

In this issue...

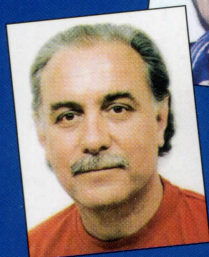


We're running with the ball! **page 4**

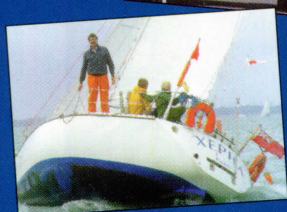
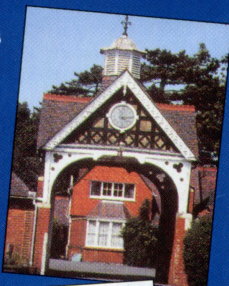


B&B **page 5**

Meet our new Visitors **page 6**



Britain's best kept secret **page 10**



Have you got sea-legs? **page 11**

and lots more.

History brought to life

We have arranged a visit to Gloucester on **Tuesday, 19th October**, which promises to offer something of interest for everyone.

Gloucester is the home to Britain's most inland port, whose outstanding Victorian warehouses are stars in

numerous period

films and televised dramas. In their heyday, the Gloucester Docks formed the gateway for waterborne traffic travelling into the Midlands. Today, the Docks are better known for their award-winning museums, attractions, shops and restaurants and our visit will give us time to explore all these things.

Our day will start with coffee on arrival, followed by a tour of the Docks with official Guides. Lunch will be taken at The New Inn (a 10 minute walk) and afterwards there will be options of taking a short boat tour, visiting Gloucester Cathedral or staying at the Docks and visiting the Packaging Museum, the National Waterways Museum and the Gloucester Soldiers' Museum.

Early booking essential!



NAPF – didn't we do well!

One of the most sought-after awards made each year by the NAPF (National Association of Pension Funds) is for the 'Pensions Department of the Year', for schemes that can show excellence across the board. This year, Xerox shared second place with the Post Office Pension Schemes. Xerox was praised for its innovation: *"Every year the Scheme has tried to deal with a different issue, whether it's switching choices for members, reviewing AVC policy or encouraging non-member involvement"*.

National Trust free entry day

On **Wednesday, 15th September**

173 National Trust properties will offer free admission. Call **0181 315 1111** for a list of the properties included.

NEWSFLASH

LONDON COACH TOUR

**Tuesday, 17th August –
pick up from Mitcheldean
and Baker Street
– see overleaf for details.**

Something for everyone

Coming soon ... London with a difference!

**Tuesday, 17th August –
by coach – picking up
from Mitcheldean and
London**

Here is a guided tour, this time by coach, for the benefit of our Pensioners who live further out. There will be two main pick-up points – the first in the Mitcheldean area from where we will travel, via the A40, to Baker Street Station to pick up the guide and other travellers at around 11.00 am. We travel through the West End and the Royal Parks, past the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace, through Whitehall and Trafalgar Square to Greenwich, where we will have lunch at the Thames-side Trafalgar Pub.

After lunch, we will visit Docklands, the Dome, the Thames Barrier, City Airport and Canary Wharf, and return via St. Paul's and Fleet Street. Throughout the tour, John Muffy, our Blue Badge Guide, will give a comprehensive commentary on the places of interest. We will return via the A40, setting down once again at Baker Street Station before returning to Mitcheldean.

**Booking form enclosed –
please complete and
return PROMPTLY and
indicate which pick-up
point you require.**

Autumn Walk – Secret London

Thursday, 21st October – 11am sharp!

We meet at The Temple underground station for this latest of our popular London walks. We will walk along the riverside, the Strand and past the old Palaces – the Savoy and the Adelphi – and we will hear about John O'Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, one of Richard II's advisers, and the Peasants' Revolt in 1381 and visit the house of Arkwright, inventor of the Spinning Jenny.

The walk will finish with a 2-course lunch at The Players' Theatre, Charing Cross, where we will see a Victorian Music Hall to round off the day.

Autumn At Homes

The 'At Homes' are your chance to keep in contact with the Company. Do come along and see how things are going.

Mitcheldean Tuesday, 7th and 14th September at 1.30pm

This year's format is slightly different. It will include a tour of Xerox Business Services, where we will hear about their Translation Services, Facilities Management, Instruction Manuals, Patents, Documents Lifetime Care Services etc, finishing at 3.15pm with light refreshments in the Sports and Social Club.

