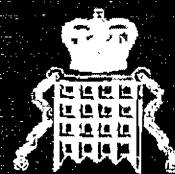


The Bond



NEWSLETTER OF THE
FEDERATION OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATIONS
AND THE
RETIRED MEMBERS BRANCH OF THE SPORTS CLUB

March 2004

Volume 9 : Issue 2

C&E SPORTS CLUB – SNOOKER EVENT

I am delighted to confirm that there will be a Snooker Event this year, taking place at the Willie Thorne Snooker Centre in Leicester on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd April 2004. The event will be in the usual format, a singles event and team event on consecutive days and will be organised by John Jackson, based in Queens Dock, Liverpool. Full details and entry forms are available on the Sports Club website or from John on 0151 703 8729.

Andrea Scott-Lewis

WORLD POLICE AND FIRE GAMES 2005 – QUEBEC CITY

The next World Police and Fire Games, scheduled to be held in Quebec City, Canada will be held from 26th June to 5th July 2005. Those of you who enjoyed the event in Barcelona in 2003, plus others who were unable to make it, will no doubt be interested in this wonderful event and I have obtained some estimates of the costs involved in attending the Games

Flight bookings for 2005 will not be available until June 2004 but the costs for this year are working out as follows:-

The best price is currently offered by Continental Airlines, flying from Heathrow via New Jersey, at £457.20 including taxes. This is closely followed by KLM from Heathrow, via Amsterdam, at £464.90.

Accommodation costs have been quoted at: Twin room, bed and breakfast, £40 per person per night and a Single room, bed and breakfast, £70 per night.

It would be extremely useful to gauge the possible take up for the Games and would appreciate expressions of interest to be made to me by internal e-mail to: Scott-Lewis, Andrea (C&E Sports Club) or external, e-mail: Andrea.Scott-Lewis@hmce.gsi.gov.uk. If you don't have access to e-mail, please call me on 020 7865 3278 or write to me at HM Customs and Excise, Thomas Paine House, Angel Square, Torrens Street, London EC1V 1TA.



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Dear Mr Taylor

I joined the Waterguard in May 1947 and retired in August 1982

For some years after retirement I received "Portcullis". Eventually I asked for this to be discontinued as except for retirements and obituaries, I could not keep up with all the jargon and abbreviations in The Department

I came to live in Europe in 1984 but kept up correspondence with several ex-colleagues. Two years ago, one of them, Dennis Tail from Dover, came to visit me and brought me some copies of The Bond which I really enjoyed. I asked that I again be sent Portcullis simply to get The Bond. Nearly every copy brings back memories of people, places and things.

I am sorry I cannot offer suggestions for a new retired association, but I am sure that there are lots of people like me who would be glad to join and contribute to an association which would continue to distribute The Bond. I no longer need Portcullis but cannot risk losing The Bond by telling The Department that I no longer want Portcullis.

The enclosed photograph may bring back memories to all who served on the Land Boundary. The picture was taken in September 1961 in Armagh and shows, from left to right:-

Norman Nelson, Arthur Oliver, Robert Wilson, Colin Murray, John Stephens, Dave Haste, Bill Lusty, and Brian Nichol.

Lastly, a "wee plug" for the **Glasgow Waterguard Club Lunch** which will be held in the Glynhill Hotel, Renfrew on Friday 30th April 2004. A.I.A.P.O.s are eligible to attend; and I hope to be amongst those present.

My best wishes to you and all involved in producing The Bond.

Sincerely

W R Lusty

Sports Club Diary

Month	Date	Event	Venue	Contact
March 2004	16 th and 17 th	Indoor Bowls	Luton IBC	Brenda Bird Tel. 0117 372 2149 E-mail: Brenda.bird@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
March 2004	30 th and 31 st	Netball	Loughborough University	Andrea Golder Tel. 0118 908 4431 E-mail: andrea.golder@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
April 2004	22 nd and 23 rd	Snooker Singles and Team Event	Willie Thorne Snooker Centre, Leicester	John Jackson Tel. 0151 703 8729 E-mail: john.jackson@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
April 2004	24 th and 25 th	Relaxed U.K. Motorcycling Weekend Tour	Cotswolds	Dave Rillie Tel. 0870 785 5761 E-mail: david.rillie@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
April 2004	26 th to 29 th	National Basketball	Largs	Tom Francis Tel. 020 7865 5952 E-mail: tom.francis@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
May 2004	13 th	Athletics Team Relays	Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham	Rob Fox E-mail: rob.fox@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
May 2004	18 th and 19 th	Tenpin Bowling	Tamworth	John Jackson E-mail: john.jackson@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
May 2004	28 th	Team Walk	New Forest, Hampshire	Mick Kendall E-mail: mick.kendall@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
June 2004	2 nd to 4 th	Tennis Singles and Doubles	Nottingham Tennis Centre	Susie Ramsay Tel. 023 8079 7573
June 2004	5 th to 7 th	Relaxed Foreign Weekend Tour	Flanders	Dave Rillie Tel. 0870 785 5761 E-mail: david.rillie@hmce.gsi.gov.uk
June 2004	11 th to 13 th	Snowdon Challenge Plus	Snowdonia	Mick Kendall E-mail only: Kendall, Mick {LDN RIBS}
June 2004	14 th	Retired Members Golf Day	Morley Hays, Morley, Derbyshire	Paul Houghton Tel. 01332 552293

REPRINT:
(CONTRIBUTOR'S NAME OMITTED IN FEBRUARY ISSUE)

Dear Editor,

Thank you for what, in my case, was a very nostalgic issue of *The Bond* (November 2003). I was delighted to see a letter from Brian Searle, whom I first met in APO days in Plymouth in the early 1960's. Strangely, I was only talking about him a few days before I read it. He joined "the Job" with my brother, John, who went on to pastures new after a couple of years. John often told the riddle - "What has four wheels and is always green?" The answer is, of course, "Grass, I lied about the wheels". Brian had heard this so many times that, when John told it once more in his presence, Brian piped up: "Oh, not that one - it's a bus. I lied about the grass!"; which is, and has always been a much funnier version than the original.

I don't know Charlie Wood, but his account of being dumped in the Registry under Mr. Ellis brought back memories of my first experience straight after I left school in January 1954. Mr. Ellis actually had a son about my age with similar inte

rests, so he rather took me under his wing. I have often wondered if Hugh O'Neill, who recently retired as Surveyor in Belfast, was the same one who was on Book 20E when I was at the next desk on Book 20F? If so, the last time I met him was when he came to visit us in Newry, whilst he was on leave in Armagh, during my time on the Land Boundary Patrols.

Finally, the wonderful article sent in by Paul Dorling, of whom I have fond memories from the late 1960's at Heathrow, both working and playing bridge.

As we haven't had a poem from Sheila for a couple of issues, Paul's has prompted me to send you my favourite love poem:-

*Last night I held a little hand, a little hand so sweet:
I thought my heart would surely break, so fiercely did it beat.
No other hand in all the world could so much pleasure bring,
Than that dear hand I held last night, four Aces and a King!*

Keep up the good work!

Bill Streeter

*If you would like to join the
C&E History Network and to
receive their Newsletter,
write to*

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Surrey, KT6 4BE
E-mail Johnrpink2@AOL.com**

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