

iCONTACT

No. 83 April 2022

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

E45

Sale of E45

On 24th December Reckitt announced that “it has entered into an agreement for the proposed sale of its E45 brand and related sub-brands to Karo Pharma for an implied enterprise value of £200 million.” The sale, subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions, is expected to close in the second quarter of 2022. The reason for the sale is to enable “Reckitt’s plan to actively manage its portfolio for higher growth”. It follows the divestments of IFCN (China) and Scholl, as well as the acquisition of Biofreeze.

E45 history

With a 70 year history, E45 released the first product in 1952. It was created by a Boots chemist in response to a customer request for a product that would soothe and protect the skin. In 1963 physicians noticed that E45 cream was a beneficial treatment for dry skin conditions. At that time, the products were only promoted as hospital sales and it wasn’t until 1980 that E45 cream was introduced to pharmacy and retail establishments, where it was recognised for its efficacy in the treatment of dry skin. In the 1990s the product range expanded to include a complete skincare emollient therapy.

Currently the extent of E45 covers a wide range of core and specialist products for skin conditions such as dry skin, eczema, dermatitis, psoriasis and ichthyosis.

Information extracted from e45.co.uk

Shares rise following end of year results

 Reckitt’s full year figures for 2021 showed a like-for-like increase in net revenue growth of 3.5% which was ahead of expectations and led by a strong performance in Hygiene and a recovery in Health.

Laxman Narasimhan, Chief Executive Officer, commented that “our journey to rejuvenate sustainable growth is well on track as evidenced by the strong like-for-like growth of 3.5%. Over the last two years we have significantly strengthened our business. Our innovation pipeline is 50% larger, our brands are stronger and more relevant, and our ability to serve our customers and consumers is greatly improved.

We are targeting both growth in like-for-like revenue and an increase in adjusted operating margin in 2022 despite an unprecedented inflation environment and ongoing uncertainties created by Covid”.

Reckitt’s shares rose 4.6% on the day of the results announcement.

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!



RBPA Committee

The first meeting for 2022 is due to take place on 31st March 2022 at the Sibson Arms.

Get-togethers

As we mention on page 3, we’re sad to see that Brian Bradley (Nottingham & Leicester) is retiring from the committee and the March meeting will be his last. Lorraine Muglestone, who looks after the Derby group, has kindly volunteered to take over these two groups.

Future Elections

In response to our request for pensioners to volunteer to join the committee, we are pleased to tell you that Jon Sewell (see page 5) has kindly volunteered. In the absence of any further nominations, Jon will be appointed at the March Meeting. We will still have a couple of vacancies when we lose Kevin O’Berg and Trevor Clark at the end of 2022 and the committee continues to appeal for volunteers. If you are interested in this, please send an email to rbcontactmag@gmail.com.

Pension Increase 2022

A rate of 5% will form the basis of the RB Pension increase in April 2022.

As in previous years, the Pensions Department will send each pensioner a detailed breakdown of the application of this increase and this will be sent towards the end of April 2022.

Don’t Forget - it’s your mag

Please keep in touch. Write in (details on page 5), 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.

Get-togethers



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.

We do have a **different date** for the 2022 Sidmouth drop-in - so please check that out if you're in that area.

We seem to be slowly creeping out of the Covid situation and (as we prepare this magazine) masks are no longer a legal requirement at our venues. However if you feel vulnerable, then please do continue to wear a mask.

Once again, as a reminder (or a lure!) these get-togethers are funded by the RBPA, so there's no need to bring your purse or wallet!

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:

20th April, 15th June and 7th September, 19th October and 7th December.

Phil's contact details are:

Tel 07858 137 178,

email phil.shearsmith@gmail.com

The Hull group met in December (photos to right) and a good time was had by all. The site that the Cheval Cafe occupies is undergoing some major changes to its facilities, which include the refurbishment of the kitchen and the addition of 5 holiday lets. The work commenced in January and the consequence for the Hull group was that the February meeting had to be rescheduled for the following week but that had to be cancelled due to the works overrunning the planned schedule. This did catch out a couple of pensioners who



may not have been on Phil Shearsmith's email list so, if you regularly attend or if you want to be included in the notifications please email Phil with your up to date email address. **The next meeting is planned for 20th April and we have high hopes that this will go ahead!**

Norwich Your Norwich get-together organiser is **Alistair Stewart** and the dates for the **2022** get-togethers are: **12th April, 12th July and 11th 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 436391. The January meeting went ahead as planned and Alistair encourages newcomers to join the group.