Welwyn Garden City Thursday, 23rd September at 2.30pm

**Midlands Xerox Offices, Birmingham Business Park –
Friday, 26th November at 10.30am.**

If you would like to come, please complete the enclosed Application Form and return it to the XPA Officer indicated.

Barbara Keech

If you attend one of our outings, look out for **Barbara Keech**, the XPA Secretary, when you arrive at the venue. She will make sure you are in the right place at the right time to enjoy your trip to the full.



Remembering 'the few'

Battle of Britain Museum – RAF Uxbridge Thursday, 7th October, 10.15 am



Headquarters No 11 Group Fighter Command was responsible for the air defence of London and the South East of England during the war. The operations room at RAF Uxbridge exists today as it did on 15th September 1940 – the day it was visited by Winston Churchill to witness the conduct of the Battle of Britain.

The museum and Ops Room are of particular interest to those people living reasonably close to Uxbridge. We will meet at the main entrance to the camp at 10.15 am and our visit will include a tour of the Museum and No.11 Group Operations Underground Bunkers with the Curator and an illustrated talk by him entitled '1940 – The Decisive Battle'.

We will finish with a buffet lunch at the Battle of Britain Club.



Christmas and New Year Events

If you wish to attend any of the lunches or dinners listed here, please complete the enclosed red form and return it to the relevant XPA Officer as shown on the back of the form.



Norwich LUNCH Tuesday 14th December
Oaklands Hotel, Thorpe St. Andrews, Norwich



Ferndown LUNCH Wednesday 8th December
Tricketts Cross, Dorset



Mitcheldean LUNCH Tuesday 7th December
Sports and Social Club



Welwyn Garden City DINNER Thursday 13th January
Jarvis International Hotel, Hatfield



Amersham, Bucks DINNER Thursday 6th January
Guido's Restaurant, South Road, Amersham



Northern DINNER Saturday 29th January
Swallow Hotel, Rotherham, South Yorkshire



Midlands BUFFET Thursday 13th January
Dog & Doublet, Bodymoor Heath
(space limited - XPA Pensioners only)

Dates for your diary

August

Tuesday 17th
Coach Tour of London (*page 2*)

September

Sunday 5th
Lord's Tour and Village Cup Final
(*page 11*)

October

Friday 1st
Paper Group Reunion (*page 8*)
Thursday 7th
Battle of Britain Museum, Uxbridge
(*above*)

Tuesday 19th
Gloucester Docks (*front page*)

Thursday 21st
Secret London walk (*page 2*)

November

Monday 1st to Friday 5th
Turkey & Tinsel escape, Bournemouth
(*page 11*)

Tuesday 9th
Ashorne Hall – lunch and music
(*back page*)

Booking form enclosed for all the above trips – complete and return to
Barbara Keech.

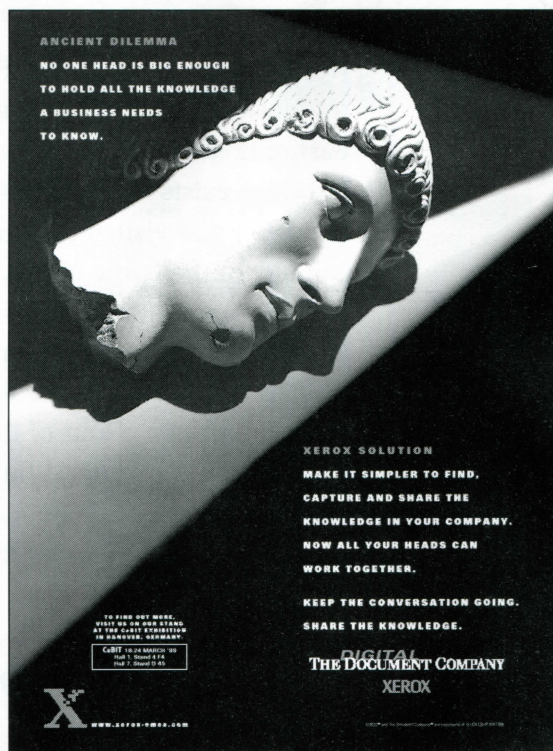
**More visits to come – and some we made earlier – see pages 10, 11 and 12.
An Application Form is enclosed for you to indicate the visits you would like to make.**

COMPANY NEWS

Today at Xerox Europe – Xerox and Microsoft to share the Knowledge

At a press conference held on 18th May at PARC, co-hosted by Rick Thoman and Steve Ballmer, Xerox and Microsoft announced a collaboration designed to accelerate the pace, and simplify the process, for sharing knowledge in the office. This collaboration furthers Xerox's vision to bridge the paper and digital worlds as outlined to the world's press at the Global Solutions launch on 27th April.

