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 STANDARD TEXT

Posted: Friday 09 February 2007

South East Windsor Great Park Walk - 11th January

Where's the castle?

Despite dire warnings of gales and rain seventeen intrepid Associates enjoyed a walk in Windsor Great Park.

We visited the impressive new Saville Gardens building with it's timber roof built entirely from wood from the royal estates.

We then stopped at the Queen's Golden Jubilee statue.

Unfortunately at that point the weather had closed in, obscuring the view of Windsor Castle down Queen Ann's Ride.

We then walked to the Copper Horse - the statue of mad George III - and were rewarded by a brief clear period and a fine view down the Long Walk.

The final highlight was when a very large herd of red deer decided they wanted to cross the road at gallop just as we approached.

Jack Scott.

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 STANDARD TEXT

Posted: Friday 09 February 2007

South East Kintbury Walk - 16th November, 2006

It was on a wet Thursday . .

Fourteen well-waterproofed Associates braved a periodically wet day to enjoy a lovely rural walk with wide-open views of the Berkshire Downs and beech woods finally turning golden.

We explored the surprising remains of a great house, Hamstead Park, burnt down in 1718. Nothing remains but six sets of ornate brick pillars, standing alone in the stubble of a large cornfield.



We returned to Kintbury via the beautiful Kennet & Avon Canal, very full - of water and leaves - to a fine lunch at The Dundas Arms on the canal-side.

Kevin Williams.

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 STANDARD TEXT

Posted: Tuesday 23 January 2007

North East Associates Durham City Walk - 23rd January

Was the high number of participants a result of people making New Year resolutions?

Durham City and the Houghall Discovery Trail

Today's walk started with an initiative test. Instead of congregating in a designated car park we were to meet in the Market Place in Durham City, a location with severe traffic restrictions. With the start an hour later than usual about sixty Associates reached the rendezvous by bus, train or the hybrid 'Park and Ride' scheme, or maybe by some yet unexplained methods.



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The first meet of the new year.

After splitting into two groups for the long and short versions of the walk (average six miles) we descended to river level and circumnavigated the peninsula in the River Wear with the Castle and Cathedral high on the cliff above.

After this the parties took different routes but it was always worth a glimpse back to view the Cathedral and Castle backdrop in the winter sun. Overnight frost had hardened the paths slightly, which made for good walking.



Striding out on the longer route.

Our tracks converged a little further upstream as we followed the Houghall Discovery Trail, through open countryside and woodland, around the site of an extinct colliery village of the nineteenth century. Some houses remained until the mid 1950's as accommodation for miners at other pits and retired pitmen. A link to [Houghall Colliery](#) on the Durham Mining Museum website provides some chilling reading.

Back to the walk, the Durham City skyline came back into view in the midday sunshine on the return leg and soon we were up into the Market Place again after about three enjoyable hours of walking.



Time for choir practice?

Time for lunch and more conversation.
Snow fell later that afternoon.

ph 23/01/07
pictures ph

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 STANDARD TEXT

Posted: Saturday 23 December 2006

North East Associates Christmas Lunch 2006

Just over 320 North East Associates congregated at our now regular venue of the Assembly Rooms, Newcastle upon Tyne on Thursday 14th December for our traditional Christmas lunch.

This year it was the North East turn to host the meeting of the Associates Board of Management and the National Volunteer Coordinators, and in accordance with established practice they too joined the regional Christmas Lunch.



John Scott explains it all to Charlotte Thomas, current Associate Scheme Manager

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Mary Lawrence, Associate Scheme Manager from beginning 2007, flanked by Terry Bell (left - South East Associates) and Tom Bentley (Health & Safety Advisor)

The now regular choice of mulled wine or fruit juice was served to associates on arrival where a team of our NE Associates committee provided everyone with a personal identification label, this year with their name in larger print so that it was readable without having to resort to spectacles.