High Wycombe

Your next High Wycombe get-together is at the Paper Mill (Brewers Fayre), Loudwater, High Wycombe on **Wednesday 6th April from 12 noon.** All are welcome. Please contact Paul Gilliam on 01494 562843.

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

Chiswick

We held another Chiswick/Colours/Cherry Blossom lunch at The Wheatsheaf Hotel, Virginia Water, on 17th March. The event was well attended (23) pensioners including Peter Knee, a former Reckitt & Colman Director, for the first time; Colin Brown also a former director and many more regulars. Everyone enjoyed the lunch and the get-together, and the service and food provided by The Wheatsheaf was excellent.

A good time was had by all.

The next get-together is booked for **Thursday 20th October**, and if anyone new wishes to come along please call Chris Mann on 07824 446392.



We're back!



Sidmouth

West Country drop-in

DATE CHANGE - PLEASE NOTE:

The date for the Sidmouth drop-in is now on **Tuesday 23rd August**, at The Victoria Hotel (right), 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 Fox by email on martin_fox28@hotmail.com, by phone on 01458 850 468 / 07903 220386, or contact Tony Swell on 01189 691390.



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 691390.



Derby - Don't forget ...

New venue for 2022

Lorraine Mugleston has arranged **2022** get-togethers for **Tuesday 12th April and Tuesday 13th 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 733753.



Leicester & Nottingham

As we reported in our last magazine, we're sad to let you know that Brian Bradley has decided to retire from the RBPA committee and consequently as the organiser of the Leicester and Nottingham get-togethers. We'd like to thank Brian for his sterling work and support of the RBPA.

The good news - Lorraine Mugleston (currently the organiser of the Derby group) has very kindly volunteered to run both of these groups and **details of the next get-togethers for these two groups will appear in the August magazine**. Lorraine's details can be found in the Derby article (above).

SPOTLIGHT ON THE COMMITTEE



Me - with my Seven Sisters!

Gill Morrell

In a potentially risky move, I dropped out of A levels in the lower sixth. My mother insisted that I couldn't do that

without first having a job lined up, so after a short search (I think it was an employees' market!) I took on my first role at Reckitt & Colman as an Invoice Registration Clerk - little thinking that I'd spend the next forty years working at the Hull site! In the days of comptometers and huge ledgers (locked up in a safe overnight), I remember that one of the highlights was getting hold of the electronic adding machine for end-of-month batching-up!

After a year, I moved into Statistical Services. Whilst at that time we did a lot of manual calculations and graphs (best way to learn!) we had the local mainframe computer (a beast of a machine fed with our hand-punched cards and magnetic tape). At one point we had a telephone modem link to a distant computer - I vaguely recall it was in Canada. It was a very tetchy link and often, part-way through entering the data, the connection would be lost and we'd have to start again! The job in Stats gave a good insight into a broad range of functions from clinical trials to sales & production and who can forget the panel test (do you remember it?). My supervisor, Barbara Wallis, was a union representative, pension councillor and trustee and she generously shared her experiences and gave me the confidence to follow in her footsteps a few years down the line.

Following a round of redundancies in 1991, I was fortunate enough to be re-deployed to the Packaging Development department. How had I not known about Packaging! It was fascinating! Initially working on 2d design with Marketing, Production and our Printers, I was trained in print technology and in the use of design software on an Apple Mac - very avant-garde at the time. Following the merger with Benckiser in 2000 the team moved from R&D to the factory and I led the packaging team in 3d packaging development and implementation.

My final swan song found me in the world of validation, an essential and actually fascinating area but a bit of a hot potato - nobody seemed to enjoy documenting their activities, let alone managing this function - I think I had the highest number of managers during this four year period!

In the 90's and 00's I joined the Pension Council, eventually serving as a pension trustee - a very special opportunity that not many people get the chance of experiencing. It could be daunting if you gave too much thought to the fact that you were accountable for the investment of hundreds of millions of pounds, and thus the safeguarding of current and future pensions. It was sometimes difficult not to become blasé about routinely signing off multi-million pound bank transfers!

