

Menu

Members' sign in



The Pilgrims of Great Britain

The main objective of the Pilgrims was, as it still remains, the encouragement of Anglo-American good fellowship.'

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Welcome

The Pilgrims of Great Britain and its sister society, the Pilgrims of the United States, are the two oldest and most prestigious Anglo- American organisations on both sides of the Atlantic. Over more than a century the Pilgrims have played a very important role in cementing good relations between the two countries, and have acted as one of the principal custodians of what has come to be known as the Special Relationship.

Under the Presidency of Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup and the Chairmanship of Mrs Diane Simpson, the Pilgrims of Great Britain look forward with continuing enthusiasm to a challenging future.

[Newsletters, bi-annual, and website. (2009-2021). The Pilgrims [Society] of Great Britain [and United States], accessed Aug. 12, 2024. Source: https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters.php]

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Notable interlocks from our quick review of the information:

- Sir Rupert Soames (Churchill), SERCO
- Bill Clinton
- Paul Volcker, Fed
- Sir Henry Kissinger
- Baroness Elizabeth Manningham-Buller, MI5, Wellcome Trust (COVID patent holder)
- Stephen Breyer, US Justice
- Henry Kissinger
- David Patraeus, CIA, Central Command
- Peggy Noonan, NBC
- Fiona Hill, Trump-Russia hoax
- Alexander Nix, Cambridge Analytical, Strategic Communications Laboratory,
- Sir Geoffrey Pattie, Intellectual Property Law Institute, GEC, RCA, SERCO,
- Marconi, BAE
- Edward Luce, Financial Times, World Bank
- Larry Summers, Harvard, Treasury Secretary, IBM/DoD/Facebook theft of social networking from Leader Technologies, 2008 Bank Bailout ...

Pilgrims Society Newsletters also contained in this PDF, accessed Aug. 12, 2024, Anonymous Patriots.

2009	Winter	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/winter2009.pdf
2010	Summer	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/summer2010.pdf
2010	Winter	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/winter2010-11.pdf
2011	Summer	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/summer2011.pdf
2011	Winter	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/winter2011-12.pdf
2012	Summer	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/summer2012.pdf
2012	Winter	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/winter2012-13.pdf
2013	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/Newsletter%20Spring%202013.pdf
2013	Autumn	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/autumn2013.pdf
2014	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring2014.pdf
2014	Autumn	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring2014.pdf
2015	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring2015.pdf
2015	Autumn	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/autumn2015.pdf
2016	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring2016.pdf
2016	Autumn	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/autumn2016.pdf
2017	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring2017.pdf
2017	Autumn	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/autumn2017.pdf
2018	Spring	https://pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring2018.pdf
2018	Winter	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/winter2018.pdf
2019	Summer	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/summer2019.pdf
2019	Winter	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/winter_2019.pdf
2021	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring_2021.pdf
2022	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring_2022.pdf
2023	Spring	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/spring_2023.pdf

Note, if these links become blocked, each of these PDFs exist in this mirror of the website. Simply type Ctrl+F to search (find) within this PDF for any keyword or phrase.

Activities

Benjamin Franklin and the Craven Street Bones

Tuesday 14th March 2023

TDr Paul Knapman



(Coroner of Westminster for 31 years) and Dr Márcia Balisciano (Director of Benjamin Franklin House) shared their fascinating story of the Craven Street bones which were discovered in the basement of Benjamin Franklin House in 1998.

[Read the full article](#)

Winslow Homer at the National Gallery

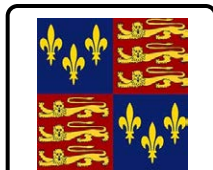
Thursday 5th January 2023

In the late afternoon of

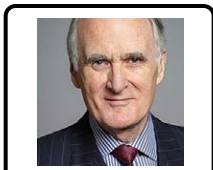


5th January 2023, a group of Pilgrims and their guests overcame rail strikes and met at the National Gallery to see the exhibition "Winslow Homer: Force of Nature." We were extremely fortunate to be accompanied on our tour by Chris Riopelle who had curated the exhibition.

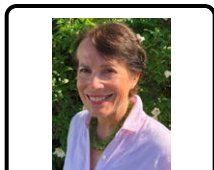
[Read the full article](#)



Principal Officers



Executive Committee



Chairmen of the

**Executive
Committee**



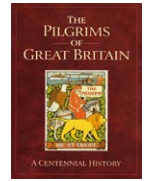
**Events
Calendar**



**Annual
Lecture**



**Our
History**



Book



**The story
of Our
Logo**



Newsletter



**The
Pilgrims
of the
United
States**

The
**Pilgrims
of
Great
Britain**

**Application
for
Membership**



**Members'
Area**

PROMOTING ANGLO-AMERICAN GOOD FELLOWSHIP

The Pilgrims *of* Great Britain

Welcome to the membership area

If you have logged in
before and completed
the full registration
form

If you have already registered
your details, please use the 'Log
in' link below to gain access to
the Members' area of the website
using the details provided to
us. Should you wish to amend
your details, please use the
'(Amend my directory details)'
link provided in the members'
area menu once you have logged
in.

[Log in](#)

If you are logging in for
the first time and have
not completed the full
registration form

If you are logging in for the first

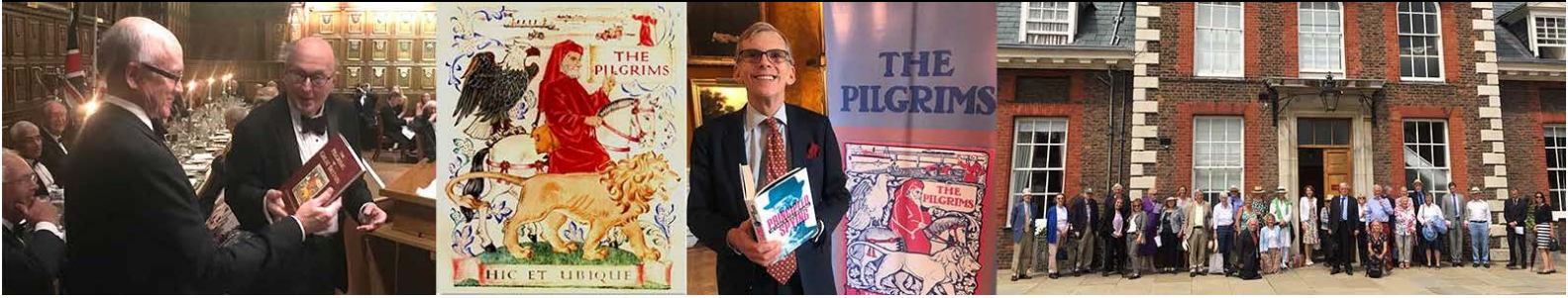
time. please use the link below.
As we need to record your full
details.

First time log in

Should you encounter any
problems with this process,
please contact [the Executive
Secretary](#).

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The
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of
Great
Britain

The main objective of the Pilgrims was, as it still remains, the encouragement of Anglo-American good fellowship.'

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Event Reports

Benjamin Franklin and the Craven Street Bones

Tuesday 14th March 2023



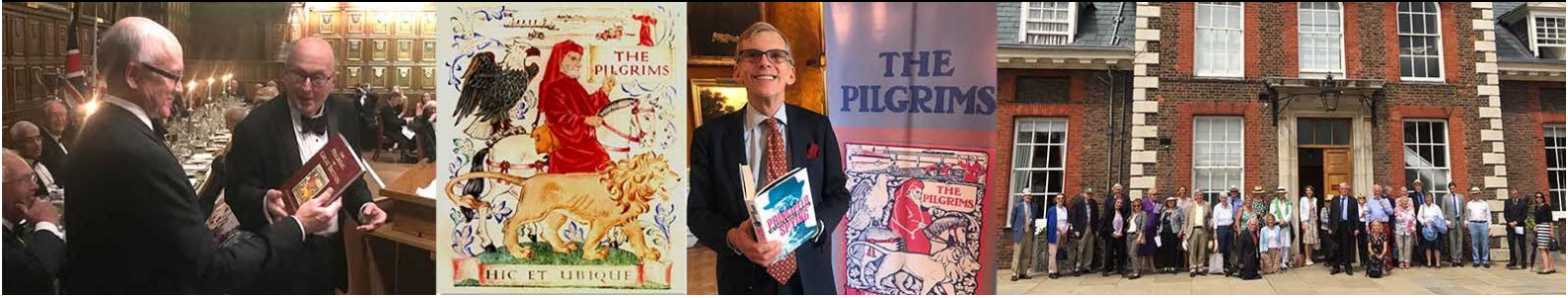
Dr Paul Knapman (Coroner of Westminster for 31 years) and Dr Márcia Balisciano (Director of Benjamin Franklin House) shared their fascinating story of the Craven Street bones which were discovered in the basement of Benjamin Franklin House in 1998. Dr Paul Knapman talked about the discovery of the bones and all the fascinating medical dimensions and Dr Márcia Balisciano talked about Benjamin Franklin and his

role in the story. Attendees also toured Benjamin Franklin House, just a few minutes' walk from The Farmers Club where guests met for a light sandwich lunch. The discovery of the bones was reported to Dr Paul Knapman, as coroner, as a potential mass murder but the bones were actually from an anatomy school of a good friend of Benjamin Franklin at the time he was living there.

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Event Reports

Winslow Homer at the National Gallery

January 2023



In the late afternoon of 5th January 2023, a group of Pilgrims and their guests overcame rail strikes and met at the National Gallery to see the exhibition "Winslow Homer: Force of Nature." We were extremely fortunate to be accompanied on our tour by Chris Riopelle who had curated the exhibition. Chris is the Neil Westreich Curator of Post 1800 Paintings, a title which does not begin to convey the easy and engaging way

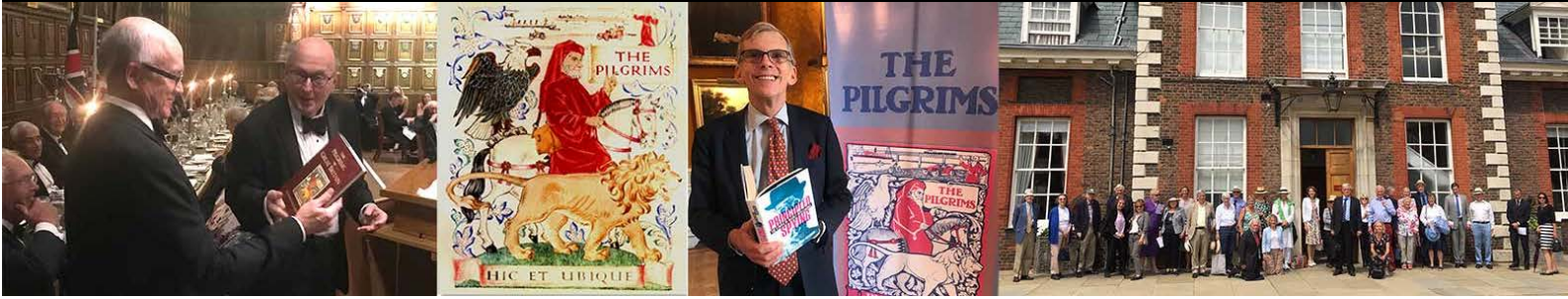
in which he shared his considerable scholarship with us. He did not just provide an introduction and leave us to it, but very generously accompanied us from start to finish.

Homer was born in Boston in 1836. He had very little in the way of formal training as an artist. He lived through the American Civil War and the abolition of slavery which provided the subject matter for a number of remarkable paintings. He travelled to England in 1881 and stayed in Cullercoats, a town on the North East coast, where his work reflected his preoccupation with scenes of heroism and resilience and the relationship between humankind and the environment. In 1883, he made his home in Maine. Until his death in 1910, the coast and the sea continued to provide the inspiration for some memorable work.

A further treat was in store for us as Peter Cadbury kindly hosted us afterwards for drinks at the Beefsteak Club in Irving Street. It was a great opportunity to get to know each other in splendid surroundings. All our thanks are due to Chris, Peter and Amy Thompson for a very special and hugely enjoyable occasion.

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Under the Presidency of Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup and the Chairmanship of Mrs Diane Simpson, the Pilgrims of Great Britain look forward with continuing enthusiasm to a challenging future.

HIS MAJESY THE KING

(Patron)

**Marshal of the Royal Air Force the LORD
STIRRUP , KG GCB AFC
(President)**

**MR IAN BARLOW , DL FCA
(Vice President)**

**MR M PETER BARTON , DL
(Vice President)**

**Sir JAMES BUTLER , CBE DL
(Vice President)**

**Sir MICHAEL CRAIG-COOPER , CBE TD
DL
(Vice President)**

**MR RONALD M FREEMAN
(Vice President)**

**The Right Hon Sir JOHN MAJOR , KG CH
(Vice President)**

MR ROBERT L SIGMON

(Vice President)

Sir ROBERT WORCESTER , KBE DL

(Vice President)



MRS DIANE SIMPSON

(Chairman, Executive Committee)

THE REVEREND DR ROBIN GRIFFITH-

JONES , FSA

(Hon Chaplain)

MR RICHARD H REID , FCA

(Hon Treasurer)



MR PIERS COLEMAN

(Hon Secretary)

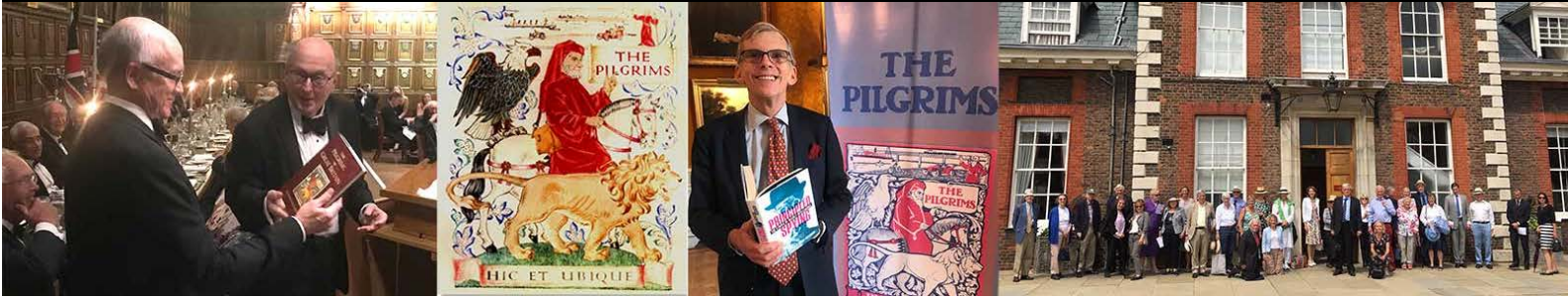


MRS A THOMPSON
(Executive Secretary)

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Executive Committee

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Marshal of the Royal Air Force the LORD

STIRRUP , KG GCB AFC

(President)

2015



MRS DIANE SIMPSON

(Chairman)

MR MARK SELIGMAN

(Honorary Treasurer)

2017

Sir PETER BOTTOMLEY, MP

2010



MRS KWEILEN HATLESKOG

2016



MR ABDUL BHANJI
2017



MR PETER CADBURY
2017



AIR MARSHAL Sir DAVID WALKER ,

**KCVO OBE
2017**



**MS XENIA WICKETT
2017**



**Admiral Sir GEORGE MICHAEL
ZAMBELLAS, GCB, DSC, ADC, DL,
FRAeS
2020**



MR CHARLES V ANSON, Esq CVO
2021



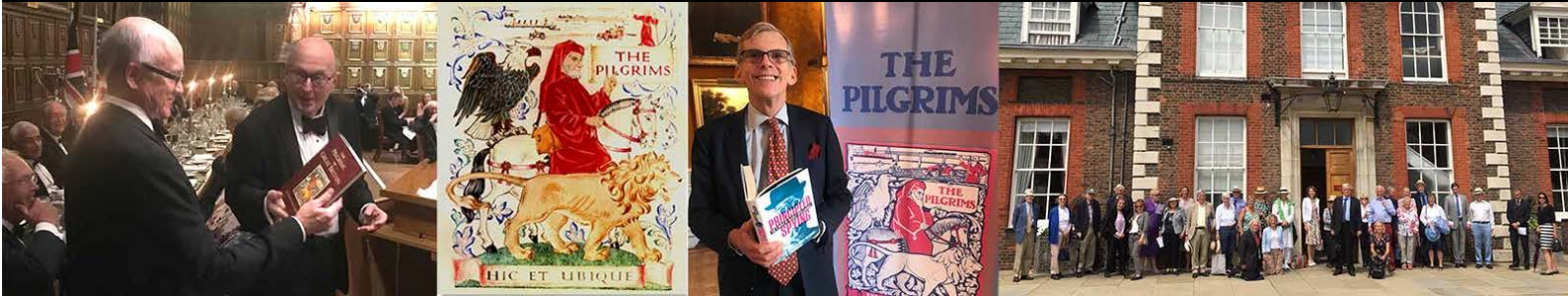
MR MARK FOX
2021

MRS FIONUALA GORITSAS
2023

MR CHRISTOPHER BOX
2023

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Chairmen of the Executive Committee

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ARCHDEACON WILLIAM MACDONALD

SINCLAIR, DD

1903-1913

Sir HARRY BRITTAIN, KBE CMG

1913-1919

The LORD DESBOROUGH, KG GCVO

1919-1929

The Right Hon the EARL OF DERBY, KG

1929-1945

The Right Hon the VISCOUNT

GREENWOOD

1945-1948

Sir CAMPBELL STUART, GCMG KBE

1948-1958

Sir CHRISTOPHER CHANCELLOR, CMG

1958-1967

The Right Hon the LORD ASTOR OF

HEVER, KStJ

1967-1977

MR ROBERT L SIGMON

1977-1993

Sir ROBERT WORCESTER, KBE DL

1993-2010

MR RONALD M FREEMAN

2010-2017

MRS DIANE SIMPSON

2017-

PROMOTING ANGLO-AMERICAN GOOD FELLOWSHIP

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Events

While visits to places of interest, often with an American connection, have continued to occupy an important place in the calendar, periodic receptions at Winfield House as guests of the American Ambassador have helped to strengthen the unique Anglo-American relationship.

The following events are only for the attendance of Pilgrims members and their guests only.

Michael Cockerell will talk to us at a dinner about his latest book "Unmasking our Leaders"

17 September 2024

The Pilgrims of Great Britain Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture with Admiral Sir Tony Radakin KCB

**ADC (followed by drinks
reception)**

07 October 2024

**Drinks reception and address by
The Hon Rupert Soames OBE**

20 November 2024

**Drinks reception and address by
Professor Phillips O'Brien**

23 January 2025

PROMOTING ANGLO-AMERICAN GOOD FELLOWSHIP

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Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture



*Sir Harry Brittain 1973,
 with a maquette by the sculptor
 Oscar Nemon.*

The Pilgrims of Great Britain's Annual Meeting lectures started in 1991, but in 1994 it was decided to dedicate them to the memory of Sir Harry Brittain KBE, 1873-1974, the British journalist and Conservative politician who tried to foster closer Anglo-American relations and was the principal founder of the Pilgrims. For

seventeen years, first as Honorary Secretary and then as Chairman, he steered the society through its early life. He resigned the Chairmanship in 1918 because of his Parliamentary duties, and became its senior Vice President and the only Pilgrim Emeritus.



*Baroness Manningham-Buller
with Admiral Lord Boyce, President
of the Pilgrims, October 2013.*

Following the 1994 Annual Meeting on 19 September 1994 at the American Embassy, Robert Hunter, US Ambassador to NATO, delivered the first Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture. Subsequent lecturers included Dame Stella Rimington, former director of the security service, 1996, Sir Christopher Bland, chairman of the BBC, 1997, Sir Robert May, Chief Government Scientific Adviser, 2000, Sir Simon Jenkins 2005, General Lord Dannatt, Chief of the General Staff, 2006, The Right Revd Richard Chartres, Bishop

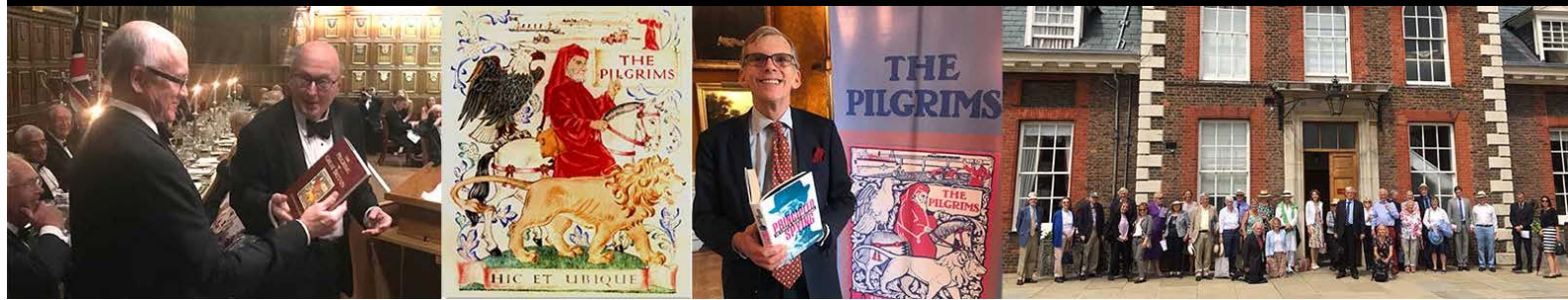
of London, 2008, Lord O'Donnell, Cabinet Secretary, Neil MacGregor, Director of the British Museum, 2010, Lord Hurd of Westwell, former Foreign Secretary, 2011, Professor Christopher Andrew, Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at the University of Cambridge, 2012. Baroness Manningham-Buller, former Director General of the Security Service, was the 2013 Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecturer; Peter Kellner, President of YouGuv, was the 2014 Lecturer and the Right Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind was the 2015 Lecturer.



*Sir Malcolm Rifkind delivering the 2015
Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture.*

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History

The History of the Pilgrims of Great Britain

On 16 July 1902 an informal meeting took place at the Carlton Hotel in London, at which the decision was taken to establish The Pilgrims of Great Britain. Those present included General Joseph Wheeler, the famous cavalry leader of the Confederate Army during the American Civil War; Colonel (later General Sir) Bryan Mahon, who had commanded the troops relieving Mafeking in 1900; the Hon Charles Rolls of Rolls-Royce fame and a notable aviation pioneer, and Harry, later Sir Harry, Brittain. The title of the Pilgrims, not to be confused with the Pilgrim Trust, had nothing whatever to do with the *Mayflower* and the Pilgrim Fathers of 1620, but was chosen as a short and concise name which would express the idea of members of the English-

speaking world travelling from one country to another. The main objective of the Pilgrims was, as it still remains, the encouragement of Anglo-American good fellowship.



Pictured above: Left, Sir Harry Brittain; Centre top, Bryan Mahon; Centre bottom, The Hon Charles Rolls; Right, General Joseph Wheeler.

The Centennial year of 2002 saw a series of memorable events, including a reception at St James's Palace in the presence of our Patron Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh and a Thanksgiving dinner at the Mansion House by courtesy of the Lord Mayor of London. Her Majesty has allowed the Pilgrims to hold receptions at St James's Palace on four occasions.

2002 also saw the publication of *The Pilgrims of Great Britain - A Centennial*

History by Anne Baker, an account of the Pilgrims' activities and achievements over ten decades, with some well-chosen photographs and other illustrations. Anne Baker went on to equal her achievement by producing in 2003 *The Pilgrims of the United States - A Centennial History*.



Mark Twain.

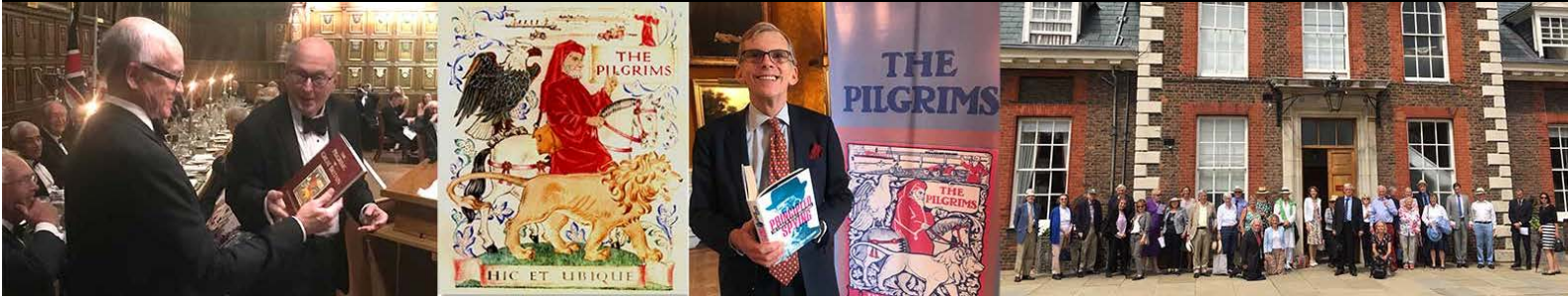
Over the years the roll-call of distinguished guest speakers at Pilgrims' events has been most impressive - Lord Curzon, Mark Twain, Admiral Peary, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII), Stanley Baldwin, Ramsey Macdonald, George Marshall, Dean Acheson, Anthony Eden, Archbishop Fisher, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, Henry Kissinger, Caspar Weinberger, HRH The Princess Royal and General Lord Dannatt - to

name but a few.

The Pilgrims' archives are lodged with London Metropolitan Archives. Please see <http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/visiting-the-city/archives-and-city-history/london-metropolitan-archives/the-collections/Pages/pilgrims-of-great-britain.aspx> for an LMA article on the Pilgrims' archives, and please contact ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk for further information regarding access.

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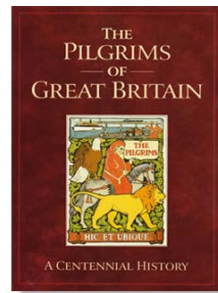
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Book

Centennial History of the Pilgrims of Great Britain



The Pilgrims of Great Britain - A Centennial History is a celebration of a great institution and a valuable record of 100 years of discreet influence on Anglo-American relations. The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain was founded in 1902 to promote *goodwill, good-fellowship, abiding friendship, and everlasting peace between the United States and Great Britain.*

Throughout the twentieth century the Pilgrims' glittering dinners and receptions formed a focus for those who saw the

abiding importance of an alliance of interests across the Atlantic. In the opening years of the twenty-first century, as the world faces threats and crises that would have been unimaginable to the founders of the Society a hundred years before, the "special relationship" between the USA and the UK is as valuable as it has ever been. The Pilgrims Society has its own special part to play in that relationship by cultivating mutual interest, understanding and friendship between the two countries.

The fascinating story of the Pilgrims is one of distinguished public figures and a no less remarkable array of those such as Sir Harry Brittain (the Society's first and indefatigable secretary and later its chairman) and J. Wilson Taylor (secretary for an astonishing 24 years, from 1919 to 1943) who worked tirelessly to make the Pilgrims the success it has become.

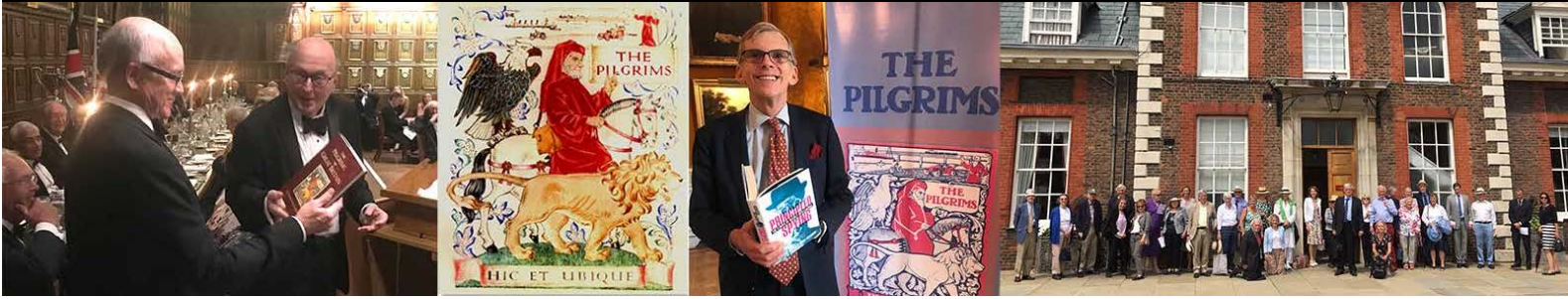
More than 200 seldom-seen illustrations with detailed captions supplement this meticulous history, graphically evoking the personalities and special atmosphere of the Pilgrims. An introductory letter by HM The Queen, Patron of the Pilgrims, a foreword by Lord Carrington, President 1983-2002, and an introduction by Sir

Robert Worcester, Chairman 1993-2010, together with details of past and present officers, the first official list of members in 1903 and a record of functions through the years complete this unique and authoritative chronicle.

Copies of the fully-illustrated *The Pilgrims of Great Britain - A Centennial History* by Anne Pimlott Baker (2002) are available on application to the Pilgrims' office at a cost of £25.00 each.

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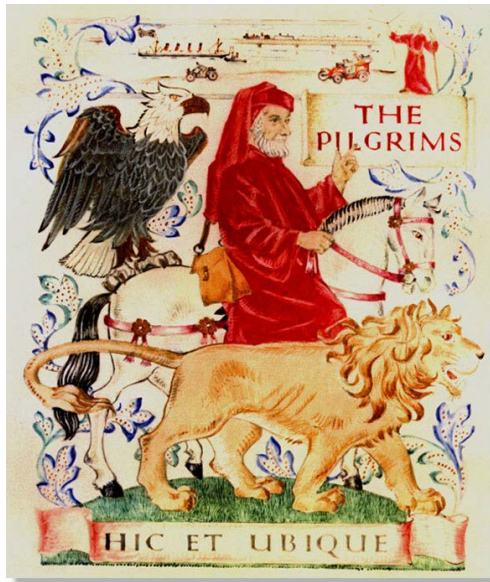


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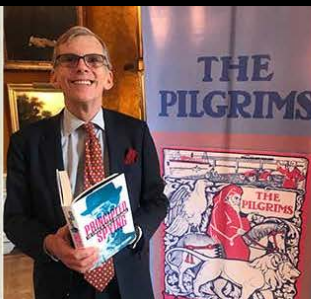
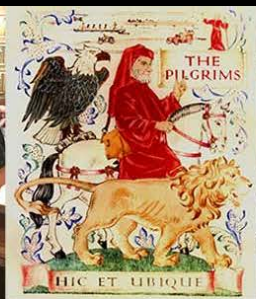
The Logo of the Pilgrims of Great Britain



The distinctive Pilgrims' logo was designed by Hugh Fisher, an artist at *The Illustrated London News*. It shows an ancient mounted pilgrim, with a lion (representing Great Britain) walking beside him and an eagle (representing the USA) perched upon the steed's rump. Above this, another ancient pilgrim gazes with amazement at a motor car, bicycle, steamship, train and aeroplane. The motto *Hic et Ubique* translates as "Here and Everywhere".

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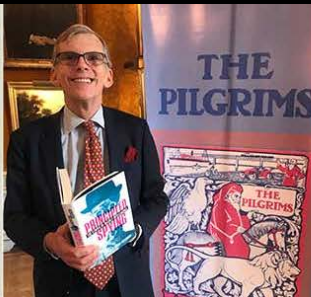
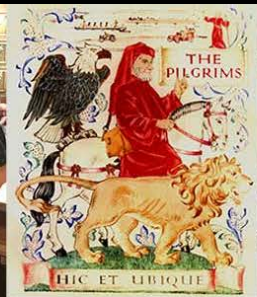
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2012	Summer	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/summer2012.pdf
2012	Winter	https://www.pilgrimsociety.org/new_site_03/newsletters/winter2012-13.pdf
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Menu

Members' sign in

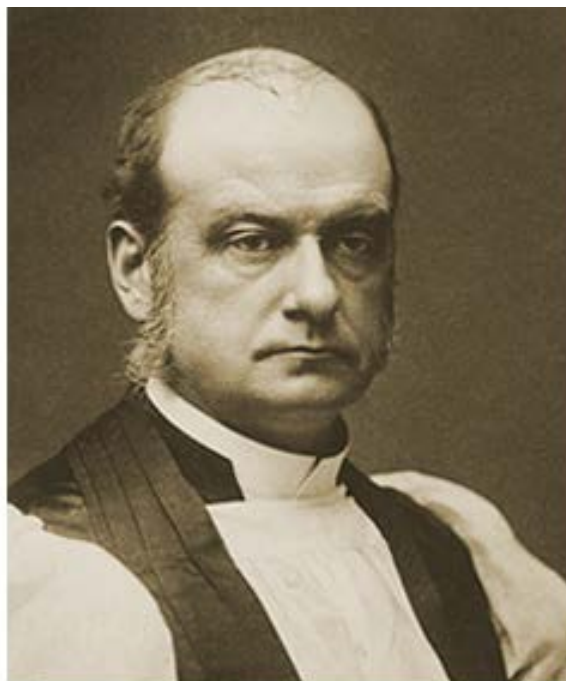


The Pilgrims of Great Britain

The main objective of the Pilgrims was, as it still remains, the encouragement of Anglo-American good fellowship.'

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The Pilgrims of the United States



The Right Revd Henry C Potter, 1835-1908, President of the Pilgrims of the United States 1903-07.

The Pilgrims of the United States came into being at a meeting at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York on 13 January 1903. The Pilgrims of Great Britain and the Pilgrims of the United States have reciprocal membership. By tradition the

Pilgrims join together in a single toast His/Her Majesty the King/Queen and the President of the United States. The first speech on British soil by a new American Ambassador to the United Kingdom is to the Pilgrims of Great Britain and the first speech by a new British Ambassador to the United States is to the Pilgrims of the United States.

Mission Statement

Founded in 1903, The Pilgrims of the United States, an association of men and women, in alliance with the Pilgrims of Great Britain, seeks to foster fellowship between Americans, the British and other English-speaking peoples. In addressing current national and international issues, it emphasizes enduring historic, cultural, economic and social bonds.

Form for nomination of a candidate for membership of the Pilgrims of Great Britain

Should you prefer to complete and return a hard copy of this form, you may download a pdf version by [clicking here](#).

To the Secretary of The Pilgrims
Please enter as a Candidate for Membership of the Pilgrims of Great Britain:

Title

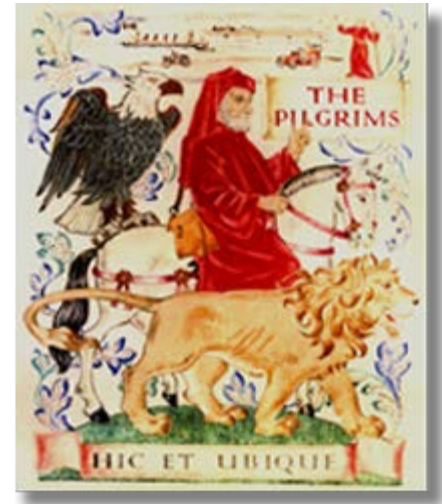
Forename(s)

Surname

Personal statement:

The Pilgrims exist to promote good relations between Great Britain and the USA: Please indicate how you might contribute to The Pilgrims.

Private residence (please enter each line of the address on a new line)



Candidates must be proposed and seconded by two British or one British and one American member, each of whom must give specific information regarding the Candidate's interest and involvement in Anglo-American relations and such other information as will be useful to the Committee when considering the application.

Please be reminded that an application which does not fulfil these criteria may have to be resubmitted.

Should it at any time be the opinion of the Committee that the information given by a Candidate, or by his proposer or seconder, respecting his Candidature is erroneous, or that material information has been withheld, the Committee may at once cancel the election of such Candidate.

Email address

Nationality

Date of birth Day Month Year

Place of birth

Education (please enter each establishment on a new line)

Profession, business or occupation

Business address (please enter each line of the address on a new line)

Club/s (please enter each one on a new line)

Please tick here if you would be willing to host an event at one of the above clubs, organisations or your place of work

Orders, decorations, etc

Proposer's name

Proposer's email address

Secunder's name

Secunder's email address

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Great
Britain

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The Pilgrims Newsletter



A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain

VOL 29, NO 1
SPRING/SUMMER 2023

New US Ambassador to the Court of St James Jane Hartley gave her maiden speech

By Dee Dee Simpson

The new US Ambassador to the Court of St James Jane Hartley gave her maiden speech to the Pilgrims on 7 September in the majestic Egyptian Hall of Mansion House. The Ambassador is only the second woman to serve in this role, following Ann Armstrong by almost half a century. Ambassador Hartley previously served as US Ambassador to France, is on the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, is a member of the Visiting Committee of the Kennedy School at Harvard and of the Council on Foreign Relations, and served at the White House in the Carter Administration.

Before the speech, the Ambassador spent over an hour tirelessly shaking hands in a receiving line. She was then welcomed to Mansion House by its resident, the Lord Mayor of the City of London Vincent Keaveny, and they were rhythmically clapped into the Egyptian Hall, a longstanding City tradition.

Ambassador Hartley spoke of issues affecting the US and UK >





> *Cont. from page 7*

to 260-some guests. First, she paid tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her life of service and the significant role she played as a world leader. This tribute was meant to reflect the recent Platinum Jubilee but, in fact, was made the day before the Queen's death.

The Ambassador then described her role of strengthening the UK-US relationship based on shared values of democracy and opportunity for all. She spoke of the importance of transatlantic security, inclusivity, economic growth, and bold climate action. She emphasized the unshakeable UK-US bond and said the UK has been and remains the most important ally of the US. Specifically, the Ambassador said the US appreciates UK leadership resisting Russian aggression in Ukraine. She said that, as the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday agreement approached, the US continues to support a secure and prosperous Northern

Ireland. She said the US supports the agreements reached at COP 26 in Glasgow and the Cornwall G7 meeting to find a path forward for green and prosperous growth. She then noted that cumulative bilateral UK/US investment was a massive \$1.5 trillion in 2021.

The Ambassador concluded by stating that our two countries will continue to work together to protect what we hold dear: to defend freedom, to champion opportunity, to uphold universal rights, and to do so under the rule of law. She reiterated that our commitment to each other is not just government to government, but people to people.



NEW MEMBERS

Mr Paul Bagatelas

Air Commodore David Bentley

Mr Faiz Bhanji

Mr Nabeel Bhanji

Mr Christopher Box

Lieutenant Maxwell Cosby

Lt Gen Richard Cripwell CB, CBE

Lord Eatwell

Dr Mischa Engineer

Mr Christopher Fisher

Mrs Alison Griffiths

Mr Mumtaz Habib

Mr Will Heilpern

The Honorable Kevin William Billings

Ms Courtney Huggins

Mr Mark Irwin

Mr Robert Jenrick

Mrs Michal Jenrick

Professor Josu de la Fuente

Mrs Heledd Kendrick FRSA

Mrs Sara Khairallah

Mr John Kriegsman

Dr Dan Larsen

Mr Paul Livingston

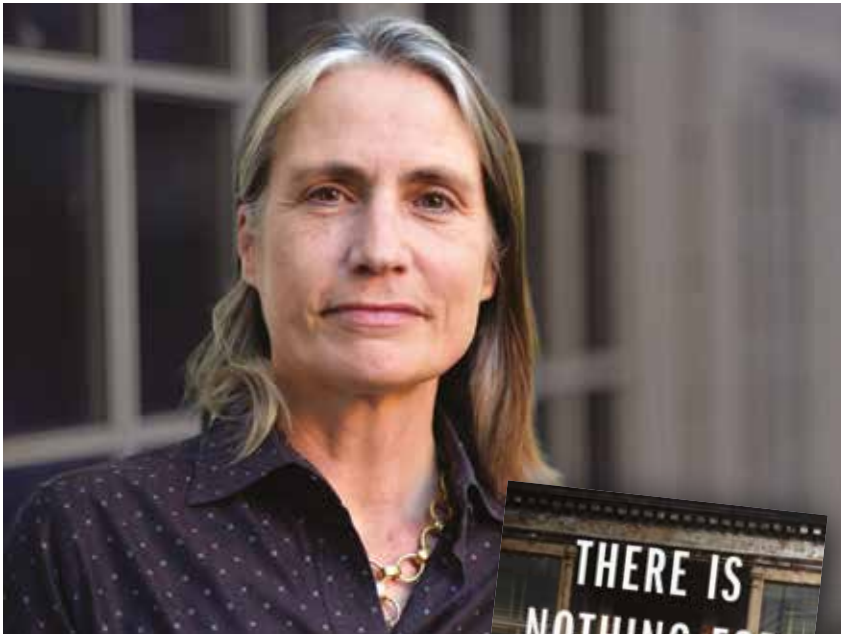
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli FCCA FCSI (Hons) FBCS

Mr Edward Monckton

Mr Scott Noble

Ms Christina Paumgarten

Reception with Fiona Hill



By *Kweilen Hatleskog*

In February 2022, the Pilgrims were privileged to host a small gathering to hear Fiona Hill speak. Launching her book “There is Nothing for You Here,” Ms. Hill recounted her personal journey from England’s coal-mining country to Harvard and the United States’ National Security Council; advising Presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump on foreign affairs.

In a powerful, and deeply personal, account she shared what she had learned about the damaging impacts of populism in both Russia and more recently in the United Kingdom and the United States. Newly appointed as chancellor of Durham University, Ms. Hill’s comments focused on the rising divisions in access to university education. Noting

that while people look at the UK and US as the ‘superpowers of education’, we must actively work to address the inequalities of access and invest in skills-based social mobility if we are to preserve our democracies.

Questioned by the Pilgrims on Russia’s strategy and strengths in pursuing war in the Ukraine, Ms. Hill was thoughtful and frank. Indicating, she thought, that absolute victory over Russia was not likely possible, she emphasised the importance of effective leadership, suggesting

NEW MEMBERS (cont.)

Mr Sebastian Payne

Mr Thomas Pierpont-Grose

Mr Nathaniel Powell

Mr Hans Pung

Admiral Antony David Radakin, CB, ADC

Sir David Richmond KBE, CMG

Mrs Alison Rose

Mr Michael Strauss

Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach GBE, KCB, ADC, DL

Miss Serra Tezisler

Mr Gareth Thomas

Mr Ian Tough JP

Mr Collin Wallace

Mrs Ruth Westcott

Mr Benjamin Williams

that we must try to create the circumstances for a real negotiation, rather than aiming for complete capitulation. With her characteristic pragmatism and balance, Ms. Hill also reminded us that beyond Russia, there are even greater threats where an educated bureaucracy and a strong transatlantic democratic alliance will be essential in ensuring the West’s success.

As the formal part of the evening concluded, Ms. Hill stayed to converse with Pilgrims and all left more educated than they arrived.

Dinner with Alison Rose, Chief Executive of NatWest Group plc

By Mark Seligman

Alison Rose, Chief Executive of NatWest Group, was the guest speaker at the first dinner of 2022, appropriately held at the Army and Navy Club given her military upbringing. Alison is the first and only female head of a major British bank. Some 76 members and their guests attended what was a very lively evening. Alison was also the author of The Rose Review in 2019, undertaken for the Government to identify issues stopping women from becoming entrepreneurs, a subject very dear to her heart.

Introduced by Lord Stirrup, who declared himself a happy NatWest customer, Alison spoke of the unprecedented level of uncertainty in the economic outlook. The ongoing invasion of Ukraine had exacerbated significant existing inflationary pressures, as well as supply chain and labour challenges. NatWest was acutely aware of the issues its customers were facing. Some businesses were anecdotally facing energy price rises of 300-400%, and there was a concern that with post-COVID fatigue, many might choose to close rather than trade through another crisis.

NatWest's approach is to provide a strong, practical support package, in particular for the most vulnerable customers. This is part of the purpose led approach of the bank. Alison is a firm believer that such

an approach drives long-term sustainable value creation for the bank - fulfilling its responsibilities not just to shareholders, but also to all of its stakeholders.

Another part of this approach has been the bank's focus on climate change, learning and enterprise. On climate, the bank will work with customers to accelerate the net zero transition through a £100bn climate finance target, and help to create an energy safe future where we are no longer reliant on Russian hydrocarbons.

On learning, 80% of young people believe they will never be financially secure. So, a financial literacy programme in partnership with the

footballer Marcus Rashford is being launched this summer.

Fostering enterprise is a key area of focus for NatWest as the leading business bank in the UK. On female entrepreneurship, research shows that if women were empowered to start and scale businesses at the same rate as men, then we could add £250bn to our national economy.

After speaking, questions poured in. It was clear that Alison's comments had rung true, and that there was widespread support for her efforts to have businesses, government and civil society join together to ensure that those who are in most need of support are given the practical, tangible toolkits they need to overcome the challenges ahead. The Chairman then thanked Alison and presented her with the customary history of the Pilgrims, together with a silk Pilgrims scarf.



Visit to Chiswick House

By *Dee Dee Simpson*

The Pilgrims visited Chiswick House on 13 July 2022, one of the hottest days of the year. Luckily, we spent some of the tour in the beautiful gardens, the birthplace of the English Landscape movement. We walked in the 18th century Italian Garden and saw the magnificent conservatory, home to the oldest collection of camellias in Britain.

The Roman-style Palladian Chiswick House villa is one of the most glorious examples of 18th century British architecture, designed by the 3rd Earl of Burlington with his friend, the architect and designer William Kent. The house and gardens have recently benefited from a major restoration project and the house contains a rich



collection of Old Master paintings and beautiful original furniture. However, the refurbishment was a long time coming. After Burlington's death, the house passed by marriage to the Dukes of Devonshire, who remodelled the house, and by the 1860s the house was let and its contents gradually moved to Chatsworth House, seat of the Devonshires. In 1892 the house became a mental health institution used by early pioneers of talking therapies. In the 20th century, the house and gardens were in decline

and in 1929 the reduced estate was sold to Middlesex County Council. In 1948, ownership of the house passed to the Ministry of Works, which embarked on a restoration campaign aimed at returning the villa to its original size and design and the gardens to their original layout. Eventually, funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, London Borough of Hounslow and English Heritage Trust enabled this wonderful transformation. If you haven't visited, you should!

Evening reception with Robert Harris

By *Peter Felix*

It was a pleasure to have Robert Harris, one of my favourite authors, discussing his work in our living room last December. As host I had asked him his name before realising who he was. But he wan't put out and as he talked to our attentive audience I came to like him even more.

This is a writer who is very aware of his own development process as an author and has built an approach to writing which not



only involves his personal discipline but an attention to historical detail that imbues authenticity. This has been particularly true of his political histories such as the Cicero Trilogy and Munich, his story of appeasement at the beginning of the Second World War.

I personally found him intellectually very authoritative and credible with a crowd pleasing ability to articulate and explain in a non arrogant way. Too often intellectuals forget how to explain to lesser mortals.

All in all a delightful evening which left me with a pile of surplus books, thrillers and spy novels as well as historical novels that I have since worked my way through. Thank you to the Pilgrims.

Memorial lecture for The Right Honourable The Lord Carrington, KG, GCMG, CH, MC, PC, DL by The Right Honourable The Lord Robertson of Port Ellen KT GCMG PC FRSA FRSE

By Dee Dee Simpson

Lord Robertson delivered the Carrington Memorial Lecture on 17 October. He paid tribute to Lord Carrington, “a truly great British figure and a man of enormous distinction, honour and achievement.” He referred to Carrington’s lifetime of public service, as a decorated warrior, a High Commissioner, Defence and Foreign Secretary, Party Chairman and Secretary General of NATO (and, of course, President of the Pilgrims Society).



Robertson used Carrington’s example to refer to events in Ukraine today. In his memoir, Carrington quoted Lord Palmerston: “Russian expansionism is like water running downhill. Checked it may find another way, but it can be checked...to check it requires adequate strength and evident will. NATO provides both, and continues to do so. It will be a long haul – the Russians think historically, and they take a long view.” Robertson said those were prescient words and the sentiment applies again today.

Robertson speaks from experience. As NATO Secretary General in 2002, Robertson chaired the Rome Summit, at

which President Putin shared the table with 19 NATO leaders. “I wasn’t the only one round that table in Rome who harboured the thought – maybe the hope, that we might just have found that other way to check Palmerston’s downhill water and that Russia under Putin might perhaps have the vision to be part of a new spirit of cooperative security. Indeed, I stood beside Putin that same afternoon at the Press Conference and heard him say these words: ‘Ukraine is a sovereign, independent nation state and it will choose its own path to peace and security.’”

But Putin started to develop the classic signature of authoritarian leaders. Professor Sir Lawrence

Freedman describes it in his new book ‘Command’, as the ‘familiar theme of autocratic decision making, of leaders supremely confident in their wisdom and insight, egged on by sycophantic courtiers’. They make decisions easier; Freedman says – but also much worse. As indeed the Ukraine adventure is proving.

Robertson wonders whether there was a considered decision by Putin to go to war with the West. Also debatable is whether Putin actually has a Grand Strategy for his actions or rather a series of tactical manoeuvres designed mainly to disrupt and gain attention and ‘respect’. But he believes Putin was quick to capitalise on failures of Western

> *Cont. from page 6*

will: to enforce the red lines in Syria over the use of chemical weapons and the chaotic withdrawal of allied forces from Afghanistan last year. “For Putin, who I saw at close hand several times, there is a burning ambition to recreate the respect for Russia he believed was given to the second super-power, the Soviet Union. The emotional side of his character I saw occasionally across that long white table has now stewed into a messianic demand for equality with the US and the assimilation of Ukraine to be no more than a province of his ‘Greater Russia.’”

Robertson said the war Putin is waging is new – hybrid, multifaceted, under-the-radar, insidious. “...every day he systematically penetrates the cracks and fissures in our democratic life. In disinformation, election meddling, corruption, organised crime, extra territorial assassination, supply chain disruption and cyber interference,

he inserts his poison. Some of it is overt – but much of it is more subtle...Parliament’s Intelligence and Security Committee’s Report of 2020 was explicit. “The UK welcomed Russian money, and few questions – if any – were asked about the provenance of this considerable wealth.”

Robertson summed up by asking what we need to do about this assault on our liberal democratic west and in particular the heroic battle for survival of the Ukrainian people? He said that first we need to recognise that either Putin is defeated, or we are. If Putin wins in Ukraine, he will not stop there. Hence, we must accelerate supplies of weapons and ammunition to the front line. President Putin must realise the miscalculation he has made and he needs to know that Ukraine will get the help it needs for as long as it needs it. Second, we must stand up to the dangerously loose talk from the Kremlin on using nuclear weapons. Russia is not being



attacked; we are only helping Ukraine. There is no required defence of the ‘motherland’. Third, we have to permanently wean ourselves off Russian gas – and as is less well known, Russian wheat. Fourth, we need to remind the countries of the Global South that the changing of borders by force is not a European regional dispute issue but rather a fundamental issue of significance to many in South America, Africa and in South East Asia. Fifth, we need to step up the messages to the Russian people that this war is Putin’s and that we have no argument with them.

Saatchi Gallery visit

By Dee Dee Simpson

The Pilgrims visited the Saatchi Gallery in March 2022 to view its “America in Crisis” photo exhibition, which featured 40 leading American photographers and over 120 works exploring social change in the US from the 1960s to today. America in

Crisis was a ground-breaking group initiative originally conceived by Magnum Photos in 1969 to assess the state of the nation. The group turned a critical eye on the US at a time of great social, political and cultural change and examined key events in 1968

leading up to Nixon’s inauguration. The 2022 Saatchi exhibition created a dialogue between the original historical photographs and new works produced five decades later by diverse contemporary practitioners, highlighting themes present during both eras.



Visit to see Winslow Homer at the National Gallery

By Sir Nicholas Hilliard

In the late afternoon of 5th January 2023, a group of Pilgrims and their guests overcame rail strikes and met at the National Gallery to see the exhibition “Winslow Homer: Force of Nature.” We were extremely fortunate to be accompanied on our tour by Chris Riopelle, who had curated the exhibition. Chris is the Neil Westreich Curator of Post 1800 Paintings, a title which does not begin to convey the easy and engaging way in which he shared his considerable scholarship with us. He did not just provide an introduction and leave us to it, but very generously accompanied us from start to finish.

Homer was born in Boston in 1836. He had very little in the way of formal training as an artist. He lived through the American Civil War and the abolition of slavery,

which provided the subject matter for a number of remarkable paintings. He travelled to England in 1881 and stayed in Cullercoats, a town on the North East coast, where his work reflected his preoccupation with scenes of heroism and resilience and the relationship between humankind and the environment. In 1883, he made his home in Maine. Until his death in 1910, the coast and the sea continued to provide the inspiration for some memorable work.

A further treat was in store for us as Peter Cadbury kindly hosted us afterwards for drinks at the Beefsteak Club in Irving Street. It was a great opportunity to get to know each other in splendid surroundings. All our thanks are due to Chris, Peter and Amy Thompson for a very special and hugely enjoyable occasion.

Viscountess Julie Hinchinbrooke

By Peter Cadbury

Julie Montagu is a new member of the Pilgrims and an American from Illinois, who married into the British Aristocracy when she became Viscountess Hinchinbrooke and chatelaine of their beautiful home at Mapperton.



In an on-line talk, she spoke of her personal knowledge and unique perspective on America’s love and fascination for the British Aristocracy.

Her talk included examples ranging from the love match between Mary Goelet and the Duke of Roxburghe at Floors Castle, many less successful marriages between impoverished Aristocrats and American heiresses, right up to her own modern day experience, where her enthusiasm and energy clearly contribute greatly.

She has a great gift for combining erudition with entertainment which her talk demonstrated excellently.

My only regret is that this talk was on zoom and we must make sure we ask Julie back to talk to us again, next time, in person.



Lunch with Jon Sopel at the Savile Club

By Mark Fox

In July 2022 we were very pleased to welcome veteran broadcaster and journalist Jon Sopel to speak to us on the theme of 'The Era of Biden, The shadow of Trump'.

Jon is a seasoned and experienced commentator and observer who spent a considerable period of time as the BBC's North America Editor covering, among many things, the White House during the Presidency of Donald Trump - that most extraordinary and unprecedented of Presidencies. Indeed on at least one famous occasion Jon became the focus of the President's ire at a White House press conference (*You can find the link here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ivqo5WfRCj0>*). In his resilient yet persistent handling of

President Trump he showed just how important it is that journalists should not be intimidated by a powerful politician.

Jon's talk was full of fascinating reflections, reminiscences and observations. The contrast between Joe Biden and Donald Trump as people as well as Presidents could not be starker. Given the nature of his insurgent and brutal victory over Hilary Clinton it is perhaps all the more remarkable that Donald Trump was beaten so comprehensively by Joe Biden just four years later. With a President who refuses to accept defeat and the legitimacy of an election which he lost perhaps it also demonstrates the usefulness of term limits?

It was an excellent talk and we all much enjoyed it.

IN MEMORIAM

Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce KG GCB OBE DL

Alan M Rind Esq CVO

Field Marshal Sir John Chapple GCB CBE DL

Field Marshal The Right Hon The Lord Inge KG GCB DL

General The Lord Ramsbotham GCB CBE

Lady Layfield

Mr Christopher Robson

Mr Clive Bowring

Mr David Moller

Mr Denis G Brown

Mr Humphrey Wood

Mr Michael A Bardsley

Mr Michael N M Boyd CBE

Mr Robert M Conway

Mr William H Yates MBE

Mr William Say

Mrs Dena Lee Crooke

Mrs Elizabeth Scott

Foundling Museum visit



By Dee Dee Simpson

Pilgrims were delighted to visit the Foundling Museum in February 2022 to learn about the eighteenth-century foundling and sailor George King, whose first-hand account detailed his journey from being press-ganged into the Navy and surviving the Battle of Trafalgar to his death at the Royal Naval Hospital. The Foundling Museum was established in 1739 by Thomas Coram to help abandoned children, and original fundraising was helped by the artist William Hogarth and composer George Frideric Handel.

George King (10 June 1787– 31 July 1857) was child number 18,053 at the Foundling Hospital, where he was taught to read and write – a rare skill for working-class people in the eighteenth century. Originally apprenticed to a confectioner in London, George ran away and was press-ganged into the Navy in 1804, with his journeys taking him across the Mediterranean to the Caribbean, Brazil and Argentina. His memoir provides both a humorous and harrowing account of life below deck, on shore, and in the thick of battle, including his account of the Battle of

Trafalgar, where he fought aboard HMS Polyphemus, which took 200 French prisoners and then towed HMS Victory, bearing Nelson's body, back to Gibraltar. After 24 years in the Navy and with his health starting to decline, George travelled to Charleston in recently-independent America, where he worked as a teacher before returning to England on a ship laden with cotton. In England, having tried dock work, haymaking, hop-picking and being a policeman, King fell on hard times, but was lucky enough to gain a place at the Royal Naval Hospital in Greenwich, where he died on 31 July 1857.

To bring George's story to life, the Foundling Museum featured the original manuscript of King's autobiography, a rare fragment of the flag from Nelson's coffin, letters between the Hospital's matron and Lady Emma Hamilton – annotated by Nelson himself – and two rare Naval General Service Medals, of which only 221 were awarded retrospectively when the medal was first issued in 1849. The medals belonged to George King and the foundling William South, who served aboard HMS Victory.

Forthcoming events

Event: Dinner “*Looking at the past to look to the future*” by Charles Moore, Baron Moore of Etchingham

Date: Tuesday 26th September 2023

Time: 6.00 for 6.30pm

Cost: £72

Location: The Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London, W1J 7PX

Event: “*The Strange Survival of Liberal Britain and the Origins of the Special Relationship*” by Professor Vernon Bogdanor who will talk to us about his latest book

Date: Wednesday 4th October 2023

Time: 6.30–8.00pm

Cost: £40.00 including drinks and canapés.

Location: The Library, The Rag - Army & Navy Club, 36 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JN

Event: The Pilgrims of Great Britain Annual Meeting, Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture by Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP and drinks reception

Date: Monday 16th October 2023

Time: 6.00 – 8.30pm

Cost: Free to members (£25 non-members)

Location: PwC, 1 Embankment Place, London, WC2N 6RH

Please also note that Baroness Kate Fall will talk to The Pilgrims at 6.30pm on the 8th November 2023 - location TBC.

Mansion House visit

By Dee Dee Simpson

In December Pilgrims visited Mansion House, home of the Lord Mayor of London and also home to The Harold Samuel Collection of Dutch and Flemish 17th century paintings, considered by some to be the best collection of Dutch art in Britain. Lord Harold Samuel of Wych Cross, a wealthy property developer and entrepreneur, left his collection to the City of London in 1987. The Merry Lute Player by Frans Hals is the best-known piece in the collection but there are many other fine paintings, sculpture, and a noted collection of gold and silver plate.

Mansion House has its own interesting history. Until the mid-18th century, Lord Mayors used their own houses or livery halls

for their work as head of the City's governmental, judicial and civic functions. The idea of creating a permanent residence came after the Great Fire of 1666. Almost a century later, the first stone was laid in 1739 and the house was completed in 1758. Palladian in style, Mansion House features a ballroom, private apartments of the Lord Mayor and family, and meeting rooms and staff rooms. The cellars have storage space and once held prisoners' cells, reflecting the former use of the Mansion House as the Lord Mayor's Court. The house also features the great Egyptian Hall on the first floor, the room where the Pilgrims welcomed incoming US Ambassador Jane Hartley for her maiden speech in September 2022.



N MEMORIAM (CONT.)

Mrs Sheila P Brittain

Professor Peter A D Giblin

Sir Derek Thomas KCMG

Sir Nicholas Bonsor Bt DL

***Sir Peter Marshall KCMG
CVO***

Sir Richard Giordano KBE

The Pilgrims is sad to report that Pilgrims' Newsletter Editor, Mr Christopher Robson of 23 years passed away in February 2023. We are so grateful for the dedication and support he has shown over the 34 years he was a member.

Should any member wish to get involved in the production of the Newsletter or write up a review of an event please do get in touch with Amy Thompson.

For six decades Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL, Pilgrims Chairman for eighteen years has been the face of British public opinion research: founder of MORI, advisor to Prime Ministers and the Royal Family, and a regular on election night specials. Now the very best of his writings have been gathered together for the first time by his son, Professor Kent Worcester. The collection ranges from practical guides on polling, the media and reputation to explorations of public attitudes towards the environment, science and trust in national institutions. All are written in the clear and accessible style that has led Sir Robert to be in such demand in the media. Sir Robert's own journey is every bit as fascinating as his insights on UK politics and society. He was born in Kansas City and served with the US military in Korea before settling in London. Since then, he has served in a host of public and charitable roles, from Trustee of the WWF to deputy Lord Lieutenant of Kent, and led the world-wide celebrations of the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta.



Benjamin Franklin and the Craven Street Bones

By Amy Thompson



In March 2023 Dr Paul Knapman (Coroner of Westminster for 31 years) and Dr Márcia Balisciano (Director of Benjamin Franklin House) shared

their fascinating story of the Craven Street bones, which were discovered in the basement of Benjamin Franklin House in 1998. The discovery of the bones was reported to Dr Knapman, as coroner, as a potential mass murder but the bones were actually from an anatomy school of a good friend of Benjamin Franklin at the time he was living there. Dr Knapman talked about the discovery of the bones and all the fascinating medical dimensions and Dr Balisciano talked about Benjamin

The Pilgrims

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Mrs Amy Thompson

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Feedback

In an effort to improve future events we kindly invite you to send any feedback to the Executive Secretary.

Save mailing costs and the environment



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Franklin and his role in the story. Attendees also toured Benjamin Franklin House, just a few minutes' walk from The Farmers Club, where guests met for a light sandwich lunch.

MEMOS:

All members are encouraged to register personal details about themselves, for the information of other members only, in the Members' Area of the Society's website

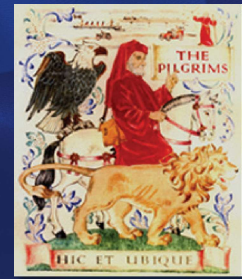
http://www.pilgrimsociety.org/members/index_please_login.php

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The Pilgrims

Newsletter

A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain



VOL 28, NO 2
SPRING 2022

Mr Justin Webb,

4th February 2021

By Sir Peter Bottomley, MP

Antony Blinken, 71st United States Secretary of State, spoke clearly on the BBC Radio Four TODAY programme on Thursday May 6, 2021. This was three months after his interviewer Justin Webb gave his own talk on 'The US: What next?!

Each of them was a leading student journalist, able to explain complications in ways that allowed listeners to use their own judgment. Justin put questions to Antony Blinken that gave the audience information and indications of future developments.

The best broadcasters draw people forward, helping us to hear varied views, to understand different experiences and to expect unity to come as much from action as from compromise.

In the February discussion, we heard how John McCain had defended Barack Obama from prejudice, while indicating that the Republicans were moving away from conventional assumptions and away from the expectation that Jeb Bush could be confident

that his party's nomination one day would be his. Donald Trump may have taken the party further; he did not start the movement.

Democrats won the White House, just held on to the House of Representatives and ended Republican control of the Senate by taking the Georgia special elections. Pilgrims were reminded the Congressional election cycle never stops: fund-raising, primaries, campaigning.

Answering questions, Justin said that rifts amongst Democrats become subdued by political responsibilities. The differences can be acute. Before nomination as potential, now the actual Vice President, Kamala Harris had been explicit about her views on fellow presidential candidates.

We heard about how the Senate process can appear to diminish influence by the great cities. Modern technology and the uses of internet allow a greater future to towns and to smaller cities, rebalancing the United States.

If the outgoing administration had spent fortunes on America's problems, the Republicans might have gained even wider support. A question now is whether the Biden administration can change the lives

and the opportunities of numbers of those who voted for Donald Trump and the Republican party he has changed. That might reduce the possible loss of Democratic control of the House, a possible future cut in the President's domestic power.

Dealing with the range of acute questions, Justin made plain his continuing love of America. It is the main target for ambitious migrants. Its mixed heritage population has parents and grandparents wanting to strive for better lives by creating opportunities and by taking them, rather than depending on actions by government.

There is significant movement within the United States from places of highest tax and restrictions. There are dangers of separation: one tendency is for people to live with those who think alike and who appear to be separate from others with different experiences of life.

Perspective shines through when Justin speaks, whether putting tough questions directly to the US Secretary of State or answering equally rigorous ones >

> **Cont. from page 1**

from Pilgrims. He recalled the 1960s, marked by assassinations, misleading statements on the Vietnam War and exaggeration of the then strength of the Soviet Union.

A test for a speaker is how they cope with distractions. Justin Webb's dog joined the talk, circled his study twice before reclining out-of-sight behind him. Do not think the only invasions are in the studio. We hope to hear again from Justin Webb in future.

Sir John Holmes GCVO KBE CMG,

22nd April 2021

By Mr Ronald Freeman

Our fellow Pilgrim, Sir John Holmes, as just-retired chair of the Electoral Commission, recently shared with us an authoritative and searching review of the many issues surrounding the important subject of how we conduct our elections. In a lucid and wide-ranging talk, John specifically focused on how voting is currently organised in the U.K., i.e., our comfortably familiar, low-tech system of marking paper ballots with stubby pencils in churches, schools, and town halls. John then reviewed some of the issues that the internet, social media and digitalisation raise with respect to voter registration, election financing, political advertising, vote counting, and the attendant risks of foreign interference, computer hacking and fake news, all of which may be increased through today's convenient but complex and opaque communication technologies.

A well-furnished Q+A session followed, touching on proportional representation vs first past the post, diversity in electoral and voting procedures among the devolved nations of the U.K., differences between the U.K. and U.S. electoral practices (with a preference for the former) and the organisation of U.K. electoral boundaries. At a time when NGOs are reporting yearly decline in the number of countries that can be objectively classified as democracies, John Holmes' deep knowledge of this subject vital to the health of a nation's democracy, was most welcome. As Dee Dee mentioned in her closing comments, John's excellent presentation exemplified one of the many privileges of Pilgrims membership: expertise on subjects of importance available to us all, "in house".

Dear Member:

I am writing to let you know that our subscription fee will increase from £70 to £85 on 1 May. It has been two years since our last increase. During that time, we have offered a stimulating series of virtual events at no extra cost to you. We preferred to absorb the cost of the Zoom platform and Amy's time (which always appears so effortless that we forget how hard she works!) so that everyone could benefit equally. In October 2021 we also decided we would no longer charge for the Members' reception after the Annual Meeting, a policy we intend to continue. I hope you will agree that the membership fee is a bargain.

That said, the pandemic and the war in Ukraine mean that inflation is the highest it's been for 30 years and we can't predict what the future holds. The Executive Committee has therefore decided to increase fees by £15 rather than the usual £10 so that we can continue to give you a range of speakers and events throughout the year, both in person and virtually.

As always, Sir Peter Bottomley has a great schedule of events in store, from a photographic exhibition at the Saatchi gallery to a reception with Russian specialist Fiona Hill to dinner with Alison Rose, CEO of NatWest Group. Much more is to come, including a welcome dinner for the incoming American Ambassador. I hope to see you at one of these soon.

Best wishes,

Dee Dee Simpson, Chairman

Sir Bob Reid,

29th April 2021

By Mrs Dee Dee Simpson

Sir Bob Reid, former Chairman of Shell and British Rail, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Scotland, and much more spoke to the Pilgrims on 29 April 2021 about his memoir No Condition is Permanent. Sir Bob spoke about the many challenges he'd faced and how they formed his character. He began the story with the loss of his arm to a mincer aged nine. Recovering in the infirmary, he had to learn to eat a hard-boiled egg with one hand, then got locked in the lavatory and had to clamber out through a window. "This was the start of a series of challenges, and had to be met and solved personally if I was to run my own life and not have it run for me."

The second lesson was the importance of education and confidence "the magical experience of being educated not taught". Sir Bob credits leadership in student activities and getting a blue in golf as two important influences. He also recounted his first job interview, with Shell. He spent the previous night at his parents' 25th wedding celebrations and had only a few hours' sleep before driving back to St Andrews

in a cold car. He thawed out next to a roaring fire but fell asleep when the interviewer took a phone call. He was then shaken awake and the interview really got going. He got the job because the interviewer was impressed by how relaxed Bob was.

The next lessons were dealing with the polyglot workforce operating in the oilfields of Brunei, as well as dealing with the government at a surprisingly high level, then serving in newly-independent Nigeria, as well as Kenya, Thailand, Australia, where he learned about the importance of listening and getting information about local politics. He went on to run British Rail, where he instituted quality and safety initiatives and, when he felt he couldn't make any more progress, he went to London Electricity.

