

Perspective – July 2010

The Newsletter of the IBM Hursley Retirees' Club



EX CATHEDRA

Welcome to the second edition of Perspective.

Do please take advantage of the email distributions which provide trip information and application forms. Remember, there is inevitably a limit on numbers at many of the locations we visit and coach numbers and capacity have to be considered.

At the request of IBM, one important milestone that we have reached is that of establishing a secure system for members of IBM UK Club branches to apply for places on events organized by other IBM UK Clubs

We've considered the possibility of circulating every item of other IBM Clubs' programmes of events which might interest retirees registered to receive this Newsletter. However, for many this would be junk mail, and it would be a logistics nightmare to collate all this information – which is often made available in a piecemeal fashion. As a consequence, we have rejected this option.

Our nearest IBM Clubs are in Basingstoke and North Harbour. The South Hants Club has a great programme of outings and, just as Hursley Retiree trips are open to IBM Club members, other Clubs' activities are open to Hursley Retiree Members.

The websites to check are, for the South Hants Club, www.shrets.co.uk/index.html The North Hants (Basingstoke) Club is in process of deciding its process. More when we know.

However, let's all remember that, whilst each Club will endeavour to accommodate colleagues from other Clubs, there will be times when there has to be a draw for the final places as well as the usual first come, first served system.

So, please, when you receive trip application forms, make your choices and apply promptly.

Martin Hughes

Chairman

Officers

The following is a list of the club's committee members. Please feel free to contact any member if you have any queries relating to club activities.

The full committee is:

Chairman	Martin Hughes	01962 868900	Secretary	Harry Helyar	01962 881392
Treasurer	John Jones	02380 265316	eBusiness	Merv Quick	01794 390678
Webmaster	Ron Wilks	02380 766213	Newsletter	news@hurrec.org.uk	
	Roger Clark	02380 253600	Tony Compton	02380 265432	
Committee	John Faller	02380 462822	Harry Keeling	01962 712914	
	Jenny Nichols	02380 254244	Richard Walker	02380 267239	
	Jim Woodland	02380 323204			

Hursley Historian Wanted

The IBM Hursley Laboratory is seeking the support of a Retiree to take over at the end of 2011 as resident Historian from Len Peach. Why 2011? It is the centenary of the creation of C-T-R, the company that was to become IBM in 1924.

After 50 years in the role, Hursley's Historical Squirrel has decided to "retire" and so a replacement is sought to take responsibility for maintaining the Archive, Museum and Stores on one day per week and for mounting special focus exhibitions as required.

There are three principal areas of historical interest to this "Give Back" opportunity:

- The History of Data Processing
- IBM's History (worldwide and UK)
- The History of Hursley Park.

To express an interest or for more information, please contact Rick Kellaway via email at rick_kellaway@uk.ibm.com or on 01962 816161.

Websites of Interest

IBM Retiree Club (Hursley Branch)

Visit <http://www.hurrec.org.uk/> for the latest information on retiree trips, links to various relevant websites, IBM Hursley Club news, and notification of Deaths as advised by IBM Pensions Services. If you can't remember the URL, or forgot to bookmark it, just Google 'Hursley retiree' and it pops up as the first website – it's that simple☺.

Employee Discount Programme

For discounts and/or cash back with a large number of companies visit <https://ibm.rewardgateway.co.uk/> The benefits are available to IBM employees and IBM retirees.

IBM Hursley Club

The IBM club at Hursley has a website at the following address: <http://www.ibmhursleyclub.org.uk/>

IBM South Hants Retirees Club

The IBM South Hants Retirees Club has the following website: www.shrets.co.uk/index.html

Photographic Competition

Can you be the Hursley Retiree Club photographer of the year?

Every time I go on a trip I notice a number of our group wielding their cameras of all shapes and sizes recording the events of the day or the glorious sights that surround us.

To find out who takes the best photographs we have decided to run a photographic competition. The rules are very simple:

- The photograph must have been taken by a member of the IBM Hursley Retirees Club
- The photograph must have been taken on an organised trip during 2010
- Any subject may be included (provided it's legal)
- The judges, whose decision will be final, will decide which photograph in their opinion is the best of the collection – there are no specific topic categories
- The winner will be announced at the 2011 AGM
- Entries must be submitted by 31 December 2010
- A member may submit up to 3 entries

The PRIZE – free tickets on the summer 2011 seaside coach outing for the winner and his/her guest; regrettably no other prize option is available.

