



The Quill

*A periodic Newsletter for Distribution to the
Members of the Three Rooms Club*

Autumn 2022

www.3roomsclub.london

Need to Contact the Club?

Our mailing address is: The Three Rooms Club, Room 136, Lloyd's, 1 Lime Street, London EC3M 7HA

Email: Tim Willens

secretary@3roomsclub.london

From the Editor

Welcome to our Autumn 2022 edition of the Quill

Martin Robinson
Editor

In this edition of the Quill.....

Membership Matters

The Three Rooms Charitable Trust

The Insurance Museum – What can you do to help?

22nd November 2022 Get Together ~ A New Venue

Is it just me getting old?

A View from the Past ~ Lloyd's Log May 1951 Lloyd's Dramatic, Operatic and Musical Society

Keeping in Contact

Our website aims to keep members up to date with club news. However, we have very few email addresses, if you have an email address, please do let Tim Willens know your details.

Email to secretary@3roomsclub.london

Articles and Pictures for Future Editions

We need stories and pictures from the past please do send any content to the Editor of the Quill:

martinbrob@gmail.com

Membership Matters

Notices of Resignation received from Members

Mr Graham **Withers** - Annual Member No. 0638 effective June 28th, 2022

Notification of Deceased Members

Mr. J.R. **Wright** - Annual Member No. 0387 Died June 2020
Mr. B.G. **Jervis** - Life Member No. 1126 Died February 2022
Mr. P.B. **Coffey** - Life Member No. 1499 Died April 2022
Mr. D.C. **Maguire** - Annual Member No. 1297 Died April 2021

Notification of Changes of Address

Mr. D.H. **Bradley** - Life Member No. 0190
Mr. P. **Stephens** – Annual Member No. 1767

If you need to re-establish contact with a member, please contact a committee member who will facilitate the contact request.

Officers and Committee

Bruce Carnegie-Brown	President
Don H Coombe	Hon. Life President ~ Mobile: 07980 009758
Brian Wilkin	Chairman ~ Mobile: 07775 734197
Martin Robinson	Deputy Chairman ~ Mobile: 07717 487953
Vernon Ashford	Treasurer
Tim Willens	Secretary ~ Mobile: 0772 4856752
Paul Coombes	Membership Secretary & Web Master
Bob Hunt ~ Mobile: 07976 805535	
Peter Cave ~ Mobile: 07563 544581	
Cliff Hutchinson	
Danny Wild ~ Mobile: 07946 330946	
Michael Cobb	
Barry Mackay	

Editor of the Quill Martin Robinson ~ martinbrob@gmail.com Mobile 07717 487953

The Three Rooms Charitable Trust

A message from Brian Wilkin, Chairman of The Three Rooms Charitable Trust (TTRCT).

The Three Rooms Charitable Trust was originally set up, with a payment of £10,000 from the original Three Rooms club, on the 30th December 1988, with the intention of providing "Financial assistance to young people in need to equip them to accept jobs and training in the insurance world but without prejudice to help them buy appropriate working clothes and to meet the cost of travel to and from their work place until such time as they became self-supporting."

I became a trustee in 1990, under the then Chairman, Terrence Higgins.

Since then, TTRCT have supported over 220 registered charities that you, members of The Three Rooms Club have recommended, and have made donations to date of over £125,000.

Financial contributions are received from The Three Rooms Club and individual contributions from our members.

I would like to thank all the previous trustees for all their help over the past years, with particular thanks to Don Coombe.

The trustees now are:

Vernon Ashford
Paul Coombes
Martin Robinson
Danny Wild
Tim Willens,
and myself

Please remember we only consider charity requests submitted by you our members and request that they are U.K. registered charities.

The Insurance Museum- What can you do to help?

In the last Edition of the Quill Reg Brown provided us with an update on the Insurance Museum progress so far.

What can you do to help?

The Insurance Museum is a self-funding charity. Your support through membership is essential in helping us to build and sustain the Insurance Museum.

The Three Rooms Club members are part of this history please consider supporting this charity and have your name recorded as a founder member of the museum.

<https://insurance.museum/how-you-can-help>

Join in the IM story

Through membership and fundraising activities, we are raising £3,000,000. This money will complete the build of our Virtual Galleries

Membership and donations are paramount in achieving the goals of The Insurance Museum.



YOUR MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

For only £50 a year you will get privileged members only content which includes:

- **Talks and panel discussions – with guest speakers and Insurance Museum supporters**
- **Blogs and podcasts – a deep dive into the history of insurance**
- **Recognition as a founder member – if you sign up this year and maintain your membership**

22nd November 2022 Get Together ~ A New Venue

Our November 2022 Get Together will be held at the Brokers Wine Bar, 9 Leadenhall Market, London EC3V 1LR.