Sir Bob paid homage to the great support of his late wife, Jo. He then left us with this maxim: "you always need a friend in whatever you are doing, whether it be in the deepest counsel or the simplest task."

NEW MEMBERS JULY, SEPTEMBER 2021 AND JANUARY 2022

Professor Tony Badger

Ms Anita Bernie

**General Sir Adrian Bradshaw
KCB OBE DL**

Sir George Buckley

Mrs Suniti Chauhan

Mr Nic Cooper

**Major General Tom
Copinger-Symes**

**Prof Richard Keith Ellis FRS,
F. Inst. Phys**

Mr John Leopoldo Fiorilla

Mrs Yvonne Harrop

Dr Randall Heather

**Air Chief Marshal Sir
Stephen John Hillier, GCB,
CBE, DFC, ADC**

Mr Andrew Homewood

Mr Charles Hall Janeway

**Ambassador (Ret.) Lewis
Lukens**

Mrs Victoria Mackintosh

**Mr Thomas Shahani-
Tuckwell**

Mr John Simpson CBE

Mrs Zoe Vickerman

**Commodore (Ret.) Philip
Warwick**

Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP

Professor Tony Badger: 'The Gores and the Kennedys',

13th May 2021

By David Hacking

Our speaker started his account by taking us to a dinner party in Washington DC in 1951 hosted by the newsman Charles Bartlett and his wife. The principal guests were Albert Gore Snr, the Congressman since 1938 from Tennessee and Jack Kennedy, the Congressman from Massachusetts since 1946. It was a particularly memorable dinner party for Jack Kennedy who met there Jacqueline Bouvier later to become his famous wife. The principal guests were strikingly different. Like his host Jack Kennedy was born into the Ivy League and, through his family, rich. Albert Gore from Tennessee was not in high society nor was he, in contrast with the other principal guest, wealthy. Kennedy was a Roman Catholic and Gore a Baptist. Kennedy was a social being, often going out to dinner rather than staying late in the House of Representatives while Gore preferred staying at work and was part of a 'policy reading' group in Congress. Yet as the years went by Albert Gore Snr came to work closely with Jack Kennedy and supported him when he bid in 1960 for the Presidency of the USA. Similarly, Ted Kennedy was later to work closely with son Al Gore Jnr going so far as to support Al Gore in 2000 when he bid for the Presidency. Thus, our speaker

took us intriguingly through the relationship between the Gores and the Kennedys for 50 years in American politics.

Notwithstanding their personal and social differences both Albert Gore Snr and Jack Kennedy were liberal internationalists and fellow campaigners in the field of civil rights. They were both curiously at odds with Lyndon Johnson although Johnson was later to become Vice President to Kennedy. Johnson's venom particularly focused on his fellow southerner Albert Gore whom he dubbed as a 'Baptist bishop' commenting that, through Gore, he had got to know the difference between a cactus plant and the caucus surrounding Gore. One had the spikes on the outside and the other had the spikes on the inside! After Jack Kennedy's death Albert Gore Snr got closer to brother Robert Kennedy establishing an agreement, which he had not had with Jack Kennedy, on Vietnam and the need to withdraw from this war. Following in the steps of their predecessors Al Gore Jnr and Ted Kennedy worked together on a large number of social issues and particularly on health issues and, as stated, Ted Kennedy supported Al Gore in the latter's bid for the Presidency in the year 2000.

Before the talk was over a number of questions were raised relating

Forthcoming events

Tuesday 19th April 2022

Event: *Dr Fiona Hill talks about her latest book "There is nothing for you here"*

Time: 6.30 - 8.00pm

Price: £20.00 (including drinks reception)

Location: Lancaster Gate, London

Dress Code: Lounge Suits

Wednesday 4th May 2022

Topic: *Dinner with Alison Rose, Chief Executive of NatWest Group plc*

Time: 6.30 for 7.15pm

Price: £90.00 - including drinks reception and dinner

Location: Army and Navy Club, 36 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JN

Dress Code: Lounge Suits

13th July 2022

Please also note that we have rescheduled the Chiswick House & Gardens day trip (from July 2020) to Wednesday 13th July 2022.

This will be a full day, including lunch, with transport from central London. 10.00am collection and drop off by 5.00pm.

If you are interested please let Amy Thompson know. Cost to be advised in due course.

to such topics as why the southern liberals failed in the USA and inevitably on Donald Trump whom our speaker likened to Senator Joe McCarthy of the 1950s! Our speaker took us through a fascinating range of issues and with his encyclopaedic knowledge of American history and his assiduous researches, it is to be hoped that there will be another occasion when he can address a Pilgrims meeting.

Mr Adam Boulton, 16th June 2021

By Mr Mark Fox

Fellow Pilgrim, journalist and senior national broadcaster Adam Boulton spoke to us about the state and condition of the 'Special Relationship.' Adam has covered many Presidential Elections and other US events of significance during his long and distinguished journalistic career and he brought to his talk the insight and knowledge that only long experience on the ground can bring. Adam reviewed the history of the relationship between the

United Kingdom and the United States, before giving an analysis of more recent events. He touched in particular on the Presidencies of both George Bushes, Ronald Reagan, Barak Obama and Donald Trump, and the Premierships of Margaret Thatcher, John Major, Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, David Cameron, Theresa May and Boris Johnson. So much of the headline relationship between the two countries relies on the personal chemistry, or otherwise, of their

leaders at any given time. There is, of course, more to the sustained and enduring national partnership than whoever occupies No 10 and the White House at any given point and Adam reflected that whilst highs and lows may be experienced a range of common interests often underpins the relationship at a number of different levels. The talk was warmly received and much appreciated.

Lieutenant General Mark Carleton-Smith CBE,

30th June 2021

By Mr Mark Fox

Mark Carleton-Smith - Pilgrim, General and Chief of the General Staff - kindly took the time to speak to us. As the serving head of the Army, it was especially generous of Mark, and it was much appreciated by all. Mark gave us a superb overview about what is going on in the Army and the activity of the wider armed forces. He shared much insight and commentary on how the UK and the US work closely together in a range of areas, and put this into the context of his own career. Mark also spoke

to what future challenges and opportunities might look like. Some of his comments look especially prescient in the light of more recent international activity. Mark's career, including a stint with the SAS, has involved him in a full range of recent front-line activity and he brought to bear that first-hand experience to provide us with an immensely lively and engaging presentation which was followed by a huge range of questions from members, amplifying the engagement he had generated throughout the session.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr James Aarvold
Air Marshal Sir Erik Bennett
KBE CB
Mr Michael Brown
Mr Jeremy J C Edwards
Sir Ronald Halstead CBE
Miss Sylvia D Huggins
Mr W N M Lawrence
Mr Robert S Leaf
Michael R N Moore Esq CBE
Mr Willie Nagel CMG
Mr H Morton Neal CBE
Sir John Perring Bt
Mr Barry St G A Reed Esq
CBE MC DL
Mr Henry W Safran
Mr James Sherwood
Sir Crispin Tickell GCMG
KCVO
Mr G H C Wakefield
Mr David Weeks

Mr Andrew Roberts, 6th October 2021

By Mr Christopher Robson

Andrew Roberts calls British and American Historians to full account for their totally distorted and unfair portrayal of King George III.

In his brilliant new biography of George III Andrew Roberts, offers a picture that is completely at odds with the verdict given by the overwhelming number of British and American historians.

Professor Roberts was speaking at a Pilgrims dinner held at the Army and Navy Club on Wednesday, October 6th - our first event held since the Covid clampdown from March 2020.

These historians have much to answer for their totally distorted portrayal of Farmer George, as has the brilliant stage musical Hamilton with its interpretation of George III as a pompous, camp and sinister figure. Andrew Roberts offers us a monarch who is intelligent, benevolent and totally devoted to the constitution of this country. Rare amongst monarchs of his time King George was a devoted husband and family man - unlike his son and heir George IV who achieved new excesses as Prince Regent in the last ten years of George III's reign (1810-1820).

In his book Andrew Roberts shows us a King who was a great patron of the arts and sciences with a global view of the world and Britain's place

in it. Roberts offers a revisionist account of the American War of Independence and explains how vital was King George's support for William Pitt the Younger in the struggle against Napoleon. Andrew Roberts is at his most perceptive for his analysis of George's terrible illness which robbed him of his mind in the last ten years of his life.

At question-time Professor Roberts dealt skilfully with such matters as the true story behind the Boston Tea Party, the portrayal of George III in the musical Hamilton and the relationship between the American War of Independence and the French Revolution. In his very warm and laudatory vote of thanks Sir Peter Bottomley, Chairman of the Programme Committee, thanked Andrew Roberts for his brilliant analysis and understanding of this much maligned Monarch.

Professor Michael Cullinane,

15th December 2021

By Paul Dimond

The Pilgrims enjoyed a rich hour when our Member Professor Emerita Kathleen Burke engaged in dialogue with Michael Cullinane, Professor of US History at the University of Roehampton, about the forthcoming book 'The Palgrave Handbook of Presidents and Prime Ministers from Cleveland and Salisbury to Trump and Johnson' that he has co-edited with Martin Farr, who is Senior Lecturer in Contemporary British History at Newcastle. The online session

was moderated by our Chairman Dee Dee Simpson. Whether with background as practitioners in the bilateral relationship or as interested observers, Pilgrims who attended the event were treated to a vivid analysis and dialogue on the contours and dynamics of the relationship through the prism of the personal interaction of the Presidents and Prime Ministers. It was noted that visits could highlight fault lines as well as strengthening bonds and that domestic policy played a key part in relationships. Professor Cullinane also recalled the exchange of gifts, which had

not always been balanced. Following other recent books about the Presidents and the Prime Ministers, this new work of which he gave us a tempting preview promises to be essential reading for many Pilgrims. Professor Cullinane taught diplomatic and US history at Cork, Leicester and Northampton before joining Roehampton in 2017. His special interests include Anglo-American relations, transatlantic studies and public memory and art. His other recent book is 'Theodore Roosevelt's Ghost: The History and Memory of an Icon'.

'The Presidents and Prime Ministers' will be published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Mr Michael Dobbs, 5th November 2021

By Mrs Dee Dee Simpson

Former foreign correspondent and best-selling author Michael Dobbs spoke to the Pilgrims by Zoom on 4 November about his book *King Richard: Nixon and Watergate - An American Tragedy*. He began by addressing two frequent questions: why did he write the book and what is new? Dobbs said that he isn't so much a Presidential historian as a Presidential crisis historian. "What interests me is what Watergate tells us about a President, a leader facing pretty much an existential crisis, the personal drama he is going through." As for what is new, as we approach the 50th anniversary of Watergate, thanks to the rerelease of some tapes, including some formerly redacted material, it is now possible to tell this story not from the outside, but from the inside, as it was being experienced day in day out, hour in hour out, sometimes minute to minute, by the person who was at the centre of it, Richard Nixon himself.

Nixon wasn't the first President to tape himself, taping in the White House goes back to Franklin Roosevelt. But Nixon taped himself in a way no previous President had. Nixon thought he needed a record that he could draw on for his memoirs, but Nixon wasn't good with technology. So his assistants came up with what they thought



was a great solution: to install machines that turned themselves on automatically whenever Nixon walked into a room or picked up a telephone. As a result, we have completely unfiltered conversations in which even the President has forgotten that he is taping himself. There were 800 hours of LBJ conversations; in Nixon's case there are 3,700 hours, all recorded in the space of two years between February 1971 and July 1973. And Nixon's tapes are not the only source because after a certain point everybody in the White House became so paranoid that they began taping each other, then there were multiple investigations, there were the Congressional investigations, FBI investigations, and everybody wrote memoirs.

Dobbs's focus is not all of Watergate, not all of Nixon's career, but one particular slice of it. He begins the story on the eve of Nixon's second inaugural, January 1973, when he has been re-elected by one of the largest popular vote

margins in American history. And he has largely put Watergate behind him, he is on the cusp of negotiating a peace agreement with North Vietnam, he has had significant foreign policy achievements in his first term. "So this is Nixon at the peak of his power, the peak of his hubris and within 100 days, 3 months, the conspiracy has unraveled."

Dobbs's title refers to Shakespearean or Greek tragedy, when a ruler falls from a great height. "I am thinking in particular of something that Nixon said on the day he resigned the presidency, when he gave a talk to his aides in the White House, he said 'Others may hate you, but they don't win unless you hate them and then you destroy yourself' and I think that is what happened to Nixon." Dobbs concluded that readers can make up their own minds. I, for one, found the book and the session with the author a fascinating review of this moment in history.

David Owen, CH, PC, FRCP,

11th October 2021

By Mr Christopher Robson

David Owen talks with masterly authority on a whole range of subjects: Afghanistan, NATO, US/American relations, Russia and China.

On Monday, 11th October, after the Pilgrims Annual Meeting held at PwC's Embankment Place, David Owen was the guest speaker ostensibly about his new book "Riddle, Mystery and Enigma: Two hundred years of British-Russian Relations". In fact, he dealt with a much larger agenda and showed his mastery of world affairs. David Owen shares with Anthony Eden the distinction of being the youngest Foreign Secretary at the age of 38 (Eden in 1935 and himself in 1977). On Afghanistan there was much to be learned - especially dealings with the Taliban. Our relationship with the USA remained crucial. He regarded NATO as a very important alliance which could be even more effective if the member nations were prepared to spend enough money.

On the question of Anglo-Russian relations over the past two centuries, David Owen focussed on the Battle of Navarino in 1827 in which Britain and Russia fought together. He also referred to the Crimean War (1854-56) and the Second World War in which Russia played a major role in securing victory. Ranging over a wider area, he praised the AUKUS agreement which gave the Australians access to American and British nuclear technology. He also stressed the danger posed by China in the Indo-Pacific region.

At question time Lord Owen dealt with such topics as the importance of military and technical expertise, the situation in the Indo-Pacific region, soft power as opposed to hard power, the lessening of foreign aid and the problem of Ukraine handing over its nuclear weapons to Russia.

In his vote of thanks, Sir Peter Bottomley, Chairman of the Programme Committee, thanked

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Feedback

In an effort to improve future events we kindly invite you to send any feedback to the Executive Secretary.

The Pilgrims

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David Owen for his knowledge, experience and eloquence and the audience showed its full appreciation with the measure of its applause.

Thanks to Christopher Robson

We thank Christopher Robson who has retired as Newsletter Editor after 23 years and has tirelessly written up each event since. The Newsletter has been in circulation since 1994 and Christopher helped establish this.

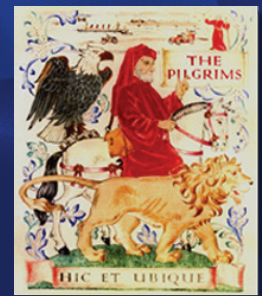
MEMOS:

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The Pilgrims Newsletter

A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain



VOL 28, NO 1
SPRING 2021

Message from Mrs Dee Dee Simpson, Chairman

Dear Members:

It's been quite a year! The last time we were able to meet in person was March 2020. Since then, we've held a series of virtual events - 22 to date. These have included UK Ambassador to the US Dame Karen Pierce, journalists, authors, and representatives of the military and government, summaries of which appear in this newsletter. The sessions have been well attended and, in fact, have attracted many members who aren't usually able to attend in person. In addition, we've been able to have speakers from outside the UK and we've held far more events than in a normal year. Best of all: these events have been free to the membership.

Looking forward, we do not yet know when we will be able to meet again in person. We will follow government guidance and are scheduling events in the autumn which can be held either in person or virtually, depending on the rules. We have scheduled the Annual Meeting in October with the former Pilgrims President Lord Boyce as featured speaker, and a session with author Andrew



Diane Simpson

Roberts on his new book. Amy will keep you informed about all developments.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Amy Thompson for arranging our events so flawlessly, Peter Bottomley for bringing together an outstanding programme, and all of you for your continued attendance, which makes for such interesting discussion. I hope to see you in person again soon and to catch up then.

Diane Simpson
Chairman

NEW MEMBERS NOVEMBER 2020 AND MARCH 2021

Mr Nick Alcock

***Mr Ash Alexander-Cooper
OBE***

***Air Vice-Marshal Lord
Maxwell Beaverbrook***

***Air Vice-Marshal Malcolm
Andrew Brian Brecht CB,
CBE***

Mr Peter Brown

Mrs Martha Lytton Cobbold

Ms Vanessa Colomar

Ms Miriam Eaves

Miss Amelia Fox

***Right Honourable Sir John
Bernard Goldring***

Mrs Fionuala Goritsas

***Viscountess Julie
Hinchingbrooke***

***The Lord Hodgson of Astley
Abbotts CBE***

Mr Stewart Holness

Ms Katherine Ireland

***Major General Gwyn Jenkins
OBE***

***Admiral Sir Philip Jones
GCB, DL***

Mr Guy de Jonquières

Mrs Lynn Lander

***Air Vice-Marshal
Christopher James Luck CB,
MBE***

Mr George Magnus

Mr George Marcotte

Sir Mark Lyall Grant GCMG,

Thursday 17th September 2020

By **Mr Abdul Bhanji**

Sir Mark has had an excellent career culminating in being the Permanent UK Representative at the United Nations and after that the National Security Adviser with David Cameron and Theresa May.

His topic covered many issues including US China relations, the increasingly powerful role of China in world affairs and the need for it to be held accountable. He also talked about the US UK Special Relationship and that regardless of the outcome of the Presidential election in November 2020 the Special Relationship would continue to thrive as before. He mentioned that COVID-19 is a 21st Century friendly disease that does not look kindly to a 20th century economy. He also touched on UK EU relations and the impact that Angela Merkel ending her

Chancellorship in Germany would have.

Sir Mark continued to talk about Britain's leading role as a Soft Power and the fact that Britain has the G7 leadership in 2021 which will give the opportunity to influence some of the global action plans that we need to implement. He pointed out that the G20 and United Nations haven't really played a big part in resolving the issues in the last 6 months and therefore Britain has a leading role to play in creating some sort of an integrated international response to the pandemic.

He concluded by saying that the big test will be how quickly the world economies recover and predicted that the US and other Western economies would find it easier because of their reliance on a service-based economy (21st century friendly).

NEW MEMBERS NOVEMBER 2020 AND MARCH 2021 (CONT).

Mr Ward McKimm

**Ms Caroline Mariah
McWilliams**

Mr James North

**Ms Catherine de Veaux
Rainey**

**Mr Peter William David
Ruddock CB, CBE, FRAeS**

Mrs Elizabeth Scott

**Lord Sedwill KCMG, FRGS,
FIoD, NATO, MSM, US DCSM,
UK CSM**

**Mr Michael Shipster CMG,
OBE**

Ms Renee Singh

**Air Vice-Marshal Harvey
Smyth CB, OBE, DFC**

Mr Dan Snow, MBE

Mr Andrew Philip Start

Mr Charles Stevenson

Mr Shamil Thakrar

Canon Robin Ward

Mrs Elizabeth Watkins DL

Mr Justin Webb

Professor Vernon Bogdanor,

Thursday 12th November 2021

By **Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL**

Iam pleased to say that I have known well and admired greatly Professor Vernon Bogdanor CBE for many years. He is currently a British Research Professor at the Institute for

Contemporary British History at King's College London and Professor of Politics at the New College of the Humanities. He is also Emeritus Professor of Politics and Government at the University of Oxford and Emeritus Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford. Many

of his articles can be found on YouTube.

He began his lecture expressing his concern and regret that the days of the great interpreters of the US - Tocqueville, Bryce, Brogan and Beloff have gone and that

Cont. from page 2.

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Britain seems to no longer have a deep understanding of modern America, and urges Britain to invest many more resources and develop more institutions like the Pilgrims (and Ditchley and Fulbright I would add) to better understand how to understand and influence the US. The last thing we need, he believes, is a weak United States because if the US is weakened, so is the cause of liberal democracy.

Clearly, Europe even with Britain geographically present will no longer be a member of the European Union; what happens in Europe is of importance to America as essentially being a peace project. He calls for NATO to become a “Two-Pillar Alliance”, with a strengthened European “pillar”. However, given the historical reality going back to the League of Nations, this is unlikely. So too, the strengthening of the economies of the European countries, including Britain.

Professor Bogdanor pointed out that the European Parliament elections of May 2019 resulted in gains on the Continent for the so-called populist parties such as the Front National in France, the Alternative fur Deutschland, the League in Italy and the Sweden Democrats while Britain has no equivalent currently. These are in addition to the possibility of Brexit gravely weakening liberal Europe, shifting in the direction of the populists.

Mark Sedwill focuses on trends, shocks and choices facing global governance in the COVID-19 era

By Christopher Robson

On Monday, 5th October history was made at the Pilgrims with the first virtual Zoom Annual Meeting followed by the 27th Annual Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture. The guest speaker, introduced by Pilgrims President Lord Stirrup, was Lord Sedwill. Mark Sedwill has achieved an outstanding career as a diplomat and civil servant with a special gift for seeing to the heart of a problem. In his address he focussed on five principal topics - viz the environment, the technological revolution, demographics, the shift in the global economic centre of gravity to the Pacific and the rise in disaffection with Western societies.

Central to all these problems is the rise of China and its rivalry with the USA. Mark Sedwill saw this rivalry as essentially between authoritarian state capitalism and democratic or market capitalism. The threat posed by China cannot be underestimated. The Chinese regime is not remotely interested in democracy or in any form of glasnost or perestroika but in using the most advanced technology to impose an Orwellian control nightmare on its long-suffering people. However, he felt that there were key areas in which the free world should seek co-operation - viz climate change and biodiversity. Mark Sedwill took the opportunity to pay tribute to Sir Harry Brittain in his role (over a hundred years ago) as a champion of tariff and trade reform.

At question time, under the guidance of Pilgrims Chairman Diane Simpson, the areas of discussion took in China, India, the relationship with Europe and the USA, critical and national infrastructure, the positive and negative influence of the social media and the whole concept of national security. The vote of thanks was offered by Sir Bryan Nicholson (Executive Committee) who congratulated Mark Sedwill on his brilliant exposition of the issues and choices facing us.

He concluded by saying that the big test will be how quickly the world economies recover and predicted that US and other economies would find it easier because of their reliance on service-based economy (21st century friendly).

Dame Karen Pierce DCMG, British Ambassador to the United States, Friday 20th November 2020

By Sir Stephen Wright KCMG

Dame Karen Pierce took up her post as British Ambassador in Washington DC in March 2020, having transferred from New York where she had served as UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations since 2018. Dame Karen spoke to an audience of 150 Pilgrims for an hour via Zoom on 20 November 2020.

Dame Karen expressed optimism that, despite the uncertainty at that moment about the outcome of the US Presidential election, 2021 offered opportunities for recovery after the pandemic and other challenges in 2020. Both the UN and President-elect Biden spoke of the hope to 'build back better' internationally saying that this would create opportunities for more open societies. There was a coming together on economic recovery and on climate change, and Britain would play a key role as chair of the G7 and host of COP26.

A Biden administration would bring back an engaged America and this would contribute to international stability. As one of the few partners of the US with global reach, Britain would make an important contribution on all issues of importance to the US such as defence, climate change, economic recovery and new technology.

Dame Karen offered fresh and stimulating insights on a wide range of questions from participants in the session, for example:

- What could be done to make the New York Times less critical of Britain? The Embassy were working on this and particularly wanted to improve access for US correspondents to British Ministers;
- Why did 71 million Americans vote for President Trump? Voters wanted a change from 'politics as usual' and living standards had been stagnant for many over the last 25 years or more; and there was concern about the economic policies of the Democratic Party;
- What should the 'special relationship' be in the years ahead? Dame Karen spoke of the strong engagement between British and American people in all areas of professional, business and scientific life, and the scope to develop shared long-term strategies towards technology and innovation in both civil and defence sectors; the closeness of working relations across so many areas made it easier to manage any disagreements between the two governments;
- Asked about the negotiations for a UK/US trade agreement, Dame Karen said that progress was good, especially on investment and digital trade issues and SMEs, but not yet on agriculture which would be difficult; there was no set timetable but Dame Karen was hopeful that an agreement could be reached before the summer of 2021;
- Would Russia and China exploit the current difficulties of American democracy? Dame Karen thought that initially they had seen advantage in this but what they valued above all was stability, and a Biden Administration would be more predictable even if it was also more challenging;
- Did Americans see Brexit as Britain retreating from the world stage? Britain was showing by its actions that Brexit did not mean retreat, but instead gave Britain more opportunity for independent action; the US valued international partners that were capable and dependable, and Britain had global reach that it was ready to use. Dame Karen concluded by saying what a great privilege it was for her to be in Washington, at the heart of Western democracy and with oversight of the great breadth of the UK-US relationship. And she looked forward to meeting the Pilgrims again in person very soon.

Thoughts on the US Presidential Election - Dr. Randall Heather, Thursday, December 3rd, 2020

By Mrs Melissa Crawshay-Williams

Randall Heather has been involved in British, American and Canadian politics for 40+ years. He has worked in the House of Commons and as Chief-of-Staff to an elected official in the US, and served in a range of analytical roles in the private sector. Dr Heather has a PhD in history from the University of Cambridge and has taught history and politics at several universities in the US.

We were delighted to hear Randall's analysis covering the recent US elections with insightful facts about Biden and US politics. What follows are some of the key points from his talk.

The pre-election polls gave Biden a 7.8% lead and predicted a Democratic Party "Blue Wave" would easily take the White House, the Senate and the House of Representatives. However, of the 12 final national polls, only one got the result right, a Biden victory of only 4%. So rather than a blue wave it was very close - out of over 154 million votes cast, if only 38,000 undecided voters in four key states had gone to Trump instead of Biden, Trump would have won.

Why did Trump lose? In the end it was not a presidential election as much as a referendum on Donald Trump. His defeat was the result of character issues - his attitude

towards truthfulness, questioning of science, his inability to accept responsibility, to admit mistakes, etc., so in that sense Biden was the perfect foil. The key demographic group that contributed to Trump's defeat were white males, his largest support base in 2016; Trump was down 8% amongst all white males compared to 2016, but especially college-educated (-11%) and those aged between 45-64 (-7%). In the last election many voters were willing to give Trump the benefit of the doubt but after four years many had seen enough. Despite Trump's relative success with minority voters, he was overwhelmed by the sheer increase in turnout, the largest in 120 years, which added over 25 million to the total vote.

The last act in the 2020 election cycle would be the US Senate special elections in Georgia (Jan. 5th) which would decide the crucial question of which party controls the Senate.

In terms of the new administration, it will be more like Clinton and Obama. In foreign policy, Biden's rather romanticised Irish American of Northern Ireland will complicate relations with the UK, especially in regard to Brexit and the Irish border. Biden is an internationalist, pro-NATO and other multi-lateral organisations. Europe is likely to be disappointed and may still be pressed for closer alignment with the US in difficult relations with China & Russia, and EU-US trade. Asia is clearly a greater priority for Biden

and he will not be as friendly to China as under the Obama administration.

Randall's thoughts ended on a note of warning that the 2024 election will be much more important and potentially destabilising as it will be the end of what he calls the "American gerontocracy." Since 1992 political power has been dominated by a small age cohort of politicians, most born between 1942 and 1948, including every presidential nominee since 1992, with the exception of Barack Obama. It continues with President-elect Joe Biden (aged 78), Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (80) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (78). This is totally out of sync with US history and has essentially skipped an entire generation. There is a desperate need for younger leadership with energy and new ideas.

In the 2024 election the Republicans will need to face the grim reality that over the past 32 years they have lost the popular vote in every presidential election, except 2004, and need to expand their base beyond white voters. The Democratic Party nomination process will be a fight for the soul of the party between the moderate and progressive wings of the Party. The 2024 presidential election will be the most important in a generation and chart the course for American politics for at least the next decade.

Peter Baker and Susan Glasser,

Thursday 10th December 2020

By Mrs Diane Simpson

On December 10 we had the pleasure of hearing from husband-and-wife team Peter Baker and Susan Glasser, who spoke about their new book *The Man Who Ran Washington: The Life and Times of James A. Baker III*. Peter Baker (no relation to James) is the chief White House correspondent for *The New York Times* and a political analyst for MSNBC. Susan Glasser is a staff writer for *The New Yorker*, founding editor of *Politico Magazine*, and a CNN global affairs analyst. *The Man Who Ran Washington* is considered the definitive biography of James Baker and has been named a best book of the year by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Fortune* and *Bloomberg*. If you haven't read the book yet, I highly recommend it.

Baker and Glasser appeared 'in conversation' with Pilgrims Executive Committee member Xenia Wickett. Xenia opened by quoting former chairman of the US Federal Reserve Alan Greenspan, who said that Baker is considered a virtuoso of how to get things done in Washington, DC. Xenia asked how Baker accomplished this and whether it could happen today.

Baker and Glasser first gave some background: James Baker started as a lawyer in Houston and eventually served as Under Secretary of Commerce, Secretary

of the Treasury, Secretary of State and White House Chief of Staff, and ran five Presidential campaigns, from Gerald Ford through George W. Bush. They said his background, from one of Houston's founding families and educated at Princeton but also encompassing service in the Marines and as a roustabout on an oil rig, meant that James Baker could relate to anyone, from talking duck hunting with Senator Helms to working with the patrician Senator Dodds.

James Baker also had an almost uncanny ability to play 'the billiards of politics', predicting how a policy would rebound and play out. In this way, over several decades he was able to claim major achievements in both the domestic and foreign policy fields, from Social Security reform to rewriting the tax code to German reunification.

In the author's opinion, these unique qualities as a dealmaker would be challenged today due to a couple of factors. First is fragmentation of the media, with its 24/7 feedback loop. In addition, politics has changed: there are the problems of gerrymandering, pandering to one's own party rather than winning new votes, and the fact that politics has become national rather than local. When asked

Forthcoming events

Wednesday June 16th 2021

Time: 5.00-6.00pm.

Virtual talk with Adam Boulton "Where is the Special Relationship now?"

Wednesday June 30th 2021

Time: 5.00-6.00pm.

Virtual talk with General Sir Mark Carleton-Smith KCB CBE ADC Gen

Wednesday October 6th 2021

Time: 5.00-6.00pm.

Talk with Andrew Roberts who will discuss his new book "George III: The Life and Reign of Britain's Most Misunderstood Monarch" (virtual or in-person TBC)

Monday 11th October 2021

Time: 6.00-7.30pm.

Annual Meeting followed by the 28th Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture "The Cinque Ports, Cradle of the Royal Navy" given by Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce KG GCB OBE DL (virtual or in-person TBC)

whether then-President-elect Biden, a former Senator who values compromise and deal-making, might be able to challenge the deadlock in Washington, the authors said the best chance would be a COVID relief bill. This has, of course, come to pass. Watch this space....

Mr Andy Haldane, Thursday January 7th 2021

By Mr Mark Seligman

We were very privileged to have Andy Haldane, Chief Economist of the Bank of England, talk to us on 7 January. His subject was “Reflections on the economy in the light of Covid”.

Andy gave us a spirited, unvarnished but ultimately optimistic view of the effects of Covid on the economies of both the UK and US. As regards 2020, which was described as a rollercoaster year, he drew no punches when describing the first half downturn as unprecedented, with a 25% peak to trough fall in UK economic output. Following a surprisingly strong Summer recovery led by the consumer, the fourth quarter brought falling activity as restrictions were tightened, with a likely significant full year drop in economic activity in both the UK and US.

A combination of extraordinary monetary and fiscal support, both equal to some 15% of UK Gross Domestic Product, kept UK unemployment from being in double digit percentages, ending the year at around 6% having been half that before the pandemic. Unlike the Global Financial Crisis of 2008-10, this time round the banks had been part of the solution, with high levels of lending and corporate support helping to reduce long term

economic scarring. The lowest levels of interest rates in history support the affordability of loans for households and businesses, as well as the government. Government debt levels now exceed 100% of Gross Domestic Product. Here, Andy noted that Government debt levels had on average been above this level for each of the last two centuries.

Turning to the outlook, Andy described the vaccine rollout as fantastically good news, with second quarter prospects looking brighter. The end of stop-go lockdowns should allow businesses to invest more and to plan with renewed certainty. The “real economy” has built up stockpiles of savings which could allow demand to rise significantly once lockdown is eased. In this regard, he thought there could be a relief recovery as social norms change in a “light switch” fashion, thus mirroring what happened at the end of the 1918-19 flu pandemic.

Longer term, he had the optimistic message that Covid can serve as a catalyst for improvement. Some continuing home working will be good for happiness and wellbeing. Productivity can benefit from less commuting, the least productive working hours ever invented. Digital priorities for business

have now become necessities; jobs and activities can be spread more evenly around the country as these new ways of working evolve. Populism, driven by the feeling that people in Northern England or Middle America have been left behind, can be tackled. And supply chains can be redeveloped more durably whilst the green agenda, for which Covid has served as a down payment, is advanced.

All of this can be buttressed this year by the UK’s G7 Presidency and hosting of COP26. Continuing US / UK trade talks provide further grounds for optimism.

With some minutes to spare, there was a lively question and answer session hosted by our Chairman, Dee Dee Simpson. From this we learned that the Bank of England is in no rush to withdraw monetary support, and that markets remain open to fund Government deficits. Negative interest rates are in the economic tool box to bolster activity if appropriate, but are balanced by ever present vigilance against a resurgence of inflation.

Dee Dee Simpson concluded by thanking Andy for a wonderful speech and for giving us reasons for optimism in these difficult times.”

Admiral Tony Radakin CB ADC,

Thursday 28th January 2021

By Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB, DSC, DL

The Pilgrims were delighted to invite Admiral Tony Radakin CB ADC, the First Sea Lord, to address the Society on 28th January 2021. The Admiral has served in the role for almost two years and was, of course, speaking in advance of the U.K. Integrated Review of Security, Defence and Foreign Policy which was published on 16th March 2021. Nevertheless, and with a keen eye on the likely outcome, the First Sea Lord

offered a fascinating global perspective on defence, the maritime role within it, and the key characteristics of the strong transatlantic connections that continue, after so many decades, to reinforce the strategic partnership and our common interests. He spoke about the Navy's role in NATO, the new inventory of carriers, jets and ships, and the forthcoming carrier-led deployment to the Far East, where the traditional

role of the Navy includes supporting soft power in the form of post-BREXIT diplomacy and trade. The Admiral was most forthcoming during the Q&A, and the session used its full allocation of time over a wide range of issues. Vice Admiral Sir Anthony Dymock wrapped up the session, and thanked the First Sea Lord.

Sir Peter Westmacott GCMG LVO,

Thursday March 4th 2021

By Mr Mark Fox

Fellow Pilgrim Sir Peter Westmacott spoke to us to mark the publication of his book *They Call It Diplomacy*. Sir Peter has written a riveting memoir of his long stint as a British diplomat, serving as a British ambassador on no less than three occasions - to Turkey, France and the United States. Having spent a lifetime using words with great skill and considerable care Sir Peter's descriptions of the work undertaken, events experienced

and perhaps above all his fondness for the places in which he served and the people he has met shone through in his talk as vividly as it does on every page of his book. Where Sir Peter expresses a forthright view it is to express a certain disappointment with the actions of some of his political masters and some recent policy directions the country has taken. He was as clear in his talk as he is in his book why he holds the views that he does, views clearly motivated by the deepest

sense of loyalty and concern for the country he has served for over forty years as a diplomat, but his sense of frustration and disappointment is palpable. Sir Peter's was a hugely successful talk and the Q&A that followed it showed the Pilgrims at their most engaged.

Samantha Job introduces the Integrated Review,

Thursday March 30th 2021

By Paul Dimond

Samantha Job, Director for Defence and International Security at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, gave the Pilgrims an exclusive briefing on 30 March on *Global Britain in a Competitive Age: The Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy*, which had been published earlier in the month. A career foreign service officer since 1992, Samantha had been Foreign and Security Counsellor at the British Embassy at Washington, engaging with the US Government across all aspects of national security policy, before her current appointment.

The Director said that the publication was an important moment for Global Britain. The IR would serve as a strategic asset to communicate the UK's long-term security and defence objectives to allies and partners, including a renewed and strong commitment to NATO. It differed from previous Defence Reviews in that it covered UK strategy on security, defence, development and foreign policy and recognised a changing international situation. It highlighted the role of the UK in the world through a prism of systemic competition, noting the rivalry between authoritarian and democratic systems and the need to focus on the Rules Based International System and the future of regulatory diplomacy to shape new norms, including in cyber space.

The international security environment had deteriorated since the last Review in 2015. The IR detailed the UK's commitment to maintaining its nuclear deterrent, as the ultimate guarantee of the UK and its NATO Allies' security. To maintain a minimum credible nuclear deterrent, the UK intended to increase the limit of its overall nuclear stockpile to no more than 260 warheads (the smallest number in the P5). The IR made it clear that the UK wanted to strengthen arms-control, disarmament and non-proliferation efforts.

Samantha explained that the IR had four overarching themes:

- Sustaining strategic advantage through science and technology - a dual-track approach of investing in UK strengths around R&D, whilst sharpening the approach to regulatory diplomacy to win the debates on critical and emerging technologies that are central to geopolitical competition. Protecting the UK's own R&D would be a key part of this.
- Shaping the open international order of the future - the IR discussed a framework of "systemic competition". This reflected the degree to which competition between states/blocs with different political systems was mounting, and that this competition extends from economic power to our

core values. It also captured the way in which the international system itself was under strain and had become a key theatre in the contest between divergent models of government.

- Strengthening security and defence at home and overseas - recognising the changing pressures on UK defence/security services as state threats had grown in intensity. There would naturally be continuity - in the UK's resolute commitment to Euro-Atlantic security, with NATO at its heart. But it would also include a geographical shift in emphasis to the Indo-Pacific. And through the connected Defence Command Paper the UK would make major changes to the footprint of the UK armed forces.
- Building resilience at home and overseas - the UK would improve its national resilience amidst emergent threats to security and prosperity. This was particularly key as the UK made deliberate efforts to shape the world around it. For the first time it was advocating a whole-of-society approach to this challenge. And it placed a premium on cooperating with international partners to address challenges such as climate change and global health risks - factors which were in sharp relief since the pandemic. >

Cont. from page 2.

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The Director emphasized that while this was a national document, the US would fit into all aspects of the IR, collective security being the theme throughout.

In response to questions, the Director saw the IR as positive for the FCDO. An advantage of diplomacy was that it was not that expensive. Heads of Mission overseas would have plans running across their brief. More would be done to add detail in the broad direction of travel, including the shift to the Indo-Pacific. Europe should continue to have the capability to draw on NATO. Science and technology were important in considering arms control.

Samantha added that reactions to the IR from allied Governments had been positive. And deployment of the increased defence budget should be seen in the context of some years ahead.

Thanking the Director, Sir Stephen Wright praised her presentation as attracting as much interest among the Pilgrims as other speakers' entire books and we were most grateful to her for giving us this early insight on the important Integrated Review. We hoped to see her back to talk to us about progress.

Robert Zoellick on his new book "America in the World – A history of U.S. Diplomacy and Foreign Policy"

By Mr Christopher Robson

On Tuesday, 6th April 2021 Robert Zoellick (former President of the World Bank) addressed a Pilgrims meeting (virtually) introduced by Lionel Barber (former Editor of the Financial Times). Mr Zoellick has held a series of high-level US government appointments with an inside knowledge of the Washington system that is unrivalled. He began by referring to Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the US Treasury and the subject of an immensely successful stage musical. He also made reference to Abraham Lincoln's role and Prince Albert's role in preventing war between the two countries over the Trent affair.

He went on to talk about the role of the now-forgotten Charles Evan Hughes in the Washington Conference (1921) and the role of John Hay in the open-door policy towards China. His analysis of the Kennedy administration will interest many people. Robert Zoellick dubs JFK The Crisis Man who actually learned in office-compare the way he handled the disastrous Bay of Pigs Invasion with the way he handled the Cuban

Missile Crisis. On Lyndon Johnson's handling of the Vietnam War, he is somewhat more ambivalent. Johnson was skilled at putting together coalitions where he wanted everyone to agree (as his role as Senate Majority Leader in the 1950's).

Mr Zoellick discussed Britain's role in the world alongside that of the USA. With the fifth largest economy in the world Britain still has an important role to play. The Biden Administration was in early days and the main focus must be dealing with the pandemic and the vaccination programme. Other questions concerned the fate of the Republican Party, the need for a viable two-party system. Britain's role post-Brexit and the US/China relationship. Also, the question of whether Biden would seek a second term and would Kamala Harris succeed him as President?

Sir Peter Bottomley gave a witty and heartfelt vote of thanks and Pilgrims Chairman Diane Simpson brought the whole proceedings to an end.

Edward Luce on the new Biden administration and America's place in the world- A history of U.S diplomacy and foreign policy

By Christopher Robson

On Thursday 25th, February 2021 Edward Luce (National Editor and columnist at the Financial Times Washington DC) addressed a Pilgrims meeting by Zoom. He began by concentrating on the view often expressed by pundits that the United States is in long-term decline. In 1945 the USA had about 50% of the world's economy and in 2021 this was down to 20%. So, in relative terms the USA is in relative decline but still remains the largest single economy in the world. The Biden Administration has made a promising beginning with an experienced team such as Janet Yellen (Treasury), Tony Blinken (State Department), Bill Burns (CIA) and Jake Sullivan (National Security Advisor). Biden has assembled a very seasoned and capable Washington team above all, himself with many years in the Senate and eight years as Vice-President (under Obama). He has tackled the COVID-19 crisis with an effective vaccination programme.

Mr Luce also made mention of the Munich conference which President Biden addressed virtually. Here the President sought to lay out the aims and

intentions of American foreign policy. Luce also revealed that he was writing a biography of Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was National Security Advisor and the unquestioned master strategist of the Carter administration. The problem of Trump or what passes for Trumpism remains. Also, Biden has to deal with internal problems within the Democratic party - notably Bernie Sanders and his left-wing faction.

Is America back in business on the world stage? The answer is assuredly yes and the problem of China remains as before. Mr Luce did not discount the extent of China's influence even with regard to the military coup in Burma/Myanmar. The Biden approach to China is very likely to be one of competition and co-operation. Taiwan and Hong Kong remain key issues for the USA. Mr Luce also touched on the likelihood of America joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership and discussed the consequences of the trillion-dollar stimulus package put before Congress.

Pilgrims Chairman Diane Simpson brought the proceedings to an end by

IN MEMORIAM

Mr Michael Benn

The Hon Charles Cecil

Sir Michael Chaplin CBE

Sir David Hardy

Mr Geoffrey Lander

Mr Ian Mackintosh

Mr John Polk

Mr Brian Watkins, CMG

Mr Ludovic de Walden

Mr Richard Walduck OBE JP DL

Sir Philip Wroughton KCVO

thanking Edward Luce for his perceptive remarks and the way he handled questions from the audience.

Nick Bryant,

Wednesday 10th March 2021

By Mr Mark Fox

Nick Bryant is a distinguished and long serving BBC correspondent. He spoke to the Pilgrims to mark the publication of his new book *When America Stopped Being Great*. Nick gave us a riveting account of his long period of reporting the politics and other major events that have taken place across the United States in recent times, based firstly in the nation's capital Washington DC and more recently in New York. With his long experience of, and strong attachment to, the United States he spoke movingly about the changing nature of American politics and the social and economic changes that have been the powerful driving forces behind the changes. Presidential politics of course provide the main focus but Nick was also able to reflect with deep knowledge on the changing

nature of State and local politics. It was though the extraordinary rise of Donal Trump from New York property developer to the Presidency that most vividly represents the fundamental shift and apparent atomisation of American society that underpinned his rise. Nick also spoke with great insight about the pressures and direction America is experiencing and might take in the first half of the Twenty First Century. In the questions and answers that followed it was clear the conversation could have continued for much longer than the time allotted. Being a skilled reporter Nick's book is a very worthwhile read.

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In an effort to improve future events we kindly invite you to send any feedback to the Executive Secretary.

The Pilgrims

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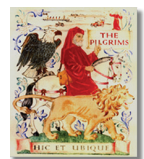
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All members are encouraged to register personal details about themselves, for the information of other members only, in the Members' Area of the Society's website

www.pilgrimsociety.org/members/index_please_login.php

Please let the Executive Secretary know if you would like to sign up to the email distribution list.

The Pilgrims Newsletter

A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain



VOL 27, NO 1
WINTER 2019

Visits to Lambeth Palace



On Friday 20th and 27th September, special Pilgrim visits were made to Lambeth Palace, the official London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his family.

The main building was begun by Archbishop Langton (1207-29) but most of his successors failed to add to or alter it. The residential part was built in 1829-38. The main entrance by Morton's Tower, a late medieval red-brick gatehouse from c.1490, leads into the Great Hall. The Lambeth Palace Library, contained in the Great Hall, is the second largest religious library in the world after the Vatican and has some 5000 manuscripts, over 200,000 printed books and some 30,000 books printed before 1700.



We were given a fascinating tour of the Great Hall, the chapels and crypt with a full sense of the history of the Palace with portraits of the Archbishops of Canterbury from the 16th to the 21st centuries. We all enjoyed a delicious luncheon afterwards.

Our thanks to our principal guide Gillian Allison, the staff at Lambeth Palace and, of course, to His Grace the Archbishop Justin Welby for their kindness and hospitality.

Lambeth Palace

Kevin Tebbit draws on his personal experience and gives a fascinating and penetrating view of the special relationship



L-R Sir Kevin Tebbit KCB CMG and Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Stirrup KG GCB AFC



Sir Kevin Tebbit KCB CMG

On Monday 21st October, after the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting in PwC's Embankment premises, Sir Kevin Tebbit delivered the 26th Annual Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture.

Tebbit's CV takes in such positions as Permanent Secretary at the UK Ministry of Defence from 1998-2005, Director of GCHQ and Deputy Under Secretary for Defence and Intelligence. Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup paid full tribute to Sir Kevin's wide experience and expertise in his introduction of the guest speaker. Sir Kevin began by referring to the work of the Pilgrims since 1902 in promoting Anglo-American good fellowship and mutual understanding. He went on to talk about his childhood in East Anglia which played host to a number

of important US airbases. He declared a lifelong affection for the USA and for the common heritage of a shared language, culture and legal systems. He also stressed the crucial roles played by both nations in setting up the great post war institutions i.e.: The United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, as well as the longest lasting military alliance in history - NATO.

Sir Kevin went through the post 1945 years and stressed the importance of the military and technological relationship between Britain and the USA, focussing closely on missile submarines. He believed that the USA had always wanted Britain to be at the heart of Europe and his real concern about Brexit was that the UK might be stranded in the Mid-Atlantic. He concluded his

remarks by emphasising the need for Britain to increase its defence expenditure and stating that the Special Relationship was still alive and well - a superpower such as the USA always needed good friends.

At question time, Sir Kevin was asked about the contribution made by Britain's two new aircraft carriers, the Labour Party's attitude to defence, the Falklands' effect on other countries' view of Britain and the dangers posed by the USA becoming isolationist. Sir Peter Bottomley MP (Executive Committee) extended a very warm vote of thanks to fellow Pilgrim Sir Kevin Tebbit and presented him with a copy of the Pilgrims' official history and an additional tie.

Sir George Buckley's brilliant career gives full proof to the adage that life is what you make of it

On Monday 16th September, Sir George Buckley was the guest speaker at a Pilgrims' dinner held at the Savile Club. Members and guests were greeted by Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson. Sir George was introduced to those present by Mark Seligman (Executive Committee) in very fulsome terms.

Sir George began by talking about his deprived childhood blighted by poverty and a broken home - in his own words 'a modern-day Oliver Twist'. By his own admission he left school without any proper qualifications but went on to achieve a PhD in Engineering and a BSc in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, a number of honorary degrees and approximately 20 patents. Currently he is Chairman of Smiths Group plc, Chairman of Stanley Black & Decker Inc and Chairman of eGym GmbH.

Like many people before him Sir George sought fame and fortune in the United States but with greater success than almost any of his predecessors and contemporaries. As Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Brunswick Corp from 2000-2005, he demonstrated outstanding business leadership and a sense of vision and understanding of markets that few business leaders have ever possessed. He equalled or possibly



surpassed himself when he was Chairman, President and CEO of 3M Company from 2005 to 2012. In his speech, Sir George talked at length about the lessons learnt from the great recession of 2008 to 2009.

At question time he was asked if he thought that someone from his background could have been successful and his response was "probably not". He was also questioned about comparisons between the ways of life in Britain and the USA, as well as how you motivate people in a massive organisation to achieve things and what kept him going in the face of adversity. The proceedings were brought to a close by a warm, witty and penetrating vote of thanks from Sir Peter Bottomley MP (Executive Committee).

Forthcoming events 2020

Thursday 2nd April 2020

Benjamin Franklin and the Craven Street Bones with Dr Paul Knapman and Dr Márcia Balisciano

Venue: PwC, 1 Embankment Place, London, WC2N 6RH

Time: 12.30pm - 2.30pm

Cost: £20.00 including tea/coffee/biscuits and sandwiches

Tuesday 19th May 2020

Memorial Lecture and formal dinner: The Right Honourable The Lord Carrington KG GCMG CH MC PC DL with address by The Right Honourable The Lord Robertson of Port Ellen KT GCMG PC FRSA FRSE

Venue: Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street, London, EC2N 2DQ

Time: Drinks reception 6.30pm

Lecture 7.15pm followed by dinner

Cost: £125.00 Black Tie

Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Tour of the Gordon Museum of Pathology and the Old Operating Theatre

Time: 9.45 - 2.15pm including

lunch at the Science Gallery café

Cost: £45 per person including tours and lunch

John Lehman tells a stirring tale of the free world winning the cold war at sea



L-R David Skidmore OBE FRCS and Dr John Lehman

John Lehman must be ranked as one of the unsung heroes of the Cold War. In a long career that has included service as a naval officer, time spent in business, in the world of academia and as a historian, his tenure of the office of US Naval Secretary (1981-87) marks him out for true distinction with the expansion of the US Navy to 600 ships including 15 aircraft carrier groups. On Thursday 7th November, we were very pleased to welcome him as our guest speaker at the highly appropriate venue of the Naval Club to talk about his new book 'Oceans Ventured - Winning the Cold War'.

Dr Lehman was introduced with some suitable references to Gilbert and Sullivan (Ruler of the Queen's Navy) by David Skidmore who also ably chaired the meeting. He began by referring to the huge land forces of the Warsaw Pact in the 1980's - 190 divisions against 40 divisions of NATO. At sea it was a very different matter with a huge US Navy and substantial Royal Navy - and, of course, the Soviet Navy had no aircraft carriers due to its backward technology. Under the Reagan administration, the four remaining battleships were taken out of mothballs and restored to full service with the addition of missiles and other weapons. Dr. Lehman also mentioned the annual NATO naval exercises and the great vulnerability of the Soviet submarine force - without any real air defences. Above all, he emphasised the superiority of the Western eavesdropping technology.

At question time, Dr Lehman was asked such questions as the minimum effective size of an aircraft carrier, the rise of a new Cold War with Putin's Russia, NATO's willingness to invest more in defence, the best way to manage China, the lack of real political leadership in the West and the effectiveness

Forthcoming events 2020 cont.

Thursday 2nd July 2020

Summer outing to Chiswick House & Gardens

Time: 9.45am at Sofitel London St James for coach departure at 10.00am

11am-12.15pm Tour of the house

12.15-1.15pm Lunch

1.30 - 3.15pm Tour of the gardens

3.45pm Coach departure

Cost: £65 per person including coach, all tours and lunch

Monday 5th October 2020

The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain Annual Meeting 2019, followed by the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture and Reception (Speaker TBC)

Venue: PwC, 1 Embankment Place, London, WC2N 6RH

Time: 6.00pm

Cost: £28.00 per person, optional supper afterwards at 8.15pm, also at PwC: £40.00 per person

of NATO's anti-submarine capability. Diane Simpson (Pilgrims' Chairman) ended the proceedings of this memorable lunchtime gathering by giving John Lehman a very warm vote of thanks for his perceptive and penetrating analysis of events past and present.



Peter Cadbury

To be a Pilgrim

As a fairly new member of the Executive and Membership Committees, I have been asked to say what it means “To be a Pilgrim” and how our Society might evolve.

My own qualifications are less deep rooted than many, and are based on having worked over many years as a Corporate Finance adviser to many major US corporations on developing their European aspirations, chiefly through mergers and acquisitions. To a lesser extent, I have advised a number of British groups on their expansion plans in America.

A branch of my family grew mainly around the decision of one of my ancestors, Joel Cadbury to emigrate to America in the 1860’s, and many of his descendants are still resident in the Philadelphia and Delaware regions. A number still maintain their firm Quaker beliefs.

My first cousin, Lyndal Boal lives in Vermont, and her son Peter was discovered by Balanchine aged 12, went on to become the principal dancer at the New York City Ballet before becoming the Artistic Director of the Pacific North West Ballet Company in Seattle.

I have been encouraged to focus on two aspects of the Society. First to develop the Society’s cultural and artistic links between Britain and the USA, and secondly to assist in adding more younger, and especially women members.

Unashamedly we are proactively seeking new members who fulfil these criteria, and to achieve this, we need to include more events which will appeal to hard working executives, busy mothers and working women.

The instigation of “Short-Chats” lasting only an hour has been a success. I was also pleased to initiate a private visit to the Thomas Cole Exhibition at the National Gallery. Born in Bolton, Cole emigrated to the East Coast in the 19th century to become a distinguished landscape

painter and founder of the Hudson School. His style mirrors European artists of the same period, but whilst well-known in America he was virtually unknown here.

A number of new members are helping build this side but we need more, and members are invited to propose other potential members who qualify and to suggest appropriate events.

What other challenges do we face? Whilst not wishing to reopen the Brexit debate, the United Kingdom has been the natural entry point for American companies wishing to access Europe. With tariff barriers and diverging standards, this becomes a much harder case to justify. Even worse would be if the United Kingdom were to break up.

As the leading society promoting good will between the USA and Britain, we need to exert our influence to maintain our special relationship, but this requires us to think globally not domestically.

The Pilgrims has a special opportunity to influence these decisions, whilst riding above party politics. Members can enjoy meeting each other socially, and at the same time work to enhance the goodwill between our two nations. However, this can only be successful if we find ways of working together to make each of us stronger than either could ever hope to achieve on its own.



Visit to the College of Arms

On Thursday 23rd January and Thursday 6th February, a group of Pilgrims visited the College of Arms. This is the official heraldic authority for England, Northern Ireland and the Commonwealth. The Heralds of the Kings of England were first incorporated by Richard III in 1484 and in 1555 Queen Mary I gave them a new Charter and the site of the present College. The original building was burnt down in the Great Fire of 1666 and the present building is the work of Maurice Emmett and was built between 1671 and 1688.

The Officers of Arms are members of the Royal Household

and are still appointed directly by the Crown by letters patent under the great seal on the advice of the Duke of Norfolk as hereditary Earl Marshal. They consist of three kings of arms (Garter, Clarenceaux and Norroy and Ulster), six heralds (Windsor, Lancaster, Somerset, York, Chester and Richmond), and four pursuivants (Bluemantle, Portcullis, Rouge Croix and Rouge Dragon). For centuries the kings of arms have been authorised by the sovereigns to grant arms to eminent men and women subject to the approval of the Earl Marshal.

We were very privileged to have fellow pilgrim John Petrie

(Windsor Herald) acting as our principal tour guide. His erudition and obvious love for the whole subject of heraldry was spellbinding and we could easily have spent a whole day in the record room. The Officers of Arms not only grant new coats of arms but also maintain registers of arms, pedigrees, genealogies, perform ceremonial duties and advise on everything covering the peerage and baronetage, precedence, honours as well as national and community symbols including flags.

A fascinating and memorable evening was brought to a close by a most enjoyable buffet supper.

Shirley Williams looks at America's place in an ever-changing world

On Tuesday 19th November, the Pilgrims' invited speaker was Baroness Williams of Crosby and the venue was the Army and Navy Club.

Shirley Williams ranks as one of the outstanding figures in the last half century of British politics, as a Labour Cabinet Minister and as one of the Gang of Four (not to be confused with Madam Mao and her infamous colleagues) who broke away from Labour and set up the Social Democratic Party (later to merge with the Liberal Party). After a very warm introduction by long-time friend Debbie Owen, Lady Williams began by recalling her childhood which included wartime evacuation to the USA where she met Hubert Humphrey and Lord Halifax (British Ambassador and former Foreign Secretary). Despite her American connections, she has always been a passionate Europhile who regards Brexit as a very big mistake on the part of Britain. Lady Williams went on to state that Europe had always been remote in British eyes but conceded that Britain had a remarkable history. As a true Anglo-American, she thought



L-R Chairman Dee Dee Simpson and The Right Honourable The Baroness Williams of Crosby CH PC

that the USA has never been fully understood by the UK.

At question time, Lady Williams was asked about the importance of the Special Relationship, the need for strong security and defence (through NATO), the possible effect on the UK's influence in the world if the USA becomes isolationist, the existence of a real EU/European plan and the effects of the rise of China. Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson thanked Shirley Williams for her thoughtful and illuminating presentation and presented her with the customary Pilgrims' official history and ladies' scarf.

NEW MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 2019 AND JANUARY 2020

Mrs Julie Burton
Major Paul Chishick
Ms Alixe Buckerfield de la Roche
Mrs Yvonne Eichel
Mr Charles Sims, Jr Farr
The Rev Alan Gyle S.Ch.OlJ
Mr George King
Mr Christopher North
The Right Hon Sir Stephen O'Brien KBE
Mrs Kathryn Pretzel-Shiels
Mr Mark Shiels
Mr Tom Skwarek
Mr Francis Whitlock
Mr Alistair Wood

News from The Pilgrims of the United States



L-R James D. Zirin, Dame Karen Pierce, Miner H. Warner

Dame Karen Pierce, DCMG, United Kingdom Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, was the guest of honour at a reception held

at the Racquet and Tennis Club on 14th November 2019. In 2016, Dame Karen served as Director General for Political Affairs and Chief Operating Officer of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London. Prior to 2016, Dame Karen was the UK's Ambassador to Afghanistan 2015 - 2016. Her roles in the Foreign and Commonwealth office span the last thirty years. She has also served in Tokyo, London, Washington, the Balkans, New York and Geneva (on February 7 Dame Karen was appointed the first female British Ambassador to Washington).

John Micklethwait was the guest of honour at a reception held at The River Club on October 15th 2019. He is the Editor in Chief of Bloomberg. Prior to joining Bloomberg in 2016 he was the Editor in Chief of The Economist where he led the newspaper into the digital age having joined in 1987. Micklethwait is co-author of six books, most recently "the Fourth Revolution: The Global Race to Reinvent the State."

On 8th January 2020, The Executive Committee and President Miner H Warner welcomed Max Hollein, Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art to The Racquet and Tennis Club on Park Avenue. Born in Vienna, after studies in the city, Hollein began his career at New York's Guggenheim Museum followed by a leadership role in Frankfurt. Prior to joining the Met, he was the Director and CEO of the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco.

MEMOS:

All members are encouraged to register personal details about themselves, for the information of other members only, in the Members' Area of the Society's website

www.pilgrimsociety.org/members/index>Please_login.php

Annual subscriptions increase to £70.00 from May 2020

IN MEMORIAM

Sir Hugh Cubitt CBE JP DL

Captain Philip Foxwood

Dr Michael Dingle

Mr Christopher Lister

Mr David Palmer

Mr Herbert L Oakes Jr

Mr Norman Moss

Mrs Suzy Webster

Sir Kenneth Warren

Sir Nigel Broomfield KCMG

Sir Tobias Clarke, 6th Baronet

Feedback Questions

In an effort to improve future events we kindly invite you to send any feedback to the Executive Secretary.

Save mailing costs and the environment



If you have received a hard copy of this newsletter but would be content to receive it electronically, please contact the [office](#).

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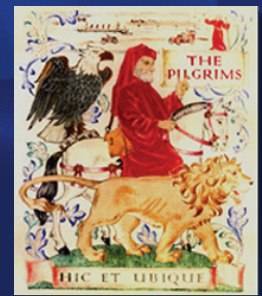
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The Pilgrims Newsletter



A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain

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SUMMER 2019

Ronald Freeman reflects on a remarkable banking and investment career

On Thursday 28th February, the 22nd Annual Reflections Lecture was delivered by Ronald Freeman (Pilgrims' Chairman from 2010-2017) to an audience of Pilgrims and guests at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

After being introduced by Lord Stirrup (Pilgrims' President), Ronald Freeman began by paying tribute to Sir Robert Worcester (Pilgrims' Chairman from 1993 to 2010) who first initiated the idea of a Reflections Lecture in which a distinguished speaker looked back on his/her career. Sir Robert's company, Ipsos Mori had just celebrated its 50th anniversary. Ronald Freeman then went on to point out that both British and American governments were experiencing serious economic and social problems with a lack of trust in the market economy. He argued that a minimum level of wealth was necessary to preserve democracy.

Ronald Freeman was banking department head of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development financing to the 23 countries of the former Soviet empire, head of investment banking at Salomon Brothers,



Ronald Freeman

and previously a McKinsey consultant and a lawyer in the Paris office of Baker and McKenzie. He looked back at the inflation caused by changes in oil prices during the 1970's right through to the 1990's and into the first decade of the 21st century with the crisis created by sub-prime mortgages and the world-wide recession. This resulted in the failure of financial institutions. In all this he stressed the crucial importance of the rule of law which existed in democratic states but not in authoritarian/totalitarian states.

At question time Ronald Freeman handled with dexterity such topics as to why capitalism does not lead to democracy in undemocratic states (no rule of law), whether

there was any hope in the financial and democratic future, the full impact of the financial crisis of 2008 and the relationship between the Russian oligarchs and their government (i.e. corruption). Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson delivered a very warm vote of thanks and presented Ronald Freeman with a bottle of French wine and a bouquet of flowers.





Kweilen Hatleskog

Following on the recent letter from the Chair of our Membership Committee, I am writing with a request of the membership to reflect on the agenda of events for the forthcoming year.

For the last two years, the Programme Committee have worked diligently to broaden the number and types of events. The focus of this effort has been to both increase engagement across the existing membership whilst attracting the attention of our new members. As many of you will have noticed, the result has been a dramatically expanded programme covering a wide range of issues related to the Special Relationship. Beyond the traditional programme of formal dinners, we have now included a more frequent and informal programme of 'Short Chat' lunches and evening drinks.

This new programme represents a material investment by the Executive and has taken great personal leadership by Sir Peter Bottomley, Chairman of our Programme Committee, to execute. In addition to supporting the efforts of the Membership Committee and the broader development of the society, it is also seen as appropriate in the context of the current political climate.

As with the core programme, the objective of both the "Short Chat" and the "Drinks and Discussion" series is to ensure the continuation of an environment where members can enjoy candid discussion, learn from one another, and access insights, permissible only in the environment of trust which the bond of the Pilgrims creates. So why the new approach?

Few will contest that the special-relationship has been publicly tested. As Theresa May articulated in her recent speech at Chatham House, "the coarsening" of political debate - "both in substance and style" - has left many of us concerned. Short termism and populist tactics, exemplified by the forced resignation of Sir Kim Darroch, have undermined traditional avenues of diplomacy and left many centrists disenfranchised. Indeed, disruption across both political systems has meant that collectively the US and UK have appointed five Secretaries of Defense or Ministers of Defence in the last six months alone. The result has been almost impossible to follow and, as one who served at the Pentagon, personally painful to observe. Indeed, as Rory Stewart has argued, there is a clear case to review how government is governed, should this chaotic approach continue.

Yet, instinctively, as committed advocates and beneficiaries of the Special Relationship, we Pilgrims understand that this is necessarily an aberration. Our English-speaking union runs much deeper and wider than the current fluctuations in political discourse and as I look to my work in industry, I see cause for solid optimism. US investors have accelerated their placement of capital in the country - even against the backdrop of an uncertain Brexit - and continue to value technology companies developed here as offering true substance.

Further, it is evident that the relationship remains reciprocal, despite disparities. Recent hyperbole by the Trump administration valued the relationship at a trillion dollars per annum. While such figures may be 'fake news' they demonstrate an important popular perception of proximity and the UK remains the fourth largest investor in the US accounting for 6% of all US exports.

As momentum for the Special Relationship is increasingly driven outside of the formal government channels, and dominated instead by the organic interactions in business, technology and culture; it is only right that our programme reflects and supports this engagement - seeking to find positive progress and solutions which can inform the diplomatic dialogue.

Against this backdrop, through the personal efforts of Reverend Mark Fox, the "Short Chat" series has allowed members to learn while they lunch. Lasting only an hour, the series has proved successful with members who work full-time and those who need to return to young families at home. While the format has attracted high-profile speakers, to include a brilliant exposition on ethics in intelligence by Sir David Omand, the format has also allowed the group to explore more alternative perspectives. Accordingly, Kathleen Burk joined to speak about her latest book: *The Lion and the Eagle* - surveying the two empires from 1782-1972. This was complemented by Kori Schake's tour de force on the transition from British to American hegemony which highlighted the very powerful role that personal relations and co-investment has played in bringing our two countries together.

To complement this daytime offering, we have built on the good fellowship of the members who have opened their homes for the "Drinks and

>

Cont. from page 2.

> Discussion" series - occurring monthly between 6.30-8.00pm. Kicking the initiative off, members were hosted by Peter and June Felix to hear the ever-provocative Adam Boulton of Sky News and enjoyed canapés and drinks in the elegant surrounds of their home as members had a chance to ask questions and debate. More recently, Lord Owen gave a candid and heartfelt view in the wake of his new book: *Hubris - the road to Donald Trump* - describing, from a physician's perspective, the mental and physical condition of political leaders past and present and providing personal insights from his own time as leader of the Social Democratic Party. Last month, a group of 20 attended a performance by the San Francisco ballet company at Sadler's Wells - watching a piece choreographed by a British graduate of the Royal Ballet for the American company. Mingling with a group of supporters of the ballet, members were able to understand the alternative approaches to support for the arts across the Atlantic.

Collectively, these afternoons and evenings have fostered an intimate atmosphere across the attendees, enabling members to better understand one another and reminding us that at its most basic, the Special Relationship, like the Pilgrims is about trust and fellowship.

As we seek to progress this new complementary programme, please look out for opportunities to join. We would also ask those of you with suggestions on important topics to come forward to the Programme Committee as we would welcome everyone's suggestion and support. We would also like to know if you'd like to host an evening event at your home.

Visit to Syon House and Gardens

On Wednesday 3rd July, the annual Pilgrims summer outing took place at Syon House and Gardens - the last surviving ducal residence (Duke of Northumberland) with its country estate in Greater London.

Syon House enjoys the distinction of interiors designed by Robert Adam and gardens by Capability Brown in the eighteenth century. The tour of the house concentrated on the American connections, taking in such notable figures as James Smithson, Pocahontas, Joseph Brant and John Norton. Syon's links with the founding of the colony of Virginia and the original settlement of Jamestown (1607), as well as the creation of the city of New York and the establishment of the great Hudson's Bay Company in



1678, were fully explored in our special guided tour. Attention was also focused on Syon's connections with the War of Independence (1776-1783) and the War of 1812.

The Syon Gardens feature the artificial Long Lake and Flora's Lawn, with a Doric column and mulberry trees planted during the Protector Somerset's residence here in the 16th Century. The Great Conservatory was built of gun-metal and Bath stone by Charles Fowler, designer of Covent Garden market. The 40 acres of gardens retain an idyllic atmosphere with nature and man-made landscaping working in apparent harmony.

Our deepest thanks to the staff at Syon House for their kindness and hospitality with the added blessing of perfect weather.

A gift from a resident of Alfreton, former home of Robert Watchorn, early Pilgrims' member

Peter Singleton published the following account in the Parish Church of Alfreton magazine. The Pilgrims are delighted that Peter has presented them with this 1907 flag.



A curiosity

It's amazing what can turn up on e-bay! Pictured below is a small flag that was described as being from 'the estate of Robert Watchorn' - an Alfreton lad who went to the States and made good. He never forgot his home town and paid for the building of the Watchorn Methodist Church and the war memorial for example.

