



MIDLAND

Bank Griffins (MBGs)

*Reconnecting friends and colleagues
and supporting the social activities of*

HORIZONS

The association for former **HSBC** employees

GRIFFINS & HEX**A**AGONS

www.griffins-hexagons.com

Midland Bank Griffins, Hexagons & Horizons Newsletter

Hello

Thank you for taking the time to read the 75th edition of this monthly newsletter.

We often receive feedback from our members who have friends and colleagues who prefer not to use social media but would really love to enjoy the happy nostalgic memories and reconnections that many of us get to experience.

The Griffins and Hexagons website, along with the monthly newsletters, are some of the ways we make this happen. We do this by sharing nostalgic stories and photos from social media, bringing you the latest updates from our friends at Horizons and appreciating the current and previous service of our friends and colleagues.

Please feel free to contact Anne and myself by email at midlandbankgriffins@gmail.com



Martin Ridley

Facebook Group Admin

HORIZONS

The association for former **HSBC** employees

I hope you have been enjoying this gorgeous summer. A few updates from me which I hope will be of interest.

Despite our best efforts to recruit a successor to Richard Hunt, our Website Administrator, we were not able to do so and, with a system badly in need of updating and indeed far better maintenance than our current supplier has managed to provide, we have taken the decision to bring in the help of the experts.

After many weeks of deliberation, presentations from potential developers and due diligence research, we have signed an agreement with VeryConnect to replace our current systems with more modern and functional systems that will reduce the need for manual maintenance. We have planned an implementation timescale of around Christmas this year.

I will provide further updates as the project progresses and of course at our AGM in October at York, but for now I would ask everyone to log on to our existing website as soon as you can and check your personal information and preferences. As a reminder: once you have logged onto the members' part of our Horizons.life website, click on the top left box if present (with 3 lines in it) to allow a drop-down menu.

Click on "My Membership" and follow the instructions as clearly described to make any changes necessary. This will allow your most up to date to be seamlessly transferred when the time comes. Obviously, we will provide everyone with all that you will need to know once the new website is available.

Having said we were unable to recruit anyone to take over from Richard, I am delighted to let you know that we have just had someone volunteer – thank you very much Carolyn Chafer and welcome on board!

We have started working with the bank on the Onboarding Pilot for new recruits, with the 8 scheduled sessions being attended by the Horizons' members who volunteered earlier in the year. So far two sessions have taken place at the Customer Service Centre in Birmingham, with Leeds due to join the pilot in September. The first sessions went very well, with both the volunteers and new recruits finding it a very rewarding experience.

My contact at the bank said he could honestly say he had never seen such glowing reports from an experience exchange session. The new recruits all thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet former staff and learn from their experiences. The volunteers were impressed with the quality of the recruits and felt a closer connection with the bank. Both sides would highly recommend involvement to others.

Well done and thank you to those volunteers who have been involved in making this a success so far. We have a waiting list of volunteers if the project continues, but it's not too late to express an interest should it go to the next stage. Let me know by email as below and I will forward to Jo Uden, former Regional Rep for Devon and Cornwall, who has kindly taken on the role of managing this for Horizons.

I shall be meeting Claire Baird, Chief Financial Officer HSBC UK Bank plc, next week to continue our discussions regarding the many agenda items of interest and concern to Horizons members. I will of course report back.

Finally, a few of our members have written to make us aware that HMRC do not alert individuals about claiming rebates for over payment of tax. If you wish to claim a rebate you have to do so via their somewhat onerous and time-consuming HMRC online system and re-payment can take up to 4 weeks!

As ever, please get in touch if you have anything you would like to raise with me that I haven't covered already.

Kind regards.

Denise Bruss
Chair

Horizonschair.newsletter@horizonsmail.co.uk

<https://www.horizons.life>



HORIZONS - HARROW

HORIZONS - HARROW

Harrow coffee morning.



Kindly shared by Dale Allen

HORIZONS - HARROW



HORIZONS - HARROW



HORIZONS - HARROW



HORIZONS - HARROW





HORIZONS - HERTS & BEDS

HORIZONS - HERTS & BEDS



Another lovely Herts & Beds coffee morning at Shuttleworth today.

We should rename coffee mornings as “coffee, cake and most of the day.”

See you all again next month, at Notcutts Garden Centre, 24th September.

Kindly shared by Sarah Evans



HORIZONS - LONDON

HORIZONS - LONDON

Wonderful day at Fulham Palace. Fantastic history lesson. Thank you Julie Conway for organising.
The Walled Garden is beautiful and has a 200 year old wisteria.



