

THE GRASSHOPPER PENSIONERS' CLUB



MARTINS BANK

Website: www.martinsbank.co.uk

© gut informiert!

SECRETARY: David Baldwin, Lower Windle, Windle Royd Lane, Warley, HX2 7LY.

'Phone: 01422 832734. email: grasshoppers@btinternet.com

CHAIRMAN: Bernard Lovewell

TREASURER: Alan Thomond

WELFARE OFFICER: Susan Sutcliffe

Database Manager: David Baxter

Function Organiser: Ken Quirk



OUR FORMER BRANCHES CONTINUE TO BE CLOSED BUT THERE ARE



IN THIS ISSUE: YET MORE DONATIONS!



We need to extend our most sincere thanks to Brian (who actually is David Brian) Kethero and his wife, Susan Margaret (Sue), who have donated this wonderful Perspex Coat of Arms, which Brian 'rescued' from our Kingsway branch, where Brian (below) was the Assistant Manager on the 'fateful day', when he asked the contractors, who were responsible for converting our branch into Barclays, if they would remove it for him. Brian's Coat of Arms will now be taken to as many of our lunches as possible where it will be exhibited for all to see and, no doubt, admired by everyone. I'm certain that you will all agree with these comments and we can only thank Brian for his forethought.



Brian also amassed numerous other items of memorabilia, some of which I have scanned,

Summer 2023

before they are delivered to Jonathan Snowden



to be logged into the Martins Bank Archive.

But it wasn't only Brian that shared the love of Martins, which is still evident today by the fact that

more of our former colleagues are continuing to become members of our Club and, hopefully, will join us at future lunches around the country. With that in mind, at one time during our Martins careers, we all had the ubiquitous nameplate when we were cashiers, but how many of us personalised theirs by adding our Coat of Arms, like Sue did hers? But, unlike my nameplate, the manufacturer's name appears on the base of Sue's:

'NIGHTINGALE PRODUCTS (BLACKBURN) LTD.'

LEEDS CITY OFFICE; THEN and NOW

https://www.martinsbank.co.uk/11-00-50_Leeds_City_office.htm

In the 1968 Winter Edition of The Martins Bank Magazine, J. S. CORKILL, Pro Manager of our Leeds City Office, described the staff's experience when a camera-team invaded the branch to film a sequence for the Banking Information Service's new film *'Bankers to the World'*. **PROMPTLY, at the appointed hour, a small army of technicians entered the Bank. A few minutes later a slightly-built man with thinning hair entered the department and in a quiet unassuming voice informed us that he was the Director and had we any problems.**



Then we were ready for 'lights' and on they came in quick succession. The immediate impression was not of glare but of roasting heat, and the male cast soon became envious of their lighter-clad girl colleagues. The director was apparently immune to these conditions as he continued giving instructions to Maralyn Dalton, our leading lady, while still wearing his overcoat. To obtain maximum co-operation from the female cast the immediate use of Christian

names seemed desirable and the director used this form of address throughout the afternoon without once making an error.

Maralyn, Pat Bell, and the supporting cast received their final briefing from the Director who had by this time become a mere mortal by removing his overcoat. We were ready for action.

The first take was slightly delayed while our Mr Foster mopped his streaming brow. Then the camera rolled. Pre-arranged telephone calls came through on time; even an unexpected call fitted into the hard-at-work action of the department. Minor alterations to furnishing were carried out by members of the now unemployed army and further takes were made, but not before the now almost purple Jack Foster had on each occasion mopped his brow at the request of the director. In fairness to Mr Foster it must be stated that his carefully marked position was in the centre of the scene and he was experiencing the full intensity of every arc light. Suddenly the lights were dimmed and it was all over. Amid the hubbub of congratulations and leave-takings we learnt that the scene, which had taken two-and-a-quarter hours to complete, would run for six seconds! The cast were no longer in any doubt that film-making was a most expensive business. They were also thankful that they were not living in a cannibalistic country where bank clerks, cooked to a turn, are a delicacy.

