## COURT AND SOCIAL

## Court Circular

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 30th
Mr Andrew Turnbull (Permanent Secretary, Department of the Environment) was received by The Queen.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was received by Her Majesty and, as Master of the Royal Mint, presented to The Queen the first Gold Crown to commemorate Her Majesty's Seventieth Birthday.

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany visited The Queen and remained to Luncheon.

The Prince Edward was present.

The following were invited: His Excellency Herr Dr Jurgen Oesterhelt (Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany), Herr Hasso Buchrucker (Head of Directorate General for Foreign Affairs, Office of the Federal President), Ambassador Bernhard von der Planitz (Head of Protocol), Herr Dr Hans H Bowitz (Head of the Private Office of the Federal President), Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) and Sir Nigel Broomfield (Her Majesty's Ambassador at Bonn).

By Command of The Queen, Vice Admiral Sir James Weatherall (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) called upon His Excellency Mr Gideon Kayinamura at Uganda House, Trafalgar Square, this morning in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Republic of Rwanda to the Court of St James's.

The Queen was represented by the Lord Lucas of Crudwell (Lord in Waiting) at the Memorial Service for Sir Archibald Ross (formerly Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden) which was held in Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, London SW7, today.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Andrew Palmer.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy was represented by Major Sir Peter Clarke.

The Lady Elton has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 30th
The Princess Royal today visited Hampshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).

Her Royal Highness this morning visited the Hospital of St Cross and Almshouse of Noble Poverty, St Cross, Winchester.

The Princess Royal, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, this afternoon opened Winchester Carers Centre, the Winchester Centre, 68 St George's Street, Winchester.

Her Royal Highness, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, and Patron, Townswomen's Guilds, afterwards attended a "Together We Care" joint fundraising and awareness raising event at Rotherfield Park, East Tisted.

The Princess Royal, Patron, British Executive Service Overseas, this evening attended a Local Costs Fundraising Concert and Reception at the Shell Centre, South Bank, London SE1.

CLARENCE HOUSE
April 30th
Dame Frances Campbell-Preston has succeeded the Lady Margaret Colville as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 30th
The Prince of Wales arrived at Royal Air Force Lyneham from Canada this morning.

Mr Stephen Lamport, Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Tabor and Miss Sandra Henney were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 30th
The Duke of Gloucester today visited Peterborough and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crowden).

His Royal Highness visited Peterborough Museum, Priestgate and afterwards visited Flag Fen Age Excavations, Fourth Drove, Fengate.

Later The Duke of Gloucester opened Business Link Greater Peterborough, Stuart House, City Road.

The Duke of Gloucester this evening attended a Dinner, in aid of the Afghanistan Children's Appeal Fund, at the Dorchester Hotel, London W1.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, National Missing Persons Helpline, this evening attended a conference at New Scotland Yard, Broadway, London SW1.

YORK HOUSE
April 30th
The Duke of Kent, President-in-Chief, the British Racing Drivers' Club, today visited the indoor karting facility and the International Circuit, Silverstone, Towcester, Northamptonshire.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, today attended the Diamond Jubilee Conference, the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London SW1.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 30th
Princess Alexandra, Patron of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, this afternoon visited the Cystic Fibrosis Outpatient Unit at the Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital, Cornhill Road, Aberdeen and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeen (Mrs Margaret Farquhar, the Lord Provost).

Her Royal Highness subsequently opened the Ferguson Building at the Scottish Agricultural College, Craibstone Estate, Bucksburn, Aberdeen.

The Queen had been graciously pleased to appoint Earl Percy and Lord Eskdaill to be Pages of Honour to Her Majesty in succession to the Hon Edward Lowther and the Hon Simon Ramsay.

### TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

**Sir Irvine Goulding,** former High Court Judge, is 86; **Dame Felicity Peake,** first Director of the WRAF, 83; **Sir Lindsay Ring,** Lord Mayor of London, 1975-76, 82; **Mr W. Leonard Hyde,** President, Leeds Permanent Building Society, 1981-83, 82; **Sir Richard Brooke,** Senior Partner, Price Waterhouse and Company, European Firms, 1969-75, 81; **Miss Wendy Toye,** theatrical producer, 79; **Lord Middleton** 75; **Mr Joseph Heller,** author, 73; **Earl Bathurst** 69; **Sir Greville Spratt,** Lord Mayor of London, 1987-88, 69; **Lord Dahrendorf,** Warden of St Antony's College, Oxford, 67; **Mr S. Ramadhin,** former West Indies cricketer, 67; **Lord Taylor of Gosforth,** Lord Chief Justice of England, 66; **Mr Naim Attallah,** publisher, 65; **Adml Sir John Woodward,** C-in-C Naval Home Command, 1987-89, 64; **Sir Bob Reid,** Chairman, London Electricity plc, and of Sears plc, 62; **Mr Ian Curteis,** television playwright, 61; **Mr Julian Mitchell,** writer, 61; **Miss Una Stubbs,** actress, 59; **Sir John Wheeler, MP,** 56; **Miss Joanna Lumley,** actress, 50; **Mr Gordon Greenidge,** former West Indies cricketer, 45; **Mr Steve Cauthen,** former champion jockey, 36; and **Lady Sarah Chatto,** daughter of Princess Margaret and the Earl of Snowdon, 32.

Today is the anniversary of the proclamation of Queen Victoria as Empress of India in 1876.

### FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

**The Hon E.J.F. Penny and Miss S.M. Sasse**
The engagement is announced between Edward, youngest son of Viscount and Viscountess Marchwood, of Aston Tirrold, Oxon, and Selina, daughter of Mrs Elizabeth Sasse and the late Mr Frederick Sasse, of Afonwen, Flintshire.

**Lt-Cdr P. Porter and Miss L.J. Carter**
The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Cdr and Mrs John Porter, of Fareham, Hampshire, and Lisa, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Carter, of Bishopsteignton, Devon.

**Lt-Cdr P.R. Cook, RN, and Miss H.L. Buss**
The engagement is announced between Paul, elder son of Mr and Mrs Roger Cook, of Barton-on-Sea, Hants, and Helen, daughter of Mr Brian Buss, of North Carolina, and Mrs Shirley Buss, of Farnborough, Hants.

**Dr C.J. Vafai and Dr K.M. Gillies**
The engagement is announced between Casra, son of Professor and Mrs M.A. Vafai, of Tehran and Los Angeles, California, and Katherine Mary, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Walter Gillies, of Moffat, Dumfriesshire.

**Mr R.J.S. Pringle and Miss L.T. Pool**
The engagement is announced between Robert, eldest son of Commander and Mrs Michael Pringle, of Alverstoke, Hants, and Lucy, only daughter of Mr and Mr Peter Pool, of Hayle, Cornwall.

**Mr J.A. Wheatley and Mrs B.J. Stammers**
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place shortly between Mr John Wheatley, of Burbage, Leics, and Mrs Barbara Stammers (née Baker), of Hinckley, Leics, widow of Capt Bernard Stammers, late of Mumbles, Swansea.

**Mr P.D. Morrissey and Miss J.M. Gregorie**
The engagement is announced between Patrick, youngest son of Mr Peter Morrissey and the late Mrs Sheila Morrissey, of Langshott Wood, Surrey, and Jo-Jo, daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Gregorie, of Billingford, Norfolk.

**Mr W.N.J. Howard and Mrs H. McMullen Watson**
The engagement is announced between Billy Howard, of Lymington, and Heather McMullen Watson, of Brockenhurst, Hampshire. The marriage will take place in September.

### RECEPTION

**Prime Minister**
The Prime Minister and Mrs Major were hosts at a reception held yesterday evening at 10 Downing Street in aid of the Brian Johnston Memorial Trust.

### DINNERS

**The Speaker**
The Speaker held a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday evening in honour of Dr Rodrigo Rivera Salazar, President of the Colombian House of Representatives, and Mrs Rivera. The Ambassador of Colombia and Señora Lemos-Simmonds were also present. Other guests were:
Mr John Redwood, MP, and Mrs Redwood, Mr Robert Banks, MP, and Mrs Banks, Mr Joe Benton, MP, and Mrs Benton, Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, MP, and Mrs Goodson-Wickes, Mr John McFall, MP, and Mrs McFall, Mr Patrick Nicholls, MP, and Mrs Nicholls, Mr Stuart Randall, MP, and Mrs Randall, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, MP, the Hon Tom Sackville, MP, and Mrs Sackville, Mr Ray Whitney, MP, and Mrs Whitney, Canon and Mrs Donald Gray, Mr and Mrs Henry Hogger, Mr Alvaro Rey, Miss Lisa Whanstall and Mr and Mrs Nicolas Bevan.