Kindly shared by Lorraine Holmes
Horizons' Deputy Chair

HORIZONS
The association for former **HSBC** employees

HORIZONS - LONDON



HORIZONS - LONDON



HORIZONS - LONDON



HORIZONS - LONDON



HORIZONS - LONDON



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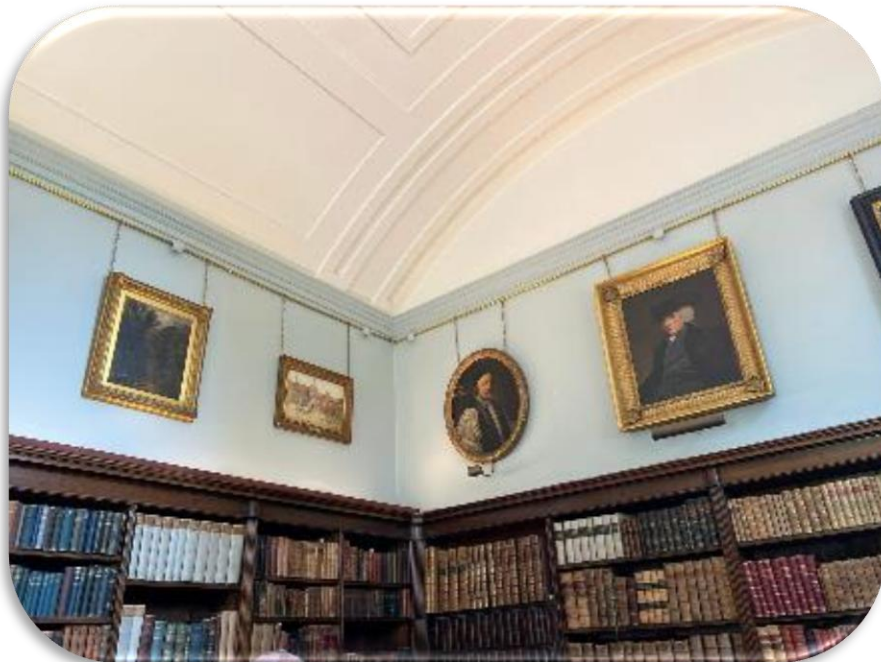
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HORIZONS - LONDON



HORIZONS - LONDON



HORIZONS - LONDON



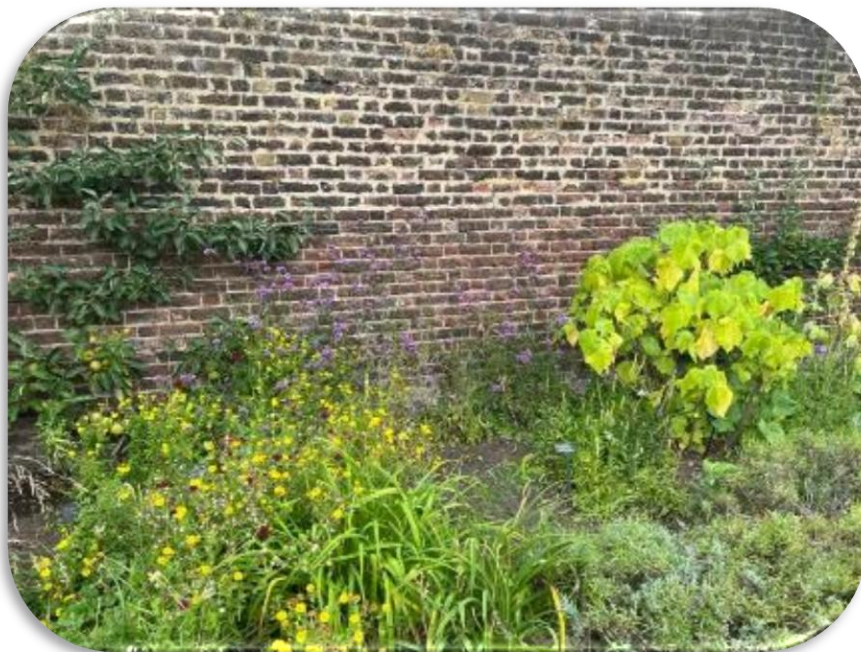
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HORIZONS - LONDON



HORIZONS - LONDON





HORIZONS - MERSEYSIDE

HORIZONS - MERSEYSIDE



What a great day it was today. Eighty members gathered at West Lincs Golf Club for our Coffee Morning and Summer Buffet. We were also able to celebrate two of our members reaching eighty years young!

Congratulations to Robert Cottrell and Pamela Beesley on reaching 80 this month. A nice touch by Angela Cottrell buying everyone a drink to toast Bobs birthday. Photocards were presented by Sarah Hill to our birthday boy and girl!

Many thanks to all those who attended today. It really is because of you what makes Merseyside Centre what it is today!

Thanks to Sarah Hill for the photos and Ruth Clare for the table quizzes.

Kindly shared by Peter Clare

HORIZONS - MERSEYSIDE



HORIZONS - MERSEYSIDE



HORIZONS - MERSEYSIDE



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HORIZONS - MERSEYSIDE



HORIZONS - MERSEYSIDE





HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM

HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM

An enjoyable day out with 21 N.Yorks & South Durham Horizon members on the Teesside Princess, food was excellent. Friendly & attentive crew members on our 3hr cruise.



Kindly shared by Lynn Haggath

HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM

North Yorks & South Durham. Lovely day out on the Tees in the Teesside Princess.



Kindly shared by Raymond J Alderson

HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM



HORIZONS - NORTH YORKS & SOUTH DURHAM





HORIZONS - WESSEX

HORIZONS - WESSEX

Wessex Centre 30 plus members undertook a steady stroll through the countryside near Totton followed by the customary lunch at The Salmon Leap.



