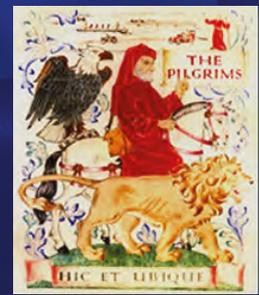


The Pilgrims Newsletter



A twice-yearly newsletter for Members of
The Pilgrims Society of Great Britain

VOL 24, NO 1
AUTUMN 2016

Letter from the President

*Marshal of the Royal Air Force
Lord Stirrup writes:*



I write these words in the immediate aftermath of the Presidential Election in the United States, where once again the pollsters managed to cover themselves in glory. The morning after the night before has brought a welter of strong but conflicting emotions: joy and despair; hope and pessimism; relief and anger. Such visceral reactions are understandable, but they tend to distract attention from perhaps the most important issue of the campaign, and in doing so to increase the stresses and strains on our polities.

I say polities, in the plural, because the concerns that were at the forefront of many voters' minds in America were evident here in the UK during the EU Membership Referendum, and are colouring the pre-election debates in France and Germany.

Large elements within our societies believe that they have seen no personal benefit from globalisation

and the high-technology economy; quite the reverse, in fact - they believe that their prosperity and whole way of life are being undermined. And these concerns are not entirely fanciful. Many households have seen their incomes stagnate at best, and believe that their children will be worse off than their parents. This blame falls on a self-interested political and business elite, free trade, and the easy movement of labour and skills. Politicians who understand this and seem in tune with it are garnering increasing electoral support across western democracies.

The question, then, is not whether the concerns are real and important - they patently are - but what to do about them. For some, the correct response is a turning inwards: increased nationalism, isolationism and barriers to trade and movement; for others, this will only make the problem worse. Whatever side one takes in the debate it seems clear that any proposition must have sufficient attraction to sufficient numbers of people if it is to be politically saleable.

It is arguable that we are at a watershed in the development of our western system of democracy and capitalism. As has happened before, we will to some extent need to reinvent it to meet the changing times and people's concerns. This will take leadership and informed debate. The United States

Forward Programme

Monday 9 January 2017

*Farewell dinner in honour of
Ambassador Matthew Barzun*

Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street
7.15 for 7.45 pm, **lounge suit**

Tuesday 24 January

*Lord Hennessy's
Reflections lecture*

Lansdowne Club,
Fitzmaurice Place, 6.30 pm

Monday 27 February

*Luncheon with Lord
Renwick of Clifton*

'Fighting with Allies', details TBC

Monday 9 October

*Annual Meeting and Sir Harry
Brittain Memorial Lecture by
Dave H Williams and Mrs Reba
White-Williams*

Annual Meeting at 6.00 pm, by
kind invitation of Freshfields, at
Northcliffe House, 26-28 Tudor
Street, EC4Y 0AY followed by
the Sir Harry Brittain Memorial
Lecture and a reception, then an
optional supper at the nearby
Apex Temple Court restaurant

and the United Kingdom have been powerful voices in such debates in the past, and will need to be again, which is something that I believe will be of great interest and importance to all Pilgrims. At this critical moment, we all have to decide whether we want to help shape the future or just go along for the ride.

Two Days; Trump and Churchill

Sir Peter Bottomley MP writes:

Americans may not have expected Theresa May to become the UK Prime Minister after the unexpected decision in our European referendum. Few of us can say with confidence who might succeed Angela Merkel as chancellor of Germany, Francois Hollande as French president or, who knows when, Vladimir Putin in Russia.

On 8 November the Lib Dem peer Lord Watson of Richmond, the former broadcaster Alan Watson, spoke at lunch at the Naval Club, Hill Street, on Winston Churchill's two speeches to save the world. In 1946, the successful wartime leader had unexpectedly lost the general election. Thereafter Churchill received many invitations to speak, and accepted one from an obscure college in Fulton, Missouri because the 33rd US President Harry Truman would be with him. In his 'Iron Curtain' speech, Churchill warned of the danger of Soviet power in central and eastern Europe. He argued for the US commitment to defend Europe. Later he said it was the most important speech he had ever made.