Xerox and Microsoft have agreed to share technology and



work together to create new collaboration and communication solutions, based on Microsoft Windows NT Embedded and Exchange Server. The aim is to

leverage the powerful capabilities of Xerox's Document Centre Systems. CEO **Rick Thoman** said, 'Integrating the technologies and product capabilities of Xerox and Microsoft enable the timely delivery of information. They are the catalysts for knowledge-sharing to become a realistic and relevant capability in the office today.'

And **Steve Ballmer**, President, Microsoft Corp., added, 'We are empowering knowledge workers by unifying the digital and paper worlds. Xerox's dynamic vision and leading role in the office will allow our customers to more easily share, communicate and manage company information.'

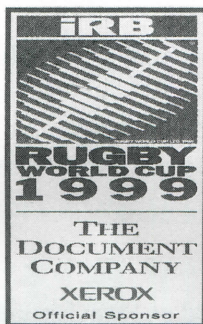
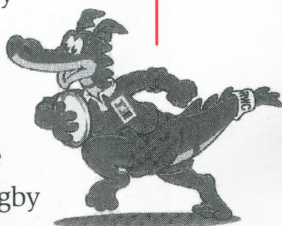
More about The Knowledge in the next issue.

Xerox to sponsor Rugby World Cup 1999

On Tuesday, 6th October 1998, The Document Company Xerox announced their status as an 'Official Sponsor' of Rugby World Cup, to be hosted by the Welsh Rugby Union from 1st October to 6th November 1999.

Xerox will supply office equipment to the 18 media centres that will operate during the Cup. Using state-of-the-art digital equipment provided by Xerox, over 1,000 journalists will be able to capture news instantly for international distribution.

Following on from Xerox's successful involvement in the inaugural World Cup in New



Zealand in 1987, and, more recently, in South Africa in 1995, Xerox has decided to renew its association with rugby's premier event.

Rob Walker, Managing Director, Xerox (UK) Ltd, commented, 'Our partnership with Rugby World Cup 1999 not only enables us to demonstrate our expertise in the globalisation of

information-sharing, but also allies us very closely with an event renowned for its quality, prestige and excellence. Rugby World Cup is a major business in its own right and we are looking forward to the challenge of providing the organisers with the support and networking services to enable their business to run efficiently over the period of the tournament.'

Leo Williams, Chairman of Rugby World Cup, said, 'We are delighted to welcome Xerox as an official sponsor. Xerox's support of Rugby World Cup is long-standing and we continue to enjoy the association.'

Guide to long-term care

A report from Paul Johnson

We are living longer! The General Household Survey 1995 found two in five people over the age of 65 had a long-standing illness that limited their daily activities. Among people over 65, 6% were registered as being appreciably handicapped. About 8% of over-65s are unable to bathe or shower without help, while 39% of the over-85s find at least one personal task very difficult or impossible.

Long-term care is the help you may need in later life. Care usually takes the form of support in your own home, but can also mean moving into a nursing or residential home. At 60, there is a one in four chance that at some point in the future you will need some form of care; by 80, that likelihood has increased to seven in ten.

The Government has acknowledged that, with an ageing population, the problem of paying for care is an issue. They set up a Royal Commission in 1997, which reported in March this year. It looked at the options

for funding long-term care and recommended that the cost of care should be split between public funds and individuals. Its main conclusion was that nursing care should be paid for from taxation, while living and accommodation costs should be means-tested. The Government is still considering the Report's findings. The likelihood is that any implementation of Government proposals on funding will take at least another two years.

Under present rules, local authority cash help for long-term care is restricted to people with less than £16,000 of assets, including their home, unless it is occupied by a spouse, an elderly or disabled relative or a child.

Long-term care insurance is available to help with the cost of care. It is a relatively new idea, with the first policies sold in 1991. Currently, 14 companies offer long-term care insurance policies.

If you would like more information, a guide is available from **Barbara Keech**.

Holidays to remember



To brighten up our December issue of the Newsletter, we would like to hear about your holiday experiences. Let us know how you enjoyed the summer months. Tell us about the places you visited and send some pictures to dispel the winter blues and remind us that Spring will soon be back. Pictures and stories should be sent to **Barbara Keech by 15th October**.