Kindly shared by Gary Walshe

HORIZONS - WESSEX



HORIZONS - WESSEX



**Wessex Centre visit to Fort Nelson,
Portadown Hill above Portsmouth.**

**Guided tour of the fort & visit to the
Armouries, great morning.**

**The views from the hill over
Portsmouth are stunning, sorry the
photos can't show.**

Some of the best views in Europe!!

Kindly shared by Gary Walshe

HORIZONS - WESSEX







HORIZONS - WESSEX





HORIZONS - WESSEX



HORIZONS - WESSEX





GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Reconnecting friends and colleagues



Hexagons Anniversaries

Hexagons Completed Service

Appreciating Previous Service

Friends & Colleagues – R.I.P

News & Messages

Nostalgic stories

Nostalgic Items

Member Support

Bank Sports

Griffins & Hexagons Reconnections



www.griffins-hexagons.com

A reunion has been organised for anyone who worked at Rochdale branch.

It is on Saturday October 25th at The Flying Horse starting at 7pm.

The cost is £15 to include a potato or vegan pie supper.

If you are interested please let Linda Lees know at lindalees12@outlook.com

Her account details are 40.31.23 61538748.

Kindly shared by John Hassall



Anyone on here who remembers Margaret Spencer, Grays branch 402221, it will be 6 months on 11th October since Margaret passed away suddenly.

We are having a little gathering at one of Margaret's favourite eating places, The Ship Pub East Tilbury Village. A small buffet is being provided (£5 per head, non refundable).

Please let me know if you would like to attend & share your memories of Margaret, of which we know there are many.

Kindly shared by Sue Bloomfield

GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS** - Member Support

www.facebook.com/groups/2378403598936933

Member Support
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**



Lovely afternoon enjoying over 30 years of friendship.

College Road , Harrow Branch 40-23-13.

At The Ivy City Garden, London.

Kindly shared by Nicola Devane

Message Board
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Celebrating our birthdays.

Our 49th birthday together. 48 years of friendship.

Kathy Burridge & Val Waterfield.



