

Windsor, Eton and District Royal Warrant Holders' Association Newsletter

Issue 3 Winter 2016-2017



By Appointment to Her Majesty The Queen



By Appointment to His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh



By Appointment to His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales



The Windsor, Eton & District Royal Warrant Holders Association



The Royal Warrant Holders Association

Annual Dinner

The Dorchester Collection Hotel Coworth Park in Ascot provided the perfect setting and quality of service and food for this year's Annual Dinner.

The theme for the night was 'Inspiration' and National President, Daryl Greatrex, first spoke about his mentor's support and his drive to the top of Holland and Holland.



The guest speaker and author Aileen Armitage had to go into hospital for an operation and so was unfortunately unable to attend, but we must thank author and ex TV presenter Robin Bayley, who stepped in at the last minute to talk about a life-changing inspirational story and subject of his bestselling book 'The Mango Orchard'.

Our President, Annie Quigley, spoke about her love of books which she embraced as a child proof reading her blind mother's manuscripts and her love of the written word. To many, she was all but 'born into a book' with both her mother Aileen and step father Deric Longden being best selling authors. She is now living her perfect dream job, as a Bookseller.

As it was so close to Halloween, the evening ended with a Ghost Speaker, the late EMMY award winning screenplay writer and bestselling author Deric Longden. Deric inspired many authors and carers with his funny stories and we were treated to three of his hundreds of BBC broadcasts captured on his CD 'A Funny Thing Is...' and read in warm tones by himself.

Thanks go to David May for suggesting Coworth Park and Debbie Pocock for help making it happen.

We welcomed local Presidents from Highgrove, Sandringham and Edinburgh. We again were supported by



Sir James and Lady Nicola Perowne and the Worshipful the Mayor of the Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Councillor Sayonara Luxton.

Thanks also go to our sponsors of the evening; Bendicks for the chocolates, Walker and Wodehouse for the Tawny Port and Bibliophile for the books, maps and CDs.

Finally, thanks go to the team of balloon blowers who worked at the last minute to pull it all together.

President's Notes



On taking up my Presidency last April, I promised to focus on three values; Community, Communication and Charity.

Community

I believe that the Local Associations are and continue to be the lifeblood of the Royal Warrant Holders and they are where the real networking takes place, friendships are forged and the corporate stands shoulder to shoulder alongside the entrepreneur. Derek Bishop spoke at last year's AGM about the value of the Local Association and I can only reiterate

this. This year I have travelled to all local associations and have been lifted by the dedication, tireless efforts and value they all give to their members.

We have continued to attract many new members to our association this year and will continue to promote the 'local' perspective and network. This year we have continued to forge closer ties to Windsor Castle and must especially thank its Governor, Sir James Perowne, for his continued support. We must also thank Adrian Bengel again for his craftsmanship in creating, on behalf of our Association, a saddle fit for a Queen.

Communication

This is our 3rd Newsletter and already people had been expecting and asking about its release. I am pleased to announce that the website is now under review with the aim of not just updating its content but making it a place to celebrate our rich history and values and also promote our members' businesses to a wider audience.

Charity

It was very sad that the Chairman of our Royal Warrant Holders Charity, Alan Britten, passed away recently. At our AGM, last April, he spoke of the value that this often overshadowed charity brings and I am striving to ensure that we continue to fully support it.

As my year draws to an end I wish to pay special thanks to our team who continue to make Windsor, Eton and District Royal Warrant Holders Association an attractive and rewarding one for all.

Annie Quigley

New Members Welcome



Did you know that you are supposed to take the kettle off before it boils? Did you know that tea is supposed to stand for a full three minutes before pouring?

These and many more secrets were disclosed at our the New Members evening by our Vice President, Stephen Twining, at Twining's

grand old tiny shop on The Strand. The shelves were full of every conceivable tea and Stephen promises more secrets next year!

New members are a vital part of any association and it is important that Royal Warrant Holders in the South East are aware that we are their local association. Being the oldest Royal Warrant Holder Association, we uphold the highest traditions, craftsmanship and values and the membership benefits provided are just £30 a year.

The local Association enables members to network and socialise often in places which are generally not open to the public. The shared knowledge is not restricted to a specific sector, profession, or social group but literally covers the rich seam of quality, proven companies granted a Royal Warrant. A very special club indeed!

In the last year the following new members are joining the Windsor, Eton & District Association:

Tom Smith
Stanton Hope
Storck
Apex Lifts
Watermans
Howdens
A&E Fire
Aquadition
Halcyon Days
Mrs Jennifer Emery
Thomas Lyte
Computer Aid
Rail Gourmet

Alan Britten CBE

Pippa Dutton MVO, Hon. Member Windsor, Eton and District RWH and National Assistant Secretary 1997-2014 has kindly written the above tribute to her dear friend.

Alan was introduced to the National Council by Sir Nevil Macready, Mobil Oil and as Sir Nevil's successor in Mobil he became President of the Association in 1997.



As nephew of the composer Benjamin Britten, he devoted his energies to supporting young musicians, through membership of the Board of Trinity College of Music and as President of the Friends of Aldeburgh Music. His thank you was to set up an annual bursary for a young musician administered by Aldeburgh, which continues to this day.