B&B near Ross-on-Wye

Forest Edge, 4 Noden Drive, Lea, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7NB. English Tourist Board ♦♦♦♦

Don and Margaret Wood offer modern B&B. Their house, with conservatory and secluded garden with fine views, is four miles from Ross-on-Wye, and offers an ideal base for exploring the Wye Valley and the Forest of Dean. Accommodation comprises one double and one twin room, each with en-suite, tea and coffee-making facilities, colour television, clock radio and hair drier.

Forest Edge is a non-smoking establishment with plenty of parking and secure garages for bicycles etc.

Tariffs include full English breakfast, and XPA members receive a 5% discount.

Full details can be obtained from: **Tel: 01989 750682 or Email: Don@Wood11.freeseve.co.uk**





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/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.

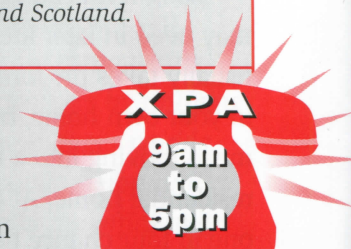
Central Region **John Smith**

Blewbury Cottage, Bulstrode Way,
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire SL9 7QT.
Tel: 01753 884486.
Fax: 01753 890650.

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 615160.**

Two new visitors

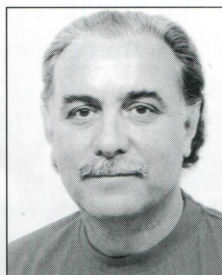
Joyce Giles – Eastern Region

Joyce joined Rank Xerox Manufacturing at Welwyn Garden City in 1974 and retired after 22 years. She had various jobs and eventually became Personal Assistant to the Director, so will be well-known to many employees. Joyce saw many changes on the Welwyn site, including the removal of manufacturing to Mitcheldean and Venray, and the creation of the modern buildings, housing Solutions Hall and the Technical Centre.



Since her retirement, Joyce has worked part-time for Age Concern, Hertfordshire, ensuring that older people know what benefits and services they are entitled to and how to access them. When not working, she spends her time playing golf and visiting her family.

Joyce may be contacted on **01480 219828.**



Rob Raithby – Central Region

Rob joined Rank Xerox in 1974, as a field engineer in Birmingham. He moved to Newcastle-upon-Tyne as a District Service Manager in 1980 and returned to Birmingham four years later as a Branch Manager. He was subsequently promoted to Region Manager. In 1990, he became UK Service Director with XES and five years later he was appointed European Service Manager, working for Kaz Herchold. He retired in September last year.

Rob lives in Newbury and can be contacted on **01635 48532.**

Membership File

Newcomers We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

IHQ Vince Bateman Jim Coughlan Clive Counsell Jane Dodson John Dudley Chris Hawkins Tony Haynes Stewart Jones Harvey Kendon Matt Kunen Ralph Orrico Nick Schroeder Trevor Smith Cynthia Taylor Colin Ward	Mitcheldean Sylvia Adams Terry Annis Ellen Baldwin David Barnard Brian Castree Brian Cooke George Cresswell Ronald Dixey Russell Edwards Harold Ennis Martin Exell Barry Gates Jessie Griffiths Desmond Halliday Dennis Hanford Ronald Husbands Fred Irwin Derek Jones Ivor Jordan Charles Leighton Tyronne Lounds	James Moore David Oliver Bertram Parsons Roger Preece David Sanderson Reg Taylor Allan Tully Rex Turley Frederick Wynn UK Company Christopher Adams Bob Anderson Colin Ashton Edward Casey John Cushnan Angela Day John Denham Anthony Devereux Tony Elsom Alan Flanagan Peter Harris	Ronald Hester Sandra Jefferies John Kern Bob Knox Stuart Lazarus Sylvia Long David Lyon Robert Mills Michael Moran Jonathan Nokes Roy Penegar Jean Putterill Raymond Reid Brian Rycroft Steve Schreuder John Seamer David Simpson Michael Smedley Andrew Stewart Robert Tamplin Mal Thomas	Welwyn John Cook Ray Godwin Howard Jenkins Gerry Paynton Graham Williams Xerox Medical Services Alan Baldwin Xerox Engineering Systems Jim Cavanagh Campbell McGeachy
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Absent friends We record the deaths of the following Scheme members, whose age and last place of work are shown, and offer our sincere sympathies to their families.