Trip Blog: The Story So Far.....

Have you managed to attend any of the outings organised by the club this year. If not, the following will show you what you missed, or confirm that you were spot on to pass up the opportunity!



Visit to Imperial War Museum RAF Duxford

8:04am and it was chocks away as nearly 150 travellers left the development home of the Spitfire IV to travel the 140 miles to The Imperial War Museum Duxford where Spitfires had their finest hour.

Not a cloud was to be seen, and thanks to the ash from the volcanic explosion in Iceland, neither was there a vapour trail to spoil the perfect blue, if a little hazy, sky. Following a short pit stop at South Minns, the three Avenis coaches rolled into the Imperial War Museum at RAF Duxford at just after 11:00am.

With 5 hours to wander and acres of hanger space to explore, the crowd soon dispersed and was lost in the vast expanse of this museum. With 6 hangers, the Operations Room, and outside exhibits to see, there was little time to spare. Travelling from exhibit to exhibit one came into contact with different members from the IBM group – and the



interesting thing was to hear so many speaking of their work experiences in the aircraft industry before joining IBM.



Typical of the Imperial War Museums, there was so much to see that time floated by very quickly, and soon it was 3:45pm and time to stroll with aching feet back to the waiting coaches. The general consensus: an excellent Retirees trip.

Visit to the Isle of White: Shanklin & Osborne House

It was 8:00am sharp when over 190 IBM retirees left Hursley Park setting off on their May outing. It was said that some had taken sea sickness pills, and many had carried their passports to be on the safe side, as the group made their tracks to leave the mainland of England.

By 9:00am all the coaches were safely on board the Red Funnel ferry headed for East Cowes. The coffee machines were worked until they were exhausted of all 'fixings', and the coach drivers enjoyed a full English breakfast to enable them to endure the day ahead.

10:30am saw the group entering a car/coach park in Shanklin,



with just a few clouds in the sky and the sun breaking through.



The number of

visitors to Shanklin seemed to swell 1000% as the group disembarked and made their way to uncover the delights and excitements of Shanklin

Village; later reports suggested that there was far more excitement listening to the

"Cameron/Brown who will be Prime Minister by compromising their own beliefs and giving the jewels to Clegg" debate. But the delights were in the eyes for those that managed to walk around the village and down to the esplanade, seeing the chocolate box views of thatched cottages and the waves curling and splashing down onto the beach. By the number of crab sandwiches that were consumed, it was understood that further fishing for crabs would be banned for the next 5 years in order that the crab stocks could regenerate.





1:00pm and the 4 yellow machines headed out from Shanklin on the road to Osborne House. While there was a cool wind, the rain stayed well away and the sun came out. What a gem Osborne House is, packed to the gunnels with Victoriana and full of fascinating artefacts and stories for the inquisitive mind. 90 minutes was the time suggested necessary to view the house in its entirety, we took well over 120 minutes. The flower beds were spectacular, with the tulips a real joy. Sadly there was insufficient time to walk through all the grounds, and sample every magnificent view; it was blatantly obvious why Queen Victoria and Prince Albert loved this place. At 4:30pm the coaches departed for East Cowes and the ferry back to Southampton. A great day out.

Visit to the BBC Garden and Summer Food Show

Good Food and Gardening, what better subjects could one offer a group of retirees as the focus of a day out? And so thought 150 Hursley Retirees as they headed forth in glorious sunshine for the NEC and the BBC Garden and Summer Good Food Show.



It was about 11:00 when our 3 coaches rolled into the NEC coach parks, and we all headed off, tickets in hand, toward the main entrance. Several of us were cautioned by the NEC mafia for walking on the road to overtake the masses that were blocking all the pavements; why didn't they make the grass area smaller and the pavements wider.

As usual, the show was huge. With 4 of the large NEC Halls and a large outside area full of gardens and retail outlets, it was a challenge to know where to go first. Grab the BBC Garden Show Guide, price £10 but given away free at the show, to look at the map. Who on earth would pay £10 for a book of adverts!

Logic prevailed; it was now 11:30, hence getting close to lunchtime. The first hall to visit had to be the food show area – nibbles, free drinks, free ice cream, and burgers of all descriptions to sustain the visitor. Being almost an 'add-on' to the Garden Show, the Summer Food Show is not large, and the areas of interest soon seen. Having said that, it still cost this author to part with a shed load of money buying a replacement ceramic frying pan. At least it was bought before the VAT goes up.

