

Peter and I met due to the fact that we were both Inspectors with Crown Agents Inspection Service. Peter was attached to the Sutton Office in the general supplies section whereas I was based in the Walsall and Frankfurt offices in the engineering section. We met at an Annual Pensioners reunion dinner which was held at the Holiday Inn in Sutton.

Peter was the only other member of the department present, at the first one I attended, many years ago. We naturally gravitated towards each other, and sat together at the dinner, and at all subsequent ones. Thus our friendship developed, though our meetings being limited to those occasions.

We also met at meetings held in the Robin Hood pub in Sutton when I would pick him up from home and give him a lift to the meeting. On these occasions we would buy each other a drink, him a lager shandy and me a pint of bitter.!

I know there was a laboratory somewhere in the Sutton building where Peter was no doubt active, but I have no memory ever visiting it or knowing what he did there. I do know he was involved in the inspection of condoms and the review of results from other laboratories before releasing batches for despatch to the client, a field in which CA is still regarded as pre-eminent to this day. I think he was also involved in Hand Pumps for raising water from village wells in Africa but I am not clear on the details.

He was a valued member of the department and I am pleased to have been regarded as a friend.

With our condolences

Peter and Benita Beales