The intended audience includes senior schools, local clubs, Townswomen's guilds: pitched at sixth form level of intelligence the film is presented in a lively, fast-moving way. Bankers to the world will be available early next year.



The cast on set: At the front desk, Jack Foster and Connie Hooper. Rear desk, Martin Seeber and Jack Corkill. At their typewriters: Maralyn Dalton (left) and Pat Bell (right)

The above photograph was of the scene on that day. A few weeks ago, with some of my former colleagues, we visited our former branch, which is now a Wetherspoon's pub. Although a new



mezzanine floor has been installed, the building itself is little changed from 1968 and it would appear that the above photograph is

the approximate location of the desk at which Jack Foster and Connie Hooper were 'working'.

We have several members who used to work at Leeds City Office and I hope that these images will bring back happy



memories of their time in the branch; some of which have already been recounted in previous issues of our Newsletter.

KEN BROMLEY'S PHOTOGRAPHS

The following photographs were featured, after being discovered by Ken's son, Peter. To date, I



have received the following comments:

Sue Williamson:

You probably already know that the 'Unicorn' board meeting was the boardroom at 4 Water Street.

and about our newly-acquired Coat of Arms:

I agree that it will be an ideal item to accompany our flag, which has become the regular focal point of our lunches.

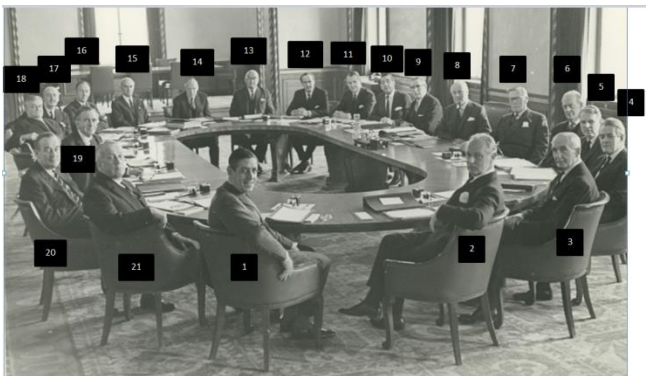
Peter Warburton:

I am guessing that it is the Board in the black and white picture. I think: mid right is Sir Cuthbert Clegg, far end centre with specs is perhaps D O Maxwell, Deputy General Manager when I joined in 10/65. He signed my "Welcome to Martins" booklet. I think Billy Wormald from Dewsbury was a Main Board

Director and he is the large tubby gent leaning back at top left.



However, in order to do justice to the photographs, our Database Manager (David Baxter) has worked his magic on both photographs, with assistance from Peter Bromley (who had the original photographs scanned at a high resolution), they can be seen on **Page 8** of this Newsletter. We must also thank John Russell for being able to provide the names of those Board Members in attendance:



I must apologise for my numbering being anti-clockwise and hope that you will bear with me.