Message Board

GRIFFINS & **HEX**AGONS

Kindly shared by Kairen Wilson



Message Board
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS



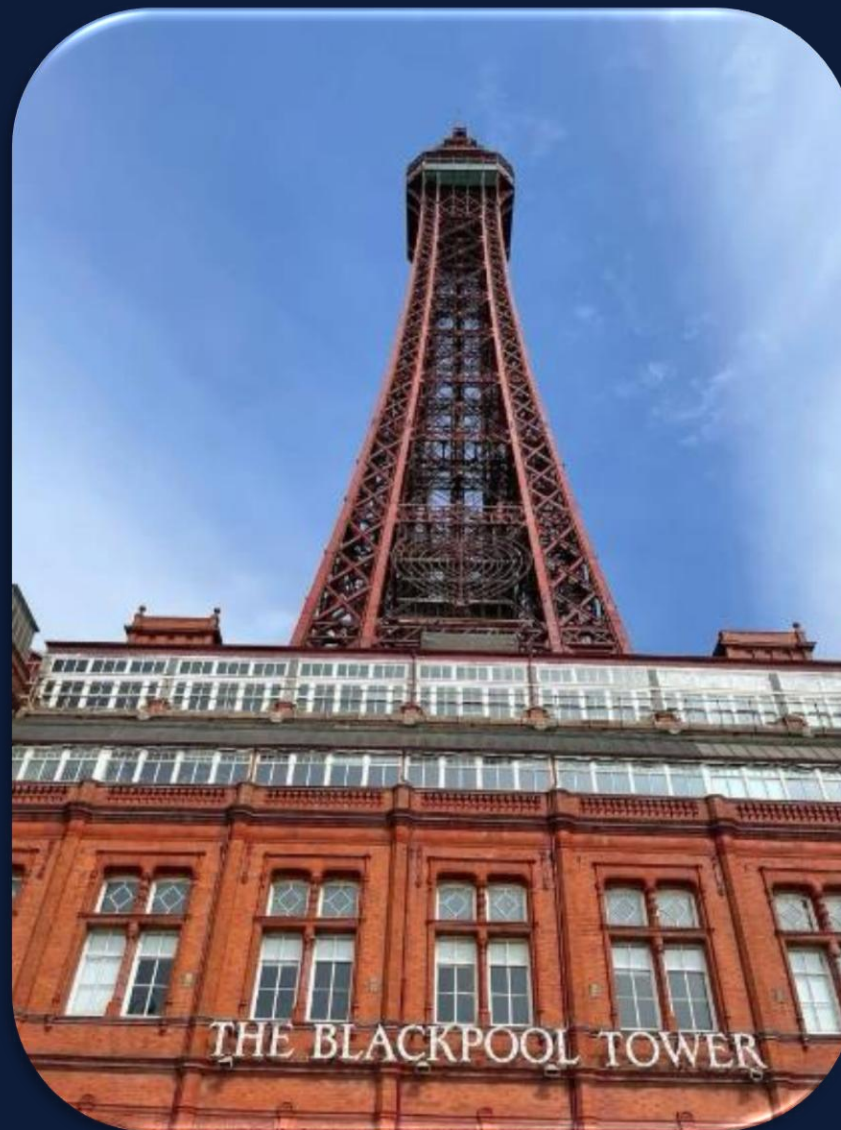
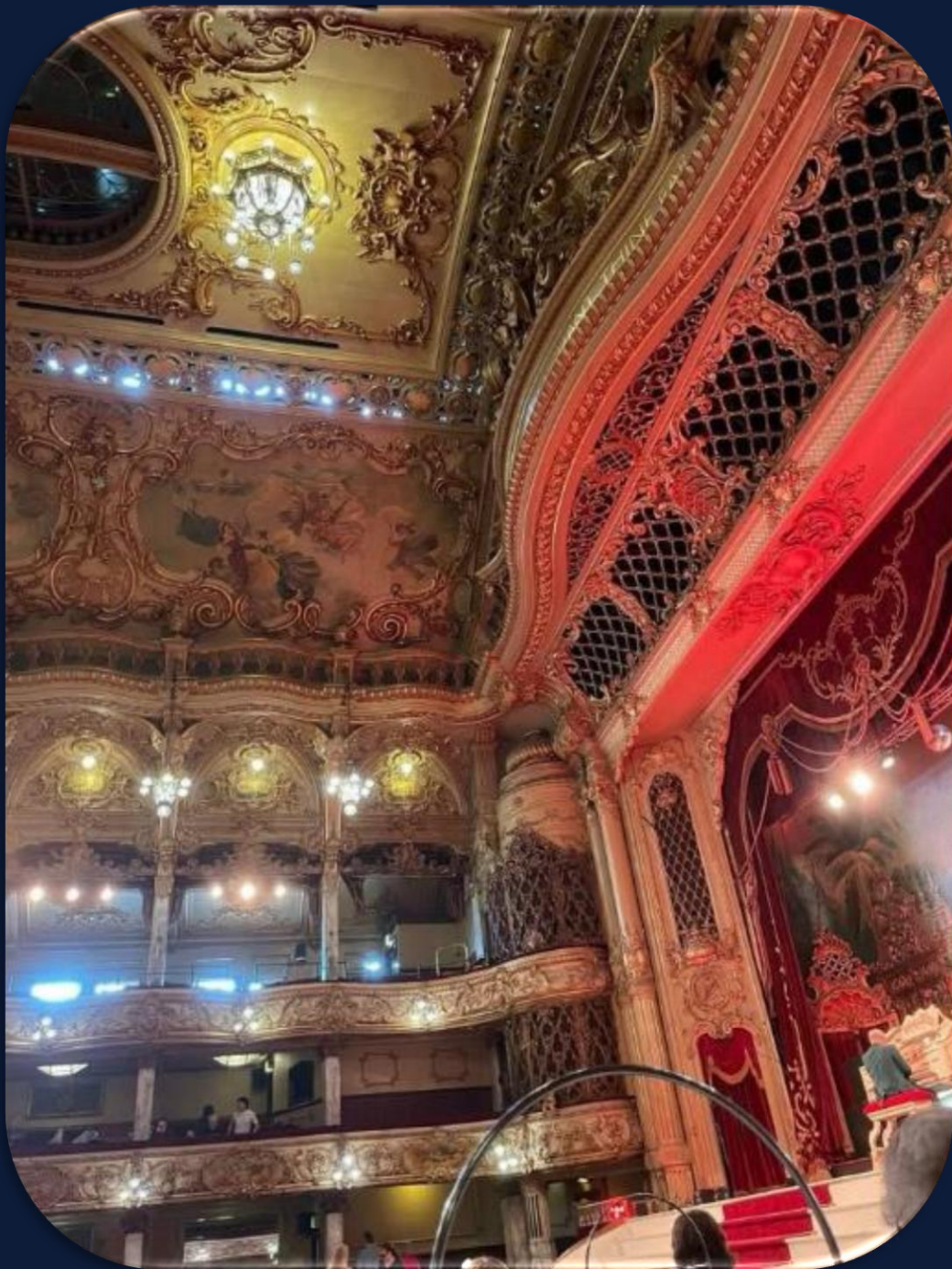
The Wednesday Walkers celebrating Brenda Warburton's 80th birthday with afternoon tea at the Tower Ballroom Blackpool.

The walkers are all retired staff from the Blackpool and Fylde area who have been walking every week for nearly 20 years!!

Message Board

GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Kindly shared by Patricia Porter



Message Board
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Excellent get together of Westminster & Kensington friends and colleagues from the eighties!



Kindly shared by Annette Le Vesconte

Message Board
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**



Message Board

GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS



After sharing table with Pauline Hennings, Jitu Savani, Naresh Tailor, Kokila Tailor, Rashmi Kent and Yaksha at the Harrow Summer Lunch we decided it would be nice to go out for a Curry together.

I got onto the case as soon as I got home and last night 9 of us shared a delicious Thali at Madhu's in Piccadilly.

