

Happy Anniversary, XPA!

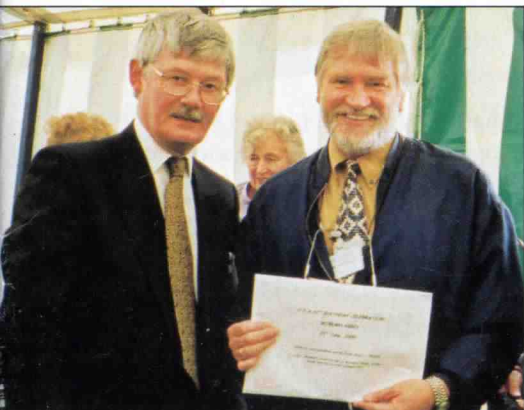
Nearly 600 pensioners and guests gathered to celebrate our 20th anniversary at Woburn Abbey.

Our day dawned cold and blustery, but it was a blessed relief after the heat of the previous weekend! Visitors enjoyed looking and buying in our Arts and Crafts marquee and admiring the classic and veteran vehicles, preserved with such loving care.

An excellent buffet lunch and afternoon tea and cakes were provided in the main marquee,



A colourful stall, created by Emma Tasker, widow of Malcolm (see page 8)



Tony Phillips, Pensions Director, with quiz winner John Maxim

where old colleagues met and chatted before dashing off to do the House tour.

Our information desk included a notice board covered in pictures taken at various Association events over the years and members were invited to take any that interested them and put a donation in the lifeboat box. Altogether, we gave

charity donations amounting to £220, shared between RNLI, Leukaemia Research and Cancer Research, and £200 raised for the Isobel Hospice, WGC.

Activities and prizes!

We had three falconry displays and we were given the opportunity to wear the gauntlet glove and receive the birds as they swooped down from the large oak trees surrounding our arena. Others tried their hand at croquet, aiming to get round the course through 6 hoops with the least number of strokes and then hit the peg in the centre of the course at the end. The winner of a bottle of champagne was David Little of Region 3 at Westbourne House. Our car and general

knowledge quiz also generated a good degree of interest. The lucky winner was John Maxim, one of the vehicle exhibitors.

Tony Phillips, Pensions Director, presented the prizes and each Vintage and Classic Vehicle exhibitor received an engraved plaque.

A good day all round

All in all, it was a lovely day, enjoyed by everyone and proved a fitting way to mark our first twenty years. Those who attended seem to agree as we have received lots of complimentary cards and phone calls congratulating us.

More Woburn pictures appear on the back page.

just a few of the items in this issue...

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STOP PRESS

**Ashorne Hall
Christmas Concert & Tea
28th November – form
enclosed**

LOOKING FORWARD...

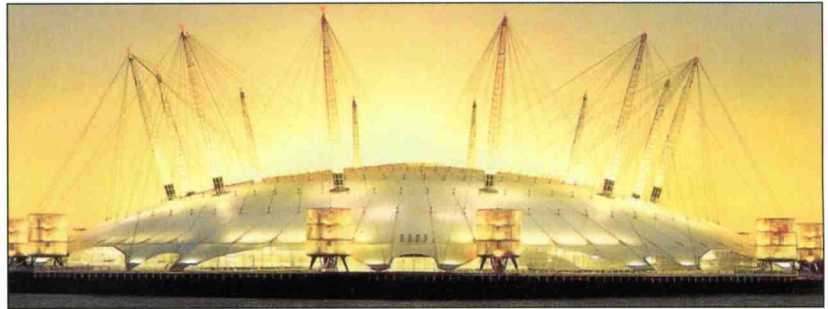
We are planning two visits to the Dome and the London Eye

	Welwyn Garden City, St Albans, Uxbridge	Mitcheldean
The Dome	Monday 21st August	Wednesday 23rd August
The London Eye	Tuesday 5th September	Monday 11th September

The Dome 21st and 23rd August

The Dome is unlike anywhere you've been before – an awesome space - full of exciting, inspiring things to see and do. Marvel at the spectacular live performances running up to five times a day.

Tickets will be provided before the day and you will be free to plan your own visit.



The London Eye 5th and 11th September

Once we arrive at Westminster Bridge, we will board the British Airways' *London Eye* for our 45-minute 'flight'. Following that, we take a 50-minute sightseeing circular cruise on a catamaran on the River Thames, starting and finishing at Westminster Pier. Then, by coach to the Rembrandt Hotel (close to the Victoria & Albert and Natural History Museums) where we will have a 2-course Carvery lunch (vegetarian option available). After lunch, you will have time to spend as you wish.

➤ *Coach pick-ups will be made from the main areas where there is sufficient support, with a pre-arranged pick-up point and time for the return journey. Please complete the appropriate application form and tick the box if you will be making your own way.*

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre Thursday, 31st August



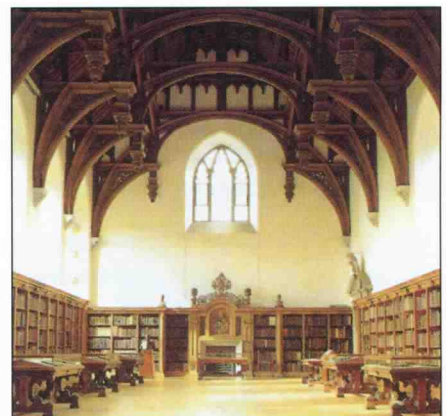
'*The Two Noble Kinsmen*' is a neglected masterpiece of the Jacobean stage. It combines the lucidity and theatrical powers of John Fletcher with perhaps the last words Shakespeare ever wrote for the theatre. We will meet and have lunch at 12 noon at Bankside House, then take the short walk to The Globe. If you have not seen the Exhibition, this year's show, which opened in February, is dedicated to the Man of the Millennium. It is thoroughly recommended and would make a good morning visit. Further information is available from The Globe Exhibition Office **020 7902 1500**.

