

## May 2010 – Lunch Club

It was great to see an increased number of ladies joining us for our May Lunch Club although the percentage could have been higher had Tori Reeve not sadly had to withdraw at the last minute due to urgent meetings at the Palace of Westminster. We were delighted to see Rochelle Mahon from residential architects and interior designers Studio Indigo, Cheryl Gurner from Bathrooms International and fellow British Institute of Interior Design member, Adrienne Chinn.

Rochelle is one of three managing partners at Studio Indigo, a practice that has had tremendous success at home and abroad.

Cheryl Gurner who is head of creative design, and her partner Peter have established a formidable reputation in the premium bathroom market supplying all 300 bathrooms for the impressive Burj Al Arab in Dubai. During the lunch Cheryl shared with us some of her interesting and insightful experiences of supplying the interiors industry, something they have been doing for many years.

Adrienne Chinn joined with us too. Adrienne runs her own interior design company working for clients across the globe and although we did not get a great deal of time to speak today I'm sure we will make amends at the forthcoming British Institute of Interior Designs Spring Party on the 17<sup>th</sup> June.

With regards to those gentlemen present in May we welcomed Derek Edine amongst others. Derek has had a long and distinguished career in the construction industry heading up business development for many years within Holloway White Allom but now working independently he is a fount of knowledge and information, he knows scores of people from within the industry and many of those around the table!

It was a pleasure to see Edward Griffiths once again. His experiences of running the entertainment elements of the Royal Household and organizing state visits are always entertaining and illuminating, but my discretion and the desire to keep my Royal Warrant prevents me from revealing the worst countries to have as guests!

As many of you may already know Weldon Flooring and N E J Stevenson will be working alongside the principle architect on 100 Park Lane, Kees van Der Sande for the next twelve months. Kees' family background coincidentally includes a Royal Warranted furniture business and so his level of empathy, particularly on projects with so much specialist woodwork is always very reassuring, for which I am very grateful.

Paul Collis works at the very pinnacle of project development for the super rich and provided a great deal of insight into the joys and woes of such a position. He single handedly entertained his end of the table leaving me to sit back and listen.

With a wonderful menu provided as always by Just St. James and charming company, this hugely entertaining affair engaged me so entirely that I completely overlooked taking any photos until the very last moment. Therefore I would like to thank Massimo, who until recently occupied the role of Maître d for saving my embarrassment.