I'm fortunate to have had a broad and varied career, working with some marvellous folk who were very generous in sharing their experiences and enabling me to learn and benefit from them.

After retirement I took a one year City & Guilds course in Professional Cookery, for no other reasons than that I enjoy cooking and, worried about losing the routine, I wanted to break myself gently in to retirement! As you can see, my involvement with the Pension Fund inevitably led me to the RB Pensioners' Association and quickly thereafter to editing the magazine (it seems my 2d training was not entirely in vain!).

Although I have an abject fear of being trampled to death by a herd of cows, I do enjoy walking - particularly coastal walking (in my experience there are fewer chances of encounters with cows on a coastal path!!). I love to read - anything really - but you can't beat a good crime or thriller. I have been known to write the odd limerick, ode or comic verse or two (Pam Ayres is safe).

(Curiously enough, I've never (ever) seen any farm animals on Google Earth - there's a challenge for you).

Jon Sewell

Jon has volunteered to join the RBPA committee and is thus our newest committee member. His position should be confirmed at the March committee meeting.



Jon enjoying the outdoors.

Originally from Wakefield, I joined Reckitt & Colman Household Division (Hull) in 1987 as a formulation chemist following a couple of years with Beecham Products (now GSK) in Weybridge, Surrey.

I was keen to get more involved in the day to day business and I transferred to the Pharmaceutical Division in 1990 fulfilling many roles within manufacturing.

I was closely involved in the transfer of pharmaceutical products to Hull from R&C factories in Australia and South Africa when these sites closed as part of a supply rationalisation exercise during the 1990's.

In the late 90s, the company embarked on a huge investment-led project (Project Enterprise). This project in the factory led to additional and faster packing lines. As Logistics Team Leader at the time, this presented me with considerable headaches until, with the help of Track & Trace and Quality Assurance approval, we started to store finished batches of products (pallet by pallet) under quarantine at the Bawtry distribution warehouse facility.

In 2005 I transferred to the Technical team and successfully adapted the 2000L processing suite (that had manufactured Gaviscon and Lemsip liquid) to manufacture Nurofen suspension - this was following the acquisition of Boots Healthcare International.

I enjoyed the social aspects of the working environment as much as the academic challenges and I played both badminton & cricket for Reckitts, forming many lifelong friendships along the way.

Married to Sarah, I have lived in and around Beverley for over 35 years but still enjoy returning to Wakefield to support the mighty Trinity.

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Anita's lockdown clearance

Doing what many of us have done during lockdown, Anita Dryden had been sorting through boxes of what she calls "happy times" when she came across some documents and photos in relation to a project she'd championed back in the 80's - some of our readers will have taken part in this (please let us know if you did).

Anita was an Occupational Health nurse, initially working in the Pharmaceutical division and then, following a promotion, she moved to the Household division where she changed the First Aid Post role into a full Occupational Health Centre service.

Following the move, Anita responded to an appeal on the BBC to support Mother Teresa

who was appealing for a supply of knitted vests and jumpers so that hundreds of orphaned babies in India could be kept warm.

Initially co-opting her nursing staff, the idea was presented to the directors who were very supportive of the plan. The response by knitters across the Dansom Lane, Stoneferry & Morley street sites was amazing and knitting patterns were shared. Anita tells us, "Hundreds of vests and little jumpers were made and people who had never knitted before joined in. What a buzz of excitement it created."

As well as the knitters, Gordon Duncan (Export manager) was amazing. He contacted Mr Ghose from R&C India Ltd who arranged for Mother Teresa to collect the garments.

Anita says that the project gave not only her, but all of her colleagues and friends and families of the three R&C divisions, a feeling of purpose.

We've included here some of the photos and the message of thanks that came directly from Mother Teresa.



10/2/84
Dear Friends,
Thank you for all the beautiful gifts you have so generously sent for our children. My gratitude is my prayer for you. God bless you Mother Teresa



See! I will not forget you...I have carved you on the palm of My Hand... I have called you by your name... You are mine... You are precious to Me...I love you

Isaiah



Board room relic

In the last edition of iContact we asked if any of you could help with any information on the plaque that Rosina Baxter had taken a photo of. We had two replies - Alan Oliver and Steve Harris wrote in tell us that they

remember seeing the plaque above the door in the old boardroom. Though neither of them can shed any light on the iconography, they both recall that there was a clock in the middle!