Doing the Lambeth Walk

Wednesday, 20th September 11am Lambeth North tube station (Bakerloo Line)

This is a walk for all of you who ever wanted to do the 'Lambeth Walk' – but never had the chance. Imagine marshland, fields and polder dams – imagine Lambeth! It has changed a little now, but this walk will explore the history of a little-known, though increasingly important, part of London; from Charlie Chaplin to Red Ken; from Archbishops to madmen; from 'greenfingers' to urban sprawl; from Vikings to a new Millennium; from rioters to hangmen. Confused? You won't be if you do the Lambeth Walk.

After our morning walk we will have a pub lunch. In the afternoon we have reserved tours of Lambeth Palace. This beautiful building is open to the public for the first time in this Millennium year, as part of the London 'String of Pearls' programme.



The Great Hall, Lambeth Palace

➤ **Remember to book early for August events**

More of our popular theatre trips

We are offering three theatre trips to principal shows in London for the Autumn and all our members benefit from group rate ticket prices. If you would like to join our group to see any of the shows, please complete the Booking Form and **return it with your cheque as soon as possible.**

Saturday, 2nd September, 3.00pm

Dress Circle, Victoria Palace

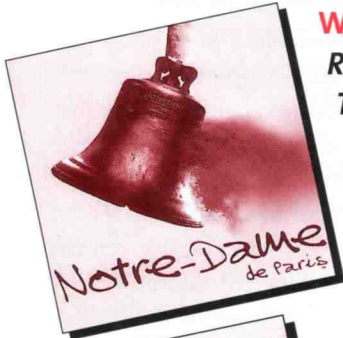
La Cava – a new musical set in 8th century Spain. It is the story of Florinda, an innocent young girl, and Roderich, the all-powerful King she sets out to destroy.



Wednesday, 4th October, 2.30pm

**Rear Stalls, Dominion Theatre
Tottenham Court Road**

Notre Dame de Paris – a musical spectacular based on Victor Hugo's classic novel *"The Hunchback of Notre Dame"*. Set against the historical backdrop of 15th century Paris, it is a powerful story of love, passion and desire.



Wednesday, 22nd November, 3.00pm

Front Stalls, Cambridge Theatre

The Beautiful Game – Andrew Lloyd Webber's and Ben Elton's new musical is a story of ordinary people in an extraordinary situation. It follows the fortunes of a group of teenagers, all members of a local soccer team, and their friends.



Under-15's World Cricket Challenge at Lord's

Thursday, 10th August

The under-15's World Cricket Challenge 2000 will take place in England during July and August. League A will play at Eton College and will include representatives from England, India, Holland and the West Indies. League B will play at Wellington College and will include representatives from South Africa, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. All matches will be 50 overs per side. Semi-finals will be played at the County grounds at Chelmsford between Winner A v Runner up B and in Hove between Winner B v Runner up A. Our visit to Lord's will coincide with the Final and will start with coffee on arrival, a tour of the ground followed by the match. Packed lunches will be provided in the Coronation Gardens.

Summer Walk

Wednesday, 30th August

Doug Nevell leads our XPA Summer Walk on yet another bit of the Thames Path. The section from Hambleden Lock to Hurley Lock is as good as it comes, providing an excellent lunch venue in Hurley village and fitting in with a convenient afternoon boat schedule to return us to Hambleden. It's just about as flat as could be, amounting to a little over 4 miles – **but we have to complete that before lunch.** The route is quite suitable for trainer-type footwear.

As the boat schedule requires an early start (by 10am) and finish (3.30pm), there may be an opportunity to visit the River Museum in Henley afterwards at group rates. If you indicate an interest on the booking form we'll arrange it. Lunch limits us strictly to 50 people.

Sailing days

**7th and 15th August and
15th and 18th September**

Once again we are invited to sail on "Xepha" the Xerox Sailing Association's 10-metre yacht, moored near Lymington on the South Coast. The Sailing Club is offering Open Days for Pensioners.

You will learn a lot about being under sail and navigating in the busy Solent under the expert instruction of skipper Dave Newbury.

If you are interested in taking part on these day sails, please telephone **Dave Newbury** on **01707 333622** or e-mail david.newbury@virgin.net

In addition to these day sails, the XSA have another Open Weekend **16th/17th September** for employees, but pensioners could join in and apply directly to **Tony Robbins 01494 607549** or e-mail Tony.Robbins@GBR.Xerox.com

Autumn AT HOMES

This is your chance to keep in touch with the Company. If you would like to come, please complete the enclosed form.

BRIDGE HOUSE, UXBRIDGE

Thursday, 7th September 6.00pm

MITCHELDEAN

**Tuesday, 12th and 19th September
2.30pm**

WELWYN GARDEN CITY

Thursday, 12th October 2.30pm

DIARY DATES

August

- 7th+15th** Sailing days
10th Lord's for Under-15's cricket
21st+23rd Dome visits
30th Summer walk
31st Globe Theatre

September

- 2nd** La Cava – theatre trip
5th+11th London Eye visits
15th+18th Sailing days
20th Lambeth Walk

October

- 4th** Notre Dame de Paris – theatre trip

November

- 22nd** The Beautiful Game – theatre trip
28th Ashorne Hall, Christmas Concert & Tea

Booking forms enclosed for all the above trips – complete and return to Margaret Brooks (see page 6).