Watchorn was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln and was keen to establish ties between Britain and America. This flag emanates from an organisation set up in 1902 with just those aims. It was called 'The Pilgrims'. It is no surprise that Robert Watchorn appears to be an early member of the group, founded by Sir Harry Brittain. Its aims were 'to promote goodwill, good fellowship, abiding friendship and everlasting peace between the United States and Great Britain'. Perhaps the issuing of the flag was an annual thing, given that it is dated 1907. It depicts a medieval pilgrim mounted on a donkey with an eagle on its rump, representing the United States. Along side the donkey is a lion to represent Great Britain. At the top of the flag is another pilgrim who appears to be gazing with amazement at a motor car, bicycle, steamship, airplane and a train. Underneath is the motto 'Hic Et Ubique' which is Latin for 'here and everywhere'. You might be forgiven for thinking that this organisation has long since disappeared. However, it is still going strong, both here and in America, and for those of you with access to the internet, a website to look at. It holds regular meetings to further Anglo-American relationships and counts its past members the likes of Margaret Thatcher and Henry Kissinger. The Queen is the patron.

Andrew Roberts sees Churchill as a man of destiny whose life before 1940 prepared him for greatness



Andrew Roberts

On Wednesday 6th March, the guest speaker at a Pilgrims' luncheon, held at the Cavalry and Guards Club, was the distinguished historian Andrew Roberts talking about his latest book 'Churchill: Walking with Destiny'.

Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson welcomed Pilgrims and guests and the speaker was introduced by Chairman of the Programme Committee Sir Peter Bottomley, MP. Andrew Roberts, a fellow Pilgrim, is arguably the greatest historian of his generation and his knowledge of Churchill's life and career extends over thirty years of close study. According to his own reckoning, there have been 1009 biographies. What separates his biography from the others is his access to King George VI's unexpurgated diary records of Churchill's weekly audiences during the Second World War (by special permission of the Queen), as well as access to the recently-discovered verbatim reports of the War Cabinet meetings over which Churchill presided and also access to Lady Soames'

1940 diary (which is still closed to researchers). Roberts was also able to make use of the newly-published diaries of Ivan Maisky (Soviet Ambassador to Britain 1932-43) and the forty-one sets of papers deposited at the Churchill Archives in Cambridge by people who worked with him.

Andrew Roberts dealt skilfully with Churchill's life before 1940 - his school days at Harrow, his time in the Army in the Sudan, the First World War with the Dardanelles disaster (which might easily have been a different story with Turkey forced out of the war) and his wilderness years out of office (from 1929 to 1939). Roberts also dealt with Churchill's moods of depression, his heavy drinking (although not a real alcoholic) and his mistakes in government. Roberts offered a full-rounded portrait of a man who was a great historian in his own right with a mastery of the English language and a lover of Shakespeare. Churchill was a true colossus who bestrode the world.

At question-time Roberts covered a range of topics including Churchill's place in British and world history, whether or not he was a war lover, his reactions to his electoral defeat in 1945, his attitude towards Hitler and which side he would have taken in the Brexit debate. Sir David Newbigging gave a very warm vote of thanks and presented Andrew Roberts with a Pilgrim official history (he already had a Pilgrims tie!).



NEW MEMBERS JANUARY AND MAY 2019

Lieutenant Colonel Charles Antelme, DSO

Margaret Appleton, MBE

Helle Blystone

Professor Kathleen Burk

Clare Chapman

Eden Collinsworth

Bettina Coote

Kate Corsden

David Dale, Jr

Alison Davis

Nicole Gray Conchar

Oliver Lee, OBE

William Mathews

Peter Michael

John Petrie

Rosamund Reece, MBE

Alexandra Robson

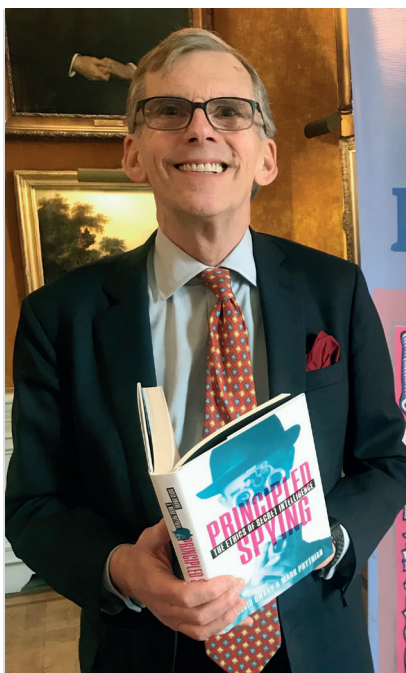
Captain Sam Shephard, GC

Jane Siebels

Rachael Stearns

Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

Sir David Omand offers a brilliant exposition of the ethics of secret intelligence



Sir David Omand

Sir David Omand GCB, at present Visiting Professor at the Department of War Studies, King's College, London, was the first UK Security and Intelligence Co-ordinator responsible to the Prime Minister for the professional health of the intelligence community, national counter-terrorism strategy and homeland security. He was also Permanent Secretary of the Home Office and prior to this, Director of GCHQ (Cheltenham). Sir David was therefore an ideal speaker for one of our Short Chat luncheon talks held at the Savile Club on Wednesday 13th February.

After being introduced by Pilgrims' Chairman Diane

Simpson, Sir David began by saying how appropriate it was to address The Pilgrims, given the importance of the Anglo-American relationship, especially in the field of espionage. In his book (co-written with espionage expert Mark Pythian), he seeks to address the key question of how far a state should authorise its agents to go in seeking and using secret intelligence. In his fascinating talk he laid out all the ethical questions relating to recruitment of spies and informers, as well as dealing with criminal and terrorist organisations and unethical regimes who obtain information by coercion and torture. Also, he touched on such topics as the use of eavesdropping technology and the huge general technological advances taking place in society.

At question time Sir David dealt masterfully with such matters as any real secrets remaining with all the advances in technology - especially artificial intelligence, the way independent contractors are used in high tech top-secret projects, government legislation in mobile phone system changes and the different ethical standards used by this country in comparison with others. After the end of the talk, Sir David was given a very warm vote of thanks, the customary Pilgrims tie and official history by Programme Chairman Sir Peter Bottomley, MP.

Forthcoming events 2019/20

Monday 16th September 2019

"Life is what you make of it" by Sir George W. Buckley

Venue: Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, London, W1K 4ER

Time: 6.30pm

Cost: £75.00 per person to include drinks reception and dinner

Friday 20th September 2019 or Friday 27th September 2019 (Fully booked)

Tour of Lambeth Palace

Venue: Lambeth Palace, London, SE1 7JU

Time: 11.00am - 12.30pm followed by lunch

Cost: £26.00 per person (including a light lunch of sandwiches, freshly baked cake and fresh fruit to be taken in the garden weather permitting)

Monday 21st October 2019

The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain Annual Meeting 2019 followed by the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture and reception with Sir Kevin Tebbit, KCB CMG

Venue: PwC, 1 Embankment Place, London, WC2N 6RH

Time: 6.00pm

Cost: £28.00 per person

Optional supper afterwards at 8.15pm also at PwC: £40.00 per person (limited places)

Thursday 7th November 2019

Short Chat with Dr John Lehman and book signing of his book Oceans Ventured:

Winning the Cold War at Sea

Venue: Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5NS

Time: 12.30 for 1.00pm until 2.00pm

Cost: £20.00 including tea/coffee/biscuits and sandwiches

Kathleen Burk offers her own fascinating interpretation of the Anglo-American Relationship

On Tuesday 29th January, our lunchtime speaker at the Savile Club was the distinguished historian Professor Kathleen Burk. She spoke of her latest book *The Lion and the Eagle* - The interaction of the British and American Empires (1783-1972).

Professor Burk began by seeking to define an empire with particular reference to Britain and the United States. The British Empire was essentially a sea-borne empire while the American empire was land-borne. She went on to look at the respective roles played by both countries in opening up China and Japan in the nineteenth century. Britain was the predominant world power throughout this century. In the twentieth century things changed with two world wars and the subsequent Cold War. Professor Burk dealt with the Suez Crisis and



the Vietnam War in which Britain refused to participate (except for the presence of incognito military advisers!).

At question-time Professor Burk dealt adroitly with such topics as post-Brexit US/GB relations, the possibility of the US absorbing the whole of Canada in the 19th Century, the idea of an Emperor Trump, world-wide financial power centres, the power of the US dollar and the identification of empires. Sir Stephen Wright (Executive Committee)

Forthcoming events 2019/20 cont.

Tuesday 19th November 2019

Lecture and reception (plus optional supper) with The Right Honourable The Baroness Williams of Crosby CH PC

Venue: Army and Navy Club, 36 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JN

Time: 6.15pm for 6.30pm

Cost: £25.00 for reception.

Optional supper £55.00

Tuesday 19th May 2020

The Right Honourable The Lord Carrington KG GCMG CH MC PC DL Memorial Lecture and formal dinner with address by The Right Honourable The Lord Robertson of Port Ellen KT GCMG PC FRSA FRSE

Venue: Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street, London, EC2N 2DQ

Time: 6.00pm for 6.30pm

Cost: £125.00

Black Tie

delivered a very warm vote of thanks and presented Kathleen Burk with the customary Pilgrims' official history and ladies' scarf.

The San Francisco Ballet at Sadler's Wells



On Wednesday 5th June a group of Pilgrims' members had the privilege of watching a performance by the San Francisco Ballet at Sadler's Wells.

Under the leadership of its

dynamic and imaginative artistic director Heigi Tomasson, the San Francisco Ballet has achieved a world-wide reputation for its bold and striking productions. On the evening in question three pieces were on offer - *Bespoke*,

Hummingbird and *Hurry Up*, we're dreaming. Stanton Welch's *Bespoke* explored dance itself in a love letter to ballet, set to the violin concertos of Johann Sebastian Bach while *Hummingbird* by British choreographer Liam Scarlett was accompanied by Philip Glass's *Tirol Concerto* with shadowy designs by regular collaborator John Macfarlane. *Hurry up*, we're dreaming showcased Justin Peck's skilful use of the electronic music of M83.

All in all, a most enjoyable evening. Let us have more visits to the ballet (and opera) in future Pilgrims' programming, please!

Hadley Freeman offers her own distinctive view of the impact of immigration over the past century

On Thursday 28th March, the Guardian writer and columnist Hadley Freeman was the guest speaker at an early evening Pilgrims' event, held at a private residence in Lancaster Gate.

After being introduced by Kweilen Hatleskog, our hostess for the evening, Hadley Freeman began by saying that she had just completed a book dealing with her own family history - *From Here There and Everywhere*. Her Jewish ancestors had been subjected to pogroms in the Austro-Hungarian Empire at this time - especially in Poland. Coming into the 20th Century, the number of Jews in France trebled between the two World Wars (1918-1939) and the impact of the

Great Depression (1929-34) caused mass unemployment and increased anti-Semitism. Thus, the ground was laid for the Vichy regime which came into being after the defeat of France in 1940. The horrors of the Holocaust led to the creation of the State of Israel in 1948.

Looking at the present day, Hadley Freeman made reference to Ken Livingstone's remarks about Hitler being a supporter of Zionism and the anti-Semitism permeating the Labour party. At question-time she talked about her discoveries during her research - especially the Nazis' seizure of art works owned by Jewish collectors. She also dealt with the treatment of Jews by Vichy under the German occupation, as well as the



current rise of anti-Semitism and the most effective antidotes to anti-Semitism, as well as the likely impact of Brexit on immigrants.

We owe a special debt of gratitude to Kweilen Hatleskog (Executive Committee) for her kindness and hospitality.

Kori Schake presents a very perceptive and penetrating analysis of the transition from British to American Hegemony



Kori Schake

At a lunchtime Short Chat, held at the Savile Club on Thursday 23rd May, the guest speaker was Dr Kori Schake (Deputy Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies). After being introduced by Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson, she began by comparing Britain and the USA in the nineteenth century and

portrayed the two countries as rivals - having previously fought against one another in the War of Independence (1775-1783) and the War of 1812. She was quick to point out that the Monroe Doctrine of 1823 started out as a British proposal to the USA - a tribute to British diplomatic skills. It was not until the late nineteenth century, with American heiresses marrying into the British aristocracy and huge British capital investment in the USA, that both nations began to see each other in a similar and favourable light.

In the Spanish - American War in 1898, Britain gave considerable aid to the USA and this was reciprocated by the USA when Britain fought the Boer War (1899-1902). Dr Schake then went on to talk about the respective

roles played by Britain and the USA in the First World War, the Second World War and the Cold War and the importance to this day of the Special Relationship between Britain and the USA. The world as a whole has clearly benefited from the liberal democratic values of both countries.

At question time, Kori Schake handled such topics as the naval aspect of British and American hegemony, China's inherent weaknesses in its rise to supposed global hegemony, a possible loss of self-confidence on the part of Britain and the USA, the concept of global Britain, the possibility of a second Trump term of office and a comparison between American exceptionalism and British exceptionalism. Dr Schake received a strong audience applause for her excellent dissertation.

News from The Pilgrims of the United States



L-R James Zirin, Jeh Johnson, Miner H. Warner

Jeh Charles Johnson, former US Secretary of Homeland Security, was the guest of honour at a reception held at The River Club on January 8th 2019. He has held the position of General Counsel of the Department of Defence, General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force and assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

IN MEMORIAM

*Lady Agnew
Sir Ronald McIntosh KCB
Gregory Pilkington
Michael Powell
Bruno L Schroder
Donald Stearns
Andrew Stewart-Roberts
P L B Stoddart
The Hon Edward J Streator
The Baroness Trumpington
Richard Watkins
Lawson Willard*

Strobe Talbott, Former Deputy Secretary of State was the speaker at the 116th annual meeting on April 25th

Strobe Talbott, distinguished fellow in residence in the Foreign Policy programme at the Brookings Institution was the guest of honour at a reception held at the Union League Club,

New York on April 25th 2019. He was presented with the Pilgrims of the United States Medallion for service to the nation by Pilgrims' President, Miner H Warner.



Jill Spiller retires after 20 years as Executive Director of the US Pilgrims

The Right Honorable Jean Chrétien



L-R William Clinton, James Zirin, Jean Chrétien, Miner H. Warner

The Right Honorable Jean Chrétien served as Prime Minister of Canada for ten years, stepping down in 2003. The Right Honorable Jean Chrétien served as Prime Minister of Canada for ten years, stepping down in 2003. He completed his law studies at Université Laval. He was the guest of honour at a reception at the Racquet and Tennis Club, New York on February 18th 2019.

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The Pilgrims

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MEMOS:

All members are encouraged to register personal details about themselves, for the information of other members only, in the Members' Area of the Society's website

www.pilgrimsociety.org/members/index_please_login.php

We urge members to please remember to bring their children to events with the goal of continuing their Pilgrims' legacy.

The Pilgrims

Newsletter

A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain



VOL 26, NO 1
WINTER 2018

Dame DeAnne Julius predicts a disruptive decade ahead in world affairs

On Monday 15th October 2018, Dame DeAnne Julius delivered the 25th Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture immediately following the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting held in the main auditorium at K&L Gates LLP.

Dame DeAnne has achieved a remarkable career taking in such jobs as economic analyst at the CIA and at the World Bank in Washington DC. Subsequently she was chief economist at British Airways and Royal Dutch Shell. From 2003 to 2012 she was Chairman of Chatham House and is currently Chair of University College London Council.

Dame DeAnne began by referring to world events since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the dissolution of the Soviet Union (and the ending of the Cold War) in 1991. Moving on, she took in the Al Qaeda attacks in New York and Washington DC of September 11th 2001 and the global financial crisis of 2007-08. She then focused on the key disruptive factors which she felt had affected the world economy and the rise of populism in response to job losses caused by technological changes and



Dame DeAnne Julius

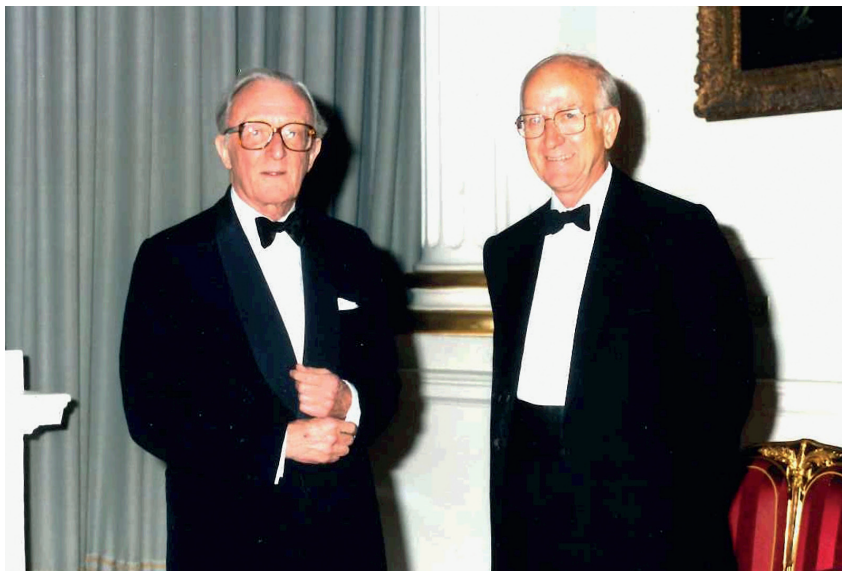
high housing costs arising from low interest rates. People felt uncertain about their future well-being and this was reflected in the kind of political leaders who had emerged ie: Donald Trump, Victor Orban, Jeremy Corbyn, Recep Erdogan etc.

According to Dame DeAnne, globalisation was in reverse and to misquote Aldous Huxley, a Grave New World was emerging with trade, investment, labour and finance all adversely affected. Add in such factors as vulnerable stock markets, high corporate and household debt with low interest rates and there was plenty to worry about. Dame DeAnne also

surveyed the world scene and focused on such problem areas as US/China rivalry, the war in Syria with the Russian presence, possible conflict between Saudi-Arabia and Iran and Russian ambitions in Eastern Europe.

At question time Dame DeAnne dealt adroitly with a range of subjects and stressed the need to challenge conventional thinking and have contingency plans in place to deal with disruptive forces. Having been warmly introduced by Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup, she was thanked with equal warmth by Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson for her excellent and perceptive speech.

Obituary: Lord Carrington



Lord Carrington with Sir Robert Worcester

By Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL

The obituary in The Times on 10 July 2018 described the Pilgrims' former

President (1983-2002) Lord Carrington as "a dignified foreign secretary and Tory grandee", as "a patrician, paternalistic one-Nation Tory of the old school" who described pragmatism as a virtue. He distrusted ideology and believed in selfless public service. Not only was he honest and courteous, he was also self-effacing according to The Times.

The Guardian said that he was admired for his honour and integrity... one of the most distinguished statesmen of post-war politics... a natural diplomat. He had an emollient manner and he believed in negotiation rather than confrontation. He also had the most extraordinary charm

and was very funny, a brilliant anecdotalist and had intelligent urbanity together with social assurance.

The New York Times (10 July 2018) was the most factual, mentioning Eton and Sandhurst. It reported that his career spanned nearly five decades covering post-war politics, diplomacy and public service. He was Parliamentary Secretary of Agriculture, First Lord of the Admiralty, Secretary of Defence, Energy and Foreign Affairs. It also reported that he was High Commissioner to Australia, represented Britain in formative talks for what became the European Union and helped to negotiate the independence of Zimbabwe. He was Chairman of the Conservative Party and Secretary General of NATO.

His autobiography, "Reflecting on Things Past: The Memoirs of Peter

Lord Carrington", published in 1988, read like he spoke.

I was lucky enough to get to know Lord Carrington well, overlapping 18 years. Lord Carrington encouraged me to join the Executive Committee and then become Chairman. During his presidency, Lord Carrington, to my recollection, never missed a Pilgrims' event. He would express reluctance, asking "Do I have to?" I would respond "Yes, my Lord." He would show up at 7:10 to lead the receiving line, charming the ladies and jollyng the men as they passed through.

He was an ardent supporter of the Special Relationship. Of course, the sole mission of the Pilgrims Society is its commitment to "The furtherance of Anglo-American good fellowship".

I can attest that the adjectives chosen by the various writers of his obituary are accurate, admirable and timely. There is no one else in Britain who I believe would have been so well described. It was a great honour for me to have, for so many years, so many meetings, so many lunches at his home and mine, at the Lords, White's and his favourite restaurant, Wilton's, where we sat in the same booth, served by the same waitress, every three or four months every year. I have never met a more loyal friend. It will be a great honour for me to represent the Pilgrims at his memorial service at noon on Thursday, 31 January, at Westminster Abbey. I know many Pilgrims will also be present.



William Weld

IN MEMORIAM

- Lady Bellinger*
- Lady Bischoff*
- Professor David Caron*
- The Right Hon the Lord Carrington KG GCMG CH MC*
- Horton P. Kennedy*
- George Macdonald*
- Andre Newburg*
- George A. Newell*
- Professor Robert L. Schuettinger*
- Richard Sermon, MBE*
- Michael Sissons*
- Jeremy Spofforth*

William Weld reflects on his achievements as a lawyer and politician and on the consequences of the Trump administration

William Weld was the guest speaker at a Pilgrims' luncheon held at The Naval Club on Thursday 14th June presided over by Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson .

After a warm introduction by long-time friend and fellow Pilgrim the Hon. William Shawcross, Mr Weld began by recalling his time as the United States Attorney for the district of Massachusetts from 1981 to 1986, dealing with a series of very high-profile corruption cases. A rare bird as a libertarian Republican, in

1990 he was elected Governor of Massachusetts and in 1994 achieved a second term with a remarkable 71 percent of the popular vote. Later, he stood for the Senate and lost to John Kerry in 1996. He failed to become US Ambassador to Mexico in 1997 because of opposition by Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms.

Governor Weld was regarded as the most fiscally conservative governor in the USA at a time when Massachusetts achieved the number one position in terms of literacy

and numeracy among the 50 States of the Union. He is a staunch opponent of the present occupant of the Oval Office - especially with his views on drugs, gay rights, environmental and other social issues.

After a few questions on nominations to the US Supreme Court, the split between Democrats and Republicans (as well as the splits within both parties) and on the production and sale of cannabis, Mr Weld received a very warm vote of thanks from Sir Peter Bottomley MP (Executive Committee).

Admiral Sir George Zambellas welcomes us to the brave new world of Artificial Intelligence.



As part of the attempt to widen the repertoire of Pilgrims' events, Short Chats have been introduced in order to offer quick and less expensive events without lunch. The first of these was held at The Naval Club on Wednesday 27th June with fellow Pilgrim Sir George Zambellas as guest speaker.

Former First Sea Lord of the Royal Navy, Sir George Zambellas has a remarkable CV as an engineer, pilot and pioneer in the use of robotics and Artificial Intelligence. When Aldous Huxley published his book *Brave New World* in 1932, the prophecies contained therein created a sensation. These prophecies have become a reality and the work carried out by Sir George and his colleagues has surpassed Huxley's predictions.

Sir George began by examining the essence of Artificial Intelligence with regard to the phenomenal amount of data and the sophistication of the most advanced equations that exist in computers. He went on to list the three essential ingredients - amplification, articulation, automation - and compared the arrival of Artificial Intelligence to that of electricity in the 19th Century. AI (as we may call it) will bring about far more changes and will probably change humanity itself. Sir George declared that eventually aircraft will fly without pilots. Indeed, he went so far as to prophecy that we would see the first pilotless transport within five years.

At question time Sir George rejected the idea of a fourth Industrial Revolution but saw

the impact of AI as the first full human evolution as well as emphasising the role of AI in space exploration and the difference between a mechanical process and an experimental one. He also took issue with the idea of alien civilisations visiting us (as portrayed in books and films) and looked at the possible financial impact of AI as well as driverless cars and the prospect of 'rogue drones'.

This talk was chaired by Diane Simpson (Pilgrims' Chairman) and Sir Peter Bottomley, MP (Executive Committee) delivered a very warm vote of thanks to Sir George for his charismatic and masterly delivery of this very complex subject.



on the website and following the simple instructions on the screen for 'first time registration'.

At the same time, we have added a page to the public part of the website outlining the programme of future events (the full details of events including venues will continue to be available in the Members' Area). This is to make it easier for everybody to keep up to date with the programme and for members to register an interest in attending an event with the Executive Secretary. It also has the advantage that members of the Pilgrims Society of the USA can now keep track of our events and ask to attend when they are visiting the UK.

FROM THE HON SECRETARY Getting the best from the website

By Stephen Wright

Members will be aware from the note that they received in May that we have updated and improved the Society's arrangements for managing and protecting members' personal information, in line with the requirements of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This note details some further improvements that we have made to the Society's website (www.pilgrimsociety.org).

The new Members' Area of the website will shortly display a full list of members' names (this replaces the printed membership booklet that we have discontinued because of the risk that copies might fall into the wrong hands). In addition, members can now add more detail about themselves such as their personal background

and their interest in the Pilgrims Society, as well as see the entries that other members have contributed, confident in the knowledge that this information can only be read by fellow members of the Society.

I would encourage everyone to use this new facility so that we can all know a little more about each other and strengthen the links and friendships between us. So far, 16% of our members have registered to use the new Members' Area. This is quite good progress for the first six months, but I hope that many others will do so now and in the months ahead so that we can achieve a higher take-up for the new facility. If you haven't done so already, please register your names and your personal password by opening the Members' Area page

Finally, I would encourage members who have any comments or questions about how we manage the Society's affairs to get in touch at any time with me or the Executive Secretary, Mrs Amy Thompson.

IN MEMORIAM

Sir Gordon Brunton

Graham Corbett

Sir Alan Dawtry CBE TD

Dr Cyril Nemeth

Lady Reid

Sir Cyril Taylor GBE

**Admiral Sir John Treacher
KCB**

Stephen Waterhouse

Simon Targett offers a gripping account of the exploits and achievements of the 16th and 17th century merchant adventurers



A used British postage stamp celebrating the 350th Anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers' journey in the Mayflower to the New World circa 1670

On Wednesday 11th July, Dr Simon Targett spoke to a Pilgrims' audience at the Naval Club in the second of our Short Chat luncheon lectures.

Dr Targett's subject was his latest book "New World Inc.: How English Merchants founded America and launched the British Empire". He began by recounting the story of the Pilgrim Fathers and the Mayflower voyage in 1620 but then pointed out that the real story of America began in 1551 with an impoverished England seeking to break out into the world through exploration and merchant venture schemes. Dr Targett mentioned the familiar names of Francis Drake, Captain John Smith and Sir Walter Raleigh

but also drew attention to such neglected (by historians) figures as the Countess of Warwick and Thomas Smith (the real motive force behind

the Jamestown settlement in 1607). Dr Targett's main thesis in his book is that the merchant adventurers are the forgotten heroes and true founders of America, the progenitors of 'the American Dream'.

Simon Targett dealt very adroitly with such testing topics as possible cannibalism amongst the original American settlers, the role of religious persecution allied with economic factors behind the quest for the New World and the importance of the slave trade. He spoke also of the Pilgrim Fathers' true destination as well as the amount of wealth amassed from voyages of discovery and the significance of the royal patents/royal charters bestowed upon merchant venturers.

Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson introduced the guest speaker and Sir Peter Bottomley (Executive Committee) thanked Simon Targett for his excellent discourse.

Forward Programme 2018

Short Chat with Professor Kathleen Burk. Kathleen is Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at University College London, columnist and radio panellist. She will talk about Anglo-American relations and her new book "The Lion and the Eagle"

The Short Chat will take place on Tuesday 29th January 2019 at the Savile Club at 12.30 - 2.00pm at 69 Brook Street, Mayfair, London, W1K 4ER.

Cost: £20 per person to include tea, coffee and sandwiches.

Short Chat with Sir David Omand, GCB. David is Visiting Professor at the Department of War Studies, King's College, London and will talk about his new book "Principled Spying: The Ethics of Secret Intelligence"

The Short Chat will take place on Wednesday 13th February at the Savile Club at 12.30 - 2.00pm at 69 Brook Street, Mayfair, London, W1K 4ER.

Cost: £20 per person to include tea, coffee and sandwiches.

22nd Annual Reflections lecture with Mr Ronald Freeman, Chairman of The Pilgrims, 2010-2017

The lecture, "Reflections, East and West" will take place at 6.30pm on Thursday 28th February 2019 at The Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London W1J 7PX

Cost: £20.00 per person for the lecture and reception. £60.00 for the optional supper also to be held at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

Professor Nick McCave takes the long view of Climate Change and the Oceans



Climate change

Professor Nick McCave has achieved an outstanding career as a geologist and climatologist, specialising in analysing the properties of deep ocean sediments for understanding past behaviour of the ocean circulation/ climate system in the Atlantic, Southwestern Pacific, Southern and Indian Oceans. He has received several honours and is currently Emeritus Woodwardian Professor of Geology at Cambridge University. Professor McCave proved to be an ideal and outstanding speaker at one of our Short Chat lunchtime lectures held at the Naval Club on Wednesday 18th July.

Professor McCave delivered an enthralling discourse on the long cooling period of the last 50 million years, the amount of past carbon dioxide injections into the atmosphere and the oceans, the whole subject of ocean circulation and heat transport. He also dealt with the topic of warmer North Pacific, past sea level changes and changes in variability - solar radiation driving of ice-sheets and the much discussed possible shut-down of the Gulf Stream.

At question time Professor McCave tackled such diverse subjects as blaming the dinosaurs for the amount of methane gas, the effect of the Ice Age, the impact

of carbon dioxide on global warming, the possible effect of humans stopping eating meat and much stricter control of fossil fuel. He was also asked about the impact of the Indian Ocean's very high sea temperatures on monsoons, as well as the effect of plastic pollution, the respective roles of politicians, business people and scientists in climate change and the environmental impact of all human activity.

Nick McCave was introduced by Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson and the vote of thanks (with customary book and tie) was delivered by Executive Committee member Mr Abdul Bhanji.

Tour of the Royal Hospital Chelsea and the Chelsea Physic Garden

On Thursday 5th July, a group of Pilgrims and guests visited the Royal Hospital Chelsea and the Chelsea Physic Garden.

Founded by King Charles II (with the strong encouragement of Nell Gwynn) the Royal Hospital was built by Sir Christopher Wren between 1682 and 1692 as a home for the Chelsea Pensioners, now numbering some three hundred ex-servicemen and women. Women (Lady Pensioners) have been admitted since 2009. Wren's buildings were subsequently added to by Robert Adam and Sir John Soane.

The Chapel is almost as Wren left it with very elaborate oak carving. The Hall contains a huge equestrian portrait of Charles II by Verrio. Among the flags are some captured from the Americans in the war of 1812-15. The body of Wellington lay in State in the Hall in 1852. Outside, a statue of Charles II has been placed in the centre of the court. This statue by Grinling Gibbons is wreathed with oak leaves each year on 29th May, Founder's Day. The museum, located in the Secretary's Office Block, contains photographs, prints, uniforms, medals, pewter



Façade of the Royal Hospital for retired soldiers in Chelsea, London. Designed by Sir Christopher Wren and completed in 1692. Viewed from the pavement



and arms as well as the remarkable portrait of William Haisland who served eighty years in the army and died in 1732 at the age of 112.

After a most enjoyable and convivial lunch at the Tangerine Dream café at the Chelsea Physic Garden (a short walk from the Royal Hospital), guests were given the opportunity to view the garden. Sir Hans Sloane, whose statue by Rysbrack (1733) stands in the garden, presented the site to the Apothecaries Society in 1722 on condition that two thousand

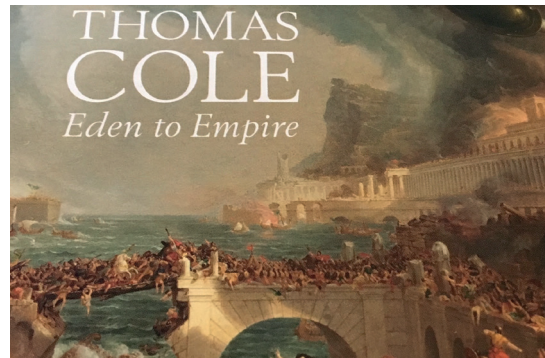


specimens of distinct plants, as grown in the garden, should be sent to the Royal Society 'well dried and well preserved' in annual instalments of 50.

All in all, a very pleasant and memorable day spent in the splendid historical surroundings of the Royal Hospital and the beautiful setting of the Chelsea Physic Garden. Our thanks to the Chelsea Pensioners and the staff at the Hospital and Garden for their kindness and hospitality.

Thomas Cole Exhibition - Eden to Empire

On Thursday 20th September, Pilgrims and guests were treated to a special morning Private View (plus breakfast) of the Thomas Cole exhibition at the National Gallery. Chris Riopelle (curator) welcomed everyone and gave a brief introduction outlining the life and work of the artist.



Thomas Cole (1801-48) was arguably the greatest American landscape painter of his age and yet he has been strangely neglected by the country of his birth, Britain. Cole came from Bolton and emigrated with his family to the USA in 1819 and settled in Catskill, New York. He became the founder of the Hudson River School of landscape painters. In 1830 two of his paintings were exhibited at the Royal Academy in

London and he made sketching and painting tours of Britain, France and Italy.

Undoubtedly his true greatness lay in his American landscape paintings. Greatly influenced by Constable and Turner (both of whom he met), Cole sought to emphasise the power of nature in his Course of Empire paintings and his Voyage of Life paintings - all

included in the exhibition. Cole was profoundly disillusioned by the pace of industrialisation in the USA during the first half of the nineteenth century and his work may be seen as a 'cri de coeur' against the destruction of the natural landscape. Chris Riopelle's excellent and perceptive analysis of Cole's work leads one to wonder how much more he might have achieved had he not died at the age of 47.

Visit to Westminster Abbey

On Tuesday 30th October, a small group of Pilgrims and guests was welcomed to Westminster Abbey by fellow Pilgrim the Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.

As on previous visits, our tour took in such familiar sights as the Shrine of St Edward the Confessor, the funeral effigy head of King Henry VII, the funeral effigy of Horatio Nelson and Poets' Corner which has seen some recent notable additions. David Hockney's stained glass window, marking the Queen's reign, is another recent addition which has attracted a great deal

of attention. Westminster Abbey holds a unique place in our national history as the place in which every monarch from Harold II (the last Anglo-Saxon King) to Elizabeth II has been crowned, (with the exceptions of the boy -King Edward V and the abdicated King Edward VIII).

On this occasion we had the opportunity to visit the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries, named in honour of the 60th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne. The Galleries occupy the eastern triforium built in about 1250, during the reign of Henry



View of Westminster Abbey

III, and contain about 300 objects from the Abbey's collection. After a most enjoyable afternoon tea in the Cellarium restaurant, our visit ended with Evensong in the Abbey - an event which has a special magic and significance of its own.

Our thanks for a most enjoyable visit to John Hall and his staff.

Visit to the New US Embassy



A view of the exterior of the new US Embassy in the Nine Elms (Wandsworth) area of South West London

On 18th April 2016, a special Pilgrims' meeting at Portcullis House was addressed by Rodney Evans, Project Manager for the new US London Embassy. On 1st November 2018 a group of Pilgrims was given a specially conducted tour of the Embassy.

The construction of the new eleven storey building at Nine Elms cost over a billion dollars. This expenditure was at no cost to the US taxpayer on account of the revenue gained from the sale of the old Grosvenor Square Embassy and its surrounding buildings. Occupying a 4.9-acre site, this is very much an Embassy for the 21st century with a projected life span of at least one hundred years. It enjoys plenty of natural light and has seven gardens, each

representing a different aspect of the USA.

No. 33 Nine Elms, as we should get used to calling it, is a bold and imaginative design for which architect Kieran Timberlake should take full credit. As a working environment, the new Embassy scores the highest possible marks, with a superb riverside view every bit as impressive as the riverside view from the Houses of Parliament. This building meets all the requirements of an embassy in terms of physical and visual security and in terms of space.

Our thanks to Ambassador Johnson and his staff for their hospitality and we offer them our best wishes for the future in their new surroundings.

Thanksgiving Evensong at the Temple Church

On Wednesday 14th November, Pilgrims and guests joined the congregation at Temple Church for a special Thanksgiving Evensong service.

Temple Church is a very familiar venue to Pilgrim members and is the most important of the five remaining round Churches in England. Its history goes back to 1185. The whole building was very seriously damaged by bombing in 1941 and its restoration was not completed until 1961. The Temple Church with its strong historical associations has its own unique atmosphere and this comes across in any religious service held there.

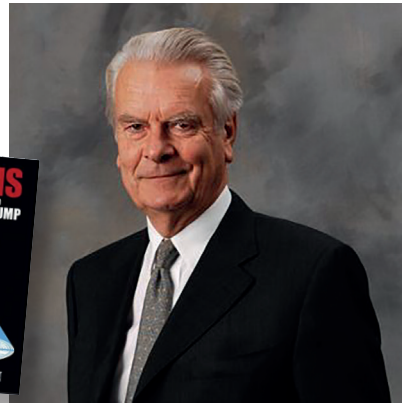
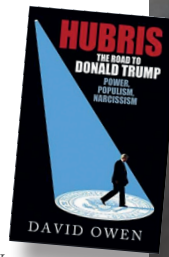
During the service, Chairman Diane Simpson read a lesson and then following the Thanksgiving Choral Evensong, we were given a most enjoyable drinks reception in the Round Church. Our thanks to Revd Robin Griffith-Jones, Master of the Temple and Pilgrims Honorary Chaplain and his staff for their hospitality.



Lord Owen talks about his new book

David Owen has made an incredible impression on British politics as the youngest Foreign Secretary (aged 38) since Anthony Eden. A member of the Gang of Four (not to be confused with Madame Mao and her associates), he was also leader of the SDP and EU peace negotiator in the former Yugoslavia. His new book "Hubris: The Road to Donald Trump" provided the basis for a Pilgrims' evening meeting, held on Wednesday 28th November.

After being introduced by Pilgrims' Chairman Diane Simpson, David Owen took up the main theme of his book - the mental and physical conditions of political leaders past and present - ie: Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt through to Tony Blair, George W Bush and Donald Trump. He emphasised the differences in



Lord David Owen

the Jacksonian camp. He also pointed out that Andrew Jackson wanted the Electoral College to be abolished and replaced by the plurality of the popular vote. In the 2016 Presidential Election, Hillary Clinton had over 3 million more popular votes than Donald Trump. Could there be a real move in the near future, to follow through Jackson's idea and abolish the Electoral College?

David Owen dealt adroitly with a range of questions and was thanked warmly by the Chairman. We are most grateful to Kweilen Hatleskog (Executive Committee) for her hospitality.

NEW MEMBERS, JUNE 2018 AND SEPTEMBER 2018

- Hon Sue Baring**
- Kim Beddall**
- Mark Bergman**
- Professor Bruce Boucher**
- Glenda Burkhart**
- Michael Burland**
- The Lady**
- Melissia Dembrosky**
- Benjamin Ducas**
- Sarah Elliott**
- Lord Fairfax of Cameron**
- George Freeman, MP**
- Rakhi Goss-Custard**
- Kenneth Hoffman**
- Dr Elizabeth Kehoe**
- Dr Paul Knapman**
- Sarah Laessig**
- Lord Nicholas Macpherson**
- The Hon Richard Newall**
- Mike Penrose**
- Ronald Porter FLS, LL.B**
- Simon Targett**
- John Taylor**
- Linda Waterhouse**
- Michelle Waterman**

News from The Pilgrims of the United States

Dr Hartwig Fischer was the guest of honour at a reception held at The River Club, New York on 24th October. Dr Fischer was appointed director of the British Museum in 2016. His career includes the position of curator of the Kunstmuseum, Basel; director of the Museum Folkwang in Essen and director

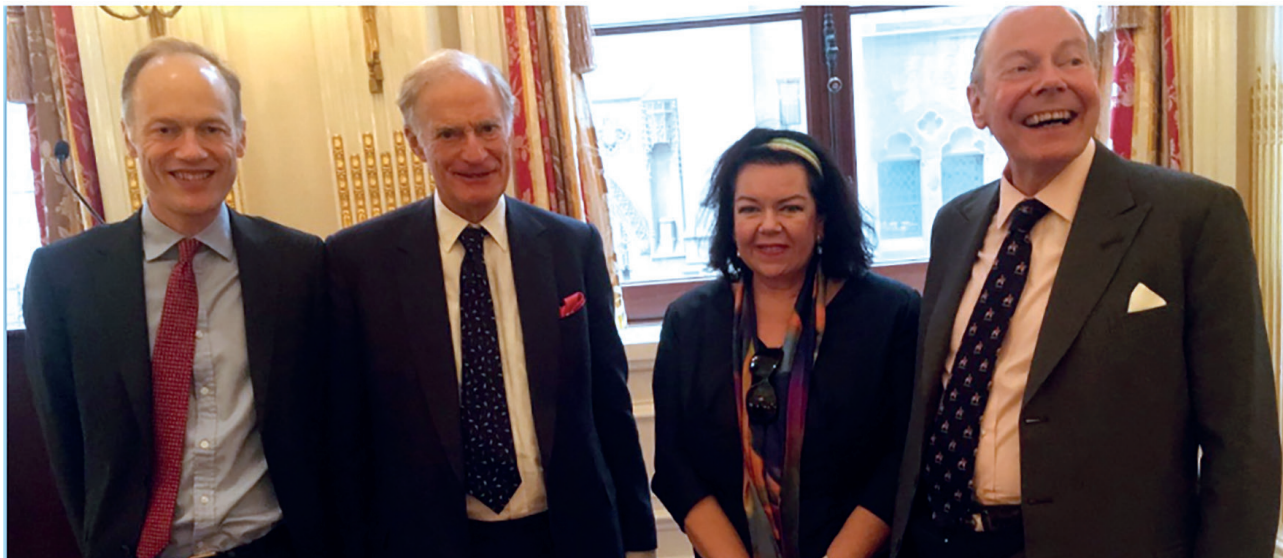
of the Dresden State Art Collections where he was responsible for fourteen museums and four separate institutions in four cities.

Dr Fischer has studied History of Art, History and Classical Archaeology in Bonn, Berlin, Rome and Paris and holds a doctorate in Philosophy.



L-R John Drexel IV, James Zirin, Hartwig Fisher, Miner H. Warner, President of the Pilgrims of the US

News from The Pilgrims of the United States (cont.)



The Most Honourable The Marquess of Lothian PC QC DL has held posts of Chairman of the Conservative Party, Deputy Leader, Shadow Foreign Secretary and Shadow Secretary of State for Defence. Lord Lothian's UK diplomatic career spans over 35 years and he continues to study peace processes with particular reference to the Middle East peace process. He is the Chairman of Global Strategy Forum, an independent, non-party-political forum dedicated to the promotion of fresh thinking and active debate on foreign affairs, defence and international security issues. Lord Lothian was the guest of honour at a reception held at the Racquet and Tennis Club on October 4th 2018.

On December 4th 2018, Sebastian Mallaby, English journalist and author, was the guest of honour at a breakfast reception at The University Club, College Hall, New York where he gave a talk "Is there any Exit from Brexit?". Sebastian is the Paul A Volcker senior fellow for international economics at the Council on Foreign Relations and is a contributing columnist for The Washington Post. Sebastian has

L-R: Sebastian Mallaby, James Zirin, Karen Pierce, Permanent Representative of the UK to the United Nations, Miner H. Warner, President of the Pilgrims of the US

written several prize-winning books and was educated at Oxford where he obtained a first-class degree in modern history. He now lives in London after 18 years in Washington DC.



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The Pilgrims

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The Pilgrims Newsletter



A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain

VOL 25, NO 2
SPRING 2018

The Pilgrims' Special Relationship lies at the heart of Justin Welby's address



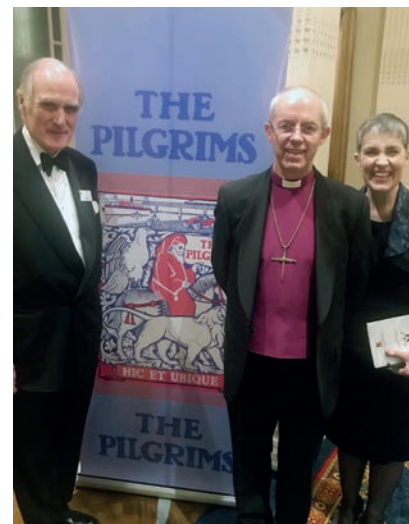
Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury

On the 25th January 2018 a Dinner was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club in honour of the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Following the welcome of Pilgrims and guests by Pilgrims' Chairman Dee Dee Simpson, and a formal introduction of Justin Welby by Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup, the 105th occupant of the Chair of St Augustine began by recalling that he had recently watched the much-praised Churchill film *The Darkest Hour* and remembered having tea with the great man in 1961

when he was only 5. He stated that the relationship between Britain and the USA is nothing if it is not expressed in values. He referred to Palmerston's statement of British foreign policy in the mid nineteenth century: "no perpetual friend and no perpetual enemies". He went on to stress the need to determine the reality and historic values of the UK/US relationship in a rapidly changing world - viz. Brexit, the rise of China and the rise of Africa. The Archbishop stated that the Special Relationship is made up of several strands: spiritual, cultural, economic and military.

Archbishop Welby made particular reference to the parable of the Good Samaritan in St Luke's Gospel and posed the question as to what is the point of the Special Relationship if it is only self-serving? If it draws on the common capacity of both the UK and the USA, then it is something worthwhile. He argued strongly that a truly ethical foreign policy is something that we should aim for. He offered the horrifying statistic that there are now 65 million displaced people in the world compared to 20 million in 1945. Nuclear weapons continue to proliferate which could fall into the hands of terrorists. We are faced with huge environmental problems



Lord Stirrup, President of The Pilgrims with Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby Archbishop of Canterbury and Caroline Welby

together with protectionism and problems of resources.

Later, the Archbishop answered questions on a wide range of topics: the size of our international aid budget (0.7% at present), President Trump, starvation, poor health, corruption/bad government and worldwide conflicts. Mark Seligman, Executive Committee, delivered a warm vote of thanks to the Archbishop and announced that he has agreed to become an Honorary Member of the Pilgrims.

Help Us Strengthen The Pilgrims for a New Era

*Membership Committee Chairman,
Tristan Elbrick:*

I am writing to ask you to reflect carefully, and to help your Membership Committee, of which I am chairman. Our Pilgrim Society is in pretty good health. Yes, we have a membership which reflects a wonderfully broad range of interests. Yes, members are supportive of the Anglo-American relationship, true to the Society's purpose. But as chairman of the Membership Committee, I am asking each and every Pilgrim to join in making the Pilgrims something more.

While we have a loyal membership true to our founding principles, that is not enough. Among the generations represented, there is a strong skew to those with deep knowledge and long careers. We are extremely fortunate to have experienced leaders and decision-makers in our midst: but naturally we would want to add members who are at the beginning and middle of their potential impact on the Anglo-American relationship, too. While we have female and male members, women are under-represented. In traditional walks of life, we are well covered. But that is not true for newer areas of interest, many of them visibly informing the evolving US-UK relationship. These include artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital media, to name just three. In summary, diversity is not where it should be among our Pilgrim ranks, on any optic. I must stress that our Membership Committee is not interested in diversity for its own sake: but with a specific objective - to enrich the Pilgrims dialogue and experience



Photo credit: Xanthe Elbrick

Tristan Elbrick

for all members. My message here is a simple but profound one: The Pilgrims today does not adequately reflect the diversity of modern talents underpinning the Anglo-American relationship.

How can you help the Membership Committee? Please think of a young person, in their 20s, 30s, 40s, whether family or friend, who would enjoy being part of what we do: the Anglo-Indian software programmer, the female trade negotiator, the Manchester music executive, the young diplomat, the GCHQ cybersecurity guru with African roots. Please think of these and more. But also please suggest names to the Membership Committee of people you don't know well enough (yet) to propose, but whom you believe

to be potential Pilgrims in the near future. Even just triggering the idea will really help us. To put the objective another way: if you have been a Pilgrim for more than 2 years and have not yet proposed or suggested a candidate or two, whether within your family or beyond, we would like you to consider changing that this year. We want your best ideas, and we want to make sure that The Pilgrims continues to be reflective of the best of modern Britain in support of fellowship with the United States.

Why do I care about this personally?

We Pilgrims usually explain our support for the Society by citing aspects of birth, education, family and friendship, and the many opportunities we have enjoyed which *cont.>*

cont.> result from Anglo-American goodwill. Examples would include post WW2 peace in Europe, successful trade and commerce, travel, and even entertainment from our combined film industry efforts. The actual range is huge. Pilgrims' individual stories cover a spectrum of constructive exchanges which all give substance to our vision and mission as Pilgrims.

My own story has Anglo-American goodwill at its very heart. For I was born a dual national, grandson of two diplomats who coincided in Washington, representing the United States and the United Kingdom respectively from the aftermath of WW2. Both were devoted proponents of international dialogue, and closely involved in the formation and development of the United Nations, NATO and other international organisations. Each pursued that careful balance between serving national interests and developing international understanding.

My father preferred not to follow the family tradition of attending the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, instead receiving an officer commission in the US Marine Corps, at Quantico, VA. Later based in London, he turned to family friend and former British Ambassador to Washington, Lord Caccia, for advice on educating his children in Britain. Harold Caccia was then Provost at Eton, luckily also the most convenient school for Atlantic crossings from Heathrow. After Eton, I went on to read Greats at Brasenose College, Oxford, inspired at the age of 9 by 'Supermac', Harold Macmillan. After 5 years in the City with Lazard and Nomura, I went on to study for an MBA at Harvard, returning to entrepreneurial London finance

in 2002. Throughout this journey, I have always enjoyed the constructive trans-Atlantic goodwill resulting from the long efforts of others, which has opened doors and accelerated trustful relationships.

My sisters Sophie, Alexia and Xanthe now live in Manhattan NY, Princeton NJ and Gettysburg PA, and my parents keep a house in upstate New York, not far from the massacre at Cherry Valley portrayed in the opening of Fenimore Cooper's 'Last of the Mohicans'. That house is a rarity in modern America, being built on land we have held since the 1760s and which (surprisingly recently) lay on the western frontier of the US. Other fun ancestral connections with North America include: the recipient of Charles II's charter to found Rhode Island as a colony; artist Eastman Johnson, co-founder of New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art; Clara Harris, guest of the President and First Lady at Ford's Theatre when Lincoln was assassinated; several intrepid admirals, among them the founder of US Naval Aviation (whose efforts enabled the US carrier fleet to take shape and become a tool of US military deployment).

Some of my personal touch-points with America have bright colours, and some will perhaps amuse. But every Pilgrim will appreciate a theme we all share: of past, current and future constructive experiences and opportunities derived specifically from the Anglo-American relationship.

Today we face a seismic shift, being labelled the 4th Industrial Revolution. We can expect a fusion of new technologies to blur lines between

physical, digital and biological spheres, and in the years ahead there will be breakthrough developments in robotics, artificial intelligence, blockchain, nanotechnology, quantum technology and biotechnology. This will be an exciting, threatening and promising era, which will redefine the relationship between humans and machines. From a Pilgrims perspective, it's a reasonable assumption that US and UK goodwill will never have been so important, as we face these changes.

That is the immediate context. So, I ask you now to consider very carefully who you can bring forward as a potential member of the Pilgrims. If we enhance the diversity of our Society by age, gender, birth, background, education and skills, we will have strengthened the mission-readiness of our Society for a new era, while ensuring the quality of experience we each enjoy.

NEW MEMBERS NOVEMBER 2017 AND FEBRUARY 2018

Wendy, Countess of Caledon

Lieutenant General Andrew Figgures

Lord Kakkar

Gareth Neame OBE

Ian Dalzell

James Stoddart

Jason McCaughey

Michael Wellman

Simon Urry

Mrs Sophie Muir Rothschild

Ms Marykay Fuller

Sir Bob Reid

Sir Frederick Crawford looks back on a remarkable and versatile career full of high achievement



Dee Dee Simpson, Chairman of The Pilgrims and Sir Frederick Crawford, DL

Sir Frederick began by explaining his apparently contradictory title “A Purposeful Random Walk through Life” and stressing the importance of preparing purposefully for the future even though this might involve activities from which one might be randomly distracted. His own career began with an engineering apprenticeship and part-time degree studies followed by twenty years of plasma research. At one point he failed by just two votes to become the President of the National Union of Students. In 1958 Sir Frederick was presented with the Observer Mace in that newspaper’s sponsored university debating competition which then led to a debating tour of the USA.

From 1960 to 1980, Sir Frederick held a professorship at Stanford University

followed by a period as Vice-Chancellor at Aston University (1980 - 1996) where he was responsible for a major restructuring programme and went on to establish a new element of the Criminal Justice system - the Criminal Cases Review Commission (1996 - 2003).

At question time Sir Frederick dealt with complex matters such as university education in Britain and the US and the need for more apprenticeships in this country, university endowments, the importance of mathematical studies in schools and universities and whether we make our own luck in life. Executive Committee member Tristan Elbrick thanked Sir Frederick for his excellent discourse on a very distinguished and versatile career and presented him with the customary Pilgrims’ tie and official history.

Forward Programme 2018

Wednesday 27th June

Snapchat talk with Sir George Zambellas GCB, DSC, FRAeS, DL ‘Technology - Evolution, Revolution and Replacement’

Sir George will tease out the advances in technology that some fear and others welcome, and rather bravely predict where we humans and our ways of life will end up.

Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5NS

12.45 for 1.00pm until 2.00pm.
£12.00 £12.00 including tea/coffee/biscuits*

Thursday 5th July

Private tour of the Royal Hospital Chelsea followed by lunch and a tour of the Chelsea Physic Garden

9.45am - 3.00pm £48.00

Wednesday 11th July

Snapchat talk with Dr Simon Targett and book signing of his new book New World, Inc: How English Merchants Founded America and Launched the British Empire

Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5NS

12.45 for 1.00pm until 2.00pm.
£12.00 including tea/coffee/biscuits*

Frederick Kempe presents his view of the uncertain global situation



Frederick Kempe

A Pilgrims' Luncheon at the Naval Club was addressed by Frederick Kempe, President and CEO of the Atlantic Council on the 26th February 2018.

Frederick Kempe began by saying that he would be concentrating on five main areas: the major power conflict between the USA, Russia and China, the position of the USA in world affairs, the concept of Western democracy, the breakdown of the global system and technological change.

On the subject of major power conflict, Mr Kempe believed that war between the USA and Russia was not unthinkable. Interstate conflict was a big risk ie Iraq, Iran, Syria and Saudi Arabia. US leadership in the world was under threat, as was the whole concept of the global community. This uncertainty over US leadership predated Donald Trump and would outlive his presidency. Western-style democracy

was under attack all over the world and there has been a breakdown in the global system. Furthermore, he felt that we are at the beginning of an era of massive technological change - the so-called fourth industrial revolution. Mr Kempe emphasised that we must develop a shared understanding of these threats and create a common response. Paraphrasing Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities, he concluded by saying that "We live in the best and worst of times".

Question time brought such topics as China's role and position in the world, the role of international institutions and the development of new institutions, his view of Donald Trump and the rise of nationalism, populism, xenophobia and racism in Europe. In his warm vote of thanks, Pilgrims' Vice-President Ron Freeman thanked Frederick Kempe for his masterly survey of world problems and presented him with the customary Pilgrims' tie and official history.

Forward Programme 2018

Wednesday 18th July

Snapchat talk with Professor Nick McCave, Emeritus Woodwardian Professor of Geology at Cambridge University
Climate change and the Oceans: taking the long view.

Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5NS. 12.45 for 1.00pm until 2.00pm. £12.00 including tea/coffee/biscuits*

Monday 15th October

Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

by Dame DeAnne Julius DCMG CBE. K&L Gates LLP, One New Change, London, EC4M 9AF. 6.00 pm followed by a reception £18 per person and optional supper nearby (price and location TBC).

Wednesday 14th November

Thanksgiving Evensong

Temple Church 5.30pm followed by drinks in the Round Church. Family and friends welcome. There will be a voluntary collection for the Temple Church and The Pilgrims.

** In an effort to introduce new, quick, less expensive events, lunch will not be served at snapchats. You are welcome to make your own lunch reservation at the Naval Club to be taken after the Snapchat by calling 0207 5295604 (limited availability).*

Hamilton – An American Musical



Alexander Hamilton musical

On 6th March 2018, a group of 190 Pilgrims and guests attended an evening performance of Hamilton at the Victoria Palace Theatre.

Alexander Hamilton (1757-1804), the first Secretary of the US Treasury, is one of the most important yet strangely neglected figures in American history. In 2015, Hamilton - An American Musical, premiered on Broadway to enormous audience enthusiasm and won 11 Tony Awards, as well as the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Grammy Award for Best Musical Theatre Album.

Like the immortal Al Jolson, Hamilton is a unique experience through which you have to live. This remarkable confection of hip-hop, rhythm and blues, pop music and soul music has a mesmerising

effect on audiences. This is very much a collaborative effort and a triumph of theatrical teamwork. It seems almost invidious to single out contributions, ie Lin-Manuel Miranda's book, music and Lyrics, Thomas Kail's direction, Alex Lacamoire's music supervision and orchestrations and Andy Blankenbuehler's choreography. Then there is the cast - Jamael Westman and Ash Hunter as Hamilton, Obioma Ugoala as Washington, Jason Pennycooke as Thomas Jefferson and the Marquis de Lafayette, Giles Terera as Aaron Burr and Michael Jibson as King George III.

To attend a performance of Hamilton is to be in the presence of theatre history. Perhaps once in a half century a theatrical earthquake occurs with an overwhelming effect on audiences.

Hamilton - An American Musical - is such an event. Connoisseurs of theatre are always looking for the Holy Grail and now they have found it. Go and see Hamilton as soon as possible.

P.S. At the Olivier Awards, Hamilton went on to win 7 categories.

IN MEMORIAM

Sir Gordon Brunton

Graham Corbett

Sir Alan Dawtry CBE TD

Dr Cyril Nemeth

Lady Reid

Sir Cyril Taylor GBE

***Admiral Sir John Treacher
KCB***

Stephen Waterhouse

Danny Finkelstein speaks with his customary vigour and humour on the art and practice of politics



Lord Finkelstein

Lord Finkelstein addressed a Pilgrims' luncheon in Dining Room A of the House of Commons on the 3rd May.

Danny Finkelstein is one of those rare beings who speaks as well as he writes and, on this occasion, he attained full expectations with his wit and his incisive insight into the workings of the Westminster and Whitehall systems. He began by drawing comparisons with football statistics and the unreliability of expert forecasts. He went on to apply economic theories such as loss aversion and the contrast effect to political situations. He cited examples using then-Chief Whip Andrew Mitchell, Chancellor Philip Hammond, Ed Milliband during the 2015 general election and Jeremy

Corbin in the 2017 general election.

Question-time produced a number of questions relating to Jeremy Corbyn's actual competence as party leader and potential Prime Minister, the effect of President Macron on world affairs, the inevitable focus on Donald Trump and the misbehaviours of certain rebel members of Parliament in both Houses. The whole proceedings were chaired with great gusto and competence by Baroness Bottomley. Thanks were also given to Lady Owen for helping to organise the speaker.

Adam Boulton offers his assessment of the current state of the Anglo-American Relationship

On 14th May 2018 Pilgrims and guests gathered at the residence of fellow-Pilgrim Peter Felix and his wife to hear the distinguished journalist Adam Boulton, who has spent the bulk of his career at Sky News, speak on the US/British relationship.

Adam Boulton traced the relationship from the years of Churchill and FDR in the period 1940-45, through the Thatcher/Reagan years in the 1980's into the 1990's/2000's with Blair/Clinton and Blair/Bush to the present with May/Trump. Since 1945, successive British prime ministers have sought to maintain the relationship with the occupants

of the Oval Office - some with more notable achievement than others. Mr Boulton emphasised that Brexit and the election of Donald Trump (both in 2016) had altered the political landscape for both Britain and the USA.

At question time, led by Pilgrims' Chairman Dee Dee Simpson, Adam Boulton (a fellow-Pilgrim) covered such important topics as defence, intelligence, high technology - essential parts of the relationship along with the culture, industry and common values. Iran, North Korea, the role of China. Boris Johnson, Donald Trump and Theresa May also figured in the discussion. Adam



Adam Boulton

Boulton was thanked for his masterly analysis and presented with the customary tie and book.

A very special thanks to Peter and June Felix for their kind hospitality.

News from The Pilgrims of the United States



L-R Thomas L. Pullin, Sir Kim Darroch, Miner Warner

Sir Kim Darroch KCMG, Ambassador of the United Kingdom, presented his credentials to President Obama in 2016. His diplomatic career spans three decades and has been primarily focused on national security issues and European Union Policy. He was the guest of honour at a reception held at the Racquet and Tennis Club on December 13th 2017.



Mrs Franklin D. (Tobie) Roosevelt, Jr. Lord Stirrup, UK Pilgrims' President, Miner H. Warner Pilgrims' US President.

The Lord Stirrup KG GCB AFC ADC, is the former Chief of UK Defence Services and is the president of The Pilgrims UK. He became Chief of the Air Staff in 2003 and then Chief of the Defence

Staff, serving in the latter post until 2010, a longer period than any of his predecessors since Lord Mountbatten. He was the guest of Honour at a reception held at the Racquet and Tennis Club at April 9th 2019.



James Zirin, former Prime Minister of Australia The Hon Kevin Rudd, Miner H. Warner Pilgrims of the US President

Kevin Rudd was Prime Minister of Australia (2007-2010, 2013) and foreign minister (2010-2012). He is now president of the Asia Society Policy Institute, headquartered in New York. He was the guest of honour at a reception held at The University Club on January 31st 2018.



The Hon Thomas Kean presents the Medallion for Service to the Nation to The Hon Ash Carter

At the US Pilgrims 115th Annual Meeting on May 11th 2018, Ash Carter was presented with the Pilgrims of the United States Medallion for Service to the Nation. He was US Secretary of Defence (2015-2017). For over 35 years, Ash Carter has used his experience in national security, technology and innovation to defend the United States.

Save mailing costs and the environment

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The Pilgrims

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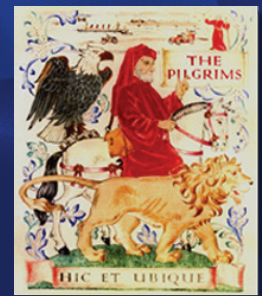
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The Pilgrims Newsletter

A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain



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Ambassador Johnson presents his credentials to The Pilgrims as a true friend of Great Britain

For many years Middle Temple Hall has been the venue for the most important Pilgrims' events—none more important than the welcoming dinner for a new US Ambassador. In a well-established tradition that goes back to the very early years of the twentieth century (thanks to the influence of principal Pilgrims' founder Sir Harry Brittain), a new Ambassador makes his first public speech in this country at a Pilgrims' gathering. Indeed, Middle Temple Hall was the venue chosen for The Pilgrims' dinner, held on 12th September 2017, to welcome Ambassador Johnson.

The Honorable Robert Wood Johnson IV qualified for this role as a billionaire businessman, philanthropist and public servant. He is also the owner of the New York Jets of The National Football League and a long standing member of the US Pilgrims.

Following his introduction by Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup, Ambassador Johnson began by remarking that he had only been in this country for 16 days. He went on to pay tribute to The Pilgrims in promoting the Special Relationship that is so important to both countries. On the subject of Brexit, he stated 'Britain's decision to leave the EU takes your country into

new territory but you are not heading there on your own. The United States is committed to standing with the UK through Brexit. Our position on Brexit is clear: we want a strong and prosperous UK to remain a leader in Europe and for the EU and UK to remain strong leaders globally'.

Ambassador Johnson emphasised that the UK would always have a strong and reliable trade partner in the US and that the inward investment by each country in the other was crucial. Security was the bedrock of the relationship as demonstrated by both countries working together through NATO, the UN Security Council and other bodies to deal with the issues presented by North Korea, Russia and international terrorism. He concluded by referring to the London Embassy's move from Grosvenor Square to Nine Elms and to the fact that the Ambassadorship in London is the most sought after mission in the State Department. Ambassador Johnson said that he looked forward to getting to know us as a country and to working with us as an envoy sent by a President whom he had known for over 30 years.

Ronald Freeman, Pilgrims' Chairman, thanked Ambassador Johnson for his thought-provoking speech and



Ambassador Johnson, Lord Stirrup and Diane Simpson



The Great Hall at Middle Temple



Ronald Freeman presenting the Ambassador with The Pilgrims of Great Britain History

wished him all the best in his new role, sentiments which were also echoed by Lord Stirrup, President of The Pilgrims.

Dear fellow Pilgrims:

by Diane G. Simpson, Chairman:

How did a girl from Ohio end up as Chairman of the Pilgrims of Great Britain? My job as an American diplomat brought me to the UK in 1981 but my marriage to a British subject, David Simpson, cemented my US-UK alliance. I have served at the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces negotiations in Geneva and on NGO boards, including the UK arm of the International Rescue Committee, and on the Alumni Council of my alma mater Dartmouth College.

I replace Ron Freeman, who served as Chairman with wit and charm for seven years. I'm sure you will join me in thanking him for his sterling service. I will certainly rely on his sage advice for some time to come. Thank you also to Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, whose tireless service as Honorable Secretary is being taken on by Sir Stephen Wright. Ron and Michael have been made Vice Presidents in recognition of their many years devoted to the Pilgrims.

Four other members of the Executive Committee have finished their tenure: Robert Alston, Lady Barbara Judge, Alastair Macpherson of Pitmain and Sir John Holmes. They have been replaced by Abdul Bhanji, Sir David Newbigging, Xenia Wickett, Air Marshal Sir David Walker, Peter Cadbury and Mark Seligman. In addition, Tristan Elbrick has become chairman of the Membership Committee and Sir Bryan Nicholson now chairs the Nominations Committee. Many thanks to those who gave us their time and expertise and thank you also to those who have agreed to join us.



Diane 'Dee Dee' Simpson

Of course many of you attended the splendid retirement evening in honour of our beloved Tessa Wells. Tessa is now a life member of the Pilgrims so this was thank you but not goodbye. We have now welcomed our new Executive Secretary Amy Thompson, who has hit the ground running with the well-attended dinner in honour of the new US Ambassador at Middle Temple as well as several other events detailed in this newsletter.

I already know many of you and look forward to meeting more of you at one of our upcoming events. Please make a point of saying hello to me, Amy and the other new members of the Executive Committee. We would like to know your views on favourite events, things you'd like to do more of, and other ways we can improve your experience as a Pilgrim. As we move forward in an uncertain world, US-UK relations are ever more important.

Please forgive this slightly boring housekeeping but transparency is important. One last point: I know we are fairly formal in the Pilgrims but all my life I've been known as Dee Dee, so if you call me Diane I might not respond!

NEW MEMBERS JUNE AND OCTOBER 2017

Pamela Harris Botsford

Alexander Bowden

Rear Admiral Alex Burton

Lord Valentine Cecil

Mrs Dena Lee Crooke

Dame Amelia Fawcett DBE

The Lord Bridges of Headley MBE

Mrs Susan Harrington

Lady Horne

Colonel David Charles Hudson MBE

The Revd Paul Hunt

Vice Admiral Ben Key

The Right Hon David Lidington CBE MP

Henry Lawson

Robert S Leaf

Professor Marianne W Lewis

Ray Mingay CMG

Edward Moorhouse

Ms Penny Mordaunt MP

Bruce Noble MBE

The Right Hon the Lord Hill of Oareford CBE

The Right Hon Mike Penning MP

Don Robert

Ms Pamela Shores

Michael Sissons

Lt Colonel Tugendhat MBE MP

Anthony Ugorji

Hugh Williamson-Noble

Miles Young

Mrs Hilary Younger

Farewell dinner for Tessa Wells



Tessa Wells



Tessa with new Executive Secretary Amy Thompson

by Tessa Wells:

Having decided to retire after eighteen years as Executive Secretary, I was delighted and hugely flattered when Ron Freeman suggested that the Pilgrims should hold a dinner in my honour. The dinner took place at the Cavalry and Guards Club on 6th September. My husband, three children, two daughters-in-law and my sister all attended. Andrew some of you know - he is delighted that the number of high-speed journeys to catch trains to London has declined but disappointed that he can no longer proof-read my minutes and pieces for the newsletter. William and his wife Caroline had never before attended a Pilgrims' event and Frederick and Emma have made the occasional appearance. Augusta, who sadly that evening had to leave her husband minding the business and the baby in Wiltshire, is known to many of you through the help she has given me at events, at which my sister Sarah has also helped.

All of them really enjoyed the dinner and meeting so many members.