There will be food made available to attendees on the night courtesy of the Three Rooms Club Committee and there will be a pay bar.

There will be an optional £10 cash charity donation at the door. The proceeds from the charity collection will be announced during the evening.

We are limiting the attendance to 60 so please complete and return the enclosed order form if you would like to join us and reserve your place. Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis and no tickets will be available on the night.

Is it just me getting old?

In the last edition of the Quill, I asked our members "As time goes on and we grow old we look at situations and wonder why it has come to this? Thankfully I find it's not just me.

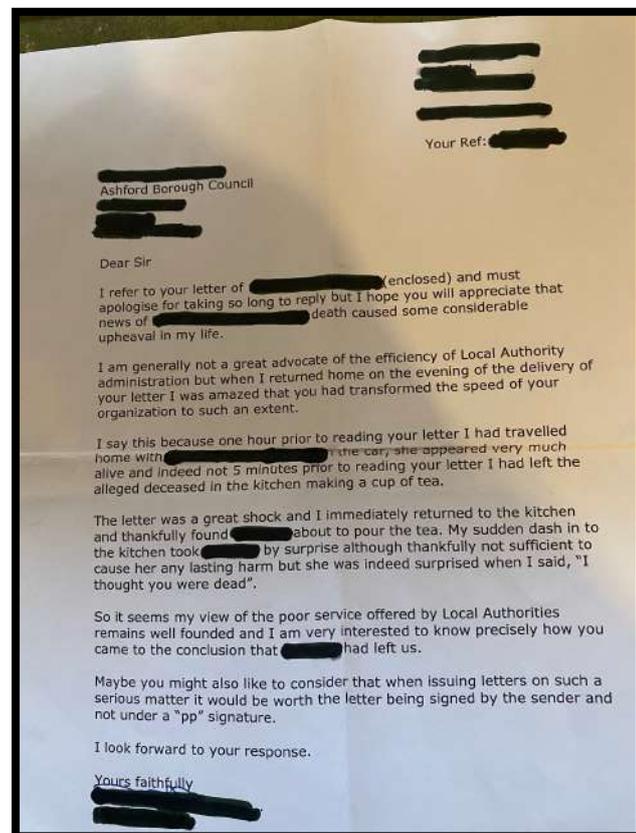
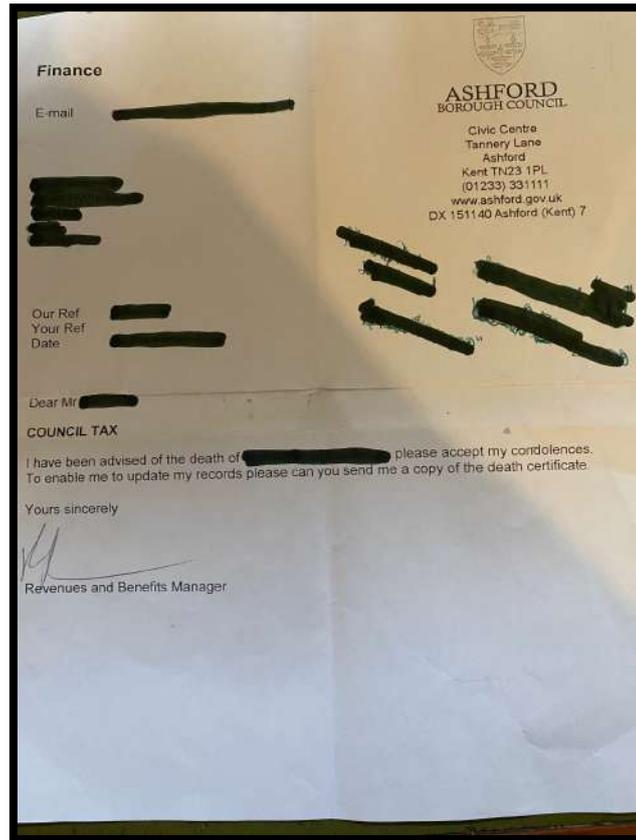
I've received some very amusing responses about your frustrations some of which it is not possible to publish and many concerning politics which I will steer clear of but forgive me if I do stray a little, it's an age thing.

I thought it best to refrain from telling you who made the comments below and I'm not even going to identify correspondents as "Mr W from Sevenoaks" or the like for fear you will scramble for an old edition of the member directory to get a clue as to who might have made the comment.

So, if you want to respond or complain about any of the comments below feel free to contact me, I will of course have the courtesy to respond to you.

I had plenty of comments on the BBC which I will save for a future issue, as you might guess there is little support for the BBC in the material I have, maybe some amongst you might want to offer some positive comments on the BBC? Call centres and nuisance calls also received some attention more on them in a future edition.