Christmas & New Year

If you wish to attend any of these functions, please complete the enclosed **red form** and return it to the relevant XPA Officer as shown on the back of the form.

Mitcheldean Lunch

Tuesday, 5th December at Sports & Social Club, Mitcheldean

Ferndown Lunch

Wednesday, 13th December at The Dormy Hotel, New Road Ferndown

Norwich Lunch

Wednesday, 13th December at Park Farm Country Hotel and Leisure Complex, Norwich

Midlands Evening Buffet

Tuesday, 9th January 2001 at The Dog & Doublet, Bodymoor Heath

Welwyn Garden City Dinner

Thursday, 11th January 2001 at Jarvis International Hotel, Hatfield

Amersham Dinner

Thursday, 18th January 2001 at Guido's Restaurant, Amersham

Midland/Northern Dinner

Saturday, 27th January 2001 at Jarvis Perry Hall Hotel, Bromsgrove

COMPANY NEWS

Business priorities 2000

'The Year 2000 brings us new opportunities,' said Rob Walker in the UK Entity Policy Deployment booklet. 'We have a number of factors in our favour this year; the Y2K issues are behind us; the salesforce is better equipped and better prepared than ever before; our portfolio of products and services is the best in the industry – and our customers are telling us that the strategy is right.'

'Xerox is a great company,' he concludes, 'we have great people and we have a brand that is as good as any in the digital environment.'

Changes at the top

In mid-May, Rick Thoman resigned as CEO of Xerox Corporation and Paul Allaire returned to the post and will continue as Chairman for the next two years. Anne Mulcahy has been appointed President and COO, joining Allaire, Bill Buehler, vice-chairman, and Barry Romeril, vice-chairman and CFO, in the newly formed Office of the Chairman.

Commenting on the changes, Pierre Danon said, 'These

management changes will benefit our customers, our employees and our shareholders as we move towards operational excellence in the execution of our strategy.'

Xerox Number 1 in Europe and USA

Xerox ranked No.1 in the European and US Digital Copier market.

Xerox retains leadership in the European digital black & white copier market with a share of 21.9%, ahead of Canon at 15.6%. This is an excellent result given the increased number of digital 'players' and defence of this leadership position is a key 2000 objective.

Continua Growth

On 11th January 2000, Xerox completed the acquisition of third party maintenance partner, Continua. Having bought 50% of the company three years ago, the planned purchase of the remainder was brought forward by a year. 'Continuous Feed is a big growth area for Xerox,' says Continua General Manager, Steve Clay, 'and we can now service the whole production line from end to end.'

HAVE YOUR SAY

The time has come to vote for the Pensioner Trustee Director for the Xerox Pension schemes. The two candidates are **Alan Cryer** and **Sheila Webb**. Don't miss this opportunity to make your voice heard – let us know your choice.

A voting form, giving details of the candidates, is enclosed with this newsletter. Please complete it now and return to **Margaret Brooks** at Xerox Pensions (*address on page 6*), to arrive **no later than 29th September**.

The result will be published in the December issue of XPA News.

It's that Tax return time again!

Don't forget that self-assessment income tax returns must be returned by **30th September** if you want the Tax Inspector to calculate your tax liability for you. The date is **31st January** if you wish to make the tax calculation yourself. **Penalties may be incurred if you miss these dates.**

WHO ME?

Ann Higgs takes a brief look at high blood pressure

Unlike much of our housing, the human body is equipped with very advanced plumbing. It works efficiently for years without maintenance, and isn't quite so prone to producing strange noises in the night!

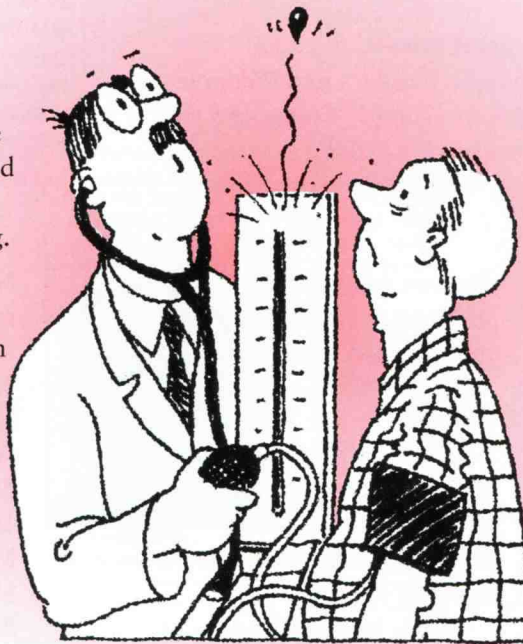
Our personal circulation system never sleeps. The heart pumps continuously, and the blood pulses, causing little ripples in the elastic-walled arteries and veins, as it travels round the body. Measuring this effect, by using the familiar arm cuff and bulb, produces a blood pressure reading, expressed as two numbers. The first figure reflects the pressure created by the contraction of the heart, the second and lower figure signifies the load against which the heart is working.

Check it out

This quick and simple test gives an astute doctor lots of useful information. It's recommended we all have our blood pressure professionally screened at least every year or two. This may seem unnecessary, but do remember, high blood pressure rarely makes people seriously unwell, so there

are few telltale signs. About one in four adults is thought to have it, and perhaps a third of those remain undiagnosed.

High blood pressure (essential hypertension) is an indicator of underlying reduced heart efficiency and increased risk of stroke or heart attack. Left untreated, it can lead to kidney failure and affect the sight. So, yes, regular monitoring is important, especially for those with a family history of heart disease.