Mitcheldean Gilly Beard (79) Arthur Brain (84) John Cassidy (76) Don Elliott (78) Roy Freer (80) Lewis Hale (86) Thomas Hale (85) Hubert Hancocks (83) John Harris (76) Ronald Herring (77) Stan Hewitt (84) John Ireland (75)	Maurice Jones (70) Frank Kear (84) Mike Keen (60) Frank Knight (72) Ron Lane (75) Cyril Meek (82) Harold Potter (70) John Robinson (83) Rob Robley-Dixon (73) Robert Russell (67) Arthur Wenderling (77) Desmond Weyman (54) Hedley Wood (77)	UK Company Bert Elson (70) Jim Elson (65) William Frost (81) Bill Gass (69) Dave Pratt (58) Eric Probert (74) Stephen Richardson (79) Anthony Shaw (60) Margaret Spencer-Tucker (78) Doug St Louis Westland (78) Bill Stemp (77) Donald Talliss (64)	Mary Thompson (81) John Warren (63) William Young (79) Welwyn Francis Bryant (76) David Chapman (59) Laurence Furlong (81) John Harle (67) Dennis Jenner (82)
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Bill Gass – a true Company man

After hearing of the death of Bill Gass, **George Borrett** was prompted to write the following:

Bill joined the Company in the early 60s and I met him soon after, when he became a member of my Sales team, operating from Southampton and Exeter. We have remained friends ever since.

Bill was a true Company man and was successful at all levels of work and responsibility with RX. He was most meticulous, both in his reports and customer records (as many of his subordinates would testify!). He remained in sales throughout his career and went on to become Branch Manager and Regional Major Accounts Manager in Manchester.

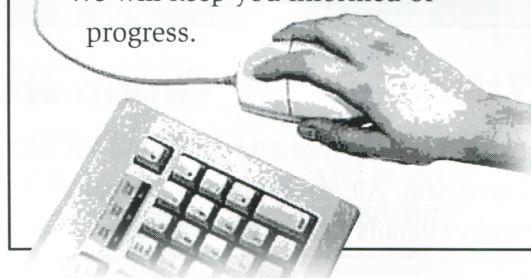
I valued Bill's friendship greatly and shall always remember him as a gentle giant.

NEWSFLASH

Website Update

Plans are moving ahead to develop a website for Xerox Pensions Department and Xerox pensioners. When the website is established, there will be a range of information available for access.

We will keep you informed of progress.



Widows' State benefit to change

Jack Bonney, our Taxation and State benefits specialist, clarifies some future changes to widows' and widowers' State benefits.

We have received several queries from pensioners, concerned that this change may affect widow's benefit granted by the Xerox Pension Scheme. They should be assured that the Xerox Scheme is **not affected in any way** and there will be no change to the value of pensions paid to widows from the Scheme.

The changes announced apply to State benefits only.

At present, a widow is entitled to receive 100% of any Additional Component Pension (SERPS) earned by her late husband's National Insurance contributions.

From the beginning of the next tax year, this will change for the worse. Women whose husbands die after 5th April 2000

will receive only half of any Additional Component Pension earned by their late husband.

A second change to the widow's entitlement was announced in the Chancellor's budget proposals. Currently, widows receive an additional tax allowance, known as Widow's Bereavement Allowance, for the year in which their husband dies and for the following tax year. This will be abolished from 6th April 2000, along with the Married Allowance. However, husbands born before 5th April 1935 and currently claiming the Married Allowance will continue to receive it.

Women who are below State retirement age when widowed currently receive a one-off tax-free lump sum of £1,000. From April 2000, this one-off lump sum will be increased to £2,000 and will also be available to widowers.

Information pack

XPA produces an information pack, detailing goods and services on which members can obtain discount. These include:

Rank Holidays Limited – Haven, Warners, Butlins and Oasis Holidays

American Express Worldwide Travel Services

Forte Leisure Cheques

Disney Magic Kingdom Membership, including car hire

Shearings Holidays

Direct Line house and vehicle insurance

Dove Travel Vehicle Hire for Iberian Peninsular, Madeira, Balearics

Xerox products through Xerox Channels

Holiday accommodation in UK and Europe offered by XPA members or their families

A complete pack is available from the XPA Secretary, **Barbara Keech**.

PENSION PAYDATES

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

August pension

Friday 30th July

September pension

Wednesday 1st September

October pension

Friday 1st October

November pension

Monday 1st November

December pension

Wednesday 1st December



DON'T FORGET...

your Income Tax return!

