



LANCASTRIANS IN LONDON

NEWSLETTER - No. 163 WINTER 2022

lancastriansinlondon.org.uk

<p>Mon 16 January Tues 7 February Wed 22 March Mon 24 April</p>	<p>EVENTS 2022/23 AGM and Dinner at the Union Jack Club Johnny Ball-“My previous life in Comedy” Leicester Sq Theatre Walk Vauxhall-Sloane Sq via American Embassy & Battersea Power Station by Angela Waddingham City Dinner, Cholmondley Room & Terrace, House of Lords</p>
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Dear Member



As chair this year of the Association, I would like to thank all members for your renewed support as we have emerged from the Covid pandemic and revived our social lives. Our three main dinners - the Carol Service and Christmas Dinner 2021, the January AGM and Supper 2022 and the Annual Service at the Savoy Chapel and City Dinner at the House of Lords in July 2022 were all well attended by members. In addition, we had guided walks of King's Cross in May and Bermondsey in September, a private visit to the Herbarium at Kew in April and a trip to see Superbloom at the Tower of London in June followed by an excellent lunch at the Watermen's Hall. These provided an interesting and diverse programme enjoyed by all those who attended. By popular demand from many of those who attended the City Dinner, we shall be returning to the House of Lords for our City Dinner in April 2023.

The committee and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to your continued support of the Association in 2023. *William Arnold*

CAROL SERVICE and CHRISTMAS DINNER 5th DECEMBER 2022

Despite a flurry of last-minute cancellations due to illness, the evening was well attended. Chaplain Revd Canon Thomas Woodhouse conducted the service at the Chapel of the Savoy and reminded us of the joys and simplicities of Christmas. He recalled our late Queen saying that Christmas was a time for children who see all the joys that we no longer see, but at Christmas time we are all reminded of wonderful childhood memories. The lessons were read by members Beryl Shaw, Shirley Dex, Janine Mackinlay and The Rt Hon The Lord McNally. We sang favourite Carols and prayed for the County Palatine and all those connected with it, including King Charles, The Duke of Lancaster. The Chapel choir were in fine form, we listened to some superb singing and one of the choir carols, Sir Christemas was absolutely stunning. Onto the NLC where we were welcomed with mulled wine in the Victorian splendour of the Smoking room before traditional Christmas dinner, vegetarian options, and wines aplenty were served in the equally splendid David Lloyd George Room. The dinner and service were good and as usual the dinner chat made the evening. Our President Tom McNally gave a brief address saying this was the first time in 69 years that the toast was to “The King”. He reminded us that Christmas is a family time and in the wider sense, Associations such as ours come together as family to enjoy conviviality and friendship. Thank you to the organisers, Lynda Lees and William Arnold.

Jenny Murray



Spotted by member Cerys Rumsby-Smye in an American diner in Richmond, the small sign on the left says “Today’s potatoes are from Wham’s Farm Lancashire UK”

Bermondsey Guided Walk 29 September 2022 by Angela Waddingham



Twelve Lancastrians enjoyed a most interesting walk around Bermondsey guided by Angela Waddingham on Thursday 29 September. We started at the Science Gallery Cafe at Guy's Hospital, where Angela began by explaining the history of, first, St Thomas' hospital on the site to the north now occupied by London Bridge station and which since 2012 has been topped by The Shard, itself visible from pretty much everywhere on our walk. This 'hospital' had been on the mediaeval pilgrims route from London to Canterbury (cross London Bridge and turn left) and a 'hospital' (originally more food and shelter than medicine) had grown up beside the route to cater for the needs of the pilgrims.

Originally dedicated to St Thomas Beckett, it was discreetly rededicated to St Thomas the Apostle under Henry VIII, when opposing the king was definitely no longer politically correct. Then in the eighteenth century Mr Guy had decided to create a hospital on the other side of the route offering medical and mental health care to complement the surgery and anatomy which by then was what St Thomas's offered.

When the railway arrived in the early nineteenth century, St Thomas's was moved - by Florence Nightingale no less - to its present site opposite the Houses of Parliament to allow London Bridge Station to be built, with the longest viaduct in Europe at the time. So, industry trumped medical care. But Guy's remained and counted John Keats, the poet, among its staff in the nineteenth century and Ludwig Wittgenstein, the philosopher, working there incognito during World War 2 (according to the blue plaque on the wall). We toured Guy's Chapel and saw the monument to Mr Guy and his philanthropy.