Sort it

The good news is there's a range of medical treatments and a number of lifestyle adjustments that can be employed to effectively reduce elevated blood pressure. A doctor may suggest simple blood and urine tests, an ECG (electro-cardiogram), perhaps a chest X-ray and possibly a kidney test. These are designed to discover whether there are particular causes and to help identify the most appropriate treatment. There are different types of tablet. One, or perhaps a combination, might be suggested. The dosage can then be fine-tuned for optimum effect, whilst blood pressure is regularly monitored.

Being overweight, a cigarette smoker, or one who perhaps uses alcohol to excess, are all major factors associated with high blood pressure. Statistics also point to increased risks for those on a salt-rich diet and for people who take little exercise. Since findings indicate that, in most cases, there isn't one single underlying cause, identifying and addressing a combination of factors, under medical supervision, can often be very effective.

Eternal youth!

One of our Xerox Pensioners, **Edith Gray**, who lives at Stevenage, took up tap dancing 9 years ago at the grand age of 70 years. She has completed her fourth exam and appears in local charity shows. She is looking forward to next year when she will take her fifth exam.

Age old thirst

A pub sign advertising free drinks for octogenarians accompanied by a parent attracted Molly Greenwood to The Globe in Accrington, Lancashire. She went with her 101-year-old mother, Elsie Riley. The landlord, Andy Billington, gladly paid up.

PRIVATE HEALTH

PPP, Xerox private health cover provider, will no longer provide corporate discounted membership for new pensioners. This is a general policy decision on the part of PPP and does not only affect Xerox pensioners. **If you already have cover from PPP, that will continue.** However, for new retirees, PPP can offer individual policies to continue their health cover.

Alternatively, if you are newly retired and wish to compare different private health cover providers, you should contact **Health for Industry**. Health for Industry offers independent advice on a no-fee basis to individual members leaving a group scheme. They can provide quotations for continuation options with a range of insurers, some of whom will provide cover with no medical evidence, so long as membership starts immediately on leaving the company arrangement.

Health for Industry also offers a range of comprehensive travel insurance for individuals and their families.

If you are interested, please call **Hazel Bonsey** or **Laura Gordon** on **01252 372123**.



Xerox Pensioners' Association

All Xerox pensioners are automatically members of XPA

AIMS

1. To establish and maintain a two-way personal link with all pensioners.
2. To be informed about pensioners' needs and problems in order to assist where possible.
3. To help pensioners keep in touch with each other.

XPA Secretary

Our Secretary, **Mrs Barbara Keech**, has a dedicated telephone/fax number – **01895 814226 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.**

Barbara's address is 84 Swakeleys Drive, Ickenham, Uxbridge Middx UB10 8QG.

Alternatively, you may telephone **Margaret Brooks**, the XPA Administrator, on **01494 615159**, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays only. Margaret's address is Xerox Pensions Limited, Compton Court, 20-24 Temple End, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5DR.

Regional Co-ordinators

Western Region Jeff McCoy

Chy-Reen, Mayhill, Longhope, Gloucestershire GL17 0NL.

Tel/fax: 01452 830600.

The Western Region is based on Mitcheldean and covers Wales, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Avon, Devon, Somerset and Cornwall.

Eastern Region Paul Johnson

49 Brandles Road, Letchworth, Hertfordshire SG6 2JA.

Tel: 01462 686736.

The Eastern Region is based on Welwyn and covers Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk and Lincolnshire.

Central Region Anne Cain

24 Maygoods Lane, Cowley, Uxbridge Middlesex UB8 3TE.

Tel: 01895 231420.

The Central Region is based on Bridge House, Uxbridge and covers the rest of England and Scotland.

WELCOME TO...

Two new visitors for our West Region



Robert Harris recently retired after 26 years with Xerox. He joined the company as a toolmaker and then gained experience in

production, quality, logistics, business quality, budgetary control, and human resources, finishing his career as a Customer Service Manager. Bob and his wife, Lesley, also foster children and have successfully fostered 8 boys and 2 girls. Bob says they have many happy memories of their experiences. Bob is hoping to visit pensioners in his area and combine this with a part-time job. He lives in the Berry Hill, Coleford area and may be contacted on **01594 834080.**

Neville Edmunds worked for Xerox for 17 years, mainly in the work-study function. He joined as a Trainee Work-Study Engineer and eventually progressed to Assistant Manager – Work Study (Assembly).

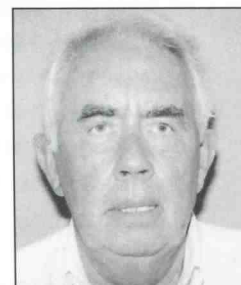
He was involved in Measurement and Method schemes and worked extensively for the workshop management in a trouble-shooting and trouble-spotting capacity.

He is looking forward to visiting pensioners in his area and may be contacted on **01594 832633.**



Nordic and Eastern Europe. He may be contacted on **01865 876858.**

Harry Patterson joined Xerox in 1966 as a load planner at Penny Lane, Haydock. He moved to Smethwick, Birmingham in 1970 as Depot Manager/Supply Manager, later moving north again to become manager of refurbishing operations at Lea Green, St Helens. He retired in December 1989. He may be contacted on **01704 578236.**



Two new visitors for our Central Region



Stewart Jones joined Rank Xerox in Mitcheldean in 1968 as a production engineer. He moved on to project

management and then to HQ in 1973. He worked in Rochester, Venray and Delhi before entering sales and marketing. Joining XES in Newbury in 1988, he managed the service and logistics functions in Europe before finally becoming a Business Development Manager for

.... And a new co-ordinator



Anne Cain joined Rank Xerox at Denham in Building 36 in Machine Control, which became

known as MCDC. After 22 years' company service and several changes of job titles, she took early retirement from the post of Manager Receivables in Uxbridge in 1987. (Contact details above.)