And there were so many members of the Pilgrims there too, which brought home to me how lucky I am that my years in the job had given me a huge number of good friends, lots of whom I was thrilled to see that evening. I left the dinner with a gorgeous large Emma Bridgewater bowl, specially inscribed, and the following day a pistachio Kitchenaid Artisan was delivered. Both are in constant use in my kitchen and a wonderful reminder of many happy years. I was particularly delighted and honoured (and humbled) to be made a life member of the Pilgrims, and that Andrew and I can attend Pilgrims' events whenever we wish.

Thank you to those who were able to come to the dinner. Thank you for the wonderful presents. And thank you for the friendship you have given me over the years. You haven't seen the last of me!

Message from the new Executive Secretary

by Amy Thompson

Following approximately fifteen years' experience as an Events Executive with PwC and a break of five years to raise a family, I was delighted to be asked to step into Tessa Wells' position after her recent retirement as Executive Secretary of The Pilgrims. Tessa's wonderful reputation and hard work precede her and I am fortunate to have had the benefit of her experience in the thorough handover that she has given me. I am now settling into my new role and am greatly looking forward to getting to know you all personally as we meet at forthcoming Pilgrims' events. I also look forward to hearing from you if I can assist in any way.



David Cannadine examines the life and legacy of Margaret Thatcher

A Pilgrims' luncheon was held at the Oxford and Cambridge Club on 21st June with fellow-Pilgrim Professor Sir David Cannadine as the guest speaker. Sir David spoke about his book *Margaret Thatcher - A Life And Legacy*. He had previously addressed The Pilgrims at a luncheon in November 2001.

Sir David Cannadine, one of our most distinguished historians whose publications have covered all aspects of British social, cultural, political and imperial history, is a great Americanophile. He is currently a Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University, a Visiting Professor of History at Oxford University and General Editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography.

After an introduction by Peter Cadbury, Sir David offered some interesting anecdotes about Margaret Thatcher, whose entry in the Oxford DNB runs to 33,648 words - the third longest entry. His main object was to treat such an enormous and controversial personality with a



Sir David Cannadine

sense of detachment and balance. Cannadine said Lady Thatcher was very lucky: she went to Oxford; she married Denis Thatcher; Heath failed as Prime Minister; there was a lack of real political opponents within her party, and the Labour and the Liberal Democrats were a weak opposition. To this list could be added the Falklands factor. Even though Scotland, Wales and the industrial North of England were “no-go areas” for her, she managed to achieve a record tenure of power - eleven and a half years - in 10 Downing Street.

Sir David dealt with a range of questions, including the defection of Reg Prentice from Labour and

Forward Programme 2018

Thursday 25th January

Address by the Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury

6.30pm Reception and dinner
Cavalry and Guards Club, 127
Piccadilly, W1J 7PX

Thursday 8th February

21st Annual Reflections Lecture by Sir Frederick Crawford

Numis, The London Stock Exchange Building, Paternoster Square, London, EC4M 7LT

6.30 pm followed by a reception and optional supper nearby (location tbc)

Monday 15th October

Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture by Dame DeAnne Julius DCMG CBE

K&L Gates LLP, One New Change, London, EC4M 9AF

6.00 pm followed by a reception and optional supper nearby (location tbc)

Please enquire about events and further details with our Executive Secretary, Amy Thompson

Conservative Parties; the true essence of Margaret Thatcher's relationship with Ronald Reagan; the circumstances and significance of her fall from power, and the political and social image of her as a headmistress figure. Sir Bryan Nicholson, Executive Committee, proposed a very warm vote of thanks.

Tom Tugendhat looks at British foreign policy in a changing world

Tom Tugendhat delivered the 24th Annual Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture on 9th October, in the main auditorium of Northcliffe House, the headquarters of Freshfields.

After an introduction by Lord Stirrup, President of The Pilgrims, Tom Tugendhat began by referring to his CV as a journalist, army officer (including service in the 2003 Iraq war) and Member of Parliament where he currently holds the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee. He then pointed out that for many years, our foreign policy has been linked to that of the EU, NATO and to the fight against international terrorism; that together with Brexit, the UK is entering a brave new world. Mr Tugendhat emphasised the importance of Asia in world affairs with the emergence of China as a superpower and the concentration of the world's population located in the Asian continent. The UN Security Council has one Asian member only—China—and that looking towards the future, many people see the end of western hegemony. He did not however regard the West as being in decline. Mr Tugendhat stressed the importance of international human rights, the rule of law and the need for a post-Brexit Britain to rebuild its relationships with other parts of the world, especially the Commonwealth countries.

At question time, Mr Tugendhat tackled a wide range of difficult topics: Chinese economic influence in Africa; the possible consequences of Jeremy Corbyn entering 10 Downing Street; the desirability of imposing human rights upon other countries; the likelihood of increased trade with the USA and the correct diplomatic moves to build up post-Brexit relations with other countries. He also dealt with the likely effectiveness of our diplomacy with regards to North Korea and China (with its apparent reversion to the authoritarianism of the old Chinese Empire), whether or not President Trump's powers could be restrained and the UK's attitude to the Iranian nuclear deal.

Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Chairman of the Programme Committee, thanked Tom Tugendhat for his masterly survey of international affairs and presented him with the customary Pilgrims' tie and a copy of The Pilgrims' official history.

IN MEMORIAM

Geoffrey Bignell LVO

Mrs Yvonne Cannell

Sir Alcon Copisarow

Rex Harrington TD

Anthony Rudd

Keith O Sims

AC Humphries



Tom Tugendhat, MP

Notes from the Executive Secretary

We will be producing the 2018 List of Members and Rules book in due course. Please let the Executive Secretary know if your title has changed at all.

As reported at the Annual Meeting, please note that it was resolved to increase the members' subscription fee to £60, effective from 1st May 2018.

Nick Segal focuses on four well-known cases of corporate collapse, financial failure and fraud



Nick Segal

On 18th October, Pilgrims and guests returned to the familiar surroundings of the main auditorium at Northcliffe House where the Annual Meeting had taken place nine days earlier. Freshfields Partner and fellow Pilgrim Nick Segal spoke to us on the subject of corporate collapse, financial failure and fraud.

Following an introduction by Diane Simpson, Chairman of The Pilgrims, Nick Segal focused his attention on four cases with which he had been involved: BCCI (1991), Robert Maxwell (1991), Northern Rock (2007) and Lehman Brothers (2008).

BCCI was founded in 1972 and a decade later had opened 400 branches in 78 countries and held assets in excess of US \$20 billion, the seventh largest private bank in the world. In 1982 the Bank of England report described BCCI as being on its way to becoming the Titanic of the financial world. In 1990 the bank was indicted by the US authorities and in March 1991, the Bank of England asked PricewaterhouseCoopers to carry out

an enquiry, Operation Sandstorm, which subsequently revealed widespread fraud and corruption.

The second case presented was that of Robert Maxwell who was declared by the Department of Trade and Industry to be unfit to run a public quoted company yet he managed to carry on regardless over the ensuing 20 years, culminating with his sudden death after raiding the Mirror Group Newspapers' pension fund. Only Captain Bob could get away with that sort of mayhem!

The case of Northern Rock was somewhat unusual in that it was a building society becoming a bank in 1997. By 2006 it was the UK's fifth largest mortgage lender and in 2007 was facing severe liquidity problems. It had received the promise of support from the Bank of England—only for this to be exposed by the BBC in September 2007. The ensuing run on Northern Rock was the first run on a British bank since 1866.

The Lehman Brothers debacle of 2008 occurred on both sides of the Atlantic and involved the Federal Reserve and the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alistair Darling.

At question time, Mr Segal dealt very adroitly with a broad range of topics and received a warm vote of thanks from Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Chairman of the Programme Committee.



**New
Honorary
Secretary,
Sir Stephen
Wright KCMG**

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS



**Mr Abdul
Bhanji OBE
FCA**



**Sir David
Newbigging
OBE**



**Ms Xenia
Wickett**



**Air Marshall
Sir David
Walker KCVO
OBE**



**Mr Peter
Cadbury**



**Mr Mark
Seligman**

Summer reception at Drapers' Hall



Drapers' Hall Peter Osborne speech

A Pilgrims Summer Reception took place in the very familiar and friendly surroundings of Drapers' Hall on 5th June.

An added bonus was the presence of *Daily Mail* columnist Peter Osborne. In his introduction of the guest speaker Pilgrims' President, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup reminded members that this was the seventieth anniversary of the birth of the Marshall Plan, when General of the Army George

Marshall, in his capacity as US Secretary of State, announced to the students and faculty of Harvard his plan to rescue the war-shattered economies of Europe.

Peter Osborne began by paying tribute to the work of the Pilgrims as representing the best of Anglo-American relations, with particular emphasis on the fight against totalitarianism of all kinds. He pulled no punches in his criticisms of a gallery of world figures



Peter Osborne

including Donald Trump, Theresa May and Hillary Clinton. He gave strong warnings over the possible consequences of Brexit and climate change and dealt with questions from the floor including President Trump's attitude towards Brexit and his tweets revealing his world view, as well as the influence of non-elected political advisers on the whole process of government.

A most enjoyable evening in the most splendid and prestigious venue.

Visit to Greenwich

On a sunny summer day, a group of Pilgrims and guests travelled on MV *Salient* from Crown Pier, Victoria Embankment to Greenwich Pier on 13th July.

At the Old Royal Naval College some were shown in detail the restoration work on the ceiling of the Painted Hall from the observation deck, while others took a guided walk through the grounds of the College to see the Chapel of St Peter and St Paul and the Skittle Alley, constructed from old ship timbers, with balls made from practice cannon balls. At the National Maritime Museum

we were taken around the Nelson, Navy, Nation permanent exhibition, covering the Glorious Revolution of 1688 to the final defeat of Napoleon in 1815, with an array of historical relics, including the coat worn by Nelson at Trafalgar. After lunch at Jamie's Italian, we were shown the recently-restored Queen's House, now filled with major artworks spanning the last four hundred years.

We owe grateful thanks to the staff at Royal Museums Greenwich and Old Royal Naval College, and especially to Lucy Cooke and Sarah Newton of Royal Museums Greenwich who planned the day and escorted members around Greenwich.



Group shot at Greenwich

If members would like to know how their support could enhance the displays and collections at Royal Museums Greenwich, please contact Lucy (lcooke@rmg.co.uk) (snewton@rmg.co.uk) for more information.

New from the Pilgrims of the United States



L-R James R. Clapper, Miner Warner, and The Honorable Paul A. Volker

James R Clapper was sworn in as the fourth Director of National Intelligence in 2010, serving as the principal intelligence, counter-intelligence and security advisor to President Obama until January 2017. He was the guest of honour at a reception at The River Club on 22nd May.



L-R Antony J. Blinken, Miner Warner, James Zirin

Anthony J Blinken has held senior foreign policy positions in two US administrations over three decades. Most recently he held the position of Deputy Secretary of State (2015 - 2017) and was the guest of honour at a reception held at the River Club on 27th September.

Visit to the Old Bailey



On a crisp autumn evening, the Pilgrims made another visit to the Old Bailey on the 7th November, courtesy of fellow-Pilgrim His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard QC, the Recorder of London and His Honour Judge Michael Topolski QC.

The Old Bailey, the Central Criminal Court of England and Wales, is arguably the most famous criminal court in the world and has featured in more novels, plays, films and television adaptations than any other court of justice. The Central Criminal Court deals with major criminal cases from within Greater London and occasionally from other parts of England and Wales. The present building, opened by King Edward VII in 1907, boasts more than 600 rooms including 18 courts and 74 cells with a 90% occupancy rate.

To walk through the Old Bailey which originally dates back to 1674, is to experience the judicial history of this country. We were initially ushered by the two above mentioned judges into Court 1, given the history of this great institution and some fascinating insights into some of the trials that have taken place in that room. The astonishing craftsmanship of the Sicilian marble of the entrance hall; the painting of the WWII bombing

of the Old Bailey; the plaque commemorating the 1670 case when the right of juries to give their verdict according to their conviction became law; the tour of the prison cells where we were able to look down Dead Man's Walk were just some of the highlights of our visit.

We owe a debt of sincere gratitude to both judges and their staff for this privileged tour and for the enjoyable reception held afterwards in the Judges' Dining Room.

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If you have received a hard copy of this newsletter but would be content to receive it electronically, please contact the [office](#).

The Pilgrims



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The Pilgrims Newsletter



A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain

VOL 24, NO 2
SPRING 2017

Executive Secretary Tessa Wells to retire

Ronald M Freeman writes:

Tessa Wells, our peerless and indefatigable Executive Secretary since 1999, has decided to retire in August. Tessa's graciousness and extraordinary ability to make every Pilgrims' event run smoothly and apparently effortlessly, while recognising and welcoming every member - the

"visible Tessa" - has been only a small part of her many contributions to the success of The Pilgrims.

Behind the scenes, Tessa has prepared our events, kept the accounts, maintained the database, managed correspondence, overseen committee meetings, fielded members' enquiries, published our newsletter, shepherded

nominations and on and on. To say that we shall miss her is to set a new level for understatement: she has been a wonderful colleague and friend. I am confident that members will wish to communicate their wishes to Tessa and that she will welcome hearing from us all.

The Executive Committee is now actively searching for Tessa's successor and would welcome Pilgrims' suggestions.

Letter from the Executive committee

Robert Alston writes:



My thanks go to Ron Freeman, both for his leadership as Chairman of the Pilgrims for the past seven years and for the chance to pen this valedictory reflection as I also prepare to stand down from the Executive Committee after seven years.

At the moment of Brexit the Pilgrims could not be more relevant. However we choose as individuals to describe the Transatlantic relationship over recent decades it will change as the nature of Britain's relationships with the world are redefined. The meeting with the US Ambassador to the EU just

before the referendum showed that those Pilgrims present at least were pretty representative of what followed, balanced numerically with strong views behind both positions. As we get on with it a year later we share as Pilgrims a particular interest in how it will interact with the evolution of the whole spectrum of relationships with the US bilaterally and in the wider world.

Beyond good company and enjoyment, perspectives on those relationships are something the Pilgrims provide us month in and month out. Here I offer just one further thank you, to Peter Bottomley for the quality and diversity of our speakers. The Pilgrims can have no common positions but can be an active forum for the public discussion of one set of issues which will be of real importance for the future. In this too our working relationship with the US Ambassador and his team is something which can be of real mutual value.

My particular responsibility within the Executive Committee has been Membership. I believe we should celebrate the age span not only of those who attend our events, but of our recruits. This helps to underline that for many of us of advancing years what the Pilgrims stands for and does remains a field of activity in which we want to take part. At the same time I think it is healthy that our average age has reduced modestly in recent years, showing that we offer an interest and a welcome to people still developing their professional lives. I very much hope that Pilgrims' membership will continue to appeal to more such people, reflecting diversity both of background and of activity, and with a strong cadre from the many Americans who make their homes and pursue their careers here. May they flourish both as a body and as individuals on a voyage to another new world.

Ambassador Matthew Barzun bids farewell to The Pilgrims

Pilgrims and guests attended a farewell dinner in the Livery Hall at Drapers' Hall in honour of Ambassador Matthew Barzun on 9 January.



Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup, President, with Ambassador Matthew Barzun

During his three years as Ambassador to London, Matthew Barzun made a considerable impact as a likeable, straightforward, sincere and down-to-earth diplomatic envoy who made people feel very much at ease and won many friends. He travelled widely across Britain meeting people from all backgrounds and occupations.

Following a laudatory introduction by Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup, the Ambassador recalled the Pilgrims' dinner of welcome in September 2013. At that time the House of Commons had voted not to bomb Syria - a vote which had a very strong impact on both Houses of Congress - and the Scottish independence referendum was a year away. Since then there had been the surprising Brexit victory in the

EU referendum in 2016 and the equally surprising Donald Trump victory in the US Presidential election. Matthew Barzun sensed the populist mood that had gripped Britain, the USA and a number of European countries and which reflected a general distrust of the political establishment, big business and the media. However he remained optimistic, seeing the essential values of the Special Relationship as still of great relevance, especially in the economic, educational and social fields. These values had to be passed on to future generations.

Matthew Barzun dealt skilfully with questions on the various aspects of the UK/US Special Relationship; his regrets about retiring as Ambassador to a country whose people he had come to know so well; America's place in the world with a rising China and a resurgent Russia, and future exchanges of students between the UK and USA. He also covered Britain's place in the queue for a trade deal after Brexit and his view of our National Health Service.



Ambassador Matthew Barzun and Mrs Diane Simpson

In her very warm vote of thanks, Executive Committee member Diane Simpson thanked Matthew Barzun for all he had achieved as Ambassador and for the impact he had made on the people of this country, as had his own idol John Winant, who was Ambassador from 1941 to 1946.

NEW MEMBERS JANUARY AND MARCH 2017

David Ahern OBE

Adam Boulton

Mrs Elisabeth Braw

Ambassador Anthony Gardner

Right Hon Michael Gove MP

Nicholas Hine

Mark Hoban

Bernard Hunter

Major-General Seumas Kerr CBE

Christopher Lloyd

John Mann MP

Iain Martin

Mrs Lavinia Newman

Tim Oliver

Ms Carol Ryan Victor

The Marquess of Salisbury KCVO PC DL

Mrs Nancy Stewart

Dr Karin von Hippel

Ms Xenia Wickett

The Lord Wood of Anfield

Peter Hennessy writes the history of his and our own times



Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce, Vice President, Lord Hennessy of Nympsfield and Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup, President

Lord Hennessy of Nympsfield delivered the 20th Annual Reflections Lecture to a capacity Pilgrims' audience in the Ballroom at the Lansdowne Club on 24 January.

Fellow-Pilgrim Peter Hennessy has enjoyed a brilliant career as a journalist, historian and broadcaster. His knowledge of the inner workings of Westminster and Whitehall has put him in a league of his own.

After an introduction by Pilgrims' President Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup, Peter Hennessy said that 2016 had been a very eventful year, with the Brexit Referendum and the election of Donald Trump as US President. There was more uncertainty in this country and other countries than at any time since 1945, as reflected in Theresa May's Brexit speech at Lancaster House and Donald Trump's Presidential inaugural address.

There had been four seismic changes since 1945: the shedding of Empire in which some forty colonies were given independence between 1947 and 1980;

Britain joining the Common Market in 1973; the end of the Cold War in 1989, and the Brexit Referendum of 2016. Peter Hennessy paid tribute to Britain's achievements: the fifth largest economy in the world; the superb professionalism of our armed forces and intelligence and security services; our contribution to science and the excellence of our universities, and our civil and diplomatic services. However we were now confronted by a resurgent Russia, terrorism and the internal separatist threat posed by Scottish nationalism.

Peter Hennessy dealt masterfully with questions on the revival of the Conservative party in Scotland; the EU's chances of survival; the possibility of a second EU referendum; whether sovereignty still lies with Parliament; the shortcomings of the Remain campaign and the need for a co-ordinated industrial strategy to deal with productivity problems.

A vote of thanks was delivered by Executive Committee Member Sir Stephen Wright.

Forward Programme

Monday 5 June

Early summer reception, with an address by Peter Oborn, Chief Political Commentator of The Daily Mail

Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street, EC2N 2AN, 6.30-8.30 pm

Wednesday 21 June

Lunch with Professor Sir David Cannadine FBA

Margaret Thatcher: A Life and Legacy
Oxford and Cambridge Club, 71-77 Pall Mall, SW1Y 5HD, 12.15 for 12.45 pm

Thursday 13 July

All day visit to the Old Royal Naval College and National Maritime Museum at Greenwich

Depart Crown Pier, Victoria Embankment, EC4N 0DN 8.45 am, returning by 6.30 pm

Monday 9 October

Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture by Dave H Williams and Mrs Reba White-Williams

members of the Pilgrims of the US: Separate Journeys, Shared Interests and a Life of Adventures

Annual Meeting at 6.00 pm, by kind invitation of Freshfields, at Northcliffe House, 26-28 Tudor Street, EC4Y 0AY followed by the Lecture and a reception, then an optional supper at the nearby Apex Temple Court restaurant

Wednesday 18 October

Talk by Nick Segal of Freshfields Corporate Collapse, Financial Failure and Fraud - Rights, Wrongs and the Role of the Law

Northcliffe House, 26-28 Tudor Street, EC4Y 0AY Reception at 6.00 pm; talk at 7.00 pm, then optional supper nearby

Tuesday 7 November

Tour of the Old Bailey, followed by reception

5.15-8.00 pm Numbers strictly limited

Robin Renwick throws the spotlight on the Anglo-American alliance from Churchill and Roosevelt to May and Trump



Lord Renwick of Clifton was the guest speaker at a luncheon on 27 February at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Robin Renwick, with his gift of perception and understanding of world events, has enjoyed an outstanding career, culminating with the Washington Ambassadorship 1991-95. He is the author of several fascinating books, his latest being *Fighting with Allies: America and Britain in Peace and War*.

of Anglo-American relations since the war of 1812. He focused on the crucial Prime Ministerial/Presidential relationships - Churchill/Roosevelt, Macmillan/Kennedy, Thatcher/Reagan and Blair/Bush - all of these based on common values and interests rather than sentiment. Britain, despite the ill-thought out and unjustified defence cuts of the Cameron/Clegg coalition years, is still regarded as America's closest ally and will remain so regardless of Brexit.

Administration; Donald Trump's attitude towards NATO and the fact that most members of this military alliance have not been pulling their weight in terms of defence expenditure, and the differences between Britain and the USA over certain aspects of international affairs.

After an introduction by Executive Committee member Paul Dimond, Lord Renwick looked at the development

Lord Renwick tackled questions on the role of "experts" in the Trump

In his vote of thanks Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman paid tribute to Robin Renwick's discourse and understanding of the true essence and significance of the UK-US relationship.

Michael Gove reflects upon the possible consequences of the US Presidential election



The Right Hon Michael Gove MP, fresh from his reporting trip to the US for *The Times*, addressed a packed Pilgrims' meeting in the Palace of Westminster on 17 November.

Clinton had been the best-qualified Presidential candidate for at least two generations, while Donald Trump had never held any office, either elected or unelected. Trump had succeeded by tapping into widespread fears concerning globalisation, the fall in living standards, lack of opportunity for future generations, terrorist threats and mass immigration. Trump had become the spokesman for forgotten white working-class Americans, and was compared by Michael Gove to President Andrew Jackson.

uncomplimentary comments about the President-Elect; Trump's likely economic policies; Nigel Farage's contact with Trump, and the new President's impact upon Supreme Court membership. Michael Gove also covered the possible end of the post-war consensus on matters diplomatic, economic and military; the possible re-emergence of isolationism in America; the Democrats' attitude towards working with Trump; the relationship between the Brexit verdict in the UK and Trump's success, and Trump's dealings with a biased media.

Michael Gove was surprised but not astonished by Donald Trump's victory in the Presidential Election. Hillary

Michael Gove was questioned on a range of topics: Trump's attitude towards NATO; Boris Johnson's

Executive Committee member Sir Peter Bottomley MP proposed the vote of thanks.

Xenia Wickett

In March, a small group of young members gathered for 'drinks and discussion' at the home of Executive Committee member Kweilen Hatleskog and her husband Knut to hear new member Xenia Wickett, director of the US Project at Chatham House and Dean of the Queen Elizabeth II Academy for Leadership in International Affairs.

Following a six-week tour of the US, Xenia shared her first-hand reflections on the Trump Presidency. Discourse centred on changes in the style and substance of US international engagement together

with the potential ramifications of proposed policies - intended or unintended - for its allies.

The intimate forum provided a format for positive debate with members challenging the speaker on the effect of technology and the new style 'diplomacy.' Focus was given to the devolution of decision-making and the increasing importance of both businesses and social networks in formulating policy.

Xenia forecast that, despite the perceived increase in volatility, the President's foreign policy would



most likely be forced to conform, constrained by identifiable domestic and international challenges.

A series of further 'drinks and discussion' events is planned in the forthcoming months and members are invited to suggest topics of interest.

The Patron's lunch

The Editors regret that space considerations meant that this article was omitted from the Autumn 2016 edition of the Newsletter

Paul Dimond writes:

Three Executive Committee members and their wives represented The Pilgrims, as one of the 600 organisations of which HM The Queen is Patron, at The Patron's Lunch for ten thousand held on The Mall on Sunday 12 June 2016.

The steady rain when we arrived failed to dampen the atmosphere of keen anticipation. Once inside we collected our hampers and took up our places at the tables to enjoy the packed lunch. From midday a

carnival-style parade kept guests entertained, segments reflecting a decade of HM The Queen's reign and the categories of patronage.

Soon after 2.00 pm younger members of the Royal Family joined the crowds lining the barriers, walking the length of The Mall and chatting to the crowd. With superb choreography by the event organisers, under the chairmanship of Peter Phillips, this prepared the scene for the slow drive of HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in an open top motor-car to the stage at Admiralty Arch.

HRH The Duke of Cambridge spoke of HM The Queen's unwavering commitment to the charities' work,

and then in a clearly heartfelt address Her Majesty thanked all the organisations represented for their support and encouragement.

It was an honour to represent The Pilgrims at this memorable event.



Lillemor Gardener, Paul Dimond, Carolyn Dimond, Abbey Wright, Stephen Wright and Kenneth Gardener

Steven Erlanger, *New York Times* London Bureau Chief, addresses The Pilgrims

Ronald M Freeman writes:

Steven Erlanger, London Bureau Chief of *The New York Times*, was the guest speaker at a dinner at the Cavalry and Guards Club on 27 March.

Steven Erlanger enjoys an outstanding reputation as an international journalist, having reported from more than 120 countries. Before coming to London he served as *The New York Times* Bureau Chief in such diverse locations as Bangkok, Moscow, Washington, Prague, Berlin, Jerusalem and Paris. He has written for such prestigious publications as *The Economist*, *The New Republic*, *The Financial Times* and *The New Statesman* and is a governor of the Ditchley Foundation.

While serving as London Bureau Chief for *The New York Times*, Steven Erlanger is also very much

a working journalist, one who covers UK and European matters intensively from his London posting. Most recently, his byline has appeared over stories covering such topics as the role of far-right populism in the French election; the Prime Minister's snap election and her Brexit strategy, and Millicent Fawcett's statue in Parliament Square.

Following an introduction by Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup, Steven Erlanger spoke extemporaneously sharing incidents from his wide-ranging career. He recalled his first meeting with Donald Trump in 1988, when the future 45th President of the United States showed him around his newly-purchased yacht.

Steven Erlanger outlined Donald Trump's views on globalisation and climate change and his goals of job creation, a key factor in his chance to



Steven Erlanger with Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup, President of the Pilgrims

be re-elected in 2020, while noting his changing views, for example on Syria, North Korea and Russia. Like many of his predecessors, Trump was very much learning on the job.

Steven Erlanger dealt adroitly with questions from the floor on Trump being the creator of news; the likelihood of his being forced to resign; his fondness for the military; the possibility of old age catching up with him and his finding the duties of President onerous. Executive Committee member Diane Simpson thanked Steven Erlanger warmly for his excellent discourse and presented him with the customary Pilgrims' history and tie.

Visit to the garden at Highgrove



The group in front of Highgrove. Ronald M Freeman, Chairman, far left. Debbie Fitzcharles seated.

A small group of Pilgrims and guests visited Highgrove on 3 May, travelling by coach from central London. Despite the unseasonal cold wind, we enjoyed seeing the garden in its spring glory in the company of our guide, the entertaining and informative Debbie Fitzcharles. Our tour was followed by lunch and a visit to the gift shop.

American Dream: Pop to the Present

On 27 April, following a delicious buffet breakfast and an illuminating introduction by Catherine Daunt, one of the museum curators, the Pilgrims had a private view of the exhibition *American Dream: Pop To The Present* at the British Museum. The group was privileged to be given room to explore this fascinating and challenging exhibition before opening-time.



Andy Warhol screenprint, 1966

Historians have laid stress on the post-1945 emergence of America as a military, financial and industrial superpower but few have placed any real emphasis on America as a cultural superpower. By the beginning of the 1960s this supremacy was reflected in the vogue for American *pop art* as exemplified by such artists as Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein and Robert Rauschenberg, against a background of civil rights for the African Americans, political assassinations - JFK, RFK and Martin Luther King - Vietnam and women's rights.

This exhibition demonstrated the self-confidence of these imaginative artists, who took their inspiration from billboard advertising, global politics, Hollywood and household objects and projected their work to a huge worldwide audience

- something which no previous generation had achieved. The downside to the American Dream was reflected in racism, the AIDS crisis and economic and social problems. The exhibition which ran at the same time at the Royal Academy, *America after the Fall*, dealt with the 1930s Depression and the apparent shattering of the American Dream.

IN MEMORIAM

**The Hon Sir Clive Bossom Bt
Rear Admiral Sir Nigel Cecil
KBE CB**

Lawrence F Crooke Jr

**Colonel Michael Dewar
of that ilk and Vogrie**

**Sir Ewen Fergusson
GCMG GCVO**

Ivor Hockman

Michael Johnson

John H Lydiard-Wilson

Neil Mills

Douglas E Nordlinger

Mark Sellers

J Michael Younger

The Hon Sir Clive Bossom Bt

John Fingleton writes:

Sir Clive Bossom, who died in March in his 100th year, was a proud member of The Pilgrims for 71 years, since 1946. A man of many parts during his action-filled life - including soldier, politician, businessman, motor racing enthusiast - he was MP for Leominster for 15 years, during which he was PPS to Margaret Thatcher; former chairman of the Royal Automobile Club and the British Racing Drivers' Club; past Master of the Grocers' Company: the list could go on and on.

By coincidence, Clive grew up at Allington Castle, now the home of our immediate past chairman, Sir Robert Worcester. He and Lady Barbara, his delightful wife of over 65 years, were regular attenders at Pilgrims' events until recently. Their eldest son Bruce and nephew Doric maintain the family name within our membership.

The son of a life peer and baronet and an American mother, Clive was enormously proud of his Anglo-American pedigree - and could break into a perfect American accent at the drop of a dime. As an MP, he was responsible for steering



Sir Clive Bossom when MP for Leominster promoting Hereford cattle to a Texan delegation

through the Commons the Antarctic Treaty, thereby helping to protect that continent's environment.

A true Pilgrim, he will be much missed.

Rear-Admiral Sir Nigel Cecil KBE CB

Sir Hugh Cubitt writes:

Rear-Admiral Sir Nigel Cecil (always known as Os) became a member of The Pilgrims when he was stationed in Washington DC in 1951, on the introduction of his uncle Jack Cecil of Biltmore.

His outstanding quality was his innate courtesy which led him to become an excellent leader and trainer of men, especially those in bell bottoms, as is

evident by the high naval rank that he attained. In World War II Os served on Russian and Atlantic convoys and in operations in support of the Normandy landings. In 1958 he was asked to deal with the minor mutiny on board HMS Apollo and within days had transformed the ship's morale and had the crew eating out of his hand. Os's social and diplomatic skills were also widely employed, as Senior Naval Officer in South Africa, NATO Commander South



Eastern Mediterranean, the last Flag Officer, Malta, and then as Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man.

News from the Pilgrims of the United States



James D Zirin, Miner H Warner, President of the Pilgrims of the US, and Professor Nicholas Burns

Professor Nicholas Burns, Former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and Former Ambassador to NATO and to Greece, was the guest of honour at a reception at the River Club on 24 January.

The 114th Annual Meeting of the Pilgrims of the United States took place on Monday 1 May at the Union League Club. The society was addressed by Raymond W Kelly, former New York Police Department Commissioner,



Peter Lawson-Johnston, Treasurer of the Pilgrims of the US, presenting the medallion to Raymond W Kelly, with James D Zirin

who was presented with the Pilgrims of the United States' medallion for service to the Nation.

Message from the Secretary

Group tours of the garden at Highgrove (see p.6) become available only on an occasional basis. Any member, including those who have visited on a previous occasion, who would like to join any future Pilgrims' tour of the garden should inform the office, please.

The Pilgrims



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The Pilgrims Newsletter

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AUTUMN 2016

Letter from the President

*Marshal of the Royal Air Force
Lord Stirrup writes:*



I write these words in the immediate aftermath of the Presidential Election in the United States, where once again the pollsters managed to cover themselves in glory. The morning after the night before has brought a welter of strong but conflicting emotions: joy and despair; hope and pessimism; relief and anger. Such visceral reactions are understandable, but they tend to distract attention from perhaps the most important issue of the campaign, and in doing so to increase the stresses and strains on our polities.

I say polities, in the plural, because the concerns that were at the forefront of many voters' minds in America were evident here in the UK during the EU Membership Referendum, and are colouring the pre-election debates in France and Germany.

Large elements within our societies believe that they have seen no personal benefit from globalisation

and the high-technology economy; quite the reverse, in fact - they believe that their prosperity and whole way of life are being undermined. And these concerns are not entirely fanciful. Many households have seen their incomes stagnate at best, and believe that their children will be worse off than their parents. This blame falls on a self-interested political and business elite, free trade, and the easy movement of labour and skills. Politicians who understand this and seem in tune with it are garnering increasing electoral support across western democracies.

The question, then, is not whether the concerns are real and important - they patently are - but what to do about them. For some, the correct response is a turning inwards: increased nationalism, isolationism and barriers to trade and movement; for others, this will only make the problem worse. Whatever side one takes in the debate it seems clear that any proposition must have sufficient attraction to sufficient numbers of people if it is to be politically saleable.

It is arguable that we are at a watershed in the development of our western system of democracy and capitalism. As has happened before, we will to some extent need to reinvent it to meet the changing times and people's concerns. This will take leadership and informed debate. The United States

Forward Programme

Monday 9 January 2017

*Farewell dinner in honour of
Ambassador Matthew Barzun*

Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street
7.15 for 7.45 pm, **lounge suit**

Tuesday 24 January

*Lord Hennessy's
Reflections lecture*

Lansdowne Club,
Fitzmaurice Place, 6.30 pm

Monday 27 February

*Luncheon with Lord
Renwick of Clifton*

'Fighting with Allies', details TBC

Monday 9 October

*Annual Meeting and Sir Harry
Brittain Memorial Lecture by
Dave H Williams and Mrs Reba
White-Williams*

Annual Meeting at 6.00 pm, by
kind invitation of Freshfields, at
Northcliffe House, 26-28 Tudor
Street, EC4Y 0AY followed by
the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial
Lecture and a reception, then an
optional supper at the nearby
Apex Temple Court restaurant

and the United Kingdom have been powerful voices in such debates in the past, and will need to be again, which is something that I believe will be of great interest and importance to all Pilgrims. At this critical moment, we all have to decide whether we want to help shape the future or just go along for the ride.

Two Days; Trump and Churchill

Sir Peter Bottomley MP writes:

Americans may not have expected Theresa May to become the UK Prime Minister after the unexpected decision in our European referendum. Few of us can say with confidence who might succeed Angela Merkel as chancellor of Germany, Francois Hollande as French president or, who knows when, Vladimir Putin in Russia.

On 8 November the Lib Dem peer Lord Watson of Richmond, the former broadcaster Alan Watson, spoke at lunch at the Naval Club, Hill Street, on Winston Churchill's two speeches to save the world. In 1946, the successful wartime leader had unexpectedly lost the general election. Thereafter Churchill received many invitations to speak, and accepted one from an obscure college in Fulton, Missouri because the 33rd US President Harry Truman would be with him. In his 'Iron Curtain' speech, Churchill warned of the danger of Soviet power in central and eastern Europe. He argued for the US commitment to defend Europe. Later he said it was the most important speech he had ever made.

ALAN WATSON
**CHURCHILL'S
LEGACY**
TWO SPEECHES TO SAVE THE WORLD



With the bonus that the new British Foreign Secretary was Ernest Bevin, who had trade union experience of communists, Churchill's initiative was crucial in creating the alliance, the decision and the determination for the later Berlin airlift which halted the Soviet menace crossing further westwards in Europe. He changed the American attitude to Joseph Stalin and to the USSR. He said: "Trying to maintain good relations with a communist is like wooing a crocodile. You do not know whether to tickle it under the chin or to beat it over the head. When it opens its mouth you cannot tell whether it is trying to smile or preparing to eat you up."

Bevin's creation of the Western European Union led to NATO, which politically and militarily has helped us to have peace in our part of the continent since 1945.



Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord StIRRUP and Lord Watson of Richmond

The second speech was later in 1946 in Zurich, Switzerland when Churchill explained what western European nations had to do to match American economic and political commitment. He argued for a kind of 'United States of Europe', reconciling France and Germany. He challenged the status quo of recrimination and despair.

Like the Fulton speech, Churchill's ideas were initially rejected. Truman wrote to Churchill in 1947 after declaring the Truman Doctrine committing America to defend freedom: "Your Fulton speech becomes more nearly a prophesy every day." That year also saw the inauguration of the Marshall Plan to restore Europe's economies, at least in the countries free from the Soviets. This was linked to cooperation in Europe.

Randolph Churchill, the great man's great-grandson, has written that the two speeches ensured that the United States played a full part in defending cherished European liberties and also a full part in the rebuilding and recovery of Europe.



Lady Worcester and Sir Robert Worcester, Vice President, at the lunch with Lord Watson

The following day, we had the news that Donald Trump was president-elect in the USA. In the interests of the UK and our neighbours, I have sent him a copy of Lord Watson's book on the two speeches. Let us hope that the people of the United States share growing prosperity and that the US remains a determined partner for peace and prosperity in Europe and around the world.

Lord Rees looks ahead to the world in 2050



Lord Rees of Ludlow and Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup, President

The Annual Meeting was held on 17 October in the Auditorium at Northcliffe House by kind invitation of Freshfields. Lord Rees of Ludlow then delivered the annual Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture. Lord Rees, who was appointed Astronomer Royal in

1995, is an outstanding astrophysicist and leading scientist, celebrated for his work on black hole formation, extragalactic radio sources, the so-called cosmic dark ages and the contradiction of the Steady State theory of the evolution of the Universe.

The world population, now 7.3 billion, had been 3 billion 50 years ago. Projections estimate a population of 9 billion in 2050, when Nigeria will have a population larger than Europe and North America combined. For many environmentalists preservation of our biosphere was crucial, as was conservation of natural resources. Climate change will continue to have an enormous impact on world population levels. The world is 45 million centuries

old, but at any time during the Cold War it could have been destroyed by thermo-nuclear war.

Lord Rees listed a range of problems including radio-active waste; the differences between nations in their attitude towards fossil fuels and a low-carbon future, and renewable nuclear fusion, stressing the vital need for clean and affordable energy systems and a new scientific system to deal with the expanding world population. Machines and robots could play a role in future, with a possible important role in space exploration especially into other galaxies, which would take many years. He felt that Mars could be colonised, although the conquest of space would not offer an escape from Earth's population problems.

Sir Peter Bottomley gave Lord Rees a very warm vote of thanks for his outstanding presentation.

Visit to the Supreme Court



Court Room 1 of the Supreme Court, which accommodates nine Justices

Ronald M Freeman writes:

In 2005, the tradition of the Law Lords was terminated and the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom was created, located on

the north side of Parliament Square, facing the Palace of Westminster and positioned between the Treasury and Westminster Abbey.

Pilgrims' member Lord Clarke of Stone-cum-Ebony was the first of the twelve Supreme Court Justices to be appointed directly to the Court, the others being former Law Lords. In October, Lord Clarke led the first of three successive groups of Pilgrims through the premises, history and practices of the Supreme Court.

The conversion of the former Middlesex Guildhall produced a

modern, comfortable and indeed friendly series of courtrooms, where judges and litigants all sit on the same level around the same and adjacent tables. The judges hear cases in everyday suits. Their offices are fully computer-equipped, making the Court's handsome and impressive law library an anachronistic homage to tradition rather than a daily working tool.

On behalf of all Pilgrims, we extend our thanks to Lord Clarke for his generous hospitality and, most importantly, for his great service in the highest court in the land.

Elections to the Executive Committee, October 2016



Stephen Challacombe is Professor of Oral Medicine at King's College London (now part-time). His many University posts include Postgraduate Dean and Director of External Strategy for the KCL Health Schools, and he undertook academic sabbaticals at the Mayo Clinic, Minnesota 1978-79 and at UCSF in San Francisco in 1996. A Past President of the British and International Associations of Dental Research and the British and European Societies for Oral Medicine, he also enjoyed his role as honorary Consultant in Oral Medicine to the UK Armed Forces. He has published over 300 research papers and is co-author of seven books on food allergy and intolerance; oral medicine and oral immunology. He retains a keen interest in sport, especially rugby, golf and tennis. Professor Challacombe sits on the Membership Committee.



A committed supporter of the Special Relationship, **Kweilen Hatleskog** has worked across industry and government in both the US and the UK. As a Defense Fellow and then a Director of Policy at the Pentagon, Kweilen focused on counter-terrorism policy - negotiating on behalf of the Department of Defense at the National Security Council to establish the National Counter-terrorism Center. After moving to London in 2008, Kweilen worked bi-laterally to support the Executive Committee and the Board of BAE Systems plc. Today she continues her focus on the business of security as a Partner at C5 Capital. Kweilen lives in London with her Norwegian husband and their daughters. Kweilen Hatleskog sits on the Membership and Programme Committees.



A Californian by birth, **Valerie Humphrey** spent the early part of her career in various international marketing and communications roles before moving to the UK in 1989 to work at Rockwell International on a US/UK defence industry study. Valerie moved to the National Trust in 1995, taking a sabbatical year in Rome after eight years, leading to three years in Milan as the Director of Communications and Development for the Italian National Trust. On her return to the UK she worked freelance in the heritage sector and is now Director of the Westminster Abbey Foundation. She was an elected member of the Council of the National Trust 2005-15; is a board director of the New York-based Royal Oak Foundation; a trustee of Strawberry Hill House, and a trustee of the UK Italian National Trust. Valerie Humphrey sits on the Programme Committee.



Sir Bryan Nicholson GBE is an Oxford graduate and businessman who later did jobs for government. Active in education, corporate governance and financial regulation, Sir Bryan ended his international business career running the main European operations of Xerox. He was the Executive Chairman of the Manpower Services Commission and the Post Office and was later chairman or non-executive director of BUPA, Cookson, GKN and others, and CBI President. He was active in parallel as Chairman of the Council for Academic Awards, the National Council for Vocational Qualifications, the Council of the Open University and other education-related bodies. A former Chancellor of Sheffield Hallam University, Sir Bryan also chaired the Financial Reporting Council and was a member of global financial regulatory bodies. Sir Bryan sits on the Finance Committee.

Reception at Winfield House



Ambassador Matthew Barzun, Mr Ronald M Freeman and the Earl of Devon

Together with representatives from the Mayflower 400 programme, The Pilgrims were guests of Ambassador Barzun at Winfield House on the evening of 14 September.

Rachael, wife of Donald Stearns, writes: "We found that the joint

reception added to the interest. In the smaller dining room there was a model of a ship that looked a bit like some of the America's Cup boats. Professor Martin Attrill, Professor of Marine Ecology from Plymouth University who is involved with the project, told us of the ideas behind the *Mayflower* Autonomous Ship which I understand is going to be unmanned and guided from Plymouth - so a drone ship, set to follow as far as possible the route of the *Mayflower* - but evidently it will go much faster than the *Mayflower*. There was also other information relating to the *Mayflower* project in the large dining room, as well as the model of the *Mayflower* on the lawn in front of the terrace.

"Don has always loved sailing and until not long ago had a lovely boat so he was really interested in the Plymouth project. This, combined with being in the lovely Winfield House garden on one of the hottest days of the year, made the evening a really enjoyable event for us."



We were welcomed to Winfield House by Ambassador Barzun. The Earl of Devon, Patron, spoke about the Mayflower 400 programme. The Pilgrims' chairman, Ronald Freeman, also spoke.

Sir Peter Westmacott looks ahead to the challenges facing the next US President

A luncheon was held in the Library at the Reform Club on 11 July with Sir Peter Westmacott, one of the country's leading diplomats, as guest speaker.



Sir Peter and Lady Westmacott

Sir Peter listed various challenges which would confront the next US President on entering the White House. Legislative gridlock in

both Houses of Congress and the influence of money on politics were of great importance. Some 84% of the American people believed that too much money was spent on politics. Social and racial inequality, highlighted by the recent police shootings of African-Americans in various parts of the US as well as the murder of policemen in Dallas, the impact of globalisation and the widely-held feeling that people were being left behind by the march of technology, were major challenges. Sir Peter gave his personal list of foreign policy problems which would confront the new President: Russia; Iran; the so-called Islamic State; the US relationship with China, including

the problem of North Korea and the sovereignty of the China Seas, and the Middle East situation, involving Israel, the Palestinians and the surrounding Arab states.

Sir Peter was questioned on Hillary Clinton's possible running-mate; the likely consequences of UK withdrawal from the EU and the role the UK plays in the world; the possible effect of a Trump Presidency on US-UK relations and the likely foreign policy priorities that a Trump administration might adopt. In his vote of thanks Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman praised Sir Peter for his masterly and penetrating presentation.

Lord Salisbury examines the role of Hatfield House in the 21st Century



The Marquess of Salisbury and Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup

The Marquess of Salisbury was the guest speaker at a Pilgrims' dinner held at the Cavalry & Guards Club on 21 September. Hatfield House has been the Cecil family home since 1611 and Lord Salisbury has been its custodian since succeeding as the 7th Marquess in 2003.

After an introduction by Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup, Lord Salisbury paid tribute to the Anglo-American

relationship and the role played by The Pilgrims, mentioning that his daughter had married a Cajun from Louisiana.

Lord Salisbury emphasised how much the world had changed since his grandfather had sought to remove Winston Churchill as leader of the Conservative party over a ten-year period between 1945 and 1955. The great houses were no longer centres of power and needed to ensure

their survival as an active part of the community. Hatfield had, for instance, become involved in promoting housing development. Lord Salisbury believed that Hatfield was not a 21st century white elephant but a place that could survive into the foreseeable future.

In Memoriam

*His Honour
Judge Sir Gavyn Arthur*

Richard Astor

The Earl Cowley

Richard Delbridge

*The Right Hon the Lord
Mayhew of Twysden QC DL*

*Lt Colonel
Sir Julian Paget Bt CVO*

Mr Curtis Roosevelt

James H Vaughn

*His Grace
The Duke of Westminster
KG CB CVO OBE TD DL*

The Special Relationship and the Washington Embassy 1916-2016

A Pilgrims' dinner was held on 14 October at the Lansdowne Club with Sir Anthony Seldon as guest speaker.



Sir Anthony Seldon and Lord Stirrup

Sir Anthony wrote *The Architecture of Diplomacy - the British Ambassador's Residence in Washington* having been asked by Sir Peter Westmacott to write a history of the British Embassy. Anyone wishing to buy a copy should contact the office: Sir Anthony's publisher will give us a discount if The Pilgrims can put together a bulk order.

Sir Anthony tested the knowledge of his audience in a lively question and answer session, which included the following:



The first British Prime Minister to meet an American President? David Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson in 1918. The first British Prime Minister to visit the USA? Ramsay Macdonald in 1929. The British Ambassador to Washington during World War I? Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, who also composed the hymn *I Vow to Thee my Country*.

The Ambassador during World War II? Lord Halifax, who succeeded Lord Lothian who had died in office. The Ambassador during the Kennedy Years, 1961-63? Lord Harlech.

Sir Anthony showed a number of photographs from the archives and a present-day aerial photograph of the Residence.

Sir Peter Bottomley MP gave a very warm vote of thanks.



King George V and Woodrow Wilson in 1918

Laura Trevelyan on the US Presidential Election

A small group of Pilgrims attended a meeting at the Royal Automobile Club on the afternoon of 28 September to hear Laura Trevelyan, who has been based in New York for a number of years working for the BBC.



Ms Trevelyan spoke about the strengths and weaknesses of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, the importance of the “swing states”, the impact of the first Presidential debate on undecided voters and the significant electoral role played by non-college educated white men and college-educated white women.

Xenophobia and anti-semitism; absentee ballots; the influence of social media on the attitudes of voters; the essential differences between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump; Donald Trump’s apparent lack of qualifications for the office of President; Hillary Clinton’s e-mail saga; Bill Clinton’s role in his wife’s campaign and the likelihood of a serious event before polling day affecting the outcome of the election were all raised in discussion. There were also questions about a possible intervention by Julian Assange; the possible impact of the Supreme Court vacancy on voting intentions; the number of expatriate Americans in Britain who are eligible to vote, and the effect of the Presidential election result on Anglo-American relations.

Laura Trevelyan displayed great versatility and ability in answering questions. The Reverend Mark Fox, Programme Committee, who acted as chairman, presented her with a copy of the Pilgrims’ centennial history.

NEW MEMBERS JUNE AND OCTOBER 2016

Giles Adams

The Right Hon The Lord Arbuthnot of Edrom

Bradley J Askins

David Ball

Michael Bousfield

Simon Clark

Timothy Cooke OBE

Simon Costa

Martin Day

Mrs Diana G R Delbridge

Count Francesco di Valmarana

Jeremy Evans

Dr Alice P Gast

Sir Christopher Greenwood CMG QC

The Revd Mark Hatcher

Mrs Elizabeth Hitchcock

Ms Suzanne Ferlic Johnson

James Landale

John Lindquist

David Loyd

The Hon Dr Philippa Malmgren

John Mellett

Alan Morris

Ken Olisa

Colonel Anthony Singer OBE

Rory Stewart OBE MP

Alistair Summers

Ms Laura Trevelyan

Timothy Warmath

Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC ADC DL

Visit to Rousham House and Ditchley Park



Rousham House

Pilgrims and guests visited Rousham House in Oxfordshire on 30 June. Built in 1635 by Sir Robert Dormer, Rousham House remains in the ownership of the same family. The delightful house contains eighteenth-century panelling and original staircases, furniture, pictures and bronzes and is set in a landscape laid out by William Kent. The garden is virtually unaltered and contains several remarkable features - ponds and cascades in Venus's Vale, the Cold Bath, Townsend's Building, the



Arrival at Ditchley Park

Temple of the Mill and the sham ruin called the *Eyecatcher*.

After a pleasant luncheon at the Holt Hotel in Steeple Aston, we were welcomed at Ditchley Park by Pilgrims' Executive Committee member Sir John Holmes, then Director of the Ditchley Foundation. Ditchley was built by the second Earl of Lichfield in 1722 to a design by James Gibbs, and was bought in 1933 by Ronald Tree MP and his wife, interior decorator Nancy Lancaster,

niece of Nancy Astor and cousin of Joyce Grenfell.

In 1958 the estate passed to the philanthropist Sir David Wills who established the Ditchley Foundation to advance international learning and to bring transatlantic and other experts together to discuss international issues. Ditchley conferences have now broadened to include the concerns and participation of nations all over the globe, and over one thousand conferences have been held. We were given a most interesting tour of the state rooms and bedrooms, and afternoon tea before departure.

We are grateful to the Cottrell-Dormer family at Rousham House and to Sir John Holmes and the staff at Ditchley Park for a most successful day, and to Terence Mallinson for his photographs.

News from the Pilgrims of the United States

Thomas P Campbell, Director and CEO of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was the guest of honour at a reception at the River Club on 6 June.



Thomas L Pulling, Secretary of the Pilgrims of the US, James D Zirin and Thomas Campbell

Joseph A Califano Jr, Former Secretary of Health Education and Welfare and Founder of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, was the guest of honour at a reception at the River Club on 14 November.



Paul Volcker, James D Zirin, Joseph A. Califano Jr and Miner Warner, Chairman of the Pilgrims of the US

The Pilgrims



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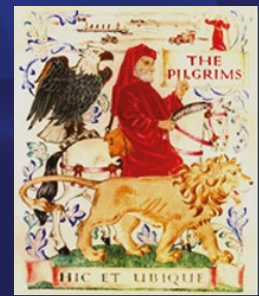
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The Pilgrims Newsletter



A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain

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Letter from a younger member of the Executive Committee

For Pilgrims of all ages, much has changed since 1973. While many of us witnessed first-hand the moment when Britain joined the European Economic Community, others were too young - or even yet to be born.

Britain had suffered as 'the sick man of Europe' in the '70s, with industrial strife and poor economic performance leading to the 1978-79 Winter of Discontent. 1988 saw Hungary's border opened, destroying the Iron Curtain, with Germany reuniting in 1990. Further East, the USSR abandoned nine years of Soviet-Afghan War in 1988 and withdrew its military support from former satellite states. Lithuania voted to leave the USSR in early 1990, followed quickly by Latvia and Estonia. With Ukraine's departure came the end of the USSR, and Russia's emergence as an independent state in 1991. Finally, the '90s saw dramatic globalisation: with many African, Asian and Latin American economies beginning to catch up with the West, proof of a trend away from socialist economics.

But what of the evolving union of European states? 43 years ...

and change beyond recognition: from nine to 28 member nations; from 1.6m to 4.5m km²; from 256 to 507 million people; from 3.1 to over 18.5 trillion US dollars of total GDP. Remarkably, the June Referendum is the first democratic moment in Britain to reconsider EU membership since 1975.

US Ambassador Choate expressed our purpose in 1902 'to promote good-will, good-fellowship, and everlasting peace between the United States and Great Britain'. Today's uncertainties bring a more fevered trans-Atlantic climate. Donald Trump's Republican nomination has been controversial, while the sustained Bernie Sanders challenge to Hillary Clinton has prevented Democrat consolidation. As Pilgrims, we can consider how the Referendum impacts on our specific outlook.

The vulnerability of US-UK goodwill has itself become topical. 'The row [over Muslim-related immigration] means that if Mr Trump wins the Presidential election in less than a year diplomatic relations between Britain and the United States



could become close to untenable.' (*Daily Telegraph*, December 2015) Specifically on the Referendum, 'Mr Obama sidestepped a question on whether the *special relationship* ... would be damaged if Britain voted to leave the European Union.' (*New York Times*, April 2016)

Pilgrims may disagree or agree with a US perspective on the Referendum which appeared in *Special Relationships in Flux* (Chatham House, May 2016): 'There is, in short, no good outcome for the United States resulting from a British decision to leave the EU.'

Post Referendum, there'll be work to do. With a 'Remain' majority, threats of recent tensions must be overcome. Or, with 'Leave' as the outcome, *good-fellowship* will need urgent attention. The Pilgrims await the result with determined support for UK-US relations.

Tristan Elbrick

Elizabeth Dibble bids farewell to the British Pilgrims and gives her own assessment of the durability of the Special Relationship

Pilgrims and guests gathered for a dinner at the Cavalry & Guards Club on 9 May to hear Elizabeth Dibble, Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy in London, speak on the Anglo-American Special Relationship.

Elizabeth Dibble, a career diplomat with many years' experience and a very good friend of The Pilgrims, has served in a variety of places including Damascus, Islamabad, Tunis and Rome. The dinner marked not only her forthcoming departure from London, but her retirement from the US Foreign Service.

After an introduction by Pilgrims' President Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup, Ms Dibble recalled her first diplomatic posting to London in 1982, at the time of the Falklands War and in the closing years of the Cold War. The Special Relationship had been strained in those days, with the US invasion of Grenada, the placing of cruise missiles on UK soil and the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

Turning to her present posting, Ms Dibble emphasised the huge impact we now faced from digital technology and globalisation. Britain and the United States were confronted by a range of complex problems so the Special Relationship was still of the greatest importance. A special effort was being made to reach out to young people all over the UK through the



Mrs Diane Simpson with Ms Elizabeth Dibble

Young Leaders Network, sponsored by the US Embassy.

Elizabeth Dibble looked forward to the opening of the new American Embassy in Nine Elms in January 2017 and believed the building of this embassy to be an affirmation of the significance that the US attaches to its most important relationship with a foreign country.

Elizabeth Dibble concluded by reaffirming her belief in the validity of the Special Relationship which she described as unbreakable, flexible, adaptable and dynamic.

Questions raised covered the meaning of the Special Relationship to young people; the defects of the US political system; the fate of Tunisia since the Arab Spring of 2011; US trade negotiations with Europe and the influence of Hispanic-Americans on the Special Relationship.

The proceedings ended with a very warm vote of thanks from Executive Committee member Diane Simpson.

Note from the Secretary

It would assist the smooth running of the office if members who book events and then find themselves unable to attend could give as much notice as possible of their change of plan.

Tessa Wells

In Memoriam

Professor David K Adams OBE
David A Emms OBE
Sir Robert Finch KBE
The Lady Foley
Maurice James Lowther
Professor Anthony Mellows OBE TD
Daniel S Shapiro
Michael D Scott
Mrs Carolyn Toulmin
Stephen F Wheatcroft OBE

Ambassador Anthony L Gardner makes a strong case for the UK remaining in the EU

Anthony L Gardner, the US Ambassador to the European Union, was the guest of honour at a luncheon on 26 February at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly.

Following an introduction by Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman, Ambassador Gardner emphasised that the EU was a topic of major interest to people in the USA and that the British Referendum on 23 June would have a major effect on the EU and the world in general. This was clearly a decision for the British people to take, without any interference from the USA or any other country. Ambassador Gardner had spent 27 years of his life believing in the European project which had succeeded in bringing together a former war-torn continent and transforming it into a union of free-trade, liberal democracy with an overriding concern for human rights. He was convinced that the EU played a pivotal role in world affairs. The US Secretary of State John Kerry believed

in a strong UK in a strong EU and that if the UK were to leave the EU, the UK would lose influence in the world.

Ambassador Gardner was firmly of the opinion that the UK's exit from the EU would involve renegotiation of existing treaties and the making of new treaties - a process that could take years. Brexit would mean that the USA would lose a valuable ally in Europe at a time when the EU was grappling with such major problems as migration, borders and refugees and when many of its citizens, especially in Italy and Spain, were losing faith in the whole European project. Ambassador Gardner felt there were big fissures in the EU between the prosperous north and the less-prosperous south. Brussels, where he was based, was often made the scapegoat for such problems as refugees and border control. A wide gulf existed between rhetoric and reality but Ambassador Gardner believed that the much-maligned Schengen Agreement would survive,



Ronald M Freeman, Chairman, with Ambassador Anthony L Gardner

and concluded by focusing on such key EU matters as an energy single market; law enforcement, especially with regard to counter-terrorism; military security; trade and technology.

Ambassador Gardner was questioned on the likelihood of the US negotiating a free trade deal with the UK if Brexit occurred; the EU contribution to the refugee crisis caused by the conflict in Syria, and the viewpoint of those people in the UK who wanted to leave the EU. Sanford Henry delivered a very warm vote of thanks to Anthony Gardner, an outstanding American public servant in the Averell Harriman mould.



List of members 2016

The updated List of Members has either been sent in advance, or is enclosed with this mailing.

Please keep the office informed of any change of details for the members' list, change of mailing address, and particularly change of email addresses.

Our congratulations to Sir Clive Bossom, a member of the Pilgrims for seventy years, since 1946

George Robertson looks back on a remarkable career embracing both domestic politics and the world scene



Pilgrims and guests gathered at the National Liberal Club on 3 February to hear fellow-Pilgrim and former Executive Committee member Lord Robertson of Port Ellen deliver the 19th Annual Reflections Lecture.

George Robertson was born in Port Ellen, the son of a policeman and from a family of policemen. He reminisced about his time at Dunoon Grammar School and being involved in CND demonstrations aimed against the American nuclear submarines based at Holy Loch. While at Dundee University he organised protests and sit-ins. In 1978 he won a by-election in Hamilton for the Labour Party, and then worked under David Ennals. Between 1979 and 1997, while in opposition, George Robertson became a spokesman on Scottish affairs, then chief spokesman on Europe, dealing with the implications of the Maastricht Treaty. In 1992 he joined the Shadow Cabinet as Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland. When Labour returned to power in 1997 he was surprised to be appointed Defence Secretary.

In 1999 Lord Robertson became the tenth Secretary-General of NATO and the third Briton to hold that eminent position. He recalled the momentous events of 11 September 2001, when NATO invoked Article 5 of its constitution, and the subsequent invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. He talked about the attempts to bring Russia in from the cold and the creation of the Russia/NATO Council, and his dealings with Vladimir Putin who at that time seemed to want Russia to be part of Western Europe. Lord Robertson did not believe that we were now returning to the Cold War, though Russia was still a problem with which we had to deal. He ended with a quote from Charlie Chaplin - *I have a great interest in the future and that is where I intend to spend the rest of my life.*

At question-time Lord Robertson dealt with the future of NATO as a defence alliance; the effect of the oil-price collapse on the Russian economy; Russia and the Ukraine; Putin's role in a Syrian settlement, and the strength of the US commitment to the defence of

Europe. Having been introduced by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Lord Robertson received an equally warm vote of thanks from Alastair Macpherson of Pitmain.

NEW MEMBERS JANUARY AND MARCH 2016

Mrs Elizabeth Baxter

Dr Christopher Bond

Matthew Cadbury

Ms Jennifer Cosco

The Lady Cranworth

His Honour Judge Hilliard QC

Sir Brian Jenkins GBE

Mrs Elizabeth Mellows

Charlie Methven

Willie Nagel CMG

Lady Newall MBE

Mrs Alicia Salter

The Revd Christopher Stoltz

Mrs Cissy Walker

Simon Walker

Professor Richard

Wendorf FSA

Mark A Wippell

Dame Fiona Woolf DBE

Gary Younge takes a close look at the racial divide in modern America

Author, broadcaster and award-winning *Guardian* columnist, with an in-depth knowledge of present-day America, Gary Younge was the guest speaker at dinner held at the Cavalry & Guards Club on 9 November.

Gary Younge claimed that with an African-American President occupying the White House, for African-Americans this was a Dickensian situation - both the best and the worst of times. A very large number of African-Americans were in prison and the murder rate among young black children was disturbingly high. Many blacks were still at a disadvantage in employment, housing and life expectancy. The USA had

more people in prison than the Soviet Union had in its gulags. The Latino/Hispanic group was growing faster than any other and had overtaken the African-Americans in numbers and it was estimated that the white population would be in a minority by 2030. Gary Younge concluded by paying tribute to his mother who single-handedly raised him and his siblings and encouraged them to take advantage of the educational, health and social opportunities offered in the United Kingdom.

Gary Younge was questioned on President Obama's legacy; the best ways of overcoming racial discrimination in the USA and the UK, and the existence of racism and



severe poverty, especially among poor whites, throughout American history. The vote of thanks was proposed by Vice-Admiral Sir Anthony Dymock.

The new US Embassy in London



The Pilgrims were addressed by Rodney Evans, Project Manager for the new US London Embassy at a meeting in Portcullis House on 18 April.

Rodney Evans joined the US Foreign Service in 1985 as a construction engineer. His most recent assignments

had included the building of new office annexes in Manila, the new embassies in Port au Prince and Managua, and the renovation of the embassy in Warsaw. As Pilgrims' Vice-President Sir Robert Worcester pointed out in his introduction, Rodney Evans was very well qualified to take on the assignment of the new London embassy.

Rodney Evans felt that the current embassy building in Grosvenor Square, which has been occupied since 1960, no longer had adequate physical and visual security and was in need of general renovation. The budget for the new eleven-storey building at Nine Elms was \$1.023 billion.

The 4.9-acre site was purchased in October 2008. The building was designed by Kieran Timberlake and the official ground-breaking ceremony was held in November 2013. Topping-out took place in December 2015. The building should be fully occupied by the end of January 2017.

The new embassy had plenty of natural light and would have six gardens, each representing a different aspect of the USA. As the time of Rodney Evans's talk the building was 72% complete, with all sewage, water, gas, telephone and power connections in place. Rodney Evans spoke of an embassy of futuristic design with a projected life-span of one hundred years, fit for the demands of the 21st century.

Panel discussion on the American Presidential Election



Elisabeth Braw



Griff Witte



Andrew Cave



Marcus Roberts

A panel discussion on the US Presidential Election was held on 17 March in Portcullis House. Elisabeth Braw of *Newsweek* acted as Moderator, with panellists Griff Witte, London Bureau Chief of the *Washington Post*, Andrew Cave of *The Daily Telegraph* and Marcus Roberts of YouGov.

Following an introduction by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, the panel discussion focused on the effect that globalisation had on the fortunes of the American lower middle class, causing discontent and resentment, and explaining the degree of support for Donald Trump. Self-proclaimed socialist Bernie Sanders had gained support on the Democrat side at the expense of Hillary Clinton, who had been compelled to move further to the left and attack the power of Wall Street and big business. The panel felt that Donald Trump would have great difficulty in attracting the crucial Hispanic and African-American vote, remarking on his media skills, which had given him free television air-time in the early days of his campaign.

Questions from the floor covered a variety of topics: what advice should be given to Hillary Clinton in any TV debates with Donald

Trump; what criteria the two rival candidates should use in selecting their respective running-mates; the importance of the Hispanic vote; Donald Trump's chances of winning the Presidency; the relationship between Primary electoral turnouts and Presidential election turnouts; the possible reaction of the Republican Party Establishment to a Trump candidacy, and the chances of a brokered Republican convention in the summer.

Further questions covered the outcome of a Trump Presidency; the possible effect of either a Clinton or Trump Presidency on the make-up of the Senate; foreign policies which would be pursued by either candidate; the effect of the Election on the Supreme Court vacancy, and the uphill struggle that Republican candidates would face with Trump as Presidential candidate. The panel agreed with President Obama's recent sentiment - that the American electorate could be relied upon to make the right choice at a Presidential Election.

Pilgrims Chairman Ronald Freeman thanked the panellists for their outstanding contribution to the success of the event.

Forward Programme

Thursday 30 June

Visit to Rousham House and Ditchley Park, Oxfordshire

Coach will leave central London at 8.30 am, returning by 7.00 pm.

Monday 11 July

Lunch with Sir Peter Westmacott

12.15 for 12.45 pm
Reform Club, 104 Pall Mall

Wednesday 21 September

Dinner with the Marquess of Salisbury

7.15 for 7.45 pm, black tie
Cavalry & Guards Club,
127 Piccadilly

Thursday 13 October

Dinner with Sir Anthony Seldon

The Special Relationship and the Washington Embassy 1916-2016
7.15 for 7.45 pm, black tie
Lansdowne Club,
Fitzmaurice Place

Monday 17 October

Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

Annual Meeting at 6.00 pm, by kind invitation of Freshfields, at Northcliffe House, 26-28 Tudor Street, EC4Y 0AY, followed by the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture by Lord Rees of Ludlow and a reception, then an optional supper at the nearby Apex Temple Court restaurant

Tuesday 8 November

Luncheon with Lord Watson of Richmond

Churchill's Legacy: Two Speeches to Save the World
12.15 for 12.45 pm
Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, Mayfair
Lord Watson will speak before luncheon

Tour of the State Rooms at 10 Downing Street

Two groups of Pilgrims visited 10 Downing Street on 29 April for a special tour of the State Rooms.

10 Downing Street has been the official residence of British Prime Ministers since 1735, in the time of Sir Robert Walpole. The small facade conceals the sheer size of the building, a town mansion in the eighteenth-century tradition. The highlight of the lively and entertaining tour was undoubtedly the opportunity to sit around the famous table in the Cabinet Room. We were then taken



up the stairs, lined with engravings and photographs of all previous Prime Ministers, to the Large and Small Dining Rooms, the Pillared Room, the Terracotta Drawing Room and the White Drawing Room, as well as the room which Margaret Thatcher used as her study.

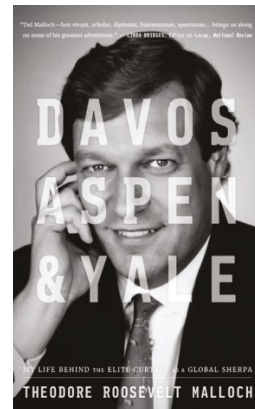


All who visited also attended a most convivial lunch in the elegant surroundings of the Saloon at Boodle's in St James's Street, designed by John Crunden 1775-76 in the style of Adam's Royal Society of Arts building in the Adelphi.

Davos, Aspen & Yale: My life behind the Elite Curtain as a Global Sherpa, by Theodore Roosevelt Malloch

Ted Malloch is a former Yale professor and senior business executive familiar with the most powerful leaders in business, media and politics. In this book, Malloch presents a humorous and witty take on his life experiences in a unique and riotous account.

Masterfully woven throughout the stories are insights on his driving passion: enterprise, organisation, dedication, skill, teamwork, diligence and planning. Malloch demonstrates how his Christian faith and spiritual capital have motivated and guided his purpose and higher calling.



Email orders@wndbooks.com to order copies.

George – A life so well lived

Written by his son Rupert, this private publication is a mixture of affectionate memoir and formal biography of Field Marshal Sir Geoffrey Baker (1912-80), known to all as George. He was a member of the Pilgrims from the early 1960s until his death.