Don't forget that self-assessment 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.

7th RX Paper Group Reunion



The next reunion of SBA (IHQ and RX UK) will be held on **Friday, 1st October** at Guido's Restaurant, Amersham. All ex-members of Paper Technology & Supplies Business Area are welcome to attend. Further details from **Paul Johnson** on **01462 686736**.

COMPETITION TIME

Test your memory and general knowledge in this issue's competition – a multi-choice quiz. Just list your answers – number of question and letter of the answer you think is correct – on a postcard or sealed envelope, and send it to **Barbara Keech** (address on page 6) to arrive **not later than 15th October**.

1 Who wrote 'Tom Brown's Schooldays'?

- a Charles Dickens
- b Thomas Hardy
- c Richmal Crompton
- d Thomas Hughes
- e Mark Twain

2 What is normally kept in Oast Houses?

- a Barley
- b Malt
- c Mushrooms
- d Hops
- e Barrels

3 Who was the first Labour M.P.?

- a Lloyd George
- b Nancy Astor
- c James Kier Hardy
- d Reginald Boyd-Smith
- e Donald Freud

4 How is toxophily better known?

- a Archery
- b Professional darts
- c Drug-taking
- d Glue-sniffing
- e Stuffing animals

5 How many bottles are contained in a Nebuchadnezzar?

- a 24
- b 20
- c 80
- d 35

... and so, you remember the War?

6 On which date did Britain and France declare War on Germany?

- a 14th August 1939
- b 1st September 1939
- c 8th May 1939
- d 3rd September 1939

7 Where was Hitler when he wrote 'Mein Kampf'?

- a Spandau prison
- b Reichstag Berlin
- c Landsdorf prison
- d Berchtesgarden Munich

8 In what year did chocolate rationing end after WWII?

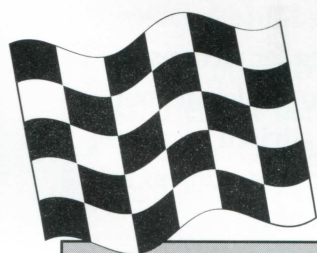
- a 1960
- b 1953
- c 1949
- d 1955

9 Who was the Nazi leader who created the Luftwaffe?

- a Karl Doenitz
- b Ribbentrop
- c Goering
- d Alfred Speer

10 What was the name of the Peace Conference that followed World War II?

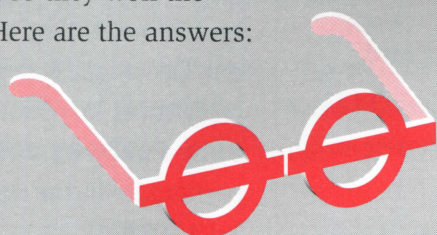
- a Potsdam
- b Yalta
- c Istanbul
- d Malta



Good luck to you all!

'Spot the station' results

Last time's competition gave you clues to the names of London underground stations. The correct answers from **Mrs and Mrs Sanderson** of Highnam, Gloucestershire were the first out of the bag and so they won the £25 prize! Here are the answers:



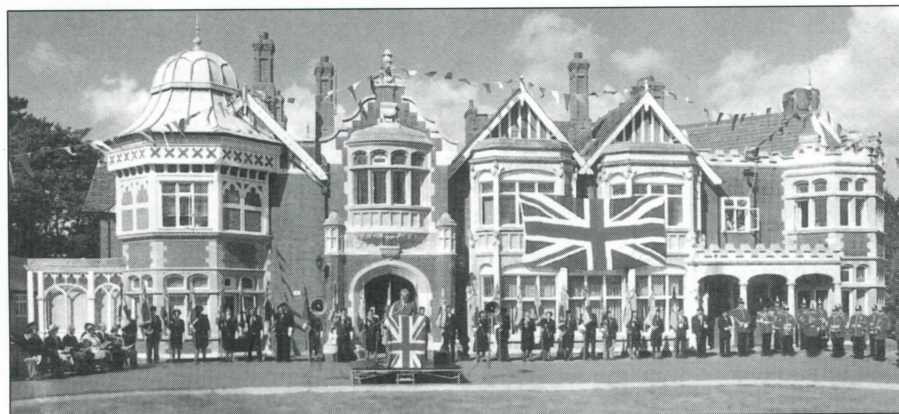
Clue

Angry monarchs
Patterned stone portico
Alpine chateau
Nearly round
The garden of England
How many brides for seven brothers?
Weapon store
Huge
The knight has been captured
The vicar is envious – or sick
Ancient thoroughfare
Cockney child's toy is unwell