We say 'Goodbye' to

John Smith – Central Region Co-ordinator

Barbara Keech writes:

John Smith has, for the past 5 years, been the Regional Co-ordinator for our Central Region. He has decided to retire (again!) and I will be sorry to see him relinquish his area, but can fully understand his reasons for doing so. He wants to improve his handicap!

I am grateful to John for his staunch support to me over these past years and for his organisation of our Tours at Lord's, and the added benefit of being able to stay on for the cricket matches too.

As mentioned opposite, our new Central Region Co-ordinator will be Anne Cain. Anne has always been willing to help me out when we have been overwhelmed with admin, so I know she will make a good job of what John has already set in place, and I am pleased to welcome her to our team.

Diamond wedding anniversary



Ann and Ivor Jaynes celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, 3rd February this year. They were joined by friends and family at the Bird in Hand at Coleford for a lunch, and at the weekend celebrated again at the Church Hall with their family.

NEWCOMERS We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

UK Company

Frank Atherton
Rodney Baker
Ian Bendall
Graham Benton
George Bisset
David Bradley
George Brady
Christopher Brown
Kenneth Button
John Byrne
Patrick Clancy
Elizabeth Clarke
Edwin Cooper
Ian Cornish
Geoffrey De La Pole
Mike Deane
Stephen Dillon
Keith Dixon
Kaye Donaldson
Pamela Edge
David Forster
Michael Foster
Francis Godfrey
John Grimshaw
Anne Harris
Alan Higson
Alan Hilton
Norman Holland
Michael Hooren
Graham Hopkinson
Doree Jaggs
Michael Jones
Stuart Kentish
Anthony Kilner
David Langley
Christian Lawrence
Michael Leavesley
Steve Lockwood
Jim Long
John Mabbett
Jeremy Mackinlay
Ian Malone
Anne Manning
Tonia Manser
Ewan McNaught
Lesley Miles
Andrew Mooney
John Munden
Christopher Naylor
Bruce Oliver
Janice Oliver
Margaret Orwin
Arthur Owen
Christopher Paine
Linda Perry
Roger Petchey
David Postans
William Reeves

David Ricketts
William Ritchie
Colin Robson
Ernest Robson
Geoffrey Ruffer
Alan Seddon
David Sheppard
William Smart
Brian Strong
Peter Talman
Barrie Thomas
Jane Vernon-Leech
Bryan Wall
Gordon Ward
John Wilesmith

Mitcheldean

Michael Agg
Pamela Andrews
Michael Baugh
Michael Bennett
Edward Blow
Keith Bradley
Eric Brain
Gerald Brain
Marylyn Brain
Alec Brookbanks
Philip Brown
Kenneth Bundy
Peter Burcher
Patricia Caldicutt
David Charley
Michael Davies
Robert Davies
Gillian Drew
Derek East
Michael Edmunds
Gordon Ennis
Keith Fisher
Leighton George
Bernard Gibbs
Mervyn Goode
Elaine Gwilliam
Maurice Hale
Michael Hazell
Kenneth Hobbs
Kevin Horrobin
Eric Howells
Brian James
Wilfred Jenkins
Stephen Johnson
Jeff Jones
Terence Jones
Thomas Jones
Keith Knight
Ian Laskey
Robert Lawrence
Lyndon Lewis
Bernard Lewry

John Lugg
Terence Lyall
Royston Marsh
Maurice Marshall
Patrick Martin
Alice Matthews
Clive Maynard
Christopher Meek
Marleen Meek
Roger Meek
Robert Miles
Garfield Morgan
Michael Morgan
Bernard Morris
John Newman
Rosemary Nicholls
Terence Osborne
Pauline Pendrey
Edmond Powell
Frederick Pritchard
Anthony Prothero
Terence Rawlings
James Richards
Edward Rouse
Bertram Seaborn
Michael Selwyn
Raymond Skidmore
Graham Smith
Michael Stevenson
John Thomas
Eileen Trinder
John Walby
Anthony Waltham
Hayden Ward
Geoffrey Watkins
Stephen Watkins
Cynthia Welch
Richard Williams
Michael Wood

Riverview Uxbridge

Philip Ballinger
Roger Dickinson
Robert Elliott
Mal Johnson
Peter Leather
Anthony Luckhurst
David Parkinson
Geoff Rayner
Eric Spowart
Ian Thomson
John Williams

Welwyn

John Allatt
Steve Betney
Terry Gentle
John Lock
Colin Luckman

Brian Murphy
Steve Partridge
Keith Pickering
Stewart Picton
David Ravie
Margaret Robinson
Trevor Russell
Bob Short
Hilda Tuff
Joan Weller
Arnold Wilson

Marlow

Trevor Jones
Sandy Miller
Anthony Morrall
Alan Robinson
Agneta Taylor
Richard Wheatley
Christina Wing

Hayes

Robert Bonnett
Geoff Edmonds
David Griffin
Stephen Jones
Alan Kimber
Michael McEwan
Mike Palmer
Frances Patrick
Keith Simmons
Graham Simpson
Peter Unger

Anite House Slough

John Ostinelli
Martin Woods

XES

Douglas Bell
William Hamilton
Ronald Mayers
Hassan Mohammed
Peter Warrington

XBS

Stephen Tracey

Dublin

Roger Eades

Assignee

Margaret Hughes

Ginn & Co

Jeremy Weston

Pensions

Lois Dawson

Pensioner action

Roger Kendall, Xerox pensioner, has recorded on CD his own 'Song for Ethiopia' plus two other songs. The CD costs £4.99 and the cassette £3.99. All proceeds go to *Action Water*, a charity raising money to provide water for victims of drought in Ethiopia. Copies can be ordered by phone using your credit card on **01209 210567** (weekdays) or on **01209 715385** (evenings and weekends). Alternatively, cheques made payable to *Action Water* can be sent to Action Water, North Street, Redruth, TR15 5HR.

