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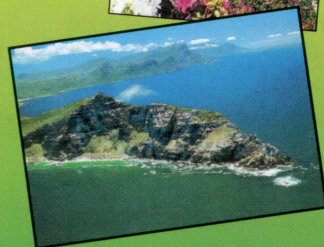
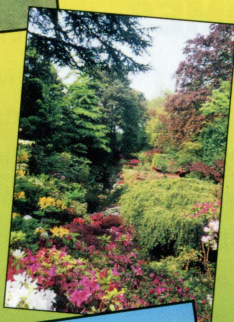
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**and lots more.**

## Places to go, people to see

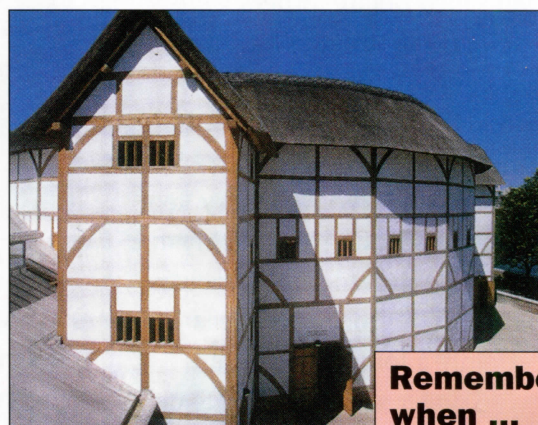
*We have plenty of interesting events lined up for the next few months and look forward to seeing lots of members at them. If you would like to participate in any of the activities featured here and on the next two pages, please fill in the appropriate Application Form enclosed with this Newsletter and return it to the person indicated on the Form.*

### SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE THEATRE

**Wednesday, 2nd  
September**

Sam Wanamaker's dream of reconstructing Shakespeare's Globe Theatre took 27 years to fulfil, but the theatre is now completed and fully operational. The reconstructed "Wooden O" on London's Bankside is just a few yards from the site of the original theatre, rediscovered in 1989.

During the morning of our visit, there will be a fascinating guided tour of the theatre. Here you can discover what an Elizabethan audience would have been like, find out about the rivalry between the Bankside theatres and learn about bear-baiting. Then we shall enjoy lunch at the Founders Arms on the Embankment before returning to the theatre to join the audience for the 2 p.m. performance of "The Merchant of Venice".



**Remember  
when ...**

*a Xerox 9200  
appeared at the  
Globe Theatre?  
Turn to page 10  
for the full story!*

### SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY

**Sunday, 11th October**

You are invited to enjoy a nostalgic trip on this steam railway from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth, during which Sunday lunch will be served. On the return journey, we shall alight at Bewdley, reputedly one of the most beautiful towns in England.



There we shall be met by a local guide who will take us on a walking tour of the town. Afterwards, there will be time for a cup of tea before we depart from Bewdley at around 5 p.m.

On the day of our visit, one of Britain's finest collections of classic vehicles will be on display at stations along the railway.



At the end of July, a number of XPA's South Coast members enjoyed a day's sailing in the Solent aboard "XEPHA", Xerox Sailing Association's 10-metre yacht. The response to the Association's invitation was fantastic, with enough willing participants to provide full crewing for two separate days' sailing. Some of the respondents had sailed before, others were taking up the challenge for the first time. Two particularly enthusiastic members signed up for both days!

Skipper **Dave Newbury** kept everyone working reasonably hard but ensured that there was plenty of fun too. There was certainly a lot to learn about being under sail and navigating in the busy Solent. A very pleasant lunch in Cowes was the occasion for some debate about the "alcohol-free" nature of the event (surely a first for some Xerox folk!), but there was general agreement that safety needs should prevail.



**A fair breeze for Xerox's yacht XEPHA.**

After an enjoyable return trip to Lymington, the yacht was moored up at around 6 p.m., with all the crew feeling a little tired but very exhilarated after an excellent day out.

Following the success of this pilot venture, Xerox Sailing Association is planning to offer XPA members further opportunities to experience

ocean sailing. Next season, there will be a number of Open Days specifically for XPA members. Details and booking forms will be provided in next April's issue of the Newsletter. In the meantime, if you would like more information or have any questions, please get in touch with **Trevor Paul** on 01753 884088.



## ON THE TRAIL

*Our picture shows one of the three groups of members who enjoyed a fascinating London walk in beautiful March sunshine. Starting from Warwick Avenue Underground, our guided tour proceeded through Little Venice, along the Regent's Canal and through Regent's Park to Baker Street. There, all 75 members who took part met up for an excellent tea at the Sherlock Holmes Hotel.*

## AT HOMES

Several locations will be hosting At Homes during the Autumn:

### **Mitcheldean**

**Tuesday 8th and**

**Tuesday 15th September**

Please reply to **Jeff McCoy** on the enclosed Application Form.