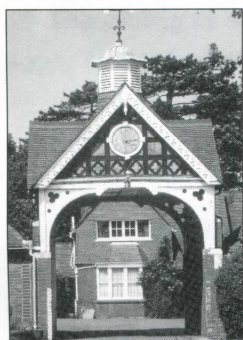
Answer

Kings Cross
Marble Arch
Swiss Cottage
Oval
Kentish Town
Seven Sisters
Arsenal
Wapping
Barons Court
Parsons Green
Old Street
Dollis Hill

Home of the code-breakers – Bletchley Park



Celebrations at Bletchley Park on the fiftieth anniversary of VJ Day



We had wonderful support for the visit to Bletchley Park – in fact, our numbers were such

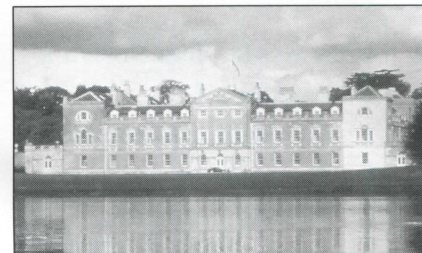
that we had to arrange two visits! A total of 170 pensioners and their guests enjoyed excellent guided tours of the main house and outbuildings. In the elegant Victorian mansion, we visited the extensive collection of Churchillian memorabilia and the Toy Collection. Outside, we saw the wartime buildings that held 12,000 people engaged on code-breaking during the Second World War.

This place was described as Britain's best-kept secret, and the staff worked 8-hour shifts round the clock, often in unheated huts. It is considered that the code-breaking ended WWII two years early and saved many hundreds of thousands of lives. Men and women working at Bletchley were never able to tell anyone, even their loved ones, what they were doing. Winston Churchill described them as 'my geese that laid the golden eggs but never cackled'.



Woburn Abbey – 20th birthday celebration

Wednesday, 21st June 2000



In the last issue of our Newsletter, we asked for 'crafty' people to make contact with our XPA Secretary, **Barbara Keech**. We had an excellent response to this request and the information has been passed to those folk who have volunteered to act as co-ordinators.

Those people who have indicated that they wish to exhibit or sell in our Arts & Crafts marquee or display in our Vintage/Veteran Vehicles marquee will be receiving a form to complete. The information will be used to provide the co-ordinators with some idea of space required (trestle tables, hanging space for pictures, etc.). If you wish to participate but have not yet advised us, please supply your name, address and telephone number:

- Arts and Crafts call **John Handscombe** on tel/fax **01462 814009** (outside working hours).
- Vintage/Veteran Vehicles call **Bob Greening** on **01760 722225**.

As we advised in the last issue, invitations will be included with our December Newsletter. Your reply must be received by **29th February 2000** to participate in the draw on 1st March.

XPA Golf Society ... a reminder



There are still two dates to remember for your golfing diary:

- **Monday 16th August – Hatfield London, Essenden**
- **Thursday 16th September – Aylesbury Vale, Leighton Buzzard**

If you are not currently on the Golf Society mailing list and would like to receive information about forthcoming events, please contact:

Paul Donegan: Telephone 01727 862004

e-mail paul@pdonegan.freemove.co.uk

XPA sail away!

The first two sailing days of the season have taken place – and the remaining two in August are fully booked!

Looking back, middle May weather was rather unsettled but Thursday 20th was a very pleasant day with a favourable breeze that took us to Hamble River from Lymington. We noticed that the Harbour Master's pontoon at Warsash was empty and he kindly let us stay there for a lunchtime stop and a chance to visit the village 'hostelry'. After lunch, the breeze had again turned in our favour for a very pleasant sail back to Lymington.



The forecast for Friday 21st was not good but, after being warned it would be a wet and windy trip, everyone wanted to 'give it a go', so we had a very fast sail on the tide down to Cowes. This gave us a couple of hours to explore and eat, with good reports of the local fish and

chips. The forecast proved accurate, so, after heavily reefing sails in preparation, we battled back to Lymington, getting soaked in the process – with English weather you win some and you lose some! August weather has to be kinder – please!! Pensioners' Association Sailing Days are full, but, for 'XSA Open

Days' at weekends during the season, contact:

Tony.Robbins@GBR.Xerox.Com
or on **01628 892349**.