Our chairman John Scott welcomed everyone and presented a bottle of champagne to our oldest Associate Bill Simpson who was 98 in December, just the previous week. John wished Bill well and looked forward to two years hence when he anticipates celebrating Bill's 100th.



Following this, as last year, John introduced a video from the P&G UK general manager Gianni Ciserani who again provided us with an update on the state of the UK business.



We all tucked in to a traditional Christmas Lunch while a video of photos of all of our Associate events during 2006 was played on the screen.



Christmas crackers were pulled, and while a few donned their party hats several were reluctant to do so. On my table (web editor) I was quite surprised, after my last years comments, that we were all encouraged to read out the jokes that were found in the crackers!! After lunch was over the bar remained open almost till 4pm and many wandered around and met up with old friends.



[To view an album of photographs from the event click here »](#)

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 STANDARD TEXT



Posted: Saturday 25 November 2006

North East Associates Newburn Walk - 22nd November

From River to Wall . . .

This was the title given to a circular walk on a good November day, with a choice of distances reflected in the return leg.



Jack's back - awaiting the muster call!

The first part of the route took us all from Newburn Country Park on the banks of the River Tyne up to Heddon-on-the-Wall and involved a fairly steep climb up the valley side.

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Time for a breather.

From Heddon some walkers took a more direct route back down to the river while others added another couple of miles by heading towards Wylam and joining the riverside track beside the cottage where George Stephenson, he of railways fame, was born.



Jim's back - at Stephenson's cottage

At Heddon we didn't see the wall - Hadrian's - that was. Apparently our antecedents didn't consider conservation but they did practice recycling. When stone was wanted for building the cut blocks of the then redundant wall were a ready supply of ideal material! Fortunately there's lots of the wall, forts and all, remaining in other locations. (S.E. Associates please note!)



The start of the last mile!

We all followed a waggonway and riverside path back towards Newburn. The river seemed a long way away as the level in this upper tidal section was low, with a local rowing team taking advantage of the calm water.

Back at base most walkers adjourned to 'The Keelman', a pub set in a converted Victorian water pumping station where we fed well, with many also enjoying a glass of fine ale produced in the owners' micro-brewery next door. Our organisers do well with their priorities!

ph 25/11/2006

pictures by jim c & ph

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 **STANDARD TEXT**

Posted: Wednesday 15 November 2006

From Human Resources Manchester

Manchester Associates please read

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Mr Eric Pickup, Manchester Factory

Funeral Arrangements are as follows:-

Tuesday, 21st November 2006

10.00 at St. Georges Church, Tyldesley then onto

Howebridge Crematorium, Lovers Lane, Atherton

Everyone is welcome at the Gatehouse Pub, Tyldesley after the Crematorium

Family Flowers only. Donations to St. Anns Hospice.

Human Resources
Manchester Factory

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 **STANDARD TEXT**



Posted: Tuesday 24 October 2006

North East Associates Chopwell Wood Walk - 24th October

Tuesday - and the sun shone

Waking to 'himself' on Radio 2 from London saying that it was a "miserable old morning down this neck of the woods" the north-east of England was unexpectedly bathed in sunshine, although rather cold.

A little while later forty of us, and Rosie the dog, had gathered for a morning walk in Chopwell Wood, just to the south-west of Blaydon. The origins of this hillside woodland go back nearly 1000 years but most of the area appears to have been replanted during the last century.

The sun was still shining, and the temperature had risen a little, as we set off in two groups for an average six mile circular walk through areas of evergreen and deciduous woodland with autumn colours showing strongly now. Underfoot conditions were reasonable, considering the rainfall here over the past few days.

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Little wildlife was seen but typical of an area important in the past for coking coal some railway and waggonway routes were evident. The groups finished within minutes of each other and were soon heading off for a hearty lunch at the 'Golden Lion' in nearby Winlaton Mill.



Home after this to get the breath back in time for tomorrow's AGM. Associates do have a busy life!