ALAN WATSON
**CHURCHILL'S
LEGACY**
TWO SPEECHES TO SAVE THE WORLD



With the bonus that the new British Foreign Secretary was Ernest Bevin, who had trade union experience of communists, Churchill's initiative was crucial in creating the alliance, the decision and the determination for the later Berlin airlift which halted the Soviet menace crossing further westwards in Europe. He changed the American attitude to Joseph Stalin and to the USSR. He said: "Trying to maintain good relations with a communist is like wooing a crocodile. You do not know whether to tickle it under the chin or to beat it over the head. When it opens its mouth you cannot tell whether it is trying to smile or preparing to eat you up."

Bevin's creation of the Western European Union led to NATO, which politically and militarily has helped us to have peace in our part of the continent since 1945.



Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord StIRRUP and Lord Watson of Richmond

The second speech was later in 1946 in Zurich, Switzerland when Churchill explained what western European nations had to do to match American economic and political commitment. He argued for a kind of 'United States of Europe', reconciling France and Germany. He challenged the status quo of recrimination and despair.

Like the Fulton speech, Churchill's ideas were initially rejected. Truman wrote to Churchill in 1947 after declaring the Truman Doctrine committing America to defend freedom: "Your Fulton speech becomes more nearly a prophesy every day." That year also saw the inauguration of the Marshall Plan to restore Europe's economies, at least in the countries free from the Soviets. This was linked to cooperation in Europe.

Randolph Churchill, the great man's great-grandson, has written that the two speeches ensured that the United States played a full part in defending cherished European liberties and also a full part in the rebuilding and recovery of Europe.



Lady Worcester and Sir Robert Worcester, Vice President, at the lunch with Lord Watson

The following day, we had the news that Donald Trump was president-elect in the USA. In the interests of the UK and our neighbours, I have sent him a copy of Lord Watson's book on the two speeches. Let us hope that the people of the United States share growing prosperity and that the US remains a determined partner for peace and prosperity in Europe and around the world.

Lord Rees looks ahead to the world in 2050



Lord Rees of Ludlow and Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup, President

The Annual Meeting was held on 17 October in the Auditorium at Northcliffe House by kind invitation of Freshfields. Lord Rees of Ludlow then delivered the annual Sir Harry Brittain Memorial Lecture. Lord Rees, who was appointed Astronomer Royal in

1995, is an outstanding astrophysicist and leading scientist, celebrated for his work on black hole formation, extragalactic radio sources, the so-called cosmic dark ages and the contradiction of the Steady State theory of the evolution of the Universe.

The world population, now 7.3 billion, had been 3 billion 50 years ago. Projections estimate a population of 9 billion in 2050, when Nigeria will have a population larger than Europe and North America combined. For many environmentalists preservation of our biosphere was crucial, as was conservation of natural resources. Climate change will continue to have an enormous impact on world population levels. The world is 45 million centuries

old, but at any time during the Cold War it could have been destroyed by thermo-nuclear war.

Lord Rees listed a range of problems including radio-active waste; the differences between nations in their attitude towards fossil fuels and a low-carbon future, and renewable nuclear fusion, stressing the vital need for clean and affordable energy systems and a new scientific system to deal with the expanding world population. Machines and robots could play a role in future, with a possible important role in space exploration especially into other galaxies, which would take many years. He felt that Mars could be colonised, although the conquest of space would not offer an escape from Earth's population problems.

Sir Peter Bottomley gave Lord Rees a very warm vote of thanks for his outstanding presentation.

Visit to the Supreme Court



Court Room 1 of the Supreme Court, which accommodates nine Justices

Ronald M Freeman writes:

In 2005, the tradition of the Law Lords was terminated and the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom was created, located on

the north side of Parliament Square, facing the Palace of Westminster and positioned between the Treasury and Westminster Abbey.

Pilgrims' member Lord Clarke of Stone-cum-Ebony was the first of the twelve Supreme Court Justices to be appointed directly to the Court, the others being former Law Lords. In October, Lord Clarke led the first of three successive groups of Pilgrims through the premises, history and practices of the Supreme Court.

The conversion of the former Middlesex Guildhall produced a

modern, comfortable and indeed friendly series of courtrooms, where judges and litigants all sit on the same level around the same and adjacent tables. The judges hear cases in everyday suits. Their offices are fully computer-equipped, making the Court's handsome and impressive law library an anachronistic homage to tradition rather than a daily working tool.