**Engineers' Company**
Prof Sir Frederick Crawford, newly installed Master, assisted by Dr J.C. Smith, Senior Warden, Dr D.S. Mitchell, Middle Warden, and Mr R.H. Rooley, Junior Warden, presided at a livery dinner of the Engineers' Company held last night at Ironmongers' Hall. The speakers were Mr Justice Owen and the Master, who also presented the 1996 awards for engineering excellence and achievement.

**Strutt and Parker**
The partners of Strutt and Parker gave a dinner last night at the Savoy in honour of Mr Peter Lee, Senior Partner for 17 years, on the eve of his retirement. Mr James Donald, who succeeds him as Chairman of the Partnership, together with Mr James Laing and Mr David Cripps, proposed a toast.

### SERVICE DINNERS

**HMS Victory**
Adml Sir Michael Boyce, Second Sea Lord and C-in-C Naval Home Command, was host at a dinner held last night onboard HMS Victory in Portsmouth. Earl Howe, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence, and Mr Christopher Bland, Lord Lieutenant for the Isle of Wight, were among the guests.

**98 Squadron Association**
The 11th annual dinner of the 98 Squadron Association was held on Saturday at the Hotel St James, Leicester. The President, Wg Cdr John Smith-Carington, and the Chairman, Air Vice-Marshal John Price, were among those present.

### LECTURE

**National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies**
Mrs Virginia Bottomley, MP, Secretary of State for National Heritage, gave the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies inaugural lecture on April 29 at Kensington Town Hall. At the preceeding annual general meeting Lady Johnston retired as Chairman and the following officers were elected: Mrs Judith Thomas, Chairman; Mrs Pamela Cohn, Vice-Chairman; and Mrs Valerie Anderson, Honorary Treasurer.

## OBITUARIES

# Joan Sterndale Bennett

JOAN STERNDALE BENNETT, who has died aged 82, was an actress and musical comedienne, best known for her interpretation of Madame Dubonnet in the original stage production of Sandy Wilson's *The Boy Friend*.

Wilson, who wrote and composed this musical pastiche of the 1920s, was taken aback when his director, Vida Hope, said she wanted Joan Sterndale Bennett for the part. Madame Dubonnet is the voluptuous, vampish proprietress-with-a-past of the Villa Caprice at Nice, a finishing school for "perfect young ladies".

Some considered Joan Sterndale Bennett to be a little plain, and somewhat reserved and aloof. "I had always thought of Joan," Wilson wrote later, "as a character comedienne who could illuminate the humdrum and the ordinary with a satirical glitter, but never as a purveyor of glamour and chic."

But Vida Hope's view of her friend prevailed, and her faith was vindicated. The show opened at Wyndham's Theatre in January 1954 and ran for five-and-a-half years. Joan Sterndale Bennett played the role for four years and became, along with her co-stars Maria Charles and Anne Rogers, the toast of London.

Joan Sterndale Bennett was born at Fulham on March 5 1914, the daughter of the light songwriter, Thomas Case Sterndale Bennett, and a grand-daughter of the composer Sir William Sterndale Bennett, a protégé of Mendelssohn.

After a year at RADA, she played in repertory at Worthing, and became a pupil of the American choreographer, Buddy Bradley. She had a fine singing voice, and in 1936 joined the chorus of *This'll Make You Whistle* in the West End.

She made her full West End debut in 1938 in Herbert Farjeon's revue, *Nine Sharp*, which starred Hermione Baddeley; and the same year she began her association with the Players' Theatre

Joan Sterndale Bennett at the Players' in 1970

"Late Joys" Victorian music hall shows in which she was to appear time and again over the next 40 years.

In 1939 at the Players' she played Susan Soppinpan, and Princess Popsi-Wopsi, in *Whittington Junior And His Cat* which featured Peter Ustinov, aged 18. The next year she performed with Dame Edith Evans, Peter Ustinov and the young Dirk Bogarde in another revue, *Diversion*, at Wyndham's.

Already established as an expert comedienne, Joan Sterndale Bennett began to extend her range as a straight actress. In 1943, she appeared with John Mills in Anthony Asquith's film, *We Dive at Dawn*, and a year later, joined Bernard Miles in the mild screen comedy *Tawny Pipit*.