On retirement from Mobil he became director of the British Tourist Authority and the first Chairman of the English Tourist Council, where he helped the industry recover not only from the foot and mouth epidemic and the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He was awarded a CBE in 2003 for services to Tourism.

Some of his 'other jobs' included nine years as an independent member of the University of East Anglia's Council and it was here he met Dr. Edward Bujak, a University lecturer, who played an integral part in the research for 'A Peerage For Trade', the history of the Royal Warrant, published in 1988.

As National President, Alan visited functions up and down the country and it was he and Judi had nothing else in their diaries. As a Trustee of QEST and its Chairman in 1999, together with Christopher Rowe and Col. Christopher Pickup, Alan played an integral role in the search and purchase of No.1 Buckingham Place. It is thanks to them that today the Association and QEST are housed at such a prestigious location.

Following the death of Vice President Anna Plowden, he, with others, set up and chaired the Plowden Medal Committee, which to this day is the only award of its kind awarded to distinguishing conservators. He was a much respected and admired Chairman of the re-constituted RWH Charity Fund Committee and did much to promote its work as no threat to QEST but as a vital part of the organisation today.

The untimely loss of its President Emeritus felt by the Royal Warrant Association is acute.

Books and Eton College

Once again thanks to our Hon Secretary, Douglas Hill, we had the privilege of visiting Eton College. Sunday service within the College Chapel was followed by a tour of the school, which included the oldest schoolroom in England and a living history of early pupils graffiti carved into the walls, onto the benches and many dated. The tour finished with a visit to its very special private library and the college's Shakespeare exhibition.

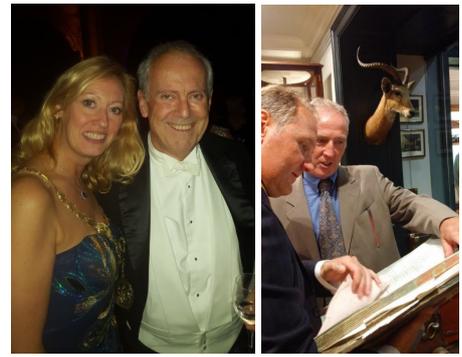
It is amazing that two of England's finest private libraries, the private library at Windsor Castle and Eton College library sit just two miles apart and that we were able to visit both and witness their unique treasures



this year. Special thanks must go to the Eton librarian, Michael Meredith who once again introduced the rare The Gutenberg Bible along with a selection of bibliophile treasures such as the 13th century Koran written in gold (opposite) as well as rare English Civil War papers and much more. This Bibliophile feast finished with a visit to the Shakespeare exhibit which displayed many rare folios, first editions and insights into the Bard's works.

The Wider Gatherings and News

The National Association President Daryl Greatrex opened the doors to the Holland and Holland store in Mayfair along with its splendid armoury and his record of his personal first sale (pictured with President's husband Martyn Daniels). The wordsmith and celebrity Gyles Brandreth (pictured with President Annie Quigley) was guest speaker under the watchful eye of Dippy at the National Banquet at The Natural History Museum.



The Aberdeen Association provided great hospitality at the Breamar gathering and the sight of the massed pipe bands, the caber tossing, the joy of the competitors of all ages and Her Majesty and Royal Family in such an intimate arena was not dampened by the mist rolling in. The Edinburgh Association Annual Dinner again forged new friendships as well as building on old ones. It also provided a special visit the next day to Holyrood Palace.

Joanne Cooper became the new President of Sandringham Association and attended our Annual Dinner in her new role. The Highgrove Association Annual Dinner will take place on 24th February.

Diary Dates

March Date to be confirmed: Visit to the College of Arms, London. Register now with Hon. Sec.
29th March, National Association AGM, London
5th April, Windsor, Eton and District AGM
April Date to be confirmed: Factory tour and tea tasting, Twinings, Andover
19th June Garter Day, Windsor Castle
Details to follow: Business lunch on Cyber Crime and Internet Protection

The Association Chain of Office



The Team

Windsor, Eton and District Executive

President: Annie Quigley, Bibliophile Books

Vice President: Stephen Twining, Twinings

Past President: Derek Bishop, William Wood & Sons

Hon. Secretary: Douglas Hill, C.J. Reid (Eton)

Hon. Treasurer: Chris Turner, Rokill

National Representative: Christopher Ashton-Jones, Sheen Botanical Labels

Council Members

Prudence Addleman, Irish Linen Co., **Peter Darville**, Darville & Son, **Kevin Giddings**, Milborrow Chimney Sweeps, **Pramod Kumar**, Anello & Davide Handmade Shoes, **Alec McQuin**, Rokill, **William Skinner**, Dege & Skinner, **Paul Sturges**, J. Redpath Buchanan, **Andrew Tarrant**, Tarrant Refrigeration

To contact the Editor with photos, ideas, articles and corrections: annie@bibliophilebooks.com

To subscribe to this newsletter and all membership requests to Hon. Secretary Douglas Hill: douglas@rhwindsor.org

Our President's Chain of Office is unique within the Royal Warrant Holders Association. Each link on the chain has the name of each individual past President and their date of office, making it a truly impressive and valuable item.

This year we must thank the craftsmanship and generosity of fellow Royal Warrant Grantee Stephen Connolly of Cleeves who added the missing names and dates and also had repaired the old case.

We now have the problem of finding a way to continue to add more links to this historic Chain of Office!