Pension dates

Your Xerox pension will be paid into your account on the following dates:

August pension

Tuesday, 1 August

September pension

Friday, 1 September

October pension

Friday, 29 September

November pension

Wednesday, 1 November

December pension

Friday, 1 December

FAREWELL TO OLD FRIENDS

Len Hopkins – 1927-2000

Len Hopkins was Chief Paper Technologist of Rank Xerox for 17 years. He joined the Company in 1966 from Bowaters Paper Mill in Gravesend, where he was head of the Physics Laboratory. His sound technical knowledge quickly earned the respect of RX colleagues and paper makers worldwide. He had a reputation for being consistent and fair, with an open-minded approach to problem solving.

Len obtained a first class honours degree at University College, London and also gained blues at rowing and rifle shooting. He was a keen cyclist and also enjoyed mountaineering. Photography was his real passion, in particular its gadgetry.

On his retirement, he moved to Hythe in Kent and became an RX Visitor. He joined the local Arts society and eventually became its Chairman.

We send sincere condolences to his wife, Margaret, and his two sons, Simeon and Michael.

Malcolm Tasker – 1932-1999

Pat Supple writes:

Many pensioners with UK Sales experience in the mid-60s will be saddened to hear of the death of Malcolm Tasker after a long illness, borne with great dignity.

Malcolm enjoyed much success in his career, which took him from salesman to Regional Manager. His ability to deal with people at all levels was considerable, aided by a particularly wry sense of humour. Manager, teacher, adviser, showman and good friend – he was all of these.

Many friends and former RX colleagues attended the funeral.

Don Bastow writes:

Malcolm, the Clown Prince of work, will not only be remembered for his instant wit and repartee, but also very much as a people person and workaholic. However, his introduction of Selina Jones at a Northern Region Sales Conference as ‘the poor man’s Shirley Bassey’ nearly caused him a premature end, when the person in question took a swing at him!

But beneath the camouflage of the Comic was a person totally dedicated to the work ethic, who, in all the thirty-five years I knew him, never displayed a negative thought.

John Sleaford – 1939-2000

It is with considerable regret that we learn of the passing of John Sleaford on 27th May. John joined Rank Xerox as a Promotional Salesman in 1966 based in Nottingham District office. Over the next 16 years he held several Senior Sales Management positions across the country from District Sales Manager in Luton to Manager National Accounts and finally General Manager, Rank Xerox Nigeria for the last two years of his career in RX. John was a much-respected member of the Sales division during the very successful formative years at Rank Xerox. Our sympathy and thoughts are extended to his family at this time.

ABSENT FRIENDS We record the deaths of the following members, whose age and last place of work is shown, and offer our sincere sympathies to their families:

Cheshire Mailing Systems

Philip Eyres (69)

Hayes

Dave Smail (54)

Mitcheldean

Nelson Abraham (76)
David Addis (56)
Clive Barnett (55)
Elizabeth Bearham (48)
Frances Brain (89)
Kenneth Byett (72)
Hilda Cole (82)
Gladys Collins (69)
Philip Davis (81)
Philip Deller (83)
Oliver Dent (73)
Len Drinkwater (71)
Maurice Duffy (86)
Herbert Fellowes (84)
Arthur Fisher (79)
Horace Giles (84)
Florence Harper (79)
Greta Hobbs (74)
Joseph Hurley (81)
Percy Jones (83)
Frederick Kear (75)
Winifred Meek (86)
Trevor Meredith (80)
Stewart Modget (45)
Vera Moon (85)

Brian Moore (57)
Martyn Parsloe (69)
Rodney Pensom (49)
Leslie Pick (77)
Michael Purchase (57)
Jack Smart (83)
Harold Smith (78)
Oswin Smith (77)
William Smith (62)
George Starkie (86)
William Stokes (87)
Dorothy Titmuss (55)
Arthur Turner (74)
Helene West (73)

Riverview

Katalin Gidofalvy (49)

UK Company

Alan Abbott (60)
Victor Alford (82)
James Biggs (88)
Harry Citner (88)
Alexander Clifton (52)
George Crow (88)
Nora Dunn (85)
Molly Fear (75)
Doreen Fisher (46)
Elaine Fossey (44)
Norman Frankson (82)
Trevor Gregory (86)
George Harvey (69)

Roger Horne (54)
Victor Lingard (65)
William Pearce (55)
Florence Preston (63)
Bert Pullen (85)
Rod Schiller (55)
Malcolm Tasker (67)
Brian Taverner (53)
Edward Turnbull (60)
Paul Watson (56)
Maureen Wright (47)

Welwyn

Ken Ball (80)
Lily Burnham (77)
Sydney Callaghan (81)
James Carlin (83)
Kenneth Carpenter (77)
Elizabeth Cullen (87)
Margaret Cullen (80)
Len Hopkins (72)
Thomas Howley (76)
Thomas Marr (77)
Dennis Marsh (69)
John Miller (67)
Patrick O'Donoghue (76)
Margaret Pilcher (64)
Reginald Sinkings (79)
Iris Spencer (75)
Robert Sullivan (74)
Patrick Weeden (71)

Talking Books Appeal

A user of Talking Books writes this appeal:

Around 52,000 people in this country subscribe to RNIB Talking Books. It's a unique service offered by the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB), which records full-length books on to audiotape.

