

JOHN J. SULLIVAN PRESIDENT 1986-1987

My Presidential year started in part the day I took the office of Vice President and having to form a Pentangular Committee, to plan the Pentangular weekend that was to take place the following year in Canterbury, when I would be President. The organising committee was chaired by Jim Shepherd.

The Pentangular weekend proved to be a very successful event, with a visit to Finchcocks Music Museum, entertainment by the Canterbury Scottish Pipe Band at the Saturday evening banquet, enjoying good food and dancing, ending on the Sunday with a special non-denomination service in the Cathedral followed by lunch at Broome Park.

It was when making arrangements for that Pentangular week-end that the County Hotel refused to allow us a quantity discount for the week-end's bedroom requirements that I made up my mind to follow Sidney Roe's attempts to find an alternative venue. Fortunately the Kent County Cricket Club was at the time building the Cowdrey Stand which was due to be completed in August 1986, which gave me the opportunity I was looking for. We moved from the County Hotel and held our first meeting at the cricket ground on Tuesday 6th January 1987.

During this year all the various service committees were fund raising independently and not being particularly successful, and it was decided that in the future one large fund- raising event would take place involving the whole club. We started planning for this event to take place the following year in a field at Barham, this has since evolved into the current annual Duck Race held on the river Stour.

A vote was held during the year on the admission of ladies into the club, unfortunately the motion was rejected.

This was also the year that I instigated the Paul Harris Award to be awarded to members in recognition of service to the club by making the first award to David Thompson, a wonderful man.

John J Sullivan
Compiled in January 2010