More experienced sailors and skippers contact:

david.newbury@virgin.net
or on **01707 333622** for details of other sailings on Xepha.

Lord's Cricket Ground

Sunday 5th September

This year, our visit to Lord's will coincide with the Village Cup Final. Here are the arrangements:

- 9.00am – Arrive at the Grace Gate in St John's Wood Road for coffee or tea and biscuits in The Tavern.
- 9.30am – Tour of the Ground, including the Long Room, Presentation Balcony, Real Tennis Court, the Museum (including the World Cup Exhibition and films in the Brian Johnston Theatre – *open all day*) and the new NatWest Media Centre.
- 10.45am (approx) – You will receive your picnic box.
- 11.00am – Match starts (40 overs per side).
- 2.00pm (approx) – Players at lunch, so this will be a good opportunity to re-visit the Museum.

Your ticket includes admission, our tour of the Ground and your picnic box. Bars and refreshment kiosks are available all day but, as it is a long day, you may like to bring some food and drink of your own choice.

Turkey & Tinsel escape

Bournemouth

1st to 5th November

Four nights for £190

Why not pamper yourself with a break at the Pavilion Hotel, Bournemouth. It's situated near the pier, shops, gardens and theatres. Accommodation is en suite and includes TV/radio, telephone, and tea and coffee making facilities.

There will be a full festive entertainment programme each evening, with daytime excursions to the New Forest, Poole, Christchurch and (weather permitting!) the Tank Museum.

Coach transport will be provided where there is sufficient local demand.

The charm of the Irish

Ken and Molly Kingham joined the XPA group on our holiday to Ireland in April and had the following comments to make:

What do you get if you take the following ingredients?

- A first-class hotel, with friendly staff and excellent food
- A leisure complex, complete with swimming pool, sauna and gym
- A typical 'local', serving a wide variety of drinks and snacks
- A comfortable coach, with a pleasant, competent driver
- A knowledgeable, likeable guide
- Golden gorse and pale yellow primroses
- Some rain, but also some sunshine
- Visits to gardens, castles, museums and towns
- Lots of stories, tall and not-so-tall
- A bunch of XPA members with partners and friends.

A thoroughly enjoyable holiday at Rosscarbery and Bantry Bay in South West Ireland.

Many thanks to Barbara Keech, Tolly, our guide, and SAGA for all their hard work in arranging everything for us.

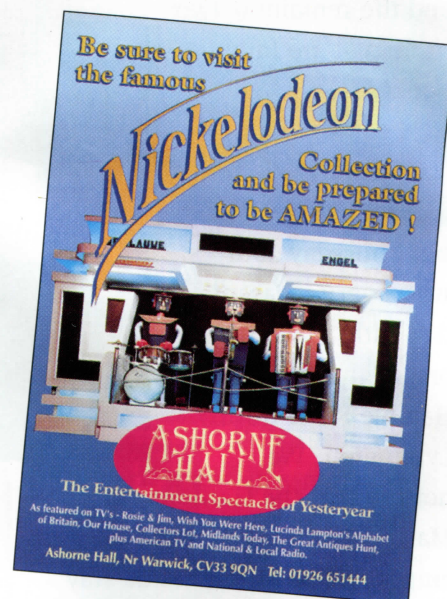
Tessa and Michael Woodward also came on the holiday and said, *'We so enjoyed Ireland (despite a little rain). All the places we visited were lovely, with Tolly telling us about the history of the area and life in Ireland. The hotel was excellent, rooms, facilities and food, etc., and we were so lucky with a good group of people – just happy days of laughter and fun – it all went too quickly.'*



A visit to Creagh Gardens

Music to your ears – Ashorne Hall near Warwick

Tuesday 9th November



Ashorne Hall is a private house and the home of the Whitehead family who, over many years, has collected and preserved one of the finest collections of mechanically played musical instruments in Europe.

Our visit will include hot buffet lunch and sweet, followed by musical entertainment and afternoon tea. This venue has been highly recommended and we are sure it will prove an enjoyable day out.

Coach transport will be provided where there is sufficient local demand.

Share it with us

Many of you appreciate hearing how ex-colleagues are getting on. Share your experiences through the Newsletter – or pass on some useful advice. All contributions will be welcomed. Just send them to

Barbara Keech, XPA Secretary, or **Lois Dawson** at Xerox Pensions – contact details appear on page 6.