



'Evening All . My knowledge of sport is minimal and so I find making sporting smalltalk an ordeal. So when this week started with FIFA's re-election of Sepp Blatter I had only a passing interest. How could Jack Warner be involved? Was Sgt Dixon on the case? However, on Monday I was representing our nstitute at the ACCA Dinner and found myself overlooking Sussex CCC's pitch in Hove in the company of Chairman, Zac Toumazi and David Jones, Finance Director at Brighton and Hove Albion. By the time we had finished the first course and a glass of Leopard's Leap (a favourite), I was very grateful to Blatter and gang for providing something to talk about!

What Maxwell did for pensions, Leeson for investment banks, Blatter has done for corporate governance. We might consider adding this topic to our CPD programme.

Event sponsorship came up this week and I have added this into the Council Agenda. Our new brand is very attractive to third parties and as the inaugural year progresses we may well receive other tempting offers and will need to be prepared on our appetite and approach.

Thanks everyone for your work in helping Susan as we prepare for the Council meeting. After my attempts with a spoon and mantelpiece at the AGM I am delighted to now have a gavel. Not just any gavel but the one previously owned by The Insurance Institute of East Sussex and this will be used at the Inaugural IIS Council meeting. Very appropriate!



On a very positive note Victoria Rees-Price will be joining us with homemade Welsh Cakes! There will be a welcome in our Sussex hillsides Victoria. Unfortunately Christopher Digby (our CII Representative Council Member) has sent his Apologies and I have re-invited him to our September meeting. It is important that we connect with Christopher as we drive on with our plans.

The Tuesday evening CPD event in Crawley was excellent. Richard Cohen hosted the session aimed at Personal Finance members and those with a general interest in Auto Enrolment (pensions). I used the opportunity to network (Robin, one of our Prizewinners was there) and Ian Williams introduced me to the PFS Sussex Chairman, Martyn Bowen. I assured Martyn that our Council are committed to including PFS content in our programme and look forward to working together.

Graham has penned some very appropriate words on the website to go with a super photograph showing Alan receiving a silver salver in recognition of 31 years' service to Council. Please See 'A new beginning and the end of an era' from the link on the home page.

### **My plans for next week**

Programme Committee chaired by Phil on Monday in Paula's office.

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Wednesday. Council Meeting in Haywards Heath. Nigel and I have a pre-meeting with Victoria to discuss the new style website and content management. You will see that Nigel has inserted the structure chart under the 'Committees' tab. A reminder to let Nigel have your photo if new as he will shortly update the list of 'Council & Officers' to include the full team.

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Follow up with Victoria after we meet on Wednesday to work closely together on a number of ideas.

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I will be on holiday for a fortnight from 19<sup>th</sup> June and Richard will take the reins including the Weekly News. I will look forward to reading as a recipient!

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*Coming soon! How will you be celebrating on 16<sup>th</sup> June?*



Best as always!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Mark', with a horizontal line underneath.