Then it was into Bermondsey, once an industrial district specialising in the production of leather. We saw the 'London Leather, Hide and Wool Exchange' built in 1878 and more like a gentlemen's club, as business was often conducted there over drinks and a meal. There were remnants of all the leather trades - skiners, tanners, Morocco leather (i.e. goatskin) and leather markets and wholesalers and distributors. Barrow, Hepburn and Gale on Long Lane, which was a major manufacturer of leather goods, still holds the Royal Warrant to produce the purses for the Maundy Money and has the Government's contract to provide all its famous 'red boxes'. Opposite was a Quaker burial ground dating from 1697 as Quakers were not allowed to be buried within the City. Some of the pubs still there relate to the leather industry, such as 'The Leather Exchange' complete with five stone roundels depicting the stages of transforming skins into finished leather; and 'Simon the Tanner' (yes, a pub), which was built in 1829 and was recently bought by a charity to prevent it being turned into flats. But many of the buildings, now mostly listed Grade 2 or above, since many date from the eighteenth century or even earlier, have now been turned into trendy eateries, also making the area a desirable living area within walking distance of the City via either London or Tower Bridge.

Towards the end we saw a statue to Albert McKenzie VC, unveiled on 23 October 2015. He was a local Bermondsey boy, who won his medal at Zeebrugge on St George's Day 1918. 8VCs were won that day. Tragically he died of the wounds he had suffered on St George's Day, at the age of nineteen, only three months after receiving his medal and one week before the end of the war.

On our way back we passed the Guinness Trust Houses built in 1897 for the labouring poor. The tenements were partly paid for by the nearby and relatively new South Eastern Railway Company. We ended where we began, at the Science Gallery Cafe, for a nice cup of tea..... **William Arnold**



The Goosnargh Cake

Following on from that nice cup of tea, I was recently listening to Radio 4, Saturday morning, a foodie programme hosted by Jay Rayner, live from Preston. They were talking about local delicacies and the Goosnargh Cake got a mention. Ground coriander and caraway seeds are the flavouring spices. I cannot recall ever tasting them but hope to soon. Jenny

The Lancashire Banquet at Blackburn Cathedral - 10 December 2022

Every year the High Sheriff of Lancashire and the Dean of Blackburn Cathedral hold a banquet in the nave of Blackburn Cathedral - raising funds to keep this wonderful church in good order. Built in 1826 on the site of an earlier Norman stone church and situated in the middle of the town, close by the railway station, the parish church was raised to a cathedral when the Diocese of Blackburn was carved out of Manchester Diocese in 1926.

On the 10th December 2022 Dean Peter Howell-Jones and High Sheriff Martin Ainscough and the cathedrals bells welcomed over 150 guests into the illuminated nave: the always-impressive interior looked more magnificent than ever lit up in bright reds and purples.



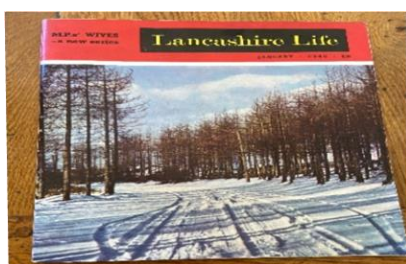
Our Past President Adrian Waddingham was the guest speaker, following in the footsteps of another Past President, Sir Andrew Parmley, who spoke at the 2018 Banquet. The guests, including another former President of our Association, the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, Lord Shuttleworth, were entertained first by the Corps of Drums of the Lancashire ACF, followed by beautiful singing from the renowned Blackburn Choral Scholars and Ley-clerks led by Director of Music John Robinson. Unlike Sir Andrew in 2018, Adrian did not attempt to play the organ leaving the dramatic musical climax to cathedral organist John Hoskins.

The dinner was delightful - how could it not be with beef medallions cooked in Daniel Thwaites real ale gravy, followed by chocolate torte soaked in Blackburn Cathedral gin. Current Master of the Worshipful Livery Company of Furniture Makers, Tony Attard, ran an auction of gifts which itself raised over £5,000.

Adrian finished his address with some cheerful actuarial advice for guests. Should any of them play the weekly lottery, they should not buy them on a Monday morning. Far better to buy them on a Saturday afternoon. Why? Well if you buy on a Monday, your chance of winning the lottery is less than your chance of surviving the week.

You can be forgiven that thinking it is Adrian on the photo, in fact it is his younger brother, John.

Lancashire Life January 1960 - Peter McLoughlin



Rooting through boxes of “stuff” I found a January 1960 edition of Lancashire Life. I have it because there is a picture of the person who some years later would become my wife. Joan (Hindle) was Captain of the Bury Convent Netball Team which had just beaten Bolton School in an Exhibition match. She is second from the left. Reflecting the start of a new optimistic decade the New Year edition was filled with advertisements for motor cars, the Triumph Herald, Riley 68, Austin A99 and Wolseley 15/60 as well as the Vauxhall Cresta and Velox were among the many British offerings to fantasise over. There were also “foreign cars” such as the Renault Dauphine, Citroen DS and the Volvo 122S. Holidays too with exotic cruises from P&O and Cunard. It was time to ask for brochures! The best offer was a Round the World cruise on SS Southern Cross at fares from £287 for a 70 day sunshine voyage. Local events with gentlemen in tails and ladies in ball gowns were well reported with pictures of the Rochdale Hunt Ball held “in the civic dignity of the Town Hall”. Also featured was the Hillside Golf Club Dinner and the Lancaster Canal Boat Club who organised a “Dryland Cruise” [on the Queens Hydro Hotel Blackpool]. Of particular note was the report of The Bolton Assembly annual dinner held in Bolton Town Hall. The Assembly had its beginnings in Bolton and district house parties in the 1800s eventually moving to a public hall. In the early days a rope down the centre of