Lunch over, and it was time to sample the delights of the Garden Show. While the outside gardens were, with one or two exceptions, pretty so-so – the wild life garden looked very similar to our church yard which hasn't been mown for a month – the exhibits in the flower area were delightful. I particularly liked the display of cacti, really outstanding exhibits. People could be seen leaving this area with little pull-along plastic baskets full of beautiful plants to adorn their own little piece of England.



Soon it was time to make a weary way back to the coach, being shouted at yet again by the NEC Mafia, to discover that we weren't the only ones to have spent their pension. Cold meat and chips for supper.

Another great IBM Hursley Retiree Trip.

Visit to Warwick Castle

A 9:30am leisurely start for almost 150 Retirees as they gathered at South Car Park for the July trip, a day out in Warwick Castle. Britain's Ultimate Castle so the advertising blurb tells us.

Blessed again with wonderful weather - can we go through the season with great weather for every trip – the three coaches arrived at the castle about 11:30. 'Busy today', said the parking attendant, 'Please park in Bay 8. We have lots of little darlings in today'. It was, of course, the time for school trips.

As we entered the gates, there was a real vibrant atmosphere: people everywhere, the sound of heraldic music, ladies and gents in period costumes wherever one looked.

With so much to see, it was difficult to know what to do first – but the inner man took over, lunch in the castle restaurant. Following sustenance, it was time to walk-off all those calories. A trip around the ramparts and the mound and down to the green jousting area – sadly no jousting today – to watch the Trebuchet being fired. Real glad that I was not downwind of that missile as it went flying across the field. Then onto the beautiful gardens and conservatory, accompanied by peacocks most of the way. Completing the tour of the outside, it was down to the river and the old mill, with its fascinating display of generating equipment. Rounding our way back to the castle keep, we were just in time to see the end of the flying display of eagles. What



magnificent creatures they are.

Time to see the inside, and so off to see the State Rooms, Chapel and Great Hall. Mind you, I did feel a little peeved when the doorman ushered us into the drawing room and announced us to his Lordship and other guests as 'Her Ladyship of Salisbury, accompanied by her MANSERVANT'. Being used to the very static, staid, approach of the National Trust properties, it was very refreshing to have an audio experience, as well as people acting

the parts of the period characters.

It was soon time to make our way back to the coach, and head home to Hursley. And what of those little darlings. From what I could observe, they were very well behaved, polite, and – with few exceptions – just



added to the day. The exceptions: Just a few who blocked the way, didn't say excuse me, etc. Mind you, there was a reason – they were French kids, not British ones!

Clubs

The following clubs may be of interest:

Limesdowne Pétanque Club

Limesdowne Pétanque Club is a friendly club playing french boule on two specially built terrains which meets every Wednesday (year-round) at 7:30pm at the rear of The Limes, Catisfield Lane, Catisfield (west of Fareham) PO15 5NN.

No cost while trying the game (equipment may be borrowed), join the club if you like it.

For more information see www.catisfield.com/petanque or email petanque@catisfield.com or call 01489 576 138

Glass Engraving

Would you like to try your hand at engraving glass?

Glass engraving provides an absorbing and rewarding experience of working with light. The mysterious qualities of glass, which is a liquid metal caught in a moment of time and requiring both fire and water in the making, appear magical. Glass engravers capture, enhance and celebrate these qualities in their work and endeavour to communicate them to a wider audience.

The Wessex Branch of the Guild of Glass Engravers, UK Charity 1016162, actively promotes this art which has many facets including: drill engraving, line engraving, point engraving and stipple engraving. Would like to have a few hours of tuition from experienced engravers from the Wessex Branch? There would be small charge of £6, to cover our costs, for you to attend a practical workshop at the IBM Clubhouse from 10:00am to 04:00pm on a Sunday. If you are interested, please let either Pat Lund [patricia.lund@o2.co.uk] or Ernie Pullen [ernie@epullen.fsnet.co.uk] know.



Winchester Art Club

The Club's history goes back to 1888 and its purpose is to promote the practice of fine art in our area. We have about 300 members including several IBM retirees and our programme can be found at www.winart.hampshire.org.uk.

Meetings are held on Saturdays at 2.30pm as published in our programme (see web site). The meetings are held in All Saints Hall, Petersfield Road, Winchester

Anyone interested in joining can contact our Membership Secretary Pam Brown on 01962 883073.

