



AMBASSADOR SUSMAN REAFFIRMS HIS BELIEF IN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP

Ambassador Louis B Susman delivered his farewell address to a capacity Pilgrims' audience at Drapers' Hall on 13 February. Following an introduction by his former work colleague at Salomon Brothers, Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman, Ambassador Susman reflected on the passage of time since he had delivered his maiden speech to the Pilgrims on 16 September 2009. There had been a change of Government in 2010, a Royal Wedding in 2011 and an official visit by President Obama in 2012, as well as a visit by the Prime Minister to Washington DC in 2012, marking the bicentenary of the burning of the White House.



Ambassador Louis B Susman, Ronald M Freeman and Lady Victoria Leatham, Master of the Drapers' Company

As he had pledged in 2009, Ambassador Susman reaffirmed his unshakeable belief in the validity and importance of the unique Anglo-American relationship, denied or played down by the misguided. Britain and the United States shared common values of liberty, democracy and the rule of law. Britain was America's best friend and closest ally in times of need and stress and no partnership on the world stage was more important to the USA than that with the UK. The Ambassador surveyed the world scene and such problem countries as Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and North Africa, as well as the deadly blow meted out to

Al Qaeda with the death of Osama Bin Laden, and spoke of the economic problems which had confronted the world over the past five years – the worst economic crisis since the Wall Street Crash of 1929 and subsequent Great Depression. He declared that in this new economic reality we would have to do better with less, especially in terms of defence spending.



The Livery Hall at Drapers' Hall

During his tenure as Ambassador he had travelled around the United Kingdom and learnt a great deal about the country and its people. He paid tribute to Her Majesty The Queen for Her remarkable service and dedication to duty over more than sixty years, and to the work of the Pilgrims in promoting Anglo-American fellowship and mutual understanding for over 110 years. There was no greater honour than being Ambassador to the Court of St James.



Ambassador Susman was kind enough to take a few questions from the floor and was then given a most warm vote of thanks by Executive Committee member, Air Chief Marshal Lord Stirrup.

Ambassador and Mrs Louis B Susman

BARONESS THATCHER OF KESTEVEN LG OM FRS

Vice-President of the Pilgrims

I was lucky to know her. Many members of the Pilgrims worked with her or for her. We all have had our lives affected by her public and political service in Britain, with the United States of America and across the world.

Shortly after being elected as Conservative leader, she kindly came to help in the June 1975 Woolwich West by-election success, the first in a series that removed the majority of the then government, and led to the Lib-Lab pact and to the 1979 general election, unusually triggered by a Commons vote.



Hugh Stephenson, former diplomat and Business editor of *The Times*, wrote in his 1980 book *Mrs Thatcher's First Year* about her flexibility. It was her first year. This view was confirmed by former Irish Ambassador, Noel Dorr, in his RTE interview discussing her ability to adapt and to contribute the Anglo-Irish Agreement to the process of peace building.

She could be clear and direct, often with beneficial results. She demonstrated there was no public responsibility that a woman could not hold.

Her habit was to be remarkably kind and considerate to people whose contributions were in support of those in senior roles.

At my low ministerial level, she seldom was troubled by me. We did act together when I reported directly to her from the 1985 Brussels Heysel Stadium tragedy.

In 1990, we were discussing her speech to be given in New York at the Children's Summit. It is available, with every other one from 1945, on her Foundation website. It confirms her concern for all, in this country and around the world. So too did her speech the next month to UNIFEM where she spoke of being one of the three women national leaders.

Virginia and I liked her and appreciated the good she did for the country, for our links with the USA and her contribution to the world. If in doubt, experience the famous 45-minute uncensored interview she gave in Moscow on 31 March 1987, at the time of glasnost, openness. In it she also spoke about herself:

"I have worked hard all my life. I was brought up in a family that worked hard. We had to work hard. The only way we could get on was working hard and frankly it is much more interesting than anything else. Work is interesting; I enjoy it. I have trained all my life; I was trained first as a chemist and then as a lawyer and I have had to work at both and then I was interested in politics. Yes, I can get on with about five hours' sleep a night for quite a long time. Eventually you do want to rest, a longer rest, but I can do it and sometimes I have to because, do not forget, our political system is a very tough one."