On behalf of all Pilgrims, we extend our thanks to Lord Clarke for his generous hospitality and, most importantly, for his great service in the highest court in the land.

Elections to the Executive Committee, October 2016



Stephen Challacombe is Professor of Oral Medicine at King's College London (now part-time). His many University posts include Postgraduate Dean and Director of External Strategy for the KCL Health Schools, and he undertook academic sabbaticals at the Mayo Clinic, Minnesota 1978-79 and at UCSF in San Francisco in 1996. A Past President of the British and International Associations of Dental Research and the British and European Societies for Oral Medicine, he also enjoyed his role as honorary Consultant in Oral Medicine to the UK Armed Forces. He has published over 300 research papers and is co-author of seven books on food allergy and intolerance; oral medicine and oral immunology. He retains a keen interest in sport, especially rugby, golf and tennis. Professor Challacombe sits on the Membership Committee.



A committed supporter of the Special Relationship, **Kweilen Hatleskog** has worked across industry and government in both the US and the UK. As a Defense Fellow and then a Director of Policy at the Pentagon, Kweilen focused on counter-terrorism policy - negotiating on behalf of the Department of Defense at the National Security Council to establish the National Counter-terrorism Center. After moving to London in 2008, Kweilen worked bi-laterally to support the Executive Committee and the Board of BAE Systems plc. Today she continues her focus on the business of security as a Partner at C5 Capital. Kweilen lives in London with her Norwegian husband and their daughters. Kweilen Hatleskog sits on the Membership and Programme Committees.



A Californian by birth, **Valerie Humphrey** spent the early part of her career in various international marketing and communications roles before moving to the UK in 1989 to work at Rockwell International on a US/UK defence industry study. Valerie moved to the National Trust in 1995, taking a sabbatical year in Rome after eight years, leading to three years in Milan as the Director of Communications and Development for the Italian National Trust. On her return to the UK she worked freelance in the heritage sector and is now Director of the Westminster Abbey Foundation. She was an elected member of the Council of the National Trust 2005-15; is a board director of the New York-based Royal Oak Foundation; a trustee of Strawberry Hill House, and a trustee of the UK Italian National Trust. Valerie Humphrey sits on the Programme Committee.



Sir Bryan Nicholson GBE is an Oxford graduate and businessman who later did jobs for government. Active in education, corporate governance and financial regulation, Sir Bryan ended his international business career running the main European operations of Xerox. He was the Executive Chairman of the Manpower Services Commission and the Post Office and was later chairman or non-executive director of BUPA, Cookson, GKN and others, and CBI President. He was active in parallel as Chairman of the Council for Academic Awards, the National Council for Vocational Qualifications, the Council of the Open University and other education-related bodies. A former Chancellor of Sheffield Hallam University, Sir Bryan also chaired the Financial Reporting Council and was a member of global financial regulatory bodies. Sir Bryan sits on the Finance Committee.

Reception at Winfield House



Ambassador Matthew Barzun, Mr Ronald M Freeman and the Earl of Devon

Together with representatives from the Mayflower 400 programme, The Pilgrims were guests of Ambassador Barzun at Winfield House on the evening of 14 September.

Rachael, wife of Donald Stearns, writes: "We found that the joint

reception added to the interest. In the smaller dining room there was a model of a ship that looked a bit like some of the America's Cup boats. Professor Martin Attrill, Professor of Marine Ecology from Plymouth University who is involved with the project, told us of the ideas behind the *Mayflower* Autonomous Ship which I understand is going to be unmanned and guided from Plymouth - so a drone ship, set to follow as far as possible the route of the *Mayflower* - but evidently it will go much faster than the *Mayflower*. There was also other information relating to the *Mayflower* project in the large dining room, as well as the model of the *Mayflower* on the lawn in front of the terrace.

"Don has always loved sailing and until not long ago had a lovely boat so he was really interested in the Plymouth project. This, combined with being in the lovely Winfield House garden on one of the hottest days of the year, made the evening a really enjoyable event for us."



We were welcomed to Winfield House by Ambassador Barzun. The Earl of Devon, Patron, spoke about the Mayflower 400 programme. The Pilgrims' chairman, Ronald Freeman, also spoke.