### **Welwyn Garden City**

**Thursday 24th September**

Please reply to **Paul Johnson**.

### **Warrington**

**Tuesday 13th October**

Please reply to **Sheila Webb**.



## AUTUMN WALK

**Monday, 5th October**

Our popular series of guided London walks continues with a tour of the characterful East End and Old Jewish Quarter, still reminiscent of the 19th century when Jack the Ripper stalked its byways. The walk will begin at 11.30 a.m. at Aldgate Underground Station and will end with a pub lunch.

## CLASSICAL MUSIC SPECTACULAR

**Sunday, 15th November**

Following the success of our visit to the Royal Albert Hall in March, we have again booked a block of tickets for another Classical Music Spectacular, with laser light show. Tickets are available at the discounted price of £12.50 each and the performance will begin at 3 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN BELGIUM

**from Thursday, 10th December  
for 4 days/3 nights**

Here's your chance to make Christmas shopping fun by joining us for a coach visit to Belgium's traditional Christmas markets.

Accommodation will be at The Holiday Inn in the centre of Leuven, just a few minutes from the markets. Bed, full champagne breakfast, and dinner on Thursday and Friday will be included. All bedrooms have en-suite facilities, colour TV, telephone, hairdryer and tea/coffee-making facilities. There is a lift to all floors.

During our stay, we shall have the opportunity to visit a chocolate factory, a small traditional brewery and a lace factory. There will also be a guided walking tour of Leuven and a trip to Brussels to see the Grand Palace, the 17th century Mannekin Pis statue and the Atomium.

Ample leisure time will provide plenty of opportunities for visiting the Christmas markets, sampling local foods and buying traditional Christmas gifts.

Total cost for the trip will be £175 per person, with a £30 single room supplement. You are asked to send a deposit of £65, in the form of a cheque made payable to **XPA HOLIDAY FUND**, when you return the enclosed Application Form.

Coach pick-up points will be arranged as soon as we know what the response is from various areas.



## Christmas and New Year events

We have already started planning our Christmas and New Year events and, as last year, we shall **not** be sending out invitations automatically. If you are interested in any of the events listed opposite, you **must** complete the red Application Form enclosed with this Newsletter and return it to the person indicated on the Form. You will then be sent a formal invitation.

- **Mitcheldean Tuesday, 8th December**  
Lunch at the Sports & Social Club – please reply to **Jeff McCoy**.
- **Ferndown Wednesday, 9th December**  
Lunch at Tricketts Cross – please reply to **Harry Robertson**.
- **Welwyn Garden City Thursday, 7th January**  
Dinner at Welwyn Technical Centre – please reply to **Paul Johnson**.
- **Bristol Saturday, 9th January**  
Dinner at The Grange Hotel, Winterbourne, with overnight accommodation available, if required – please reply to **Paul Pilbrow**.
- **Amersham Thursday, 14th January**  
Dinner at Guido's – please reply to **Barbara Keech**.
- **Preston Saturday, 23rd January**  
Northern dinner at the Jarvis Hotel, with overnight accommodation available, if required – please reply to **Sheila Webb**.



# Xerox restructures to meet digital challenge

A major restructuring of Xerox was announced in April, designed to enhance the Company's competitive position to meet the demands of the digital world. The changes are likely to cost over \$1 billion and could involve the loss of some 9,000 jobs worldwide.

When fully implemented, the proposed changes are expected to achieve cost savings in the region of \$1 billion a year. The money saved will be invested in process enablers – to achieve process simplification in customer delivery – in the direct sales force and in research.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, **Paul Allaire**, emphasised that the restructuring was being undertaken from a position of strength and would ensure Xerox's continued competitiveness in the digital world. Chief Operating Officer, **Rick Thoman**, outlined six key objectives to be achieved by the Company:

## **X To attain double-digit revenue growth**

Xerox's annual revenue growth rate has been 6% over the past three years but digital companies have been averaging 20% and some are as high as 53%.

## **X To boost productivity**

Xerox's sales, general and administration (SAG) costs are four times higher than those of some of its competitors.

## **X To reduce complex processes**

To get products to market faster and to respond to customers more quickly.

## **X To change the culture**

The Company has been benchmarking the wrong competitors and needs to align its goals with the harsh realities of the digital world.

## **X To adopt a dynamic new business model**

To become a faster growing business and, like the competitors, be able to operate with lower gross profit margins.

## **X To allow no margin for error**

Xerox must be able to run its business and provide good customer service at much lower cost. The industry can be merciless to losers – of the top 50 companies in our business 20 years ago, only 15 have survived.



