

## Weekly Update 2 Royal Baby Edition!



Congratulations to the Royal Couple on the birth of Charlotte Elizabeth Diana. We have our own two Charlottes and a Diana on Council and by 2045 I think there may be several more! A good omen as we launch IIS.

The week has been busy in the office. At N&G I look after the book of Pleasurecraft clients as well as supporting our Claims and Underwriting teams. When the sun shines, between Easter and September, we must make hay. Renewals from previous years are dealt with and client queries answered. We take many calls from people putting their boats back in the water and negotiating new cruising ranges. So the week after a bank holiday is full on!

In between this I have caught up with Zoe and Charlotte. Well done Zoe for bagging a place at NC2015 courtesy of Branko. We make a good team with Richard and will use every opportunity to network and promote the IIS. I'm hoping to meet up with Paul Tunnell, new President of North Downs serving his second term. Paul and I worked together twenty years ago at Hill Samuel Life. Neither looks a day older ;) .

I also officiated at my first function on Wednesday for Paul Hodders talk at Clair Hall entitled 'Thinking on your feet'. 90 minutes flew by in the company of nearly 50 members and I was asked to top and tail. And I think Susan was happy with the feedback forms. I was under trial to encourage the audience to return their badges! Topping or tailing is a great way of finding your feet in front of a safe audience so, if you would like to try, have a word with Phil, Richard or myself!

The website next. The work Nigel does behind the scenes continues to amaze me and hopefully you have all visited our site. As I work with you, a warning. Don't let slip what you do when not 'CI'ing ... Nigel mentioned that he is off to camp with the cubs this weekend. Do they still eat 'eggy bread' and stay up all night scaring each other witless as I did? Well, it made me think. Phil – how about an IIS Jamboree? Zoe, any suggestions on a camp site with your Caravan Club hat on?

As for the Seniors idea, this drew the following response that I'd like to share and hopefully I'm not offending our Diversity and Inclusion credentials. Apologies in advance Charlotte if I have!

*“Not sure about less active retired members and tea parties; wait til you get there! Suggest wine guzzling; distillery and brewery visits would be more appropriate. There is a guy, xxxx who worked for Zurich and is now Ambassador for Scottish Malt Whisky Society, runs around SE England giving talks and tastings; just what retired duffers need, along with a golf event.”*

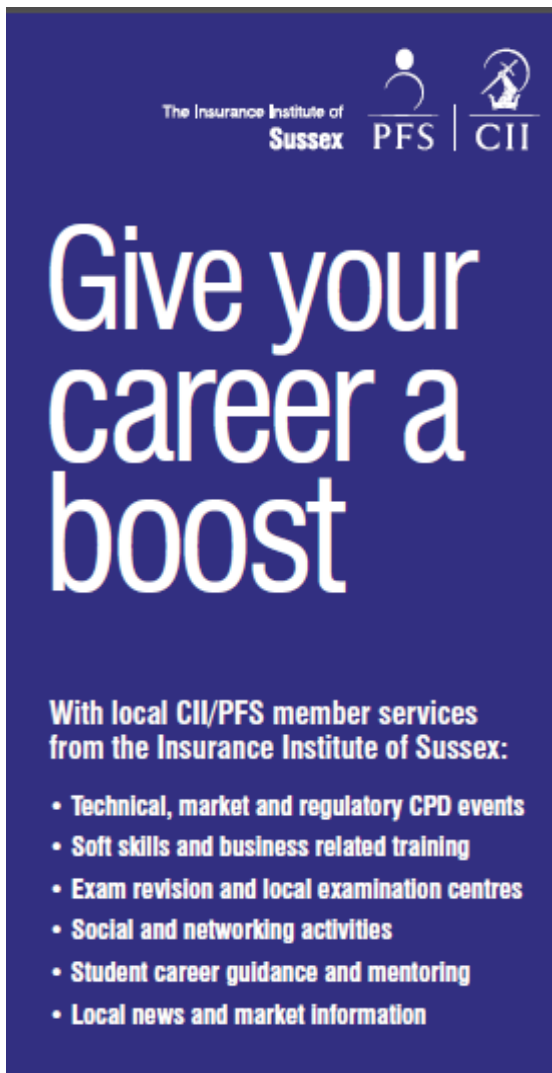
Paul, let's start gently with Afternoon Tea and cake and maybe progress...

Andrew has also been busy sorting out the name change with the bank. We are required use cheques and these will soon bear our IIS logo. Always looking to the future Andrew has also changed our PayPal account name.

Turning to the AGM, Susan, Diana, Graham and I worked on the format ahead of the meeting to cut down the agenda and keep up the pace. This preparation was worth it and we will use the same

template next year. A spin-off has been Susan's early production of the Minutes which Graham and I approved without amendment yesterday. These will be presented at the Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June. However, the draft is attached to the covering mail along with a link to the photos taken by Isabelle. A great souvenir of a very happy evening. [Click here](#)

### My plans for next week



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Paula and Colin will be relieved that we are down to a shortlist of entertaining Speakers the Annual Dinner – I hope to share soon. I'm just checking availability.

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I need to catch up with Richard who has offered to look at the Manual to ensure it is relevant for 'Sussex'.

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More talking with our Area Marketing Manager, Victoria Rees-Price. We have much common ground and can help each other. I'm very keen to see how we might survey our members using the Survey Monkey tool to establish a baseline for our initiatives. Also to arrange a mailing to our 2,200 members confirming our launch and what we offer.

Attached is a print of our new pop up banner shortly to be used at events.

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Catch up with Mandi on Network News. There has been a suggestion that we might be able to insert an IIS sheet targeted at our Sussex members.

I have no formal CII meetings next week so will work on my tasks and do some Nordik walking – that's for another Update unless you ask me first. Happy Weekends!

Best wishes.



Mark Longford