



# TTBS

Your Timber Charity

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**A**s the first year of this current presidency draws to a close, it's fair to say that I have a new founded appreciation and respect for all those who take on such roles.

However, within the process of running a charity, it's definitely just the supporting act. The real work lies at the feet of the trustees, who are not only responsible for its direction, finance and development, but also its compliance to both its governing document and the law. And of course, without a general manager acting in support, the entirety would grind to a shuddering halt.

Fortunately for us all, the TTBS continues to remain in experienced and knowledgeable hands, both legally and, just as importantly, financially.

That last word is so important for all the TTBS teams throughout the regions who raise money at events every year. It's also important for you to know that all funds raised go towards improving those lives of our former colleagues who have fallen on hard times, especially given the current cost of living crisis.

This year's social calendar is bursting with new events and now includes Brazilian nights, race and darts nights, alongside summer BBQs, clay pigeon shooting and the fabulous Christmas based lunches / evenings we all enjoy. No doubt more will be added and changed as this year progresses; if you have ideas that you think would work, please speak to the committee members in your region.



*Above: Tony Shelton*

On the subject of development, February this year saw the release of the sparkling new TTBS website. Thankfully, with the help of a very creative web designer and a huge effort from members of the TTBS team, we have a site that reflects our direction and aspirations. Supporters and beneficiaries can now find simple ways to communicate with us online. Information about events we've had and will be holding have been posted and updated. My thanks go to Peter Hunt, Michelle Hardy, Christella Golby and Emma Polden, the website queen.

The trustees also felt that offering the opportunity to become a TTBS patron would mean further progress for the Society and would help add credibility and integrity to an already widely respected charity. Supporting the TTBS as a patron demonstrates your commitment to corporate social responsibility, is industry specific and allows your employees to help contribute to a cause they may feel personally connected to.

For further details on how to apply and mutual benefits please contact us through [www.ttbs.org.uk](http://www.ttbs.org.uk).

We are very grateful to those who have already committed for 2024 and to all those businesses that donate time, money, auction and raffle prizes...it represents a considerable percentage of the funds raised each year.

Finally, I hope you will also read the article in this newsletter about John Liddard. I don't think we can begin to understand what this gentleman has experienced and we are incredibly grateful that he allowed us to publish just a snapshot from such a long life. It's for him and the very many other beneficiaries that we exist as a charity. It's our responsibility and that of the trustees to maintain and grow the vital support needed to make their difficult lives a little more comfortable.

For as little as £2 a month you can help bring about change. Please keep giving – your generosity is so very much appreciated.

Collectively we make a difference.

**Please visit [www.ttbs.org.uk/donate](http://www.ttbs.org.uk/donate)**

# JOHN LIDDARD – TIMBER TRADE AND WAR VETERAN



Above: John Liddard

John Liddard was born in Stepney in the heart of London's East End in March, 1924. After completing education in a local school, he left to find work at the age of 14, which at that time was quite the norm.

In his early working days he had a variety of jobs and at 19 he was called up to The Royal Artillery where he trained at Fort William in Scotland. D-Day in June 1944 was for him a defining moment in his life as together with his army mates he was towed in a barge to land on Sword beach in Normandy.

He landed, but sadly lost close comrades and after a few days returned to the beach to see the carnage, a memory which remains with him. After many months his unit arrived in Germany and it was in a field near to Munster that he was shot in the hand by a sniper. The doctors said he would not be able to use the hand again but thankfully he defied all the odds.

After the war he found employment with Durells Ltd who were wooden packing case makers in Mile End, London and where he remained for many years until the company moved to Essex. John then joined East London Packing Cases, a similar timber-based business before joining

Roeding Sawmills where he stayed until his retirement at the age of 65.

He married his wife Connie in 1950 and they had a son and daughter. Connie died nine years ago and since then John has lived on his own for the most part, looking after himself with a determination to retain his independence. Until recent years he was still going to see his beloved Chelsea who he has supported since childhood!

This remarkable and modest man who celebrated his 100th birthday in March this year is a fine example of his generation who experienced so much and gave so much to his country.

John has been a TTBS beneficiary for many years and is a perfect example of how our organisation can help. He has said that our contributions are making a considerable difference to his daily life.

We would not be able to provide this support without the generosity of our many volunteers and supporters.

## PLEASE DONATE



### Mrs B.

**February 2024, Liverpool**

*"I would like to take this opportunity to thank TTBS for your support and say that the benefits you provide have been a big help."*

### Mr. L.

**January 2024, Essex**

*"Thank you for all the help you give me through the year. I had a lovely visit from TTBS – they were so nice, we sat and talked about the old days. Made my day. My hamper was lovely as always. Thank you."*

### Mrs L.

**February 2024, Cornwall**

*"Please give a big thank you to all at the TTBS for looking after me so well throughout a very difficult year for me."*

## NWTTA DINNER 2024



Above: The NWTTA dinner in full swing

Some 175 North West Timber Trade Association (NWTTA) members and their guests gathered at The Edwardian Hotel in central Manchester for this year's dinner on Thursday March 21.