**Rick Thoman, Chief Operating Officer, challenges Xerox to meet the demands of the digital world.**

## WHAT THE PAPERS SAID

Xerox's restructuring announcement received a generally favourable response from the world's press. Comments included the following:

### **FINANCIAL TIMES**

It is a pleasure to see a company restructuring from a position of strength for a change.

### **Wall Street Journal**

Analysts lauded the moves as likely to bolster the company's already strong position.

### **USA TODAY**

This is one of the first companies to embrace what I think is a new trend, of the best-in-class companies restructuring to distance themselves from any competitor.

**Alex Henderson, analyst at Prudential Securities**

## WELCOME CENTRE EUROPE

As part of the restructuring, Xerox Limited has announced plans to centralise customer service call-handling operations in a single establishment. The new Welcome Centre will be located in Ireland and, when complete, will employ over 400 staff. It will replace what are at present 50 or more customer service call-handling centres spread throughout Europe.





## GOLF SOCIETY UPDATE



At the end of June, the XPA Golf Society held its third event of the year at the Manor of Groves Golf and Country Club, near Sawbridgeworth in Hertfordshire. The two previous get-togethers were at Weston Turville in April and at Hatfield London in May.

We have a solid group of regulars but should, of course, very much welcome new players. Incidentally, our latest recruit, **Liz Webster**, also has the lowest handicap ... playing off an impossible four.

We normally hold Society days at least six times a year. In addition, there are mini-challenge matches against Marlow and we also enter a team each year in the Haggett Trophy competition.

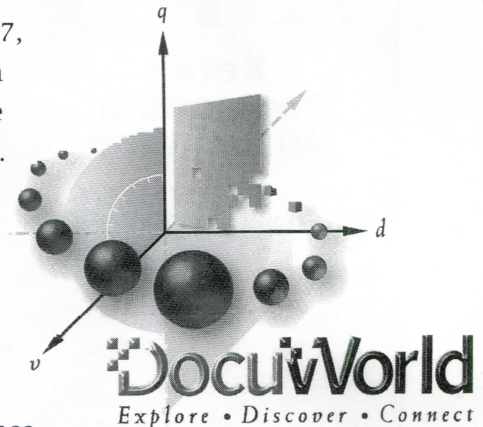
If you would like more information, please contact **Paul Donegan** on 01727 862004.

## DocuWorld back again!

Following its spectacular success in 1997, DocuWorld is back for 1998, once again encompassing a Xerox-wide programme of global and regional marketing events. The main UK event will be held at the National Exhibition Centre between 22nd and 30th September and will be part of IPEX 98, the largest printing, publishing and visual communications event ever held in the United Kingdom.

Xerox will have a dominating presence at the event, with an exhibition area the size of the Wembley football pitch! All parts of the UK organisation will be represented, together with Xerox European entities and around 50 partner companies. The DocuWorld hall will provide an impressive setting for displaying the breadth and depth of the Company's digital products and solutions.

For more information about IPEX and the UK DocuWorld event, please call free on 0800 731 3937.



## Congratulations!

Two members of the XPA Visiting Team have recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversaries and we send them our warmest congratulations:

**George Allen** and his wife, **Ellen**, of Waltham Abbey reached their 50 years on 17th April.

**Ron Boakes** and his wife, **Eileen**, from Barnwood celebrated their anniversary on 5th June.

Congratulations too to **Jim Evans** and his wife, **Beryl**, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 1st March. Jim was a senior member of the management team at Mitcheldean for many years. He and Beryl lived in Huntley until last year when they moved to Dorset to be nearer their family. The couple celebrated their 60 years of marriage at a restaurant near Wareham.

## Xerox strengthens its Olympic ties

A worldwide sponsor of the Olympic movement since 1964, Xerox has renewed its commitment through to the 2000 Games in Sydney. The Company will provide the facilities to produce results reports on demand and results books containing event statistics, athlete biographies and pictograms within 24, 48 and 72 hours of each sport's completion. Using OTTO (Olympic Technology Trailer Operations), which performed impressively at the Atlanta Games, it will also be providing a mobile results printing service for the cycling and walking events.

Commenting on the Olympic challenge, **Paul Allaire**, Xerox Chairman, said "The Olympic Committee is a very demanding customer. We need to push our technology to its absolute limits and devise ever more innovative solutions to meet its exacting requirements".





## Xerox Pensioners' Association

### Aims

1. To establish and maintain a two-way personal link with all Xerox pensioners, who are automatically members of XPA.
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.

