'The History of Stourbridge Glass', Dr Kate Round. If you were unable to hear this excellent talk at our meeting on December 8th, it is now available to watch on our ZOOM recordings page. Click here to view the page now. There is also plenty of further reading on Kate's website at https://kateround.com. *14th December 2022*

Steam Returns to Leamington Spa! For any I.A. enthusiast, model engineers and children! Not quite full size, but each Sunday until Christmas you travel along a section of The Parade on this splendid 71/4" gauge railway - steam hauled! *4th December 2022*

British Association for Local History e-newsletter, **December 2022.** Thanks to Martin Green and Victor Lobb for providing a link to the latest newsletter from the BALH. As always, along with their excellent website, it is filled with very interesting quality articles. Click here for access. *4th December 2022*

Leamington Spa. There is a new request for help on our 'Can You Help' page. Click here for full details. *29th November 2022*

Vulcan XM 655 at Wellsbourne Mountford. John Willock has supplied this wonderfully evocative selection of images of Vulcan B Mk2, XM 655, taken at Wellesbourne Mountford, Warwickshire on the 12/11/22. This aircraft has been at Wellesbourne Mountford since early 1984. This particular aircraft was the third last Vulcan to be completed and was equipped with the more powerful Bristol Olympus 301 engines. This machine is fitted with two sets of underwing "hard points" for the attachment of the projected Douglas GAM–87A Skybolt missile. This missile was cancelled by the Americans in December 1962, causing political difficulties between Britain and the USA; perhaps hastening the introduction of the submarine launched ICBM and the demise of the nuclear bomber.

Of the nineteen (19) Vulcans preserved worldwide, eight (8) are likely to have Skybolt missile pylon attachment points. Of these six (6) are in the UK and two (2) in the USA. Every Vulcan from and including the 61st B Mk 2 machine *(XM 597)*, had wing strengthening and the Skybolt pylon attachment points. They are as follows: *XM 597*, at Lothian; *XM 598*, at Cosford; *XM 603*, at Woodford; *XM 605*, at Atwater, Cal. USA; *XM 606*, at Barksdale AFB, Bossier City, Louisiana. USA; *XM 607*, at RAF Waddington; *XM 612*, at City of Norwich and *XM 655*, at Wellesbourne Mountford.

For more on the the full Vulcan story, visit our page 'Vulcans at Bitteswell'.

© All Images by Richard Willock. *22nd November 2022*

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Programme Change - November 10th 2022. It is with regret that I have to announce that Chris Clack, our speaker for Thursday's meeting on Harry Ferguson, has tested positive for Covid and will be unable to deliver his talk. We have been in close contact via e-mail with Chris and he is very disappointed not to be able to join us and has agreed to deliver his talk at a future meeting. The current advice is that two clear days of negative testing should be in place prior to a meeting, and we are very mindful of the make-up of our membership, so would not wish to take any risks. However, I am delighted to report that Roger Cragg has agreed to step in and to deliver a talk on 'The London and Birmingham Railway'.

There is so much controversy about the HS2 route from London to Birmingham that it would seem timely to examine the earliest 'high speed' option between London Euston and Birmingham Curzon Street stations - The London and Birmingham Railway. It is a crucial link in the development of the UK rail network, and we are fortunate that Warwickshire is included in the path of this pioneering route. Roger will be known to many of you, with a highly respected knowledge of the civil engineering heritage of the Midlands, and I can guarantee an evening full of interest.

