peter said, "Make it a big one" and it was: it was enormous!

Peter published over 530 peer-reviewed scientific papers, conference abstracts, and book chapters. He himself had a "library" of papers and books. Stored in piles, something had to be done about the height of them when Peter, as well as his desk, began to disappear from sight! His solution was to take over his secretary's office as a "piling" room. It was uncanny but, if you asked if he had a certain piece of information, he would go directly to it.

The GI area was his passion and Peter was acknowledged as a world expert in gastric reflux and heartburn. In 2002, after over 30 years at R&C and becoming a Global Director, he left, and set up his own companies, Technostics and RD Biomed. Technostics created the "Peptest". This was a lateral flow test, a technique that we are all familiar with now but was not widely used at the time. Used as a diagnostic tool for detecting gastric reflux, it enabled diagnosis without the need for invasive endoscopy, was cheaper and preferred by patients. Something Peter was extremely proud of!

Peter also joined in with the sporting and social world that was part of life at Reckitts in 1970s & 80s. He played badminton, football, and cricket. In later years, he continued his love of sport

supporting Arsenal, Hull FC, and Yorkshire and England cricket.

Building teams was one of Peter's strengths (including team building events to the London eye and fishing in the Arctic Circle!) and many will have benefitted from his advice, "never give in", "think big", "be yourself" - and many will thank him for helping them in their careers.

He loved a pint of beer in a Yorkshire pub and he loved to be around people, particularly his wife, children, grand-children, and his many friends and colleagues. Peter will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by his family, friends and colleagues.

*Thanks to Ian Jolliffe, Harvey Dettmar and other contributors.*

## Bill Walsh

In the last edition of the magazine we reported the passing of Bill Walsh. Sue Thompson has written in with her recollections of Bill: "I have enjoyed reading the many copies of the magazine posted to me since my husband, John Thompson, died in June 2016.

My husband had been a Senior Teacher of Art and Craft at South Hunsley school for many years when Bill Walsh encouraged him to join in with the setting up of a Youth Training Scheme. It was from Bill's offer of a two year secondment, that gave him the security and therefore the confidence to try a new challenge, that the Phoenix Youth Training Scheme was born.

John loved his years working at Reckitt & Colman. After the secondment period ended he gave in his notice at the school and stayed where he was happiest. He had a great respect for Bill, whom he saw as a visionary, who supported and trusted all the tutors to make the scheme the success that it became.

Many young people were given the start in life that they deserved, but may not have encountered on their own. They were furnished with a variety of skills on-site, along with input from Hull College, and were all found work placements each year as part of the training that the Phoenix scheme offered. I saw our own daughter flourish, work in Graphic Design and eventually, through her NVQ qualification, gain a Nursing Diploma."

## Albert Cushion

Lynn, Albert's daughter, received two letters from his old work colleagues, some of whom went to Albert's funeral. They said, "We will always remember Albert fondly, a much loved man. We all worked with him for many years and he was quite a character, the 'Del-boy' of the department. He organised raffles, Xmas parties, summer outings and nights out at the Colman's Social Club. He used to perform tricks when we had schoolchildren come for a tour around the department: he would pretend to throw something into the air and then flick the paper bag in his hand as though something had landed in it, but when the children looked inside the bag, it was empty. He also used to do the 'telescope trick', where he got a child to look through the telescope, telling them that it wasn't working, but then the child would walk away with a black ring around their eye. He always made us smile".

Lynn goes on to say, "These are just some of the stories - but dad loved doing magic. I will always remember how he would find a 2 pence piece behind your ear and of any of my friends that came to visit. The 'far' cushion was a favourite that he would hide for unsuspecting guests.

## Geoff Hammond

On the passing of Geoff Hammond, Peter Hill wrote in: "I was so sad to read about the death of Geoff Hammond. Geoff was a good friend to me when I first moved to Hull in the early 70's. I cannot add any more to the comments on his sense of humour already recorded in iContact 81. As I recall he shared a flat alongside the river Hull (sorry I cannot recall the name of the road) which needed to be "swabbed out" whenever high tide hit town! We enjoyed many a lunchtime in Cottingham. The supportive comments are well deserved. Of course he will be much missed.

# OBITUARIES

## Sir Timothy Colman KG 1929-2021 aged 91

Brian Bradley sent a link to a eulogy, printed by the Eastern Daily Press,

for Sir Timothy Colman KG. Sir Timothy led a full and fascinating life and the eulogy in full can be found on their website at [www.edp24.co.uk](http://www.edp24.co.uk). Below are a few of the highlights mentioned in the article:

He was born on September 19<sup>th</sup> 1929, son of Geoffrey Colman and Lettice Adeane and the great-grandson of Jeremiah Colman, creator of Colman's Mustard.