Makes sense!



✂️ 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: _____

Fleeing Paris

Chris Coulson sent in an email telling us about the escape his parents (Laurie and Peggy) and older sister (MaryRose) had had to make from Paris during WWII. At the time Laurie was working there as a chemist in the Paris area for Reckitt & Colman.

After the evacuation of allied forces from Dunkirk and with concerns that if captured the Germans might want to use his skills as a chemist, they decided they needed to flee back to the UK so, with dinner on the stove and the sound of heavy guns in the distance, they made their escape, heading for the port of St Malo with a loaf of bread, a pound of butter and a tankful of petrol in their car. The house they had lived in was later commandeered by the Germans to use as officer accommodation.

The journey to St Malo was slow because the roads were full of others making an escape and the family was only able to travel at night due to the Luftwaffe shooting up the roads during the day.

Eventually, the Coulson family made it to the port, only to find the dock gates were chained shut. Chris's sister cried and a kind-hearted French dock policeman let them through. They escaped on a ship that had just landed a contingent of a Scottish regiment, who piped them down the quayside, kilts flying, and who themselves were on their way into France "to do for Hitler" - as one soldier called Jock told Chris's father.

After they made it back to England, Laurie worked at the Dettol factory in Liverpool until it was bombed. Following that, they returned back to their Hull roots, where they continued to live for 60 years. *PS: The email from Chris came to us in the last month of 2021. Little did we realise that, when assembling the articles in March 2022, this story would have such up-to-date resonance with the situation that Ukraine and Europe now find themselves in.*

Colman's Grade II Listings

Robert Thurston alerted us to an article that appeared in the *Eastern Daily Press* relating to the premises of Colman's in Norwich - here's an update following on from previous articles.

Before initiating the regeneration schemes that have been planned for some of the Colman's sites, Norwich County Council involved Historic England to "understand which buildings on these sites are of national importance ... something that will ensure the emerging masterplan fully respects the heritage of the area." Historic England were "pleased to have been involved to ensure the protection of these remarkable heritage sites".

The FRI remembered ...

Steve Collins sent us this email about his recollections of the Francis Reckitt Institute. "Whilst having my breakfast this morning, somehow all the memories of the FRI came to mind and I wondered if you have ever done an article on it. My memories of it start from August 1969 - it was still Reckitt and Sons in those days. I started my apprenticeship training on the top floor of the building in the Apprentice Training Workshop along with 12 other apprentices, under the supervision of Frank Wainwright. Five of the apprentices were from Reckitts and 8 were from local firms. The five from Reckitts were Phil Milner, Alan Burns, Phil Fox, Ian Sumpton and myself. After Frank retired he was followed by Pete Harvatt and then Mike Brown. The Institute had a training department managed by a Miss Issacs that looked after the training of all young employees. The apprentices had the benefits of Outward Bound courses and being members of the crew on the STA schooners, the Malcolm Miller and the Sir Winston Churchill.

I have lots of fond memories there including sports on Friday afternoons supervised by one of Reckitts best known

Six degrees of separation ...

Six degrees of separation is the theory that any person on the planet can be connected to any other person on the planet through a chain of acquaintances that has no more than five intermediaries. The theory was first suggested in 1929 by Hungarian writer Frigyes Karinthy. The theory has been tested by several scientists with varying results - but many of us will have had a "small world" experience - including Bill Forman who wrote in to tell us about his son Nicholas, who had a friend called Wyn. Wyn had recently moved to Austria and, after a return trip to the UK, Wyn and Nicholas returned to Austria, taking with them some groceries from Tesco. Wyn took Nicholas (and some of the Tesco products!) to an English couple who lived in a neighbouring Austrian village. Nicholas noticed some Reckitt & Colman memorabilia and discovered that the Austrian neighbours were Viv Cooper and her husband. Viv had worked as the communications manager at R&C Hull - a clear link to Bill. Viv was known to many on the Hull site, so can we suppose that means that many at the Hull site now have a link to Wyn, Bill's son's friend?

