



Y's RETIRED OF THE UK
Affiliated to the World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees

JULY 2017

www.yretired.co.uk



GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Dear friends
and colleagues
greetings**

I am preparing this letter whilst listening to music in the background of one of my favourite CD's, "They Write the Songs" performed by The 101 Strings Orchestra with vocals! What a relief after being bombarded by electoral jargon day in and day out by politicians who appear to believe only their Party cares for human kind from birth to death. "Hey Jude" is playing!

I have been somewhat amazed how quickly means of communication have developed in but a few years through various channels of the media all too obvious so will not bore you for by now you are all experts or semi-experts in all things related to Information Technology! Watching the London Marathon is a mind boggling experience! It takes us through streets of London well known to most of us but the highlight for me is when a cascade of 'runners' pass the most iconic sight of that majestic sailing ship, the tea clipper the Cutty Sark. This fine ship I understand took 72 days to carry messages from London to Australia. Compare this to the seconds it now takes by email - faster than telephone, morse code and even to skype my eldest daughter who lives in Auckland, New Zealand! I recently spoke to her from my comfortable chair and shared with her that on my silenced TV picture there was showing an international cycle race, at that moment there was an almighty crash of cyclists! She immediately told her partner who had a family member riding in the race and without hesitancy 'phoned the friend's parents thousands of miles away expressing concern - communication!

We live in an 'instant society' at a time thwart with a speed of life that dictates who we are by seconds of time affecting relationships, understanding of life, long held religious beliefs, science and faith, use of money and more! The saying comes to mind, "Time waits for no man *nor woman*" but would add that wise saying, "Time makes Ancient Truths uncouth". The Psalmist may be right, quote, "Be still and know that I am God" or the old lady who shared with the theologian, an academic, that she lived by a simple faith and referred to the opening words of her Bible, quote, "In the beginning God".

There is a darker side.

The pressure on the media to deal mainly with the political scene including Brexit has shortened the 'space' available to deal with other world and local issues keeping the public abreast of current affairs. Recently the effect of 'hacking' of the Internet world-wide is alarming to a degree not encountered before affecting our lives in various ways allowing for some discomfiture in the use of the Internet in confidence not least in financial affairs.

We have experienced a reminder of the care to be taken, Y's Retired members need to ensure that their affairs are protected.

Likewise we 'oldies' need to be careful with fraud, scam, 'cold calls' on the telephone and mail telling us we have won thousands of pounds if we take action recommended. If it is too good to be true then it is! We must not allow ourselves to be 'taken in'. My late wife answered the 'phone on one occasion and suspecting it to be a scam put the telephone down after telling the caller where to go in no uncertain terms. Later we learned it was a top professor in the Faculty of Theology at the University! We all laughed! I suggest we treat with respect the Scout motto BE PREPARED!

My CD is quite aptly playing Paul Simons fine piece, "The Sound of Silence". I take the hint!

Do look forward to the benefits of the summer season and the opportunities afforded to each one of us to improve our quality of life.

Warm regards,
Jim Lamb

PS. A 'cutting' from a piece of recent research called:
'Learn from the wisdom of age'

Money is essential for happiness say the younger generation while older people have realised that life is about making other people happy. What makes for a fulfilling life is a profound question. If this research helps some youngsters get closer to the answer then it will have been worthwhile indeed.

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MEMBERS CORRESPONDENCE

Excellent Newsletter, wouldn't expect anything less from you.

Anyway why am I writing you ask? Well I am after some historical information regarding the old Hostel at Farnborough (RAE/YMCA Hostel).

As you may, or may not, be aware my very first appointment with the YMCA was as the Assistant Warden working at the Hostel with Les Yeates between 1972 and 1974.

An old colleague of mine from my Farnborough days as an apprentice, has been in touch, and is researching life at the Hostel. He is attempting to work out the various changes that took place there.

This includes when the Hostel took over the ETPS (Empire Test Pilots School) accommodation which was just over the road to the RAE/YMCA Hostel.

When the other Hostel (The Grange) in Farnborough housing RAE employees during the war and afterwards eventually closed and the remaining employees moved to the Apprentice Hostel and then finally when the accommodation was taken over by Farnborough College.

The answers may be in the archives of the old 'General Services' Department, if there are any, or there may be some 'Y' Retired colleagues who may have a better memory than me.

Phil Willerton was also an Assistant Warden at Farnborough, before me, so may be able to through some light on the matter, if he is in touch with 'Y' Retired.

My request, would you be able to cobble a little article together in the Newsletter asking for any information which would help to nail some of the dates I am seeking. I am happy to provide any further information and you may add my email should anyone wish to make direct contact with me, hope this is an acceptable request?

Tony (Gratton) - tonygratton108@gmail.com



The picture features

Bonnie Mair
Chairman of Secours Speciaux

a YMCA ambassador and activist for many years clearly putting her principles where her mouth is by demonstrating against President Trump's legislation regarding immigrant access to the free world – America.