Sir Peter Westmacott looks ahead to the challenges facing the next US President

A luncheon was held in the Library at the Reform Club on 11 July with Sir Peter Westmacott, one of the country's leading diplomats, as guest speaker.



Sir Peter and Lady Westmacott

Sir Peter listed various challenges which would confront the next US President on entering the White House. Legislative gridlock in

both Houses of Congress and the influence of money on politics were of great importance. Some 84% of the American people believed that too much money was spent on politics. Social and racial inequality, highlighted by the recent police shootings of African-Americans in various parts of the US as well as the murder of policemen in Dallas, the impact of globalisation and the widely-held feeling that people were being left behind by the march of technology, were major challenges. Sir Peter gave his personal list of foreign policy problems which would confront the new President: Russia; Iran; the so-called Islamic State; the US relationship with China, including

the problem of North Korea and the sovereignty of the China Seas, and the Middle East situation, involving Israel, the Palestinians and the surrounding Arab states.

Sir Peter was questioned on Hillary Clinton's possible running-mate; the likely consequences of UK withdrawal from the EU and the role the UK plays in the world; the possible effect of a Trump Presidency on US-UK relations and the likely foreign policy priorities that a Trump administration might adopt. In his vote of thanks Pilgrims' Chairman Ronald Freeman praised Sir Peter for his masterly and penetrating presentation.

Lord Salisbury examines the role of Hatfield House in the 21st Century



The Marquess of Salisbury and Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Stirrup

The Marquess of Salisbury was the guest speaker at a Pilgrims' dinner held at the Cavalry & Guards Club on 21 September. Hatfield House has been the Cecil family home since 1611 and Lord Salisbury has been its custodian since succeeding as the 7th Marquess in 2003.

After an introduction by Pilgrims' President Lord Stirrup, Lord Salisbury paid tribute to the Anglo-American

relationship and the role played by The Pilgrims, mentioning that his daughter had married a Cajun from Louisiana.

Lord Salisbury emphasised how much the world had changed since his grandfather had sought to remove Winston Churchill as leader of the Conservative party over a ten-year period between 1945 and 1955. The great houses were no longer centres of power and needed to ensure

their survival as an active part of the community. Hatfield had, for instance, become involved in promoting housing development. Lord Salisbury believed that Hatfield was not a 21st century white elephant but a place that could survive into the foreseeable future.

In Memoriam

*His Honour
Judge Sir Gavyn Arthur*

Richard Astor

The Earl Cowley

Richard Delbridge

*The Right Hon the Lord
Mayhew of Twysden QC DL*

*Lt Colonel
Sir Julian Paget Bt CVO*

Mr Curtis Roosevelt

James H Vaughn

*His Grace
The Duke of Westminster
KG CB CVO OBE TD DL*

The Special Relationship and the Washington Embassy 1916-2016

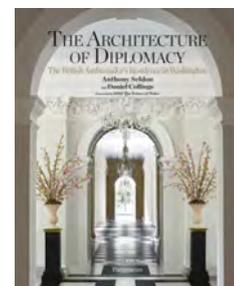
A Pilgrims' dinner was held on 14 October at the Lansdowne Club with Sir Anthony Seldon as guest speaker.



Sir Anthony Seldon and Lord Stirrup

Sir Anthony wrote *The Architecture of Diplomacy - the British Ambassador's Residence in Washington* having been asked by Sir Peter Westmacott to write a history of the British Embassy. Anyone wishing to buy a copy should contact the office: Sir Anthony's publisher will give us a discount if The Pilgrims can put together a bulk order.

Sir Anthony tested the knowledge of his audience in a lively question and answer session, which included the following:



The first British Prime Minister to meet an American President? David Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson in 1918. The first British Prime Minister to visit the USA? Ramsay Macdonald in 1929. The British Ambassador to Washington during World War I? Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, who also composed the hymn *I Vow to Thee my Country*.

The Ambassador during World War II? Lord Halifax, who succeeded Lord Lothian who had died in office. The Ambassador during the Kennedy Years, 1961-63? Lord Harlech.

Sir Anthony showed a number of photographs from the archives and a present-day aerial photograph of the Residence.

Sir Peter Bottomley MP gave a very warm vote of thanks.