Sir Peter Bottomley MP
Chairman of the Programme committee

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LORD BUTLER OF BROCKWELL OFFERS AN ASSESSMENT OF HIS WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH FIVE PRIME MINISTERS

Lord Butler of Brockwell KG GCB CVO delivered the sixteenth annual Reflections lecture on 12 March on *Experiences with five Prime Ministers*. A capacity audience filled the auditorium at Goldman Sachs's River Court premises in Fleet Street.



Lord Butler, who spoke to the Pilgrims in 1993 on *The Reinvention of Government*, forged a very successful career, first at the Treasury, then at 10 Downing Street and the Cabinet Office, before becoming Master of University

College, Oxford. He is well known for chairing the Butler Inquiry, his Report revealing flawed intelligence concerning Iraq's possession of weapons of mass destruction, leading up to the war of 2003.

Lord Butler began by observing that no-one rises to the top of the greasy pole of politics without a considerable degree of luck and without great ability. As Private Secretary to Edward Heath he witnessed Britain's entry into the European Community and Heath's difficulties in dealing with people, especially in social situations.

Harold Wilson's second premiership in 1974 was a different proposition, beginning during the miners' strike which had effectively brought down the Heath government. Wilson was obsessed with keeping the Labour Party together, so the negotiation for an improvement in Britain's entry terms into the European Community had to be handled with great care. This led to the referendum of 1975 which rubber-stamped Britain's membership.

Lord Butler served as Principal Private Secretary to Margaret Thatcher from 1982 to 1985. He recalled the IRA Brighton bomb, from which Lady Thatcher narrowly escaped, and talked about her relationship with Ronald Reagan, especially on the question of nuclear disarmament. Lord Butler became Cabinet

Secretary in 1988, serving three Prime Ministers – Margaret Thatcher, John Major and Tony Blair.

In his opinion, John Major was underrated as a Prime Minister. Major dealt with a split Conservative Party, the exit from the Exchange Rate Mechanism, the Maastricht negotiations and the Northern Ireland situation.

Lord Butler believed Tony Blair to be a very astute politician with great powers of eloquence and persuasion, especially in relation to the background to the Iraq war.

Question-time brought up such topics as comparisons between the political and academic worlds, the impartiality and independence of the Civil Service, the nature of the working relationship between civil servants and politicians, and also *The Audience*, playing in the West End and depicting the supposed relationship between The Queen and all her Prime Ministers, from Churchill to Cameron.

The vote of thanks was given by Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Chairman of the Programme Committee, who presented Lord Butler with the customary Pilgrims tie and official centennial history.

MARY, COUNTESS OF BESSBOROUGH



A member of the Pilgrims for many years and Benjamin Franklin's House's founding governor, Mary, Countess of Bessborough died at her home in Philadelphia at the age of 98 on 13 April 2013.

Lady Bessborough set up the Friends of Benjamin Franklin House and was tireless in her dedication, enlisting the support of many, including Baroness Thatcher, who gave the building's freehold to the charity. Lady Bessborough's great dream of a Benjamin Franklin House open to the public was realised on Franklin's 300th birthday in January 2006.

LADY REID ON THE CAREER OF THOMAS PAINE

Lady Reid, Pilgrims' member and historian, spoke after lunch at the Savile Club on 10 April about Thomas Paine, "the first infamous Anglo-American". Before his introduction, Sir Peter Bottomley MP paid a generous tribute to the Pilgrims' Vice-President, the late Baroness Thatcher, who made an indelible mark on British politics and the people of this nation.