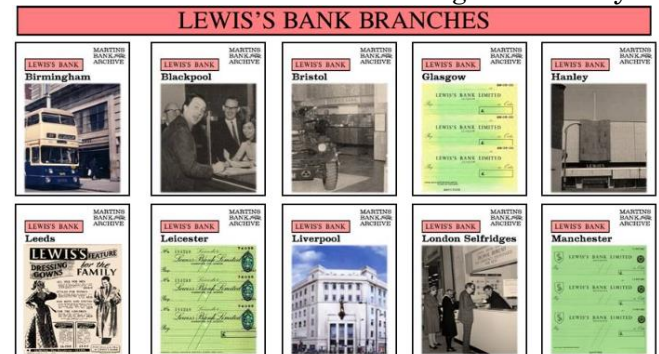
- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. The Rt. Honourable Edward Du Cann | 11. Mr Ryder |
| 2. Mr Hunter, (Chairman, Cammell Laird) | 12. Mr Jennings |
| 3. Colonel Jones | 13. Mr Conacher |
| 4. Mr McWalters (Footwear, formerly Harvey's Sherry) | 14. Sir ? Robinson |
| 5. Mr Oliphant (Tate & Lyle) | 15. Mr Gillman |
| 6. Mr Bryan (Barclays Vice-Chairman) | 16. Mr Rowbotham |
| 7. Sir Douglas Crawford (United Biscuits) | 17. Mr Briggs |
| 8. Sir Cuthbert Clegg | 18. Mr McClean |
| 9. Mr Maxwell (Chief General Manager) | 19. Mr Tillotson (Tillotson Boxes) |
| 10. Mr Walton (Deputy Chief General Manager) | 20. Mr Creighton (Cunard) |
| | 21. Mr Grant (Barclays) |

who were present on such an auspicious (for some) occasion. John Russell also advises us that: *Mr Keswick; Sir Rex Cohen; Lieutenant Colonel Densnay; The Right Honourable Earl of*

Derby; Sir John Richardson; Mr Scott; Mr Toosney; Mr Green and Sir Basil Smallpiece were absent (Ed. I trust that they sent their apologies for their absence).

John's letter also mentions 'Lewis's Bank', so I have plundered the following comments from our website:

This is Lewis's Bank, the department store banking service which for nine of its 52 years - 1958 to 1967 - is owned by Martins Bank. Lewis's Bank has branches in every one of Lewis's Department Stores up and down the land. The Glasgow office provides Martins with its only Branch in Scotland. Long hours mean Saturday Afternoon opening, and even a children's counter. Thanks to Martins Bank Magazine and former Lewis's Bank Staff, there remains a small but precious number of images from this most curious of enterprises. Please feel free to browse our featured departments and branches below without obligation to buy!



I was aware from the outset of a possible takeover when joining Martins Bank income Tax department, Birmingham on 1st December 1965. Martins, the sixth biggest bank was effectively top of the second division. Much of the original speculation circled around a possible merger with Royal Bank of Scotland – a bank of equal size and thus a possible merger of equals. Martins was a progressive bank full of new ideas and in the summer of 1967 they decided to form a Unit Trust subsidiary, rapidly



LEWIS'S BANK ARCHIVE
...where you are still being served

followed by another, Martins Bank Trust Company of which I was now deemed a member of staff. As a child I had been fascinated, when going in to

Lewis's store in Bull Street, Birmingham to find the entrance to a bank from the first floor landing, because the said **Lewis's Bank** was

described as a '**Subsidiary**' of Martins Bank. Who they were I knew not. It was only when in July 1967 Martins sold Lewis's Bank to Lloyds Bank, the spelling mistake that had annoyed me for ages was finally altered, and '**Subsidiary**' finally became '**Subsidiary**'.

Finally the Bank of England decided to step into the merger argument and in January 1968 decided that Martins should go to the highest bidder. This after Martins, Barclays and Lloyds had tentatively agreed a joint merger but this smacked to much of a banking monopoly in Threadneedle Street.

Lloyds Bank had its roots in Birmingham and so was generally favoured by the staff even in Liverpool as the thought of being taken over by a London Bank was a tad too far.

But Barclays Bank won the prize and so merger talks began in earnest in January 1969. The 737 branches of Martins Bank were destined to disappear and the seven Martins districts were to be absorbed into the 36 Barclays local Head Offices.

Except that few in Martins Bank looked upon it as a merger. Martins was so innovative (the first drive in bank, the first cash machines) that it was viewed more as a possible takeover of ideas.

Martins continued to advertise for new staff but those who were taken on were actually seconded to Barclays.