Cyprus; construction of the Berlin Wall, the Cuban missile crisis and the Northern Ireland troubles, and rose to become Chief of the General Staff. The book refers to his dealings with Americans, both during his time at SHAPE and during the Vietnam War. He made many friends in the US.



Geoffrey Baker in 1932

The Field Marshal lived through two world wars, the EOKA emergency in

£10.00 in aid of military charities. Please contact the [office](#) for more information.

News from The Pilgrims of the United States

Stephen Breyer, Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court, spoke at a reception at the River Club on Friday 20 November.



James D Zirin, President Miner H Warner and Stephen Breyer

Stephen Breyer has written about administrative law, economic regulation and the Constitution.



Stephen Breyer signing copies of his book 'The Court and the World: American Law and the New Global Realities'

Ambassador William J Burns, former Deputy Secretary of State, spoke at a reception at the River Club on Wednesday 23 March.



Ambassador William J Burns

After a 33-year diplomatic career in the United States, and holding the highest rank in the Foreign Service, career ambassador, Ambassador Burns retired in 2014, becoming President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the oldest international affairs think-tank in the United States.

Peter Gelb, General Manager, the Metropolitan Opera, spoke at a reception at the Racquet & Tennis Club on Wednesday 17 February.



James D Zirin, Peter Gelb and President Miner H Warner

Peter Gelb has been General Manager of the Met since 2006 and has launched a number of initiatives to revitalise opera and to connect it to a wider audience. Under his leadership the Met has recruited many of the world's greatest theatre, film and opera directors and increased the number of new productions.

The 113th Annual Meeting of the Pilgrims of the United State took place at the Union League Club on Monday 16 May. The society was addressed by Peggy Noonan, columnist with the Wall Street Journal, speechwriter for President Reagan and political commentator for CBS.



Peggy Noonan

Peggy Noonan is a native New Yorker, born in Brooklyn, who began her career at CBS News and has taught at Harvard, Yale and New York University. She is the author of nine books on American politics and culture, since 2000 she has been the author of the weekly column, *Declarations*, in the *Wall Street Journal*. She was special assistant and speechwriter to President Ronald Reagan during his years in the White House.

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The Pilgrims



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The Pilgrims Newsletter

A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain



VOL 23, NO 1
AUTUMN 2015

Sir Malcolm Rifkind's assessment of the special relationship



Sir Malcolm dismissed the view that Britain always subordinates itself to US foreign and defence policy. Criticism of Tony Blair that he was too close to George W Bush over Afghanistan and Iraq was valid, but in the 1960s Harold Wilson had refused Lyndon Johnson's request to send British forces to Vietnam and in the 1980s Margaret Thatcher criticised Ronald Reagan over the American-led invasion of Grenada. Sir Malcolm stressed the need for the UK to maintain a strong defence posture and to maintain close relations with France and Germany as well as the USA.

Sir Malcolm was questioned on the role of the House of Commons Intelligence Committee, the likely impact upon US/UK relations if the UK chose to leave the EU, the reasons for Blair's support for the Iraq war, and the UK's need for the renewal of Trident. He spoke about the effect on US/UK relations of Jeremy Corbyn's leadership of the Labour Party, of a possible independent Scotland and of the situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

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Telephone number and email
remain the same.

A DEAD SHEEP'S REVENGE

One of the best quips by the late Denis Healey was when he compared an attack from Geoffrey Howe to being savaged by dead sheep. Howe's response is less well-known, but addressing the Pilgrims Society this week Sir Malcolm Rifkind recalled Howe saying that being mocked by Healey was "like being nuzzled by an old boar". Sounds like a Piers Gaveston Society party game.

Extract from The Times Diary of 10 October. Members were saddened by the death of Lord Howe of Aberavon, a member of the Pilgrims for many years

New President



At the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting held on 5 October, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup KG GCB AFC was elected President of the Pilgrims in succession to Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce. Lord Stirrup was commissioned into the Royal Air Force in 1970 as a fighter reconnaissance pilot, and subsequently served for three years on exchange with the United States Air Force. He became Chief of the Air Staff in 2003, and Chief of the Defence staff in 2006. In the House of Lords he is particularly involved in the areas of defence, security, foreign relations and the arts.

Following the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting, held by kind invitation of Freshfields at Northcliffe House, Tudor Street on 5 October, Sir Malcolm Rifkind delivered the Britain Memorial Lecture.

After an introduction by Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman, Sir Malcolm began by praising Sir Harry Brittain for his great contribution to Anglo-American relations. He made humorous and affectionate references to Henry Kissinger, Denis Healey, Geoffrey Howe and Margaret Thatcher and then traced the development of UK/US relations from the Second World War, taking in the foundation of the United Nations, the Marshall Plan, the establishment of NATO and the close partnership between the US and the UK. Sir Malcolm singled out geography, language, geopolitics and military intelligence as the reasons for the Special Relationship.

Letter from the Chairman

At the recent Annual Meeting, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce retired as our President and Ian Barlow retired as our Honorary Treasurer. In their years of service, they gave generously to the Pilgrims of their time, their professionalism and their close attention, notwithstanding the many outside demands upon them. Mike and Ian were wonderful Executive Committee colleagues and well-known to all Pilgrims who regularly attend our events. All Pilgrims, I am confident, join me in thanking them for their contributions and for the example they have each set for their very able and highly qualified successors as President and Honorary Treasurer, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup and Richard Reid. I personally look forward with the greatest pleasure to working closely with Jock Stirrup and Richard Reid.

The Executive Committee, with its indispensable Executive Secretary Tessa Wells, is responsible for the smooth functioning of our Society. In my twenty years as a member of The Pilgrims, I have enjoyed the benefits of our active and varied events, our congenial membership and our healthy financial management. To assure the continuing evolution of Executive Committee operations, as Chairman I have carefully adhered to

the Rule-specified regular turnover of our officers and committee membership into new, qualified hands. I have assigned to the leaders and members of the Finance, Membership and Programme sub-committees real executive responsibility and this year the Executive Committee created the Nominations sub-committee in addition. I leave it to the membership to judge whether these initiatives are working effectively and serving the Pilgrims well.

Of the seventeen Rules which govern our Society, Rule VII should be read by all Pilgrims as an invitation to put their candidacy forward to replace retiring Executive Committee members. The explicit call to the membership this year yielded splendid candidates and three new Executive Committee members who have already demonstrated the benefit of regular and well-managed renewal in the responsibilities of governance. We will look forward to continuing this broad recruiting effort in the future.

While citing our Rules, I close with quoting my favourite, Rule II: "The object of the Society shall be the promotion of Anglo-American good fellowship". Good fellowship. Not a term one now hears often in current public discourse. The embrace of good



fellowship between the US and the UK has served the Pilgrims well for these 113 years since our founding. Long may it continue.

Ronald M Freeman

New Honorary Treasurer



At the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting, Richard Reid was elected Treasurer of the Pilgrims in succession to Ian Barlow. Richard retired in September 2015 as Chairman of KPMG in London, having been with the firm for 35 years. He was very involved in advising large international groups and in building stronger business links with emerging markets, particularly China and India. Richard sat on the Board of British American Business for many years.

Note from the Secretary

It would assist the smooth running of the office if members who book events and then find themselves unable to attend could give as much notice as possible of their change of plan.

Please keep the office informed of any change of address, and particularly of email addresses.

Tessa Wells

Elections to the Executive Committee October 2015



Piers Coleman was introduced to the Pilgrims by former Treasurer Sir James Butler. He is a long-standing partner in the global law firm K&L Gates LLP, specialising in two wholly unrelated subjects - complex commercial real estate transactions and the law on elections. He has been involved in many of the contentious election disputes of the last 30 years. Piers will sit on the Membership Committee.



Paul Dimond CMG was Ambassador to Manila 2002-05 during his career in the Diplomatic Service. He is Deputy Chairman of DAKS Simpson Group plc, and a Director of Baillie Gifford Japan Trust plc, Westminster Gardens Ltd and the Anglo-Netherlands Society. He also acts as an outplacement adviser at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Paul will sit on the Finance Committee.



Tristan Elbrick is the grandson of US and British diplomats, and is married to Francesca, a Neapolitan. He specialises in business development in financial services, founding Aspen Capital in 2003. With strong US links, he has a New York house on land purchased by his family in 1786. Tristan sits on the Programme Committee and will join the Membership Committee.

Tour of the art collection at the Garrick Club

Following a successful visit to the Garrick Club in February, a small group of Pilgrims toured the club's impressive art collection on 10 September, guided by Mrs Frances Hughes.

The club houses the largest and most significant collection of British theatrical works of art with over one thousand paintings, drawings and pieces of sculpture on display. Artists represented in the collection include Johan Zoffany, Thomas Lawrence and John Everett Millais, and paintings of every British actor of note, from David Garrick to John Gielgud, hang on the Club walls.

Changing attitudes in American politics



Until 2009 Justin Webb was based in Washington, latterly as the North American Editor

for BBC News. He is now well known as a presenter of Radio 4's *Today* programme. He spoke to the Pilgrims following dinner at the Reform Club on 19 October.

After an introduction by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Justin Webb spoke of the landmark election of Barack Obama as the first African-American President, and then examined the major doctrinal differences between

the Democrats and the Republicans and the consequent state of gridlock, and the role played by social media in American politics. Justin Webb paid tribute to the durability of the Special Relationship and at question-time dealt skilfully with Barack Obama's racial profile, Hillary Clinton's suitability for the Presidency, the relative merits of the Democrat and Republican Presidential candidates and any possible surprises in the Presidential race.

NEW MEMBERS JULY AND OCTOBER 2015

Rear Admiral David Bawtree CB DL

Guy Benn

Michael Birshan

The Hon Adam Bruce

Professor Mallory Factor

Mrs Elizabeth Weir Factor

Richard Fitzalan Howard

Logie Fitzwilliams

Dr Amanda Foreman FRSA

Benjamin Goldsmith

Mrs Kweilen Hatleskog

Curt Hess

Brent Hoberman CBE

Michael J Larsen

John Beauregard Lockhart

Patrick Long

Jonathan Lydiard-Wilson

Simon McIlwaine

Robert Morrisson Atwater

The Right Hon Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury

Charles Plante

Miss Louisa Radcliffe

Jeffrey Rose CBE

Harry Scrope

Britt Shaw

Mrs Jacqueline Smith-Maxwell

Peter Stevens

Colin Stoneham

Dr Andreas Stradis

Francis Terry

Mrs Gretchen Trusted

Edward van Cutsem

Sir David Verey CBE

Miss Beatie Wolfe

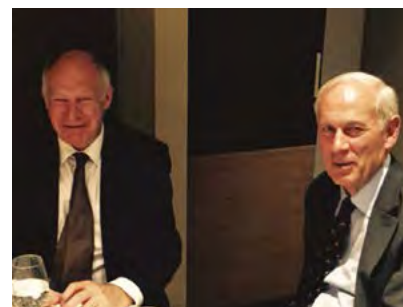
Lord Neuberger reflects on his legal career

Pilgrims and guests assembled at Ernst & Young's building at More London Place on 16 June to hear Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury, President of the Supreme Court, deliver the annual *Reflections* Lecture.

After an introduction by Pilgrims' President Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce, Lord Neuberger recalled that his legal career was not initially promising, with three separate pupillages in Chambers, where he did not make his mark with his superiors. His subsequent concentration on landlord and tenant law helped his career as a barrister and led him to the High Court, the Court of Appeal and to be Master of the Rolls.

Lord Neuberger was a firm believer that perseverance paid off and was convinced that luck played a large part in a successful career. All too often one came up against the law of unintended consequences. What might have appeared a waste of time often proved useful and disasters and disadvantages later turned out to be triumphs.

Lord Neuberger pointed out clear differences between the American and British governmental and legal system. The British Parliament can do whatever it likes, whereas the US Supreme Court can question



Lord Neuberger with Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce

and override legislation passed by Congress. There is no total separation of powers, executive, judicial and legislative, in the UK, unlike the USA's firm belief in the Montesquieu Doctrine. He stressed the importance of the Human Rights Act of 1998 which imposed a strong duty on judges and dealt with the power of Parliament, which could often be weakened by political divisions and indecisiveness, and gave his views on devolution issues; the ideological differences between the major parties and the diminishing influence of Christianity in this country.

At the time of the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta, Lord Neuberger referred to its crucial significance to the rule of law and democratic government.

At question-time Lord Neuberger dealt very skilfully with the Human Rights Act; the legal effects of a possible British withdrawal from the EU; the effectiveness of the UK Supreme Court; the UN Declaration of Human Rights; the differences in procedure between the US Supreme Court and the UK Supreme Court, and the problem of refugees drowning in the Mediterranean.

Re-elections to the Executive Committee



Mrs Diane Simpson, known as Dee Dee, comes from Dayton, Ohio. She served as a US Foreign Service Officer with posts including London, and delegate to the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces negotiations in Geneva, and was subsequently Managing Editor of Strategic Comments at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. Dee Dee is a UK board member of the International Rescue Committee. She chairs the Nominations Committee and is a member of the Programme Committee.



Sir Stephen Wright KCMG was a British diplomat with senior appointments as Minister in Washington DC, Director General in the FCO and Ambassador to Spain. He became CEO of IFSL, a promotional body for UK financial services, and Senior Adviser to its successor organization TheCityUK. He is Senior Adviser to Good Governance Group (G3) and to Mitsui & Co Europe plc. Sir Stephen sits on the Nominations and Programme Committees.

Forward Programme

all details TBC

February/March 2016

Reflections Lecture

March/April

Panel discussion on the US Elections

Monday 17 October

Annual Meeting, to be followed by the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

end November

Thanksgiving event

Members will be sent programme updates by email: please ensure the office has your correct email address

sec@pilgrimsociety.org

Visit to Hatfield House and St Albans Cathedral



The new polychrome statues of martyrs in the medieval nave screen, given to St Albans Cathedral by Pilgrim member Richard Walduck and his wife Susan

Salisbury. The incumbent Lord, Robert Gascoyne-Cecil, who has overseen lots of renovation work in recent years, reportedly told visitors that shortly before his father's death in 2003, the sixth marquess told him to celebrate his succession, but added a word of warning about the beautiful old house. "There's plenty of champagne and claret in the cellar" he said, "but no hot water".

Pilgrims and guests visited Hatfield House and St Albans Cathedral on 30 June.

At Hatfield House, the Cecil family home for over 400 years, the Marquess of Salisbury talked about the history of the house and estate and how it fits into today's world, stressing the

importance of contributing to the life and work of the local community.

The Times Diary of 7 July recorded the visit: *Estate of Disrepair: Living in an ageing stately home doesn't always mean a life of luxury. The Pilgrims Society, the Anglo-American group, made a recent visit to Hatfield House, the Jacobean seat of the Marquess of*

We had a guided tour around the state rooms before a most enjoyable lunch.

St Albans Cathedral has been a place of worship for over nine hundred years. We were welcomed by the Very Reverend Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans, before a guided tour, afternoon tea and then Evensong.

800th anniversary of Magna Carta

Pilgrims and guests attended a special evening, in the presence of the Honorable Matthew W Barzun, Ambassador of the United States, at the Temple Church and Middle Temple Hall on 3 June to mark the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta.

Evensong had some strong American ingredients, including Thomas Jefferson's A Prayer for the Nation of 1801, and George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation, New York 1789. The lessons were read by Pilgrims' President Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce and by the American Ambassador Matthew Barzun.

Following a reception in Middle Temple Gardens and dinner in Middle Temple Hall, former Lord Chief Justice Lord Judge spoke on the historical background to Magna Carta and the remarkable people associated with it, emphasising the true significance of the Great Charter and the impact it has had throughout the world. Ambassador Barzun concentrated on the effect that Magna Carta had on the Declaration of Independence, the US Constitution and the Bill of Rights, as recognised by the Memorial at Runnymede, concluding his remarks by toasting the Special Relationship and Anglo-American good fellowship.

A happy and memorable evening concluded with a very warm vote of thanks from Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman.



Mrs Anthony Mellows, Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, Lady Judge, Ambassador Matthew W Barzun, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce, and in the foreground Mr Ronald M Freeman



The Times Diary, 9 June 2015



The Revd Robin Griffith-Jones, Hon Chaplain, and Stephen Hockman, Treasurer of Middle Temple

Messages from the Editor:

The newsletter has a new look, as a result of help we have received from **Crooked Door Design** - www.crookeddoordesign.co.uk Any comments on the new design would be most welcome.

Our thanks to Sir Peter Bottomley MP for his photographs of Lord Rifkind, Justin Webb, Lord Neuberger and the dinner on 3 June.

Visit to Runnymede



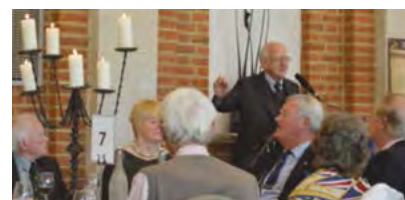
In perfect weather, Pilgrims and guests visited Runnymede on 21 May, where we were shown the Magna Carta Memorial and Professor Tony Badger, Chairman of the Kennedy Memorial Trust, spoke on the John F Kennedy Memorial.

At the Commonwealth Air Forces Memorial we were met by Peter Francis of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The Memorial commemorates the men and women of the Allied Air Forces who died during the Second World War and records the names of the 20,456 service people with no known grave.

Following lunch in the Orangery of Great Fosters Hotel at Egham, Sir Robert Worcester, Vice-President of the Pilgrims and Chairman of the Magna Carta 2015 800th Committee, recalled that Runnymede was the first place he had visited on his arrival in the UK in 1969. Sir Robert looked at the historical background to the events of June 1215 and referred to some of the events taking place to mark the anniversary. He concluded by referring to President Obama's visit to the UK in 2011 in which he stressed the common bonds of freedom, respect for the rights of



the individual, the rule of law and human rights which bind Britain and the USA together. Magna Carta is indeed the common heritage of both countries.



Editor's note: our thanks to Terence Mallinson for the use of his photographs in this article. Clockwise from left: Professor Tony Badger; the view over Runnymede meadow from the top of the Commonwealth Air Forces Memorial; Sir Robert Worcester, and the John F Kennedy Memorial.

Applications for membership

The Membership sub-committee report to the Annual Meeting showed that we are successful in keeping membership of the Pilgrims at around 1,100, and that we have welcomed several younger members. Much of this has been down to the efforts of Tristan Elbrick, himself one of the new generation. It would be excellent if we could spread this investment in the future of the organisation more widely. I invite all Pilgrims to ask themselves if there are people, especially but not exclusively people in their 40s and 50s, with a stake and an interest in Anglo-American relationships, who might be interested in membership. The fact that there is no obvious secondar should not be a deterrent - please consult Tessa Wells if that is the case. Proposals for women, US or dual citizens, and candidates of black or other

ethnicity would be particularly welcome. We have a reasonable record in the first two categories but an aspiration to improve. On the last we are effectively still on the starting line which is inappropriate for the United Kingdom of the 21st century.

In addition, if you do propose or second someone, may we encourage you not to stop at that point but to play an active part in introducing them to the Pilgrims and our activities and events? It can be daunting to come into a group like ours knowing no one and it is the proposer and secondar who are usually best placed to introduce new Pilgrims to other members, so that they quickly have other friendly and familiar faces to join.

Robert Alston
Chairman of the Membership Committee

Tour of the Old Bailey

Pilgrims and guests were invited to make a special tour of the Central Criminal Court of England and Wales on 12 May.

Occupying the site of the medieval Newgate Prison, the Old Bailey deals with major criminal cases from Greater London and from parts of Surrey, Kent and Sussex. F W Pomeroy (1856-1924) sculpted the bronze figure of Justice above the building, and also the figures of the Recording Angels and Fortitude and Truth over the main entrance. The present building was opened by King Edward VII and has eighteen courts and seventy-four cells.



Charles Henty, Secondary of London and Under Sheriff, who is in charge of the day-to-day operation and management of the Court, gave a fascinating tour and an informative account of the history of the Old Bailey.

IN MEMORIAM

Captain Martin W Busk

Robert Enslow

John Ferree

Mrs Mary Barton Freeman

Sir Philip Goodhart

The Right Hon the Lord Howe of Aberavon CH QC

Mrs Pauline Hyde

Geoffrey P Jenkinson

The Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

Sir Paul Newall TD DL

Raymond Salter

Alastair Smith-Maxwell

News from The Pilgrims of the United States

The New York British-American Societies Annual Summer Garden Party took place at the Union Theological Seminary cloister on Wednesday 15 July, attended by members of the Pilgrims of the US.

Matthew Rycroft CBE, UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations since April 2015, spoke at a reception at the River Club on Tuesday 20 October.

Since joining the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1989 Matthew Rycroft has spent four years at the British Embassy in Paris, served in the British Embassy in Washington, was Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs to the Prime Minister, then British Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Before serving in the UN he was FCO Director, overseeing the running of the network of 270 posts around the world.



Matthew Rycroft and President Miner H Warner

The Pilgrims



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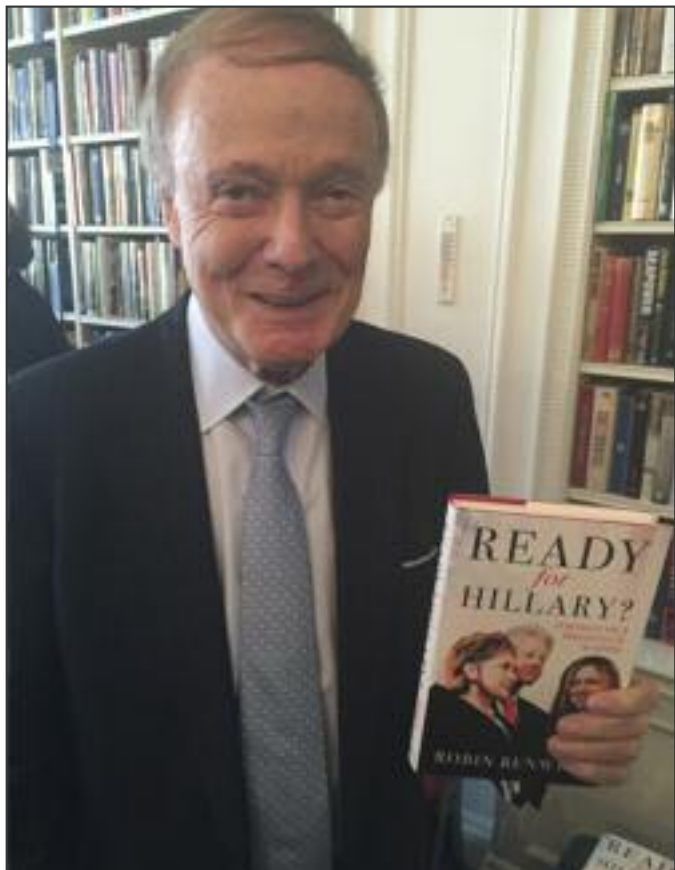
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ROBIN RENWICK IN PRAISE OF HILLARY CLINTON

Lord Renwick of Clifton, British Ambassador in Washington between 1991 and 1995, drew very close to Bill and Hillary Clinton, as shown in his recently published biography, *Ready for Hillary? Portrait of a President in Waiting*. Lord Renwick spoke about Hillary Clinton at a Pilgrims' luncheon at the Army and Navy Club on 17 March. Pilgrims' Vice President Sir Robert Worcester spoke briefly about the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and introduced Lord Renwick.



Robin Renwick portrayed Hillary Clinton as chatty, generous and friendly, with a real sense of humour, who had made a definite mark as First Lady, Senator and Secretary of State. In 1992 when Bill Clinton seized the White House from George Bush Snr,

Hillary was put in charge of healthcare reform, with an office in the West Wing, but the subsequent Whitewater scandal did not improve her image. Ironically, it was the Monica Lewinsky scandal that rescued her when she stood firmly by her husband when he had lied publicly and was facing impeachment.

Hillary Clinton was elected as a New York Senator in her own right, but in 2008 her bid for the Democratic nomination failed against the Obama tidal force. Barack Obama chose her as Secretary of State both for her outstanding ability and to ensure that she could not stand against him in the 2012 Presidential race. Robin Renwick praised Hillary Clinton's achievements at the State Department, but was firmly of the opinion that she had been handicapped by Obama's indecision and his basic lack of interest in foreign affairs. He concluded by singling her out as the only credible Democratic candidate in 2016.

During questions Robin Renwick dealt with Hillary Clinton's likely running-mate in the 2016 Presidential Election; her state of health; her views on negotiations with Iran; her soundness on major foreign policy issues and the perception of her as a divisive figure in the eyes of right-wing Republicans and the Tea Party. Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman proposed a vote of thanks.



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LETTER



The Pilgrims gathered together on 20 November for an early celebration of Thanksgiving at St Margaret's Church, Westminster. Like the original Pilgrims, we pondered challenges past and present while giving thanks for making it through the year with the support

of friends and family. We modern Pilgrims celebrate the maintenance of UK-US ties despite the presence of the North Atlantic and a few differences in vocabulary, and possibly a dispute about the best time to eat turkey (Thanksgiving or Christmas or both). Even after a separation of over two hundred years, we share so much – language, culture, political, economic and judicial foundations, military co-operation. A glance at the Society's events over the past few months bears out these ties.

- On the political side, in November we had a panel discussion on the US mid-term elections and in March former UK Ambassador to the US Lord Renwick asked if we are ready for Hillary.
- The January evensong and tour of Westminster Abbey reminded us not just of religious ties but also of the huge influence on English-language literature of Chaucer, Dickens and others. There's a US representative in Poets Corner: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.
- In February (and again next September), the art tour at the Garrick Club illustrated the history of the theatre, an art form at which both the UK and US excel.
- Andrew Roberts's talk about his book on Napoleon reminds us that this period gave rise to the War of 1812. (Let's forget who burnt the White House.)
- In March, Lord Fellowes entertained us with stories of acting and writing for the big and small screens. It's possible that *Downton Abbey* is even more popular in the US than the UK. We anticipate Lord Fellowes's projected new series about the Gilded Age.

- In May and June we look forward to a visit to Runnymede and a celebration of 800 years of Magna Carta after a service at the Temple church.

If you haven't joined us at an event for a while is it time you did? And if you've been to everything, please help us with forward planning by suggesting a speaker, venue, or subject. Better yet – introduce a new member, possibly a young one?

We would like to invite nominations for the Executive Committee, on which a few positions will be opening in the next year. Service on the Committee is not onerous – we meet twice a year, generally in March and again in October before the Annual General Meeting. Members of the Executive Committee also sit on the Membership, Programme or Finance Committee. If you would like to join, or to nominate someone else, please jot down a few lines as to why you or your nominee would be a good addition to the Executive Committee, and specify whether your talents or theirs would lend themselves to sitting on the Membership, Programme or Finance Committee. Nominations please to Tessa Wells. Her email address is sec@pilgrimsociety.org

Diane Simpson

EVENSONG AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY

The Pilgrims were invited by the Very Reverend Dr John Hall, fellow-Pilgrim and Dean of Westminster, to attend full choral evensong at Westminster Abbey on 27 January, an evening made more poignant by marking the seventieth anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

From special seats in the choir we observed the choir singing at their very best, and were then given a personal tour around the Abbey by the Dean. Westminster Abbey was the place of burial for the majority of monarchs between 1272 and 1760, and is also the resting-place for a large array of statesmen, scientists, writers, musicians and actors. New memorial plaques are still being added to Poets' Corner.

The evening concluded with a most enjoyable reception in the Jerusalem Chamber, where Henry IV died in 1413. Our grateful thanks go to our most convivial host, the Dean of Westminster.

AN EVENING WITH JULIAN FELLOWES

Lord Fellowes of West Stafford, who has achieved a unique place in entertainment history as the creator and writer of *Downton Abbey*, was the guest of honour at a dinner held at the Cavalry and Guards Club on 5 March.

Following an introduction by Pilgrims' President Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce, Julian Fellowes said that the United States had played a large part in his life. Early in his career he had pretended that he had an American mother in order to be cast as an American character in a West End play. When Hollywood eventually beckoned, he tried to become the new Robert Morley. He hit the jackpot with his original screenplay for Robert Altman's *Gosford Park*, which won him an Oscar.



*Ronald M Freeman, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce,
Lord Fellowes of West Stafford and
Lady Fellowes*

Julian Fellowes conducted a question and answer session, telling of the new series he was working on which dealt with post-Civil War America; the differences between the British system of hereditary monarchy and the American presidency; the pressures of the entertainment world; his own view of the British film industry and the shortcomings of the House of Commons. He paid special tribute to ITV's Peter Fincham for his unwavering support over *Downton Abbey*, and to Robert Altman for his refusal to compromise over the making of *Gosford Park*.

Julian Fellowes spoke about contractual situations involving actors, with particular reference to Dan Stevens, whose departure for Hollywood

meant killing off his character in *Downton Abbey* in the Christmas Day 2012 special episode; television seen in contrast with cinema; the importance of Highclere Castle as the principal location for *Downton Abbey* and the need to write convincing dialogue with a modern ring to it.

Executive Committee Member Diane Simpson thanked Julian Fellowes for his witty and incisive view of the entertainment world and presented him with the customary Pilgrims' tie and centennial history.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Wednesday 3 June

Special Magna Carta dinner with the US Ambassador, the Hon Matthew W Barzun
Middle Temple Hall, preceded by Evensong at the Temple Church at 6.00 pm

Tuesday 16 June

Reflections Lecture

The Lord Neuberger of Abbotsbury
Looking back – and forward
Ernst & Young LLP, 1 More London Place, SE1 2AF, 6.30 pm, followed by reception
Optional supper at Hilton London Tower Bridge

Tuesday 30 June

Visit to Hatfield House and St Albans Cathedral
Transport provided from central London

Thursday 10 September

Tour of the art collection at the Garrick Club
Led by Mrs Frances Hughes, NADFAS lecturer
Preceded by coffee served in the Morning Room
10.00 am until 12 noon

Monday 5 October

Annual Meeting, to be followed by the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture
by the Right Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind KCMG
QC Freshfields, Northcliffe House, 26-28 Tudor Street, EC4Y 0BQ, 6.00 pm meeting, 6.30 pm lecture, followed by a reception
Optional supper at Apex Temple Court, 1-2 Serjeants Inn, Fleet Street, EC4Y 1LL

Monday 19 October

Dinner with Justin Webb

Changing Attitudes in American Politics
Reform Club, 104 Pall Mall, SW1Y 5EW
7.15 for 7.45 pm, lounge suit

*Members will be sent programme updates by email:
please ensure the office has your correct email
address*

sec@pilgrimsociety.org

ANDREW ROBERTS PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE GREATNESS OF NAPOLEON

In the bicentennial year of the Battle of Waterloo, fellow-Pilgrim Andrew Roberts addressed a lunchtime gathering of the Pilgrims at the Travellers' Club on 12 February. Dr Roberts, generally acknowledged as one of the greatest biographers and historians of his generation, was speaking on his recently published and critically acclaimed book, *Napoleon the Great*.



Andrew Roberts and Sir Peter Viggers

After an introduction by Sir Peter Viggers, Andrew Roberts stated that one of the principal reasons for his writing a new biography of Napoleon was the 32,000 recently-published letters of Napoleon, in addition to the thousands that had been published since his death in 1821. Andrew Roberts stressed Napoleon's remarkable ability to deal with a whole range of matters at the same time – military, diplomatic, legal, educational, financial and social. The Code Napoleon, in which forty competing French legal codes were brought together in a clear and simplified format, had been his greatest and lasting achievement.

Contemporary propagandists and subsequent hagiographers had sought to vilify and demonise Napoleon, while the reality was that Napoleon was a man of enormous ability with a real sense of humour, a sense of proportion and a belief in meritocracy: ten of the twenty-six Marshals of France appointed by him were people of humble origin.

During questions Andrew Roberts dealt with Napoleon's complex and stormy relationship with

the Empress Josephine; his remarkable writing style (French was his third language after the Corsican dialect and Italian); his connections with Corsican nationalism through his father, and comparisons with such giant historical figures as Julius Caesar and Alexander the Great. Andrew Roberts agreed that the invasion of Russia in 1812 with an army of over 600,000 was Napoleon's greatest blunder.



Extract from The Times Diary, 12 February

Edgar Miller delivered a very warm vote of thanks to Andrew Roberts who, by his own admission, is the same height as Napoleon, confirmed by having lain on his deathbed while visiting Longwood House on St Helena.

Editor's note: further congratulations to Andrew Roberts, whose "Napoleon the Great" won the LA Times biography prize in April.

VISIT TO THE GARDEN AT HIGHGROVE

A small group of Pilgrims and guests paid a visit to Highgrove on 30 April. Having first watched a video of HRH The Prince of Wales explaining the environmental philosophy which he had sought to put into practice at Highgrove since acquiring the house in 1980, we were given a two-hour guided tour of the garden.

Prince Charles and his gardeners have succeeded in creating an idyllic pastoral landscape that is ever-changing. Our garden guide Jane Carter deserved full praise for her expert knowledge and her understanding of the complexities of such a gardening project. Following the tour we had a most enjoyable lunch in the Orchard Restaurant and visited the Highgrove shop.

It is hoped that the Pilgrims may visit the garden at Highgrove during 2016. If you wish to express an interest in such a visit, please contact the office.

THE AMERICAN MID-TERM ELECTIONS

Pilgrims and guests attended a special meeting on the American Mid-Term elections on 13 November at the University of Notre Dame in Suffolk Street, with a panel chaired by Pilgrims' Vice-President Sir Robert Worcester. The expert panellists were Gregory Katz, acting Bureau Chief of the Associated Press, Mark Mardell, Presenter of *The World This Weekend* on BBC Radio 4 and Stryker McGuire, formerly Bureau Chief at *Newsweek*.



Sir Robert Worcester

photograph by Michael Burland of The American

After a formal introduction by Robert Conway, a Trustee of Notre Dame, Sir Robert Worcester gave a masterly survey of the voting patterns and electoral turnout of the 2012 Presidential Election. Greg Katz saw the Presidential election of 2016 as being wide open with more and more people turning to the Courts to combat such controversial measures as Obamacare. Obama was clearly a 'lame duck' President with the Republicans dominant in both Houses of Congress. A 2016 Presidential contest between Jeb Bush and Hillary Clinton seemed likely at this stage. Mark Mardell felt it had been a very good night for the Republicans but that victory for them in 2016 was not necessarily indicated. Stryker McGuire stressed the influence of money in American politics. The 2012 Elections had cost over \$7 billion. Wealthy individuals had been allowed to finance special interest groups, in particular Michael Bloomberg who was spending vast sums on causes and candidates.

Question time took in such topics as broken government in the USA; the possibility of a 'blame game' after the US Mid-Term elections; similarities between UKIP and the Tea Party; the effect of billionaire backers on both Democratic and Republican parties, and how a Hillary Clinton

Presidency would deal with a Republican-dominated Congress. Also under consideration were such matters as the influence of mass media on both British and US elections; tripartite government in the US; the huge number of small donations made by private citizens in US elections; the importance of key political issues in deciding electoral outcomes; the likelihood of a political comeback by Mitt Romney, and the possible breakdown of the whole US political system.

Sir Peter Marshall thanked the distinguished panellists for their clear analysis and understanding of the very complex American political system.

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION AT ST MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER

Pilgrims and guests attended a special Thanksgiving service at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey on 20 November. The service was conducted by Canon Andrew Tremlett, Rector of St Margaret's, with Thomas Trotter at the organ. There was a strong American flavour in the hymns, choral singing, readings and organ pieces. Valerie Humphrey, Director of the Westminster Abbey Foundation and a member of the Pilgrims' Programme Committee, gave an illuminating reflection on the true meaning of Thanksgiving, and the Rector gave a witty and informative address on the historical relationship between St Margaret's, Westminster Abbey and the USA. The US Minister, Ms Elizabeth Dibble, Executive Committee member Diane Simpson, Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman and Sir Peter Bottomley MP, St Margaret's Parliamentary Warden and Chairman of the Pilgrims' Programme Committee, read a variety of lessons.

We were delighted to be joined for the evening by the Reverend John A D'Elia, Senior Minister at the American International Church, and by the Choir of the American School in London, under the inspirational direction of Lisa Ross.

The service was followed by an enjoyable reception in the side aisle of the church.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs Joan M C Baillie
George Cathles
William D Park
Alan Rawley QC
Harold W Sands

RECEPTION AT DRAPERS' HALL

Pilgrims and guests attended a spring reception at Drapers' Hall on 20 April, enabling members and their guests to enjoy a social evening in prestigious and impressive surroundings.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce, President of the Pilgrims, Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, Sir Peter Bottomley MP and John Padovan are Past Masters of the Drapers' Company. The Drapers' Company generously care for The Pilgrims' silver, which was on display at the reception.



Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce and Lady Boyce

The Livery Hall contains the Company's collection of royal portraits and Herbert Draper's magnificent ceiling paintings depicting Shakespearean scenes, as well as the statue of Venus by John Gibson and the statue of Hypatia by Richard Belt. The Court Dining Room dates back in part to the late 1660s and was renovated in 1869, when the ceiling painting of Jason and the Golden Fleece by Felix-Joseph Barrias was added.

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY

It would assist the smooth running of the office if members who book events and then find themselves unable to attend could give as much notice as possible of their change of plan.

Please keep the office informed of any change of address, and particularly of email addresses.

Thank you

Tessa Wells

TOUR OF THE ART COLLECTION AT THE GARRICK CLUB

A small group of Pilgrims visited the Garrick Club to view the club's impressive art collection on 5 February.

Founded in 1831, the Garrick Club moved to its present premises in 1864, where it houses the largest and most significant collection of British theatrical works of art. Artists represented in the collection of more than one thousand paintings, drawings and pieces of sculpture include Johan Zoffany, Thomas Lawrence and John Everett Millais. Paintings of every British actor of note, from David Garrick to John Gielgud, hang on the Club walls. Many of the major literary, theatrical and artistic personalities of the last two centuries have been members, including Charles Dickens, William Makepeace Thackeray, Henry Irving, W S Gilbert, Arthur Sullivan and A A Milne.

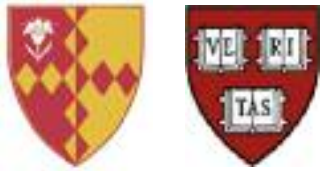
We were most fortunate to have Mrs Frances Hughes as our guide. Her knowledge and understanding of the theatrical world and its people is unsurpassed and we owe her a considerable debt of gratitude.

Editor's note: Henry Irving, the first actor to be knighted, was a founder member of The Pilgrims and a member of the Executive Committee until his death in 1905.

NEW MEMBERS DECEMBER 2014 AND APRIL 2015

Dr Wai Chen
Miss Louisa Cottrell
Hugo Hanham-Gross
Dr Theodore Malloch
Ms Elizabeth A McMahon
Mrs Jennifer Millar-Smith
Mrs Cecilia Neal
Edward Osterwald
Dr Michael J Owen
Henry Smith MP
Lady Staughton OBE DL
Christian Sweeting
Philip Taylor

Membership application forms, and additional copies of the 2014 List of Members, are available from the office
sec@pilgrimsociety.org



Southwark Cathedral and Harvard Club UK Fundraising Dinner 21 September 2015

The Harvard Club of the United Kingdom and Southwark Cathedral are hosting a Gala Dinner in aid of Southwark Cathedral at which Mark Carney, Governor of the Bank of England, will speak.

The dinner will be held at the Mansion House, by kind permission of the Lord Mayor, on Monday 21 September from 6.45 pm. The cathedral has many connections with the USA: John Harvard, who sailed with his wife to Massachusetts in 1637 and became the first benefactor of Harvard University, was baptised in St Saviour's church, later Southwark Cathedral, in 1607. The John Harvard Memorial chapel has a memorial window by the American artist John LaFarge and houses a memorial plaque to Oscar Hammerstein II, the librettist and regular visitor to the cathedral.

Dress for the dinner is black tie and tickets are £300.00 per person. It will be a wonderful occasion to support Southwark Cathedral by raising funds for disabled access to the John Harvard Memorial chapel as well as vital renovation works.

Enquiries to Alice Willington: 020 7367 6729, alice.willington@southwark.anglican.org

TURBULENT TIMES: The memoirs of Ronald McIntosh with a foreword by Peter Hennessy (Biteback £20.00)

From his wartime service in the Merchant Navy to the corridors of power in Whitehall and the Yeltsin years in Russia, Sir Ronald McIntosh has never been far from the centre of exciting events. As Director-General of the National Economic Development Office in the 1970s he was intimately concerned with the industrial disputes and inflationary pressures which brought the British economy to the verge of collapse. His memoirs give a compelling account of those days.

Sir Ronald was born in 1919 and his working life continued until he was almost eighty. His career in the public service at home and abroad, and later in the City and Russia, spanned a period of almost unparalleled turbulence. Peter Hennessy describes him as a sensitive and knowledgeable guide to the achievements and vicissitudes of Britain since 1945.

Guest Article: The Order of the Garter

As mother of a St George's Chapel chorister, who spent Sunday morning services praying for the good health and wellbeing of our Sovereign's Knights of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, I have remained in awe of the fifteenth century chivalric ideals they represent. The Order was founded during the Hundred Years' War, when Edward III defeated a larger French force at the Battle of Crécy in 1346. The King awarded the order to those considered to have shown exceptional valour in battle – himself and twenty-four knights.

We are honoured that ten members of the Pilgrims are Knights of the Garter.

St George is the patron saint of the Order, whose spiritual home is St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. Every living knight displays a banner of his arms in the Chapel, with a sword, helmet, crest and an enamelled stallplate. The stallplates remain as memorials and form one of the finest collections of heraldry in the world. The Order is awarded as a mark of Royal favour to honour those who have held public office, contributed in a particular way to national life or who have served the Sovereign personally.



New appointments to the Order are announced on St George's Day, and every June the knights gather at Windsor Castle where the new knights are invested with the insignia. Following lunch in the Waterloo Chamber, the knights process to St George's Chapel, wearing their blue velvet robes and black velvet hats with white plumes. The Queen and other senior members of the Royal Family attend the service.

With thanks to the Dean and Canons of Windsor, St George's Chapel Archives and Chapter Library and to Lord Carrington.

Melissa Crawshay-Williams

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES



The Right Honourable Lord King of Lothbury, former Governor of the Bank of England, spoke at a reception on 6 November at the Racquet & Tennis Club.

Lord King of Lothbury KG GBE

Lynne Olson, author of *Citizens of London: the Americans who stood with Britain in its darkest, finest hour*, spoke at a reception on 3 December at the River Club.



*James D Zirin, Lynne Olson and
President Miner H Warner*

General Michael Hayden, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Agency, spoke at a reception on 26 March at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



*James W Gerard V, General Michael Hayden
and President Miner H Warner*

Darren Walker, President of the Ford Foundation, spoke at a reception on 2 April at the River Club.



*James D Zirin, Darren Walker
and President Miner H Warner*



*William J vanden Heuvel,
Senator George J Mitchell
and President Miner H Warner*

At the 112th Annual Meeting of the Pilgrims of the United States, held on 14 April at the Union League Club, the society was addressed by the Honorable George J Mitchell, former Majority Leader of the

United States Senate and United States Special Envoy to the Middle East. The Pilgrims of the United States medallion for service to the nation was presented to the speaker.



John Shannon, photographer of Pilgrims' events for many years, is moving to Charleston, South Carolina.

*Jill Spiller, Executive Director, presents a certificate
of appreciation to John Shannon*

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PETER KELLNER DEFENDS THE IMPORTANT ROLE PLAYED BY OPINION POLLSTERS IN THE UK AND THE USA

Peter Kellner, President of YouGov, delivered the 21st Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture following the Annual Meeting on 6 October in the auditorium of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, by kind invitation of the President, Sir Suma Chakrabarti.

Following an introduction by Pilgrims' President Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce, Peter Kellner referred to John Prescott's advice to Ed Miliband to ignore opinion polls and do what he thought right.



In the debate in Parliament the previous year on proposed aerial action against Syria, a number of MPs had referred to opinion polls which showed that the public was opposed to such action, and the Government motion was subsequently defeated.

More recently, a poll in *The Sunday Times* had showed that the No campaign in the Scottish Referendum was losing its longstanding lead against the Yes campaign. Peter Kellner felt that polls reflected what people were saying at a particular moment, rather than being a free-standing alien life-force. Politicians should not look at majority opinion and slavishly follow it, while pollsters should seek to be as accurate as possible.

Political opinion polling began with the 1824 US Presidential Election, when Andrew Jackson was victorious over John Quincy Adams. George Gallup, the doyen of opinion pollsters, set up his British organisation in 1938, and in 1945 predicted

that Churchill would lose the General Election, when the other polls declared him to be the favourite. Over the past seventy years pollsters had achieved fairly accurate results, with the notable exceptions of the US Presidential Election of 1948 and the British General Elections of 1970 and 1992. In the recent Scottish Referendum the pollsters had enjoyed success: the YouGov poll taken just before voting showed 48% Yes and 52% No, while the poll taken just after voting showed 46% Yes and 54% No - only 1% out in terms of the actual result.

Peter Kellner believed it quite likely that there would be another hung Parliament following the General Election of May 2015, the complicating factors being the number of seats won by the Liberal Democrats, the SNP and UKIP. In answer to questions, he dealt with the wording of the question on the Scottish Referendum ballot paper; whether polls should be banned for several days before voting; the dormant right-wing vote and the exclusion from the voting franchise of Scottish-born people living elsewhere in the UK. Peter Kellner gave a very clear analysis of the UKIP voter who saw Nigel Farage as a vigilante at the barricades rather than as a political leader.

Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman proposed the vote of thanks and presented Peter Kellner with the customary Pilgrims' tie and official history.



SAVE MAILING COSTS!

If you have received hard copy of this newsletter but would be content to receive it electronically, please contact the office

sec@pilgrimsociety.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LETTER

On 20 August Ambassador Matthew Barzun kindly hosted the Pilgrims at Winfield House, his splendid residence in Regent's Park. Unusually for this past August, it was a pleasant summer evening. The Ambassador opened his house and garden to us, and he capped a wonderful occasion with some very thoughtful words about the transatlantic relationship. The relationship is, of course, the core rationale for the existence of the Pilgrims, but what does that mean for us in this second decade of the 21st century?

Later in the summer I was able to reflect further on the question when I spent a very pleasant few weeks in Boston. The American Revolution started there; it was from there that Paul Revere set out on his famous ride (only famous thanks to Longfellow, since Revere never made it to Concord); it was the site of the first major battle of the revolution; it was where Washington took command of the Continental Army, and it was to where the portly Henry Knox, in an astonishing logistical feat, dragged the captured cannon from Fort Ticonderoga, having crossed an enormous tract of untamed wilderness in the middle of winter. Those same cannon, when mounted on Dorchester Heights, made Boston indefensible and forced the British regulars to withdraw.

After standing on the North Bridge at Concord where the rebels fired the shot that according to Emerson was heard around the world, I was able to make a different kind of pilgrimage: to the Emerson family's Old Manse; to Walden Pond where Thoreau lived the good life; to the Alcott house; and to the graves of the key Transcendentalists at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. Here was the heart of an American literature which, while separate from that of Britain, has remained closely intertwined with it over the ensuing years - intertwined because they both grew from a shared cultural and intellectual legacy. They both flowed, ultimately, from a wellspring of Ancient Greek and Roman thought, fused through Christianity and developed through the Enlightenment.

This was, ironically, equally true of the rebellion of 1775. Most colonists insisted that they were fighting for their rights as British citizens. Even when they later pursued independence from Britain, the principles behind their declaration were drawn from John Locke's *Treatise on Civil Government*, one of the great achievements

of the British Enlightenment. That raises an interesting question: if the two sides shared such fundamental values, how did they end up in a war against each other?

The answer is that, despite sharing a common heritage and common values, they saw the world from very different perspectives. As Fred Anderson points out in *Crucible of War*, his excellent history of the Seven Years' War, metropolitan Britain and the colonists, although then in common cause against the French, spent most of the 1750s and 1760s talking past one another. Even at that early stage they were two peoples separated by a common language. The different experience of life on the two sides of the Atlantic had created a gulf in understanding that neither side was able, or perhaps willing, to bridge.

Over the subsequent centuries our shared heritage has to some extent been diluted by the effects of immigration in both countries, and the subsequent cultural diversification each has experienced. On the other hand, shared experiences have helped to strengthen the bond between us. But we see and experience the world from different perspectives, so the risk of misunderstanding remains. If the transatlantic relationship is as important today as we all believe, then we need to work hard to avoid such misunderstanding. We have to make a conscious and determined effort to understand and account for the different perspectives we have on the world, if we are to have a secure and enduring relationship.

That takes me back to Winfield House last August, to the Ambassador's eloquent words, and to the role of the Pilgrims. We are a delightful association of like-minded people, but we can and should be much more. We have the capacity to be a major force for understanding - for ensuring that our common language does more to unite us than to separate us. How do we set about it? The Pilgrims have no existence beyond the membership; when I say the Pilgrims, I mean us. So the challenge is an individual one as much as it is organisational: the key question is what each of us can contribute to this important endeavour. It is a question that I believe each of us needs to think about, and to seek to answer as we take the Pilgrims forward in the 21st century.

Jock Stirrup

Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Stirrup

ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 2014



Vice Admiral Sir Anthony Dymock KBE CB commanded RN ships around the world including conflict in the Falklands, the Gulf, Kosovo and Sierra Leone. During the 1991 Gulf War he was the British Liaison Officer to the US carrier force in USS MIDWAY, and he later became the NATO Deputy to the USN's Commander Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean. As Defence Attaché in Washington he also led the British Defence Staff across the USA. Sir Anthony retired as the UK's NATO and EU Military Representative in Brussels in 2008 and founded the international maritime security policy consultancy, Wise Pens International, working with the European and African Unions.

MAGNA CARTA DINNER 12 JANUARY 2015

The Magna Carta 800th Anniversary Dinner will take place at the Guildhall on Monday 12 January at 6.30 for 7.30 pm.

The speakers will be the Right Hon Philip Hammond MP, Foreign Secretary, and The Hon Matthew Barzun, US Ambassador.

Guests for the black tie dinner will have a private showing of the City of London's 1297 copy of Magna Carta in the new Guildhall Heritage Gallery.

Tickets are available at £250 per person, or £2,000 for a table of ten. There will be both a live and a silent auction.

For more information, please contact Mark Gill: markgill@magnacarta800th.com, 10 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HX, or 07879 632870.

RE-ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Sir John Holmes GCVO KBE CMG is Director of the Ditchley Foundation, and also chair of the Board of the International Rescue Committee – UK. Sir John joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1973 and served in a wide range of diplomatic roles in London, Moscow, Paris, New Delhi and Lisbon.



Lady Judge CBE was Chairman of the UK Atomic Energy Authority 2004-10. She is Chairman of the Energy Institute of University College London, Deputy Chairman of the Tepco Nuclear Reform Monitoring Committee, Chairman of the UK Pension Protection Fund, and a Visiting Fellow at Oxford University. Lady Judge sits on the Membership Committee.



Alastair Macpherson of Pitmain was a partner in the international law firm Ashurst for 29 years and managing partner of the firm's New York office. He has served on the Council of the National Trust and the Membership Committee of MCC. He is Senior Chieftain of the Clan Macpherson and was recently Chairman of Boodle's Club. Alastair Macpherson sits on the Finance Committee.



Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Stirrup KG GCB AFC was commissioned into the Royal Air Force in 1970 as a fighter reconnaissance pilot. He became Chief of the Air Staff in 2003, and Chief of the Defence Staff in 2006. In the House of Lords he is particularly involved in the areas of defence, security and foreign relations. Lord Stirrup sits on the Membership Committee.

SIR RICHARD TRAINOR OFFERS A MID-ATLANTIC PERSPECTIVE ON THE CHANGES AFFECTING BRITISH UNIVERSITIES OVER THE PAST FORTY YEARS



Sir Richard Trainor, Sir Robert Worcester, Vice President, and Mrs Deborah Owen, Executive Committee

Pilgrims and guests gathered in the Garden Room at the Athenaeum to hear fellow Pilgrim Professor Sir Richard Trainor, Principal of King's College London, deliver the 17th Annual Reflections Lecture on 3 June, after a formal introduction by Pilgrims' President Admiral Lord Boyce.

Sir Richard Trainor, a true Mid-Atlanticist with dual American and British nationality, has achieved an outstanding academic career as a social historian. An undergraduate at Brown University, he did the preliminary stage of his history PhD at Princeton University where he met his wife, fellow-historian Marguerite Dupree. He went on to complete his doctorate as a Rhodes Scholar and a junior research fellow at Oxford. He taught at Glasgow University from 1979 to 2000 and achieved the positions of Professor, Dean of Social Sciences and Vice-Principal. In 2000 he became Vice-Chancellor of Greenwich University and in 2004 went to King's College London.

Sir Richard outlined the great changes that had occurred in British universities since the 1960s, when there were some 250,000 students in 47 universities, to the present day when the number of universities had expanded vastly along with the number of students, as a result of the Thatcherite revolution. University tuition fees had risen from £3,000 per year in 2000 to £9,000 in 2012.

Sir Richard praised the very favourable staff/student ratio in this country, especially at Oxford and Cambridge, and was pleased that there was now a higher proportion of working-

class students and that female students made up over 55 per cent of all students - with this percentage rising. The number of foreign students at British universities was at an all-time high and more than 80 per cent of students expressed satisfaction with their academic institutions. Sir Richard stressed the importance of both public and private funding in British universities, which compared very favourably with their American counterparts.

Sir Richard dealt with questions on the pressure on research funding; the division between teaching and research; the merits of young people going to university; the economic/consumer-driven impact on academics; fund-raising and balancing the books; the differences between the elite Russell Group and the other British universities, and the current ranking of British universities in the world - eighteen of the top hundred places, with Oxford and Cambridge in the Top Ten.

A very warm vote of thanks was delivered by Executive Committee member Deborah Owen who wished Sir Richard well in his new role as Rector of Exeter College, Oxford - another glittering jewel in the crown of a brilliant academic career.

NEW MEMBERS JUNE AND SEPTEMBER 2014

Commander Rodney Agar
 Christopher Beazley
 Mrs Elizabeth Bonham
 Professor David Caron
 Mr Lawrence Clarke
 Miss Theodora Clarke
 Sir Michael Ferguson Davie Bt
 Mrs Philippa Foster Back CBE
 Zeeshan Hashmi
 Sanford G Henry
 Calvin Jackson
 Oliver Lister
 Mrs Andrea Lowe
 Andrew Sharpe
 Miss Lilibeth Solajes
 Mrs Carolyn Toulmin
 David Wickham
 Ms Lilly Wollman

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sec@pilgrimsociety.org

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Thursday 13 November

The US Mid Term Elections

Panel discussion chaired by Sir Robert Worcester, University of Notre Dame, 1 Suffolk Street, SW1Y 4HG
To be followed by optional supper. 6.00 pm

Thursday 20 November

Celebration of Thanksgiving

An American themed event, followed by a reception, St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, 6.45 pm

Tuesday 27 January 2015

Evensong and tour of Westminster Abbey

Thursday 5 February

Tour of the art collection at the Garrick Club

Led by Mrs Frances Hughes, NADFAS lecturer
Preceded by coffee, 10.00 am until 12 noon

Thursday 5 March

Dinner with Lord Fellowes of West Stafford

An Evening with Julian Fellowes
Cavalry & Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, W1J 7PX
Black tie, 7.15 pm

Tuesday 17 March

Ready for Hillary? Portrait of a President in Waiting

Luncheon with Lord Renwick of Clifton KCMG

Monday 20 April

Reception at Drapers' Hall,

Throgmorton Avenue, EC2N 2DQ, 6.30 pm

Tuesday 12 May

Tour of the Old Bailey

Led by Charles Henty, Secondary of London and Under Sheriff, 6.00 pm

Thursday 21 May

Visit to Runnymede

Morning visit, transport provided, followed by lunch at the nearby Great Fosters, Egham with Sir Robert Worcester talking on Magna Carta

Monday 5 October

Annual Meeting, to be followed by the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

by the Right Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind
KCMG QC MP, 6.00 pm

*Members will be sent programme updates by email:
please ensure the office has your correct
email address*

sec@pilgrimsociety.org

SUMMER RECEPTION AT WINFIELD HOUSE

Three hundred Pilgrims and guests attended a reception at Winfield House, the official residence of the United States Ambassador, on 20 August - thus contradicting the widespread belief that August is a bad month for holding events as many people might be away.

Ambassador Matthew Barzun's speech of welcome gave guests a snapshot of his first year as Ambassador, the plans for the new Embassy in Wandsworth, due to open in 2017, and the importance of the special relationship. Ambassador Barzun referred to the War of 1812, including the Battle of New Orleans, and pointed out that we were approaching the bicentenary of the burning of the White House - the last time that Britain and the USA had been at war. The Ambassador emphasised the closeness of the relationship in the subsequent two centuries and concluded by toasting the Pilgrims and Anglo-American good fellowship. Pilgrims' President, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce, responded.

We are most grateful to Ambassador Barzun and his staff for their generous hospitality.

Extract from The Times Diary 25 August 2014

Barzun yanks Boris's chain

If Boris Johnson wants to be Prime Minister he will have to get better at dealing with mischievous diplomats. When Matthew Barzun arrived as US Ambassador last year, Boris greeted him with an unpaid bill of £7.2 million, accrued by US diplomatic cars traversing the London congestion zone.

In April, Barzun tried to mollify Johnson with a £4,000 bid for a portrait of the Mayor at a charity auction, but he continues to rib Boris about the unpaid cash. At a party for the prestigious Pilgrims Society at his vast Winfield House residence last week, Barzun said he couldn't wait for the Embassy to move to its new home in Nine Elms. He teased: "The great thing is, we'll be outside the congestion charge area."

BARBARA JUDGE PRESENTS A FASCINATING ACCOUNT OF HER CAREER

Pilgrims and guests gathered in the auditorium at Eversheds LLP to hear a talk given by Executive Committee Member Lady Judge on 20 October.



As a corporate lawyer and businesswoman, Barbara Judge has broken through all the glass ceilings that might have restricted the career paths of women. Her portfolio of important jobs is impressive: former Chairman of the UK Atomic Energy Authority; Chairman of the Pension Protection Fund and UK Business Ambassador on behalf of UK Trade & Investment. She is also deputy chair of Tokyo Electric Power Company Nuclear Reform Monitoring Committee and the head of its task force on nuclear safety.



After an introduction by Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman, Lady Judge emphasised that her talk was aimed primarily at young people. She paid tribute to her mother who believed firmly that women should use their abilities and fulfil their true potential, and who dissuaded Barbara Judge from a career as an actress: a legal career offered more promising prospects.

Lady Judge believed that the business

environment of the late 1960s and early 1970s was similar to that depicted in the television series *Mad Men*, where women were placed in very subservient jobs. She told how she was initially urged to concentrate on family law rather than corporate law when employed by a major law firm. Barbara Judge related some of the biggest mistakes she had made in her career in business, and the lessons in life she had learned. The job which changed her life was being appointed Commissioner of the US Federal Exchange Commission.

Barbara Judge received a very warm vote of thanks from Executive Committee Member Kenneth Gardener who presented her with a Pilgrims' silk scarf.

UNPLANNED JOURNEY: from Moss Side to Eden - the Memoirs of Sir Alcon Charles Copisarow

Present at many of the key events of the 20th century, Alcon Copisarow has played not one but many important roles in shaping the course of British and international affairs. His aptitude has taken him from vital World War II service in the application of radar technology to the world of international diplomacy as Scientific Counsellor and Government Laboratory director.

While his talents and a lifelong love of new challenges have enabled him to excel in many fields, his intelligence, energy and charm shine through just as strongly in his entertaining accounts of both fleeting encounters and lasting friendships, meeting the great, the good and the notorious, from Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher and the Royal family to Roald Dahl, Paul McCartney and Richard Nixon.

Unplanned Journey is available to members of the Pilgrims at the special price of £18.00 plus £3.95 UK P&P, quoting code COP001, from

www.jeremymillspublishing.co.uk/bookshop
or tel 01484 463341.

FIGHTING ON THE HOME FRONT

Kate Adie, one of the most outstanding news correspondents of her generation with a record of reporting from war zones all over the world, is the author of five books, the most recent being *Fighting on the Home Front - the legacy of Women in World War One*, published in 2013.



Kate Adie addressed a capacity Pilgrims' audience at a dinner held in the ballroom of the Savile Club in Brook Street. After an introduction by Executive Committee Member Alastair Macpherson of Pitmain, Ms Adie said that the contribution made by the women of Britain in the First World War had been overlooked by historians, whereas their contribution in the Second World War, as Land Girls, factory workers and women in the armed forces, had been well recorded. Kate Adie hoped that her book had helped to make up for this neglect and to throw full light on the achievements of women during the conflict of 1914-18.

In 1914 women were still vastly inferior to men in terms of being denied the vote, despite the efforts of the suffragettes, and the type of employment they could obtain, as clerks, cooks and cleaners. In 1914 only five hundred British women were qualified as general practitioners. With millions of men away at war, women were offered hitherto undreamt-of opportunities to work in factories of all kinds, including the very dangerous munitions factories, on the railways, in offices and in communications. The First World War gave women a new sense of well-being and self-worth.

After answering questions on women's rights today, the need for women's education and the rights of women in Muslim countries, Kate Adie received a warm vote of thanks from Executive Committee member David Skidmore and was presented with a copy of the Pilgrims' centennial history and a Pilgrims' silk scarf.

VISIT TO BROUGHTON CASTLE AND BLENHEIM PALACE

The Pilgrims visited Broughton Castle and Blenheim Palace on 23 July.

At Broughton Castle we were shown around by Lord and Lady Saye and Sele, who were responsible for major restoration work in the late 20th century. Broughton is a moated and fortified manor house, the main part of which was built in 1306 by Sir John de Broughton, one of Edward I's leading military commanders, set in parkland. During the Civil War Broughton Castle was a major centre of resistance to Charles I and was taken by the Royalists after the Battle of Edgehill in 1642.



Lord Saye and Sele in the Great Hall at Broughton Castle

We were welcomed at Blenheim Palace by Chief Executive John Hoy and after lunch in the Spencer Churchill Room were given guided tours of the Palace, built between 1705 and 1726 as a mark of the nation's gratitude to John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough. The Palace is the fruit of the combined labours of Sir John Vanbrugh and Nicholas Hawksmoor, and the extensive gardens are the creation of Henry Wise, the royal gardener, and the legendary Lancelot "Capability" Brown.

A most enjoyable day spent in fascinating surroundings, with the bonus of good weather.

IN MEMORIAM

The Right Hon Sir Edward Eveleigh
Sir Christopher France GCB
David M Holman
Robert I MacDonald
John D Philipsborn
Sir Nicholas Scheele KCMG
Lt Colonel A P Spooner MBE
The Right Hon Sir Christopher Staughton

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES

The Right Hon Sir John Major KG CH, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom 1990-97, addressed US Pilgrims at a reception in his honour on 12 May at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



Miner H Warner, the Right Hon Sir John Major and Cary A Koplin

James D Zirin, litigator, host and TV producer, author of *The Mother Court, Tales of Cases that Mattered in America's Greatest Trial Court*, addressed US Pilgrims at a reception in his honour of 17 September at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



James D Zirin, Miner H Warner and David T Schiff

The New York British-American Societies Annual Summer Garden Party on 16 July at the Union Theological Seminary cloister



Michael A Boyd, Hugh A A Williamson-Noble and Peter Buffington



Camilla Hellman MBE and Victor E Stewart

Subscription increase

In order to keep the society's funds in surplus going forward, at the meeting of the Executive Committee on 1 October, the decision was taken to raise the annual subscription by £5.00 per annum to £50.00 from 1 May 2015.

No action need be taken by the majority of members who pay their annual subscription - and indeed for events - by direct debit. Those who continue to pay by cheque or by standing order should revise their instruction to ensure that £50.00 is received when the subscription falls due on 1 May. Direct debit forms are available from the office.

Please take this as the formal notification of an increase in the subscription rate.

Ian Barlow
Hon Treasurer

The Pilgrims
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POLITICS AND FOREIGN POLICY IN OBAMA'S SECOND TERM

Following a distinguished diplomatic career, Sir Nigel Sheinwald was British Ambassador to the USA from 2007 to 2012. On 14 November Pilgrims and guests welcomed him to a dinner in his honour held at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

After an introduction by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Sir Nigel examined American foreign policy in relationship to grass-roots discontent at home, as manifested by the controversial and confrontational Tea Party. There was a fundamental dislike of establishments all over the world and a feeling in the USA, Britain and elsewhere that nation-building had to start at home and not abroad. As demonstrated by the Arab Spring and the current civil war in Syria, it was very difficult to get foreign policy right.

There was no real appetite on the part of the Western countries for military intervention in Syria and there was a real danger of American disengagement with no other country able to fill the vacuum. Sir Nigel believed that the USA should maintain its global leadership role, especially in Asia and the Middle East, and that a suitable agreement should be reached with the new government in Iran.

Britain was still the USA's most reliable ally across the board. The relationship between Churchill and Roosevelt was not as close as that between today's leaders, despite Britain going through some kind of identity crisis following the economic



recession and doubts about membership of the EU. Working together, Britain and the USA could still achieve a great deal.

At question-time Sir Nigel covered such topics as non-intervention in Syria and its effect on both British and US domestic politics, the Israeli/Arab/Palestinian problem, the role of professional diplomats and their relationship with their political masters and America's attitude to the Middle East. Sir Nigel believed that even with energy self-sufficiency, the USA would still support Israel, but that Asia would be more important in its calculations than any other part of the world.

Sir Nigel received a warm vote of thanks from Sir Stephen Wright and was presented with the customary Pilgrims' tie and official centennial history.



SAVE MAILING COSTS!

If you have received hard copy of this newsletter but would be content to receive it electronically, please contact the office

sec@pilgrimsociety.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LETTER



Exactly fifty years ago, in the spring of 1964, this member of your Executive Committee flew to New York courtesy of British Universities North America Club - return flight and accommodation in New York exactly £69.00. It was the start of a four-month

pre-university visit to the US – the expression gap year would not arrive for many years – that included many highlights, the most memorable of which was attending the Republican Convention in San Francisco. Governor Bill Scranton of Pennsylvania was the candidate I was supporting, but he was eclipsed by the charismatic Barry Goldwater, who in the course of his acceptance speech uttered the memorable words *Extremism in defence of liberty is no vice*. Goldwater in his turn would suffer a heavy defeat by LBJ in the Presidential election later that year.

I mention this first experience of American politics because surely a key constituent of the role of the Society is the need to explain constantly to Pilgrims on both sides of the Atlantic (and to the wider world), the many differences that exist between our two political systems. Canvassing in the streets of south London is light years away from arriving at the Cow Palace in San Francisco, being handed a bottle of ‘goldwater’ and showered with gold dust! Politics is very, very different on each side of the Atlantic, which is why the Society's panel discussions at the times of elections play a vital role in educating us all.

The arrival of a youthful American Ambassador in London prompts a question that your Executive Committee has wrestled with from time to time as we seek to increase the Society's membership. How can we make membership of the Pilgrims an attractive proposition to the younger generation? Should we put on special events that are tailored towards those with busy working lives, or should we go further and have a separate younger section of the Society with its own events? The latter course is a route that some of the leading St James's Clubs have

followed with success, but it requires a great deal of time and effort. Or perhaps we should just accept that organisations of our kind will attract the profile of membership that we have today. If you have any thoughts on the subject our Chairman Ron Freeman would be pleased to hear from you.

One of the key reasons for the ongoing success of the Society is the attractive and varied series of events and talks that Peter Bottomley and his Programme Committee arrange for Pilgrims each year. This year promises to be no exception, with the reintroduction of the popular Summer Reception at Winfield House, the American Ambassador's official residence in Regent's Park, in August, followed by the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture in October. This will be given by the well-known journalist and broadcaster Peter Kellner, President of the polling organisation YouGov and husband of Baroness Ashton, the EU Foreign Affairs Representative. It will be particularly interesting to hear his views on the state of the polls ahead of next year's General Election.

Enjoy the sunny spring weather before the busy season of Elections and a Referendum north of the border are upon us.