Many of those who share my passion for these wonderful ‘speaking’ books are around my age (73) and, like me, have gone blind in later life. I can't talk for all those who use the service but I think we'd all agree on one thing, these audio books are more than just a service. They're a lifeline.

To record a new title costs £500. If you are interested in making a donation or would like further information, please call the RNIB on **020 7391 2346/2060**.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Free viewing for the over-75s

From November 2000, free TV licences will be available for the over-75s. If you are approaching 75, you can buy a short-term licence, which must be valid up to the last day of the month before the month in which your 75th birthday occurs. When you reach 75, you will be issued with a free licence, valid for 12 calendar months, which will cover your primary place of residence only (the same as your current licence).

If you usually renew your licence by post, you will have to quote your

National Insurance Number to verify your age. If you do not know your number, you can enquire at your local Post Office or telephone the helpline on **0845 603 6999**.

Driving concerns

Show yourself – For a fee of £11, you can now have a driving licence photocard. If you are interested, please call DVLA on **01792 792792** and, once you have been put through to a DVLA clerk, quote reference INF72. The office is open from 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

AA European Benefits Card – If you are a member of the AA, you can get the AA EUROPE European Benefits Card – just call **0990 500 600** for details. But please remember that the card offers a variety of discounts but does not cover you for breakdown assistance. Make sure you are adequately protected by taking out special holiday cover.

Direct Line will not cover the over-70s for car insurance. However, **Help the Aged** can offer competitive quotes for all ages. Contact **0800 413180**.

HOLIDAY DISCOUNTS 2000

Here are some holiday discounts for 2000 through Rank Holidays Ltd and Shearings. Details of more discounts for XPA members are contained in the Information Pack (*see below*).

Holiday Company	Discount	Booking Hotline	Code
Warner			
7-night holidays, June/July/August and other breaks in 2000 brochure <i>Brochure requests</i>	Up to 15%	0870 601 6012 0870 242 2005	HG640
Oasis			
Brochure price <i>Brochure requests</i>	10%	0870 508 6000 0870 242 2006	HG640
Haven			
UK Holidays Self-catering and Half/Full board Europe <i>Brochure requests</i>	Up to 30% July/August 5% Other times 20%	0870 242 2222 0870 242 7777 0870 242 2007	HG640
Butlins			
Family entertainment resorts (self-cater) Entertainment Hotels (half-board) <i>Brochure requests</i>	Up to 20%	0870 242 0870 0870 242 2003	Q108X/915
Shearings			
People with special needs	Discretionary discount	01942 824824 01942 496507	Letter from Administrator or Regional Co-ordinator

XPA INFORMATION PACK

This pack details goods and services on which members can obtain discount. These include:

- Forte Leisure Cheques
- Magic Kingdom enrolment form
- Rank Holidays Ltd and Shearings holidays
- Dove Travel vehicle hire for Iberian Peninsular, Madeira, the Balearics
- Thomas Cook holiday discounts
- Berry Birch and Noble 50+ Insurance Services (*new leaflet enclosed*)
- Advanced Business Equipment (Xerox concessionaires)
- Holiday accommodation offered by XPA members or their families

A complete pack is available from Margaret Brooks, XPA Administrator.

LIFE AFTER XEROX

Barry Morse writes:

The plan was laid – stay with RX until 40, get a job back in Wales and retire ten years later. The investments were in place, we already owned a house there, and the cats (our real masters) had established a territory in the nearby fields.

All went to plan. I got the job, with a soon-to-be-privatised electricity company; my wife, Ann, arranged a transfer from Customs and Excise to the Welsh Office.

Then, after 15 years of marriage, Ann became pregnant. But if the 'quality of life' arguments held for us, then they held for bringing up a child. So we moved, and the Welsh Office were happy for Ann to work part-time after maternity leave.

Maternity leave? There wasn't, since Ann had to go into hospital early and spent weeks having everything monitored. Within 6 months, my job changed – the years passed in a blur.

We had a new house built (a process worth 9.8 on the Richter

Scale of personal disaster). Ben developed in all directions, recalling both the Health Visitor's warning ('six foot five – he'll cost a fortune in shoes and clothes) and his nanny's prediction ('when he's five he'll be very tall, very bright and a manipulative little *****!'). The cats brought in specimens of all the local wildlife except buzzards and sheep. Most amazingly, the share price soared, often in spite of my best efforts.

Then in early 1996, the local water company bid for us at a price so flabbergasting we had to accept it. I survived the takeover by precisely one day.

My gardening improved and, in between trips to the Pontypool Job Centre (material for a smash-hit sitcom sometime), I read lots of Trollope, heard the complete Bach cantatas, invested a satisfyingly large compensation package and waited for my pensions.

Then I applied for a lectureship in accounting at Cardiff University

and, to my horror, got it. This was not part of the retirement plan!

I've been a university teacher for four years now. I wear a tie once a year (the graduation ceremony) and still look forward to Monday mornings. Daily contact with people whose minds remain unfossilised is immensely stimulating. The money is pathetic but two pensions more than make ends meet!

And the greatest paradox is that, having planned all my life to retire at 50, for the first time in my life I'm doing a job that I don't want to retire from. It's a funny old world...

Barry Morse worked in IHQ and Xerox Financial Services from 1976 until 1990. He would love to hear from former colleagues and can be E-mailed on MorseRB@cf.ac.uk

Old friends passing Usk in Monmouthshire are recommended to ask for The Greyhound Inn, which is in the Good Beer Guide and is at the end of his drive!

COMPETITION TIME!

General Knowledge Quiz

How is your general knowledge? Here are some brainteasers for you to try. Just list your answers on a postcard or sealed envelope, and send it to **Barbara Keech** to arrive not later than **30th September**.