(To be continued in our next edition)

DEATH NOTICES

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Reg Bywell | If any of members know the ages and dates of their deaths, will you please advise me so that an appropriate acknowledgement of their lives can be made? |
| Eric Davies | |
| Geoff Gallagher | |
| Carol Moore | |
| Susan Sutcliffe | |
| | 1947 to 2023 |

OBITUARIES



SUSAN J SUTCLIFFE
(nee WARRINGTON)
Sue (seen with her husband Stuart in this recent picture below left) joined Martins at

our Mytholmroyd branch (below right) in 1965 before transferring to our then new, Cheltenham (top of next column) branch in 1968, on her marriage to Stuart. Both Sue and Stuart were great supporters of our Lunches,



travelling around the country to our various venues from their Southampton home. Sue always lit up every room with her sunny smile, heartfelt kindness, and, of course her sparkly personality and clothes. Following the Members' vote on the future of our Club, which resulted in a 67%/33% of voting Members being in favour of it continuing; Sue became our Welfare Officer. This was the role in which she continued, until her untimely recent death, and for which we will be eternally grateful.



NOTICE OF OUR 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **12 Noon on Thursday 23rd November** **The Gascoigne Room at The Union Jack Club** **AGENDA**

1. Welcome (Bernard Lovewell)
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the 2022 AGM
4. Matters Arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Secretary's Report
8. Welfare Officer's Report
9. Election of Officers
10. Election of Auditor
11. Any Other Business

Should any member wish to comment and/or include a matter for discussion in 'Any Other Business' they should contact me with their question/comments by email or letter before the Annual General Meeting.

Your Committee would like to thank our members for their continued interest in our Club and hope that as many as possible will attend our functions. For those members who are unable to travel to the main locations, we will endeavour to arrange local functions especially for them.

A RED LETTER DAY and DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

The Day: THURSDAY
The Date: 12TH DECEMBER
The Place: 4 WATER STREET
The City: LIVERPOOL
The Reason: OUR 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LAST WORKING DAY AS MARTINS BANK LTD.

We hope that by this date, the restaurant in our former Head Office building will be available and that we can arrange a 'Remembrance Lunch' in 'The Horseshoe' where members can enjoy the rebirth of our wonderful former Head Office Building.

RESERVATION FOR THE LONDON GRASSHOPPERS LUNCH

To be held on:

THURSDAY 23rd November 2023

At: The Union Jack Club

The deadline for returning your reservation is 31st October 2023, BUT PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHEQUE WILL BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT ON MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER

WINES: Isonto Sauvignon Blanc and Isonto Shiraz/Cinsault

STARTER: Prawn and Crayfish Cocktail, Lettuce, Rye Melba Toast

MAIN COURSE: Roast Rump of Lamb, White Onion Sauce, Melange of Baby Vegetables, Dauphinoise Potatoes

DESSERT: Strawberry Eton Mess

Tea or Coffee

Please tick the appropriate box if you require an alternative option:

Diabetic, Gluten Free, Vegetarian, Other (please state)

Table with 5 columns: Diabetic, Gluten Free, Vegetarian, and two empty columns.

OTHER:

Pay Bar available from 12.00 Noon until 4.00 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 1 p.m.

Cost: £20 per person, member and/or guest. MAXIMUM 1 GUEST PER MEMBER

These prices include table wine or fruit juice and gratuity. Please state your preference to ease administration:

Table with 5 columns: Red Wine, White Wine, Fruit Juice, and two empty columns.

Please return your Reservation Slip to arrive before the closing date of 31st October 2023 to:

Mr. K.W. Quirk, 119 Fernhill Road, Cove, Farnborough, GU14 9D

Contact details: kenneth.quirk@sky.com or 'Phone: 01252 521044

Please reserve me place(s) for the December Lunch at The Union Jack Club, on Thursday, 23th November 2023 for which I enclose my cheque payable to The Grasshopper Pensioners Club for £..... and confirm that I was a member of Martins Bank Staff on or before 12th December 1969.