In 1951 she starred in one of her greatest hits at the Players', the pun-rich *Riquet with the Tuft*; she had adapted and co-written the show with Hattie Jacques, who co-starred.

Then came the triumphant run of *The Boy* Friend, which established her as one of the most versatile actresses of her generation.

Joan Sterndale Bennett made her Broadway debut in 1961, in *Time Gentlemen Please*, when one New York critic hailed her as "Britain's answer to Ethel Merman".

The death in 1963 of Vida Hope, killed in a car crash, affected her deeply, and later that year she withdrew from the cast of *Divorce Me, Darling*, the sequel to *The Boy Friend*. She felt that Madame Dubonnet's transformation into an exotic French cabaret star did not quite ring true.

The next year she gave an outstanding performance at the Piccadilly Theatre in Neil Simon's Broadway comedy, *Barefoot in the Park*; and in 1967 she joined Dennis Price in the film of Jules Verne's novel, *Rocket to the Moon*, in which she played Queen Victoria.

During the next few years Joan Sterndale Bennett appeared in the BBC television series, *The Good Old Days* and *Ragtime*. Leonard Sachs, of *The Good Old Days*, dubbed her "The Players' past-mistress of the Significant Gesture".

She also made a notable appearance in a television adaptation of Somerset Maugham's *The Noble Spaniard*.

Her last major stage success was in the long-running 1970s comedy, *No Sex Please, We're British*, in which she appeared in London and South Africa.

Prone to stage-fright (never apparent to her audience), Joan Sterndale Bennett declined numerous professional opportunities which would have secured her the greater recognition her ability deserved.

In her last years, she became a virtual recluse, refusing to see even her oldest friends. She shared her home on Hayling Island with her aged stepmother.

In the 1940s Joan Sterndale Bennett was married briefly to the actor John Barron; the marriage ended in divorce. There were no children.

# Tien Suharto

TIEN SUHARTO, who has died aged 72, was the wife of General Suharto, the president of Indonesia; she was also his close political confidante and an ambitious businesswoman who helped her family acquire enormous fortunes in Indonesia.

Although Indonesia is nominally a republic, under Tien Suharto's influence, her husband's presidency acquired the trappings of the ancient kingdoms of central Java. In a country where symbolism carries great importance, she was active in efforts to create an aristocratic ancestry for Suharto, in order to link him to the royal house of Yogyakarta.

Tien Suharto was born Raden Ayu Siti Hartinah in 1924, the second of nine children of a nobleman of the court of the Mangkunegara, the traditional ruler of the central Javanese sultanate of Solo. Her aristocratic origin contrasted with that of her husband, who was the son of a farmer, a fact of which Suharto has never made a secret.

They were married in 1947, when Suharto was a lieutenant-colonel in the Indonesian army, which was then fighting for independence from the Netherlands. At the time, Hartinah was a member of the Red Cross and later of the Indonesian Women's Force, and was active in women's organisations.

After Suharto became the country's second president in 1968, having overthrown President Sukarno, she applied her organisational acumen to the founding of an association for cabinet ministers' wives. As first lady, she began to dabble in busi-

Behind the President: the Suhartos in tandem

ness, drawing widespread criticism for her activities.

In the late 1970s, students demonstrated against the corruption of Suharto's cronies, Tien Suharto's extensive business interests, and relentless Japanese investment in the country. Critics styled her "Madame Tien Per Cent", from the Dutch for ten, referring to the cut she was believed to demand from projects requiring government approval.

The Suharto family's business interests now cover virtually every sector of the Indonesian economy. These interests include aircraft, cars, television stations, tourism, petrochemical plants, even toll booths around the city of Jakarta.

In 1971, after a visit to Disneyland, she applied her formidable fundraising talents to creating Taman Mini Indonesia, a vast theme park outside Jakarta, with exhibits representing the Indonesian archipelago's 27 provinces. To build it she solicited "voluntary" contributions from businesses, and bought up farmland at extremely low prices.

In her efforts to establish the Suharto family as a dynasty of truly royal character, she was rumoured to be behind attempts in the late 1980s to marry their youngest daughter to Prince Djiro, crown prince of the Mangkunegara house at Solo. When this plan fell through, Suharto issued a decree that prevented Djiro from assuming the title Mangkunegara X when he was installed in 1989.

She attracted criticism from traditionalist Javanese when she ordered the building of an elaborate family mausoleum close to the royal graves at Solo.