the floor split the Liberal guests from the Tories! No mention of Labour supporters! Under the headline Home for the Holidays there was an article with photos about a special train bringing 200 girls from schools on the North Wales coast back for the Christmas Holidays.

Lady Lancastrians educated at Penrhos College, Colwyn Bay, Lowther College, Abergele and Howells School Denbigh may remember the trip! *Thanks Peter, for the trip down memory lane - Jenny M*

PRIVATE GEORGE STANLEY PEACHMENT VC 1897-1915 BURY LANCASHIRE - IN REMEMBRANCE



Enlisted to the 5th King's Royal Rifles Corps, 2nd Battalion and sent to France on 27th July 1915. At the Battle of Loos on 25th September 1915 during very heavy fighting, Private Peachment saw his company commander lying wounded and crawled to help him. There was a shell-hole quite close in which a few men had taken cover, Private Peachment never thought of saving himself. He knelt in the open by his officer and tried to help him, but while doing so was mortally wounded by a rifle bullet. The recommendation for the award of the VC came from the man whose life he saved, Captain Guy Rattray Dubs. "He started bandaging my head -

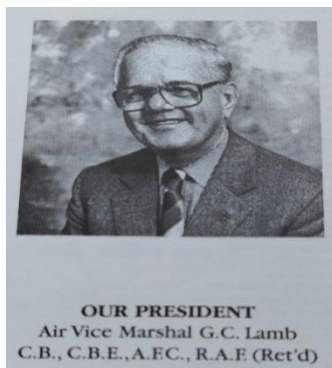
he was oblivious to the German fire". The moving words of the officer to the mother of Private Peachment VC - "I cannot tell you how much I admired your son's bravery. He died the finest death a man can die - and showed the greatest gallantry.

Bury 25.9.22 Padre Hugh Bearn presided over a service to commemorate this courageous young soldier. He has campaigned for more than 25 years to have this young hero's bravery publicly recognised, the only man in Bury to be awarded a VC during the First World War. There is now a local housing project, Peachment Place, a small plaque in St Anne's Church and a park to be renamed Peachment VC Town Meadow Park.

For those members who are attending our AGM at the Union Jack Club, there are large wooden plaques on the right up the stairs towards the bar, listing everyone who has been awarded the VC. It is impressive, go take a look, search out Private Peachment VC, he deserves it.

"When you go home tell them of us and say, for your tomorrows we gave our todays."

AIR VICE-MARSHAL 'LARRY' LAMB CB,CBE,A.EC, RAF(Ret'd) 1923 - 2022



We are sad to report the death of Air Vice-Marshal Larry Lamb at the age of 99 years. Many of you will have seen the Obituary in The Times on 4th October. "Clubbable Berlin Airlift veteran who flew 86 missions delivering food and medicine and later became an international rugby referee." George Colin Lamb, known in later life as "Larry" was born in Hornby near Lancaster, in 1923. Educated at Lancaster Royal Grammar School, Larry yearned to be a pilot and he went on to command Squadrons in Bomber Command. Larry was the President of our Association in 1999. The photograph was taken from the Associations' 94th Annual Dinner and Dance programme at the Royal Beach Hotel, Southsea, Hants on Saturday 16th October 1999.

Philip Newfield writes "I first met Larry Lamb when we were both Tour Guides at the RFU Stadium at Twickenham. Being a retired International Referee Larry had stories to tell on his tours that were unique and second to none. At a Tour Guide's Christmas party at Twickenham Larry found out that my wife Chrissie came from Burnley and told us about the A of L in L. He invited her to become a member and being a recent Past President of The Association he proposed her for membership of it. We subsequently enjoyed the company of Larry and his wife Maureen at many events including those wonderful weekends The Association organised to Le Touquet. Larry was also President of The St George's Day Club and proposed me for membership of it. He was one of life's true gentlemen and he will be much missed."

Members Philip and Chrissie Newfield and Peter Hughes attended the Memorial Service in Berkhamsted on 2nd November 2022.

May 2023 bring peace, health and happiness and may our wonderful Association continue to flourish. Thank you for your support and a Happy, Healthy New Year to you all.

Raise your glasses, the toast is "Lancastrians in London" Jenny Murray

We welcome new members Mrs Mavis M Holt

Editor: Jenny Murray –e-mail: jennymurray1947@btinternet.com

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