Alastair Macpherson of Pitmain

NEW MEMBERS, SPRING 2014

Alexander Anton
Patrick Burgess MBE
Robin Etheridge
Daniel Freedman
Alistair Galloway
Alan Houmann
Professor Neil Kent
Patrick J Marsland-Roberts TD
Stephen Maycock
Donough O'Brien
David Suratgar
Ms Emily Landis Walker
Ms Sarah Jane Walker
Michael Whittaker
Nicholas Woolf
Mrs Delia Wynn Jones CBE

Membership application forms, and additional copies of the 2014 List of Members, are available from the office

sec@pilgrimsociety.org

GREAT BRITAIN'S GREAT WAR

A capacity Pilgrims' audience gathered for a luncheon at the InterContinental London Westminster hotel on 5 December to hear the celebrated journalist and broadcaster Jeremy Paxman talk about his new book *Great Britain's Great War*.



Jeremy Paxman signing copies of his book

The impetus for this book came with the discovery, among the personal effects of Jeremy Paxman's late mother, of material relating to her Uncle Charlie, who had died at Gallipoli in 1915. Jeremy Paxman felt that the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War was time to re-evaluate the picture, presented by left-wing historians in the 1960s, of lions led by donkeys and of a pointless sacrifice of a vast number of lives. He wanted to look at a war which this country won convincingly.

Britain went to war in 1914 to protect Belgium against German aggression and to preserve that country's neutrality guaranteed by a 19th-century Treaty. For the previous two centuries Britain's policy had been to prevent any single European Power achieving hegemony on the continent, and we had not been involved in a full-scale European war since 1815. Jeremy Paxman emphasised that a force of only 80,000 was sent to the continent and suffered a reverse against the Germans. Lord Kitchener's subsequent call to arms led to a vast number of volunteers coming forward, with little idea of the terrible suffering and privations they would have to endure.

Conscription, introduced in 1915 to boost the numbers of fighting men, resulted in a number of people becoming conscientious objectors. The concept of trench warfare was new to both sides and there were some good generals and some bad generals. Jeremy Paxman was firmly of the opinion that the great German offensive in 1918 failed because of the poor calibre and low morale of the young German conscripts, and the effect of the Royal Naval blockade on the civilian population of Germany, which led to revolution at home and mutinies in the German army and navy.

The First World War changed Britain for ever and in a whole number of ways, including voting rights, social habits and customs, the rights of the ordinary people and, above all, the relationship between citizen and the State.

Jeremy Paxman then answered questions on the significance of the Zimmermann Telegram, which many people regarded as one of the main factors that brought the USA into the First World War; the British army's overall performance in the war, and Germany's imperial ambitions as evidence of its envy of the British Empire.

Tables were named after World War I battles. Following the lunch, Sir John Allison wrote:

I was on Hill 60, which could not have been more appropriate for personal reasons, as my father was one of the few survivors of a 24-hour successful defence of the Hill in which his platoon commander, Lieut Woolley, refused to surrender despite suffering 90% casualties. 150 men went up the Hill; 14 came back. Woolley won the VC.



Jeremy Paxman and Mrs Deborah Owen

Deborah Owen gave Jeremy Paxman a very warm and appreciative vote of thanks and presented him with the customary Pilgrims' tie and copy of the centennial history.

THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS FROM THE SUPREME COURT

Executive Committee Member Lord Clarke of Stone-Cum-Ebony was the guest speaker at a dinner on 27 March at the Carlton Club.



*Mr Ronald M Freeman
and Lord Clarke of Stone-cum-Ebony*

Lord Clarke has enjoyed a very successful legal career. Called to the Bar in 1965, he was appointed to the High Court Bench in 1993 and to the Court of Appeal in 1998. In 2005 he was appointed Master of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice, and in October 2009 he became a Justice of the Supreme Court.

After a fulsome introduction by Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, Lord Clarke gave a perceptive and entertaining discourse on the constitutional framework and inner workings of the Supreme Court, the final court of appeal for civil cases in the United Kingdom and for criminal cases from England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The Supreme Court was established on 1 October 2009 when judicial authority was transferred from the House of Lords.

Lord Clarke emphasised that, unlike the Supreme Court in the USA which deals with a written constitution, the UK Supreme Court was not able to question and strike down legislation. The Court was set up because of the anomalies in the British legal system; formerly an appeal to the House of Lords was to the whole House, which came to be seen as cumbersome and inappropriate. In addition, the position of the Lord Chancellor, as a member of the executive, the judiciary and the legislature, was regarded as being contrary to the concept of the separation of powers. Lord Clarke thought that the location

of the Supreme Court in the former Middlesex Guildhall on Parliament Square, in close proximity to the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and the Treasury, was highly appropriate.

Lord Clarke dealt with a range of questions on the role and effectiveness of the Supreme Court, and received a warm vote of thanks from Ian Barlow.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Tuesday 3 June

Professor Sir Richard Trainor's *Reflections*

The Transformation of British Universities since the 1970s: a mid-Atlantic perspective

The Athenæum, 107 Pall Mall, SW1Y 5ER

6.30 pm

Wednesday 23 July

Visit to Ditchley Park and Blenheim Palace

Transport provided from central London

8.30 am departure, returning 7.00 pm

Wednesday 20 August

Reception at Winfield House

By kind invitation of the Honorable Matthew W Barzun, Ambassador of the United States

6.00-7.30 pm

Wednesday 1 October

Dinner with Kate Adie

Fighting on the Home Front: the Legacy of Women in World War One

Savile Club, 69 Brook Street

Black tie, 7.15 for 7.45 pm

Monday 6 October

Annual Meeting

and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

by Peter Kellner, President of YouGov

Polls and Politics in the USA and UK

EBRD, One Exchange Square, EC2A 2JN

6.00 pm

Monday 20 October

Talk by Lady Judge

Have a life: be in business

Little lessons and reflections on mistakes

To be followed by a reception

Eversheds LLP, 1 Wood Street, EC2V 7WS

6.30 pm

Members will be sent programme updates by email:

***please ensure the office has your correct
email address***

sec@pilgrimsociety.org

WHISTLER IN LONDON EXHIBITION

On 17 December a small group of Pilgrims visited Dulwich Picture Gallery, the oldest public gallery in this country, which opened in 1817, to see the Exhibition *An American in London: Whistler and the Thames*.

James Abbott McNeill Whistler, 1834-1903, was a passionate anglophile who felt very much at home in the environment of Victorian London where he settled in 1859. He established an early reputation as an etcher with a particular fascination with the River Thames, which he also portrayed in early oil paintings such as *Brown and Silver: Old Battersea Bridge*. Whistler also managed to arouse great controversy with a painting such as *Nocturne in Black and Gold: the Falling Rocket*, as reflected in the infamous court case against John Ruskin who accused him of 'charging 200 guineas for flinging a pot of paint in the public's face'.

Whistler's love affair with the Thames was long-lasting. From 1855 until his death he had almost daily contact with the River, sketching it, walking beside it, rowing on it and crossing it. He covered every aspect from the sleazy docklands around the Pool of London to Chelsea Reach, via all the great bridges, especially Battersea Bridge. The exhibition contained such gems as *Wapping*, *Battersea Reach from Lindsey Houses*, *Blue and Gold*, *Old Battersea Bridge* and *The Last of Old Westminster*.



Wapping (1860-64)

We were also given a special guided tour of the principal pictures of the superb collection of 17th and 18th century paintings, begun in 1626 by the celebrated actor Edward Alleyn, the founder of Dulwich College.

CAPTAIN AUGUSTUS AGAR VC DSO Royal Navy *The Mystery VC*

Executive Committee member David Skidmore gave a fascinating talk to Pilgrims and guests at the Caledonian Club on 6 March.



*Captain Augustus Agar
VC DSO*

Augustus Agar, 1890-1968, was a remarkable naval officer who fought in the Battle of Jutland in 1916 and went on to specialise in motor torpedo boats. After the Armistice of November 1918 Gus Agar served in the campaign against the Bolsheviks who had seized power in the October Revolution of 1917. His successful

attack, using MTBs, on Soviet naval ships at the Krollstadt base in 1919 earned him a VC at the age of 28.

Captain Augustus Agar's subsequent career included setting up the New Zealand Navy in the early 1920s and surviving, after 32 hours in the sea, the sinking of his ship *HMS Dorsetshire* by the Japanese in 1942. Captain Agar ended his career as Commodore of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, 1944-46.



*Commander Rodney Agar, nephew of
Captain Augustus Agar, with the Earl of Portsmouth*

MILITARY EXCHANGES PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Lieutenant-General Sir Graeme Lamb was the guest speaker at luncheon on 27 January held at The Rifles Officers' London Club in Davies Street, W1.



Sir Graeme Lamb served as Senior British Military Representative and Deputy Commanding-General of the Multinational Force in Iraq 2006-07, and then as Commander of the Field Army at Land Command 2007-09. He served in Afghanistan as an expert on counter-insurgency, heading a programme designed to persuade insurgents to give up their arms.

After an introduction by Sir Stephen Wright, Sir Graeme looked at the certainties of the great Empires and great alliances which pre-dated the First World War; at the ill-fated League of Nations and its successor the United Nations, created in 1945; at the creation of NATO in 1949, and at the Cold War which lasted until the break-up of the Warsaw Pact in 1991. The events of 11 September 2001 created a new world order in



Rifleman Pope and Serjeant Sturgess, The Rifles

which terrorism became the major international threat. General Lamb also spoke of the impact of the Arab Spring, the slow death of the nation state, the dangers of isolationism and the communications race.

Questions covered the supposed shortcomings of the Obama administration; British relationships with Africa; the Middle East; Syria; EU relations; the proper exercise of British influence and the future of Afghanistan.

Pilgrims' President Admiral Lord Boyce moved the vote of thanks and presented Sir Graeme with the customary Pilgrims' tie and official history.

IN MEMORIAM

The Hon Mrs Hugh Astor
Sir William Benyon DL
Robert B Browne-Clayton
C Barrie Byford CBE
Sir Brian Goswell
Air Vice-Marshal Peter Harding
CB CVO CBE AFC
Gurth Hoyer Millar
The Right Hon the Lord Kingsdown KG
Peter Kirwan Taylor
Brian H Pearce CBE DL

The following announcement appears as an accommodation to its sponsor

The Margaret Thatcher Conference on Liberty will be held at the Guildhall on Wednesday 18 June 2014. Hosted by the Centre for Policy Studies, the think tank founded by Margaret Thatcher when she was Leader of the Opposition, the conference will be chaired by Lord Saatchi. Significant statesmen, businesspeople and academics from around the world have agreed to participate. They include the former Australian Prime Minister John Howard and leading political thinkers such as Dr Art Laffer, Professor Niall Ferguson and Secretary of State for Education Michael Gove MP, as well as the former CIA Director General David Petraeus and leading authors Charles Moore and V S Naipaul.

Complimentary tickets are available for the conference, and tickets for the dinner to follow are available at £1,000 per person. Further information is available from the event team on Nicole@cps.org.uk or 0207 207 1887.

THE ASSASSINATION OF THE ARCHDUKE

Fellow-Pilgrim His Honour Judge Sir Gavyn Arthur generously agreed to share his huge knowledge as an historian of fin-de-siècle Central Europe, with particular expertise about Franz Ferdinand, when he spoke before dinner at the Cavalry and Guards Club on 29 April.

We were delighted that HSH Princess Christine von Hohenberg, granddaughter of the Archduke, and her daughter, HSH Princess Marie-Therese von Hohenberg, were among our guests.



Sir Gavyn, who was Lord Mayor of London 2002-03, began by drawing a parallel between the Sarajevo assassination and the murder of the Serbian King Alexander and his wife in June 1903 by the same Serbian terrorist gang, the notorious Black Hand. Alexander had wanted to keep on friendly terms with Austria-Hungary, putting him on a collision course with the fanatical Serbian nationalists and their Russian backers.

Sir Gavyn compared the ill-fated Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand to Mr Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice*. He was basically shy, with occasional outbursts of temper, and was also enormously wealthy. Most importantly, he had progressive political ideas on social reform. A devote Catholic, Franz Ferdinand was free of religious intolerance and believed that the domination of the polyglot Empire by Austria and

Hungary could not be maintained. Furthermore, he had made a morganatic marriage with his wife Sophie and had been compelled by Emperor Franz Josef to renounce his succession rights.

Sir Gavyn told in graphic terms of the catalogue of blunders, bad planning, Bosnian obsession with protocol and insubstantial security that surrounded the visit to Sarajevo by Franz Ferdinand and Sophie on 28 June 1914. Their murder by the fanatical Serbian student Gavrilo Princip sparked the sequence of events that led to the outbreak of the First World War on 4 August 1914 - *three shots that changed the world forever*.

Executive Committee Member Air Chief Marshal Lord Stirrup thanked Sir Gavyn for his fascinating and well-researched talk and presented him with the customary Pilgrims' tie and official centennial history.

NEW DESIGN PILGRIMS' TIES

The new design pure silk Pilgrims' ties are available for sale to members for £22.00 each

The ties, with other items of Pilgrims' merchandise, are featured on the website

– www.pilgrimsociety.org –

and are available from the office and at events

There is a small number of silk ties of the earlier design available for £10.00 each

Friends of Dulwich Picture Gallery

The Friends of Dulwich Picture Gallery is a registered charity formed to support the Gallery's activities which organises a varied programme of social events, including concerts, talks, visits and film screenings. The Friends contribute directly to the Gallery's future: the conservation of the permanent collection of Old Master paintings, the mounting of visiting exhibitions, and the development of the education and community programmes.

Since its formation, the Friends has donated more than £2 million to Dulwich Picture Gallery and now raises around £200,000 each year for the Gallery.

http://www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk/support_us/join_us.aspx

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES

André Bishop, Producing Artistic Director of the Lincoln Centre Theatre, addressed US Pilgrims at a reception in his honour on 12 February at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



Executive Committee member James D Zirin, André Bishop and President Miner H Warner

John C Whitehead addressed the Pilgrims following the Annual Meeting on 14 April. He is a former Chairman of the Board of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation and founding Chairman of the National September 11th Memorial and Museum.



John C Whitehead receiving The Pilgrims of the United States Medallion for Service to the Nation from Vice President Hon Paul A Volcker



Executive Committee member Governor Thomas H Kean, John C Whitehead and Miner H Warner, President



The Right Hon David Miliband, President and CEO International Rescue Committee and former UK Foreign Secretary, addressed the Pilgrims of the United States at a reception on 23 April.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

It would be most helpful if anyone could kindly supply postal addresses for the following members:

Michael Biscoe, joined 2004, moved from an address in Norfolk in 2011;

David A Caruth, joined 1997, moved from Wiltshire in 2013, and

William A Kerr, joined 2011, moved from London, apparently to the US, in 2013.

Please ensure that the office is kept updated with any changes of email or postal address

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AMBASSADOR BARZUN EXAMINES THE FULL MEANING AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE UK/US SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

A capacity dinner audience of Pilgrims and guests filled the Ballroom at the Four Seasons Hotel, Park Lane on 26 September to welcome Ambassador Matthew Winthrop Barzun.



*Ronald M Freeman, Mrs Barzun
Ambassador Matthew W Barzun,
Admiral Lord Boyce*

After an introduction by Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman, Ambassador Barzun began by expressing his and his wife's great pleasure at attending this Pilgrims' dinner of welcome. He recalled the advice given to him by a veteran New York Pilgrim before taking up his Ambassadorial role. Having made his first public speech to the British Pilgrims, he would then have to deal with the notorious British popular press which would first build him up, and then pull him down. Ambassador Barzun pointed to the recent front page of *The Sun*, announcing the death of the Special Relationship with the funeral rites to be held at the French Embassy - this being shortly after the House of Commons vote against Britain being involved, with the French, in armed intervention in Syria. Clearly *The Sun* and other such newspapers had conveniently forgotten the role played by the Special Relationship in the Second World War; post-war reconstruction; the Cold War; the current war against worldwide terrorism, or key areas such as climate change, international trade, aid to underdeveloped countries, and the rule of international law.

Ambassador Barzun was wary about nostalgia about the Special Relationship and trying to paper over differences that might exist between our two countries. He drew illustrative images of the Relationship: the painting and re-painting of white fences, to keep the Relationship in good repair; and the three vital components of the whisky manufacturing process - fermentation, distillation and maturation - all comparable to the making of the Relationship over a long period of time. 1776 had been a family feud, 1812 a kind of retribution, but since 1814 we had been the best of friends despite occasional differences of opinion.

Ambassador Barzun paid a generous tribute to one of his greatest predecessors, John Winant, who became Britain's best-ever friend during his Ambassadorial tenure of 1941-46. At the Pilgrims' luncheon of welcome held at the Savoy on 18 March 1941, with 455 Pilgrims and guests present, including Churchill and most of the Cabinet, Winant made very clear that he wanted the USA to come into the War as soon as possible. Throughout the remainder of the War he remained very close to Churchill and his government, and did his utmost to maintain the closeness of the two countries' relationship.

In his warm vote of thanks Admiral Lord Boyce, the President of the Pilgrims, paid full tribute to Ambassador Barzun as a very worthy successor to his Ambassadorial predecessors, in a tradition going back over a century of Pilgrims' welcoming dinners.

SAVE MAILING COSTS!

If you have received hard copy of this newsletter but would be content to receive it electronically, please contact the office.

CHECK THE WEBSITE! www.pilgrimsociety.org

Members with internet access should apply to the office for login and password for the website.

It is now possible to book for events electronically via the updated website.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LETTER

Dear Pilgrims,

Warning! This will not be a traditional Letter from the Chairman, the President or the Chairman of the Programme Committee. Our Chairman has asked some of the other Executives of the Pilgrims to volunteer to contribute. He's a brave man - in my case.

As an American who married a Brit 43 years ago, I believe that the Pilgrims of Great Britain and other Anglo-American organisations serve an important purpose. And, it seems to me that this purpose grows more important with the challenges that surround us.



What do we make of what is going on in Washington, D.C.? What is happening on the streets of America where guns continue to divide opinion while continuing to wreak havoc, and why are politicians powerless to change the gun laws?

Equally, what do Americans make of what is going on here? Many of my American friends cannot understand why we do not share their attitudes to Wikileaks and now to Snowden. What does freedom of information mean on both sides of the Atlantic in this climate when fanaticism is alive and kicking? I would like more debates between the visiting Pilgrims of America and us.

On this side of the ocean, we are grappling with voter apathy, a growing distrust of our police force and wariness (at best) of politicians and political systems.

We live in an extraordinary world of progress with technological geniuses who create unbelievable new worlds. Is there a difference between the way Americans and British deal with “progress” with both the positive and negative effects?

Shouldn't we, as Pilgrims, have more activities that relate to all the arts, inviting visiting American talent when we feel they are of particular interest?

Yes, we should have debates about upcoming elections, but I hope The Pilgrims will also continue to have British and American speakers debating the difficult issues that don't go away. Sometimes these issues fall into the category of “right versus right” but we should still debate them even if there is no “right” answer. This is not to become a lobbying force but to become more informed and better thinkers. Members of The Pilgrims on both sides of the ocean join because they have a curiosity and often an insight into the two different outlooks, gained through their individual experiences. Some of our best talks have been from fellow Pilgrims.

Over the last four years that I have been an active Pilgrim, I have hugely enjoyed the events. And, no, I don't go to all of them by any means. This year Baroness Manningham-Buller talked to us about intelligence and her experiences when heading up MI5. In September, shortly after his arrival, the new (and I dare add, young) US Ambassador spoke in a hugely thoughtful way to the packed dinner of 300 people. Jeremy Paxman, wearing a very different hat from his Newsnight one, will talk to us in December about the real, day-to-day experiences of British people during the entire course of World War I.

What is my reason for writing this letter: I would like even more members of the Pilgrims to “rise up”, become vocal and send suggestions to the Programme Committee about the topics that would make you want to brave weather, traffic, and to pay the cost of the ticket to come. For Americans and Brits to be together, listening, then exchanging views is the *raison d'être* of who we are.

Debbie Owen

IN MEMORIAM

Clement M Brown, Jr
Andrew Coyle
Air Marshal Sir John Curtiss KCB KBE
Harry E Fitzgibbons CVO
The Right Hon Dr the Lord Gilbert
The Right Hon the Lord Hayhoe
Anthony Lake
John K Shipton
Russell G Twisk
The Lady Vivian

RE-ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 2013



Robert Alston CMG was a member of the Diplomatic Service for 36 years until 1998, serving as Ambassador to Oman and High Commissioner in New Zealand. Close working with colleagues from the US was a feature of bilateral and

multilateral jobs alike. Mr Alston chairs the Membership Committee.



Sir Peter Bottomley MP There are few parts of the United States Sir Peter has not visited. His father looked after Commonwealth interests in Washington DC where Sir Peter attended Gordon Junior High School for 8th grade. He is a member

of the UK delegation with Members of Congress to the Parliamentary Assembly of NATO. He has represented Woolwich and latterly Worthing in the House of Commons since 1975. Three of his grandchildren are enjoying school and sport in Palo Alto. Sir Peter chairs the Programme Committee.



The Right Hon Lord Clarke of Stone-cum-Ebony was called to the Bar in 1965 specialising in maritime and commercial law. He was appointed to the High Court Bench in 1993, and to the Court of Appeal in 1998. He was appointed Master

of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice in 2005, and as a Justice of the Supreme Court in 2009. He was Treasurer of Middle Temple 2012.



Ambassador John J Danilovich, a native Californian and long-time London resident, served as US Ambassador to Costa Rica, Brazil and as CEO of the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a US foreign programme based on sustainable economic growth and good government. He is a director of d'Amico International Shipping, Trilantic Capital Partners, and American Securities LLC, and is on the Council of the Harvard School of Public Health. Ambassador Danilovich serves on the Finance Committee.



W Kenneth Gardener After a career in business at KPMG, ICI, Dunlop, STC and ICL, Kenneth Gardener became a Director of Charterhouse Bank, subsequently HSBC, and has been a senior adviser for many years. The Founder and life member of the 100

Group of Finance Directors and on the Governing Body of the International Chamber of Commerce UK, he is a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants. Mr Gardener serves on the Finance Committee.



The Right Hon the Lord Janvrin GCB KCVO is Deputy Chairman of HSBC Private Bank (UK). Lord Janvrin started his career in the Royal Navy before joining the FCO, where he served overseas in NATO Brussels and New

Delhi. He was Private Secretary to HM The Queen 1999-2007, is Chairman of the Trustees of the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, and a Trustee of the National Portrait Gallery and the Gurkha Welfare Trust. Lord Janvrin serves on the Membership Committee.

Continued p.5

LADY MANNINGHAM-BULLER LOOKS BACK ON A LONG AND DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN THE SECURITY SERVICE

Following the Annual Meeting on 30 September, Pilgrims and their guests attended the 20th Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture as guests of KPMG LLP in the atrium at 8 Salisbury Square. Baroness Manningham-Buller DCB, Director-General of the Security Service 2002-07, achieved distinction as a counter-terrorism specialist working against the IRA and international terrorist groups.



Baroness Manningham-Buller, Admiral Lord Boyce

Following an introduction by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Lady Manningham-Buller admitted that she had never set out to run the Security Service, which she regarded as a great privilege, and had involved her in some most interesting work. This included a two-year posting to Washington, from which she was recalled to deal with the IRA terrorist threat on the British mainland. Following the terrible events of 11 September 2001 she flew to Washington with colleagues from GCHQ and MI6. Lady Manningham-Buller took over the leadership of the Service in the autumn of 2002. The following year the government doubled the Service's budget, to address the increased terrorist threat.

Lady Manningham-Buller stressed the importance of working in concert with the intelligence services of other countries, despite the difficulties, since the threat was global. An important part of the Government's counter-terrorist strategy was to try to prevent the radicalisation of younger people and their recruitment into terrorist groups. She touched on the instant rush to judgment of a 24-hour media. She also emphasised that the security and

intelligence agencies needed public support to operate effectively. They were fully accountable to government and operated strictly within the law.

During questions Lady Manningham-Buller dealt skillfully with such topics as security in public places; the role of women in the security services; the resources devoted to combating terrorism; the Snowden affair; the granting of powers to the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament; the impact of technological advances on intelligence work; dealing with regimes less scrupulous about moral and legal considerations, and the comparison between the threat posed by the IRA and the current Al-Qaida-related terrorist threats.

The Pilgrims' President, Admiral Lord Boyce, gave a very warm vote of thanks to Lady Manningham-Buller for her illuminating and absorbing lecture.



Admiral Lord Boyce, President, with Sir John and Lady Ure at the reception following the Lecture

NEW DESIGN PILGRIMS' TIES

The new design pure silk Pilgrims' ties – as modelled by Robert Alston and Kenneth Gardener on p.3 – are available for sale to members for £22.00 each

The ties, with other items of Pilgrims' merchandise, are featured on the website – www.pilgrimsociety.org – and are available from the office and at events

There is a small number of silk ties of the earlier design (as worn by Ron Rosner on p.8) available for £10.00 each

VISIT TO BLETCHLEY PARK

The achievements of the people at Bletchley Park, the world's largest code-breaking centre during the Second World War, have passed into legend. Pilgrims and their guests visited Bletchley Park on 10 July.



Fellow Pilgrim Sir Francis Richards, Chairman of the Bletchley Park Trust 2006-11 and a former Director of GCHQ, talked about the code-breakers' contribution to winning the War and saving

hundreds of thousands of lives. The breaking of the Enigma and Lorenz codes led to the creation of Colossus, the prototype of today's computers, and the torch has been passed on to succeeding generations of code-breakers and intelligence analysts at GCHQ. The Chief Executive of the Bletchley Park Trust, Iain Standen, spoke about the efforts made to save Bletchley Park from demolition in the early 1990s and the current restoration and development plans to create a full-scale heritage site and learning centre.

Excellent volunteer guides gave us a guided tour, and after a most enjoyable lunch we were given practical demonstrations of the Enigma and Bombe code-breaking machines.

Our thanks go to Iain Standen and his staff for making us so welcome and giving us such a memorable day.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Thursday 14 November

Dinner with Sir Nigel Sheinwald GCMG

Politics and Foreign Policy in Obama's Second Term
Cavalry & Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, W1J 7PX
Black tie, 7.15 for 7.45 pm

Thursday 5 December

Luncheon with Jeremy Paxman

Great Britain's Great War
InterContinental London Westminster
22-28 Broadway, SW1H 0BH
12.15 for 12.45 pm

Tuesday 14 January 2014

Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral

followed by tour and reception.
Numbers strictly restricted

Thursday 27 March

Dinner with Lord Clarke of Stone-cum-Ebony

Thoughts and Reflections from the Supreme Court
Carlton Club, 69 St James's Street, SW1A 1PJ
Black tie, 7.15 for 7.45 pm

Monday 9 June

Reception at the House of Lords

Monday 6 October

**Annual Meeting
and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture**

*Members will be sent programme updates
by email: please ensure the office has your
correct email address*

Re-elections to the Executive Committee, September 2013

from p.3

Mrs Deborah Owen was born in New York City and worked in publishing until 1968 when she married David Owen and moved to London. In 1971 she set up her own literary agency, which now represents Delia Smith, Amos Oz and David Owen. Following the serious illness of their eldest child in the early 1970s, Deborah Owen helped to set up The Sick Children's Trust. Her other involvements have included the Fulbright Scholarship, Relate, the London Symphony Orchestra, Wilton's Music Hall and the SDP (while it lasted!). Mrs Owen serves on the Programme Committee.



David Skidmore OBE FRCS is a consultant surgeon who has worked in Kent and Central London over the last thirty years. Trained at Cambridge and Birmingham Universities, he has spent time in the USA as a student and research fellow. He was

a Conservative Parliamentary candidate, with a particular interest in the politics of healthcare. He was a Cambridge University swimming coach and continues to swim competitively. Mr Skidmore serves on the Programme Committee.

SIR CHRISTOPHER RICKS SPEAKS TO THE PILGRIMS ON 4TH JULY

At the invitation of Sir Peter Bottomley MP, the Pilgrims were privileged to host esteemed literary critic and Boston University's Professor of Humanities, Sir Christopher Ricks. Aptly calendared on 4th July, Sir Christopher spoke to an impressed audience about T S Eliot's key works including *The Wasteland*, as well as detailing the writer's fascinating working relationships with literary leaders such as Ezra Pound, W H Auden and W B Yeats. The imposing Portcullis House served as a perfect setting for the stimulating talk and discussion that followed.



Professor Sir Christopher Ricks's academic career, teaching in universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Bristol and America's Stanford, has led to him being named the most important living literary critic of our time. The audience was treated to a tour of Eliot's most famous poems and Sir Christopher's references

to Eliot's poetic precursors, such as Tennyson, Dryden and Milton, enriched our understanding and provoked some interesting questions. A lively discussion, led by Sir Christopher, featured questions about Eliot's lesser known plays, inquiries about Sir Christopher's personal opinions on literature and literary theory and the significance of Eliot's socio-political contexts. Sir Christopher's witticisms and sharp sense of humour added colour to his account of the interesting friendship between the poet and ground-breaking economist, John Maynard Keynes, and the Pilgrim audience left the talk stimulated, engaged and almost ready to plunge head first into *The Wasteland*.

Dr Barbara Lauriat proposed the vote of thanks. A dinner after the talk at the nearby Red Lion with Professor Sir Christopher Ricks concluded a memorable 4th July evening.

Charlotte Handler

EVENSONG AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

For Evensong on 17 October, St Paul's Cathedral kindly placed the Pilgrims in the stalls beyond the fine male choristers. The music director made his stately progress to the organ loft for the hymn and for the post-service piece.

Our guides' enthusiasm was much appreciated as we ascended the gentle steps to the triforium, the majestic upper 'road' where great beams and massive storage share space with the Trophy Room displays of Wren's Great Model and designs the authorities expected to be delivered, rather than the design Sir Christopher Wren kept hidden until a new set of monitors were in place.

The view from the 'BBC gallery' at the West End down the nave to the Altar and the American Chapel beyond is well known from televising great Cathedral events. The Geometric Staircase, held up apparently by hope as the physics looks improbable, is not a place for anyone dizzy. The Library and its Keeper hold treasures of special interest to Pilgrims, including the letter from Richard Nixon after his visit as Vice President.

We crossed the road to the kind drinks reception held by William and Susannah Garnett at Bates, Wells & Braithwaite, solicitors of good repute.

Sir Peter Bottomley MP

Sulgrave Manor Trust



In 1914 Harry Brittain, one of the founders of The Pilgrims, helped to rescue Sulgrave Manor, the ancestral home of George Washington's family in Northamptonshire. He was a member of the British Peace Centenary Committee which bought the Tudor Sulgrave Manor to

commemorate the centenary of the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, the agreement ending the war of 1812 between Britain and the US. The house was restored and opened to the public as a symbol of the abiding friendship between the two nations. Harry Brittain sat on its Board of Governors.

The purchase and restoration was made possible by donations from some of the most influential people of the day, with the donor list headed by King George V and significant donations from Lord Rothschild, Lord Beaverbrook, Lord Cadogan, Gordon Selfridge and many more. In the US, the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America provided strong financial backing.

Now Sulgrave Manor is once again in need of support. Its endowment fund has not kept pace with the cost of maintenance and urgent repairs are needed. As a member of the Pilgrims and a trustee of the Sulgrave Manor Trust, I have a special interest in seeing this vivid, solid symbol of the deep ties between Britain and the United States preserved. We need at least £3,000,000 to repair the Manor, protect its collections and improve the site. Please consider donating to this cause.

I invite Pilgrims both in the US and the UK to visit Sulgrave Manor and see at first hand how well this building and its contents illuminate the historical influences which shaped the character of the Washington family. Private tours are available, and Sulgrave Manor can be hired for meetings and parties. Sulgrave Manor, Sulgrave, Banbury, OX17 2SD; 01295 760205.

For more information on visiting and donating, please visit: www.sulgravemanor.org.uk

Holly Smith

**THE PILGRIMS
LIST OF MEMBERS**

**A revision will take place early in 2014
Please ensure that the office is notified of
any changes which should be included**

*Application forms for new members are
available from the office and on the website,
and lists of members from the office*

NEW MEMBERS, JUNE AND SEPT.2013

Richard Boggis-Rolfe
Mrs Eleanor E H Brass
The Hon Luke Bridgeman
Mrs Elisabeth Carleton Paget
Lady Dalmeny, Christopher Davison
Colonel Michael Dewar of that Ilk and Vogrie
The Revd Mark Fox, Felix Francis
Mark Gill, the Marquess of Hamilton
The Marchioness of Hamilton
Lord Hay, Michael Hayman
Michael Hockney MBE, Nicholas H Hoffman
John Hoffman, James Hordern
Dominic Johnson, Jeffrey Lee
Mrs Caroline Loup, James Lyle
Tor McLaren, Count Michalowski
Alexander Nix, Tristan Peniston-Bird
Gregory Pilkington, James Pitt
Michael Powell, Dr Annette Prandzioch
Robert Redpath, Mrs Joanna Saunders
Frederick Schroder, Michael Shelton-Agar
Dr Margaret A Spurr
The Revd Dr Graham St.John-Willey
Brigadier John Taylor MBE, Jolyon Thornton
Right Hon the Lord Waldegrave of North Hill
James Weaver
Mrs Fields Wicker-Miurin OBE FKC
Peter Wilson CMG, John Winter

Passion for Snow: Pilgrim member Stephen Waterhouse recently completed this award-winning documentary, based on his acclaimed book, *Passion for Skiing*.



The film highlights how enthusiasts from a single area of New Hampshire, and Dartmouth College, led the development of the modern alpine ski industry, helped create some five hundred major ski areas worldwide, supported the Winter Olympics and led the development of the Paralympics. The British ski historian, Dr John Allen, explains ski history. It is being shown in the US at film festivals, special screenings and via the PBS television network, and in Russia during the 2014 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. Stephen Waterhouse seeks contacts to show the film in London and on UK cable channels during 2014.

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES



Mark Thompson, President and Chief Executive Officer, The New York Times Company, centre, with James Zirin, left, and President Miner H Warner, right, following Mr Thompson's talk on 8 October at the River Club.



Glenn D Lowry, Director, the Museum of Modern Art, centre, with James Zirin, left, and President Miner H Warner, right, following Mr Lowry's talk on 24 October at the River Club.

The British American Societies of New York Annual Summer Garden Party on 17 July at the Union Theological Seminary cloister



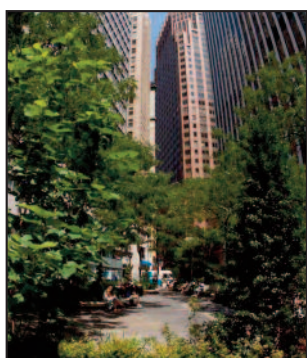
John Shannon, member of the US Pilgrims and also Executive Director and Almoner of St George's Society of New York, with Colleen and Thomas Hills and Jean Savage



Ron Rosner and his wife Jacqueline Martell

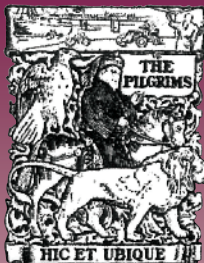


Brian G Andersson and US Pilgrims' Executive Director, Jill Spiller



Queen Elizabeth II September 11th Garden is an oasis of green in the heart of Lower Manhattan which serves as a memorial to the citizens of Britain and the Commonwealth who lost their lives on 9/11 and celebrates the historic ties between the US, the UK and the Commonwealth. The Garden was intended to help revitalise the downtown area and provide a space for reflection close to Ground Zero. English landscape designers Julian and Isabel Bannerman, with adaptations by Lynden Miller, aimed to create a park for all seasons, where plants would capture the spirit and peace of an English garden. To find out more about the garden, please visit: <http://www.queenelizabethgarden.org>

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AMBASSADOR SUSMAN REAFFIRMS HIS BELIEF IN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP

Ambassador Louis B Susman delivered his farewell address to a capacity Pilgrims' audience at Drapers' Hall on 13 February. Following an introduction by his former work colleague at Salomon Brothers, Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman, Ambassador Susman reflected on the passage of time since he had delivered his maiden speech to the Pilgrims on 16 September 2009. There had been a change of Government in 2010, a Royal Wedding in 2011 and an official visit by President Obama in 2012, as well as a visit by the Prime Minister to Washington DC in 2012, marking the bicentenary of the burning of the White House.



Ambassador Louis B Susman, Ronald M Freeman and Lady Victoria Leatham, Master of the Drapers' Company

As he had pledged in 2009, Ambassador Susman reaffirmed his unshakeable belief in the validity and importance of the unique Anglo-American relationship, denied or played down by the misguided. Britain and the United States shared common values of liberty, democracy and the rule of law. Britain was America's best friend and closest ally in times of need and stress and no partnership on the world stage was more important to the USA than that with the UK. The Ambassador surveyed the world scene and such problem countries as Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and North Africa, as well as the deadly blow meted out to

Al Qaeda with the death of Osama Bin Laden, and spoke of the economic problems which had confronted the world over the past five years – the worst economic crisis since the Wall Street Crash of 1929 and subsequent Great Depression. He declared that in this new economic reality we would have to do better with less, especially in terms of defence spending.



The Livery Hall at Drapers' Hall

During his tenure as Ambassador he had travelled around the United Kingdom and learnt a great deal about the country and its people. He paid tribute to Her Majesty The Queen for Her remarkable service and dedication to duty over more than sixty years, and to the work of the Pilgrims in promoting Anglo-American fellowship and mutual understanding for over 110 years. There was no greater honour than being Ambassador to the Court of St James.



Ambassador Susman was kind enough to take a few questions from the floor and was then given a most warm vote of thanks by Executive Committee member, Air Chief Marshal Lord Stirrup.

Ambassador and Mrs Louis B Susman

BARONESS THATCHER OF KESTEVEN LG OM FRS

Vice-President of the Pilgrims

I was lucky to know her. Many members of the Pilgrims worked with her or for her. We all have had our lives affected by her public and political service in Britain, with the United States of America and across the world.

Shortly after being elected as Conservative leader, she kindly came to help in the June 1975 Woolwich West by-election success, the first in a series that removed the majority of the then government, and led to the Lib-Lab pact and to the 1979 general election, unusually triggered by a Commons vote.



Hugh Stephenson, former diplomat and Business editor of *The Times*, wrote in his 1980 book *Mrs Thatcher's First Year* about her flexibility. It was her first year. This view was confirmed by former Irish Ambassador, Noel Dorr, in his RTE interview discussing her ability to adapt and to contribute the Anglo-Irish Agreement to the process of peace building.

She could be clear and direct, often with beneficial results. She demonstrated there was no public responsibility that a woman could not hold.

Her habit was to be remarkably kind and considerate to people whose contributions were in support of those in senior roles.

At my low ministerial level, she seldom was troubled by me. We did act together when I reported directly to her from the 1985 Brussels Heysel Stadium tragedy.

In 1990, we were discussing her speech to be given in New York at the Children's Summit. It is available, with every other one from 1945, on her Foundation website. It confirms her concern for all, in this country and around the world. So too did her speech the next month to UNIFEM where she spoke of being one of the three women national leaders.

Virginia and I liked her and appreciated the good she did for the country, for our links with the USA and her contribution to the world. If in doubt, experience the famous 45-minute uncensored interview she gave in Moscow on 31 March 1987, at the time of glasnost, openness. In it she also spoke about herself:

"I have worked hard all my life. I was brought up in a family that worked hard. We had to work hard. The only way we could get on was working hard and frankly it is much more interesting than anything else. Work is interesting; I enjoy it. I have trained all my life; I was trained first as a chemist and then as a lawyer and I have had to work at both and then I was interested in politics. Yes, I can get on with about five hours' sleep a night for quite a long time. Eventually you do want to rest, a longer rest, but I can do it and sometimes I have to because, do not forget, our political system is a very tough one."

Sir Peter Bottomley MP
Chairman of the Programme committee

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LORD BUTLER OF BROCKWELL OFFERS AN ASSESSMENT OF HIS WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH FIVE PRIME MINISTERS

Lord Butler of Brockwell KG GCB CVO delivered the sixteenth annual Reflections lecture on 12 March on *Experiences with five Prime Ministers*. A capacity audience filled the auditorium at Goldman Sachs's River Court premises in Fleet Street.



Lord Butler, who spoke to the Pilgrims in 1993 on *The Reinvention of Government*, forged a very successful career, first at the Treasury, then at 10 Downing Street and the Cabinet Office, before becoming Master of University

College, Oxford. He is well known for chairing the Butler Inquiry, his Report revealing flawed intelligence concerning Iraq's possession of weapons of mass destruction, leading up to the war of 2003.

Lord Butler began by observing that no-one rises to the top of the greasy pole of politics without a considerable degree of luck and without great ability. As Private Secretary to Edward Heath he witnessed Britain's entry into the European Community and Heath's difficulties in dealing with people, especially in social situations.

Harold Wilson's second premiership in 1974 was a different proposition, beginning during the miners' strike which had effectively brought down the Heath government. Wilson was obsessed with keeping the Labour Party together, so the negotiation for an improvement in Britain's entry terms into the European Community had to be handled with great care. This led to the referendum of 1975 which rubber-stamped Britain's membership.

Lord Butler served as Principal Private Secretary to Margaret Thatcher from 1982 to 1985. He recalled the IRA Brighton bomb, from which Lady Thatcher narrowly escaped, and talked about her relationship with Ronald Reagan, especially on the question of nuclear disarmament. Lord Butler became Cabinet

Secretary in 1988, serving three Prime Ministers – Margaret Thatcher, John Major and Tony Blair.

In his opinion, John Major was underrated as a Prime Minister. Major dealt with a split Conservative Party, the exit from the Exchange Rate Mechanism, the Maastricht negotiations and the Northern Ireland situation.

Lord Butler believed Tony Blair to be a very astute politician with great powers of eloquence and persuasion, especially in relation to the background to the Iraq war.

Question-time brought up such topics as comparisons between the political and academic worlds, the impartiality and independence of the Civil Service, the nature of the working relationship between civil servants and politicians, and also *The Audience*, playing in the West End and depicting the supposed relationship between The Queen and all her Prime Ministers, from Churchill to Cameron.

The vote of thanks was given by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Chairman of the Programme Committee, who presented Lord Butler with the customary Pilgrims tie and official centennial history.

MARY, COUNTESS OF BESSBOROUGH



A member of the Pilgrims for many years and Benjamin Franklin's House's founding governor, Mary, Countess of Bessborough died at her home in Philadelphia at the age of 98 on 13 April 2013.

Lady Bessborough set up the Friends of Benjamin Franklin House and was tireless in her dedication, enlisting the support of many, including Baroness Thatcher, who gave the building's freehold to the charity. Lady Bessborough's great dream of a Benjamin Franklin House open to the public was realised on Franklin's 300th birthday in January 2006.

LADY REID ON THE CAREER OF THOMAS PAINE

Lady Reid, Pilgrims' member and historian, spoke after lunch at the Savile Club on 10 April about Thomas Paine, "the first infamous Anglo-American". Before his introduction, Sir Peter Bottomley MP paid a generous tribute to the Pilgrims' Vice-President, the late Baroness Thatcher, who made an indelible mark on British politics and the people of this nation.



Lady Reid and Ronald M Freeman

Lady Reid said that Thomas Paine had written the three best sellers of the eighteenth century. Having been a corset-maker, excise man and privateer, in 1774 at the age of 37 Paine went to America, with letters of introduction from Benjamin Franklin. The publication of *Commonsense* helped to galvanise the disparate American colonies into rebelling against British rule. He became Secretary of the Committee of Foreign Affairs in 1777 but was compelled to resign the following year after the Silas Deane Affair, when he became Clerk to the Pennsylvania Assembly.



Sir Peter Bottomley MP

Paine travelled to France in 1781, working as John Laurens's Private Secretary, where he befriended the Marquis de Lafayette. He returned to England to publish *The Rights of Man* in 1791, bringing about accusations of treason. He became friendly with Edmund Burke, the author of *Reflections on*

the French Revolution, and countered this by publishing *The Age of Reason*, for which he was arrested for sedition. On escaping to France he was offered citizenship, but soon fell foul of Robespierre and the Jacobins because of his espousal of the Girondin cause and his opposition to the execution of King Louis XVI. Imprisoned and sentenced to death, Paine reclaimed his American citizenship, and with the aid of James Monroe returned to the US. Never a team-player, with a knack of falling out with friends because of his outspokenness, his lack of tact and his inability to keep confidences, Paine eventually died in poverty.



Sir Michael Craig-Cooper and Helen Freeman

During questions, Lady Reid spoke further about Paine's genius, and the possibility of his suffering from Asperger's Syndrome; his desire to seek a new life in America; his inability to work with people and his previous career as an excise man dealing with smugglers. Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman thanked Lady Reid warmly for her fascinating account and presented her with a centennial history and a silk scarf.

IN MEMORIAM

Anthony F M Beeley
 Mrs David Bune
 Mrs Henrietta L Connell
 Peter J Grant CBE
 Mrs R L Granville-Grossman
 Major A A Greenwood
 John B W Holderness
 Sir Michael Jenkins KCMG
 Professor G H L Le May
 Charles Longbottom OBE
 Roger L Payton
 Leolin Price CBE QC
 The Hon Lady Ramsbotham
 The Right Hon Baroness Thatcher
 of Kesteven LG OM FRS

EVENSONG AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Pilgrims and guests were privileged to attend a full choral evensong at St Paul's Cathedral on 29 January, seated in Sir Christopher Wren's Quire in the beautiful choir stalls carved by Grinling Gibbons. The service was led by the Canon-in-Residence and Precentor, Canon Michael Hampel, with traditional Anglican canticles, psalms, anthems and lessons.



The American Memorial Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral

We toured the crypt and the main part of the Cathedral, visiting the memorials to Nelson, Wellington, Florence Nightingale, Lawrence of Arabia, Sir Alexander Fleming and, of course, Sir Christopher Wren. We saw the Chapel of All Souls and the Chapel of St Dunstan. The American Chapel is a memorial to the Americans who fell in the Second World War, and houses a roll of honour listing the names of all those Americans who died while on UK soil. We inspected a memorial to St Paul's Watch, who saved the cathedral from bomb destruction during World War II, and the Falklands War Memorial by David Kindersley, unveiled in 1985.

The evening ended with a reception at Odgers Berndtson's Cannon Street premises overlooking St Paul's, at the generous invitation of Richard Boggis-Rolfe and Baroness Bottomley.

St Paul's have generously arranged a further tour following evensong on 17 October.

CHARTWELL REVISITED



Sir Winston Churchill's Studio at Chartwell

The Pilgrims visited Chartwell on 8 February to see *In the Blood*, a special exhibition devoted to Sir Winston Churchill's American and British ancestors. Churchill's illustrious British ancestry starts with John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough and his formidable wife, Sarah. Churchill believed he had Iroquois Indian blood through Clarissa Willcox, the maternal grandmother of his American mother, Jennie Jerome - a claim still unproven. Paintings, photographs, letters and other official documents, as well as christening mugs, insignia and family treasures were exhibited, some never previously put on show. We also visited the garden and the studio, with its large collection of Sir Winston's paintings and a very powerful sense of Churchill's presence. Our thanks go particularly to Alice Martin, the curator of the exhibition, for her excellent presentation.

ART ANTIQUES LONDON, 13-19 JUNE

Albert Memorial West Lawn, Kensington Gardens
020 7389 6555 www.haughton.com

The Albert Memorial and Kensington Gardens provide the stunning backdrop to one of London's most exciting and glamorous art and antique fairs. Held in a beautiful bespoke pavilion opposite the Royal Albert Hall and close to the site of the Great Exhibition of 1851 *Art Antiques London* brings together 67 leading international dealers and discerning visitors from all over the world, who can buy with confidence at this strictly vetted sumptuous summer showcase for the arts.

Art Antiques London delivers a lecture programme featuring some of the top specialists discussing new research in their fields. *Houghton Revisited: the Walpole Masterpieces from Catherine The Great's Hermitage*, a panel discussion with the Marquess of Cholmondeley and Dr Thierry Morel, chaired by Anna Somers Cocks, will be on Thursday 13 June.

OLYMPIC PARK IN PROGRESS



Our view of the Stadium from the ArcelorMittal Orbit

Having visited the Olympic Park viewing platform in June 2011, we returned for a *Park in Progress* tour on 4 April. Some members assembled at the Viewtube café for lunch, before sixty members and guests, covering a wide age range, travelled by bus through the Park, passing the Stadium and the Aquatics Centre, to the ArcelorMittal Orbit.



India (left) and Siena Barber, twin granddaughters of Amanda and Jeremy Edwards, in the gallery at the top of the Orbit

Unfortunately we had chosen the worst weather possible for such a visit: a blizzard meant that we had a severely restricted view from the top of the Orbit, 80 metres above the Park. The Shard was only just visible, while we were told that on a clear day we could see the QEII Bridge and Wembley Stadium. However, we learnt of plans for the future of the Park, and appetites were whetted for a visit when the project is completed.

GEORGE BELLOWS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY

Pilgrims and guests attended a special morning lecture at the Royal Academy on 26 April on *George Bellows – Modern American Life*, before viewing the exhibition, the first retrospective of works by the American realist painter to be held in the UK.



New York, 1911

When Bellows died of peritonitis at the age of forty-two, he was considered one of the greatest artists in America. His fascination with New York's gritty urban landscape, its technological marvels and the diversity of its inhabitants, made him both an artist of the modern city and an acute observer of the dynamic and challenging decades of the early 20th century.



Stag at Sharkey's, 1909

Bellows's short career encompassed a wide range of subject matter and the exhibition explored the principal themes of his work, featuring boxing fights, cityscapes, views of the Hudson River, social scenes, seascapes, portraits and the First World War.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Wednesday 12 June

Evensong at the Temple Church

Lord Judge of Draycote, Lord Chief Justice, will speak on the Magna Carta, followed by a reception at the church and optional supper. From 5.30 pm

Thursday 4 July

T S Eliot by Professor Sir Christopher Ricks

Portcullis House, Palace of Westminster
Followed by an optional supper
6.00 pm

Wednesday 10 July

All day visit to Bletchley Park, near Milton Keynes
Transport leaves central London at 9.00 am

Monday 30 September

Annual Meeting

and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

The Baroness Manningham-Buller DCB
8 Salisbury Square, EC4Y 8BB, 6.00 pm
By kind invitation of KPMG LLP

Thursday 17 October

Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, followed by a guided tour of the private areas

Guests to be seated by 4.45 pm
To be followed by a reception at 2-6 Cannon Street
By kind invitation of Bates Wells & Braithwaite LLP

Thursday 14 November

Dinner with Sir Nigel Sheinwald GCMG

Politics and Foreign Policy in Obama's Second Term
Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly
7.15 for 7.45pm

COMING SOON!



The Pilgrims' website is undergoing improvements. Members will soon be alerted to changes which will enable them to book events electronically, and also to complete on-line application forms.

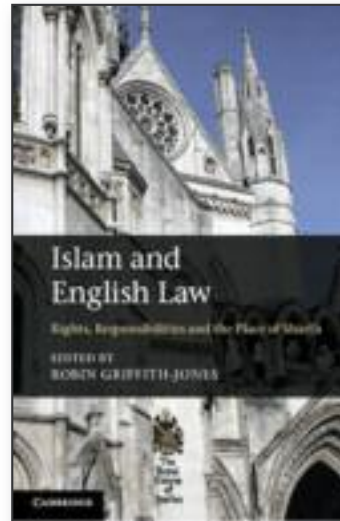
CHECK THE WEBSITE!
www.pilgrimsociety.org

Members with internet access should apply to the office for login and password for the website.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH

At the invitation of the Hon Chaplain, the Reverend and Valiant Robin Griffith-Jones, Master of the Temple, the Pilgrims will visit the Temple Church on Wednesday 12 June for Choral Evensong in celebration of the Magna Carta (sealed 15 June 1215). The Right Hon the Lord Judge of Draycote, Lord Chief Justice, will speak and the service will be followed by drinks in the Master's Garden.

The Temple Church was built by the crusading Knights Templar, 1161-1240. Its round Church is the earliest Gothic building in England, its chancel a glorious Hall Church built for King Henry III.



The Church was built in the Crusades to deepen the divisions between Christendom and Islam, and is now trying to bridge some of those divisions. Archbishop Rowan Williams gave his famous lecture on sharia law in England at the

Temple Church in February 2008. This was the start of a major project on Islam in English Law, whose first stage has come to fruition in *Islam and English Law*, edited by Robin Griffith-Jones (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

At Epiphany 1215 King John and the barons, gathered in the Temple and locked in angry debate, will have heard the choir sing in the Church. Robin Griffith-Jones is relieved that the discussions the church holds now are more peaceful; he can only hope they will be as fruitful. The Temple Church is still, after 800 years, the Mother-Church of the Common Law. Only by chance is it also the church of *The Da Vinci Code*, and so a place of pilgrimage for thousands of Dan Brown's pilgrims. The Master of the Temple even features in the novel – as a notoriously grumpy vicar. He hopes this is slander!

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES



James D Zirin, Raymond Kelly, Police Commissioner of the New York City Police Department, and US Pilgrims' President Miner H Warner following Commissioner Kelly's talk to the Pilgrims of the United States on 8 January at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



Sir Winfried Bischoff, Chairman of Lloyd's Banking Group since 2009, with Miner H Warner (left) and Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt Jr on 30 January.



Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt Jr, Hon Thomas H Kean and Hon Frank G Wisner with Henry Kissinger, Hon KCMG, at the Union League Club Annual Meeting luncheon on 4 April.



Sir Peter Westmacott, UK Ambassador to the United States since January 2012, with Thomas L Pulling (left) and Miner H Warner (right) following his address to the Pilgrims of the US on 30 April at the Racquet & Tennis Club.

NEW MEMBERS, SPRING 2013

Professor John Annette
Richard Blystone
James Brocklebank
William Brocklebank
Mrs Rosamond Brown
Richard Christou
Edward Collins
Ms Margaret Daly
Philip Delves Broughton
Jonathan Horsman
Blaine Krickl
The Right Hon Sir David Latham
Dr Barbara Lauriat
Ian Mayes QC
Dr Robin Niblett
Christopher Osborne
Mrs Carol Osborne
Martin Paisner CBE
Ms Arabella Phillimore
Allen Sangines-Krause
Ronald Stagg
William Winget

Application forms are available from the office and on the website, and lists of members from the office

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Newsletter Editor: Christopher Robson
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CHRISTOPHER ANDREW EXAMINES THE UNIQUE INTELLIGENCE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE USA

Christopher Andrew, Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at Cambridge University and official historian of MI5, gave the 19th Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture to a capacity audience of Pilgrims at the US Embassy on 1 October.



*Admiral Lord Boyce
with Professor and Mrs Christopher Andrew*

Professor Andrew paid tribute to the work of the Pilgrims and the lifetime achievements of Sir Harry Brittain in the fostering of Anglo-American relations. Britain and the USA had shared more secrets than any other two nations in world history. Their World War II alliance had cemented an intelligence relationship that had started in World War I. Walter Hines Page, US Ambassador to Britain 1913-18, was very impressed by the British intelligence officers whom he met, especially the Admiralty code-breakers who were responsible for decoding the infamous Zimmerman Telegram of 1917. In this Germany had proposed an alliance with Mexico aimed against the USA, one of the principal factors that brought America into the war in April 1917.

The USA was neutral for the first two-and-a-quarter years of the Second World War. However, during this period Churchill shared important intelligence secrets with Roosevelt.

Following Pearl Harbour, the British/US intelligence relationship was unique. The OSS, the precursor of the CIA, had complete access to the British security system which included the *golden eggs* – Churchill's words – provided by the legendary code-breakers of Bletchley Park, whose crucial work has been credited with shortening the 1939-45 War by two years.

The Anglo-American intelligence alliance played a very important role in the Cold War between 1946 and 1989. The Cuban missile crisis of October 1962 was a textbook alliance of how superior Anglo-American intelligence gathering prevented a third world war. The Soviet defector Colonel Oleg Penkovsky, recruited and run as a double agent by both MI6 and the CIA, was instrumental in obtaining photographs of top-secret documents relating to Soviet missiles being placed in Cuba. Throughout the entire Cold War the unique Anglo-American security relationship was of inestimable importance in providing victory for the West.

Christopher Andrew displayed his skills as an outstanding expert on all intelligence matters in handling questions from the floor. These included the role of Wikileaks in the uncovering of secrets; Britain's role in the establishment of the CIA in 1947; the impact of technology on the maintenance of secrets as well as the importance of disinformation; the contribution made by such Soviet defectors as Oleg Gordievsky, and Britain's ability to keep secrets – D-Day being a prime example. Further questions included the presence of pro-Soviet traitors in the Labour Party in the early 1960s, the damage caused to Anglo-American intelligence relations by atom spies such as Klaus Fuchs and double agents such as Philby, Burgess and Maclean, and the importance of human relationship in intelligence work.

Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman thanked Christopher Andrew for his masterly and fascinating discourse.

Members are asked, please, to confirm their current email address with the office –
sec@pilgrimsociety.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LETTER

Meetings to promote Anglo-American good fellowship

It is helpful and interesting when Pilgrims offer to speak or can make available a fine place for a meeting. Thanks go to all who have. It helps to bring variety to the programme. I am grateful to each of our colleagues who kindly contribute to the meetings of the Programme Committee.



Admiral Lord Boyce, President, Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Chairman of the Programme Committee, and Robert Alston, Chairman of the Membership Committee, at the 2012 Annual Meeting

In particular, we have been most grateful to the Ambassador and his colleagues for hosting meetings in the US Embassy, Grosvenor Square – perhaps the most appropriate place for fellowship?

Some of the expeditions away from London are to houses and gardens built or made famous in previous centuries. One that was not was the trip up the social housing block to learn about and to look down on the Olympic Park long before its impressive completion.

Up-to-date talks are often linked to new books. Andrew Marr was excellent on *The Queen*. How constant broadcasters manage to finish books on top of their day work is beyond me.

Martin Bell talked on current events, illustrated with his verses. During his term as an MP, he and I tried and failed to sort out behaviour which became better known during the expenses scandal. We can admire him most for his straight descriptions of the service and sacrifice of those in our armed forces. It sent me back to Kipling's poetry.

An innovation was the gathering at the Palace of Westminster of newish members with some who serve as the Society's officers or on committees.

Please let us – Tessa Wells or me – know what you would like considered for inclusion in the events list. We want to offer a range of types of meetings. One of the US election panels was without cost. The range of lunches, receptions or dinners should make it possible for every Pilgrim to include themselves several times each year.

Within the Cities of Westminster and London, we do cope as best possible with rising charges and the commercial imperatives at favoured places. We shall be considering the times and types of gatherings which are most attractive and relevant to younger Pilgrims. Ideas and proposals are welcome.

We are happy to welcome members of the Pilgrims of the US when they are resident in London or visiting from across the Atlantic.

Some of the most cheerful talks are by a fellow Pilgrim on a topic or person who has mattered to them. Even fifty or sixty years on it is fascinating to hear about the dealings between President and Prime Minister, such as Sir Peter Marshall's reminiscences of working with Sir Roger Makins. It was Sir Peter who kindly greeted my family in Washington DC at the station – then travel could be by liner and train.

In addition to political and diplomatic ties, our shared cultural, literary and military links provide a wide field in which to create the programme. Commerce and financial services too are great links.

My own background was built on travel with diplomatic parents. My father had nearly five years in the Capital and in New York at the UN. Visiting our previous family home near Washington cathedral, the owner sensibly asked for my ID. When I asked why he was cautious, he said he was the Commissioner for the Internal Revenue Service and was wondering if I was a taxpayer.

Perhaps he would be a draw here if he visits?

Sir Peter Bottomley MP
Chairman of the Programme Committee

APPOINTMENT OF NEW HONORARY CHAPLAIN

At the Annual Meeting on 1 October, the Reverend Robin Griffith-Jones, Master of the Temple, was appointed Honorary Chaplain in succession to the Right Reverend David Conner, who has retired.



After leaving New College, Oxford in 1978, Robin Griffith-Jones worked at Christie's. After working, 1984-6, with Mother Theresa's Sisters in India and with the long-term homeless in London, he returned to university to study theology. He served as a curate in outer Liverpool 1989-92 and as Chaplain at Lincoln College, Oxford, 1992-99; while at Oxford he was also College Lecturer in Theology for Exeter College. He was appointed Master of the Temple at the Temple Church in 1999 and is a visiting lecturer in Theology (New Testament) at King's College, London. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

Robin Griffith-Jones is the author of *The Four Witnesses* (Harper San Francisco, 2000); *The Gospel according to Paul* (Harper San Francisco, 2004); *The Da Vinci Code and the Secrets of the Temple* (SCM and Eerdmans, 2006), and *Mary Magdalene* (in the USA, *Beloved Disciple*, Harper One and SCM, 2008).

NEW MEMBERS, SEPTEMBER 2012

L Lee Bowman
Dickinson Cowan
Daniel E Draper
Sir John Guinness CB
Joseph Johnson MP
Andrew Storey
James Virgin

Membership applications forms are available from the office

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 2012

Diane Simpson (Dee Dee) is from Dayton, Ohio.



She received an AB from Dartmouth College and a Master's from the University of Virginia. She has been a legislative aide to a Senator, a diplomat, and an editor at the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Resident in London, Dee Dee Simpson is Chairman of the Fundraising Committee and a Trustee of the International Rescue Committee UK, and also sits on the Warwick Ward Westminster Safer Neighbourhoods Panel and the Committee of the Friends of Westminster School. She is Secretary to the Trustees of Dartmouth College Trust and sits on Dartmouth's Alumni Council.

Dee Dee Simpson sits on the Programme Committee.

Sir Stephen Wright KCMG is Senior Adviser at the Good Governance Group (G3) and at Mitsui Europe plc.



Sir Stephen retired in 2008 as British Ambassador to Spain after a distinguished career as a diplomat.

Sir Stephen studied Modern History at The Queen's College, Oxford. He and his wife Abbey live in Wandsworth. His recreations include music, books and rowing.

Sir Stephen sits on the Programme Committee.

SIR PETER MARSHALL PRESENTS A GROUNDLING'S VIEW OF A CRUCIAL PERIOD IN BRITISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS

Undoubtedly one of the outstanding diplomats of his generation, Sir Peter Marshall is able to bring clarity of vision and understanding to the solution of complex problems. His diplomatic career stretched from 1949 to his final appointment as UK Permanent Representative at the United Nations in Geneva, 1979-1983. Sir Peter has been a member of the Pilgrims since 1984 and served for many years on the Executive Committee.

Sir Peter chose to reminisce about his time in Washington sixty years previously at lunch with the Pilgrims on 14 November. He arrived in Washington in October 1952, in the closing days of the Truman administration, to work in Chancery on East/West and Cold War affairs. When he arrived as Ambassador in January 1953, the formidable Sir Roger Makins, later Lord Sherfield, appointed him as his Private Secretary. With President Eisenhower taking office in January 1953 the young Peter Marshall was soon immersed in a huge diplomatic correspondence passing through the Embassy, especially communications between the old wartime allies and friends, Churchill and Eisenhower.

Life at the Embassy was anything but dull with Sir Roger and Lady Makins, with their twin daughters Mollie and Cynthia, playing host to Washington society as well as a stream of British visitors, at times resembling the bulk of *Who's Who*. The death of Stalin in March 1953 and the end of the Korean War in July 1953 led to a proposed American-Franco-British summit, then postponed because of Anthony Eden's illness, followed by Churchill's stroke. The deteriorating situation in French Indo-China became the catalyst for an Anglo-American summit in Washington in June 1954, when Churchill and Eisenhower discussed a range of international problems, including the issuing of a joint Anglo-American declaration similar to the Atlantic Charter of 1941.

During questions, Sir Peter spoke of the neglect by historians of the true achievements of Churchill's second premiership, sandwiched between the Attlee years and the Eden premiership, especially in the diplomatic field. Questioners focused on the relationship between Anthony Eden and John Foster Dulles and its effect on the Suez Crisis; the complex relationship between Roosevelt, Churchill and

De Gaulle; the absence of De Gaulle from power when the war in Indo-China was at its height; the effect on Anglo-American relations of the Burgess/Maclean defection in 1951 and Churchill's relationships with Truman and Eisenhower. Sir Peter was firmly of the opinion that the Suez Crisis was probably the most dangerous moment in the period 1952-56, in terms of the world scene and Anglo-American relations.

Sir Peter Bottomley, Chairman of the Programme Committee, proposed the vote of thanks to Sir Peter Marshall and presented him with a newly-designed Pilgrims' tie.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

We hope to be able to entertain the United States Ambassador, the Hon Louis B Susman, early in 2013

Friday 8 February

***The making of Winston Churchill:
a transatlantic tale of two families***

Exhibition at Chartwell, including a talk by the curator followed by lunch

Transport provided from central London

Tuesday 26 February

**Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, followed
by a guided tour of the private areas**

Guests to be seated by 4.45 pm

Tuesday 12 March

Reflections lecture

The Right Hon the Lord Butler of Brockwell KG
GCB CVO, *Experiences with five Prime Ministers*
River Court, 120 Fleet Street, EC4A 2BB, 6.30 pm
By kind invitation of Goldman Sachs International

Wednesday 10 April

Luncheon with Lady Reid

Thomas Paine

Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, 12.15 for 12.45 pm

Friday 26 April

George Bellows

The Royal Academy of Arts, 10.00 am

Coffee on arrival, before lecture and exhibition

Tuesday 7 May

Spring reception

Cholmondeley Room, House of Lords, 6.30 pm

Friday 5 July

Visit to Bletchley Park

Monday 30 September

Annual Meeting

and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION DISCUSSIONS Post Party Conventions and Last Seven Days

Panel discussions on the forthcoming US Presidential Election took place on 12 September and 31 October at the Medical Society of London, Chandos Street. Pilgrims' Vice President Sir Robert Worcester was joined on 12 September by Dr Thomas Grant of Republicans Abroad UK, Jef McAllister, formerly of *Time* magazine, and Karin Robinson of Democrats Abroad UK. On 31 October the panelists were Gregory Katz, Dr Sophie Loussouarn and Dr Jef McAllister.



Sir Robert Worcester, panel chairman

On 12 September the chairman and panellists focused on the key issues of the importance of the marginal states, the possible “bounce” either Presidential candidate could receive from their respective party conventions; voter registration; the state of the economy; taxation; spending; American leadership in foreign affairs, and the strengths and weaknesses of both candidates. The cost of a US Presidential Election had now reached a figure of \$2.5 billion, while the cost of the whole General Election, taking in both Houses of Congress, had reached \$6 billion.

Questioners from the floor asked about the effect of Obama's taxation policies on middle-class families trying to put their children through college; the level of voter turn-out in terms of age and ethnic groups; the contribution of Paul Ryan and Joe Biden to the strength of their respective electoral

tickets; the effect of the media on US public opinion; the advantages and disadvantages of a proportional representation electoral system in the US; funding of future elections and the effect that the 5-6 million US citizens living abroad might have on the electoral outcome. There seemed to be a general consensus that the election was Obama's to lose, with the weight of the polls giving him a narrow lead over Mitt Romney.

On 31 October Sir Robert gave six cogent reasons for an Obama victory: the effects of the election of a Republican-dominated Congress in 2010; the improving US economy in 2011/2012; divisions in the Republican Party; the likelihood of right-wing Republicans to stay at home; President Obama's campaigning skills, and his wife Michelle Obama's skills on the campaign trail. Nevertheless, all the panellists felt that this would be a very close race, with a chance that Romney could win the popular vote, as Al Gore had in 2000, and Obama the Electoral College vote. Sir Robert predicted 239 Electoral College votes for Romney and 299 votes for Obama.

When the discussion was opened up to the floor, an assortment of topics was covered: accuracy of opinion polls; a re-elected Obama dealing with a Republican-dominated Congress; lack of real issues in American elections; divisions in the Republican party; the impact of the “grey vote” as opposed to the impact of younger voters, and the likely political effect of Hurricane Sandy. Other subject covered included the employment situation and new jobs figures coming out just before the Election; the percentage of voters living in storm-affected areas; the impact of New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's praise for President Obama's handling of Hurricane Sandy and the electability of the Republicans – Obama only had to win Ohio to reach the magic figure of 270 Electoral College votes, while Romney had to do far more.

Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman thanked Sir Robert and his Panellists for their outstanding presentation on both occasions.

Postscript: Kudos to our old friend and favourite political prognosticator for hitting a home run in his predicted outcome of both the popular and Electoral College votes, and especially for his consensus-defying correct call on Ohio, the most significant of the swing states. Ron Freeman

**FROM PARIS:
A TASTE FOR IMPRESSIONISM –
PAINTINGS FROM THE CLARK**

The Pilgrims were privileged to attend a special lecture on 21 September at the Royal Academy, and to view *From Paris: a Taste for Impressionism – Paintings from the Clark*.