Suharto has distanced himself from the armed forces which put him in power, and has groomed their eldest daughter Siti Hardiyanti Rukmana, known as Tutut, as his successor.

Tien Suharto was the head of numerous charities in Indonesia, notably the Harapan Kita Foundation, dedicated to health care. She used these organisations as a platform for speeches in which she projected a maternal, homely image to the nation. Private businesses were compelled to contribute to them. When press restrictions allowed, the charities attracted criticisms of financial mismanagement.

She had three sons and three daughters.

# Professor Peter Nailor

PROFESSOR PETER NAILOR, who has died aged 67, held important positions in the Ministry of Defence before moving into academia.

He became Professor of Politics at Lancaster Universtiy in 1969, Professor of History at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, in 1977, and was Provost of Gresham College from 1988.

Latterly, he saw the fall in the professional status of the Civil Service and the Universities as a weakening of the British state itself. His analyses of the confusion between the needs of government and the methods of the private sector were brilliant.

Peter Nailor was born on Dec 16 1928 and educated at the Mercers' School and Wadham College, Oxford, where he took a First in Modern History.

In 1952 he began his career at the Admiralty. Between 1962 and 1967 he was a member of the Polaris Executive, which involved his transfer to the Ministry of Defence in 1964. The Executive ensured Britain's nuclear deterrent was in service on time and at a remarkably low price.

Nailor wrote *The Nassau Connection* (1988) about this experience. The book showed how the Ministry of Defence could build on its success with Polaris; cynics remarked that it might have achieved more impact in Whitehall if it had been less well written.

From 1967 Nailor was head of the Ministry of Defence DS22 directorate, established to consider long-term policy. In this work he discovered in himself the professor *manqué*.

When he did move into academic life he wore his responsibilities with an apparent lightness: solutions seemed to grow out of situations, rather than being imposed upon them. But while Nailor was a sympathetic administrator his authority was never in doubt. He was especially forceful if strong beliefs were at stake.

At Lancaster, he developed a first-rate department. At Greenwich he established the basis for training today's naval staff. Gresham College was transformed under his guidance, so that visiting professors found audiences greatly increased.

Nailor chaired large conferences superbly, while his plenary addresses and incisive summings-up were both magisterial and humorous.

Those he taught found him unfailingly approachable. His lectures and tutorials were enlivened by a sparkling wit, a prescient sense of political mishaps-in-the-making, and an astonishing breadth of epicurean interests.

Peter Nailor's greatest gift was to allow others to make the most of *their* gifts. When at Greenwich he pointed out that St Thomas Aquinas had laid down the essential directive for a Staff College: "Never be entirely idle; but either be reading, or writing, or praying, or meditating, or endeavouring something to the public good."

In 1991 Nailor drew on both his Civil Service and his academic experience to publish *Learning from Precedent in Whitehall*.

He was unmarried.

### IN MEMORIAM

**Sir George Trevelyan**
A memorial service for Sir George Trevelyan was held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev Donald Reeves officiated. Ms Barbara Dissall said a prayer and a recital of poetry was given by Ms Lois Atherdon. Mrs Caroline MacCausland (soprano) gave a song recital. Mr Michael Dower (nephew), Mrs Ruth Nesfield-Cookson, Mr Malcolm Lazarus, Wrekin Trust, Mr Tony Neate, Wrekin Trust, Mr David Lorimer, Mr Nick Rose, a Trustee, Findhorn Foundation, and Baroness Edmée di Pauli paid tribute to Sir George.

**Sir Archibald Ross**
The Queen was represented by Lord Lucas of Crudwell at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Archibald Ross held yesterday at Holy Trinity, Brompton, SW7.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Andrew Palmer and Princess Alexandra by Major Sir Peter Clarke.

The Rev Sandy Millar officiated and the Bishop of Warwick led prayers. Col John Ross (son) and Mr Mark Tandy (godson) gave readings. The address was given by Lord Moran. A choir comprising family and friends was conducted by Sir David Willcocks, Musical Director of the Bach Choir.

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was represented by Sir John Birch and the Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service by Mr Francis Richards. Among others present were:

Lady Ross (widow), Miss Susan Ross (daughter), Mrs John Ross (daughter-in-law), Miss Kitty Ross, Miss Henrietta Ross (granddaughters) and other members of the family.