Please tick this box to confirm that you are a member of The Grasshopper Pensioners' Club.

Names of those attending (capital letters please) (Member/Guest) (Member/Guest) My contact number: My email address: Seating preference (Although this cannot be guaranteed) I will make my best effort to ensure that it is. Name(s). BEFORE completing, please ensure that this person/these persons will be attending:

ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN PAY DIRECTLY INTO OUR ACCOUNT AT: 20-31-52 a/c: 80540137 INSERTING: LONDON, AS YOUR NAME(S) WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR PAYMENT IN THE REFERENCE FIELD

RESERVATION FOR THE LIVERPOOL GRASSHOPPERS LUNCH

To be held on:

FRIDAY 8th December 2023

At: **The Racquet Club, 5 Chapel Street, Liverpool, L3 9AG**

The deadline for returning your reservation is 31st October 2023 BUT PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHEQUE WILL BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT ON FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER

WINES: Sauvignon Blanc and Shiraz

STARTER: Smoked Salmon with Potato Salad and crème fraiche OR Tomato Soup

MAIN COURSE: Roast Chicken Breast served with Seasonal Vegetables and Roast Potatoes.

DESSERT: Sticky Toffee Pudding with Chantilly Cream

Tea or Coffee

Please tick the appropriate box if you require an alternative option:

Diabetic, Gluten Free, Vegetarian, **Other (please state)**

| | | | | | |
|----------|--|-------------|--|------------|--|
| Diabetic | | Gluten Free | | Vegetarian | |
|----------|--|-------------|--|------------|--|

OTHER:

Pay Bar available from 11.00 a.m. until 4.00 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 1 p.m.

Cost: £20 per person, member and/or guest. **MAXIMUM 1 GUEST PER MEMBER**

These prices include table wine or fruit juice and gratuity. Please state your preference to ease administration:

| | | | | | |
|----------|--|------------|--|-------------|--|
| Red Wine | | White Wine | | Fruit Juice | |
|----------|--|------------|--|-------------|--|

Please return your Reservation Slip to arrive before the closing date of 31st October 2023 to:

Mr K W Quirk, 119 Fernhill Road, Cove, Farnborough, GU14 9DS.

Contact details: kenneth.quirk@sky.com or 'Phone: 01252 521044.

Please reserve me place(s) for the December Lunch at The Racquet Club, Liverpool, on **FRIDAY 8TH** December 2023 for which I enclose my cheque payable to The Grasshopper Pensioners Club for £..... and confirm that I was a member of Martins Bank Staff on or before 12th December 1969.

Please tick this box to confirm I am /am not a member of The Grasshopper Pensioners' Club. (Please delete whichever does not apply).

Names of those attending (capital letters please)

(Member/Guest) (Member/Guest) My contact number:

..... My email address: Seating preference (Although this cannot be guaranteed) I will make my best effort to ensure that it is.)

Name(s). **BEFORE completing, please ensure that this person/these persons will be attending:**

ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN PAY DIRECTLY INTO OUR ACCOUNT AT: 20-31-52 a/c: 80540137 INSERTING: LIVERPOOL, AS YOUR NAME(S) WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR PAYMENT IN THE REFERENCE FIELD

RESERVATION FOR THE 2023 NORTHERN GRASSHOPPERS LUNCH

To be held on:

**MONDAY 11th DECEMBER 2023 at
THE OAKWOOD HALL HOTEL, Lady Lane, Bingley BD16 4AW**

The deadline for returning your reservation is FRIDAY 24th November 2023

WINES: Merlot and Sauvignon Blanc

TO START: Salmon Prawn Salad

MAIN: Sirloin of Beef, Yorkshire Pudding, Seasonal Vegetables

VEGETARIAN ALTERNATIVE: Spinach and Ricotta Tortellini

Contact me should you prefer an alternative vegetarian option and I will see what others are available

DESSERT: Treacle Sponge and Custard

Freshly Filtered Coffee/Tea and Chocolates

Please tick the appropriate box if you require an alternative option:

| | | | | | |
|----------|--|-------------|--|------------|--|
| Diabetic | | Gluten Free | | Vegetarian | |
|----------|--|-------------|--|------------|--|

Pay Bar available from 12.00 Noon until 4.00 p.m. Luncheon will be served at 1 p.m.