Thanks to Jim and Lindsay for fixing it.

ph 24/10/2006

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 STANDARD TEXT



Posted: Monday 18 September 2006

Update and Re-Statement of Manchester Shop Policy

Reconfirmation on the use of the Manchester Company Shop

[Click here for four slides covering Manchester Shop Policy »](#)

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 STANDARD TEXT



Posted: Monday 21 August 2006

Update on Future Shares

Information for you, if you retired still holding Future Shares

Future Shares stock option grants issued in May 1998, 1999 and 2000 have now vested. You have a choice of either holding the shares for up to five years from the vesting date or exercising them. Please contact Pensions Admin by 'phone on 00800 4321 8000 or by e-mail to pensionadmin.im@pg.com for a Future Shares information pack.

Future Shares issued on 24th September, 2001 will vest on 24th September 2006.

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 **STANDARD TEXT**


Posted: Friday 16 June 2006

The Associate Scheme Volunteer Conference 2006

Some pictures to recall highlights of the Conference

About 50 Associates took part in a very successful Volunteer Conference at the Renaissance Solihull Hotel on June 14 - 15th 2006. I was glad I had my camera to capture some of atmosphere and enjoyment of the event.



P&G Associates No 1 - says it all!

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David Jamieson welcomes delegates at the Conference Dinner.

Carol looks on as David pays tribute to her and Liz and welcomes Charlotte Thomas, the new Scheme Manager.



The delegates warmly applauded.

Some of the tables. Charlotte, lower right, is next to John Bennett.



Carol and Liz receive bouquets in appreciation of their contribution to the Scheme. Regional Chairmen Tony Lees, London Plant Region, Kevin Mitchell, Manchester Area and John Scott, North East Region give short speeches and present retirement gifts from their Regions to Carol and Liz.





Tony Lees.



Kevin Mitchell (standing).



John Scott



Presenting Manchester's gifts to Carol and Liz.

Day 2 - The Conference.

David Jamieson opened the Conference by welcoming the delegates and introduced Charlotte Thomas, the new Scheme

Manager. Helen Chambers described the Admin Tasks that would be handled by DPS from July 1st. and answered questions. Tom Bentley took the meeting through the background to the need for the new Health & Safety Guidelines and what they aim to achieve. He answered questions about their application. After the coffee break John Motler, VP CBD gave a fascinating, informative and very positive update on the state of the business. David provided R&D perspectives on what Gillette is bringing to the business and an update on PuR. Coordinators from London and the North East gave regional updates. Below John Scott telling the meeting about the North East Region's comprehensive programme:



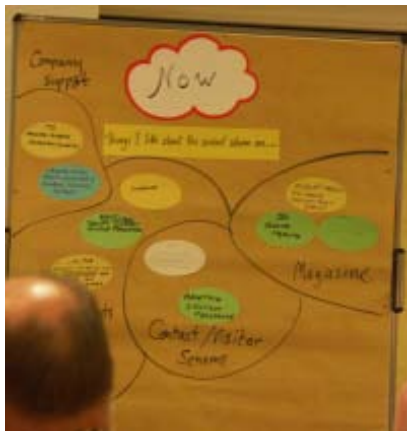
Listening to John's presentation.

Before lunch Charlotte confirmed there is no such thing as a free lunch and set the Conference to work on identifying what is working with the Scheme and should not be changed, and what changes would the delegates like to see.

The room gets down to work.



Charlotte summarises the delegates' recommendations.





Closing Remarks:

David Jamieson reiterated the Company's commitment to the Scheme and thanked the Associates for all their hard work. He concluded by paying tribute to Carol's role in setting it up and sustaining it, and wished her a long and happy retirement.



Carol receives a standing ovation from the meeting.

Carol replying to the meeting and thanking the Associates for making the Scheme the success it is.



Departure.

The London Delegates.



left to right: Chris Harrold, Tony Kennard, Maureen Germaney, Dave Risk, Bryan Relf, George Mann, Mike Clements & Tony Lees.

Text & photos: Tony Hill, London Plant Region.

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