Girl with a Fan, Renoir 1879



Renoir's Onions

The exhibition charted the radical innovations of the Impressionist movement, as well as the story of Sterling and Francine Clark who formed an exceptional private art collection. Robert Sterling Clark (1877-1956) came from a wealthy family from Cooperstown, New York, whose fortune was derived from the Singer sewing machine company. He began collecting after he settled in Paris in 1910. Initially concentrating on Old Masters and American art, Clark moved into French nineteenth-century

painting, especially Impressionism, and in particular the art of Renoir. He eventually acquired 39 Renoirs, 21 of which were shown in this exhibition. The Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute opened in Williamstown, Massachusetts in 1955, providing a permanent home for their art collection.



Cliffs at Etretat, Monet, 1885

The exhibition was arranged thematically by subject-matter – still life, landscape, genre scenes, the female figure, orientalism and the exotic and portraits – offering an overview of the principal preoccupations of French nineteenth-century painters.

SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE

In order to keep the society's funds in surplus going forward, at the meeting of the Executive Committee on 1 October, the decision was taken to raise the annual subscription by £5.00 per annum to £45.00 from 1 May 2013.

No action need be taken by the majority of members who pay their annual subscription - and indeed for events - by direct debit. Those who continue to pay by cheque or by standing order should revise their instruction to ensure that £45.00 is received when the subscription falls due on 1 May. Direct debit forms are available from the office.

Please take this as the formal notification of an increase in the subscription rate.

Ian Barlow
Hon Treasurer

THANKSGIVING RECEPTION

2012 saw an innovation – a Thanksgiving reception held by generous invitation of Sir Paul and Lady Judge in their penthouse apartment of The Panoramic, just north of Vauxhall Bridge. Lady Judge is a member of the Programme Committee.



Lady Judge and Pilgrims' President Admiral Lord Boyce

The view from the 18th floor of the Panoramic is truly stunning, with a magnificent view of London. By night this equals or even surpasses the Manhattan skyline. Pilgrims and their guests were able to take in the marvellous spectacle, adding to the general enjoyment of the evening.

NEW DESIGN PILGRIMS' TIE



The Pilgrims' tie has been redesigned. New silk ties cost £22.00 each and are available from the office.

Further items of Pilgrims' merchandise are available: lapel pins, cufflinks and weather stations, as well as the centennial histories of the Pilgrims of the UK and the Pilgrims of the US. All are illustrated on the website: www.pilgrimsociety.org.



THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE

The American is a magazine about American politics and culture for the American community in the UK, American visitors to the UK, and anyone interested in American culture. Its 'strap line', across the top of the front cover, describes it as *The Transatlantic Magazine*, and one of its aims is to foster and support the relationship between the United Kingdom and the United States.

One of the ways it does this is in its original, unique content, which its readers cannot find elsewhere: vital information from official sources including security issues; things Americans need to know about living in the British Isles; a *What's On* guide tailored for Americans while in the UK, theatre, arts and culture previews and reviews; restaurant and hotel reviews; sports; politics; travel; history; recipes; quizzes and competitions, and news about the community.

The magazine's political coverage has been augmented over the last year by a series of articles written by Sir Robert Worcester, who has contributed a masterly commentary on the progress of the US presidential election.

You can read *The American* in print or the digital edition - www.theamerican.co.uk. It is available in hundreds of locations (the publisher can supply a list) but not in newsagents, or it can be sent direct.

If any member would like to contribute to the magazine please contact the editor, Michael Burland: theamerican@blueedge.co.uk or 01747 830520.

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES

The Right Hon Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC, shadow Attorney General for England and Wales, spoke to the Pilgrims of the US on 24 September at the River Club.



President Miner H Warner, Baroness Scotland of Ashal and Thomas N McCarter III

Baroness Scotland made history in 1991 by becoming the first black woman to be appointed a Queen's Counsel. In 2001 she became Parliamentary Secretary in the Lord Chancellor's Department, responsible for civil justice and the reform of civil law. Baroness Scotland was appointed Attorney General in 2007 – the first woman to hold the office since its foundation in 1315.

Baroness Scotland has been voted Peer of the Year by Channel 4 and by the *House Magazine*, Parliamentarian of the Year by *The Spectator* and by the Political Studies Association, and received a number of other awards for her contribution to law reform in the UK and abroad. She is married to a fellow barrister and has two sons.

SAVE MAILING COSTS!

Postage rates rose in April 2012. If you have received hard copy of this newsletter and would prefer it electronically, please contact the office.

CHECK THE WEBSITE! www.pilgrimsociety.org

Members with internet access should apply to the office for login and password for the website.

IN MEMORIAM

The Hon Nicholas Assheton CVO
Peter Bowring CBE
Sir Richard Brooke Bt
Mrs Christine Dyer Simpson
Dr Michael J E Frye CBE
Sir John Moreton KCMG KCVO MC
Robin H Pedler
Raymond I Skilling OBE

St Paul's Cathedral and the American community

Every year the US Ambassador goes to St Paul's Cathedral for the annual Thanksgiving Service, joined by 2,000 of his countrymen. This is the central moment of the cathedral's ongoing relationship with the American community in the UK. Dating back to World War II, and continuing through the 9/11 memorial services held in 2001 and 2011, this relationship has been one of mutual respect and support.



The American Memorial Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral

The enormous sacrifice made by the United States in the cause of our shared values was recognised in the concept and building of the American Memorial Chapel at the east end of the cathedral. Built in a part of the Cathedral that was damaged during the war, the chapel contains the only stained glass in St Paul's, featuring the emblems of all fifty states, and houses the Roll of Honour, listing the names of all those who died while on UK soil.

St Paul's Cathedral receives no state support, and is currently raising funds to refurbish the Chapel in order that it can continue to form a fitting centrepiece for one of the cathedral's most valued relationships. For further details, contact Benjamin Nikolay on 020 7246 8370.

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MIDSUMMER DINNER AT THE TOWER OF LONDON

The Pilgrims were invited by General the Lord Dannatt, Pilgrims member and 159th Constable of Her Majesty's Palace and Fortress of the Tower of London, for a very special evening in the White Tower on Thursday 21 June.

Guests were welcomed with a reception in the Hall of Monarchs of the newly re-presented Jewel House, following a £2 million refurbishment, after which they were able to view the regalia itself, without the distraction of the day visitors.



General the Lord Dannatt

The Tower has 2.5 million visitors each year, 75-80% of whom are from overseas, 30-35% of these from North America. On Good Friday 2012 there were a record 14,000 visitors to the Tower.



Chapel of St John the Evangelist, White Tower

Before dinner guests stopped briefly in the Chapel of St John the Evangelist, the oldest church in London, for a formal welcome by Lord Dannatt, who introduced the Choir of the Chapel Royal, under the direction of the Master of Music Colm Carey, before they gave a brief recital. The choir sang *Miserere* by Gregorio Allegri and *Ascendit Deus* by Peter Philips in the Chapel, and then *Grace* from *Laudi Spirituali* 1545 in the Banqueting Hall of the White Tower – the original Tower of London, built in 1086 – before dinner was served.



Sir Roy Strong

Following dinner, Sir Roy Strong, former Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum, spoke of the mapping of Britain's history in painting, sculpture, architecture, gardens and the decorative arts. In his view one of the greatest Anglo-American cultural achievements of the previous half century

resulted from the meeting of the American millionaire Paul Mellon and the art historian Basil Taylor, librarian of the Royal College of Art. Through Taylor, Mellon discovered British art and embarked on putting together the collection now housed in the Yale Center for British Art in New Haven. Sir Roy paid particular tribute to the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art and its close relationship with the Yale University Press.

Ian Barlow, Pilgrims' Honorary Treasurer and Chairman of the Campaign Board of Historic Royal Palaces, the charity which cares for the Tower of London, thanked Sir Roy and invited the Pilgrims to return to any of the Historic Royal Palaces, at their leisure, for a closer look at what they have to offer.

Despite the rain, guests then enjoyed the Ceremony of the Keys, conducted by Number 7 Company, Coldstream Guards, when Lord Dannatt took the salute.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

During this year of great events set among economic and political confusions and upheavals, the “rain-blessed” June Diamond Jubilee and the River Pageant on 3 June, with the twelve members of the Royal College of Music Chamber Choir, with sodden hair and dissolving song sheets, serenading Her Majesty from the final vessel to reach Tower Bridge, remains iconic. It epitomised the best of grace and grit, sixty years of it through thick and thin in the case of Her Majesty, sixty minutes in the rain for the Choir, setting a performance standard for London’s Summer Olympics and for us all.

The Pilgrims’ activities during this tumultuous year embrace a broad range of prevailing political and historic events, organised by the efforts of our splendid officers, committee members and fellow Pilgrims to whom we again express appreciation on behalf of us all:

Sir Peter Westmacott, Ambassador and fellow Pilgrim, provided a remarkable synthesis of UK-US relations, seen from the inside, most ably organised by Programme Committee chairman, Sir Peter Bottomley MP;

Sir Robert Worcester is again guiding and moderating our series of political panels leading to the upcoming US Presidential election;

General Lord Dannatt gave UK and visiting US Pilgrims a splendid midsummer evening at the Tower with the Crown Jewels, benefitting from a wonderful new display, for our exclusive and leisurely viewing, and the Choir of the Chapel Royal awed us with a moving concert and sung dinner Grace;

Pilgrims were invited to a spring reception in the impressive Drapers’ Hall by the Drapers’ Company and their Past Masters Sir Michael Craig-Cooper and Sir Peter Bottomley MP;

Members enjoyed summer visits to Strawberry Hill and Marble Hill House, both venues benefitting from recent extensive restoration programmes; and,

Shifting the focus to the 19th and 20th centuries, we will hear a lecture at Burlington House in September on the familiar but ever-inspiring story of those courageous artists who gave us a deeper and more subjective understanding of the world’s beauty, one that transcended the then entrenched academic view.

In the background, other historic events are in preparation, including the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and the restoration of Westminster Abbey’s Triforium, both efforts led by fellow Pilgrims. We will look forward to seeing both on future Pilgrims’ events calendars.

We continue to recruit new and younger members to ensure the ongoing vitality of the Pilgrims. We welcomed a group of new members, co-hosted by several of their nominating Pilgrims, to a reception at the Palace of Westminster, followed by a tour.

We have also reinvigorated ties between UK and US Pilgrims, confirming that we are all welcome to Pilgrims’ events on the other Atlantic shore, simply by giving due notice of our wish to attend.

As we move into the autumn and, no doubt, more alarms and upheavals on the political and economic fronts, let us continue to embrace the Pilgrims’ goal of good fellowship and the pleasure of each others’ company. To this end, the officers responsible for our welfare continue to invite all Pilgrims’ suggestions and assistance in recruiting congenial new members consistent with our by-laws and in organising events, speakers and venues – all this under the ancient wisdom that one is never better assisted than by oneself. Pilgrims’ willingness to take an active part in the life of our more than century old Society is the best guarantor of the success of the second century on which we are now embarked.



Ronald M Freeman

IN MEMORIAM

The Lord Acton

T Roy Astley

Sir William Barlow

Charles H Brown

Joseph B King

The Right Hon Sir Michael Palliser GCMG

His Honour John Toulmin CMG QC

Sir Derek Wanless

SIR ROBERT WORCESTER OFFERS HIS REFLECTIONS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE USA

Sir Robert Worcester, Pilgrims' Vice-President and Chairman 1993-2010, gave the fifteenth annual *Reflections* Lecture at the Royal Overseas League on 26 January. In the words of Pilgrims' President Admiral Lord Boyce, Sir Robert needed no introduction. His record of achievement spoke for itself.



Sir Robert thanked the Officers, Executive Committee members and Executive Secretaries of the Pilgrims who had served with him over seventeen years, and paid tribute to the Pilgrims' membership which had grown from 700 in 1993 to almost 1,100 today. He recalled many notable functions that he had attended as Chairman, in particular the centennial dinner in 2002 at Mansion House; the receptions with Her Majesty The Queen, Patron of the Pilgrims, held at St James's Palace in 1994, 2002 and 2009, and the traditional dinners welcoming new American Ambassadors. The *Reflections* lectures had started with a conversation at Ditchley with Lord Sheffield, who became the first *Reflections* lecturer.

Sir Robert quoted from Ambassador Susman's speech to the Pilgrims: "In war and peace, in prosperity and in time of economic hardship, America has no better friend and no more dependable ally than the United Kingdom ... Our nations are deeply rooted in our enduring values of democracy, rule of law and tolerance, a shared history, culture and language ..."

The Special Relationship depended on solid bonds in four key areas – diplomatic, defence/intelligence, nuclear and business. Sir Robert recalled the high

points and low points of British-American relations over the previous century, a period in which the Pilgrims had played a key role in maintaining and sustaining this unique relationship. The harrowing events of 9/11 had served to underline and strengthen this bond between the two countries, with the subsequent war against terrorism and the intervention in Afghanistan.

Sir Robert drew strength and encouragement from the findings by the Pew Research Center, which provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world. In 2008 the British Pew data found 53% favourable and 37% unfavourable in people's attitude towards the United States, with more than 70% having a favourable view of Americans. In 2011 Pew found that while 61% of the British had a favourable view of the USA as a country, 73% said that they had a favourable view of Americans.

Sir Robert concluded by quoting President Obama's remarks to David Cameron in 2011: "The United States has no closer friend and ally than the United Kingdom. I reiterate my deep and personal commitment to the special relationship between our two countries, a bond that has endured for generations across party lines and that is essential to the security and prosperity of our two countries and the world."

Admiral Lord Boyce paid tribute to Sir Robert's chairmanship which had given new life and a new sense of purpose to the Pilgrims, and presented Sir Robert with a Diamond Jubilee mug.

The Right Hon Sir Michael Palliser GCMG

Sir Michael Palliser, who died in June at the age of 90, had been a Pilgrim since 1979. He was a familiar figure at Pilgrims' events and attended Sir Robert Worcester's lecture in January 2012. He was a highly respected Permanent Under Secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and Head of the Diplomatic Service between 1975 and 1982. The principal focus of his service to that point had been Europe: he was the first British Permanent Representative in Brussels. But he also appreciated very clearly the importance of Britain's relationship with the United States and this was reflected in his loyalty to the Pilgrims.

Robert Alston

SIR PETER WESTMACOTT MOVES FROM PARIS TO WASHINGTON

Pilgrims and guests attended a dinner in honour of Sir Peter Westmacott, recently appointed British Ambassador to Washington, on 7 February. This took place at the Carlton Club, home of Sir William Orpen's portrait of Sir Harry Brittain, the founder of the Pilgrims.



Since his arrival in Washington, Sir Peter had attended President Obama's State of the Union address, had followed Republican Presidential hopefuls on the Primaries campaign trail, and had attended a National Prayer Breakfast and an Alfalfa Club dinner.

In 2014 Sir Peter's successor in Paris would be marking the bicentennial of the British Embassy, which had been bought by the Duke of Wellington in 1814, while in Washington 2014 marked the bicentennial of the burning of the White House by British forces in 1814.

Sir Peter doubted that the United States was in a state of long-term decline. Despite the apparent rise of China, America was still the major player on the world stage as a military, economic and technological superpower. He reflected that he had left one country where the President was facing re-election and gone to another country where the President was also seeking re-election. President Obama could win if the economy continued to pick up and unemployment stayed below the 9% level.

The United Kingdom was still seen as the natural partner and most reliable ally of the United States.

Sir Peter dealt skilfully with questions on Syria; the impact of political polarisation on the USA's effectiveness on the world scene; the complex

relationship between Britain, France and Germany, and America's view of Britain's current relationship with the European Union.

Sir John Holmes, who had also served as Ambassador in Paris, delivered a warm and appreciative vote of thanks with the customary presentation of Pilgrims' tie and official history.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Wednesday 12 September

Panel discussion on US Elections

Led by Sir Robert Worcester

Medical Society of London, 11 Chandos Street, W1, 6.00 pm

To be followed by reception and optional dinner

Friday 21 September

From Paris: A Taste for Impressionism

The Royal Academy of Arts, 9.30 am

Coffee on arrival, before lecture and exhibition

Monday 1 October

Annual Meeting

American Embassy, Grosvenor Square, W1A 1AE, 5.30 pm, to be followed by

Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

Professor Christopher Andrew:

The British-American Intelligence Alliance in the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries

To be followed by a reception

Wednesday 31 October

Panel discussion on US Elections

Same programme and venue as for Wednesday 12 September

Wednesday 14 November

Luncheon with Sir Peter Marshall KCMG CVO

Churchill in No.10 and Eisenhower in the White House: a Groundling's view sixty years on

Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, 12.15 for 12.45 pm

Wednesday 21 November

Thanksgiving Reception

88 The Panoramic, 152 Grosvenor Road, 7.00 pm
By kind invitation of Sir Paul and Lady Judge

Tuesday 12 March 2013

Reflections lecture

The Right Hon the Lord Butler of Brockwell KG GCB CVO: *Experiences with five Prime Ministers*
River Court, 120 Fleet Street, EC4A 2BB, 6.30 pm

By kind invitation of Goldman Sachs International

Tuesday 7 May

Spring reception

Cholmondeley Room, House of Lords, 6.30 pm

U S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION DISCUSSION FORUM

Pilgrims' Vice President Sir Robert Worcester donned his opinion pollster's hat to present a discussion on November's US Presidential Election in Portcullis House, Westminster, on 22 March. The event was hosted by Sir Peter Bottomley MP.

Sir Robert distributed his articles on the US election, the reasons for Barack Obama's election in 2008 and an analysis of the 2012 Republican delegates, and introduced his three panellists.



*Thomas Rogan, Greg Katz, Sir Robert Worcester
and Rob Carolina*

Rob Carolina, Chairman of Democrats Abroad UK, felt President Obama's current approval rating at about 50% reflected the American electorate's feeling of discontent and distrust of the two major parties. The Republican Party was in a difficult position, with none of its main Presidential contenders generating much enthusiasm and, on present form, a third party candidate could take 15-20% of the popular vote. Rob Carolina's home state of Ohio could once again be the fulcrum around which the election would be decided.

Thomas Rogan, a spokesman from Republicans Abroad UK, believed there was a very clear contest between Mitt Romney and Barack Obama, who had failed to deliver on his promises and to change the partisan tone of Washington politics. It was key to grow the economy and reduce the debt.

Greg Katz of *Associated Press*, a veteran political commentator, felt that Romney was well-positioned to move to the centre. Obama did not have good relationships with either Congress or the media and his people skills were somewhat deficient. Despite all this, his lead over Romney was 4-6%. Romney, embarrassed about his great wealth, needed to reconnect with the voting public.

Discussion from the floor centred on such topics as who would be suitable running-mates for Obama and Romney; Hilary Clinton's suitability for the

role of Vice-President; the viability of the American political system; the negative influence of Washington lobbyists; campaign finance and freedom of speech; the likelihood of a third party candidate; the importance of the Hispanic vote to Obama, and the need for Republicans to unite behind Romney. The panel felt the Tea Party movement was driven largely by fear of the unknown and by fear of the future. China's rise was irresistible, now being set to overtake the US economy by 2015. All these topics, including foreign policy issues, especially in the Middle East, provided grist for the general discussion mill. It was generally agreed that, on present form, Obama would be facing Romney in November in what could be a tight race. If the economy deteriorated, the unemployment rate worsened, or there was an Israeli air-strike on Iran's nuclear facilities, any of these could prove very difficult for Obama.

Sir Robert Worcester was thanked for his masterly presentation and control of the general discussion.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS (Elected January, April and July 2012)

Lady Bischoff
Guy Brennan
Lt Colonel Michael Campbell OBE
Andrew Coyle
Ms Melissa Crawshay-Williams
Mrs Elizabeth H Dare
Peter Day-Milne
Paul Dimond CMG
Tristan Elbrick
Mrs Mary Barton Freeman
Varel D Freeman
Major Mark Goymer
Mrs Sarah Herzog
Hon Bernard Jenkin MP
Rt Hon David Lammy MP
David Mackilligin CMG
Simon Martin-Redman
Dr Jef McAllister
Jesse Norman MP
Peter O'Donoghue
Charles Reiss
Mark Richards
Major Stephen Simmons
Mrs Diane Simpson
James Sproule
Alexander Trotter
Ms Susan Wedlake
Andrew West
Robert L Willoughby
William Winters

LADY YOUNG'S ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE AND WORK OF HER FATHER OSCAR NEMON

Pilgrims and guests were privileged to attend an illustrated lecture about the sculptor Oscar Nemon by his daughter Lady Young at the National Liberal Club on 27 March. Lady Young included many touching anecdotes of their family life, as well as a number of superb photographs.

Oscar Nemon ranks alongside Jacob Epstein and Henry Moore as one of the greatest sculptors of the twentieth century. Since his death Aurelia Young has done much to ensure not only that Nemon's full achievements and qualities have been appreciated by a wide public, but also that her audience is told the story of Nemon and his family.

Nemon was born in Osijek, East Croatia, into a Jewish family, most of whom later perished in the Nazi holocaust. As a young man Nemon modelled in clay and took part in local exhibitions. He then won a Gold Medal in 1925 at the Academie des Beaux-Arts in Brussels. In his earlier years Nemon sculpted Sigmund Freud, Charles Lindbergh and King Albert I and Queen Astrid of Belgium.

It was Princess Marie Bonaparte who persuaded him to move to London in 1935, where he met his future wife, Patricia Villiers Stuart. One of his first British commissions was a bas relief of Sir Harry Brittain, founder of the Pilgrims, of whom he made a sculpture in 1972.



Sir Harry Brittain with the bas relief completed by Nemon for the Belgrade Exhibition

Nemon was given English lessons by Sir Max Beerhohm and was patronised by Sir John

Rothenstein, Director of the Tate Gallery and Sir Karl Parker, Keeper of the Department of Fine Art at the Ashmolean Museum. Nemon sculpted busts of King George VI, The Queen Mother, The Queen, Prince Philip and Earl Mountbatten.



Nemon with his bust of Churchill and Churchill's bust of Nemon

Nemon met Winston Churchill on a family holiday in Marrakesh in 1951. At the request of The Queen and in opposition to the Royal Academy and the art establishment, Churchill commissioned Nemon to produce a sculpture of him for display at Windsor Castle. Among other sculptures of Sir Winston, Nemon sculpted his statue at the Guildhall and the famous likeness in the Central Lobby of the House of Commons. Churchill returned the compliment by modelling a sculpture of Nemon's head, his only piece of sculpture.



Sir Harry Brittain in 1973, aged 100, with Nemon's sculpture

Nemon's other famous subjects included President Eisenhower, Viscount Montgomery, Lord Beaverbrook, Harold Macmillan and Margaret Thatcher. At the time of his death in 1985 he was starting work on a sculpture of Diana Princess of Wales.

SPRING RECEPTION AT DRAPERS' HALL

Pilgrims and guests attended a spring reception in the prestigious and splendid surroundings of Drapers' Hall on 30 April.



The Court Dining Room and (below) the Drawing Room

The Drapers' Company, incorporated by Royal Charter in 1438, is one of the Great Twelve Livery Companies in the City. Drapers' Hall featured prominently in *The King's Speech*. Guests were shown the Company's magnificent collection of Royal portraits and Herbert Draper's superb 1903-10 ceiling paintings of Shakespearian scenes in the Livery Hall, as well as the ceiling paintings in the Court Dining Room of *Jason and the Golden Fleece* by Felix Joseph-Barrias.



SAVE MAILING COSTS!

Postage rates rose in April 2012. If you have received hard copy of this newsletter and would prefer it electronically, please contact the office.

CHECK THE WEBSITE! www.pilgrimsociety.org

Some members have no access to the internet. For those with internet access, please apply to the office for login and password for the website.

VISITS TO STRAWBERRY HILL AND MARBLE HILL HOUSE

Two visits were made to Strawberry Hill, Twickenham and Marble Hill House, Richmond on 11 and 17 July.



Strawberry Hill was created over twenty years from 1750 by Horace Walpole, son of the first Prime Minister, with assistance from a 'Committee of Taste'. It is famous as Britain's finest example of Georgian Gothic revival architecture. The Strawberry Hill Trust, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, reopened the building in late 2010 following a £9 million restoration. After a guided tour and an excellent lunch, we travelled to Marble Hill House, to experience a sharply contrasting neo-classical style from which Walpole had broken free.



Marble Hill, a Palladian villa, is the first major house designed by Roger Morris and the 9th Earl of Pembroke for Henrietta Howard, Countess of Suffolk, and mistress of King George II when he was Prince of Wales. We were given details of Henrietta Howard's life at Court and admired the attractively detailed plasterwork, fine contemporary pictures and the handsome curved mahogany staircase before enjoying a cup of tea and returning to central London.

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES

Sir James Wolfensohn, former President of the World Bank, spoke to the Pilgrims of the United States on 25 January at the River Club.



James D Zirin, Sir James Wolfensohn and President Miner H Warner

Sir James was President of the World Bank Group 1995-2005. Under his leadership, the World Bank redoubled its efforts to combat corruption, give voice to clients living in poor communities and increase the return on development investments. Born in Australia, Sir James became a US citizen in 1980, and now lives in New York.

The 109th Annual Meeting took place on 1 May at the Union League Club. The Pilgrims of the United States medallion for service to the nation was presented to the Hon William J vanden Heuvel, former Deputy US Permanent Representative to the United Nations.



Hon Thomas H Kean and Hon William J vanden Heuvel

Ambassador vanden Heuvel is Chair Emeritus of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, and currently serves as Chairman and CEO of the FDR Four Freedoms Park LLC and the Four Freedoms Park Conservancy Inc.

Richard N Haass, President of the Council on Foreign Relations, spoke to the Pilgrims of the United States on 17 May at the River Club.



Richard N Haass, President Miner H Warner

Richard Haass became President of the Council of Foreign Relations in July 2003. Formerly he was director of planning policy for the US Department of State, where he was principal advisor to Secretary of State Colin Powell on a broad range of foreign policy concerns.

To celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen, the British Societies in New York held a choral evensong at St Thomas Church Fifth Avenue on Tuesday 5 June, followed by a reception at the Peninsula Hotel.



E Jean Ward, President, British Schools & Universities Club; James W Thomas, Past President, St David's Society of the State of New York; Jill Spiller, Executive Director, the Pilgrims of the United States; Keith M Taylor, Chairman, British Soldiers' Fund; Paul Beresford-Hill, Director-General, Mountbatten Institute; Vicki Downey, National President, Daughters of the British Empire; John Shannon, Executive Director, St George's Society of New York

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DOUGLAS HURD CALLS FOR AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE REFORM AND REPAIR OF WORLD INSTITUTIONS

The 2011 Annual Meeting was held in the US Embassy on 26 September, followed by the 18th Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture delivered by Lord Hurd of Westwell. Ambassador Louis Susman paid tribute to Lord Hurd's achievements as a diplomat, politician and statesman and his skills as a writer of novels and historical biographies. The Ambassador congratulated the Pilgrims on being the principal custodians of the Special Relationship, thereby assisting him in his job.



Ambassador Louis B Susman and Lord Hurd of Westwell

Lord Hurd highlighted the United States' initial involvement in world affairs at the time of the Treaty of Versailles and the formation of the League of

Nations. He had been mistaken in his belief that the Americans would assume leadership in the newly-changed modern world after the collapse of the communist regimes in Russia and Eastern Europe in 1989. He drew attention to the need to repair and reform the United Nations, and felt there should be specialised agencies to deal with climate change and a number of the other current world problems.

Lord Hurd had spent the previous weekend at the British Embassy in Rome, through whose garden runs the 2,000 year old Aurelian Aqueduct. The poor state of the aqueduct could be compared with the current state of world institutions.

Lord Hurd saw the United States' role in the Iraq War of 1990-91 as a textbook example of how to deal with a rogue state under a rogue leader, and how the Anglo-US relationship should work. He contrasted this with the Suez Crisis of 1956 when the relationship broke down temporarily and the Bosnian crisis of the 1990s when the relationship came under strain.

Despite the rise of China, with a recorded civilisation of over 5,000 years and set to be the world's richest nation by 2020, Lord Hurd argued strongly for reconstitution and reform of the key world institutions, with the USA in the main leadership role. He remained convinced that the USA, aided by its principal European allies, Britain, France and Germany, could fulfil this role.

Pilgrims' President Admiral Lord Boyce offered Lord Hurd a very warm vote of thanks.



Admiral Lord Boyce, Ronald M Freeman, Sir Peter Bottomley MP and Ian Barlow at the 2011 Annual Meeting

2011 YEAR END REVIEW

Qui tacet consentit

As the first full year of our responsibility for The Pilgrims Society ends, your reaction to a review of where we are seems timely and appropriate, against the backdrop of the Pilgrims more than one hundred year old Rules.

The object of the Society shall be the promotion of Anglo-American good fellowship – Rule II of the Rules of The Pilgrims Society.

The translation of this mandate into reality, as The Pilgrims Society is now configured, has three interdependent operational dimensions: Programme, Finance and Membership. We also believe that *good fellowship* implies good, two-way communication between Pilgrims and those of us responsible for the conduct of the Society. Now at year end and always, we invite your comments, suggestions, criticism and applause on any and all details of each of these three operating dimensions. Under Roman Law, a traditional rule was *Qui tacet consentit*. We do not share the Roman lawmakers' decision to impose arbitrary meaning on silence which is necessarily ambiguous. You can reach us by email or post via the Pilgrims' office – see p.8.

Programme

The Rules offer no guidance on the nature or content of our programme of events. For this, we use our own judgment.

Since the summer newsletter, varying groups of Pilgrims members have enjoyed a variety of events, as described in the pages of this newsletter. Our current schedule of forthcoming events appears on p.7.

Our Programme Committee chairman, Peter Bottomley, and our indefatigable Executive Secretary, Tessa Wells, welcome suggestions and comments. Our programme of events is one of the two major benefits offered by our Society. For the other, keep reading. (Hint: it appears under *Membership*.)

This year's events have been held in central London locations. We keep event duration reasonably short with a minimum time for opening and closing and a focus on a good meal and an interesting speaker. We have varied from past practice only in varying the identity of those charged with the introduction, saying grace and thanking our speaker.

Attendance has been consistent with prior years' events. No trend is visible from the data, suggesting that at least a subset of Pilgrims found the current year's programme as congenial as that of prior years. But, like silence, the non-attendance of Pilgrims is ambiguous. We always invite your suggestions and comments on all aspects of the programme.

Finances

The Honorary Treasurer shall at each annual meeting render a statement of the accounts which shall have been duly audited – Rule XII.

Our Honorary Treasurer, Ian Barlow, has kindly agreed to serve another term in this important function and we thank him for his service, past and future.

The price of events, carefully monitored by Ian Barlow, combined with the Pilgrims' recently increased dues of £40 per annum, have generated revenues which just cover our administrative expenses and keep the Pilgrims debt-free with a small cash cushion – no small achievement in these debt-plagued times. We keep our overheads as low as possible and are greatly assisted in this by not having a physical facility to maintain and by Ian Barlow's rigorous oversight of our financial health. The central London venues for our events charge us a rising but vigorously negotiated price for the non-lavish catering we request.

Again, we invite your feedback on the “standard of living” we have embraced.

Membership

The Society shall be composed of members of British and American nationality prominent in public or social life, science, art or literature – Rule V.

Prominence occupies a position in semantics between the subjective and the ineffable, eg a variation on Pope's *All looks yellow to the jaundiced eye* and US Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart's non-definition of pornography, *I know it when I see it*. The Rules are silent as to its meaning and also silent as to whether *prominence* is past, present or future. For our part, we find the company of our fellow Pilgrims agreeable, interesting and often stimulating. The Pilgrims we have had the opportunity to meet and speak with at length have invariably represented a broad spectrum of experience, interests and activities.

Therefore, we believe we are faithful to the Rules as we are currently constituted. As Robert Alston takes the chair of the Membership Committee we continue to seek new members consistent with Rule V, as well as members younger than our present average and also female members in their own right. We seek to do so with an application procedure more efficient and convenient than our current practice and will report to you on progress in the application process. Most importantly, as ever, we invite current members' suggestions of new applicants who qualify under Rule V. You know best who we will find both prominent and congenial.

As we opened with a Latin tag, we do so in closing: *Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?* In this case, the question mark belongs with Juvenal's quotation. We need your feedback, both for our guidance and for your benefit. Do let us hear from you.



Admiral Lord Boyce
President



Mr Ronald Freeman
Chairman, Executive Committee

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 2011



Sir John Holmes GCVO KBE CMG, who joined the Pilgrims in 2011, has been Director of the Ditchley Foundation since 2010. He was Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency

Relief Coordinator at the United Nations, New York 2007-10 following a distinguished career in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, when he served as Ambassador in Paris 2001-07 and Lisbon 1999-2001.



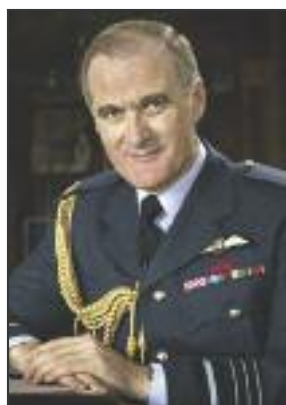
Lady Judge (Barbara) CBE, who has been a member since 1993, is Chairman of the UK Pension Protection Fund and has enjoyed a successful international career as a senior executive, chairman and non-

executive director in both the private and public sectors. She was Chairman of the Board of the UK Atomic Energy Authority 2004-10.



Alastair Macpherson of Pitmain, a member since 2005, was a partner in Ashurst Morris Crisp solicitors 1974-2003. He is currently Chairman of Boodle's and President of the Highland Society of

London. He served on the Transatlantic Council of BritishAmerican Business Inc 2001-02 and was a member of the Council of the National Trust for Scotland 2004-07.



Air Chief Marshal Lord Stirrup GCB AFC, who has been a member since 2004, was appointed Assistant Chief of the Air Staff in 1998 and Deputy Commander-in-Chief Strike Command and Commander of NATO's Combined Air Operations Centre 9 and Director of

the European Air Group in 2000. He became Chief of the Air Staff in 2003 and was Chief of the Defence Staff 2006-10.

Lady Judge and Lord Stirrup join the Membership Committee and Mr Macpherson of Pitmain joins the Finance Committee.

MARTIN BELL'S REFLECTIONS ON PRESENT-DAY CONFLICTS

During his time as a distinguished foreign correspondent for over thirty years, Martin Bell covered eleven conflicts and reported from eighty countries, including war zones in Vietnam, the Middle East, Nigeria, Angola and Northern Ireland. He was twice awarded the Royal Television Society's Reporter of the Year Award and has written several books, including a book of poetry, *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. He sat as an anti-sleaze independent MP for Tatton from 1997 to 2001, having defeated the Tory MP Neil Hamilton.



We were privileged that Martin Bell was the guest speaker at a dinner at the Savile Club on 11 October. After an introduction by Pilgrims' President, Admiral Lord Boyce, Martin Bell spoke about the Parliamentary expenses scandal and his time as BBC Washington correspondent during the Thatcher/Reagan years of the 1980s. He referred to the Bosnian conflict in which, of a total population of four million, 98,000 people died and two and a half million were displaced.

Afghanistan as a conflict zone was all too familiar to Britain. We had fought several wars there in the 19th century and Martin Bell quoted Field Marshal Sir Neville Bowles Chamberlain, a subaltern in the first Afghan war, who wrote home in 1878:

“Anyone who knows the native mind, whether Hindu or Mohammadan, must be alive to the fact that with all our desire to do justly and love mercy,

the great majority of the people would be glad to see us depart and would rejoice for a return to the state of things that we pride ourselves at having delivered them from.”

Martin Bell was of the opinion that we should not repeat history and make the same mistakes with the current Afghanistan conflict.

As a former war correspondent and current UNICEF Ambassador, Martin Bell believed that intervention in a country required certain basic tests: legality under the UN Charter, sufficient support on the home front and the full resource base to do the job. From *For Who the Bell Tolls*:

*They rhyme, they scan, and you can understand
Iraq, Afghanistan, now Libya too
I learned one lesson and I learned it well
Going to war's the easy thing to do
But getting out of it is hard as hell.*

When Martin Bell became an MP in 1997, it was significant that no-one on the Government benches and a very few on the Opposition benches had any real combat experience. He praised the contribution of the British military but stressed that winning hearts and minds was at least as important as winning a military battle:

*The operation's winning minds and hearts
Or so we're told until the shooting starts
And then the hovering Apaches smother the
Taliban or not with cannon fire
And bombs and shells and missiles of all kinds
Under the euphemism of air cover.
Collateral damage, once it was called spillage
Disintegrates another Afghan village
The casualties, both theirs and ours, rise higher
And all it is ever doing for hearts and minds
Is blowing them apart from one another*

At question time Martin Bell showed that he was far more than a *Battlefield Thug* by dealing skilfully with the Anglo-French intervention in Libya, the similarities between Vietnam and Afghanistan, the need for more independent-minded MPs, the role of the war correspondent and the killing of Osama Bin Laden.

Martin Bell was thanked very warmly by Sir Peter Bottomley, Chairman of the Programme Committee.

ANDREW MARR LAUDS HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Andrew Marr has had an outstanding career as a writer, broadcaster and political commentator. The author of several important books, he is highly visible on our television screens every week presenting *The Andrew Marr Show*, BBC One's agenda-setting interview programme. He has been chosen by the BBC to present flagship programmes for Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Year in 2012. His latest book, *The Diamond Queen – Elizabeth II and Her People*, pays tribute to a remarkable monarch, the oldest to sit on the British throne, who is set in September 2015 to break Queen Victoria's record as the longest-reigning sovereign.



At a luncheon held at St Stephen's Club on 15 November, Andrew Marr was introduced by Executive Committee member, Lord Janvrin. After some introductory references to his early years in journalism, Mr Marr observed that the British tend to take the monarchy for granted. Arguments against it always seem to come from the Republican side, despite the obvious fact that without a monarchy the country would be landed with a series of unsuccessful politicians filling the role of President. The Queen is a repository of knowledge, having met a multitude of the world leaders over the past sixty years and having had twelve Prime Ministers, from Churchill to Cameron, serve under Her.

Despite all the social advances made during The Queen's reign, Andrew Marr declared that we were still not a meritocratic society and that there was less social mobility than previously. The Queen fulfils a vital role in going around and meeting ordinary people who are the backbone of our society. Her Majesty does not have a shred of ego, and takes Her role with the utmost seriousness without believing that She is there by divine right.

She can represent us all in a way that an elected President never could. The Queen has also played a vital role in modernising the monarchy and making it fit for its purpose in the twenty-first century, in the same way that her grandfather King George V did in the twentieth century, starting with the name-change of dynasty from Hanover to Windsor in 1917. We all owe Her Majesty an enormous debt for Her exemplary service to the state and Her devotion to duty.

Following questions, Andrew Marr was thanked warmly by Executive Committee member, Robert Alston.

VISIT TO KING'S COLLEGE LONDON MAUGHAN LIBRARY

We are most grateful to fellow-Pilgrim, Professor Sir Richard Trainor, Principal of King's College London, and to his staff at the Maughan Library, for making possible a fascinating and informative visit to the Grade 2* listed building in Chancery Lane on 13 September. Formerly the Public Records Office, designed in 1847 by James Pennethorne, it was the first purpose-built home for the nation's records. The architect placed special emphasis on the use of natural light and, as a consequence of the fire that had destroyed the old Houses of Parliament, fire doors and other precautions were installed.



Members toured key parts of the Library including the Foyle Special Collections Library, with books signed by Benjamin Franklin and T S Eliot. *To Make A Good One Better; Translating The Bible* was the special exhibition in the former Rolls Chapel, marking the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible. It contained what is believed to be the only surviving copy of the first complete book of the Bible to be printed on North American soil.

CHRISTOPHER LOCKWOOD'S ASSESSMENT OF AMERICA'S PROSPECTS IN THE NEW AGE OF AUSTERITY

The Athenaeum was the venue for a most convivial Pilgrims' Thanksgiving Day luncheon on 24 November at which the guest speaker was Christopher Lockwood, US Editor of *The Economist*.



After an introduction by Executive Committee Member Sir Peter Bottomley, Christopher Lockwood began by examining the historical significance of the

Thanksgiving Day celebration, taking in the Mayflower Pilgrims and the Indian tribes of Massachusetts, Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War, as well as Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal. America had always been good at adapting to changing circumstances and to difficult situations.

The US was currently \$15 trillion in debt, increasing by \$1.2 trillion a year. The US was confronted with the perennial dilemma of having to take care of a wide range of people and at the same time levy low taxes. The US Government was currently raising 15% of GDP but spending about 25% of GDP, about which Democrats and Republicans were engaged in continual conflict.

When it came to the American political and electoral system, money was the key factor. Politicians spent most of their time campaigning and fund-raising, with an average of \$10 million needed for a successful Senate campaign. He believed that the Primary system had encouraged polarisation. Relatively few seats in both Houses changed hands in US Elections, with Primary voters having great influence on the outcome. The filibuster was still used in the Senate as a means of blocking or preventing legislation. Medium wages had been stagnant for almost three decades and any economic growth in this period was very much to the benefit of the highly-paid and very wealthy.

Health insurance and education costs were increasing steadily. As in the UK, young people leaving college in the US were burdened with heavy debts. It was alarming to recognise that half the children in the US reach the age of eighteen with divorce in the family. The unemployment rate of 9% was in reality about double this if the number of people in part-time employment was taken into account. Moreover, a recent poll showed that 75% of Americans thought that the country was on the wrong track.

Mr Lockwood concluded by looking at the factors which worked in favour of the United States – a population of over 300 million which was increasing without the age problem besetting other countries; dynamism within the fifty individual States of the Union and technological factors working in America's favour. The US currently dominated industries that will dominate the 21st Century, above all software and all other areas of scientific research. Despite the current era of austerity, America still had a very bright future provided it could continue to re-invent itself and use its vast technological resources to the best effect.

Christopher Lockwood was thanked warmly by Executive Committee member, David Skidmore, and presented with the customary Pilgrims' tie and official history by Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS (Elected September 2010)

Douglas Black

Mrs Yvonne Cannell

Mrs Elizabeth Holmes

Robert F Mabon Jr

Professor Anthony Mellows OBE TD

Richard Meredith

General Sir Michael Rose
KCB CBE DSO QGM DL

Mrs Jean Tammenoms Bakker

Andrew Watt

*Membership application forms are
available from the office*

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Thursday 26 January, 6.30 pm

Reflections: Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL

Reflections: "Special and Essential"

Royal Overseas League, Park Place, SW1A 1LR

Tuesday 7 February, 7.15 for 7.45 pm

Dinner with

Sir Peter Westmacott KCMG LVO

Carlton Club, 69 St James's Street, SW1A 1PJ

Black tie

Thursday 21 June, 6.30 pm

**Special dinner at the Tower of London with
Sir Roy Strong**

To be followed by the Ceremony of the Keys
Black tie

**Wednesday 11 July and Thursday 17 July
Visits to Strawberry Hill House
and Marble Hill House**

9.00 am departure from central London

Monday 1 October

**Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain
Memorial Lecture**

American Embassy, Grosvenor Square

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES

Wall Street Journal columnist, Peggy Noonan, spoke to the Pilgrims of the United States on 20 September at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



*Ms Peggy Noonan, President Miner H Warner
and James D Zirin*

Ms Noonan's essays have appeared in *Forbes*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The Washington Post*, and *The New York Times*, to name a few. She was nominated for Emmy Awards for the writing of a post-9/11 television special, and for her television drama *The West Wing*. She is the best-selling author of eight books on American politics, history and culture. Her first book, *What I Saw at the Revolution*, was called, by *Time* magazine, "a love letter to the American political process".

Ms Noonan is a member of the board of the Manhattan Institute. From 1984 to 1986 she was Special Assistant to US President Ronald Reagan, and in 1988 she was chief speech writer for George Bush when he ran for the Presidency.

Owing to his busy overseas schedule, John Studzinski is no longer available on 7 February. We are delighted that Sir Peter Westmacott will be speaking at dinner that evening instead.

Having served as Ambassador in Paris since 2007, Sir Peter replaces Sir Nigel Sheinwald as Ambassador in Washington in January 2012.

IN MEMORIAM

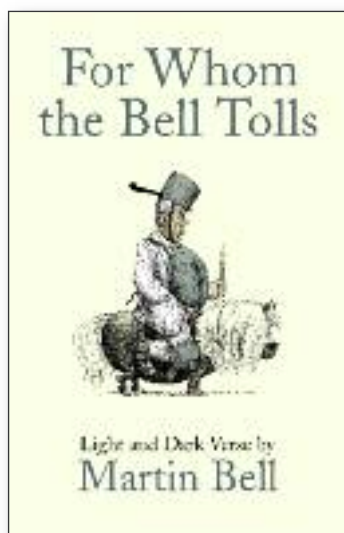
Major General Giles H Mills CB CVO OBE
Harold H Sebag-Montefiore

PILGRIMS' WEBSITE www.pilgrimsociety.org

Some members have no access to the internet. For those with internet access, please apply to the office for login and password for the website.

To save postage and mailing costs, please confirm by email that you would be happy to receive mailings electronically.

If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter and would prefer to download the newsletter or read it on-line, please contact the office.

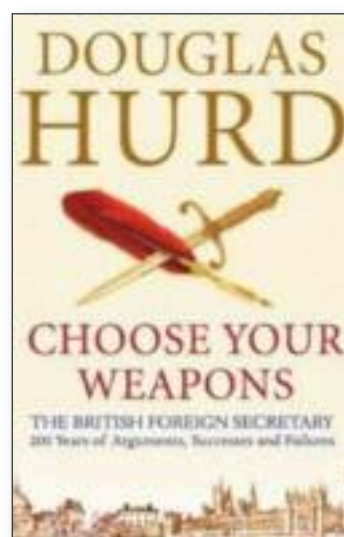
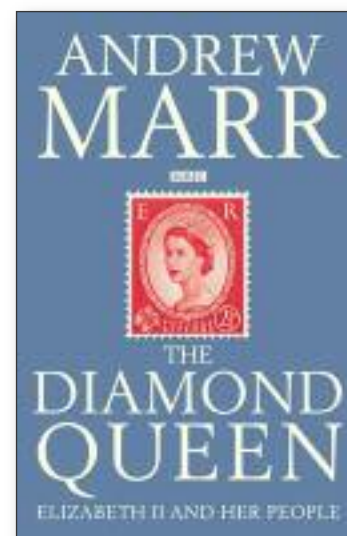


Martin Bell OBE has been many things – a war reporter, an independent MP and UNICEF ambassador. But, as his new book reveals, he’s also a talented poet. This light and dark collection of poetry is a funny, honest and often moving account of Martin’s life and experiences.

Topical, timely and with Bell’s irrepressible voice, *For Whom The Bell Tolls* is the perfect poetry companion from the man convinced that ‘life begins at three score years and ten.’

*Sir Peter Bottomley MP
Chairman of the Programme Committee*

“Andrew Marr’s absorbing new book leaves no doubt about the pivotal role played by The Queen herself ... As a leading broadcaster, Marr has been able to watch The Queen at first hand, and the more he has seen of Her the more impressed he has become. As you would expect, he is particularly acute on the political aspects of constitutional monarchy, but he also writes perceptively about individual members of the Royal Family, notably Prince Philip”. (*Mail on Sunday*)



“Douglas Hurd has done the impossible ... he has produced a page-turning book about the history of British foreign policy.” (Denis MacShane, *The Independent*)

“Hurd elegantly profiles eleven British Foreign Secretaries ... Written with a lightness of touch despite its serious message, one only hopes David Miliband buys a copy.” (*GQ*)

“Highly readable ... I enjoyed *Choose Your Weapons* immensely, particularly the magnificently colourful account of the Bevin and Eden years ... it is also a timely book ... Any future Foreign Secretary would be well advised to read this engrossing book on their first day in office.” (Jack Straw, *The Observer*)

“One of the great achievements of this thoughtful and elegant book is to emphasise the thread of continuity running through British foreign policy from the age of Napoleon to the cold war ... a book of great authority and insight.” (Dominic Sandbrook, *The Sunday Times*)

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LORD STIRRUP OFFERS HIS CONCEPT OF MILITARY STRATEGY FOR THE SECOND DECADE OF THE 21st CENTURY

On 5 January Pilgrims and guests made a welcome return to the newly-refurbished Savoy (closed for almost three years between 2007 and 2010), the venue for some of the most notable Pilgrims events for over a century.



The guest speaker was Air Chief Marshal Lord Stirrup, former Chief of the Defence Staff. During a 40-year career with the RAF Lord Stirrup gained a reputation as a lateral thinker and as someone who could not just see the big picture but also the full picture in terms of overall military strategy with all its implications and consequences. Admiral Lord Boyce, President of the Pilgrims, paid full tribute to Lord Stirrup's ability and achievements as a top military commander.

Lord Stirrup always tried to look forward rather than backward but he wondered who could have predicted 9/11/2001, Afghanistan, Iraq and a huge international financial crisis from the vantage point of 1999/2000. He saw strategy in terms of defining a destination and the resources you needed to get there - it was essential always to be clear about the ultimate objective –

making reference to the Battle of Long Island/Brooking Heights in the American War of Independence and the Battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812.

Learning from the lessons of history was of vital importance and Lord Stirrup posed the key questions of how we should try to avoid strategic traps in the 21st century and where our true national interest should lie. He believed in a bedrock of economic strength and clear political purpose, combined with a true sense of moral purpose. All three were essential if a successful national strategy was to be pursued. He referred to the defence cuts of the previous year, brought about as a result of the dire economic situation, and declared firmly that when the economic recovery was complete there must be proper re-investment in the armed forces.

We were engaged in a never-ending battle of ideas and needed armed forces to deal with threats to our national security. Lord Stirrup advocated strategic flexibility across both the political and military spectra and stressed the importance of the role of the recently-established National Security Council. Flexibility was crucial in terms of being able to respond to the unexpected. Having run down our stock of power with the recent defence cuts, we must seek to rebuild it in terms of both economic and military power. As a country we must at all costs avoid finding ourselves with insufficient means to pursue a credible and cohesive strategy.

At question-time Lord Stirrup distinguished himself with the clarity and vision contained in his answers and he was thanked warmly by Pilgrims Vice-President Sir Robert Worcester.

IN MEMORIAM

George B Adams

Andrew Dalton

The Hon Sir Desmond Fennell OBE

Professor Richard Holmes CBE TD JP

Julian B Paul

John B Sunley

Sir Ronald Waterhouse GBE

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE CHAIRMAN

Since we reported to you in the winter newsletter, we are pleased to announce good progress on some of the subjects we covered in that message.

The Pilgrims' activities programme has continued at its intended pace, confirming the smooth passing of the leadership baton by Field Marshal Lord Inge and Sir Robert Worcester to the two of us, for which we thank them sincerely. Attendance at Pilgrims' functions has been good and events, under the keen-eyed management of Ian Barlow and Tessa Wells, have covered their costs, collectively if not always individually. With Sir Peter Bottomley as new chair of the Programme Committee, we have a vigorous slate of functions ahead, see page 4.

As developing future activities is an on-going and indeed essential function, the Programme Committee welcomes members' suggestions as to future programme subjects, speakers and visits, especially those suggestions that you can actually assist in implementing.

We are delighted to have found a safe and distinguished venue for the storage of the Pilgrims' collection of silver. Thanks to the good offices of our Honorary Secretary, Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, the Drapers' Company have generously agreed to store the Pilgrims' silver in their vault with their collection, where it will be on view to some visitors to Drapers' Hall.

Members' understanding of and support for the recent subscription increase has been most gratifying. The Executive Committee will continue to ensure that the subscription level represents good value.

Membership now stands at 1,074. Under Lord Jopling's chairmanship, the Membership Committee has eased the application process by considering applications four times each year rather than the previous two. We will continue to examine the mechanics of the application process, possibly by having it conform more closely to contemporary trends in which the visit to the computer keyboard so often replaces the walk to the post office.

The list of new members appears on page 8. We particularly note the arrival of younger new members as the best guarantee of the Pilgrims' future vitality.

We thank the Executive Committee members who will be retiring at the forthcoming Annual Meeting at the end of their six-year terms of office – Lord Jopling, Sir Christopher Meyer, Lady Reid and Lord Robertson of Port Ellen. Candidates for election to the Executive Committee in their place will be brought before the Annual Meeting.

Finally, we thank members who have expressed their support to us by word and by deed as we assumed responsibility for Pilgrims' leadership. Leading the Pilgrims into its second century is an honour we recognise and embrace, with full awareness that the past is no guarantor of the future, and that the value and the pleasure of Pilgrims' membership resides in your interest in and support for its purpose and the Pilgrims Society's ability to illuminate interesting aspects of ever-evolving life in, and the relationship between, the United States and Great Britain.



Admiral Lord Boyce
President



Mr Ronald Freeman
Chairman, Executive Committee

SIR JAMES WOLFENSOHN PRESENTS A WORLD VIEW OF THE FUTURE



Sir James Wolfensohn held the Presidency of the World Bank Group from 1995 to 2005 during which time he visited over 120 countries to deal with such

ROBIN NIBLETT GIVES AN OVERVIEW OF CURRENT BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY SET AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD SCENE

global issues as poverty, the environment, debt reduction, anti-corruption programmes and AIDS prevention/treatment. He also found time to tackle such matters as religion and culture and to act as a Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement for the Quartet on the Middle East. His CV and his remarkable autobiography, *A Global Life*, would make most international bankers appear parochial. Sir James was, therefore, a wholly appropriate fourteenth Pilgrims' *Reflections* Lecturer, at the Inner Temple Hall on 2 February.

Sir James noted how much had changed over the past fifteen years. Not so long ago the USA and Europe represented 90% of world GDP, with the G7 countries alone having 65% of world GDP. In 2000 one billion people had 80% of world GDP, while the remaining five billion people had 20%. In the late 1940s China and India had less than 2% of world GDP. By now these two nations have at least 10% of world GDP and by 2050 China and India will account for 50% of world GDP. The balance of world economic power is now shifting to Asia, requiring massive readjustment for the successor generations in Western countries. By contrast, in 2050 Africa will have two billion people with a relatively low per capita income. World population overall will increase from seven billion now to nine billion in 2050.

Sir James gave a relatively short address to allow for a longer question time in which such topics as the rise of China and Brazil featured prominently. Africa's place in global security was also put under the spotlight, with some 750,000 ethnic Chinese working there and exploiting the vast resources of that continent. Sir James believed we should be granting scholarships for our students to study in China and India. He believed that grave dangers could arise in the Middle East, especially with the ousting of Mubarak from power, and that Turkey, given its unique geographical and cultural position, should be accepted as a bridge between East and West. Sir James felt that events were working in President Obama's favour. At present there was no credible Republican standard-bearer willing to oppose him in 2012, but he would have to deal successfully with the problem of unemployment to be absolutely sure of retaining office.

Ronald Freeman, Pilgrims' Chairman, thanked Sir James Wolfensohn very warmly for a *Reflections* lecture which looked to the future rather than the past and gave the audience much food for thought.



At a Pilgrims' luncheon held at the Savile Club on 15 June, Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman introduced Dr Robin Niblett, Director of Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs) as the guest speaker. Dr Niblett has a great reputation as an expert on world affairs, both as a speaker who commands immediate attention and respect, and as a writer.

Dr Niblett referred to the changing world scene, with shifts of economic power from West to East and from North to South, and with the emergence of the G20 as a major international forum. As a result, British foreign policy was undergoing changes of direction and emphasis. At the top of the foreign policy agenda were open markets and economic growth and the over-riding importance of commercial diplomacy. The present government was also seeking to re-balance bilateral relationships, in particular easing back on its relationship with the USA. David Cameron had avoided using the phrase 'special relationship', although a joint UK/American National Security Committee was being set up. Relations with countries such as China, India, Russia, Brazil and Indonesia were being given greater emphasis and there was now a big focus on overseas development aid.

On the economic front, exports had increased and imports had gone down, but the bulk of British exports were still going to Europe and the USA. Britain was the second largest services exporter after

the USA but we still needed EU leverage to open up such key markets as China and India. Dr Niblett warned of the real risks attached to moving to an *à la carte* relationship with the USA, where different priorities were in place. The USA was moving more towards a Pacific orientation, focussing on such countries as China and India at the expense of Britain and Europe. Moreover, the UK and USA did not necessarily share the same views on topics such as Afghanistan, Israel/Palestine and Libya, not to mention the impact of the so-called Arab Spring on a country like Saudi Arabia.

Dr Niblett was questioned on the impact of the recent British defence cuts; the European contribution to NATO; the adjustment of British commitments to our capabilities, and the expansion of foreign aid at the expense of cuts in other areas such as defence, with a target of 0.7% of GDP being spent on foreign aid. When asked about Britain and Europe, Dr Niblett felt that neither the Norway nor NAFTA options were feasible or viable so far as Britain was concerned.

The Chairman of the Membership Committee, Lord Jopling, delivered a very warm vote of thanks to Robin Niblett and presented him with the customary Pilgrims' book and tie.

SPRING RECEPTION AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS



Pilgrims and their guests were treated to a most enjoyable Spring Reception in the congenial surroundings of the Cholmondeley Room and Terrace of the House of Lords on 4 May. Members and guests were received by Pilgrims' President Admiral Lord Boyce, our host for the event, and Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman.

A very pleasant evening was undoubtedly helped by perfect weather conditions.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Tuesday 13 September, 6.00 – 8.00 pm
Visit to the Maughan Library,
King's College London

Monday 26 September from 5.30
Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain
Memorial Lecture

Lord Hurd of Westwell CH CBE
The Power and the Will
Embassy of the United States,
Grosvenor Square

Tuesday 11 October, 7.15 for 7.45 pm
Dinner with Martin Bell OBE
Dartmouth House, 37 Charles Street, W1J 5ED
Black tie

Tuesday 15 November, 12.15 for 12.45 pm
Luncheon with Andrew Marr
Diamond Queen: Elizabeth II and Her People
St Stephen's Club, 34 Queen Anne's Gate

Thursday 24 November, 12.15 for 12.45 pm
Thanksgiving Luncheon
Christopher Lockwood, US Editor,
The Economist
The Athenæum, 107 Pall Mall

Thursday 26 January, 6.30 pm
Reflections: Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL
Reflections: Special and Essential
Royal Overseas League, Park Place, SW1A 1LR

Tuesday 7 February, 7.15 for 7.45 pm
Dinner with John Studzinski CBE
Carlton Club, 69 St James's Street, SW1A 1PJ
Black tie

Thursday 21 June, 6.30 pm
Special dinner at the Tower of London
To be followed by the Ceremony of the Keys

OLYMPIC PARK VIEWING GALLERY

On 6 June and 13 June the Pilgrims were given two opportunities to visit the Olympic Park Viewing Gallery on the 22nd floor of Holden Point in Stratford. The 1,500 acre Olympic and Paralympic site looked most impressive and the panoramic view took in the Olympic Village, Olympic Stadium, Aquatic Centre, the Fencing, Basketball and Hockey Centres, the Velopark and Media Centre, as well as Stratford International Rail Link.

We are most grateful to the staff at the London Borough of Newham for providing an excellent commentary on current developments at the site.

TERRY WAITE OFFERS HIS OWN UNIQUE UNDERSTANDING OF HOSTAGE-TAKING

Fellow Pilgrim Terry Waite's fortitude, faith and resilience during his captivity of 1,763 days marked him out as a truly remarkable person. The Pilgrims offered a platform to this charismatic figure at a special luncheon held at the Athenæum on 18 May.



After an introduction by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Chairman of the Programme Committee, Terry Waite divided hostage-taking into two main categories, prime political interest and ransom.

Some 650 people were still being held hostage by Somali pirates, and he also cited Nigeria, where there was considerable hostage-taking involving the oil companies and where widespread corruption would allow this state of affairs to continue.

In cases of political hostage-taking, Terry Waite saw the main problem as establishing the identity of the hostage-takers and being able to meet them. It was then a question of building up a relationship of trust and resolving the situation without violence, breach of law or the lowering of ethical standards. By way of illustration, he made reference to his own hostage negotiations in Iran and Libya and his period of captivity in the Lebanon in which he endured beatings, mock executions and long periods in darkness chained to a wall.

Terry Waite dealt with questions on how to avoid hating his hostage-takers and on what he said to hostages left behind. The vote of thanks was delivered with eloquence and sensitivity by Sir Peter Marshall.

SIR WINFRIED BISCHOFF OFFERS SUPPORT TO HIS FELLOW BANKERS WHILE RECOGNISING THE LESSONS OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS

Sir Win Bischoff is a leading figure in the world of banking. His CV says it all – Schroders, Citigroup Europe and Citigroup Inc, culminating in the Chairmanship of Lloyds Banking Group. He is Chairman of the Advisory Council of The City UK – the official body set up to promote the financial and associated professional services industry of the UK – and with the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alistair Darling, he was co-Chairman of the Report *UK International Financial Services – the Future* published in May 2009



Sir Win was welcomed warmly by Pilgrims' President Admiral Lord Boyce at a Luncheon held at the Savile Club on 3 March. Sir Win paid tribute to the work of the Pilgrims, echoing Churchill's remarks about a fraternal association of English-speaking peoples. He admitted that banks have never been loved and that people still felt let down, more than three years after the financial crash. He emphasised that banks wanted to keep on the right side of the customer and that no bank wanted to turn down loan applications without very good reason. Project Merlin was providing funds of £1.2 billion as credit for new business with the principal aim of boosting regional growth and the concept of the Big Society.

Regulation was at the heart of the banking sector with its main objective of promoting customer confidence, but such regulation could be counter-productive. Banks must have sound risk management practices, yet some institutions, which have emerged relatively unscathed from the

financial crisis, have been unwilling to adopt such strict measures. London's position in the international financial community could not be taken for granted. Sir Win was emphatic about the importance of London as a wealth-generator, remaining well placed to play its full role in the UK financial recovery. The banking sector had a long tradition of change – cash machines, credit cards, debit cards and on-line banking – and these changes had not been forced by the financial crisis or by governmental interference. Bankers had learnt their lessons from the financial crisis in terms of over-extension and too much free credit, but Sir Win wondered whether the politicians and regulators had learnt their lessons.

Sir Win faced questions on cheque-book replacement, the 2009 Report, a full inquiry into the credit-crunch, gender diversity in the board-room with 30% female participation as a realistic goal, Lloyds' development strategy over the next few years and the threat by a number of banks to leave Britain because of over-regulation and heavy corporation tax.

Sir Win, the bankers' banker, received a very warm vote of thanks from Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman.

PROFESSOR ALI ASANI PLACES ISLAM IN ITS PROPER CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT



On 10 March Pilgrims and guests were given the opportunity of being addressed by a leading Islamic scholar at a special meeting held at the Carlton Club. Professor Ali Asani, Professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic Religion and Cultures at Harvard University and Associate Director of the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Programme, has sought for over thirty years to help

other people achieve a better understanding of the rich subtext and diverse influences behind the religion of Islam.

Professor Asani challenged the media stereotype of the Islamic fundamentalist and terrorist who is totally intolerant of other religions and laid the blame for this inaccurate image at the door of the widespread global illiteracy about religion and culture. He believed that education was incomplete without a study of comparative religion and its full historical background, and that the present school curricula do not equip students to think about religion in a critical way. Religious illiteracy had helped foster a dangerous climate. The American example emphasised this. Democracy cannot function when ignorance breeds fear of fellow-citizens because of racial and religious differences.

Professor Asani examined the current situation in the Middle East where authoritarian regimes were propped up by the use of force. Religious and cultural illiteracy strips nations of their humanity. Western and Islamic religions share common historical and cultural concepts of both the Old and New Testaments – the Virgin Mary is mentioned more times in the Koran than in the Bible. Yet Islamophobia had spread all over the Western world and indeed in certain American circles it was considered almost patriotic. Professor Asani stressed that religion is a phenomenon deeply imbedded in the dimensions and contexts of human experience and that it requires multiple lenses through which to understand the nature of its complexity.

At question-time Professor Asani dealt with several contentious topics: the problems of promoting religious literacy in Europe because of the intelligentsia's inherent hostility to religion; the best ways of spending aid money in Afghanistan; the control of religion by Arab nation states for their own purposes; Islam's compatibility with democracy and Islam's attitude towards women. Professor Asani also commented on Pope Benedict's description of Islam as a "violent" religion, where the Pope was speaking on a faith basis.

Ronald Freeman, Chairman of the Pilgrims, offered a very warm vote of thanks to Professor Asani and echoed the thoughts and sentiments of all those present, who were grateful for the opportunity to hear from a leading Islamic scholar at a time of great worldwide turbulence, in which religious illiteracy played a major role.

VISIT TO CHARTWELL AND SQUERRYES COURT

Our annual outing took us into the Kent countryside, to Chartwell and Squerryes Court, Westerham, on 15 July.



Chartwell, bought by Sir Winston Churchill in 1922 for its magnificent views over the Weald of Kent, and presented to the National Trust during his lifetime by a group of his friends, was his home and the place from which he drew inspiration until the end of his life. The rooms remain much as they were when he lived there, with pictures, books and personal mementoes evoking his career and wide-ranging interests, and many of Churchill's paintings can be seen in the Studio.

The hillside gardens reflect Churchill's love of the landscape and nature. They include the lakes he created, Lady Churchill's Rose Garden and the kitchen garden. The National Trust has embarked on a programme of work to restore the walled kitchen garden, which was a source of recreation for Churchill, who over a period of about seven years enjoyed building parts of the surrounding brick walls in his spare time.



After lunch at Chartwell we visited Squerryes Court, the home of the Warde family since 1731. This beautiful 17th century manor house has an outstanding garden in a parkland setting and was the location for the 2009 BBC adaptation of Jane

Austen's *Emma*. Squerryes Court houses an interesting collection of old master paintings from the Dutch, English and Italian schools of the 17th and 18th centuries as well as some remarkable English tapestries from the early 18th century.

We are indebted to Alice Martin, House and Collections Manager, and her staff at Chartwell, and to Mr and Mrs John Warde and their staff at Squerryes Court, for making our visits most enjoyable. In addition, we had the advantage of perfect weather conditions.

A visit to Strawberry Hill House is planned for July 2012, and further details will be available in due course.

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES

His Excellency Shaukat Aziz, who as Prime Minister of Pakistan 2004-07 presided over impressive economic growth and became the first Prime Minister to complete a full term in office, spoke to the US Pilgrims on 2 January.



Sir Mark Lyall Grant receiving the Pilgrims' certificate of appreciation from US President Miner H Warner

Sir Mark Lyall Grant, UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations since November 2009, addressed members on 9 February.



The Hon Paul Volcker with Miner H Warner

At the 108th Annual Meeting luncheon on 4 April, long-standing member and Vice President of the Executive Committee, Hon Paul A Volcker, was presented with the Pilgrims of the United States Medallion for Service to the Nation.



James D Zirin, Miner H Warner and Frank G Wisner

The Hon Frank G Wisner, former United States Ambassador to Egypt and Executive Committee member, was the speaker on 27 April, providing a brilliant country-by-country overview of the Middle Eastern region.

RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION



On 4 July, in front of a crowd of nearly 2,000 including George Osborne, Dr Liam Fox, Iain Duncan Smith, Eric Pickles and a delegation of United States Congressmen and Senators, a statue of President Reagan was unveiled in Grosvenor Square. The Foreign Secretary William Hague, former United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, United States Ambassador Louis B Susman, United States Congressman Kevin McCarthy and former US Ambassador Robert H Tuttle all spoke at the ceremony, which was followed by a celebration in Grosvenor Square with the US Army Europe Band.

That evening a celebration dinner for 700 was held at the Guildhall. William Hague, Condoleezza Rice, Liam Fox, and Ambassador Tuttle reflected further on the legacy of President Reagan and Baroness Thatcher and their role in ending the Cold War and securing freedom for millions around the world.