First up, a letter from Ashford Borough Council and our correspondent's response to them. He tells me that he and his wife are both alive and well and paying Council Tax. Surprise, surprise he never received a response from the council



Scotland

A momentary lapse from the Editor....

One of our correspondents feels sorry for some of the Scots who are hungry to be separate from the rest of the UK. He believes the vote should be given to the English to decide and thinks the result would favour the hungry Scots.

He muses as follows, what would the Scottish currency be called the Arbroath Smokey?

He relishes the thought of not having to endure the

Weather report from Scotland cluttering up the TV news

Scottish football the equivalent of the English lower leagues on the British Broadcasting Corporation

With no Scottish seats in the UK parliament, more available space for talented individuals to take their place (Steady on old boy where will we find them, we have trouble filling the other seats with talented individuals already).

Finally, not having to feel the need to endure Scots all over the world who tell you how fantastic Scotland is when none of them want to live there.

Seems like we have a UK Government candidate for Scottish Secretary.

The Editor

Desk Top Printers

One of our readers reports on his frustration with his desktop HP printer.

Dear Martin,

I would like to tell you about my printer.

I purchased a bargain (Or so I thought) a brand-new HP Printer which was priced at £79.99. I resisted paying for the extended warranty as I was sure from past printer experience, that within weeks of purchase I would take a club hammer to the device.

All went well for a few weeks, and I was on the point of thinking about writing a positive comment on the internet only to find that to do so I needed a Facebook account or an Instagram account or to log in with Google, so thought better of it.

As usual I have now spent more on ink cartridges than I paid for the device and I'm only 6 months in. My frequent swearing at the device seems to have had some effect as the printer has stopped working leading to a temporary saving on print cartridges. The error message I get says "Cannot find the printer" very infuriating as I'm a complete IT novice and I know the printer is the white thing right next to the PC that cannot find it.

Nevertheless, I decided one afternoon after a nice cup of Earl Gray tea and a hand full of fig biscuits to press on with the printer. Not being accustomed to reading instructions or searching for advice on the internet I got

online to a printer chat line. It looked encouraging as I had typed in "Trouble with my HP printer" and there was help. I did not get far through the questions raised by the frustrated HP printer owners to find a response that said "HP printers are easy to fix, my cat could fix them" send the cat to my house then. Enough of that. I resorted to type trying all sort of manoeuvres to help the PC find the lost printer and without knowing how, it was fixed, and the PC had found the white thing next to it.

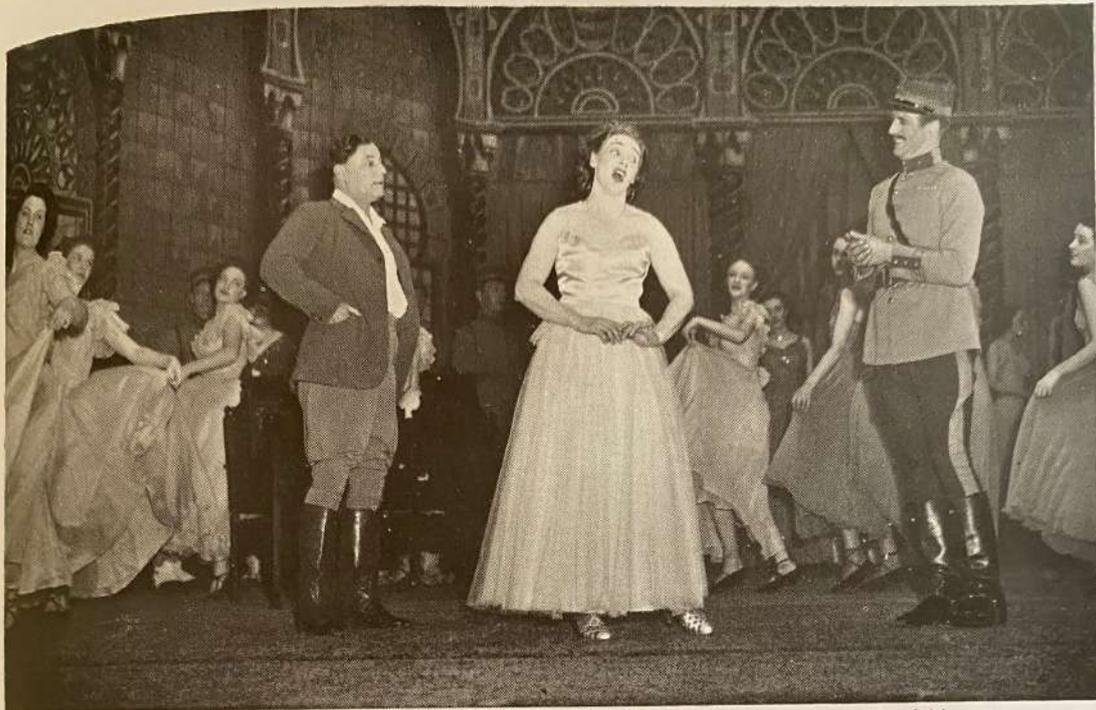
Progress was short lived; the printer ink was low, or an empty cartridge was the message. More tea but no more fig biscuits as that would solicit some response from the management on her return home. The printer boasts the ability to tell you which of the two cartridges is low or empty but not this one, it tells me it cannot tell which one is low or empty, so how did it know either has a problem? So, another trip to Argos for a new full set of cartridges and I'm back in business, but of course, I've forgotten what I needed to print.