### Regional Co-ordinators

#### Western Region **Jeff McCoy**

Chy-Reen, Mayhill, Longhope,  
Gloucestershire GL17 0NL.  
Tel: 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.*

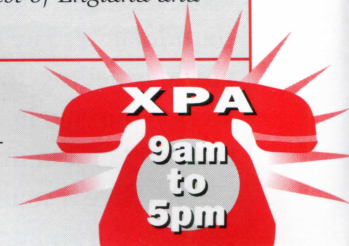
#### Central Region **John Smith**

Blewbury Cottage, Bulstrode Way,  
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire  
SL9 7QT.

Tel: 01753 884486.  
*The Central Region is based on Bridge House, Uxbridge and Marlow and covers the rest of England and Scotland.*

### XPA Secretary

A reminder that our Secretary, **Mrs Barbara Keech**, has a dedicated telephone number - 01895 814226 - which is also a fax line. **PLEASE USE THIS NUMBER AT ALL TIMES AND CALL ONLY BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 5 P.M.** If Barbara is not available, you will either hear an answerphone message or your call will be switched automatically through to Xerox Pensions. Barbara's address is 84 Swakeleys Drive, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middx UB10 8QG.



**Monday to Friday  
01895 814226**

### Taxation & State Benefits specialist

XPA can provide members with specialist help on any problems relating to taxation or State benefits. Please contact XPA Secretary, **Barbara Keech**, for more information.

### Xerox Pensions

Our main point of contact at Xerox Pensions is **Mrs Lois Dawson**, who can be reached at Compton Court, 20-24 Temple End, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5DR. Telephone **01494 461700**.

## MEMBERSHIP FILE

**NEWCOMERS** We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

#### Assignment

Graham Davies

#### Ginn & Company

Arthur Rochester

#### IHQ

Andy Dougall  
Mel Heyes  
Graham Pearson  
Mike Ratcliffe  
Liz Webster

#### Mitcheldean

Patricia Aplin  
Ronald Arkell  
Edward Carpenter  
Neville Edmunds  
Clifford Knight  
Leonard Ore

#### UK Company

Graham Andrews  
William Bainbridge  
Edwin Barnett  
Keith Boughton  
Alan Brown  
Lesley Calder  
Gordon Clatworthy  
John Cogzell  
Roy Cowell  
Valerie Cross  
Irene Hammond  
Barry Higgs  
Brian Howe  
Christine Ivanson  
Richard Langstaffe  
Denise Maynard  
Colin Newberry  
William Nicholls  
John Orme

Colin Ruck  
Ronald Sloan  
Graham Smith  
Brian Stockdale  
Jeffrey Thompson  
Barrie Ward  
John White  
Mick Whitmore  
Colin Wright

#### Welwyn

Jeff Crouchley  
Charles Davies  
Barry Grossmith  
Florence Johnson  
Ken Jones  
Ed Kennedy  
Robert Owen  
Brian Strugnell  
Michael Tubbs

**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:

#### Mitcheldean

Alfred Bennett (72)  
Alfred Browning (83)  
Bernard Cheadle (83)  
Dave Cullis (73)  
Evan Daniel (75)  
Bernard Ferriman (81)  
Tom Griffin (77)  
Eva Gwilliam (78)  
Florence Jenkins (81)  
Sidney Knight (75)  
John Pardington (68)  
Marjorie Powell (74)  
Robert Robertson (63)  
Dennis Sollis (69)  
Brendon Wheatstone (73)  
George Willstead (76)

#### UK Company

John Blundell (51)  
Sydney Cooper (55)  
Ken Ford (48)  
Ray Hooker (49)  
Kenneth McLaren (87)  
John Robson (70)  
Derek Varley (62)

#### Welwyn

Cyril Evans (71)  
Jacqueline Hart (69)  
James Kibler (70)  
William Munford (61)  
Robbie Robertson (67)



# XPA Discounts and Offers

## Take a break – you deserve it!

XPA and Jarvis Hotels have teamed up to give members the opportunity to get away from it all at special reduced rates. The group is offering a 15% discount on their standard Leisure Break prices, which are inclusive of bed, breakfast and dinner for two people sharing a twin/double room for a minimum of two nights over a weekend. You can choose from over 60 hotels throughout the country.

To take advantage of this offer, all you have to do is to contact Jarvis Reservations Centre. They will be able to supply you with a brochure or take your booking. Call them on **0345 303040**, quoting **XEROX promotion**.

## Island haven

Want to get away from it all ... then how about a holiday on the beautiful Isle of Islay, famed for its malt whisky and its birdlife? **Pat** and

**John Kent** are

offering XPA members accommodation at Tighcargaman, built in its own grounds in 1842 on the outskirts of Port Ellen and enjoying magnificent views over the bay to Carraig Fhada lighthouse and the cliffs of Oa.