Highly recommended.

Message Board

GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Kindly shared by Anne Hudson



Message Board
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS



Message Board
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS



MIDLAND GRIFFIN

& Friends



Appreciating Service of Midland Bank Friends & Colleagues

Midland Griffin & Friends

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/midlandgriffinandfriends>

GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

<https://www.griffins-hexagons.com>

Cath Caley

GRIFFINS

My maiden name was Edwards, and I worked at the Whitefriargate branch in Hull from 1973-1978.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Jean Osmond

GRIFFINS

Hi, my name is Jean Osmond I worked for Midland Bank /HSBC in Cardiff and Newport from 1964 to 2007 with a ten year break to have my children. I met and became good friends with many people, too many to mention but here are the names of a few..

Chris Combstock, Paula Wakely, Jacquie Denning, Gill Carr, Jez Heard, Carol Grey, Helen Guy, Margaret Parsons, Shirley Talbot, Jacqui Adam's, Dave Adam's, Julian Parry, Brenda Manby, Paul Blud, Barbara Belward, Sue Thomas and Sue Chaytor Jackson.

Sadly some are no longer with us but fortunately we have our memories to remember them and the good times we shared.

Midland Griffin & Friends

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & **HEX**AGONS

Kairen Wilson

GRIFFINS

8th August 1977, 48 years ago I walked into Midland Bank, Credit Clearing, Griffin House. I was 15 years old. During my career I met my husband.

Made life long friends who I love dearly.

I have so many wonderful memories.

Happy times



Midland Griffin & Friends

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Ninette Rogers

GRIFFINS



I started at Southampton Operations Centre in 1978 then moved to High Street Southampton, Burgess Road Southampton and ending up at Eastleigh Branch.

Debbie and myself are still in contact having started together all those years ago!

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Sue Corkish

GRIFFINS

My Maiden name was Marritt & I worked in the Whitefriargate, Hull branch from August 1972 until March 1976 & then in the Hornsea branch until February 1980.

I am still in contact with a few other ladies who worked in the bank & we try & meet up twice a year for a catch up.

Midland Griffin & Friends

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

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Appreciating Service of HSBC Friends & Colleagues

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GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

<https://www.griffins-hexagons.com>

Anne Christine

4 September 2025

HEXAGONS

46 years ago today I walked into Chancery Lane training centre at midland bank. I am still working for HSBC.

I have seen so many changes over those years. I have worked at 6 branches. Starting at Hayes Middlesex for 19 years. Southall Broadway and Regina Road. Ealing Broadway.

We relocated to Northamptonshire in 2004 where I worked at Thrapston branch and now I am at Kettering branch.

I have made so many wonderful friends. You all know who you are. I hope to make it to 50 years. Nearly there.

Working part time now as I have a little grandson to look after. I feel very blessed to have enjoyed my job so much.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Faye Allen

HEXAGONS

22 August 2025

20 years ago today I started working for HSBC in the Birmingham Erdington branch as a cashier.

My first day was a disaster but things clearly got better as I am still working for HSBC! 18 years in the branch network and now 2 in head office it's been a lot of hard work and fun!

I've done a lot of roles since then mainly in the network which is the best place to work and worked with some fantastic people and got in to a few funny situations too!

Let's see what the future brings for the next maybe 20 years!

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Gail Harris

28 August 2025

HEXAGONS

46 years ago today I walked through the doors of Ebbw Vale branch.

I have seen some changes but still going strong.

Working in Merthyr now with fab friends. x

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Heather Brown

August 2025

HEXAGONS

Crazy to imagine, as I walked through the doors at the Beeston branch, I would still be here at HSBC 20 years later!

Thank you to all the amazing friends, colleagues and customers who have been a part of this.

Let the next 20 commence.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Jeremy Williams

HEXAGONS

August 2025

On 15 July 1980 I stepped into Midland Training Branch at Holborn. I walked in a boy and walked out four days later a slightly confused boy, but I hung around anyway. The Moscow Olympics opened on my last Day at Training Branch and, pop-pickers, “Xanadu” by Olivia Newton-John and ELO was number One. The following week I started in Hounslow High Street branch for some proper work!

I later moved on to Bond Street, Marylebone Road and Pall Mall branches. I then was part of a team managing the SCC population, following which I joined Global CMB Reputational Risk and Client Selection at the time of the DPA and worked on a number of Monitor commitments.

Latterly I have been part of the Global CMB Customer Selection and Exit Management team (CSEM), also later supporting GBM. To make a long story slightly less long, this staff member has finally managed his exit. In over 45 years I have been blessed with some interesting roles, found amazing colleagues all along the way and enjoyed times with some wonderful customers. I even met the person who has changed my life for the better, and still does.

Thank you to all those who were part of the journey.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS



Happy Retirement to Jill Skelley of Newark Branch, retiring today after completing 45 years service.

Started in August 1980 and ABBA were Number one with "The winner takes it all." She talked about the 19 Managers she had worked with at Newark during that time and shared some great memories too.

Staff who were on leave came in to wish her well too. Thank you Jill for all you have done for us, enjoy your retirement.