Lady Reid and Ronald M Freeman

Lady Reid said that Thomas Paine had written the three best sellers of the eighteenth century. Having been a corset-maker, excise man and privateer, in 1774 at the age of 37 Paine went to America, with letters of introduction from Benjamin Franklin. The publication of *Commonsense* helped to galvanise the disparate American colonies into rebelling against British rule. He became Secretary of the Committee of Foreign Affairs in 1777 but was compelled to resign the following year after the Silas Deane Affair, when he became Clerk to the Pennsylvania Assembly.



Sir Peter Bottomley MP

Paine travelled to France in 1781, working as John Laurens's Private Secretary, where he befriended the Marquis de Lafayette. He returned to England to publish *The Rights of Man* in 1791, bringing about accusations of treason. He became friendly with Edmund Burke, the author of *Reflections on*

the French Revolution, and countered this by publishing *The Age of Reason*, for which he was arrested for sedition. On escaping to France he was offered citizenship, but soon fell foul of Robespierre and the Jacobins because of his espousal of the Girondin cause and his opposition to the execution of King Louis XVI. Imprisoned and sentenced to death, Paine reclaimed his American citizenship, and with the aid of James Monroe returned to the US. Never a team-player, with a knack of falling out with friends because of his outspokenness, his lack of tact and his inability to keep confidences, Paine eventually died in poverty.



Sir Michael Craig-Cooper and Helen Freeman

During questions, Lady Reid spoke further about Paine's genius, and the possibility of his suffering from Asperger's Syndrome; his desire to seek a new life in America; his inability to work with people and his previous career as an excise man dealing with smugglers. Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman thanked Lady Reid warmly for her fascinating account and presented her with a centennial history and a silk scarf.

IN MEMORIAM

Anthony F M Beeley
Mrs David Bune
Mrs Henrietta L Connell
Peter J Grant CBE
Mrs R L Granville-Grossman
Major A A Greenwood
John B W Holderness
Sir Michael Jenkins KCMG
Professor G H L Le May
Charles Longbottom OBE
Roger L Payton
Leolin Price CBE QC
The Hon Lady Ramsbotham
The Right Hon Baroness Thatcher
of Kesteven LG OM FRS

EVENSONG AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Pilgrims and guests were privileged to attend a full choral evensong at St Paul's Cathedral on 29 January, seated in Sir Christopher Wren's Quire in the beautiful choir stalls carved by Grinling Gibbons. The service was led by the Canon-in-Residence and Precentor, Canon Michael Hampel, with traditional Anglican canticles, psalms, anthems and lessons.



The American Memorial Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral

We toured the crypt and the main part of the Cathedral, visiting the memorials to Nelson, Wellington, Florence Nightingale, Lawrence of Arabia, Sir Alexander Fleming and, of course, Sir Christopher Wren. We saw the Chapel of All Souls and the Chapel of St Dunstan. The American Chapel is a memorial to the Americans who fell in the Second World War, and houses a roll of honour listing the names of all those Americans who died while on UK soil. We inspected a memorial to St Paul's Watch, who saved the cathedral from bomb destruction during World War II, and the Falklands War Memorial by David Kindersley, unveiled in 1985.

The evening ended with a reception at Odgers Berndtson's Cannon Street premises overlooking St Paul's, at the generous invitation of Richard Boggis-Rolfe and Baroness Bottomley.

St Paul's have generously arranged a further tour following evensong on 17 October.

CHARTWELL REVISITED



Sir Winston Churchill's Studio at Chartwell

The Pilgrims visited Chartwell on 8 February to see *In the Blood*, a special exhibition devoted to Sir Winston Churchill's American and British ancestors. Churchill's illustrious British ancestry starts with John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough and his formidable wife, Sarah. Churchill believed he had Iroquois Indian blood through Clarissa Willcox, the maternal grandmother of his American mother, Jennie Jerome - a claim still unproven. Paintings, photographs, letters and other official documents, as well as christening mugs, insignia and family treasures were exhibited, some never previously put on show. We also visited the garden and the studio, with its large collection of Sir Winston's paintings and a very powerful sense of Churchill's presence. Our thanks go particularly to Alice Martin, the curator of the exhibition, for her excellent presentation.

