

The Bond



C&E History Network

Two retired members of HM C&E, **John Pink** and **Dave Bloom** have formed a network of people who share an interest in the history of the Department. The HM Customs & Excise National Museum supports this venture and has agreed to take on the role of 'mailbox' and co-ordinator. The network works by enabling people with similar interests in the history of C&E to contact each other direct, while at the same time providing others with a more passive interest, with information of the latest projects and lectures that have been organised and articles written.

The Network has two aims:

- 1 To be a mechanism for the preservation and exchange of information about various aspects of the history and work of the Department, for both researchers and others with an interest in this area.
- 2 To support the work of the museum in collecting and preserving objects, photographs, ephemera, works of art and related information for the benefit of people today and future generations.

On joining you will receive a list of members and the subjects in which they are interested, and the occasional newsletter. At present membership is **free(!)**

In the meanwhile if you are interested in joining, please check and complete the details on the form on **page 3** and return to:-

C&E History Network
c/o **HM Customs & Excise National Museum**
Albert Dock, Liverpool L3 4AQ
Fax 0151 4784590,
e-mail cem@nmgmmh1.demon.co.uk



Valerie Strachan, President of the Customs and Excise Sports Club, presents the Hamilton Cup for sports person of the year to Gordon Hodson, current chairman of the C&E Retired Staff Association - Gordon has never looked back since taking up running following a triple heart bypass operation in 1980

represent the department at the World year to the end of September 1
involving 21 different sports

CONGRATULATIONS
to our Chairman upon his achievement,
as reported in
Portcullis (February '00).

The Bond is not exclusively for Federation of Customs & Excise Staff Associations but exists to inform and promote the interests of all retired. All matters of interest and activities are eligible for publication. Please forward script to The Editor (see below).

To contact the editor :

PO Box 696 Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1NQ

Tel/fax 0191 2702477

E-mail elsdonsc@compuserve.com

Ron Sanders (Federation Secretary)
70 Templegate Avenue, Leeds LS15 0HH
0113 2605193

Gordon Hodson (Chairman & Sports Club Liaison)
36 Green Road, Reading RG6 7BS
0118 9262411

Paul Houghton (Treasurer)
1 Lawn Ave., Allestree, Derby DE22 2PE
01332 552293

**PROPOSED FOCERSA
HOLIDAY TO CYPRUS
NOVEMBER 2000**

More accurate details of this proposed holiday:

The venue is the **Holiday Inn** at **Limassol**. Flights ex-Manchester at the following costs:

- ♦ **1 week** - £327.00 per person for bed & breakfast, staying in a **twin room**.
£389.00 per person for bed & breakfast staying in a **single room**.
- ♦ **2 weeks** - £435 per person for bed & breakfast, staying in a **twin room**.
£459.00 per person for bed & breakfast, staying in a **single room**.

Ring **Tony Cross-Rudkin** as soon as possible if you are interested. There is no firm commitment at this stage, but it is worth noting that the more people who go, the more chance there is of the price being further reduced, since a block booking of air flights is cheaper.

**FOCERSA TRIP AND AGM IN
BOURNEMOUTH**

The above AGM and holiday is to take place in Bournemouth from Monday, 8 May to Thursday, 10 May inclusive, at a cost of 105.00 per head. We now find that there are to be 2 hotels used, the main one being the Hinton Firs Hotel, with a smaller hotel next door, The Wood Lodge taking any overspill. The Hinton Firs Hotel is offering a fourth night with free accommodation and only any meals taken to be paid for. Could you now please let **Tony Cross-Rudkin** know if you are interested in this fourth free night. Tel. No: 0151-632-5612.

From *Liverpool* CERSA
Newsletter, sent by *Margaret
Clark, Hon Sec*

**Important Notice
to
Retired Members
of the
Sports Club**

It is now intended to formalise the structure of the **Retired Members Branch** by forming a committee of six to include a **Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary**

to assist with the organisation and administration of the Branch. The Branch's existing objectives are to encourage and develop social and sporting

activities and to administer funds for these purposes.

The meeting to form this committee will take place at the **Hinton Firs Hotel, Manor Road, East Cliff, Bournemouth on 9th May 2000**

in conjunction with the **AGM** of the Federation of CERSAs.

If you are unable to attend this meeting but would be willing to serve on the committee

please write to **Ron Sanders, at 70, Templegate Avenue, Leeds, LS15 0HL** who will provide further information.

Please note that all applicants must be current members of the Customs and Excise Sports Club

National events.....

SWIMMING

Daphne Amos-Pugh has agreed to be the swimming contact: her number is

01702 711492

and her address is 261, Station Road, Leigh on Sea, Essex, SS9 3BP. Can we put a CERSA team together for the Annual Swimming Gala?

DARTS

I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would be prepared to join a CERSA team on Sports Day - even an organiser to take it on??