We will miss you

Laura Pugh

HEXAGONS

September 2025

Today I'm celebrating 25 years service. 25 years since I walked through the doors of HSBC, 126 The Parade, Leamington Spa.

I am so lucky to have been given so many wonderful opportunities over those years, working across more than 20 retail branches before moving into Head Office roles and working across 4 different business areas. I've been supported through 2 relocations, 3 maternity leaves, an overseas sabbatical and 4 professional qualifications.

I've worked alongside so many brilliant people and made some amazing friends for life with lots of fun memories along the way. Maintaining a career whilst being 'Mum' to our 4 beautiful children, alongside a husband with his own (more) successful career, hasn't been easy. But flexible working patterns when I've needed them the most, have allowed me to continue to do both.

Paul Richardson, Lynsey Unsworth, Karen Fogarty and Hayley Sotheran OLY MBA - you've all given me opportunities to progress in new business areas whilst allowing me to work key time / flexibly and I will be forever grateful for your trust and support.

Margaret Willis sold a young 18 year old a dream of opportunity and it didn't disappoint. Thank you always.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Lisa Dawson

August 2025

HEXAGONS

Feeling proud today to have received a solid gold coin as recognition for my 30 years service in the HSBC group. I began my HSBC career in M&S Bank in 1995 and 30 years on, still loving what I do in Global Procurement HSBC.

Time really does fly when you are having fun. I'm thankful for such a variety of amazing opportunities where I have been able to grow and learn along the way, with the support of my colleagues, mentors and line managers past and present.

Thank you for your collaboration, guidance and friendship.

#procurement #workanniversary #hsbc!

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Neil Treadaway

HEXAGONS

12 August 2025



Kindly shared by Nicola Treadaway

40 years ago tomorrow 12 August, this chap Neil Treadaway walked into his first branch of Midland Bank (Harrow) to have the door opened by Martin Kilbane!

Over those 40 years, some truly wonderful friends have been made (some of which are featured in the photos below). They remain very dear to us both.

Nearly 30 of those years have been spent with Mr T, married after meeting through my sister Karen Ann Smith (another Midland Banker) and many of our friends are married bankers who met through Midland too so guess it had its advantages.

Neil's dedication to his career is to be celebrated. Hard working, dedicated to his clients and an all round great guy. His career has enabled us to lead a wonderful fulfilling life.

Here's to you Neil and the next ?? Years with HSBC.

Tomorrow we celebrate at The Ned which seems fitting.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Neil Treadaway

HEXAGONS

12 August 2025



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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Neil Treadaway

HEXAGONS

12 August 2025



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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Neil Treadaway

HEXAGONS

12 August 2025



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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Neil Treadaway

HEXAGONS

12 August 2025



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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Sam Whitmore

27 August 2025

HEXAGONS

On this day in 1985 i had just turned 16 andI walked into the Ealing Broadway branch to start my first full time job.I can still remember what I wore and was only going to stay a couple of years so it looked good on my CV.

I went to the foreign and securities window and rang the bell. The first person to greet me was Mayur Shah!
I didn't speak to the manager mr Stanley Pullum for the first three weeks until he bellowed my surname across the office.

Ealing Broadway became a second family to me and the people who are still my closest friends one even became my sister in law. It was the people that kept me there and still do.In 40 years I only ever applied for one role so the cv still looks good but has not been updated in a while.I have done many roles and met some incredible people along the way.

Never thought I would be still here!

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Shelley Miller

HEXAGONS

2 September 2025

40 years ago today, I knocked on the big wooden door that was North Wembley. I spent the next 23 years around NW & W London, South Harrow, Pinner, Eastcote, Ealing Broadway, South Ealing and Alperton before making my way into London, to work back forth between Pall Mall & Regents St, Mayfair (Closed it), Mayfair RMC (Closed it), closed Gloucester Rd, Notting Hill Gate, Belgravia, Knightsbridge.

I have made some amazing friends along the way who have made my working life so enjoyable, I cant thank you all enough.

And now I am on my last stretch towards retirement, still at Pall Mall, where, in the floors above the branch I was actually interviewed by Mr Thomas. Lets hope I am allowed to finish where it all started. Love and laughter all the way, its been a privilege. xxx

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Simon Rogers

26 August 2025

HEXAGONS

I'm a day late posting, but on the 26th of August 1986, I headed off to Midland bank training branch in Chancery Lane for my induction prior to starting work in Midland bank poultry & Princes Street. It was a Tuesday after bank holiday, Monday and I sat keenly listening to everything they were teaching, which almost always ended with "this won't really apply to you if you're going to P&P, it's different there."

I suppose running to the clearing house to agree town totals, wandering back from Mariner house with a case full of the following days clearing etc, or being the de-stapling clerk was prob a bit different. Irrespective of that, yesterday I completed 39 years service. Head office, area office, Most branches around the city, (even if just fleetingly in some) Park Street and Canary Wharf.

Making so many wonderful friends along the route.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Steph Hepworth

HEXAGONS

August/September 2025

Just wanted to say a huge thank you to all my fabulous colleagues today who have wished me well to Celebrate my 25 years service at HSBC. What a wonderful experience it has been!