You can choose either bed, breakfast and dinner or self-catering. With the former, you will stay in one of three double/twin bedded rooms, with use of a shower room. With the self-catering option, you have a choice of stone cottages accommodating 2 or 4 persons. The cottages have been rendered and modernised and are fully equipped with electric cooker, fridge, heating, hot water and bed linen.

Further details from Pat or John at Tighcargaman, Port Ellen, Isle of Islay PA42 7VBX. Telephone: 01496 302345.



## Special rental deal from Europcar

Europcar has agreed to provide XPA members with vehicle rental in the UK and abroad at special rates. As one of Europe's leading rental companies, Europcar has more than 2,800 outlets in 122 countries throughout the world. In the United Kingdom alone, it has over 100 outlets, including full on-site facilities at 22 airports. So, wherever you're travelling, you should be able to rent a vehicle from Europcar.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Europcar on **0345 125567**, quoting the Xerox Pensioners' **contract number 80184530**. You will then qualify for the special rates, terms and conditions which we have negotiated.

## NEW VISITOR

We are very pleased to welcome **Mary Slevin** as a new Visitor in the Eastern Region. Mary started her 20-year career with Rank Xerox in 1970 when, as Mary Robertson, she took the job of Secretary to the Managing Director of Rank Xerox International, based at Euston Road in London.

After studying at night school for her Institute of Personnel Management Diploma, Mary moved to the Personnel Department of the Manufacturing Group at Welwyn Garden City. Before leaving the Company in June 1990, she was in a group role as Training & Development Manager at Welwyn.

Mary is married to John Slevin, another long-serving veteran of both the Rank Organisation and Rank Xerox. The couple met in 1981, were subsequently married, and have both been fully retired for several years now. They have a house in the South of France, where they spend three or four months a year, and they are also regular visitors to Holland where John's three children live.

## Information Pack

The XPA Information Pack, containing full details of all the goods and services on which discount is offered to members, is available from XPA Secretary, **Barbara Keech**.

### DON'T FORGET ...

Disney Magic Kingdom cards expire on 1st December 1998.



# As young as you feel!

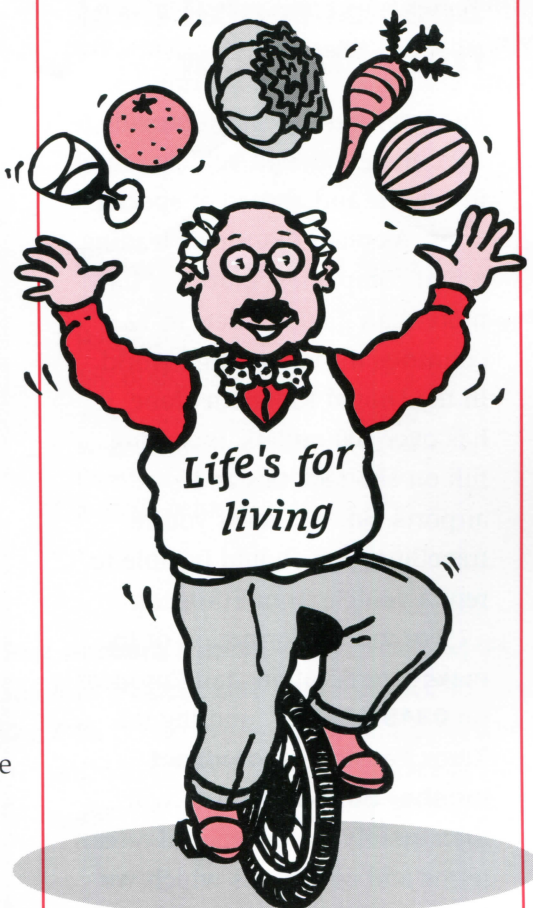
**Ann Higgs, a health consultant who recently gave an entertaining and informative presentation at a meeting of XPA Visitors, outlines some of the practical advice on staying young which is emerging from current research into ageing.**

Why are scientists currently so interested in genetically engineering a fruit fly with a photographic memory? Could it have something to do with helping us to stay younger longer?

Medical research is certainly increasing our understanding of which genes predispose us to live longer. Attention is focussed on one gene in particular which, in young people, combats the damage done to cells by toxic oxygen by-products, known as free radicals. The race is on to produce this synthetically, perhaps offering future generations the prospect of a dramatically extended lifespan. The fabled elixir of youth may indeed become a reality one day!

## Eat the right things

We can't take any magic pill yet – and perhaps wouldn't want to anyway – but there are still plenty of things we can do to combat the effects of ageing. Making sure we eat a healthy diet is one of the most important of them and that means getting plenty of vitamins A and beta-carotene, C and E and minerals such as zinc, selenium, copper and manganese. These effectively mop up those harmful free radicals while at the same time also lowering blood



pressure, cholesterol and the risks of heart disease and some forms of cancer.

