

# 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee has often been described as the “doyen” of APPGs. It is certainly the oldest – having celebrated its 75th anniversary last year.



HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

It is best known for its monthly discussion meetings on scientific topics where leading exponents engage with Parliamentarians.

It is proud that its first report addressed “the Nutritive Value of Bread” – a vital topic throughout WWII. One of the members was Sir Jack Drummond, the man responsible for the absence of bananas during the war. Their nutritional value was not great enough to justify the hazard to the merchant navy of shipping them to Britain.

It is probably the only APPG to have had a Nobel Laureate as a President. (Sandy) Lord Todd was probably also the tallest President!

Imitation being the sincerest form of flattery, it is gratifying that it has spawned more than 600 APPGs at the latest count.

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh has been an Honorary Member for more than 50 years, and has been Guest of Honour at the Annual Lunch on no less than three occasions. He has also served as our President.

The Committee was therefore delighted that he agreed to host a reception in the glorious surroundings of the Picture Gallery in



Dr Stephen Benn, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Emily Benn and Daniel Benn





Dr Stephen McGinness, Dr Stephen Benn, Stephen Metcalfe MP, Andrew Miller MP, Stephen Mosley MP

Buckingham Palace. He personally greeted Chairman Andrew Miller, President Lord Oxburgh, Deputy Chairman Stephen Metcalfe, Hon Secretary Stephen Mosley as well as one of our senior members, Dr Peter Jost CBE.

Looked upon by the Gallery's Rembrandt, van Dyke, Titian and other greats, HRH mingled and talked with members. More than 150 guests representing many of the member bodies, enjoyed canapés and wine. Music being the food of everything, it was accompanied by Mozart, Haydn and Elgar played by a delightful string quartet.

For more than an hour His Royal Highness conversed with a wide range of scientists in a relaxed atmosphere. This was enjoyed by all present, including Prince Philip, we were told.

In his words of gratitude to His Royal Highness, the President Lord Oxburgh emphasised how appreciative the Committee was for his support, and reminded him that in addition to his own three visits, we had also received the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal.



David Youdan, Paul Jackson and Sir Peter Williams



Lord Oxburgh, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Andrew Miller MP, Dr Peter Jost, Stephen Metcalfe MP and Stephen Mosley MP



Mrs Louise Kingham, Professor John Loughhead, Nigel Fine and Professor John Perkins



Chairman, Andrew Miller, MP for Ellesmere Port said:

"A glance at the guest list at this celebration shows the high esteem in which the P&SC is held amongst leading scientists, learned societies and industrialists." He concluded that the Committee was in fine fettle and looking forward to the next quarter century.

Since the foundation of the P&SC much has changed, especially the effects of ever rapidly changing Science and Technology. This anniversary has therefore provided an opportune starting point for the P&SC to review its activities. Its aim is to be of use to the next Parliamentarians. In areas of non party, non political and non commercial activities, the P&SC will continue to excel.

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Lord Waldegrave of North Hill and Sir Peter Bottomley



Clare Campbell and Professor Lesley Yellowlees



The Earl of Cranbrook and Ms Katy Schneider



Stephen Grinham, Alex Connor and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh



Dr Sue O'Hare, Dr Kirsten Pullen, Dr Linda Thomas



Dr Tony Whitehead, Lord Oxburgh and Kirsten Bodley



Dr Guy Hembury, John Slater and Dr Graham Clayton



Dr Matthew Frost, Dr Bev Mackenzie and Dr Ben North