Reflecting on where it all began in the UK Contact Centre and later moving to the Branch Network, I have met some incredible people along the way, and who remain valued friends to this day! Thank you to Frances Kew and my amazing Team for the surprise this morning & the fabulous gifts.

Fun fact did you know HSBC Premier was launched in the year I joined HSBC, as the first global financial service for personal customers and had more than 170,000 customers within six months?

#25years #achievement #hsbcuk

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Tina Staples

HEXAGONS

4 September 2025

04 Sep 2000. A mere quarter of a century ago and my first day joining #HSBC. I was such a raw recruit. A theology degree and Archives masters didn't exactly prepare me for the world of international finance. But somehow, I'm still here!

So much has changed, and yet many aspects, traditions and values remain the same – both in HSBC and the world of #businessarchives. A massive thank you to the current #HSBCArchives line-up. You're all utterly fabulous. What a tally we've racked up between us. It's no exaggeration to say our small team has devoted 160+ years to the bank.

All best wishes to former members of HSBC Archives out there too. Apologies if I've fallen out of touch over the years. Our service is built on your skills and expertise that helped grow and nurture the collection into the treasure trove it is today.

And thank you to all the wonderful bank colleagues (past and present) that I've had the pleasure to work alongside.

Being part of such a dynamic and inclusive international family continues to motivate me, 25 years on.

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Appreciating current and previous service
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS



HAVE YOU JOINED **H**ORIZONS?

<https://horizons.life>

The **H**orizons website is the place to sign up and connect with your local **H**orizons' centre and also obtain the latest news and views from the **H**orizons Management Committee.

There are many social activities such as coffee mornings, centre lunches, social excursions and of course the AGM and annual luncheon.

Log on to the website for further information on how to sign up and connect with your friends and colleagues.

Remembering our friends and colleagues through fond memories

It is with great sadness that we often receive news of the passing of our friends and former colleagues.

Thank you to our many members who kindly take the time to share this sad news with us. It gives us all an opportunity to reflect and fondly remember the life and service of our friends and colleagues who have passed on.

It's clear that our members welcome the chance to be able to pass on their respects and condolences at the earliest possible moment as opposed to doing so when they find out at a much later point in time.

Remembrance posts are also available on the Griffins & Hexagons website.

The following messages are of those who have been sadly taken from us over the last couple of months.

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Bill Backhouse

16 August 2025



Sadly, we have been informed of the death of Bill Backhouse. Staff and friends will remember Bill as the former manager of our Lord Street branch in Southport, Merseyside.

Bill passed away in his nursing home on 16th August being his 98th Birthday. We send our condolences to Bill's family.

There is a private cremation followed by a service at St. James Church, Lulworth Road, Southport at 11.30am on 3rd September.

Dress code requires no formal attire. All friends and former colleagues are welcome.

Any questions, please contact Mark Warren in the first instance.

Kindly shared by Peter Clare

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Bill Backhouse

16 August 2025

He was Accountant at Warrington when I joined the bank in 1963. Condolences to his family. - *Malcolm Phoenix*

Sad to hear this news news. Mr Backhouse (always Mr in those days) was my first manager when I started at Southport Branch in 1973. - *Garry Owen*

RIP Bill. - *Michael George Crawford*

Wasn't he DSS assistant Liverpool in the 60s. I'm sure he interviewed me 1960. Condolences to the family. - *Alex Duckworth*

Mr Backhouse was DSS in Winkley Square when I started my first job in the bank in 1971 in his office. - *Beryl Kelly*

RIP. We called him the Captain when we were at Southport. He was also DSS at Preston area office when it opened prior to becoming Manager at Southport. He was a lovely chap full of kindness and consideration I enjoyed working for him and glad he got a good stint as a pensioner. - *Pete Sleightholme*

Mr Backhouse was the first DSS in Preston when the office opened, with just six staff, in January 1968. He was a great boss, always kind and considerate. Happy memories! My sincere condolences to his family. Xx - *Joyce Harris*

DSS in Preston when I first joined the Bank in 1971. Good guy and glad that he has had a good innings hopefully without serious health issues. RIP. - *Philip Pinder*

RIP - *Beata Halliwell*

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Bill Backhouse

16 August 2025

Very sad news. He was my Manager in Southport when I started there. He was a lovely boss. - *Ian Jones*

Lovely caring man. - *Roger Edwards*

Interviewed me when he was DSS in Preston when I joined in 1969. RIP Bill. - *Stuart Ashley Jefferson*

Bill was my DSS when I first joined Midland in 1968. He will be sadly missed. - *John Haynes*

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Francis Mario Nelson

2025



Kindly shared by Peter Clare

It is with great regret that I advise the death of 'Franny Nelson'.

Fran worked at a number of Midland branches on Merseyside and was a friend to many staff across the patch. He always had a happy smile for everyone and his cheeky disposition was liked and enjoyed by both staff and customers across the counters.

We have passed on our condolences to Gaynor and son Jonny.

Funeral Arrangements as follows.