Cost: £20.00. Maximum 1 Guest per Member.

These prices include table wine or fruit juice and gratuity.

Please state your preference to ease administration: Red, White, Fresh Orange Juice

RESERVATION FOR THE NORTHERN DECEMBER LUNCH

Please return your Reply Slip to arrive before the closing date of 7th November 2023 to:

Mr. D Baldwin, Lower Windle, Windle Royd Lane, Warley, Halifax, HX2 7LY OR BY EMAIL TO ME
AT: grasshoppers@btinternet.com Please reserve me place(s) for the Lunch at The Oakwood Hall,
on Wednesday, 7th December 2022 for which I enclose my cheque payable to The Grasshopper
Pensioners Club for £..... and confirm that I was a member of Martins Bank Staff on or before
12th December 1969. Please tick this box to confirm I am /am not a member of The Grasshopper
Pensioners' Club. Please tick this box to confirm Names of those attending (capital letters please)

..... (Member/Guest)

(Member/Guest) My contact number: My email address:

..... Seating preference (This cannot be guaranteed but
I will make my best effort to ensure that it is.) Name(s): I would like to sit with

..... To assist with catering do you have a wine
preference for yourself and guest(s)? Numbers: Red White Fruit Juice

**PLEASE DO NOT DELAY IN RESPONDING AS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND
CONDITIONS OF OUR BOOKING, WE REGRET THAT CANCELLATIONS OR REFUNDS
CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER AS YOUR CHEQUES WILL BE
PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT ON MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER.**

**ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN PAY DIRECTLY INTO OUR ACCOUNT AT: 20-31-52 a/c: 80540137
INSERTING: BINGLEY IN THE REFERENCE FIELD, AS YOUR NAME(S) WILL BE
AUTOMATICALLY INCLUDED WITH YOUR PAYMENT**

And finally, brought to you by the wonders of 'Baxtercolour' we have
The Final Board Meeting of Martins Bank Limited,
Which was held in 4 Water Street on Tuesday, 9th December 1969



However, we have yet to identify this function. Can any of our members help?




THE GRASSHOPPER PENSIONERS' CLUB

ACCOUNTS FOR 2022

| INCOME | | | | YEAR 2021 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------|------------------|------------------|
| Grants | Social | 5,070.00 | | 5,070.00 |
| | Welfare | 919.60 | | 919.60 |
| | Administration | 2,424.40 | 8,414.00 | 2,424.40 |
| Joining Fees | | | 95.00 | 95.00 |
| | | | 8,509.00 | 8,509.00 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | |
| Bingley Lunch | | 688.00 | | |
| | Less Member Contributions | 460.00 | 228.00 | 357.50 |
| Liverpool June Lunch (2021) | | | | |
| | Less Member Contribu | | | 536.00 |
| Liverpool December Lunch | | 1,735.00 | | |
| | Less Member Contributions | 720.00 | 1,015.00 | 1,059.85 |
| London June Lunch / AGM | | 2,021.00 | | |
| | Less Member Contribu | 580.00 | 1,441.00 | 492.50 |
| London December Lunch | | 2,525.75 | | |
| | Less Member Contributions | 720.00 | 1,805.75 | 1,213.00 |
| Manchester Lunch | | 1,513.00 | | |
| | Less Member Contributions | 660.00 | 853.00 | 193.50 |
| Stationery | | | 51.59 | 84.28 |
| Postage | | | 622.87 | 914.41 |
| Newsletter Printing | | | 965.00 | 945.00 |
| Website | | | 241.60 | 156.00 |
| Admin | | | 0.00 | 31.03 |
| | Total NET Expenditure | | £7,223.81 | £5,983.07 |
| | Surplus for the Year | | £1,285.19 | £2,525.93 |
| | | | £8,509.00 | £8,509.00 |