So how do we get all these vitamins and minerals? Well, we need to eat about a pound of fresh plant food every day. Grandma was right about eating up our greens! The fruit and vegetables with the brightest colours, going right through to the centre, such as broccoli, oranges, carrots and cantaloupe melons, usually contain the most anti-oxidants.

A balanced diet should also contain some protein and be high in fibre and low in fat. Research also indicates that overeating can be harmful at any age. So Grandma was also correct when she said "enough is enough"! If she enjoyed an occasional tippie, she'd probably get another pat

on the back from today's experts many of whom endorse the consumption of alcohol, at least in moderation.

## Think positively

Behavioural psychologists are beginning to identify certain personality traits which are associated with longevity. A positive attitude, adaptable outlook, sociability, and an active mind all help to slow down the ageing process.

Have you noticed that it's becoming increasingly difficult to pick out the older folk in a crowd? They look younger, dress younger and refuse to conform to the traditional stereotypes of old age ... a trend which now has the boffins' official approval!

## Keep fit

And what about exercise? Well, yes. I'm afraid that's good for us too! Numerous studies show that the physically active usually retain muscle strength and flexibility much longer and have stronger and less brittle bones. Sensible exercise also makes the heart and lungs work more efficiently and can reduce the risk of developing various common ailments. We don't all have to be 85-year old marathon runners or pole-vaulters but we can all get some real benefits from keeping active.

By the way, I still don't understand about that fruit fly business. But maybe if the scientists are successful, they'll be able to help me remember what I just went upstairs for!



# UPDATE ON THE BUDGET

**Jack Bonney, our Taxation and State benefits specialist, takes us through some of the points in the Chancellor's March Budget which may be of particular relevance to members.**

The March Budget brought no immediate significant changes on the Income Tax front. However the Chancellor did announce important changes in Income Tax to be introduced in 1999 plus a comprehensive review of the welfare system – we shall examine these in future issues of the Newsletter. Here, though, is a summary of Income Tax allowances and rates for the current tax year:

## Tax allowances

Personal Allowance	£4195
Married Allowance	£1,900*
Personal Allowance (age 65-74)	£5,410
Married Allowance (age 65-74)	£3,305*
Personal Allowance (age 75 +)	£5,600
Married Allowance (age 75 +)	£3,345*
Widow's Bereavement Allowance	£1,900*
Blind Person's Allowance	£1,330

\* Tax relief limited to 15%.

## Tax rates

Income between £1 and £4,300	<b>20%</b>
Income between £4,301 and £27,100	<b>23%</b>
Income over £27,100	<b>40%</b>

## Other points from the Budget are:

- Tax relief on mortgage interest is reduced to 10% except for interest on mortgages for Home Income Schemes, where the rate is not reduced.
- The 15% tax relief on the Married Allowance will be reduced to 10% from April 1999. However, the Married Allowance for over-65s will be increased to compensate, so they will not lose out.
- The Indexation Allowance used in the calculation of Capital Gains Tax will not apply after 6th April 1998 but the charge applied to assets held for more than three years will be "tapered". The annual tax-free capital gain is increased to £6,800.
- Surprisingly, there were no changes to Inheritance Tax and the threshold is increased from £215,000 to £223,000.

## THANKS

... to all Rank Xerox pensioners who have submitted stories and photos relating to the Company's early days, in response to our appeal in the last Newsletter for contributions to our planned history book. We have already had an excellent response but would still welcome further contributions. Please send any material you think may be of interest to XPA Secretary, **Barbara Keech**.

... also to those members who have been in touch to say that they are Internet users and would be interested in an XPA Website. We shall keep you posted on any further developments on this front.

## PENSION PAYSLEIPS

Some members will have received payslips for their June and July pension payments in addition to those issued, as usual, in April and May. This was because of changes in the March Budget which came into effect on May 18th.

This is just a reminder, therefore, that many of you will not now receive another pension payslip until 1st April 1999, when the annual pensions increase is applied. Otherwise, pension payslips will only be issued if your net pay differs by 25 pence or more compared to the previous payment.

**DON'T FORGET ...** We do need to know if you move house or change your bank or building society. Changes to your bank or building society account details must be notified to Xerox Pensions by the **17th** of the month if the change is to become effective on the first of the following month.

