



South London Branch British Horological Institute

Newsletter No. 550 9th JANUARY 2025

Branch No 25. Founded 1978

Meeting to be held at Soper Hall CATERHAM CR3 6HY

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NEXT
MEETING

VENUE +
DATE
CHANGE

2025
Membership

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“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream”. C.S. Lewis

**Next Month's Meeting will be at
Soper Hall Community Centre,
Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, CR3 6HY.**

9th January 2025. 7:30 pm for an 8 o'clock start.

**Alex Jeffrey
The Dial Clocks of the Palace of
Westminster**

Please note that due to date being so close to new year, and the White Hart barn in Godstone being closed for a kitchen refurbishment, our meeting will be at **Soper Hall in Caterham on the 9th January.**

Continued

When we speak of the Palace of Westminster, most of us will instantly think of Big Ben, a great clock which is such an iconic landmark, possibly the most revered heritage clock in Great Britain. Few of us know of the hundreds of other timepieces which grace these esteemed walls. After the great fire in 1834, Architects Sir Charles Barry and Augustus Pugin rebuilt in a gothic revival style, which with endless corridors still house some of the most opulent dial clocks from the very best manufacturers of their time. This talk will bring together the histories of these, including hand written documents from renowned horologists, and how the in-house clock team of craftsmen navigate politicians, and have maintained these clocks. It tells their story over the last century and more.



CONTINUED

During the summer I was lucky enough to meet and work with our speaker Alex Jeffrey, A young horologist who graduated a time served clockmaking apprenticeship with Thwaites and Reed in 2019. The same year he started his own clock company. Alex joined the in-house clock team at the Palace of Westminster in 2021 to work on the collection of heritage clocks across the estate. He also worked at the heart of the team which completed the restoration of the great clock of Westminster and is now clockmaker in residence at The Clockworks in South London. I hope you will join me in welcoming Alex to the South London Branch.

DUNCAN GREIG

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GEORGE DANIELS DINNER

This years **George Daniels dinner** will be on Monday 24th March at Addington Palace Golf Club. I have enclosed/attached the menu and details. If you wish to attend please complete the form and return it to Alan.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Branch Membership subscriptions are coming in at a steady rate with around 40% already received. Membership cards will be available at the meeting for those members who have paid, If you are unable to attend I will post them with the February newsletter. If you received a membership form with this news letter it means I have not received your contribution yet.

FREE ADVERTISING FOR BRANCH MEMBERS

Is there something you require, an obscure tool or clock part. We can try and help we have had great success in the past. Just contact Bill :-

01543506195 or electricwilliam@gmail.com

If you wish to place an advert in our newsletter , contact Bill :- 01543 506195 or electricwilliam@gmail.com