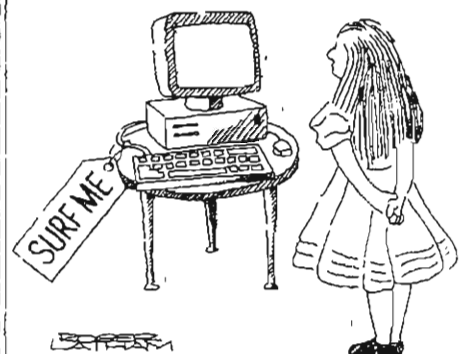
FISHING

There has been good representation from the Retired Members in this event in previous years. Watch Portcullis for details or contact John Lewis 28 Arran Ave Peterhead AB42 1PZ, who has his finger on the pulse.

SAILING

Peter Caswell is the central co-ordinating point for those retired staff interested in sailing. His telephone number is

01621 892832



The Bond

Manchester Retired Staff Association

The Association was formed in 1992 to establish and maintain contacts between retired staff of all grades, and affiliation to the Federation followed in 1994.

We write to all newly retired staff about the Association and invite them to join (subscription £5 p.a) Newsletters are issued periodically which include details of monthly events and meetings. There is a varied programme of visits, walks, lunches and excursions. Last year we cruised up Northwich Canal and visited a number of Country Houses and interesting public buildings, and a similar pattern is developing this year. The Steering Group and event organisers are pleased to see good numbers attending. Generally we get between 15 and 25, sometimes more. New members and ideas for future activities are always welcome.

MILLENIUM REUNION LUNCH AND OPEN DAY

A lunch and open day is to be held at the **CSMA Country Club**, Eaves Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs, on **Wednesday 28 June 2000** commencing 11.30am for all ex-Manchester retired staff and their partners, whether or not they are members of a Retirement Association. They can enjoy a good meal in beautiful surroundings and the excellent Club facilities (pitch and putt, bowls, snooker etc) Reservation details are obtainable from:
Duncan Lowe, 63 Walter Scott Ave., Wigan, Lancs, WN8 2RH (01942 246699).

From the History Network newsletter....

Recapturing the Waterguard

Retired Waterguard Training Centre Instructors and Heathrow Special Crew members met for a reunion at MS HQ in November 1997 and many of their experiences were sound recorded by Graham Boxer and Steve Butler of HM Customs & Excise National Museum. Cec Porter the last holder of the post of Inspector General of the Waterguard was amongst those interviewed and further interviews will take place in his home.

Contact has been made with various Waterguard Clubs and individuals who are keen to participate in the project. Ken Horley, who lives in Cyprus, will be compiling a history of Waterguard work on the island which started with the days of EOKA and which resulted in the murder of one of them, together with his pregnant wife.

The aims of the project are to record the experiences of the Waterguard, encourage the

donation of material to the Museum. to mount local and central exhibitions, and write a series of books covering anecdotes, humour and achievements. Bob Carey, a member of this Network, wrote from Northern Ireland to tell me that the Memorial* was commissioned by the PSA (Preventive Staff Association). He was a member of the PSA Council and would have liked it placed in Dover at a spot where Dunkirk wounded were first treated. However, the Memorial found its place in PSA HQ where it remained until the 1971 reorganization when it and many other Waterguard special items disappeared. One of the most important items - a model of the cargo ship SS *Halizones* - has been rescued from dilapidation and is now safe at HM Customs & Excise National Museum.

*Mentioned in Newsletter No.3

Obsolete Grades

(1) Aulnager

An Officer appointed in 1328 to measure imported cloth to prevent the importation of woollen cloth except in pieces of prescribed length, and allowed to charge a fee of an half penny for each piece of cloth measured. From 1353 onwards the Aulnager was employed to measure and mark the dimensions of all pieces of cloth for sale. The Office was abolished in 1700.

Source: McCoy's Dictionary of Customs & Excise (1938 edition)

C&E History Network - Membership Application Form, (see page 1 for detail)

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel _____

e-mail _____

Occupation _____

Which areas of C&E history interest you? _____

Are you happy to have your address circulated to members of the network? YES / NO (delete one)

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this issue - please continue to send in your Newsletters and any other articles of interest

PS - thanks also to the Glaswegians who responded to my plea to meet up for a pint - a very pleasant evening!

TO THE EDITOR,
'THE BOND',
P.O. BOX 696,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE,
NE99 1NQ.


RAMANLAL MORARJEE,
26 GLENAVON GARDENS,
SLOUGH, SL3 7HN
21-2-00

Dear Sir,

I retired from H.M. Customs, Heathrow Airport in 1994 and have received the newsletter regularly since then.

I refer to the Bond volume 5 issue. I agree that there should be other activities, other than sporting events, mentioned in the issue. I am sure one of the most popular hobbies is photography/videography, and there must be several members who are actively pursuing this hobby. I have taken interest in this subject for many years and regularly am involved in the making of wedding and documentary films.

I would appreciate greatly if other members would throw some light on the subject. This will open up the avenue for the exchange of ideas and perhaps will lead the members to get together for shows etc.
I await your reply.

Yours faithfully

(R. MORARJEE)

Items for June issue should be sent to the Editor by

5th MAY