ART ANTIQUES LONDON, 13-19 JUNE

Albert Memorial West Lawn, Kensington Gardens
020 7389 6555 www.haughton.com

The Albert Memorial and Kensington Gardens provide the stunning backdrop to one of London's most exciting and glamorous art and antique fairs. Held in a beautiful bespoke pavilion opposite the Royal Albert Hall and close to the site of the Great Exhibition of 1851 *Art Antiques London* brings together 67 leading international dealers and discerning visitors from all over the world, who can buy with confidence at this strictly vetted sumptuous summer showcase for the arts.

Art Antiques London delivers a lecture programme featuring some of the top specialists discussing new research in their fields. *Houghton Revisited: the Walpole Masterpieces from Catherine The Great's Hermitage*, a panel discussion with the Marquess of Cholmondeley and Dr Thierry Morel, chaired by Anna Somers Cocks, will be on Thursday 13 June.

OLYMPIC PARK IN PROGRESS



Our view of the Stadium from the ArcelorMittal Orbit

Having visited the Olympic Park viewing platform in June 2011, we returned for a *Park in Progress* tour on 4 April. Some members assembled at the Viewtube café for lunch, before sixty members and guests, covering a wide age range, travelled by bus through the Park, passing the Stadium and the Aquatics Centre, to the ArcelorMittal Orbit.



India (left) and Siena Barber, twin granddaughters of Amanda and Jeremy Edwards, in the gallery at the top of the Orbit

Unfortunately we had chosen the worst weather possible for such a visit: a blizzard meant that we had a severely restricted view from the top of the Orbit, 80 metres above the Park. The Shard was only just visible, while we were told that on a clear day we could see the QEII Bridge and Wembley Stadium. However, we learnt of plans for the future of the Park, and appetites were whetted for a visit when the project is completed.

GEORGE BELLOWS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY

Pilgrims and guests attended a special morning lecture at the Royal Academy on 26 April on *George Bellows – Modern American Life*, before viewing the exhibition, the first retrospective of works by the American realist painter to be held in the UK.



New York, 1911

When Bellows died of peritonitis at the age of forty-two, he was considered one of the greatest artists in America. His fascination with New York's gritty urban landscape, its technological marvels and the diversity of its inhabitants, made him both an artist of the modern city and an acute observer of the dynamic and challenging decades of the early 20th century.



Stag at Sharkey's, 1909

Bellows's short career encompassed a wide range of subject matter and the exhibition explored the principal themes of his work, featuring boxing fights, cityscapes, views of the Hudson River, social scenes, seascapes, portraits and the First World War.

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Wednesday 12 June

Evensong at the Temple Church

Lord Judge of Draycote, Lord Chief Justice, will speak on the Magna Carta, followed by a reception at the church and optional supper. From 5.30 pm

Thursday 4 July

T S Eliot by Professor Sir Christopher Ricks

Portcullis House, Palace of Westminster
Followed by an optional supper
6.00 pm

Wednesday 10 July

All day visit to Bletchley Park, near Milton Keynes
Transport leaves central London at 9.00 am

Monday 30 September

Annual Meeting

and Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture

The Baroness Manningham-Buller DCB
8 Salisbury Square, EC4Y 8BB, 6.00 pm
By kind invitation of KPMG LLP

Thursday 17 October

Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, followed by a guided tour of the private areas

Guests to be seated by 4.45 pm
To be followed by a reception at 2-6 Cannon Street
By kind invitation of Bates Wells & Braithwaite LLP

Thursday 14 November

Dinner with Sir Nigel Sheinwald GCMG

Politics and Foreign Policy in Obama's Second Term
Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly
7.15 for 7.45pm

COMING SOON!