The cost of most lectures and meetings is included in the £13 per year membership fee. There are varying charges for optional tutor lead painting courses.

Romsey Ramblers

Romsey Ramblers offer a comprehensive programme of more than 120 walks each year, together with a social programme ranging from quiz and skittles evenings, annual barbeque and Christmas lunch. Walks are around Romsey and local areas, sometimes down into Dorset. Walks are generally between 7 - 10 miles, sometimes with a pub lunch and/or picnic.

Refer to web site for contact information:

<http://www.romsnet.org.uk/ramblers/ramblers.htm>

Try it for free. If you like it, then you can join the Ramblers. Current annual subscription £29.50 individuals, £39.50 joint membership (2 adults at the same address).

Badminton

Small friendly group playing badminton throughout the year, over 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s !

Held at the Lido, Winchester, on Friday mornings. Suitable for former club and league players, i.e. not for beginners, but equally not for candidates for the Hampshire Badminton Veterans Club.

About £6 each 3 months, + annual membership of the Lido (£10)

Contact John Roskell on 01794-514357

Colden Common Computer Club

Colden Common Computer Club (<http://www.colcomcomclub.org.uk>) is a club for ordinary computer users who want to find out more about how to use their PC. It is not a club for computer geeks or anoraks ! The club is informal, open to all and meets at 8pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the Colden Common Community Centre, St Vigor Way Colden Common (see <http://www.coldencommon.hants.gov.uk/ParishMap.html>). To be put on the monthly mailing list, email coldencommoncomputerclub@hotmail.com.

Speaker Offer

"Are you looking for a speaker for your club or society? I am available as a volunteer speaker for Mission Aviation Fellowship. MAF is a Christian charity whose mission is to fly light aircraft in developing countries so that people in remote areas can receive the help they need. These flights enable crucial work and disaster relief by over one thousand development and aid agencies, mission, local churches and other national groups. Medical care, adequate food, clean water, and emergency supplies as well as Christian hope are reaching countless thousands of men women and children. MAF's work is vital. Lives depend on it. If you would like further information please get back to me. Allan Hill, Email: maf@hillnet.org.uk, Tel: 01962 854081"

Events

14 – 30 August 2010 Solent Art Trail

An opportunity to meet local artists in their studios in the Netley/Hamble area. There are 4 venues to visit with over 50 participating artists. They will be exhibiting paintings, photography, glass, printmaking, ceramics, jewellery and textiles. Many items are for sale at affordable prices plus prints and greetings cards.

Please contact Ron Moody for further information and free visitor guide. Tel: 023 80453788 or email: ronaldmoody@tiscali.co.uk

25 September 2010 Landford, Wilts

The bi-annual Autumn Fest. A typical country produce show, general fete, and scarecrow competition. In 2008 there were in excess of 150 scarecrows of all shapes and sizes on display with visitors travelling miles to see the exhibits. The scarecrows will be on display for the fortnight preceding the show.

Crossword

Thanks go to ANALOG for supplying this crossword. The solution will be posted on the Hursley Retiree Club website, www.hurrec.org.uk on 1st September 2010