The Ambassador of Sweden and Mrs Nilsson, the Ambassador of Portugal, the Duchess of Portland, the Marchioness of Ely, Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox, Viscountess Montgomery of Alamein, Lady Martha Ponsonby, Lady Dora Pink, Baroness Robson of Kiddington, President, Anglo-Swedish Society, with Mrs Helen Wolf, Vice-President; Lord Sherfield, Lady Gore-Booth, Lady Moran, Lady Thorneycroft, Lord and Lady Greenhill of Harrow, Lady Duncan-Sandys, Lady Reigate, His Hon Lord and Lady Dunboyne, Lord and Lady Erroll of Hale, Lord Wright of Richmond, Lady Reilly.

Sir Michael Palliser, the Hon Diana Makgill, the Hon Maurice Robson, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Lady Bonsor, Sir Dudley Forwood, Sir John Ure, Sir Philip and Lady Adams, Lady Iliff, Lady Wontner, Sir Donald and Lady Murray, Sir Gilbert Longden, Lady Emery, International Social Services, Lady Ewans, Sir Douglas and Lady Dodds-Parker, Lady Sandilands, Sir Derek Dodson, Sir Reginald and Lady Bennett, Sir Alan Campbell, Sir Denis and Lady Wright, Lady Bowker, Sir Roderick Sarell, Lady Wallinger, Lady Dean, Lady Coulson, Lady Barnes.

Sir David and Lady Lidderdale, Sir Richard Parsons, Sir Alexander and Lady Glen, Sir Guy and Lady Millard, Sir Edward and Lady Jackson, Sir Richard Beaumont, Sir James and Lady Dunnett, Sir Michael Simpson-Orlebar, Canning House, and Lady Simpson-Orlebar, Sir David Muirhead, Lady Pilcher, Sir Donald and Lady Logan, Sir John Fretwell, Lady Harpham, Sir Patrick Reilly, Sir Peter and Lady Scott, Sir Paul Wright, Sir Peter Marshall, Sir Peregrine Rhodes, Travellers Club, Sir John and Lady Peel, Sir James Craig, Sir Andrew Stark, Baron Vaes.

Miss E. Wright, Japanese Embassy, Mr John Shakespeare, Chairman, Anglo-Portuguese Society, and Mrs Shakespeare, the Very Rev Lennart Sjöström, Swedish Church in London, Mr Brian Hart, British Regional Committee of St George's College, Jerusalem, Mrs C. Seymour Newton, Knightsbridge Society, Cdr Tim Havers, Lansdowne Club, and Mrs Havers, Mr C. Farncombe, Handel Opera Society, and Mrs Farncombe, Mr Kenneth Bradford, Jerusalem and East Mission Trust and the Iran Society, Mr J.A. Briance, Diplomatic Neighbours.

Mr David Bendall, Mr and Mrs B.H. Kent, Mrs Anthony Butler, Mrs Hugh Carless, Mr Laurence Kelly, Mrs P.M. Tandy, Mrs Anthony Nelson, Mrs Guy Rendell, Mr Norman Hillier-Fry, Mr Michael Essayan, QC, and Mrs Essayan, Mr John Profumo, Mr and Mrs Philip Mallet, Mrs John Somers Cocks, Mr David Coates, Prof A.K.S. Lambton, Mr Christopher Gandy, Mr Andrew Palmer, Mrs Hugh Morgan, Lt-Col Frederick Burnaby-Atkins, Mr Frank Brenchley, Lt-Col and Mrs Anthony Mather, Mr and Mrs Peter Mason, Dr and Mrs Eldryd Parry, Mrs Christopher Hordern, Mr and Mrs Henry Hainworth and Mr Peter Dawson, together with many other friends.

**Prof Sir John Golding**
A memorial service for Prof Sir John Golding was held yesterday at the Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, EC1. The Rev Dr Martin Dudley, Rector, and Chaplain, Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor, officiated. Dr Anthony Golding (brother) read Longfellow's *Psalm of Life* and Mr Mark Golding (son) read the lesson. Prof Leslie Le Quesne, Prof John Waterlow and Mr Huntley Forester paid tribute to Sir John. Lady Golding (widow) and other members of the family were present, together with many friends.

## WAY OF THE WORLD

AUBERON WAUGH

# Is toothpaste necessary?

READING in Monday's newspaper of the new fad for Referendum Chic among what is described as the Goldsmith gang, it occurred to me that there is nothing particularly chic about a handful of upper class sycophants hanging around an apparently obsessed multi-millionaire.