Similarly, on holiday in Torquay the editor, chatting to another holiday guest, discovered another small world link. The conversation was along the lines of: "Have you got far to travel back?", "We're from East Yorkshire", "So are we - we live in Skidby", "No way, we're from Cottingham" (adjacent village). Work was discussed, Reckitts was mentioned: "The lad I grew up with used to work at Reckitts - his wife still works there", "Who's that?", "Linda and Tony Mudd". Tony had worked with the editor in 1976/7 and his wife Linda had worked with the editor over the last fifteen years or so at RB. Small world indeed!

As a consequence of this review, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has granted or added to the listed status of a number of locations in Carrow and Trowse. These are:

Carrow House, formerly the home of the Colman family and already listed, has had the Conservatory and iron gates and a circular pond (both in the garden) added to the listing; further information has been added to the already listed bottle kiln in Trowse, which was formerly used to dry freshly sawn green timber for the increasing demand for wooden crates and barrels; the sewage works, constructed to improve social conditions circa 1869 caused by the rapid development in the area by housing for the mustard factory employees, and finally the Trowse railway station, used by Colman's and crafted from knapped flint.

employees, Albert Tripp. Upstairs there were two gyms that we used to play football in our dinner hour. Reckitts' larger than life character, John Montana, ran a weightlifting club on an evening. Also on this level was the youth club run by a Mrs Margaret Kirbitson that was open every lunchtime. She organised dances on Wednesday evenings and holidays abroad - of which I went on three to Yugoslavia, Majorca and Ibiza.

On the next floor down was the restaurant with waitress service (overalls not allowed) and the Mens Club with eight full size snooker tables and dartboards. On the ground floor was the self-service canteen serving the same food as the restaurant but overalls allowed many overtime teas in the canteen always seemed to be served with tinned tomatoes which has given me a life time hatred of tinned tomatoes. Aside from that - wonderful memories!"

The editor writes: The mention of John Montana reminds me of an occasion when, as I recall, he (precariously it seemed to those watching) managed, single handedly, to hoist a flag pole from the courtyard garden to the roof of the main Kingston Works North building.

IN-TOUCH

Photo Album and Songs

First with digital cameras and now with high quality photo-phones, how many of us actually keep our cherished memories in a physical album? And how many times have you been tidying up that cupboard in your house with the boxes and albums and spent an hour or two totally distracted by revisiting the past? Bob Allison brought in a large album to the October get-together at Cheval and so it was that with great hilarity, the assembled pensioners pored over the photos, laughing at the fashions and hair and remembering (or trying to!) the names of colleagues from times gone by.

Many of the photos were taken with a polaroid camera (Is that the instant equivalent of the digital photo?) and have sadly faded, but below are copies of just a few of the better quality photos. *Can you remember the event or the names?*

Slipped in with the photos was a great number of songs and ditties, cleverly written and performed "to the tune of ...". These were prepared for the various events (Christmas?) that seemed to happen with great regularity and fun "in the good old days"!



Tune: Hark the Herald Angels sing

Hark the US chemists sing
We will sell the Flenac thing
In the States we'll make some dough
We'll give you a million or so
Wingko's eyebrows then did rise
Pound notes flashed before his eyes
A chance to make an easy buck
Was much too good to overlook
*Chorus: The board they met at half past five
To discuss the Flenac Drive*

The board decided to prepare
For US ordered coming by air
The factory all on overtime
Flenac made on every line
Tons and tons the lads did make
Enough to fill the deepest lake
But the board forgot one thing
They'd nowt to keep the Flenac in
*Chorus: The board they met at half past two
The problem was just what to do*

One said store it in the Labs
But these were full of reject tabs
The Men's club full from wall to wall
Were using pills as snooker balls
Flenac filled out classroom "C"
A super Flenac suppository
All the town was crammed so full
You can't get in or out of Hull
*Chorus: The board they met at half past nine
The final act was to resign*

Tune: All through the night

Phenolphthalein keeps you running
All through the night
Through the whole of the next day and
All through the night!
It gives the urge your bowels to clear
And also gives you diarrhoea -
Keep on running, keep on flushing
All through the night!

Malcolm Ruddiforth Memorial Concert



Those of you who knew Malcolm well, will remember that he had a very keen interest in music - so much so that he left a substantial legacy to the Hull Philharmonic Orchestra (HPO).

In recognition of this generous gift, the HPO intend to dedicate one of their concerts to Malcolm. The concert will feature Malcom's favourites pieces of music and, if possible, Malcolm's favourite violinist.