The Pilgrims' website is undergoing improvements. Members will soon be alerted to changes which will enable them to book events electronically, and also to complete on-line application forms.

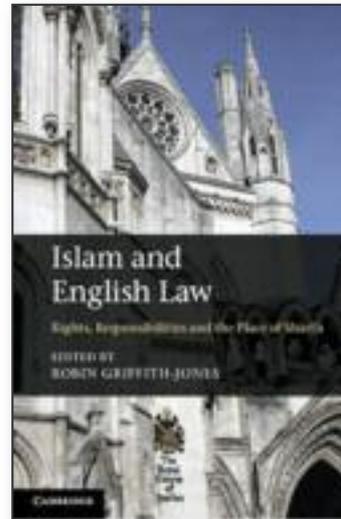
CHECK THE WEBSITE!
www.pilgrimsociety.org

Members with internet access should apply to the office for login and password for the website.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH

At the invitation of the Hon Chaplain, the Reverend and Valiant Robin Griffith-Jones, Master of the Temple, the Pilgrims will visit the Temple Church on Wednesday 12 June for Choral Evensong in celebration of the Magna Carta (sealed 15 June 1215). The Right Hon the Lord Judge of Draycote, Lord Chief Justice, will speak and the service will be followed by drinks in the Master's Garden.

The Temple Church was built by the crusading Knights Templar, 1161-1240. Its round Church is the earliest Gothic building in England, its chancel a glorious Hall Church built for King Henry III.



The Church was built in the Crusades to deepen the divisions between Christendom and Islam, and is now trying to bridge some of those divisions. Archbishop Rowan Williams gave his famous lecture on sharia law in England at the

Temple Church in February 2008. This was the start of a major project on Islam in English Law, whose first stage has come to fruition in *Islam and English Law*, edited by Robin Griffith-Jones (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

At Epiphany 1215 King John and the barons, gathered in the Temple and locked in angry debate, will have heard the choir sing in the Church. Robin Griffith-Jones is relieved that the discussions the church holds now are more peaceful; he can only hope they will be as fruitful. The Temple Church is still, after 800 years, the Mother-Church of the Common Law. Only by chance is it also the church of *The Da Vinci Code*, and so a place of pilgrimage for thousands of Dan Brown's pilgrims. The Master of the Temple even features in the novel – as a notoriously grumpy vicar. He hopes this is slander!

NEWS FROM THE PILGRIMS OF THE UNITED STATES



James D Zirin, Raymond Kelly, Police Commissioner of the New York City Police Department, and US Pilgrims' President Miner H Warner following Commissioner Kelly's talk to the Pilgrims of the United States on 8 January at the Racquet & Tennis Club.



Sir Winfried Bischoff, Chairman of Lloyd's Banking Group since 2009, with Miner H Warner (left) and Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt Jr on 30 January.



Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt Jr, Hon Thomas H Kean and Hon Frank G Wisner with Henry Kissinger, Hon KCMG, at the Union League Club Annual Meeting luncheon on 4 April.



Sir Peter Westmacott, UK Ambassador to the United States since January 2012, with Thomas L Pulling (left) and Miner H Warner (right) following his address to the Pilgrims of the US on 30 April at the Racquet & Tennis Club.

NEW MEMBERS, SPRING 2013

Professor John Annette
Richard Blystone
James Brocklebank
William Brocklebank
Mrs Rosamond Brown
Richard Christou
Edward Collins
Ms Margaret Daly
Philip Delves Broughton
Jonathan Horsman
Blaine Krickl
The Right Hon Sir David Latham
Dr Barbara Lauriat
Ian Mayes QC
Dr Robin Niblett
Christopher Osborne
Mrs Carol Osborne
Martin Paisner CBE
Ms Arabella Phillimore
Allen Sangines-Krause
Ronald Stagg
William Winget

Application forms are available from the office and on the website, and lists of members from the office

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