The Conservatives have decided to take Sir James Goldsmith seriously, with long attacks on him from Kenneth Clarke and Douglas Hurd. This can only add to his popularity, but they have to do it in order to maintain the pretence that they might win the General Election. We all know they haven't a chance of being re-elected for a fifth term. Goldsmith offers no serious threat to anyone but himself.

People may ask themselves whether the Referendum Party, in the unlikely event of its winning the election, would really relinquish the reins of power as soon as it had held its little referendum. Few politicians surrender power so easily, and we are told that a new, more general point at issue is: Who governs Britain? Who indeed, after such an outcome?

But we need not worry. Goldsmith lacks both the broad appeal of a Mussolini for grown-ups, and the hairy chic of a Fidel Castro for young people. He will not be swept to power. He is an Etonian. All that is needed to destroy him is one devastating sound-bite. I do not think Kenneth Clarke has got it quite right, describing him as "a maverick figure like Ross Perot", since few British people can remember who Ross Perot was, if they ever knew. Nor has Douglas Hurd got it right, with "Is it the Europe of 1945 he wants, or of 1935?" — since nobody has the faintest idea what he is talking about. But the Tories must work at it.

The odd thing about Goldsmith is that he makes perfect sense in France, talking about Fortress Europe protecting itself simultaneously against immolation within the American mass culture and crafty Asians on the Pacific Rim. One would happily follow him in nearly everything he says when he is addressing the French. It is only when he addresses the British that he adopts the tones of a vulgarian xenophobe. Who governs Britain, indeed. Certainly not Sir Fishy Toothpaste.

## Help is at hand

IN SMART London circles it is normal to deride Susie Orbach, the American psychotherapist, as representing and encouraging a whole race of women who spend their time being taught to talk about themselves with a silly tone of voice and in an irritating jargon. However, in my single dealing with Orbach, she seemed polite and cheerful, and I feel she should be given the benefit of the doubt. She is also an attractive woman, which helps.

Now we learn that she and other psychotherapists are setting up an organisation called Antidote, designed to increase the "emotional literacy" of politicians by teaching them to open up and explain their feelings to one another. They feel that the British stiff upper lip hampers communication and leads to foolish legislation and blinkered views.

"We will question what makes some MPs hold on to the idea of Little England and become very anti-Europe," she explains. Antidote's director, James Park, enlarges on her point: "Until they reveal the emotional part, we will never have a healthily run country," he says. "But put people in a hotel for three days and give them space to open up — and they do." We may not approve of psychotherapists for ordinary people, but for politicians they just may be what is needed.

## Prepare for a scorcher

NOBODY should be surprised that the new solar heliospheric observatory (Soho) launched last December to stare at the sun has already started predicting the approach of a new ice-age in our lifetime. It is the invariable practice of these expensive toys to produce alarmist reports. It adds to their feelings of importance and justifies further funding.

The last time it became fashionable to talk of an approaching ice-age was 20 years ago in the early spring of 1976, when people became restless over a prolonged winter. It is not easy for newspapers to turn the weather into a news story, although I am convinced that the prolonged winter this year explains the amazing levels of nominal aphasia, simple amnesia and general insanity among Londoners at the present time.

But in 1976 the great William Rees Mogg was editor of *The Times*, and he found an expert prepared to say that the cold spell heralded a new ice-age. His pronouncement was followed by the longest, hottest summer of my lifetime. Probably few readers of the new *Daily Telegraph* remember the summer of 1976. One half of them was not born and the other half is suffering from general amnesia. People will have to take my word for it when I say that mature beech trees curled up and died like unwatered lettuces. The Labour government appointed a Minister for Drought, who called in witch-doctors. They solved the problem within 24 hours.

Thereafter it became more fashionable to talk about global warming. A world conference of national leaders was called to discuss it. The government of this country proposed some preposterous sum to spend on strengthening our coastal defences against an anticipated melting of the polar ice-caps. Now we have an ice-age to guard against instead. I suppose they will need an extra £2 billion to improve heating in government offices. Any excuse is as good as another if it requires the government to spend more money.

"Tien Suharto." Daily Telegraph, 1 May 1996, p. 21. The Telegraph Historical Archive, link.gale.com/apps/doc/IO0707979529/TGRH?u=tou&sid=bookmark-TGRH. Accessed 9 July 2024.