NEW MEMBERS ELECTED FEBRUARY AND MAY 2011

Abdul Bhanji
 Christopher Clark
 Mrs Catherine Clark
 Benjamin Corah
 Dr Alexis Crow
 Mrs Penny Egan
 Ms Susanna Fitzgerald QC
 Dr Kenneth Gray
 Very Revd Dr John Hall
 The Hon Robert Hepburne Scott
 Professor Steven Hirsch
 Sir John Holmes GCVO KBE CMG
 William Kerr
 Naguib Kheraj
 Kenneth Leet
 Mrs Melissa Leet
 Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross CMG
 Noel G H Manns
 Brian McBride
 Reid Miles
 The Hon Sara Morrison
 Nigel Newton
 Rupert Phelps
 Sir Francis Richards KCMG CVO DL
 Dame Marjorie Scardino DBE
 David R Simpson
 Mrs Claire Smith
 Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope GCB OBE ADC
 Mrs David Suratgar
 Robert Swannell
 Mrs Susan Walton
 Stephen L Waterhouse
 Sir James Wolfensohn KBE OA
 Lady Wolfensohn

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

The 4th of July was celebrated at the Royal Hospital Chelsea by both the British Friends and the newly-founded American Friends of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, which was launched in New York in June. Its programme, *The Prime Minister Scholar*, will send six American students to Oxford for a year to study 20th Century Anglo American relations.

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 Newsletter Editor: Christopher Robson



NEW PRESIDENT OF THE PILGRIMS



At the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting held on 27 September, Admiral the Lord Boyce GCB OBE DL was elected President of the Pilgrims in succession to Field Marshal Lord Inge, who was standing down having been in post since 2002

Following a distinguished Naval career, Lord Boyce was Chief of the Defence Staff between 2001-03, and was appointed Lord Warden and Admiral of the Cinque Ports and Constable of Dover Castle in 2004. He is a keen sportsman and follower of opera and ballet.

NEW CHAIRMAN

Ronald M Freeman succeeded Sir Robert Worcester at the Annual Meeting, Sir Robert retiring as Chairman of the Pilgrims having been in post since 1993.



Ronald Freeman is a dual US/UK national and has been a member of the Pilgrims since 1995. A lawyer, he was previously head of the banking department of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and managing director and co-chief executive of Salomon Smith Barney. He now serves on several corporate and NGO boards of directors.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE CHAIRMAN

Field Marshal Lord Inge and Sir Robert Worcester elected to retire as President of The Pilgrims Society and Chairman of the Executive Committee, respectively, at the annual meeting.

On 16 November 2010, past and present members of the Executive Committee joined us at the Parliament Chamber of the Inner Temple to thank Lord Inge and Sir Robert for their respective eight and seventeen years of distinguished leadership of the Pilgrims Society. Under their direction, the Pilgrims have grown in number and have enjoyed annual programmes of distinguished speakers, visits and trips which they have organised for us and which have given us the occasion to enjoy each other's company and broad range of interests. Neither of your current President and Chairman anticipates exceeding our predecessors' term in office, but the example of their leadership will serve as a constant inspiration to us both.



We were delighted that Peter Inge and Bob Worcester both agreed to become Vice Presidents as they continue as members of the Pilgrims.

We were a bit overwhelmed as Bob added to seventeen years of his very generous contribution of time and effort by giving the Pilgrims a beautiful parting gift. This is a George III presentation two-handled silver cup, made in 1802, exactly 100 years before the founding of the Pilgrims. Bob's very kind gift will join the Pilgrims' small but much valued collection of three commemorative silver bowls (see p.2), that mark key dates in the history of our Society.

I am certain all Pilgrims join us in expressing our appreciation to Peter and Bob for their efforts on our behalf. Should you wish to add a personal word of thanks to them, you can do so by contacting Tessa Wells at her new office address (see p.3).



With the support of the Executive Committee, Peter and Bob passed their responsibilities to the two of us. We accepted on the understanding that the Executive Secretary, Tessa Wells, would continue in her indispensable role and agreed that we would endeavour, to the best of our abilities, to carry on the Pilgrims' traditions as embodied in our century-old Rules, especially the one of "promotion of Anglo-American good fellowship".

Among those traditions is this periodic Pilgrims Newsletter which we will continue to publish. In a concession to modernity and to the need always to watch costs, we will rely increasingly on email for distribution of the Newsletter and other written communication with our fellow Pilgrims. Thank you for responding to the recent questionnaire on this subject. Further details about the Pilgrims' website will be sent when available.

Before electing to retire, Bob Worcester and Peter Inge very kindly organised several "post-retirement" events to keep the Pilgrims' programme moving forward. These included lunch with Philip Ziegler talking about his biography of Sir Edward Heath; a panel discussion on the US Mid-Term Elections; dinner with Sir John Holmes; a return visit to the Supreme Court, and dinner with Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup on 5 January. We have maintained the normal pace of Pilgrims' programmes by adding to these "Worcester-Inge events" several others scheduled for winter 2010-11 including James Wolfensohn, former Chairman of the World Bank, giving the *Reflections* lecture on 2 February and luncheon with Sir Winfried Bischoff on 3 March. We will look forward to seeing you at these events.

We held a Thanksgiving lunch at the Savile Club on 25 November at which our guest of honour was the Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.

Those Pilgrims who joined our visit to Westminster Abbey on 10 September 2009 will remember the Dean's kindness and also his erudition as he personally escorted us around the Abbey. The Thanksgiving lunch had slipped from our calendar of annual events in recent years. We shall try again to make it an annual fixture.

An important element of our responsibility is to ensure the continued financial health of the Pilgrims while not making excessive demands on the patience and the pockets of our members. We are delighted that our Honorary Treasurer, Ian Barlow, has agreed to continue to guide our finances with the attention to detail and solid judgement that belies the "Honorary" part of his title. Our financial modus operandi has been to cover ongoing overheads with annual dues and to make each event self-financing. These simple rules have kept the Pilgrims both liquid and solvent, debt-free and without financial or operational liabilities. We even enjoy a small and jealously guarded cash surplus.

But even with the benefits of Ian's guidance and Tessa's ability to secure attractive venues for us at keenly negotiated fees, upward cost pressures are making themselves felt. In response to these pressures, the Executive Committee will examine whether our annual dues, held constant at £25 per annum for the last seven years, need to be increased to cover our overheads. We can assure you that we will be attentive to all Pilgrims' concerns, including our own, for the rising cost of living. We will report back to you with the result of the Executive Committee's deliberations on these matters and seek your support for its conclusions.

In closing, we again thank Lord Inge and Sir Robert for all they have done for the Pilgrims and we thank you for your support of our Society.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Admiral Lord Boyce".

Admiral Lord Boyce
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mr Ronald Freeman".

Mr Ronald Freeman,
Chairman, Executive Committee

NEW HONORARY SECRETARY



Sir Michael Craig-Cooper CBE TD DL has succeeded our new Chairman as Hon Secretary.

Sir Michael completes his term as Vice Lord-Lieutenant for Greater London in January 2011.

He is a Director of the National Bank of Kuwait (International) PLC, a member of the

Court of the Drapers' Company and is active with many other bodies, including the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

NEW VICE PRESIDENTS

Following their retirement at the Annual Meeting as President and Chairman respectively, Field Marshal the Right Hon the Lord Inge KG GCB DL and Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL were elected Vice Presidents of the Pilgrims.



*Field Marshal
Lord Inge*



*Sir Robert
Worcester*

IN MEMORIAM

The Rt Hon the Lord Bingham of Cornhill KG
Ivor Binney

G Nicholas Corah OBE DL

The Rt Hon the Lord Lyell of Markyate QC
Jeffrey F Ruzicka

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SEPTEMBER 2010

At the Annual Meeting nine members were elected to membership of the Executive Committee: Mr Robert Alston CMG DL, Mr Peter Bottomley MP, the Right Hon the Lord Clarke of Stone-cum-Ebony, Ambassador John J Danilovich, Mr Kenneth W Gardener, the Right Hon the Lord Janvrin GCB KCVO, Mrs Deborah Owen, David Skidmore OBE FRCS and Ms Barbara Stephenson.



*Robert
Alston*



*Peter
Bottomley MP*



*Lord Clarke of
Stone-cum-Ebony*



*Ambassador
John J. Danilovich*



*W. Kenneth
Gardener*



Lord Janvrin



*Mrs Deborah
Owen*



*David
Skidmore*



*Ms Barbara
Stephenson*

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NEIL MACGREGOR ON THE POLITICS OF WORLD MUSEUMS

Following the Pilgrims' Annual meeting held in the Auditorium of the American Embassy on 27 September, Pilgrims and guests were privileged to hear Neil MacGregor, Director of the British Museum, as the seventeenth Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecturer. Neil MacGregor's CV is impressive to a breathtaking degree, as outgoing Pilgrims' President Field Marshal Lord Inge emphasised in his laudatory introduction.



Neil MacGregor

Neil MacGregor argued that museums are a great deal more than the commonly assumed refuge from real life where scholars pursue their studies.

The British Museum, founded over 250 years ago, has a unique position in the world of museums, as does London which became the first truly global city in the 18th century as a result of sea-power and commerce.

The eminent physician Sir Hans Sloane, the father of the British Museum, made a fortune from promoting milk chocolate and utilised this fortune to full effect in building up a huge antiquarian and botanical collection. The British Museum originated from Sloane's stipulation that his collection must be kept together, could not be sold and should be exhibited to the public without charge.

We are most grateful to the American Ambassador and the staff of the US Embassy for their kindness in hosting the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting.

Embassy staff generously took photographs and recorded Neil MacGregor's Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture. Members who would like to receive a copy of the transcription should please contact the office.

As in his landmark Radio 4 series *A History of the World in one hundred Objects*, Neil MacGregor offered his audience a series of objects. First, a piece of beautiful polished jade, six thousand years old, found near Canterbury, but originating from mountains in the north of Italy; next an arrowhead found in North America, four thousand years old; then the oldest African-American drum, taken on a slave ship from West Africa to Virginia in the 17th century; a Red Indian map made from deerskin, showing the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and made after 1763, the end of the Seven Years War; and an Indian costume from this period which had found its way to Stonyhurst College in Lancashire.

Another object of great interest was a porcelain plate from the Imperial Russian factory in 1901, reissued in 1921 after the Bolshevik Revolution as part of a series celebrating the triumph of the proletariat. Perhaps the most fascinating item shown by Neil MacGregor was a cylinder of clay discovered in excavations of Ancient Babylon in the 1860s, containing a decree from the Persian Emperor Cyrus, setting free the Jewish slaves of Babylon and allowing them to return home, thus making a reality of the pages of the Old Testament.

In answering questions, Neil MacGregor stated that history as taught in schools is too narrow and focused. He spoke on the concept of dialogue between museums of the world and what their future roles will be, as well as how museums retrieve their loans from museums abroad – basically through trust, supported by Government indemnities. He told us about the British Museum's involvement in justice operations and dealings with Iranians over exhibition items.

The outgoing Pilgrims' Chairman Sir Robert Worcester praised Neil MacGregor for his illuminating and erudite discourse in the very best traditions of the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture.

PILGRIMS' WEBSITE

www.pilgrimsociety.org is now live!

If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter and would prefer to save office time and costs by reading or downloading the newsletter on-line, please contact the office

PHILIP ZIEGLER'S NEW BIOGRAPHY OF EDWARD HEATH

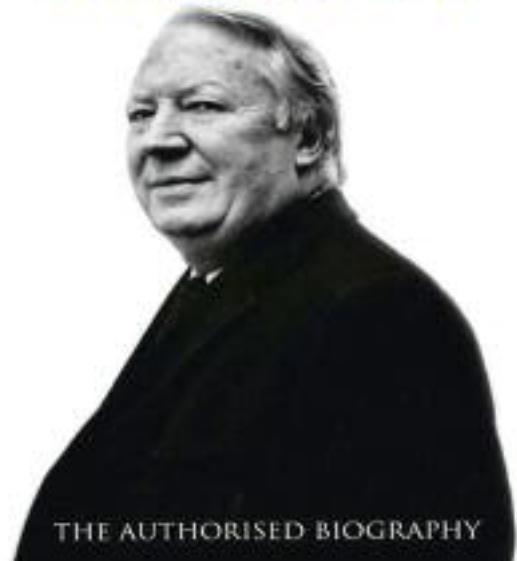
The distinguished biographer of Sir Edward Heath, Philip Ziegler CVO, was the guest speaker at a Pilgrims' luncheon held at the Savile Club on 19 November.

After a formal introduction by the new Chairman of the Pilgrims, Ronald Freeman, Mr Ziegler emphasised that Edward Heath had changed the lives of the British people more than any Prime Minister since Winston Churchill. As President of the Board of Trade 1963-64 he forced through the abolition of re-sale price maintenance, in the face of considerable opposition from his own party, bringing about the expansion of supermarkets and a much wider choice of goods. In 1965 he succeeded Sir Alec Douglas-Home as Conservative Party leader and in 1970, to everyone's great surprise, he defeated Harold Wilson in the General Election. This led to his second great achievement: bringing Britain into the European Community.

Edward Heath's premiership between 1970 and 1974, which started with high hopes, ended in failure with the second miners' strike and defeat in the General Election of 1974. Undoubtedly his failure to win sufficient personal support, both within his own Party and with the public at large, contributed to his defeat. As Chief Whip Edward Heath had been accessible, amenable, convivial and sociable. As Leader of the Party, however, he felt that he had to refuse favours from those who approached him. Rank and file Party members began to feel that they had made a mistake in selecting him as Leader, and as the country's economic problems worsened, Heath retreated into his shell. Philip Ziegler portrayed Edward Heath as a tragic figure with many gifts, but many flaws of character, which led to his downfall and his replacement as Party leader by a woman whom he disliked – Margaret Thatcher.

Philip Ziegler dealt with questions on Edward Heath's apparent unreasonable nature, his lack of social skills, the number of people working around him who succumbed to nervous breakdowns, his attitude towards the United States and his political vision. During the latter stages of the Second World War he became pro-European. Questions were also asked about the Conservative Party going back to its roots as the true supporter of Europe and comparisons were drawn between the Cameron/Clegg negotiations in May 2010 and the Heath/Thorpe negotiations in 1974, when the Conservatives had at least 250,000 more votes than

PHILIP ZIEGLER EDWARD HEATH



Labour and a coalition with the Liberals had considerable political justification.

Ronald Freeman thanked Philip Ziegler for his masterly and penetrating analysis of his subject. Mr Ziegler then autographed copies of his biography for those present.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON U.S. MID-TERM ELECTIONS

On 28 October we returned to Dartmouth House for a special panel discussion on the US Mid-Term Elections, due to be held the following week. The panel members were DeAnne Julius of Chatham House, Greg Katz of Associated Press and Jennifer Siebens of CBS News, with Pilgrims' Vice President Sir Robert Worcester in the chair.

After members of the panel had been welcomed by Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman, Sir Robert looked at the latest poll information, which suggested that President Obama's current job approval rating was about 45% and that the Senate race looked very close – 51 to 49 in favour of the Democrats. The House of Representatives seemed fairly close as well, with the Republicans projected to win 223 seats and the Democrats 212.

Greg Katz believed that Obama's basic mistake was to think that his charisma and general public appeal would carry him through after the Presidential Election. In fact Obama had been more effective as a legislator than as a communicator. Everything

was much more polarised and the political parties had become steadily weaker. This did not mean that Obama would lose the Presidency in 2012.

Jennifer Siebens said that CBS's poll gave Obama an approval rating of 47% while Congress enjoyed a rating of 10%. She believed that anti-incumbent sentiment was very high with many Americans in fear of losing their jobs and homes, with a very high level of foreclosure on property. Many people felt that Obama had tried to take the US into a kind of Euro-socialism, hence the growing level of support for the Tea Party Movement which had created major schisms within the Republican Party.

DeAnne Julius felt that the US had serious economic problems, both short-term and long-term. The US was out of recession but the recovery was not proceeding fast enough, with a very large fiscal deficit and a 10% unemployment rate. Tea Party followers believed that current economic policies were making matters worse for the future.

Discussion from the floor focussed on the true strength of the Tea Party, US-Chinese trade and economic relations, foreign policy differences between the Democrats and the Republicans, quantitative easing, the breadth of the economic recovery, the role of the media in the elections and the Middle East Peace Process. It was generally agreed that the Tea Party was too disparate to be really effective although a low level of electoral turn-out could help it. There could be a possible currency and trade war between the US and China, leading to a change in the dollar's status as the world reserve currency. Foreign policy issues hardly seemed to matter in the Mid-Term elections and the Middle East peace process was in the doldrums. Quantitative easing was effectively in the hands of the Federal Reserve rather than Congress while the breadth of the economic recovery was proceeding better than most people perceived it. The role of the media would continue to be of great importance in terms of electoral coverage and opinion gathering.

RETURN VISIT TO THE SUPREME COURT

Pilgrims and guests made a third visit to the Supreme Court on 15 November. Once again we were shown around the court rooms, library and exhibition area and Lord Clarke of Stone-cum-Ebony generously gave a detailed account of the role and responsibilities of the Supreme Court.

FROM THE FAUBOURG ST HONORE TO DARFUR – FOREIGN POLICY VIEWED FROM BELOW

Pilgrims and guests assembled in the Court Suite at Grosvenor House on 9 November to hear Sir John Holmes GCVO KBE CMG speak on the complexities and problems of international humanitarian aid.

In his introduction the new President of the Pilgrims, Admiral Lord Boyce, referred to Sir John's very distinguished diplomatic career, which included periods of service at 10 Downing Street working with Prime Ministers John Major and Tony Blair, service as Ambassador in Lisbon and Paris and his appointment as Under-Secretary for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Co-ordinator at the United Nations, New York. Sir John is now Director of the Ditchley Foundation.



*Admiral Lord Boyce, Sir John Holmes and Ronald Freeman
(photo by Dr Clive Handler)*

Sir John admitted that moving from the splendours of the British Embassy in Paris to the United Nations to deal with hunger and poverty in the Third World was a huge contrast. He stressed that humanitarian assistance is aimed at immediate relief for the victims of natural and man-made disasters and must not be subordinated to military or political needs. Above all, it must be given with full knowledge of what is involved. The main sources of aid are the United Nations and its agencies; the Non-Governmental Organisations, including Oxfam and Save the Children, and the Red Cross and Red Crescent family – and emphasised that such humanitarian aid does very largely reach those for whom it is intended, rather than going through the hands of recipient countries' governments on the way.

Sir John then covered the conflicts in Darfur, Myanmar and Sri Lanka. In Darfur, the largest single humanitarian crisis in the world, a billion

dollars a year is helping to keep alive up to four million people, in the wake of the conflict which began in 2003. Sir John questioned the effect on social and economic conditions in Darfur and whether or not the aid might be helping to prolong the actual conflict.

Myanmar had been devastated by the cyclone of 2008 and two million survivors had been left in dire conditions. The Burmese military regime had been unwilling to admit international aid agencies and the international community was not prepared to intervene militarily. Sir John had negotiated with the Myanmar government and as a result further unnecessary deaths were prevented.

The Sri Lankan authorities had decided to keep all outsiders away from the realities of what was happening on the ground in their long war with the Tamil Tigers. The humanitarian decision was made to stay in contact with the government and also the Tamil Tigers as far as possible.

One of the principal lessons to be learnt from these three examples was that governments do not like to be lectured by Western countries on democracy and human rights. Being right is not enough. Method, tone and language matter far more when it comes to dealing with problem governments. Frank and amicable private discussions can produce more positive results.

Sir John was questioned on a variety of topics. He felt that there were perhaps too many NGOs, with too much competition and duplication of effort. He also spoke about the contrast between immediate and subsequent disaster relief, David Cameron's recent visit to China and human rights in China.

The Chairman thanked Sir John for his stimulating discourse and made the customary presentation of a Pilgrims' tie and centennial history.

Sir John Holmes kindly gave a copy of his address to the Pilgrims. Copies are available from the office to those members who have not yet received a copy.

* * * * *

The Editor is grateful to Dr Clive Handler for generously agreeing to take a photograph while attending the dinner with Sir John Holmes. Other members willing to bring cameras to Pilgrims' events and provide electronic photographs for use in the newsletter should please contact the office.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 5 January, 7.15 for 7.45

Dinner with

Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup GCB AFC, former Chief of the Defence Staff
Strategy in the Second Decade

Dinner will take place in the newly refurbished Abraham Lincoln Room at the Savoy, London WC2R 0EU, now open after a three-year restoration programme.

Wednesday 2 February, 6.30 pm

Reflections lecture

James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank Group 1995-2005

The lecture will take place at the Hall of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, to be followed by a reception.

Thursday 3 March, 12.15 for 12.45 pm

Luncheon with Sir Winfried Bischoff, Chairman of Lloyds Banking Group PLC

Banking after the Financial Crisis
Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, London W1K 4ER.

Wednesday 4 May, 6.30-8.30 pm

Reception at the House of Lords.

Monday 26 September from 5.30

Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

Embassy of the United States, Grosvenor Square.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

(Elected September 2010)

Marco Baccanello
Mrs Ashley Berry
Mrs Alison Boreham
Martin de Heaver
Raoul Fraser
Rex Harrington TD
David Howard
Dr James Hudson
Sir Roger Jackling KCB CBE
Sir Ronald McIntosh, KCB
Sir Bryan Nicholson GBE
The Hon Lady Ramsbotham
Richard Reddaway
Edward Shipton
Ms Holly Smith
Nigel Wheeler JP

Membership application forms are available from the office.

THANKSGIVING LUNCH

The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, was our guest speaker at a Thanksgiving Luncheon held at the Savile Club in Brook Street. The chef at the Savile Club provided us with festive food: butternut squash soup, roast goose and pecan pie.



The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster

The Dean of Westminster is responsible to the Sovereign alone since the Abbey is a Royal Peculiar. He oversees the spiritual life of the Abbey and gives leadership to the Abbey community which includes 200 staff and 400 volunteers. John Hall, who was appointed in 2006 and is the 38th Dean of Westminster, has already made a strong and favourable impression in this role.

The Dean stressed the strong links that the Abbey has with both the Commonwealth and the United States, mentioning especially the memorial to Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the Congressional Medal of Honour over the Tomb on the Unknown Warrior. He spoke of a visit he had made to New York City the previous year and of another visit to be made in June 2011.

The Dean talked about the plans he had for encouraging more visitors to the Abbey by displaying many of its ancient artefacts and developing an education centre, and emphasised that the Abbey symbolises the links between this country and so many parts of the world. On his recent State Visit, Pope Benedict paid homage at the shrine of Edward the Confessor, the founder of the Abbey, and the Dean stressed the growing friendship between the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches.

Along with so many people the Dean was looking forward to the wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton at the Abbey on 29 April 2011. The Dean concluded by affirming that we are all Pilgrims through life.

Chairman of the Pilgrims Ronald Freeman thanked the Dean for his warm words and presented him with the centennial history (but not the Pilgrims' tie!).

U.S. PILGRIMS' NEWS

On Tuesday, 16 November, the Pilgrims of the US were privileged to hear the Honorable Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, speak to a very large group at the River Club.



The Honorable Ban Ki-moon, accepts the Pilgrims' certificate of appreciation from President Miner H. Warner (right) and James D. Zirin.

At the time of his election as eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Ban was the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the Republic of Korea. He has long-standing ties with the United Nations, dating back to 1975, when he worked for the Foreign Ministry's United Nations Division. He later became First Secretary at the Republic of Korea's Permanent Mission.

Between 2001 and 2002, as Chef de Cabinet during the Republic of Korea's Presidency of the General Assembly, he facilitated adoption of the first resolution of the session, condemning the terrorist attacks of 11 September, and undertook a number of initiatives aimed at strengthening the Assembly's functioning, helping a session that started out in crisis into one in which a number of important reforms were enacted.

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Secretary: Mrs T M Wells
Newsletter Editor: Christopher Robson



MICHAEL HOWARD LOOKS BACK ON A DISTINGUISHED LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY CAREER WITH STRONG AMERICAN CONNECTIONS

At the thirteenth of the annual *Reflections* lectures held in the Auditorium at Goldman Sachs's River Court premises in Fleet Street on Tuesday 9 March, The Right Hon Michael Howard QC MP, now Lord Howard of Lympne, quickly established his Anglo-American credentials by reference to his American son-in-law and American grandson.

In the eventful and fateful year of 1963 he travelled the length and breadth of the USA as a member of a Cambridge University Debating Team and was in the state of Idaho when news of the Kennedy assassination broke and in Dallas two weeks after the terrible event.



Lord Howard, in addition to being Leader of the Opposition, held the positions of Secretary of State for Employment, Secretary of State for the Environment and Home Secretary.

As Secretary of State for the Environment he had considerable dealings with the Administration of George Bush Snr over climate change and recalled his visits to the US State Department and other key Departments. At the State Department he was told that they received more calls from the British Embassy than all the other Embassies put together.

He also recalled key relationships between British Prime Ministers and American Presidents, particularly Reagan/Thatcher, Blair/Clinton and Blair/George W Bush. He admitted that as Leader of the Opposition he had fallen out with the George W Bush Administration over aspects of the war in Iraq.

He was convinced that both the US and Europe should work together to solve problems such as the economy, trade and climate change.

He admitted that American policy was shifting more towards the Pacific, especially with the rise of China, but Europe must stake its claim as a reliable partner. He was pleased to see that as far as British and American relations were concerned this was not the partisan matter it had been in 1983, when Michael Foot led Labour to a disastrous election defeat with policies of unilateral disarmament and anti-Americanism.

On a final note, Lord Howard deplored the 24/7 media concentration which made government very difficult and felt that the "instant news" culture was the curse of our times.

Question-time brought a range of topics including the likely impact of the Ashcroft case on the forthcoming General Election; the large number of experienced Members leaving the Commons at the General Election and their inexperienced replacements; the atmosphere in the US of 1963; his years at Cambridge; relations with the Commonwealth countries; the impact of technology on politics and US/European relations; Britain in the Eurozone; David Cameron's belief in the European Union; his own Euro-sceptical views; possible damage done to NATO over Afghanistan; the situation in the Middle East; changes in the Conservative Party over the years and his time at the Home Office.

When asked whether he would have done things differently looking back over twenty-five years, he did admit there were some things he would have handled in another way.

In his warm vote of thanks, Pilgrims' Chairman Sir Robert Worcester praised Lord Howard for an excellent speech and response to questions.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Well, it's time to go. I have enjoyed my seventeen years as Chairman of the Pilgrims Society beyond measure. But I made a pact with our distinguished President, Field Marshal Lord Inge, that I would stay during his period of duty in the Presidency, and he and I have now decided it's time to call it a day.

The honour for me in the Chairman's role has been three-fold.

First, to contribute what I could to defending and promoting the special relationship, realistically for what it is, a consonance of mutual trust and shared aims, upholding the sole object of the Pilgrims Society, *the promotion of Anglo-American good fellowship*.

Second, having served with a distinguished group of Executive Committee members, none more distinguished than the two Presidents under whom I have served, the Right Honourable Lords Carrington and Inge, both well deserved Knights of the Garter.

Third, for the principal reason for stepping down just now. With the position of Chairman of the Pilgrims, I discovered, came the further honour of being *ex officio* a Trustee of the Magna Carta Trust. Why now? Because the Chairman of the Trust and its Trustees have asked me to chair the Committee to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta in 2015. It's a big job, and I intend to give of my best to it between 2010 and 2015.

When I first came to this country in 1957, as a serving officer in the American Army, my first visit to a museum was to the British Museum to see the Magna Carta. And when my family moved to take up residence here in 1969, on our first weekend we went to Runnymede. I could hardly believe it when I found myself, some thirty years later, on the Magna Carta Trust.

And I have always believed that I should stand down when a strong team is in place and there is someone to succeed me whom I believe will carry the organisation forward. That person is now the Honorary Secretary of the Pilgrims in Great Britain, Ronald Freeman. And Admiral the Lord (Michael) Boyce, retired Chief of the Defence Staff and now Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, has agreed to succeed Peter Inge as the President. Both


appointments are, of course, subject to a vote by members of the Executive Committee. They have been unanimously so endorsed and will be presented to the Annual Meeting at the American Embassy at 5.30 pm on Monday, 27 September, for the approval of those members in attendance at the meeting.

Our excellent Executive Secretary Mrs Andrew Wells – Tessa to all – will continue. While the home of the Pilgrims these past seventeen years will remain the repository of the Pilgrims' archives, Tessa will be setting up the Pilgrims' office at her home not far from Allington Castle and will let the membership know change of contact details immediately following the Annual Meeting.

Over these years as your Chairman I have enjoyed meeting many members of the Society, have travelled with some to Jamestown for the 400th anniversary of the founding of the first permanent English-speaking settlement in the New World, and attended many interesting meetings which have enriched my life.

Thank you all, for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Chairman.

Sincerely,



Sir Robert Worcester
Chairman, Executive Committee

SPRING RECEPTION AT WINFIELD HOUSE

We are much indebted to the Ambassador and Mrs Susman for their kindness and generous hospitality at a most enjoyable reception held Winfield House on 5 May.

The late Barbara Hutton, Woolworths heiress and international playgirl, never received favourable publicity during her life-time when her colourful private life provided continual fodder for gossip columnists and social commentators. Posterity should look far more favourably upon her, however. Her former husband Cary Grant felt she was never given credit for her generous gift to the US Government of a beautiful house with a superb garden, the second largest private garden in London after Buckingham Palace.

VERNON BOGDANOR OFFERS HIS FASCINATING AND CONTROVERSIAL VIEWPOINT ON THE PROCESS OF BRITISH CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM



Oxford Professor Vernon Bogdanor was the guest speaker at the Pilgrims' luncheon at the Savile Club on 20 January.

Vernon Bogdanor is that truly rare bird – a political historian, a constitutional lawyer and a political scientist.

Wearing all three hats with consummate skill and with the true gift of the gab, he has published a major treatise *The New British Constitution* and staked his claim to be the natural heir of such great constitutional experts as Walter Bagehot and Albert Dicey.

After being introduced by Pilgrims' President, Field Marshal Lord Inge, Professor Bogdanor began by referring to the major British constitutional changes enacted since 1997, especially the Human Rights Act, the Freedom of Information Act and the devolution legislation relating to Parliaments/Assemblies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. All this legislation has in effect limited the powers of the Westminster Parliament and established a quasi-federal constitution, as well as emphasising the separation of powers, both territorially and at the centre of government.

The sovereignty of Parliament, according to Vernon Bogdanor, has been further undermined by our membership of the European Union with all its powers, and the reform of the House of Lords which,

with the removal of the mainly Conservative hereditary peers, means that no one political party will ever have a majority in the House of Lords. Professor Bogdanor lamented the fact that at the General Elections of 2001 and 2005 the overall electoral turnouts were the lowest ever. Power, in his view, has been redistributed sideways and the old system, whereby every four or five years the electorate entrusted everything to the Government, was coming to an end. Open primary elections had been proposed to select Parliamentary candidates in individual constituencies.

Professor Bogdanor concluded his remarks by alluding to Woodrow Wilson's concept of self-government and self-determination, and by highlighting the movement of liberal constitutionalism now sweeping through the world. This, he believed, would present a big problem for Britain with its very old institutions.

At question-time Professor Bogdanor dealt with a wide range of topics including primary elections; the workings of grass-roots democracy; the Parliamentary expenses scandal; reform of the House of Lords; local government; bankers' bonuses; general taxation; the power of the EU Constitution; compulsory voting and the constitutional impact likely to be made by the newly-formed Supreme Court. All these questions were answered with the Professor's customary dexterity and depth of knowledge.

In his vote of thanks, Pilgrims' Chairman Sir Robert Worcester expressed his admiration for Professor Bogdanor's eloquence and forceful arguments which might not find favour with some constitutional experts.

IN MEMORIAM

Lt Colonel T M Baring TD
Michael B Boreham
Winston S Churchill
William O Clarke
The Lord Cornwallis OBE DL
Talbot N Hainault
Alan D Macdonald
The Hon Mrs Ann Money-Coutts
Dr William Plowden
The Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham GCMG GCVO DL
Mrs Rhodanthe Selous
Keppel Simpson
Richard C Wheeler-Bennett

PRE-GENERAL ELECTION PANEL DISCUSSION

The Pilgrims' pre-General Election panel discussion was held at Dartmouth House on 23 March. Stryker McGuire of *International Quarterly* was Anchor Man, joined by Marc Roche of *Le Monde*, Ann MacMillan of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and Thomas Kielinger of *Die Welt*.

Sir Robert Worcester, in the chair, pointed out that hung parliaments were regular occurrences in Europe, New Zealand and the Irish Republic, either resulting in the formation of coalition governments or in minority governments staying in power by cutting deals with other parties.

Ann MacMillan, London Bureau Chief for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, said that Canadian television no longer offered live coverage of British General Elections as British politics and politicians seemed less interesting than formerly. Minority governments in Canada had done well. She looked forward to seeing how the smaller parties fared and what the turnout would be.

Marc Roche berated the Conservatives for siding with what he saw as reactionary elements in the European Parliament and said that the recent Cameron/Sarkozy meeting had not gone well. He saw Labour as being far more pro-European and criticised Cameron and Osborne for not being meritocratic enough.

Thomas Kielinger thought that the German electorate was probably as Eurosceptic as the British electorate. The common currency had not been a great success. A hung parliament would be of interest to Germany where coalition governments have worked well since 1949. He emphasised that Germans did not want one party to have too much power, hence the present coalition government led by Chancellor Angela Merkel. He suggested PR might lead to a weak executive government and felt instinctively that the Punch and Judy style of British politics was not popular with the electorate.

Stryker McGuire felt that the Conservatives were not in the position they anticipated when Cameron became leader in 2005, and whatever the result of the Election there would almost

certainly be a weak government. The financial markets might well be running the country and he was concerned about the influence on European Policy of the Conservative Right Wing.

Questions included the relative importance of the poll and the opinions, electoral attitudes and voting patterns of pensioners and civil servants; the international perception of the Parliamentary expenses scandal; the number of independent candidates standing in the General Election; the likely size of the Liberal Democrat presence in the Commons; Gordon Brown's position as Labour leader if he lost the Election, and the public recognition factor of leading politicians apart from the Party leaders.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 27 September

Annual Meeting at 5.30 and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture at 6.00 pm

Neil MacGregor, Director of the British Museum
The Politics of World Museums
US Embassy, Grosvenor Square

Tuesday 19 October

Luncheon with Philip Ziegler: *Edward Heath*
Savile Club, 69 Brook Street, W1K 4ER
12.15 for 12.45 pm

Thursday 28 October

Discussion panel on Mid-Term Elections

Stryker McGuire, Greg Katz, Jennifer Siebens
Dartmouth House, 37 Charles Street, W1J 5ED
6.00 – 8.00 with dinner to follow

Tuesday 9 November

Dinner with Sir John Holmes GCVO KBE CMG

Court Suite, Grosvenor House
7.15 for 7.45 pm

Monday 15 November

Visit to the Supreme Court

Parliament Square, SW1P 3BD
6.00 – 8.00 pm

Wednesday 5 January 2011

Dinner with Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup

Abraham Lincoln Room, The Savoy
7.15 for 7.45 pm

Wednesday 4 May 2011

Reception at the House of Lords

WARTIME EVACUEES TO THE USA RECALL THEIR EXPERIENCES



David Moller, Baroness Williams of Crosby, Sir Brian Fall, Patricia McAlpine, Denis Brown, Michael Henderson

A special event studying the experiences of British wartime evacuees to the USA was held on 2 June at Dartmouth House. Sir Brian Fall, who has made a special study of the subject, was in the chair and the panel comprised former wartime evacuees and fellow-Pilgrims Denis Brown, Michael Henderson, Patricia McAlpine, David Moller and Baroness Williams of Crosby.

Sir Brian Fall began by referring to the ESU Sea Vac Project which was set up to collect memories and stories from people who had been evacuated from the UK between 1940 and 1945. In collaboration with the Imperial War Museum, the University of Reading and the Evacuees' Reunion Association, the Project collected written, audio and visual memories of over three hundred people. Sir Brian emphasised the importance of the Special Relationship, underlined by the experiences of the three thousand young people who were evacuated to the USA during the Second World War.

Patricia McAlpine was evacuated with her younger brother in June 1940 and found everyone she met in New Jersey very kind and welcoming. The whole experience made her feel very self-confident and she has kept in touch with the family with whom she stayed. Denis Brown went with his sister to Kansas City in June 1941, where he was a classmate of Sir Robert Worcester in the local grade school. He remembers it as an idyllic experience. Michael Henderson and his brother spent almost five years with a family in Milton, Massachusetts and wrote of his wartime experiences in *See You After the Duration*, which he wrote about the North American evacuation.

David Moller was only three when he went to New York State in August 1940 and his experiences had made him so pro-American that he often embarrassed his American friends. Baroness Williams went with her brother to Minnesota which was populated largely by people of German and Scandinavian origin, who regarded Japan rather than Germany as the principal enemy. She recalled that there were no school uniforms, teachers were called by their first names and there was no sense of status or class as in Britain.

The general discussion revealed that only 3,000 out of 30,000 original evacuee applicants ended up in the USA and it was suggested that Roosevelt used the evacuees as a political tool to win sympathy for the Allied cause. Many of the children ended up speaking with American accents that horrified their parents on their return to Britain. Furthermore, there was a certain degree of resentment towards the returning evacuees who were regarded as “rats returning to a ship that was no longer sinking” and who were seen as people who had run away from the war – “gone with the wind-ups”.

Reference was made to the current BP oil spillage and its possible detrimental effect on the Anglo-American relationship. A cautionary note was struck by Baroness Williams, who warned of the dangers of a new American isolationism, as manifested by the rise of the Tea Party Movement and the increasing divide between Democrat and Republican States.

Pilgrims' Chairman Sir Robert Worcester brought the proceedings to an end by thanking Sir Brian, the panellists and those members of the audience who had also made contributions to the discussion.

US PILGRIMS' NEWS

General David H Petraeus, Commander, US Central Command, was the speaker for the 107th Annual Meeting on 10 February. New York City was at a virtual standstill with schools and many businesses closed due to as much as a foot of snow on the city and environs. However, more than 200 stalwart souls made it to the Union League Club for lunch.



General David H Petraeus, the Hon Paul A Volcker and President Miner H Warner

On 2 February Lord Patten of Barnes, co-chair of the International Crisis Group, Chancellor of Oxford University and former European Commissioner for External Relations, spoke at an evening reception at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



Lord Patten of Barnes and President Miner H Warner

Nineteen members of the Executive Committee welcomed HRH The Earl of Wessex at luncheon at The Brook on 18 May when His Royal Highness spoke about the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.

William Shawcross, British writer and broadcaster, addressed the Pilgrims about his new book, *Elizabeth, the Queen Mother* on 25 March.



James D Zirin, William Shawcross and President Miner H Warner

At the season's finale for members on 4 May, President Bill Clinton, 42nd President of the United States and Founder of the William J Clinton Foundation, addressed the Pilgrims. The capacity audience gave him a warm welcome.



President Bill Clinton with the Hon John Brademas and Pilgrims Treasurer the Hon Robin Chandler Duke

RETURN VISIT TO THE COLLEGE OF ARMS

On 2 February British Pilgrims and guests made a return visit to the College of Arms, following two highly successful visits during 2009. As before, our guides were Henry Paston-Bedingfeld, York Herald, and Peter O'Donoghue, Bluemantle Pursuivant, who gave a full picture of the College's history and range of activities in an erudite and illuminating way, mixed with a keen sense of humour.

VISITS TO THE SUPREME COURT

Pilgrim member Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers, President of the Supreme Court, generously hosted two special visits to the Supreme Court on 24 May and 14 June.



Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers

The Supreme Court replaced the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords as the highest Court in the United Kingdom in October 2009. The Court hears appeals on contested points of law of the greatest public importance, for the whole of the United Kingdom in civil cases, and for England, Wales and Northern Ireland in criminal cases and is also the venue for the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council which hears final appeals from a number of Commonwealth countries.

Lord Phillips pointed out the symbolism of the location of the Court in the former Middlesex Guildhall to the west of Parliament Square, balancing judiciary and legislature across the open space of Parliament Square, with two other sides occupied by Parliament and Westminster Abbey. Lord Phillips stressed that the UK Supreme Court at present did not possess the power of its United States counterpart to question and strike down legislation but he hinted that this might change in the future.

Pilgrims were also shown the court rooms, library and exhibition area and were treated to a most enjoyable reception. We are most grateful to Lord Phillips and the staff of the Supreme Court for their hospitality.



Court Room 1 at the Supreme Court

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS (elected March 2010)

Dr John Baits
Henry Bedingfeld
Mrs Marjorie Bowden
Brigadier Mark Carleton-Smith CBE
Sir Robert Finch
Angus Goswell
Paul Goswell
Mrs Mornay Grace
John Grierson
Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach
Geoffrey Hemphill
Manley D Hudson Jr
Mr Larry Keith
Michael Lake CBE
Sir Murdo Maclean
Alfred Magnus
Mrs Muriel Marsh
James Mates
Jeremy Mayhew
The Right Hon Lord McNally
Richard Moore
Alan Rind
Raymond Salter
Timothy Sanderson
Mrs Damaris Sanderson
Mrs Mary Brown Sandys
Duncan Sandys
John Sharkey
Stuart Shilson LVO
Timothy P Siegfried
Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torpy
GCB CBE DSO
His Honour Judge Van Der Bijl

Membership application forms are available from the office. The Membership Committee will next meet in mid-September.

VISIT TO KEW GARDENS AND RICHMOND UNIVERSITY

The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew covers a total area of 132 hectares, is a World Heritage Site and contains the world's largest and most diverse botanical collections. Our annual summer excursion took us to Kew Gardens on Wednesday 21 July, over fourteen years since the previous visit there by the Pilgrims.

Over coffee at the former Royal residence, Cambridge Cottage, we were welcomed by Marcus Agius, Chairman of the Board of the Royal Botanic Gardens before we joined the Kew Explorer tour around the Gardens, expertly led by Nigel Taylor, Curator.

Following a most enjoyable lunch at Cambridge Cottage, Professor Stephen Hopper, Director, gave a brief talk about table displays of plants of interest from Kew's nurseries, including the world's smallest waterlily, *Nymphaea thermarum*, brought back from the brink of extinction at Kew.

There was then a choice of most interesting afternoon tours to the Princess of Wales Conservatory, the Davies Alpine House, the Rock Garden and the Order Beds, all led by knowledgeable and enthusiastic members of the Royal Botanic Gardens staff.

We progressed to Richmond, the American International University in London, where we were welcomed over tea by fellow-Pilgrims Chancellor Sir Cyril Taylor and President Dr Ian Newbould, and were told about Richmond's adherence to the American liberal arts tradition and the British system of academic specialisation. Students at Richmond come

from over one hundred countries to study an international curriculum, giving them a world perspective and a comprehensive understanding of cultural differences. We were then shown around the campus by students.

One of the most enjoyable Pilgrims' outings ever, with perfect weather. Thanks are due to staff members at both Kew Gardens and Richmond University.



Enjoying lunch at Cumberland Cottage



Listening to words of welcome from Marcus Agius



Learning about the Order Beds

**The Pilgrims
Allington Castle
Maidstone
Kent ME16 0NB**



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Secretary: Mrs T M Wells
Newsletter Editor: Christopher Robson**



AMBASSADOR SUSMAN PLEDGES TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THE ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP

On 16 September a capacity audience of almost three hundred Pilgrims and guests gathered in the splendid Great Hall at Lincoln's Inn to welcome the new US Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, Louis.



*Sir Robert Worcester, Mrs Susman,
Ambassador Louis B Susman, Field Marshal Lord Inge*

Susman, to his first public speaking engagement in this country, a tradition that has been steadfastly maintained for over a century. Pilgrims' President Field Marshal Lord Inge in his introduction said that the very large turn-out for this event underlined the importance of the Special Relationship, despite recent negative speculation by the British media, welcoming the Ambassador and Mrs Susman most warmly.

Ambassador Susman declared that it was a great honour to deliver his first public speech as American envoy to the Court of St James's to such a prestigious group as the Pilgrims. As a mid-westerner he was proud of his origins and a steadfast believer that the American Dream was open to all.

The Ambassador looked back on his 45-year career as a senior partner in a law firm, as a public servant and as a philanthropist. He had even managed to find time to become involved with the St Louis Cardinals, the celebrated baseball team, and he was now working

hard to understand the finer points of cricket. During the 1980s he served at President Reagan's request on the United States Commission on Public Diplomacy and this, along with his other interests, had made him a frequent visitor to these shores.

He recalled that he had first met Barack Obama in 2002 when he was a candidate for the US Senate and regarded him as the most intelligent politician in the USA and as a superb orator in the tradition of Roosevelt, Churchill, Kennedy and Reagan.

We lived in challenging times, with problems such as global warming, international terrorism and the Middle East. He paid tribute to the performance of British troops in Afghanistan, and believed that the people of Afghanistan must take charge of their own future. The recent elections were part of a process that included training police and the armed forces, the building of schools and the improvement of sanitary and health facilities. He spoke of the nuclear arms threat posed by Iran and the Middle East, where the "two-state solution" of a Palestinian state alongside Israel had to become a reality. Climate change is a worldwide problem which should be solved by concerted international action, as had the economic crisis which had threatened to engulf the whole world system. He was very pleased that the USA and the UK were continuing to work together to surmount their economic difficulties. We could not let down our guard or afford to be complacent.

The Ambassador reserved his final words for the state of the Special Relationship which was in good shape and which he pledged to maintain and strengthen to the benefit of both countries

When asked if the Pilgrims could once again visit Winfield House for their traditional May visit, the Ambassador's response was that he would be "greatly honored".

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In November at the Oxford Union debate I enjoyed the challenge of opposing the motion that “This House believes that there is nothing ‘SPECIAL’ about the SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP”. My partner was supposed to have been Sir Christopher Meyer, the former British Ambassador in Washington and a member of the Executive Committee of the Pilgrims who unfortunately had to cry off at the last minute due to temporary ill health. Even without our star, we won, 143 – 114.

In the event, the Union was up to the challenge, and the President-elect of the Union, Stuart Cullen, led off with logic and force and Sir Christopher’s ‘pinch hitter’, Henry Curr, was sent in to bat to wind up. It was his first appearance at the dispatch box: he did brilliantly. Two to watch, and I hope to have them both at a Pilgrims’ event this year.

Speaking of young people and Pilgrims’ events, in this mailing is notice of our plan to have an event to mark the 70th anniversary of the evacuees, with a panel of those who were sent to the States during the war, revealing the impact that experience has had on their lives.

But to return to the debate, I was helped in research for the event by a graduate Oxford Union member Geoffrey Hemphill who reminded me of the Bill of the US Congress (House and Senate concurring) which defined our ‘Special Relationship’ as *a close and unique economic, cultural and strategic relationship, with common law, language, literature, conceptions of what is right, impartial justice, regard for the weak and poor, love of personal freedom; the largest investment relationship in the world.*

I used the finding that when asked “Which do you think is Britain’s most reliable ally?” 73% of the British said America. In another poll, conducted for the Atlantic Partnership a year ago, 7 in 10 of the British said that the US/UK relationship is strong, and only 2 people in 100 said that it is not at all strong.

Geoffrey also told me something I certainly didn’t know before. Did you? **That there are tens of thousands of the great British public who don’t realise that they have recently been deemed to be and are in fact Americans!**

Congress changed the rules on citizenship to retroactively allow US citizenship to pass down through the female line whereas previously it was

only through a father who was an American citizen prior to 1934. Thus there are potentially tens of thousands of lost Americans here in the UK. This change in law didn’t attract any attention here in the UK so even the more well-informed British politicians and US spectators haven’t picked up on the consequences of this change in US citizenship law.

Sir Robert Worcester
Chairman, Executive Committee

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS (elected September 2009)

Sir Peter Bonfield CBE
Ben Brafman
Charles Brown
Peter Cadbury
Robert Cecil
Sir Tim Chessells
Henry Davis
Lady Dawtry
Brian Dickie
Mrs Susan Dickie
Ms Noreen Doyle
David Edwards
Lady Emery
Captain Philip Foxwood
Bruce Fraser
Admiral Sir Ian Garnett KCB
John Kavanaugh
Dr Randolph Kent
Alex King MBE
Anthony Lake
Charles Longbottom
The Right Hon the Lord Mance
Bruce Mauleverer QC
Mrs Joyce Parsons JP
Brian Pearce CBE DL
Nick Segal
Daniel S Shapiro
Gregory Smith TD DL
Professor John Stopford
Charles F Wardle
Mrs Doreen Willis-Bailey
Sir Stephen Wright KCMG

Membership application forms are available from the office. The Membership Committee will next meet in mid-March.

**CABINET SECRETARY
GUS O'DONNELL REFLECTED ON THE
PARALLELS BETWEEN THE GREAT
DEPRESSION OF THE 1930s AND OUR
CURRENT ECONOMIC TROUBLES IN
THE SIR HARRY BRITIAN MEMORIAL
LECTURE**

Following the Pilgrims' Annual Meeting on 28 September, a capacity audience in the American Embassy Auditorium greeted Sir Gus



O'Donnell, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Home Civil Service, who delivered the sixteenth Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture. President Field Marshal Lord Inge praised Sir Gus for his outstanding record of service as a senior civil servant.

Sir Gus O'Donnell and Field Marshal Lord Inge

Sir Gus declared it a great pleasure to be standing in front of such an illustrious audience and warmly thanked the American Embassy for its hospitality. An economist by training, he stated his firm opinion that British and American global interests are very much aligned. Each country is the biggest foreign investor in the other, with a British investment of \$350 billion in the USA and an American investment of \$275 billion in this country. At present both economies were in recession with rising unemployment, and the overall global economic situation was still very grave.

Looking back to the Great Depression of the 1930s, Sir Gus pointed out that in the USA GDP fell by one third and the stock market fell by 90%, with industrial production declining by 50%. The economic effect on Britain was less severe, even though world trade had collapsed.

At the London Economic Summit in 1933, 66 countries met for a month but with little effect. There had been little relief from weaker exchange rates. In September 1931 Britain had left the Gold Standard with £1 worth \$4.86 and the exchange rate then fell to \$3.40 to £1. Interest rates fell to 2% and the general economic situation in Britain started to improve by the end of 1935 with unemployment falling and mass re-armament beginning.

By contrast 4,000 banks collapsed in the USA and in April 1933 the USA left the Gold Standard. The economy recovered but went back into recession in 1937 because of a relaxation of the fiscal stimulus.

Sir Gus emphasised the lessons to be learnt from the Great Depression – the need for financial stability, the need for global co-operation, the light domestic policies for stimulating the economy and the absolute necessity for not relaxing the fiscal stimulus. Both Britain and the USA had taken on board these lessons and were attempting to find a solution that worked both domestically and globally. The G20 Summit in London earlier this year had underlined the need for effective global co-operation and the dangers of protectionism. He praised the contribution of President Obama who had played a crucial role at this summit, unlike FDR who was conspicuous by his absence from the London 1933 Summit. The recent G20 Summit in Pittsburgh had also produced some positive results. Sir Gus was at pains to stress that the present crisis had started in the financial sector where financial services are far more important than in the 1930s. The overall situation had changed markedly since that time with the Bretton Woods Agreement setting up the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

At question-time Sir Gus dealt with such topics as the problems of investment banking; the relationship between civil servants and the principal opposition parties; comparisons with the 1930s in terms of the level of public spending and the political effects of the economic crisis; the relationship between civil servants and special advisers (500,000 as against 80) and even the Prime Minister's state of health. Pilgrims' Chairman Sir Robert Worcester thanked Sir Gus O'Donnell warmly and presented him with the customary Pilgrims tie and copy of the official history.



Sir Peter Marshall, Membership Committee Chairman; Sir Robert Worcester, Executive Committee Chairman; Field Marshal Lord Inge, President; Dame Mary Hogg, Programme Committee Chairman, and Ian Barlow, Hon Treasurer at the Annual Meeting.

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT DR VINCE CABLE ISSUED A STRONG AND EFFECTIVE PRESCRIPTION FOR THE BRITISH ECONOMY

On 28 October Dr Vincent Cable, Liberal Democrat Deputy Leader and Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, addressed a capacity Pilgrims' audience at luncheon at the Savile Club.

Lord Watson introduced Dr Cable, and alluded to his skills both in the ballroom and on the floor of the House of Commons.

Dr Cable began with some humorous recollections of going round his constituency during the 2005 General Election, before dealing with more serious matters.



Dr Vincent Cable MP

In his opinion the British economy had undergone a massive heart attack. The patient had been treated in intensive care with a cocktail of powerful economic drugs. Such strong measures as the printing of much money, a massive devaluation and the drastic lowering of interest rates had resulted in a degree of stability, but the overall prognosis was that the patient was still in a very vulnerable condition. Rises in both the Stock Exchange and London house prices had created a certain degree of confidence but British households were still weighed down with enormous personal debt and the whole banking system had almost collapsed, with major banks going from reckless lending to a position of extreme conservatism. The end result was a huge budget deficit.

Dr Cable admitted that some positive things were happening, with a number of British companies doing very well, but there remained some major structural problems. How could you reinvent manufacturing with less reliance on financial and service systems? There was also the danger that the big global banks could bring down the British economy. Three out of the five biggest banks in the world are British-owned. The present Government had to take the major share of blame for sheer carelessness in not recognising the perils confronting us.

After the coming General Election in spring 2010, Dr. Cable thought that a hung parliament was as strong a possibility as a strong Conservative majority and he felt that in either scenario Britain could find itself no longer a success story in terms of economic achievement and self confidence.

Dr.Cable was questioned about the likelihood of his joining a more broadly based Conservative government or a rainbow coalition on the German model; Britain joining the Euro in perhaps five years' time; Europe on the world stage; the possibility of a bipolar world dominated by the USA and China; the controversial million pound household tax and the sources of possible wealth generation in the future. In his vote of thanks Pilgrims Chairman Sir Robert Worcester complimented Vincent Cable on a remarkable performance and his excellent economic and political analysis before presenting him with the customary Pilgrims tie and official history.

A pink patterned silk scarf was left behind at the Savile Club following the lunch with Dr Vince Cable. Please apply to the office.

*An updated **List of Members and Rules** will be produced early in 2010. Please check your entry in the 2008 edition and let the office know of any changes. At the same time, please keep the office informed of any changes to contact details, including email addresses.*

IN MEMORIAM

Basil C Bicknell TD
C Dixon Kunzelmann
Commander Sir Miles Rivett-Carnac Bt DL
Robin G Newman
Professor Sir David Williams
Sir Oliver Wright GCMG GCVO DSC

PANEL DISCUSSION ON PRESIDENT OBAMA'S FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE



Greg Katz, Stryker McGuire, Sir Robert Worcester, Jennifer Sieben and Clifford Young

A **Special** panel discussion on President Obama's first year in office took place on 5 November at Dartmouth House. The panel of expert pundits comprised Greg Katz of *Associated Press*, Stryker McGuire, Editor of *International Quarterly*, Jennifer Siebens of *CBS News* and Clifford Young, Ipsos Public Affairs pollster, with Pilgrims' Chairman Sir Robert Worcester presiding.

There was general agreement amongst the panel that President Obama had done a great deal to improve America's image abroad but that he was confronted by serious domestic problems, in particular the state of the economy and the vexed question of healthcare. Afghanistan was also a major problem, but at present this did not register with the vast mass of the American people despite the loss of American military lives in the effort to sustain an unstable and very corrupt government in that country. Healthcare, which accounts for 17% of the US economy, was a ticking time bomb for President Obama which could have disastrous economic and political effects.

Questions from the floor took in such topics as the press treatment of Iraq and Afghanistan; the current state of the Republican party; Obama's view of Europe; the possible effect on Pakistan of a pull-out from Afghanistan; the full effects of the economic recession; the scrapping of the US defence missile shield in Eastern Europe and the very high expectations placed on Obama's shoulders. Also discussed were Obama's Nobel Peace Prize; the role of the internet in present-day politics; the Palestinian and Iranian problems and the thorny problem of climate change, with the upcoming international conference in Copenhagen.

All-in-all a useful and constructive exchange of ideas and views. The general consensus from the panel and from the range of questions was that President Obama was now confronted with a range of major issues which would define the whole nature of his Presidency.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS RE-ELECTED 28.9.09

THE HON DAME MARY HOGG DBE (2004)



Dame Mary's grandmother was a girl from Tennessee and her father, proud of his wife, was a Pilgrim. She is also a sister of a Pilgrim and wife of another. She qualified many years ago as a barrister and in due course took Silk. In 1995 she was appointed to the High Court, being assigned to

the Family Division, where she continues and intends to remain until age catches up with her. She has two grown-up children and a four-legged friend for whom she is well known.

Dame Mary Hogg chairs the Programme Committee.

SAM YOUNGER CBE (1996)



Following a 20-year career at the BBC, culminating in the role of Managing Director of the World Service from 1994-1998, Sam was Director General of the British Red Cross for two years before becoming the inaugural Chair of the Electoral Commission from 2001 until 2008. He has

chaired the University of Sussex and the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, and is currently a member of the Standards Committee of the Greater London Authority and interim Chief Executive of the Housing charity Shelter.

Sam Younger sits on the Programme Committee.

Holiday arrangements: The office will be closed between Friday 12 February and Monday 8 March. Messages left on the ansaphone or by email will only be responded to occasionally. Kerry Colville, the Chairman's secretary, can be contacted during this period on 020 7347 3066.

BRITISH PILGRIMS' EVENTS

Wednesday 20 January, 12.15 for 12.45
Luncheon with Professor Vernon Bogdanor
Is Britain becoming more like America?
The New British Constitution and the Rise of Liberal Constitutionalism
Savile Club, 69 Brook Street

Tuesday 2 February, 6.30 pm
Visit to the College of Arms
with York Herald Henry Bedingfeld
Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4BT

Tuesday 9 March 2010, 6.30 pm
Reflections lecture
The Right Hon Michael Howard QC MP
Goldman Sachs, River Court, Fleet Street

Tuesday 23 March 2010, 6.00 pm
Panel discussion on forthcoming British General Election
Stryker McGuire (ex *Newsweek*, now *Editor, International Quarterly*), Marc Roche *Le Monde*, Ann MacMillan *CBC*, Thomas Kielinger *Die Welt*, Sir Robert Worcester, Chair
Dartmouth House, 37 Charles Street

Wednesday 5 May, 6.00-7.30 pm
Reception with the American Ambassador and Mrs Susman, Winfield House

Wednesday 21 July
Visit to Kew Gardens and Richmond American University

Monday 27 September from 5.30
Annual Meeting and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture
Neil MacGregor, Director of the British Museum
US Embassy, Grosvenor Square

DIARY NOTE

Because we are invited to Winfield House on 5 May, the reception at the House of Lords arranged for 19 May will not now take place.

US PILGRIMS' NEWS

The fall season was kicked off by sportswriter, author, raconteur, Frank Deford, an honored and versatile American writer, who tackled a difficult topic, *British and American Sports: Divided by a Common Obsession*. There were 140 in attendance at the Racquet & Tennis Club on 17 September 17. Deford is the author of 15 books, a weekly commentator for *Morning Edition* on NPR, a correspondent for *Real*

Sports with Bryant Gumbel on HBO, and a Senior Contributing Writer at *Sports Illustrated*. A native of Baltimore, Maryland, he has received journalism honor awards from the University of Missouri and Northeastern University, as well as many honorary degrees. For 16 years he served as national chairman of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and remains Chairman Emeritus.



James D Zirin, Frank Deford, Miner H Warner

The Honorable John M (Mike) McConnell, second Director of National Intelligence, drew a standing room only crowd to the River Club on 17 November. Mike McConnell was sworn in as the nation's second Director of National Intelligence on 13 February 2007, before which he served as a Senior Vice President with Booz Allen Hamilton, focusing on intelligence and national security issues. In 1996 he retired as Vice Admiral in the US Navy after 29 years' service, 26 as a career Intelligence officer. In addition to many of the nation's highest military awards for meritorious service, he holds the nation's highest award for service in the intelligence community. He was born and grew up in Greenville, South Carolina.



Miner H. Warner and the Hon John M (Mike) McConnell

EVENSONG AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY

On Thursday 10 September, at the invitation of the Dean of Westminster, Pilgrims and guests attended full choral evensong at Westminster Abbey, an unforgettable experience and the unbreakable link with a religious and historical tradition going back to 1065, when the Abbey was consecrated at the very end of the reign of its founder, King Edward the Confessor. The combination of prayers, reading of lessons and choral singing creates a unique and almost mystical atmosphere.

Following evensong and a welcome from the Dean, the assembled Pilgrims were then split up into smaller groups for a special tour of the Abbey. The sheer weight of history seems overwhelming. Every British King and Queen from Harold II in 1066 to Elizabeth II in 1953 has been crowned in Westminster Abbey, with the exception of Edward V and Edward VIII, both of whom never received coronations, and many monarchs are buried there, along with a host of great figures from British history. We were shown the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior, the Chapel of St George, the Lady Chapel of Henry VII, the Chapel of Edward the Confessor, the Coronation Chair, the Royal Air Force Chapel and Poets' Corner, to name but a few. In a very real sense Westminster Abbey enshrines the whole story of a nation over a period of almost 950 years.

The evening ended with an enjoyable reception in the Abbey museum. We are most grateful to the Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, and his staff for their kindness and hospitality.

PILGRIMS' MERCHANDISE

Members can now purchase **silver weather stations** – not only a clock but a thermometer and hygrometer too, which folds away or stands on a desk when extended, surmounted by the Pilgrims' logo. These cost £35 each, measure 45 x 40mm closed or 160 x 40 open, and will make exceptional stocking fillers.

We stock pure silk ties depicting the Pilgrims' emblem and costing £20; pure silk scarves for £80; lapel pins for £2 and enamelled cufflinks for £10, both decorated with crossed UK and US flags surmounted by a P.

Please direct any enquiries to the office.

PILGRIMS' FAREWELL LUNCHEON FOR LORD HALIFAX 9 JANUARY 1941

In December 1940 Lord Lothian, the British Ambassador in Washington, died suddenly and unexpectedly at the age of 58, leaving Winston Churchill, Prime Minister and war-leader, with an extra problem to add to those already confronting him. David Lloyd-George declined the appointment on the grounds of age and health and Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary 1935-38, felt that he could be of greater use staying at home and serving in the War Cabinet.

Lord Halifax, who had been Foreign Secretary since 1938, finally accepted the position, to the great relief of Churchill. Edward Halifax had achieved most of life's glittering prizes – Fellow of All Souls, Chancellor of Oxford and Viceroy of India. In May 1940 he was the Establishment choice to succeed Neville Chamberlain as Prime Minister but he felt instinctively that Churchill was the man of the hour and gracefully stepped aside. His appointment as Ambassador in Washington sent out all the right signals.

At the Pilgrims' Savoy luncheon held on 9 January 1941 to wish the new Ambassador godspeed and good luck Churchill praised Halifax as the right man for the job.

The Editor is grateful to the Churchill Archives in Cambridge for access to Churchill's speech at the Pilgrims' Luncheon from which we take the following extract:

"The future of the whole world and the hopes of a broadening civilisation founded upon Christian ethics depend upon relations between the British Empire and the United States of America ... We stand therefore – all of us – upon the watchtowers of history."

Churchill's faith was fully justified. Halifax achieved great success as Ambassador from 1941 to 1946, and his speech to the American Pilgrims at their dinner of welcome created a sensation throughout the United States and the whole English-speaking world.

SPECIAL VISIT TO BOSTON, VERMONT AND NEW YORK

A year ago, on the anniversary of our departure to New York from Heathrow to travel together to Jamestown to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of the first permanent English-speaking colony in the New World, the latest 'intrepid travellers' gathered in the Hurlingham Club and heard Lady Baxendell propose we go again in 2009, this time instead of starting in New York and travelling south to Virginia, start in Boston, and travel north and west, joining with American Pilgrims and visiting War of Independence battlefields and other places on the way.

So in early October we flew into Boston, were met by Jeff Driscoll, our mentor and guide during the Jamestown trip, rejoined our bright yellow Mercedes bus with *Yankee Lines* emblazoned on it (better here than in Southern Virginia) and after visiting Bunker Hill battlefield, travelled to Concord and Lexington where harvest festivities were the theme, learning our American colonial and military history on the way. Then to dinner at the elegant Somerset Club in Boston with 24 Pilgrims, Brits and Yanks, and a visit to the JFK Presidential Library the following (Sunday) morning.



Fellow travellers Peter Harper and Michael Fowle and friend

Then onto battlefields of Fort Ticonderoga and Saratoga where local guides gave us a good review of how these battles helped to determine the outcome of the Northern campaign, blocking road and water access to Canada.

Throughout the tour in mid-October we were treated to a vista of autumnal colours for which New England is renowned.



Saratoga Battlefield, with the French trapper/guide to the British forces showing us the way

Towards the end of our trip we drove down the East Coast, stopping first at West Point, America's Military Academy, named for being high on the bluff where the Hudson River splits, with the bright fall (sic) sunshine glinting off the foliage adorning the river's banks with scarcely any building to be seen. Finally, a wonderful tour of Hyde Park, FDR's home, as the guests of US Pilgrim Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt Jr, and then a US/UK dinner in The Brook Club.

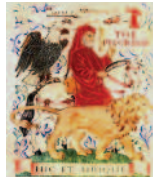


Awed by the West Point Chapel: Peter Harper, Robert Schuettinger, Lady Baxendell, Sir Peter Baxendell, Linda Harper, Lady Worcester

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THE PILGRIMS OF GREAT BRITAIN
PROMOTING ANGLO-AMERICAN GOOD FELLOWSHIP

Private address:

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.....

Nationality:

.....

Date of birth/place:

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Education:

.....

Profession, business or occupation:

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Business address:

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Club(s) and organisations:

.....
.....

Orders, decorations, etc.:

.....

Please tick here if you would be willing to host an event at one of the above clubs, organisations or your place of work.

We, the undersigned, do from **our personal knowledge of and acquaintance with the above candidate**, recommend him/her for Election, as outlined overleaf.

Proposed by:

.....

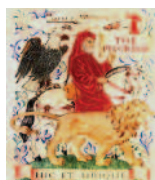
Seconded by:

.....

Candidates must be proposed and seconded by two British or one British and one American member, each of whom must give, on the next page, specific information regarding the Candidate's interest and involvement in Anglo-American relations and such other information as will be useful to the Committee when considering the application.

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT AN APPLICATION WHICH DOES NOT FULFIL THESE CRITERIA MAY HAVE TO BE RESUBMITTED.

As an exception, membership of the Society is also available to Candidates not having British or American nationality, but who are considered by the Committee to have sufficient British or American links, to be prominent in public or social life, science, arts or literature and to wholly subscribe to the object of the Society. In such circumstances, those proposing and seconding should address specifically the candidate's qualifications for membership also having regard to these criteria.



THE PILGRIMS OF GREAT BRITAIN PROMOTING ANGLO-AMERICAN GOOD FELLOWSHIP

THE PILGRIMS SOCIETY: PRIVACY POLICY

The Pilgrims Society is a not for profit membership organisation in the UK whose object is the promotion of Anglo-American good fellowship.

In order to fulfil its object and to deliver membership services the Society holds necessary personal information (or data) about its members. It is the Society's responsibility to keep this information safely and securely. The Society is also responsible for its website (www.pilgrimsociety.org).

The Society keeps the following personal information for each member:

- Full name with titles and any decorations, date of birth, gender, profession and marital status,
- Contact details: postal and email addresses and telephone numbers,
- Bank account details and Direct Debit mandate,
- Record of attendance at Society events and associated payments,
- Technical data acquired through the member's use of the Society's website and/or email correspondence with the Society.

In order to ensure that this personal information is accurate the Society asks members to inform it of any changes during their period of membership.

The Society uses this personal information to elect the individual to membership, to deliver the Society's services to him/her, to use the member's Direct Debit mandate to obtain payment for the advertised costs of the Society's services in a convenient way to him/her, and (on an aggregated, anonymised basis) to monitor the overall composition of the membership.

Access to the personal information of members is limited to the Executive Secretary, Officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Society; and as necessary to agents or contractors acting on the Society's instructions and under a duty of confidentiality.

In addition, the Society's website offers a password protected list of the Society's members (once they have given their consent) and a facility to members to post their own personal information and to make it accessible to other members if they wish.

The personal information of members controlled by the Society is set up to be protected from unauthorised access, including by other members, and will not be transferred to any third party or outside the United Kingdom and European Union.

The Society will delete the personal information of a member when his/her membership ceases, with the exception of the member's name which is kept for purposes of historical research.

Every member has a legal right to update, change or delete any or all of his/her personal information in the Society's records. A member wishing to do this is requested to contact the Executive Secretary in the first instance as it may affect the Society's ability to deliver its services to the member. If necessary a member has a right to complain at any time to the UK Information Commissioner's Office (www.ico.org.uk).

Any questions or comments about this Privacy Policy should be addressed to the Executive Secretary of the Pilgrims Society at 7 Beeches Close, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 4BU or at sec@pilgrimsociety.org.