Perspective Crossword #2

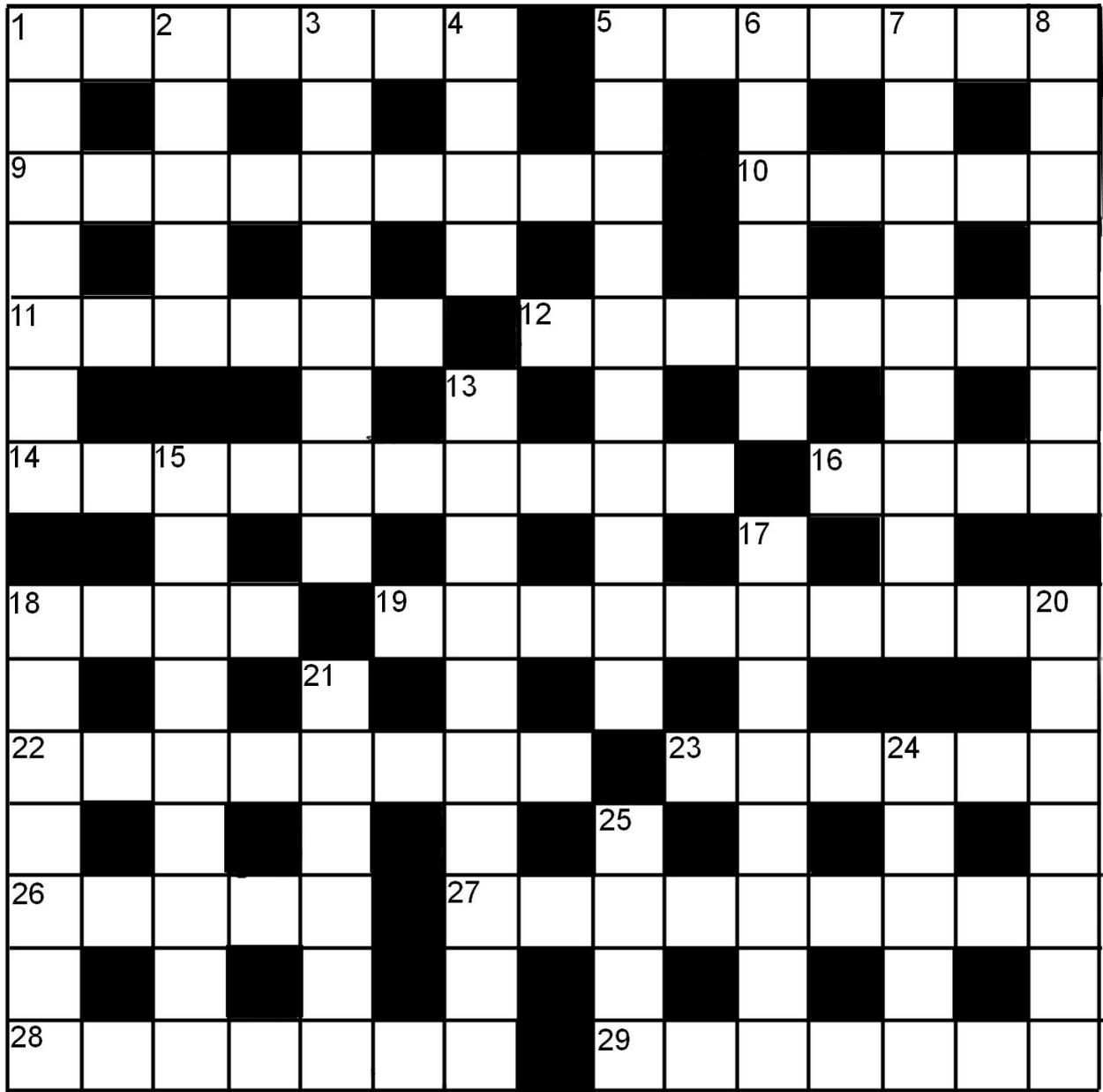
Clues Across:

1. Showy flowers, in which ogre concealed head of saint(7)
5. Sang a requiem, composed by e.g.. Verdi (7)
9. Watch the clock (9)
10. Entry in the Chronicle suggests Ann and Alan are getting hitched (5)
11. The violent are not fussy (6)
12. The Asian river venture needs perseverance (8)
14. Giant rural reconstruction is three-sided (10)
16. Boss of horse breeding establishment (4)
18. Cambridge, for example, has only half the capacity (4)
19. Self denial is what makes the heart grow fonder (can inside) (10)
22. Advertisement about card game has to be shortened (8)
23. Camels chewed up cactus (6)
26. The most excellent subject (5)
27. In a state of chaos, don't ask for too much (10)
28. Distinguished, but quite incompetent (7)
29. A day frock for the lecture (7)

Clues Down:

1. Mail to be sent to an external location (7)
2. Copper's mobile international number used in plant (5)
3. Unable to satisfy wife tonight, MP is abandoned (8)
4. A god rising from the canal (4)
5. Young man – and what he may vote for? (5,5)
6. He had a fatal crash: parts from minicar used (6)
7. Twenty one in Paris, busily vetting the United Nations (5-2-2)
8. Like many weekend trains, remained stationary, in fact (7)

13. Head of Hogwarts, speechless, endlessly conducted first two notes of scale (10)
15. In winter, men tolerate burial (9)
17. Troubles are ended, beloved (8)
18. To humiliate Charles X (7)
20. Listens carelessly and joins the army (7)
21. Braved drunk, unwisely perhaps (6)
24. Cheshire town, where Alexandra plays regularly (5)
25. Concept best left out (4)



ANALOG