## PENSION PAYDATES

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

<b>September pension</b>	<b>Tuesday 1st September</b>
<b>October pension</b>	<b>Thursday 1st October</b>
<b>November pension</b>	<b>Friday 30th October</b>
<b>December pension</b>	<b>Tuesday 1st December</b>



## Successful Poet

**John Onslow Johnson** is one of our Mitcheldean pensioners who has been successful in having some of his poems published on cassette tape in the "Contemporary Poets Series". Here is one of John's compositions:

### *The Errand*

*Down the hill the cycle ran,  
speed increased with every yard,  
on towards the waiting highway  
where the Law was standing guard.*

*Eyes agape, the rider crouched  
above his mount, but held his course,  
scattered everything before him,  
people, hens, a dog, a horse.*

*Tighter squeezed the clutching hands,  
knuckles white beneath their hold.  
On the heartless monster hurtled,  
faster, faster, uncontrolled.*

*Swift and true as flight of arrow;  
straight for office door, so narrow;  
(freshly painted, red and yellow)  
gleaming so invitingly:*

*With a mighty crash, like thunder  
that fine door was torn asunder  
and across the startled counter  
winged the rider, faultlessly*

*Quick as sight the people gathered;  
jostled eagerly and blathered;  
the Law, all hot and lathered,  
pushed inside officiously:*

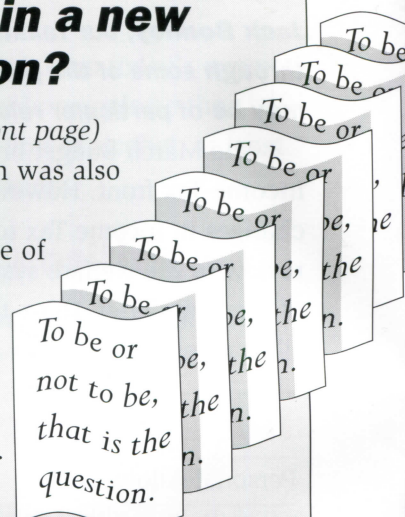
*The rider slowly gained his feet,  
felt his body, limbs and head,  
climbed again across the counter,  
"Please, two penny stamps", he said.*

## REMEMBER WHEN ... ... a Xerox 9200 starred in a new Shakespearian production?

Our planned visit to the Globe Theatre (see front page) brought to mind a TV ad for Rank Xerox which was also featured in the May 1977 issue of the Sales Information Digest (S.I.D.). The ad told the tale of a famous playwright, Will Shakespeare, and a remarkably well-informed scribe. With 10 minutes to go before the first rehearsal of the Bard's new play "Hamlet", Will finds that he needs copies of the script for all of the 28 cast. In desperation, he turns to the scribe.

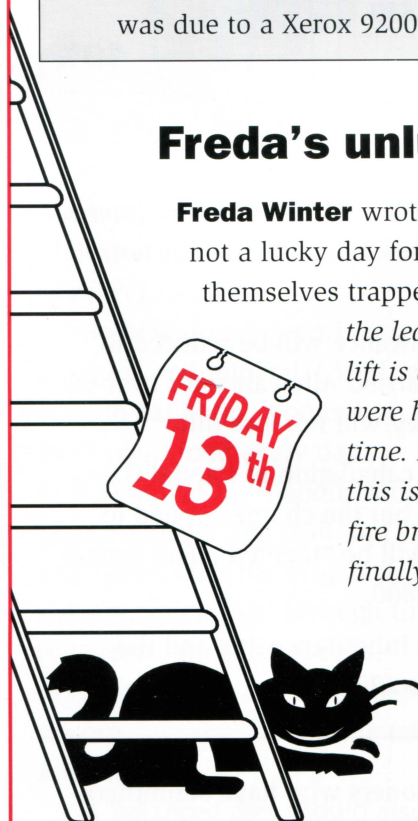
The wily scribe, in fine dramatic style, takes Will aside. To his amazement, there in the (original!) Globe Theatre is a Xerox 9200. By pressing a few buttons, the scribe renders the Bard of Avon almost speechless! Within a few seconds, Will has his scripts neatly collated into 28 sets.

We all know the rest of the story ... "Hamlet" goes on to be a great success. But how many people realise how much of that success was due to a Xerox 9200?



## Freda's unlucky day

**Freda Winter** wrote to tell us why Friday 13th February was not a lucky day for her. She and her friend, Ada, found themselves trapped in a lift ... "We were not panicking in the least but we were very uncomfortable. The lift is always cold – I call it the ice-box – and we were having trouble standing for such a long time. A thought flashed through my mind – so this is how caged animals feel. In the end, the fire brigade came to our rescue. The lift door finally opened, I stumbled and almost fell into the fireman's arms (well it was a good try!). We were so glad to be free, all we wanted was to sit down and have a cup of tea. The episode had lasted 40 minutes but it seemed like hours!"



### Did you know?

That the rail companies offer a Help for the Elderly service? You can arrange for staff to seat you, carry your luggage and meet you from the train. Contact the Customer Services Department of the relevant rail company, whose number you will find in the local phone directory under "Train Information".