Having succumbed to the purchase of yet another full set of cartridges as usual I placed the old ones in the desk draw just in case there is some magical recovery at a later date in their ability to dispense ink. They are in the same draw as the 3rd party HP compatible ink cartridges that have thus far not fulfilled the single duty they were designed for.

A View from the Past ~ Lloyd's Log May 1951 Lloyd's Dramatic, Operatic and Musical Society

A discovery in Lloyd's, the Lloyd's Legal Department has very kindly allowed us to use one of their rooms in Lloyd's as our 3 Rooms Club base and in the bookshelves in the office are a beautiful set of bound books containing all the Lloyd's Log Magazines produced. I'll be searching for articles and pictures from the publications. One such article is below from May 1951, no such club at Lloyd's now although we are not without drama.





Pierre—alias the Red Shadow—and his rival, Captain Fontaine, listen to the song of Margot

Photos : London News Agency

Well, it's all a question of taste and my only reason for recording his remark is that this was the only adverse criticism I have heard about the show.

In a cast of all-round excellence the acting honours must go to Doris Elliott. In the part of Margot Bonvalet she gave a magnificent performance. She has personality and a charming voice; her actions were smooth and her timing perfect.

Tom Kinsey as the "Red Shadow" seemed rather out of his element. He just did not possess the dash and fire that one would associate with this Riff Robin Hood. However he does possess probably the finest voice among the male members of the cast. His scene with Margot when he sang "The Desert Song" was one of the best moments of the production.

A newcomer to the society was Stella Sharman. In her role of Azuri, a native dancing girl, she gave a colourful and dramatic piece of acting. It was a pity that the part did not call for a song as I



Susan and Benjamin, after their release by the Riffs, are welcomed by General Birabeau



The Finale. The front row, from left to right—Eric Borgonon, Patrick Agar, Doreen Hadley, R. C. A. FitzGerald, June King, Tom Kinsey, Doris Elliott, Alfred Burrows, George Durant, Stella Sharman, Leonard Griggs and Henry Hibbett

understand she has a delightful voice. June King as Susan and Alfred Burrows as Benjamin Kidd made an admirable pair. Their comical talents got an enthusiastic reception from an appreciative audience.

Leonard Griggs was smooth and dapper as the Governor, General Birabeau. He never made the mistake—so common in musical comedy—of becoming either pompous or ludicrous, and gave an admirable portrayal of a dignified and human French officer.

R. C. A. FitzGerald as the Caid, Ali Ben Ali, looked particularly villainous and his immense size seemed even more immense in the scenes with the Spanish "Lady" played so attractively by Doreen Hadley.

George Durant as Captain Fontaine, together with Eric Borgonon and Henry Hibbett as members of the Red Shadow's Band played their parts adequately.

One of the most attractive features was the precision of the dances. This was particularly noticeable in the military

numbers where the drill was performed with perfect timing and received terrific applause. Great credit is due to Alison Maclaren who arranged the dancing.

This was one of the finest of Frederic G. Lloyd's productions and special mention must be made of Dorit Maclaren who assisted with the production during Mr. Lloyd's indisposition.

The show has many delightful melodies and the chorus, both male and female, made the most of them. The orchestra under their musical director, Douglas Seneschall, was excellent.

E.N.F.

LLOYD'S BRANCH, BRITISH LEGION

No. 9 group of Lloyd's Branch of the British Legion (Matthews Wrightson & Co., Ltd., and associated companies) held a "get-together" on Apr. 5 at the George Restaurant, Aldgate. The guests included Mr. A. E. M. Gale and Mr. E. Anslow Wilson, chairman and vice-chairman of the Branch respectively.

Dates For Your Diary

Three Rooms “Club Get Togethers”

Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Wednesday 17th May 2023

Wednesday 22nd November 2023

Your committee will be meeting on

Wednesday 11th January 2023

Wednesday 1st March 2023

Wednesday 17th May 2023

Wednesday 5th July 2023

Wednesday 4th September 2023