The entertainment was provided by funny-man Josh Daniels and his guitar. Josh is no stranger to timber industry events and went down a storm as usual!

Chris Sutton, chairman of Timber Development UK (TDUK) gave the address and reiterated the importance of the work the regions do to engage with TDUK members and the benefits of the networking and information sharing which take place at these events.

We were also graced by the presence of Roscoe d'bear, from Roscoe's Group who spent the evening posing for photos and eating his Jammy Dodgers (if you know, you know!)

The evening raised £1,700 for the TTBS – the timber trade's own charity.

# TTBS NATIONAL GOLF DAY



Above: Breadsall Priory Golf Club

The TTBS annual National Golf Day will be held on Thursday July 11, 2024 at Breadsall Priory Golf Club, Derby.

The format of the event will be:

### Lunch:

Sandwiches and fries in the Clubhouse from 11.30am onwards.

### 12.30pm:

18 holes individual Stableford competition

### 7pm:

Three course dinner and prize presentation (smart casual – no jeans!)

The rate for the package is £120 per player.

For those who wish to hit some balls in the morning – the driving range is available – balls cost £5 per bucket.

A limited number of buggies are available at £35 per buggy (based on two players sharing) and should be reserved with the Pro Shop – Lauren Ward Tel: 01332 836016.

There will be some places available for additional non-playing guests for the dinner at £45 per guest.

A very limited number of rooms are available at Delta Hotels by Marriott Breadsall Priory Country Club and may be reserved on a first come first served basis. Tel: 0800 221222.

Should anyone be interested in sponsoring a hole – we would love to hear from you!

## WTTA DINNER

With the famous Town Cryer Alan Myat (the face that greets you from posters at Heathrow Airport arrivals lounge) keeping some degree of order, 180 members of the timber industry enjoyed a fabulous night at the Bristol Hotel, Bristol in early February to celebrate another year of timber trading.

Jason Mohammad's TTBS raffle and auction skills will be long remembered! Along with some excellent bottles, trips to Premiership football grounds and hotel stays there were also meals at some of London's finest restaurants up for grabs.

A huge thank you to all those who donated and bid, in total more than £2500 was raised for the TTBS.



Above: Jason Mohammad and Alan Myat

# TTBS EVENTS FOR 2024 NOTIFIED TO DATE

**02/05/2024** TTBS AGM and Lunch – RAF Club, London  
**07/05/2024** Yorkshire & Humber Brough Golf 2024  
**15/05/2024** NETTA/TTBS Newcastle Dinner 2024  
**16/05/2024** London, Home Counties & East Anglia TTBS Golf Day  
**29/05/2024** North East & Cumbria Spring Golf Day  
**07/06/2024** Southern Region Timber Trade Association (SRTTA) Annual Dinner  
**20/06/2024** Yorkshire & Humber Brazilian night.  
**04/07/2024** WTTA – BBQ at the Boater, Bath  
**11/07/2024** TTBS National Golf Day 2024  
**12/09/2024** Bowls Tournament at Braintree  
**10/10/2024** TTBS Midlands Full Day Clay Shoot  
**17/10/2024** Yorkshire & Humber Beverley Curry Night  
**21/11/2024** Roberts' Big Night Out – Newcastle upon Tyne  
**04/12/2024** North West Christmas Lunch  
**13/12/2024** NETTA/TTBS Hull Christmas Lunch



The North West TTBS committee hosted its annual Christmas lunch on Wednesday December 6, 2023 at Delta by Marriot Hotel, Liverpool, bringing together 140 industry professionals for a day of laughter, camaraderie, and philanthropy.

A highlight of the afternoon was the performance by the talented comedian Josh Daniel's. The event raised over £5,000 for the TTBS and our grateful thanks go to all involved.

*Above: Ste bought this Everton shirt at the charity auction. The shirt was donated by a former Everton player and sourced by CFS Freight Forwarding, who were very supportive*

## NEWSFLASH



**TTBS are delighted to have partnered with BHSF. This partnership brings many benefits and will allow our beneficiaries to access free financial advice via Auriga's experts – this includes benefit checks to ensure they are accessing the State benefits they are entitled to, together with personalised help to manage debt and financial issues. Please contact Christella Golby for further information on: 07767 723666**

This newsletter is produced with the help of *TTJ* magazine.

The following companies have generously sponsored production of the president's newsletter and the support of all sponsors is gratefully acknowledged. Why not join our list of newsletter sponsors?

For a contribution of only £50 you can help the TTBS to keep in touch with both supporters and beneficiaries and help us to raise money at the same time.

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**Don't miss out on the latest news and fund-raising events from the Timber Trades' Benevolent Society**

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