



A word from your President



Another "Veterans Luncheon" and another great event. I'm surprised, every year, that they can produce such a nice menu to us at a such a bargain price.

I enjoyed the lunch as I always have and consider this luncheon one of the highlight of the year.

Unfortunately we were forced to cancel the lunch at the Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese due to lack of bookings. Very strange as the "Cheshire Cheese" has always been one of our most popular functions.

I have spent a week on Ireland were I escorted a group of 100 people from Volvo Europe (8 different nationalities) enjoying the start of the Volvo Ocean Race.

I got some very useful advice and help from Past International President Mary Bennett from Galway where all the boats were docked.

Back in London, we are now preparing for the Summer/July function which include the Duck Tour, lunch and London Eye for only £33:00 per person. We hope members from other clubs will take the opportunity and join us.

Mats Wivesson

Skål History



A special Skål Story Book was launched during the celebrations in Paris. Honorary President, Antonio Garcia del Valle, who has written the history of Skål, provided a lot of historical records going back to the foundation of Skål in 1932, two years before it became an international association. The book was generously sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Turkey.

The Skål Story is now available for sale from the General Secretariat at Euros €25.00 plus postage and packing. 20% of the sale will go to the Florimond Volckaert Fund.

Parts of this history will during the summer be up-loaded on our London. In the meantime, we are now slowly putting together the London Clubs history. Parts of it is now available to read on our website www.skallondon.co.uk

But we need you help! We need more information! Do you have any anecdotes, more detailed information or photos please let me know.

History is a part of future planning!

Calendar of events – 2009

Date	Venue	Event
July 16	London Duck Tour	Incl. Lunch & London Eye
September 17	Sherlock Holmes Pub	Pub Lunch
October 15	Medieval Banquet	Lunch
November 10	Crowne Plaza Excel Hotel	World Travel Market Lunch
December 10	Marriott Hotel Marble Arch	Christmas Luncheon

Next event – 16th July



A summer day in London!

London Duck Tours offer more than just a sightseeing tour. The name Duck Tours is drawn from the vehicles, which is an important part of British history as they are the amphibious DUKWs used to

take troops ashore for the D-Day landings. You get a guided tour of the City of Westminster by road and river. Nothing compares to the thrill of driving from the road straight into the Thames..



A traditional pub lunch at The Slug and Lettuce, County Hall, is just a stone's throw away from the London Eye and handy for many of London's finest attractions. Our guest speaker is the Managing Director of the Duck Tours who will tell us about "the future" of tourism.

After lunch we will take a lovely ride on the now well-known and world famous London Eye.

I promise an unforgettable day in London!

All this for ONLY £33.00 p.p. including lunch.



Coming up soon

There will be no Skålink in July. The publisher will be on holiday.

Please check on our web-site for information regarding coming events.



New Members

You have by now received the latest version of our membership directory. If not, please let me know and I will immediately post a new one to you.

Please add the following new members and their contact details in your directory

Michael SHARP
Managing Director, Central Hall Westminster.
Tel: 020-7654 3884 / Fax: 020-7222 8010
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Young Skål, University of Westminster
General Manager, Park Inn Heathrow Hotel.
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Liliana de Jesus FERREIRA,
Young Skål, University of Westminster
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Benevolent Fund News

It is with deep sadness that I have to advise you of the sad passing on June 13th in Brugge, Belgium, of our very loyal Retired member, Pierre Claus; Past Director of the Belgian National Tourist Office in U.K., Fellow of the Institute of Travel & Tourism and Past Chairman of Antor. To his widow Doris and their Family we extend our deepest sympathy and condolence. Pierre joined our Club in 1958 and has been a very loyal supporter of all the Club's activities ever since.

After retiring, he and Doris moved back to Belgium in 2006 and in spite of the distance regularly attended our functions, particularly the Veteran's Luncheons and our Christmas lunch at the Mandarin Oriental at Hyde Park.

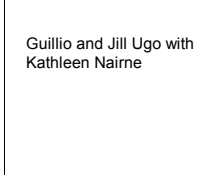
Latest event

Another great "Veterans Luncheon"! One cannot get better value for money with regards to both food and service. I feel sorry for you who missed this opportunity to meet old friends combined with really good food.



The Westminster Kingsway College – a superb place to enjoy a nice lunch.

.....and of course not to forget the huge raffle with over 30 prizes. Thanks Bob!



Guillio and Jill Ugo with Kathleen Nairne



Ruth Dunlop with Clayton and Elizabeth Joyce,

You will find more photos from this marvellous event (and other previous events) on our web site www.skallondon.co.uk. Just click on Photo Gallery!



The Master of Ceremony, The Raffle Master – the one and only Mr Bob Duffett.

The date for next years Veterans Luncheon is **Thursday 20th May 2010** Write it down in your diary already now!

Skål International World Congress!

The 70th Skål World Congress will be held in Budapest, Hungary from 1-6 November 2009. Skål International Budapest is working very hard to ensure a very special congress in this beautiful city on the banks of the Danube.

To let you know that I have just booked British Airways – return flight inclusive of all taxes for £150.00. Good value! Book before price will increase.

Benevolent Fund News continue

On a more cheerful note, I had a charming luncheon with Mick & Masie O'Brien recently. Both looking a picture of good health & happiness. Mick had to use a magnifying glass to read the menu, but this problem has not stopped him playing golf, 2 or 3 times a week. Apparently his playing partners have to line his body up with the shot and give him an indication of distance to go. In his last game he was delighted to be on the green, at a par 5 hole in just 3 shots, sadly he missed his birdy putt but got down in 5. Keep it up Mick there are many of our active members that could not match your score.

Bob Duffett

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Skål International is a professional organisation of leaders from the tourism and travel industry around the world, promoting global tourism and friendship. It is the only international group uniting all branches the travel and tourism industry. Its members, the industry's managers and executives, meet at local, national and international levels to discuss and pursue topics of common interest.