Well done Bonnie - you are a true example to us all



Y'Retired colleagues including the Milner's and the Moorehead's enjoying their meal at Treloyhan Manor St Ives – Dates for 2018 are as follows:-

Monday to Friday - week beginning 16 April for 2018
(and Monday to Friday 1st April for 2019)

Prices for 2018 year same as this year- En-suite £214, Non en-suite £184.00. Deposits £40 per person - names please by 20 October 2017, balance Feb 2018 God bless - Margaret Libby

Dear WFYR Friends.

Warm greetings wishing you the best with God's blessing! It is difficult to believe that we are reaching the time to promote attendance to our next WFYR World gathering. We will meet in conjunction with the 19th World Council of YMCAs to be held in July 2018 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

It is not too early to begin making plans and commitments. Several YMCA retiree leaders have already indicated they are planning to attend. Therefore, I invite you to consider your participation and pre-register as soon as possible by indicating your interest now to jerrypradoshaw@hotmail.com Jerry Prado Shaw has graciously agreed to serve as Registrar for Chiang Mai WFYR World Conference 2018.

Attached is a flyer with basic advance information. Read it carefully and help in the promotion of the event by circulating this flyer as broadly as possible to other retirees within your region. Don't hesitate to contact me directly, or Jerry for any reason at any time. Having the opportunity to be in contact with you will be a joy and privilege.

Warmly - Norris D Lineweaver, Chairman, World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees.



175th anniversary event announced at YMCA European General Assembly.

Representatives from YMCAs from across the continent came together last weekend for YMCA Europe's General Assembly, hosted by YMCA Scotland.

More than 100 YMCA staff and volunteers from European YMCAs converged on Edinburgh including 17 from YMCAs in England and Wales, our largest ever delegation.

As part of the programme of events it was announced that YMCA Europe will host a global celebration event for YMCA's 175th anniversary at the ExCeL, in London, for 5,000 young people, staff and volunteers from across the world.

Offering prayer for all those souls lost and those folk caught up in turmoil and disaster at home through recent events in UK

Lord of all compassion

We pray for all of those caught up in the midst of tragedy or disaster.

For those who have lost life and those working to save life

For those who are worried for people they love
For those who will see their loved ones no longer

Lord Have Mercy.

For those in need of the peace that passes all understanding

For all who turn to you in the midst of turmoil
For those who cry out to you in fear and in love

Lord Have Mercy.

For those in confusion and those in despair

For those whose tears are yet to dry

For those in need of your unending love

Lord Have Mercy

Amen.

Dear David,

I received a phone call last night from Joan Lomas who lives in Windermere to let me know that Margaret Peebles (90) has had another fall and has broken her hip in two places. Margaret is in: Ward 5, North Tyneside General Hospital, Rake Lane, NE29 8NH. Can we find someone locally in the YMCA who could visit her? I will also ask one or two BBBF people who live up north if they could visit.

Her late husband Frank was NE Regional Secretary as well as both of them having been Warden and Matron in BBBF.

Any help or suggestions would be much appreciated.

With best wishes

Stephen Milner

22 Ellerslie Close, Charminster, Dorchester DT2 9QQ

Tel: 01305 - 266197. Email: stephenmilner222@btinternet.com

(please respond to Stephen direct – thanks - Ed)

22nd June 2017

15 Caldercroft, Dewsbury Road, Elland, West Yorkshire, HX5 9AY

Dear Ys Retired friends,

It is with sad news that I am writing to inform you that our father, Rodney Stone, passed away peacefully on Friday 16th June 2017 at Elmroyd Nursing Home, Brighouse.

A cremation service is to be held on Monday 3rd July at 10.30am at:-

Park Wood Crematorium, Park Road, Elland, HX5 9HZ

This will be followed by a Service of Celebration of Rodney's life at Lee Mount Baptist Church, at approximately 11.30am at:-

18 Melbourne Street, Lee Mount, Halifax, HX3 5DF

All are welcome to join the family afterwards in the church hall for refreshments. Family flowers only please. Any donations to be made to Christian Aid.

A notice is being placed in the Halifax Courier and Brighouse Echo and an e-mail to be sent to "Y's Retired".

We are trying to inform all Rodney's old friends and colleagues who are outside the loop of the Church, YMCA and other organisations.

We would love to see everyone at either or both of the services.

Margaret Metcalfe - 01422 256015 07536 053367

Raymond Stone - 01484 717249 07528 359740

Rosalind Stone - 07754 738366

Janet Stone - 01621 856955 07930 23904

News of colleagues and friends – please keep all those mentioned in your prayers

Jim Lamb has shared with me that he has three vacant places for the Cambridge Reunion Lunch on the 5th July due to colleagues Tony Miles, Maureen Johnston and Chandu Christian now having hospital appointments on the set day! Call Jim on 01223 440228 if interested in one of these places!

Arthur Bennett sadly has less than 20% vision at present and relies totally on Rosemary reading to him the newspapers and all information arriving by post.

ST IVES HOLIDAY DATES FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS

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