King George V and Woodrow Wilson in 1918

Laura Trevelyan on the US Presidential Election

A small group of Pilgrims attended a meeting at the Royal Automobile Club on the afternoon of 28 September to hear Laura Trevelyan, who has been based in New York for a number of years working for the BBC.



Ms Trevelyan spoke about the strengths and weaknesses of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, the importance of the “swing states”, the impact of the first Presidential debate on undecided voters and the significant electoral role played by non-college educated white men and college-educated white women.

Xenophobia and anti-semitism; absentee ballots; the influence of social media on the attitudes of voters; the essential differences between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump; Donald Trump’s apparent lack of qualifications for the office of President; Hillary Clinton’s e-mail saga; Bill Clinton’s role in his wife’s campaign and the likelihood of a serious event before polling day affecting the outcome of the election were all raised in discussion. There were also questions about a possible intervention by Julian Assange; the possible impact of the Supreme Court vacancy on voting intentions; the number of expatriate Americans in Britain who are eligible to vote, and the effect of the Presidential election result on Anglo-American relations.

Laura Trevelyan displayed great versatility and ability in answering questions. The Reverend Mark Fox, Programme Committee, who acted as chairman, presented her with a copy of the Pilgrims’ centennial history.

NEW MEMBERS JUNE AND OCTOBER 2016

Giles Adams

The Right Hon The Lord Arbuthnot of Edrom

Bradley J Askins

David Ball

Michael Bousfield

Simon Clark

Timothy Cooke OBE

Simon Costa

Martin Day

Mrs Diana G R Delbridge

Count Francesco di Valmarana

Jeremy Evans

Dr Alice P Gast

Sir Christopher Greenwood CMG QC

The Revd Mark Hatcher

Mrs Elizabeth Hitchcock

Ms Suzanne Ferlic Johnson

James Landale

John Lindquist

David Loyd

The Hon Dr Philippa Malmgren

John Mellett

Alan Morris

Ken Olisa

Colonel Anthony Singer OBE

Rory Stewart OBE MP

Alistair Summers

Ms Laura Trevelyan

Timothy Warmath

Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC ADC DL

Visit to Rousham House and Ditchley Park



Rousham House

Pilgrims and guests visited Rousham House in Oxfordshire on 30 June. Built in 1635 by Sir Robert Dormer, Rousham House remains in the ownership of the same family. The delightful house contains eighteenth-century panelling and original staircases, furniture, pictures and bronzes and is set in a landscape laid out by William Kent. The garden is virtually unaltered and contains several remarkable features - ponds and cascades in Venus's Vale, the Cold Bath, Townsend's Building, the



Arrival at Ditchley Park

Temple of the Mill and the sham ruin called the *Eyecatcher*.

After a pleasant luncheon at the Holt Hotel in Steeple Aston, we were welcomed at Ditchley Park by Pilgrims' Executive Committee member Sir John Holmes, then Director of the Ditchley Foundation. Ditchley was built by the second Earl of Lichfield in 1722 to a design by James Gibbs, and was bought in 1933 by Ronald Tree MP and his wife, interior decorator Nancy Lancaster,

niece of Nancy Astor and cousin of Joyce Grenfell.

In 1958 the estate passed to the philanthropist Sir David Wills who established the Ditchley Foundation to advance international learning and to bring transatlantic and other experts together to discuss international issues. Ditchley conferences have now broadened to include the concerns and participation of nations all over the globe, and over one thousand conferences have been held. We were given a most interesting tour of the state rooms and bedrooms, and afternoon tea before departure.

We are grateful to the Cottrell-Dormer family at Rousham House and to Sir John Holmes and the staff at Ditchley Park for a most successful day, and to Terence Mallinson for his photographs.

News from the Pilgrims of the United States

Thomas P Campbell, Director and CEO of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was the guest of honour at a reception at the River Club on 6 June.



Thomas L Pulling, Secretary of the Pilgrims of the US, James D Zirin and Thomas Campbell

Joseph A Califano Jr, Former Secretary of Health Education and Welfare and Founder of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, was the guest of honour at a reception at the River Club on 14 November.



Paul Volcker, James D Zirin, Joseph A. Califano Jr and Miner Warner, Chairman of the Pilgrims of the US

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