- 1 Whose Motto is "Per Ardua ad Astra"?
- 2 What was the date of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II?
- 3 What date was 'D' day?
- 4 How many inches in a metre?
- 5 In which year did England win the World Cup?
- 6 Which is heavier, 200 grams or 8 ounces?
- 7 In which year was President John F. Kennedy assassinated?
- 8 Where will the 2004 Olympic Games be held?
- 9 How much is the current Car Tax for a year?
- 10 In the Royal Navy what is a 'Turks Head'?
- 11 What was the middle name of Franklin Roosevelt?
- 12 What is the date of the Queen's real birthday?
- 13 In the carol 'A partridge in a pear tree' what is No. 7?
- 14 The Eagle boys' magazine stopped being published around the late Sixties, but in which year did it first appear?
- 15 What is the national maximum speed on non-motorway roads in UK?

HOW WERE YOUR DINGBATS?

Our congratulations go to **Geoff Taylor** of the Channel Islands for winning our December Dingbats competition. Check how you fared with the answers below.

- 1 Grave errors
- 2 Hole in one
- 3 Four poster
- 4 Yew tree
- 5 Nothing in the world
- 6 Cut price
- 7 A round of applause
- 8 Capital punishment
- 9 A three piece suite
- 10 Banana split
- 11 The Big Match
- 12 A split pea
- 13 Five o'clock shadow
- 14 When in Rome
- 15 Another time, another place

HOW ABOUT A HOLIDAY IN TENERIFE



1st floor apartment in Silencio (above)

Accommodation comprises kitchen/diner, twin bedroom, bathroom with bath and shower, internal patio and large balcony, with use of 3 pools. Situated 6/7 minutes from the sea (rocky coast).

The apartment is close to shops, restaurants and bus services to all parts of the island. Local golf courses, tennis and bowls clubs are also nearby.

Further information from

George and Elizabeth Macree on **01425 489014**.
10 Grosvenor Close, Ashley Heath, Ringwood,
Hants BH24 2HG.

Two-bedroom apartment near the peaceful village of Los Gigantes (below)

The apartment is within walking distance of the beach and village centre and is about 30 minutes from Reina Sofia airport. Accommodation comprises main bedroom with one double and one single bed, a second bedroom with twin beds, two bed settees in the lounge and a fully-fitted kitchen and bathroom.

The apartment is ideally situated on the front of the marina, with the main balcony overlooking the boats and yachts. The side balcony attracts the morning sun and overlooks the new Water Park. There are shops, bars and restaurants overlooking the marina.

Further information and rates may be obtained from **Brian Poulson** on **0191 488 3508**.



Wapping walk 13th March

Our London Spring walk included 75 of our members. Beginning at Tower Hill, it took us to St. Catherine's Dock and around the rapidly-changing Docklands. We heard tales of press gangs, pirates and smugglers, saw the building which was originally the St. John School of Wapping (*see photo right*), now converted into luxury houses, and had a buffet lunch at the Captain Kidd riverside pub in Wapping High Street.

Chiltern tramp 6th April

Our Spring walk, led by **Doug Nevell**, was a circular itinerary from Berkhamstead with a pub lunch at Great Gaddesdon. It covered 8.5 miles, some of which was muddy and some uphill. Everybody enjoyed the day and the weather was fine, so the mud was not too deep!



West Midlands Service Mafia seen in Costa Del Crime

(Xerox Pensions, crime reporter's scoop)

Claiming to have retired from their old ways, the Rank Xerox West Midlands were photographed in February at a reunion in Marbella. Every day, the group was seen to be enjoying the sunshine around the resort swimming pool, groups were also spotted in public, travelling around the locality, shopping and sightseeing. They were heard boasting of not even having to spend their ill-gotten gains because drinks were provided free. Unfortunately for the hotel, many years of practice ensured that the European alcohol lake was emptied very rapidly.



**Left to right: Back row – Bob Johnson, Roy Horne, Bob Pratt, Jim Cookson
Middle row – Mike Gerrish, Ann Horne, Rita Cookson, Anne Gerrish, Frank Muston
Front row – Shirley Turner, Rosemary Pratt, Ray Turner, Chris Johnson, Liz Muston**

West Midlands police are thought to have had inside help from Bob and Rosemary Pratt and Ray and Shirley Turner, who are believed to have organised the return of the group to resume the rest of their sentences, convicted to

a hard British winter. Intelligence sources (so clearly nobody from the group) lead our crime reporter to believe that a similar breakout is planned for the same time next year. Emigration officials have been warned to be on the lookout.

Our day in the Cotswold town of Northleach

On a lovely day in May, our group visited the fine original 'wool' town of Northleach. The Heritage Centre explained all the processes of wool-making and included excellent pictures of shearing and spinning. The Centre is housed in part of the old Police Station and there we were able to read the records of penalties for breaking the law – 14 days for stealing a piece of wood (child aged 12), various

penalties for infringing the curfew, one month imprisonment for loutish behaviour, etc.

Wardens from the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Beauty gave us a guided tour of the town, while 10 of our group did an accompanied country walk. We were fed and watered admirably at the Red Lion, and had afternoon tea at the Corner Green after a most interesting visit to the



Mechanical Music Museum. Altogether an enjoyable day in a quiet and peaceful little town just off the A40.

More memories of Woburn



**Above: John Breen's early 1930s Lagonda
Centre: Owl at the falconry display
Right: Keenly contested croquet!**



Share it with us

Let us know about your holiday experiences or just keep us in touch with what is happening in your life. If you have something to say, write to **Barbara Keech**, XPA Secretary, or **Margaret Brooks** at Xerox Pensions – contact details appear on page 6.