For and on behalf of the Committee



Alan Thomond - Honorary Treasurer

I have examined the books and vouchers for the year ended 31 December 2022 and verify that the foregoing is in accordance therewith



Guy Taylor - Honorary Accounts Examiner

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
of The Grasshopper Pensioners' Club
Held at The Union Jack Club
on Thursday, 9th June 2022 at Noon**

Apologies for Absence:

David Baxter, George Martin, Brenda Northrop, Ted Foster, Anthony Roe, Norman Eccles, Michael Woolnough, Robin Holland-Martin, Kenneth Quirk and Mike Sharp.

Chairman's Report:

Bernard Lovewell thanked his fellow Committee members and our retiring Treasurer, Robert Bunn, for their and his time and support. Ken and Pam Quirk were also thanked for organising our main lunches and that, although numbers were diminished following the interruptions caused by the Covid pandemic, he hoped that they would return to their previous levels in future.

Treasurer's Report:

Robert Bunn elaborated on the three sets of Annual Accounts which covered the Pandemic period during which we had been unable to meet until the middle of 2021 following which questions were asked. Ros Edwards queried the substantial surplus, which had accumulated during the pandemic, and how it could be spent and asked: *Should we have a 'Special Lunch?'* to which Bill Webb said that *'We must continue to be careful and not spend recklessly'*. Robert Bunn pointed out that the club had been extremely fortunate in that the Bank Grant over the COVID years had been based on figures for 2019, when lunches were held all over the country to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our takeover. Discussion continued about the London Manager's Club having founded the Club but, that following the 2019, **50th Anniversary 'Remembrance Lunches'**, our membership was now evenly spread throughout the country with 'hot spots' in **Liverpool, Manchester, the Midlands and Yorkshire** which now accounted for in excess of 50% of our membership. It was pointed out, as can be seen from the accounts (which were published in the Easter Newsletter), that the cost of lunches in London is far higher than elsewhere in the country. It was also noted that none of our Committee Members claim any expenses for attending the Lunches, some of whom attended most of them and, in so doing, incurred substantial travelling and accommodation expenses. As there were no further comments about the Accounts, Bernard Lovewell thanked everyone for their input and asked for them to be approved by those members present, which they were unanimously.

Welfare Officer's Report:

Sue Sutcliffe confirmed that she had nothing to report.

Election of Officers:

As Robert Bunn had taken the decision to retire as Treasurer and we were fortunate to have had Alan Thomond volunteer to become our new Treasurer, should there be no-one else interested. Since Bernard Lovewell, David Baldwin and Sue Sutcliffe were all willing to continue in their current roles and no other members wished to put their names forward all were unanimously re-elected.

Constitution: All of the proposed amendments to our previously-amended Constitution were unanimously accepted and our Secretary said that he would create a revised Constitution as the existing one (in his possession) simply had the earlier amendments attached to it.

Appointment of Auditor: It was agreed that this would be left to our new Treasurer to decide, bearing in mind the fact that Alan lived in Manchester, where there are numerous members in the area, who comply with the requirements of our Constitution.

Any Other Business:

- Robert Bunn announced that, sadly, **John Peters** had died in his sleep on 5th June.
- A question was asked about Mike Sharp's condition, following his recent illness, and it was confirmed that he was improving.
- Our membership numbers were queried and our Secretary said that they continued to increase, initially boosted by the Remembrance Lunches, subsequently by members recruiting their former colleagues, and at the end of 2021 the Club had XXX Members

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 12.35 p.m.

Bernard Lovewell
Chairman
23rd November 2023.