At the age of 13, he was schooled at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, fulfilling a childhood longing to join the Royal Navy. Initially serving as a midshipman and then as a second lieutenant, he served in Malta and the Mediterranean, including in Palestine in 1948.

His love of sailing came to the fore when he, by chance, saw an advertisement for a speed sailing competition and he joined Rod McAlpine-Downie to design and build the catamarans Crossbow I and II. In boats designed ahead of their time, Sir Timothy broke the world record seven years in a row, starting with 26.3 knots in 1972 and 36 knots in 1980. The record lasted until 1986.

After retiring from the Royal Navy, he joined the family firm, where he progressed to managing Carrow Works. He served on the R&C board from 1978 to 1989. Sir Timothy also held director and chairman roles in other companies - Eastern Counties Newspaper (now Archant), Whitbreads and Anglia Television Group.

Aside from his sailing, he had a broad range of interests, from forming the University of East Anglia, to art, nature, and his much

loved sailing, and he was the patron of many organisations. One of his achievements was to create a new broad at Whittlingham, Norfolk, which he said, "turned out even better than I dared to hope."

Sir Timothy became a Knight of the Garter serving as the Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk (the Queens representative), a role that had previously been held by his grandfather, Russell. Upon receiving this honour, Sir Timothy said, "As much of my life has been related to Norfolk, I like to regard this honour in part, at least, as a compliment to the people of this county." His family said, "He used the office of the Queen's representative to promote, with huge energy and commitment, co-operation between various groups related to the social cohesion and economic prosperity of his

beloved county." The Most Noble Order of the Garter is a British order of chivalry. It is the the most

## Order of the Garter



senior order of knighthood. Today, the Order includes the Queen, several senior members of the Royal Family, and twenty-four knights chosen in recognition of their work. The order was founded in 1348 by King Edward III who is said to have been so inspired by tales of King Arthur and the chivalry of the Knights of the Round Table that

he set up his own group of honourable knights called the Order of the Garter. The patron saint of the Order is St George and the spiritual home of the order is St George's chapel, Windsor. Each knight is required to display a banner of his or her arms in the chapel and an enamelled stall plate (a plaque). On the death of the knight, the banner is removed but the stall plate remains.

# OBITUARIES (AUGUST - NOVEMBER 2021)

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

- Pauline Ayre (87) 26
- Brenda Barker (89) 16
- Rose Lilian Bedfordth (86) 11
- Jennifer Elizabeth Benge (65) 11
- Bryan R Crombleholme (78) 26
- Albert Edwin Desforges (80) 25
- Peter William Dettmar (77) 33
- Maureen Dodsworth (85) 16
- Roy Gibson (75) 19
- Norah Gould (90) 12
- Alma Jackson (85) 20
- Barry A Jones (81) 26
- John Michael Kay (75) 32
- Robert Metcalfe (97) 21
- Peter Joseph Parkes (87) 29
- Christopher John Plaw (73) 12
- Peter John Smith (66) 13

Gordon Webster (84) 38

George Bernard Williams (92) 23

Brenda Yates (89) 42

## EASTERN

### Norwich:

- June Christobel Bolton (86) 24
- Doris May Elsie Burton (90) 6
- Harry Arthur Cushing (86) 37
- Robert Harris Nelson (98) 25
- Henry Thomas Ward (85) 31
- Beryl Watson (99) 15

## SOUTHERN

### Derby:

- Arthur Allan Attwell (90) 21
- Elizabeth Ann Bowden (84) 20
- Rodney William Key (79) 31

## OTHER

### Services Division Depots:

- Gillian Ellis (72) 14
- Donald Brian Worgan (86) 5

### Shoecare:

- Arthur L Glue (86) 27

### Wealdstone:

- Dorothy Helen Read (95) 15

## Quaker Burial Ground

The Quaker Burial Ground located in Hull General Cemetery has recently undergone a programme of restoration. In July a tour of the site was organised by Chris Coulson. The burial ground is a smallish plot and contains the graves of many of Hull's notable Quaker benefactors such as the families of Reckitt, Good, Priestman and Thorpe. The area has been spruced up, new plants and bulbs set down and a rest and contemplation bench, made from a fallen sycamore branch, has been installed.