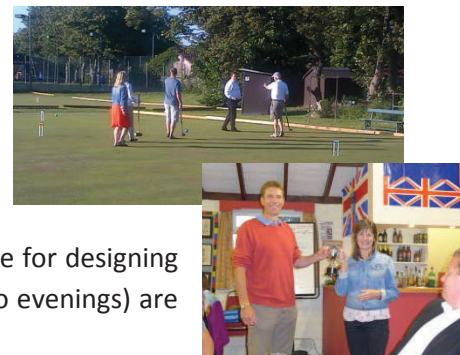




Back to work! I had two senior visits on my first week back. On Monday, Tim Holliday, Managing Director of Zurich's Personal Lines Division followed on Thursday by Vibhu Sharma, Zurich's UK CEO, met the N&G team. Both are extremely supportive of the work we are doing and some of you will have met Tim when he was President of Southampton before Dilys Gale.

Thank you Richard for producing the last two issues of the Weekly Update. It is our quiet(er) season but an opportunity to work on some behind the scenes responsibilities. Thank you especially Graham, Susan and Colin for your work on Budgets and Sponsorship in my absence.

The Planner is filling with CPD and Social Events. The latter are especially important as we get to know each other. There is something for everyone so please do get involved. The Croquet on Thursday was fun and has now become a regular event (as have the victors) – once again Tim and Anthea despite the handicap they accepted! Congratulations and thanks to Robin and Susan for organising the evening and to Zoe for designing the Sussex cocktail pictured. The Lewes walks in August (two evenings) are also very welcome additions to the programme.



I also saw from Richard's Update that the first CSR Team meeting took place while I was away. I heard some great feedback at the croquet from Diana and Ian and am excited to see the next steps. Thank you.

Graham is pulling together the Membership Engagement team and has been speaking with Colin and Pauline to set up their first meeting.

The main topic of the week was Finance. The possibility of a 'GREXIT' remains high as I write. The UK Budget had a sting in the tail with the raising of Insurance Premium Tax to 9.5% (is this heading towards the VAT rate seen elsewhere in Europe I wonder?).

In the same week the CII published details of the grant we are to receive effective from now. This has been scaled back considerably for the remainder of 2015/16. None of us are in favour of local institutes holding high reserves when money should be spent to benefit members and we discussed this at our last Council Meeting when the topic of investment strategy was raised. A small team will now undertake work to ensure our planning process runs smoothly and delivery continues, with enhancements to reach out further to our membership, local employers and the community. My message back to the CII is that we must work together if we are to continue delivering the Sussex plan and strive to be a Centre of Excellence. The key to this is our sound planning and I hope to introduce (and publish in the Planner) a planning cycle with key dates to help us complete our work.

We will be looking towards Victoria for support in working with the CII and developing a 'no surprises' culture. I'm sure that Christopher Digby will find 'Grants' a hot topic at the CII Representative Council Meeting on 22 July.

Coming soon (extract from Planner)

July		August		September	
Add Notes		<i>Minimal bookings due to availability</i>			
1	Wo PFS Conference 6.9/17	1	Sa	1	Tu
2	Th	2	Su	2	We Personal Impact - CI
3	Fr	3	Mo	3	Th Council reports deadline
4	Sa	4	Tu	4	Fr STRATEGY GROUP GJ
5	Su	5	We	5	Sa
6	Mo	6	Th	6	Su
7	Tu	7	Fr	7	Mo
8	We	8	Sa	8	Tu
9	Th Croquet - 55/Robin	9	Su	9	We PROGRAMME PB
10	Fr	10	Mo	10	Th CPD Conf mtg PE/SS/TT
11	Sa Shoreham Airport Tour -55	11	Tu	11	Fr
12	Su	12	We	12	Sa
13	Mo	13	Th	13	Su
14	Tu	14	Fr	14	Mo
15	We	15	Sa	15	Tu
16	Th Study Day Alison Cooper/IC	16	Su	16	We
17	Fr	17	Mo	17	Th COUNCIL ML
18	Sa	18	Tu	18	Fr
19	Su	19	We	19	Sa
20	Mo	20	Th	20	Su
21	Tu	21	Fr	21	Mo
22	We CI Rep Council	22	Sa	22	Tu Professional indemnity GJ
23	Th	23	Su	23	We
24	Fr	24	Mo	24	Th
25	Sa	25	Tu	25	Fr
26	Su	26	We	26	Sa
27	Mo	27	Th	27	Su
28	Tu	28	Fr	28	Mo
29	We	29	Sa	29	Tu
30	Th	30	Su	30	We
31	Fr	31	Mo August Bank Hol.		



Have you seen the latest copy of The Journal? Sussex was welcomed (page 11) and Zoe was captured networking (page 14) after a long day.

We still have three more spaces remaining for the PO5 Insurance Law Study Day and it would be a pity not to fill them. Alison Cooper's Insurance Law sessions were excellent last year so if you know anyone who would be interested in attending her all-day PO5 seminar this Thursday, please ask them to register via our website as soon as possible. First come, first served!

Best wishes .