Although the details of the concert are not yet fixed (we believe it will happen later in the year) this note is just to give anybody who might want to attend, an advanced notice that this is on the horizon.

As soon as the details are known, we will put the details in this magazine, but also, please do keep your eyes on the HPO website www.hullphilharmonic.org

Now Christmas is here once again (Hurray)
We really are having a ball (Bottoms up)
But with Wingko as Santa
We got what we want
Our regrades, a pay rise an'all

I'm only a poor Lab Technician (That's right)
No colourful lancia have I (poor thing)
It's part of my job
To get data to Bob
'Cos data's his thing, do or die!

OBITUARIES

Peter Parkes



Peter's wife, Sheila, writes, "It is with great sadness that I write to you regarding the death of my husband Peter Parkes. Peter passed away on the 2nd September 2021 and his funeral was held on the 9th September on what should have been his 87th birthday.

Peter joined Reckitt & Colman in July 1961 and took early retirement in June 1990. Having joined as a junior sales representative he later attained the position of National Accounts Manager.

During his retirement presentation he was presented

with a book entitled "This is your (Reckitt) Life", which makes fascinating reading and contains many interesting articles and photographs charting his career progression with the company.

Peter and I married in October 1962 and we have two children, Karen & David, and five grandchildren. Peter was devoted to his family and his passing has left a great hole in our lives.

Upon retirement Peter became an Ofsted Schools Inspector, a school governor and chaired the school finance committee. He also found time to take up his love of woodworking and he was a very accomplished furniture maker. He professed to being a keen gardener and, although this did not include weeding, we did have the straightest stripes on our lawn!"

Brian Fouracres

For many years Brian was the sales representative for Colman's covering Bristol and the surrounding area. He had previously been employed by Farrow's Peas although his first job was with the Post Office as a Telegram Boy.

Born and raised in Bristol he attended St George's Church where he was a choir boy, later becoming head choir boy. He also did well at school despite having his left hand tied behind his back to make him write with his right hand.

Called up for National Service Brian chose the RAF where, as a talented footballer, he was chosen to represent the service and avoid most of the usual duties. His talent as a footballer was spotted by Halstead Town FC who offered him a professional contract but he made the decision to return to Bristol where his distinguished football career continued for many years with local clubs. He was also a keen badminton, squash and tennis player.

Selling was Brian's forte and he was often the top salesman in the south west where he was a team member of Region 7. His sales helped the region win prizes including trips abroad. As well as selling, Brian could obtain almost anything you wanted at a discount price through his vast list of contacts. Every Christmas at the region's party he would present all the women with an orchid. A real charmer!

Following his retirement Brian and his wife Rita enjoyed travelling and spending time with friends. Brian also liked to sample the local ales and spent many happy hours socialising. Cheers Brian. *Martin Fox*

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.

OBITUARIES (December - March 2022)

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

NORTHERN

Hull: (age) service years

Charles Acaster (93) 29
Eileen Boyd (86) 39
Elaine Corby (80) 12
Marie Davison (73) 17
Audrey Eaton (85) 41
David Andrew Fowlie (85) 18
Jean Golden (90) 8
Brian Melvyn Gosling (74) 12
Geoffrey Alastair Gower (82) 28
Edith Lilian Wood (87) 17

Colours (Morley Street):

Derek Ball (90) 36

EASTERN

Norwich (Staff):

Brian Nicholas Fouracres (89) 27
Colin Fox (84) 25
Peter Noel Quinton (91) 43
Colin John Thompson (88) 35
Peter Woodcock (90) 19

Norwich (Works):

Cynthia Daphne Keeler (92) 14
Margaret Ann Davidson (74) 23
Eric Horatio Sadd (88) 39
Joyce Doreen Sayer (95) 16
Ivor Ashley Webb (82) 31
Patrick James Wilson (85) 11

SOUTHERN

Derby:

John Alexander McLinden (78) 30

Chiswick/Windsor/Slough:

Graham John Rhodes (71) 26

OTHER

Services Division Depots:

Allan Matthew Cole (94) 29
Robert Charles Heath (91) 19
John Ord Turnbull (81) 8

Shoecare:

Margaret Anne Martin (80) 36

Wealdstone:

Sylvia Elizabeth Johnston (82) 7