# Royal splendour at Brighton

Most of the 72 XPA members and guests who came along for our day out in Brighton in April had visited the town before. But many had not previously been inside the Royal Pavilion and, doing so this time, they were impressed by its elegance and style.

Our informed and amusing guide, Hannelore, explained that this famous seaside residence was built for King George IV and was also used by his brother, William IV, and their niece, Queen Victoria. Built on what was the site of a farmhouse, the original neo-classical villa constructed by architect Henry Holland in 1787 was later transformed into its current Indian style by John Nash between 1815 and 1822.

We heard about the lavish menus created in the Great Kitchen and served in the



**The Brighton visitors enjoy lunch at Donatello's.**

opulence of the Banqueting Room, dominated by its spectacular central chandelier held by a silvered dragon. This put us in the mood for our own

lunch – on a rather more modest scale but none the less enjoyable for that – served in nearby Donatello's friendly and bustling family-run restaurant.



## GARDEN OF DELIGHTS

**Central Region Co-ordinator, John Smith, recalls the XPA visit to Compton Acres, Poole, in May.**

*"One is nearer to God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on Earth".* This should be described on a tablet at Compton Acres, a collection of gardens, each with a different theme, which has something for everyone. The gardens represent the realisation of one man's dream – Thomas Simpson bought a house and 12 acres of land after the First World War and then spent £200,000 (roughly equivalent to £3 million today) on importing plants and materials to form a kaleidoscope of gardens from around the world. They were neglected during the Second World War but, having been purchased by London architect J.S. Beard in 1950, they were restored to their former glory.

We enjoyed a leisurely stroll around the grounds, lunch in the Conservatory, and an afternoon tea which fully met Barbara's high standards for scones, home-made jam and lashings of cream. I'm sure that we could now produce our own book on "The Best Afternoon Teas in the United Kingdom". Recommendations welcome for restaurants and teashops which we might consider for future visits!



# COMPETITIONS



## Easter Wordsearch winner

Congratulations to **George Macree** of Ringwood who was the winner of the Easter Wordsearch Competition in the last issue of the Newsletter. George's was the first correct entry drawn out of the hat and he wins the £25 prize. Here is a list of the hidden words: BONNET, BUNNY, CHICKS, CRUCIFORM, EASTER PARADE, EGGS, FESTIVAL, GOOD FRIDAY, HOT CROSS BUN, HYMNS, PALM, RESURRECTION.

## PHOTO COMPETITION 1998

A reminder that **Wednesday, 30th September** is the last date for entries for this year's Photo Competition, which has the following three categories:



Entries may be either black and white or transparencies or prints (between size EN and 10" x 8") and

should be submitted to XPA Secretary, **Barbara Keech**. The following information should be attached to your entry: name, address, telephone number, and the category you are entering. All entries will be returned after judging by the Mitcheldean Camera Club.

There will be a £25 prize in each category and the winning entries will be published in the December 1998 issue of the Newsletter.

## VISIT TO THE CAPE



**Spectacular Cape Point**

Atlantic and Indian oceans meet, and a visit to an African township where the inhabitants gave us such a warm welcome and enthusiastically showed us their hand-made crafts.

Sir Francis Drake described the Cape as "*the fairest cape and most stately thing we saw in the whole circumference of the globe*" and his judgement was one with which we could all concur.

In April, a small group of XPA's frequent travellers took advantage of a special offer from Saga Holidays and headed off for two weeks in the South African Cape, where we enjoyed the most beautiful scenery, plants and animals. Highlights of the trip included a visit to the Cape Peninsula in the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, where the

**YOUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!** We welcome contributions to the Newsletter from you, the members. If you have anything which you think may be of interest, please get in touch with **Barbara Keech**, XPA Secretary, or with **Lois Dawson** at Xerox Pensions.

## ODD ONE OUT

For our Competition this time, we are asking which is the Odd One Out and why in each of the following eight groups.

1. Admiral  
Commander  
Wing Commander  
Lieutenant
2. Figaro  
Don Giovanni  
Magic Flute  
Fingal's Cave
3. Tom Jones  
Elton John  
Paul McCartney  
Cliff Richard
4. Italy  
Portugal  
Spain  
Greece
5. Norman Mailer  
Winston Churchill  
Ernest Hemingway  
Bertrand Russell
6. St. Paul's Cathedral  
The Tower of London  
The Old Bailey  
The Bank of England
7. OS2  
MS Windows  
Pascal  
Unix
8. Eddie Merckx  
Miguel Indurain  
Chris Boardman  
Bjarne Riis

Please list your answers and reasons why on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope and send them to XPA Secretary, **Barbara Keech**, to arrive by **Wednesday, 30th September**.

Don't forget to enclose your name and address with your entry. There will be a £25 prize for the first correct entry drawn.