Service Friday 12th September 2025. At 12 Noon.
Holy Apostles & Martyrs(Also known as English Martyrs Church).
St. Georges Road, Wallasey, CH45 6TU.

Followed by burial at Frankby Cemetery.

There will be a reception at New Brighton Cricket Club,
Rake Lane, Wallasey. CH45 5DE

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & HEXAGONS

Francis Mario Nelson

2025

So sorry to hear this. Fond memories working at Fruit Market for many years with him: KO coffee, BMW, Rod Stuart, Our Tune, Cambio Kid, Port and Brandy. Lots of love to Gaynor and family. xxxx - *Cathy J Simon*

So sorry to read this. Mario was such a likeable character, always laughing and mucking about. Condolences to Gaynor and family. xxx - *Sue Nalis*

So sorry to hear such sad news. Happy memories of Fran at Norton Street. Sincere sympathy to Gaynor and family. XXXXX - *Rita Hale*

Love & hugs to Gaynor & Jonny. xx - *Carol Morgan*

Sad news, lovely bloke. - *David Thomson*

Another great guy from Norton Street - Mario Deepest condolences to Gaynor and family. x - *Elaine Neary*

Such sad news! What a guy Franny was. He was everyone's friend! Love to Gaynor and family. - *Lorraine Madigan*

Brings back memories. Condolences to the family. - *Kay Brayley*

How very very sad. - *Len Aspell*

RIP. - *Beata Halliwell*

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Francis Mario Nelson

2025

Peter Clare - I think you and I both worked with Fran at Walton in the 90s.

Such a lovely guy I have many happy memories of that period. My condolences to gay and his family. - *Philip Hewitt*

Philip. Yes we did. We had a good crew at Walton early 90s. I agree, happy memories working with you and the rest of the staff. - *Peter Clare*

Ahh that's sad news indeed. One of the first Midland Bank staff i met. He opened the front door to me at Liscard on my 1st day, lots of stories from those days. RIP Franny. - *Gi Sen*

That's very sad. He was fun to work with. Condolences to his family. Rest in peace Fran. - *Jan Stanley*

Sad news, rest in peace Franny, Great fun. - *Colin Lloyd*

Such sad news he was always so happy and always had a smile for everyone. Condolences to his family. - *Sue Handford*

Worked with Frannie in a few branches - always ready to cheer everyone up. RIP Frannie.

Thinking of Gaynor and their son. xxx - *Phyllis Ashcroft*

So sad, I remember him fondly. x - *Susan Hines*

Such a great person to have worked with. - *Barbara Turner*

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Francis Mario Nelson

2025

He was always a load of fun. I didn't realise he married Gaynor. What a stunning beautiful person she was on the inside and out. Please send my sincere condolences to all. RIP Fran. - *Helen Coleman*

Helen Coleman - Just saying to my hubby she is beautiful inside and out. What a character he was! A funny guy. Much love to Gaynor and Johnny- *Joy Jones*

Such sad news, Rip Fran, condolences to Gaynor & family. x - *Karen Smith*

Remembering our friends and colleagues
GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**

Their team of trained Client Advisors and Visiting Caseworkers, work alongside a range of partners to provide you with specialist support to suit your needs.

BWC helps current and former bank employees, and their families by providing advice, expert support and, in some cases, financial assistance.



Bank Workers Charity

Thank you!



This Thank You Day, we want to say our thanks.

To everyone who reaches out for support. To the colleagues who are there for those in need. To the banks who champion wellbeing in the workplace.

To those who give generously, helping fund the support we offer. And to our partners who help us keep the banking community supported, connected, and informed. Your actions, big or small, help create a space where it's OK to ask for help.

#ThankYouDay #WellbeingMatters

The photo is, I believe, from 1980 when the Selby Branch of Midland Bank celebrated the centenary of its opening (under its former name).

Unfortunately not everyone in the photo is clearly visible and some unfortunately are no longer alive but Ken Overend was the Manager, Denise his secretary,

Ray Petch the Accountant,

Steve Gibson Accountant's Assistant,

Rob Reeson (sub-branch specialist),

Beryl Tomlinson,

Carol (former Miss Goole),

Carmel (Denises's younger sister) the members of the ladies demon 5 a side football team and the others I unfortunately cannot remember having been at 8 branches\offices after that.



Kindly shared by Martyn Benson

Memories
GRIFFINS



The 1988 Student Campaign.
Preston Team.

Still in regular contact with 3
of the team after 37 years!!

Kindly shared by Patricia Porter

Memories
GRIFFINS



Midland Bank Thetford then and now.



Kindly shared by Rowena George

Branches
GRIFFINS



Just found this.

Memorabilia

Kindly shared by Denise Bristow-Burrows

GRIFFINS & **HEXAGONS**



Martin Ridley

Facebook Group
Admin

Anne Ridley

Newsletter Editor



*Thank you all for your wonderful contributions
across social media.*

*It's a great pleasure to see you enjoy many
rekindled memories and reconnections.*

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Instagram: [midlandgriffin](https://www.instagram.com/midlandgriffin)

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Website: <https://www.griffins-hexagons.com>

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