I look forward to seeing you either in person or online for the meeting this Thursday. Refreshments available from 7pm at the Halse Pavilion.
Martin Green, Chairman WIAS *8th November 2022*

Midland Red Book Signing
Kenilworth Books, Talisman Square, Kenilworth
12th November 2022, 1030am to 1.30pm

Meet transport specialist Ashley Wakelin and discover his two beautiful books about the history of Midland Red buses. Find out about his books, chat to the author and buy signed copies of *'Inside Midland Red'* and *'Midland Red Influence'*. Perfect Christmas Gifts? *3rd November 2022*

Railways Remembered. Rob Foxon returns to the Benn Hall, Newbold Rd, Rugby at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5th October. 'The East Coast Main Line 1896 -1966' is a carefully researched programme of rare archive films recalling more than 100 years of East Coast Main Line Running. Tickets £8 on the door, licenced bar available. *22nd September 2022*

The Maginot Line. My son Mark has just completed a television documentary for SWR Television based in Baden-Baden on the Maginot Line, which has just gone out respectively on the German and French national television systems. Whilst not exactly Industrial Archaeology of Warwickshire, it might just interest one or two of our members from an engineering point of view. Despite its somewhat blinkered military thinking, the Maginot Line was an innovative and brilliant blend of terrain and engineering solutions to meet a particular set of circumstances, ie, an existential threat from the east. Some of the Maginot Line forts are in excellent condition and contain much of their original equipment, including fully operational electric railway systems, etc. Very worth a visit. The documentary unfortunately is in German and some French, and runs for 44 min 22 secs. John Willock, *21st September 2022*. Click this link to play the film.

BALH Awards 2022. Watch WIAS Chairman Martin Green being interviewed following receipt of a 2022 BALH Award for Outstanding Individual Contributions in Local History. The presentation of the Award took place during Local History Day on Saturday 11th June 2022 held at Conway Hall, London and online. *9th September 2022*

Ice Breaker *'Marple'*
Following a review in 2020, the Canal & River Trust identified a number of vessels that were eligible for 're-homing' on the boats for disposal register. One of the vessels, an ice breaker named *'Marple',* has found a new home at the Saltisford Canal Trust Basin, Warwick.

The Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Company acquired the Peak Forest Canals in 1848 and in the 1860s built a series of 7 ice-breakers at their depot in Gorton, Manchester. Four seem to have survived, including *'Marple'. 17th August 2022*

Industrial Archaeology News. The latest edition of the AIA News, full of interesting articles, is available here. *27th July 2022*

Summer News Supplement! Chairman, Martin Green, has put together a collection of items of interest to all. If you are on the WIAS mailing list you should have received it but it's also available at this link. *23rd July 2022*

WIAS Newsletter. Our latest newsletter, No. 76, is now available on line at this link. Many thanks to Mike Hurn for all his hard work in the preparation, volunteer editors/reporters are very welcome to assist! *20th July 2022*

Newspaper Archive On Line. Warwickshire residents can now access over 3 million pages of historical newspaper articles online for free at a selection of Warwickshire Libraries or at the County Record Office. As part of an initiative from The British Library to digitise their historic newspapers, millions of pages have been scanned and made available online from The British Newspaper Archive (BNA). Warwickshire Library members will be able to benefit from this extensive resource saving hours of painstaking manual searching through microfilm. Click here for full details. *5th July 2022*

Contributions. The start of July has seen two new contributions by WIAS members John Brace and John Willock. John Brace has supplied an interesting article about the arrival of electric power in Shipston on Stour in South Warwickshire. John Willock has given us his personal memories of Midland Garage Services, (MGS Engineering Co), Rugby Road, Leamington Spa. Both make excellent reading and can be found in our 'Contributions' list at this link. *3rd July 2022*

BALH

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL HISTORY AWARDS 2022

It is with pleasure that we announce that WIAS Chairman Martin Green has received a 2022 BALH Award for Outstanding Individual Contributions in Local History. The presentation of the Award took place during Local History Day on Saturday 11th June 2022 held at Conway Hall, London and online.

Many will know that Martin was one of the founders of the Warwickshire Industrial Archaeology Society in 1989 and since then has been involved and responsible for countless amounts of research and publications including "The Iron Men of Leamington Spa". A very well deserved award!

Left - Martin Green receives his award from Professor Caroline Barron, President of the BALH.

Watch the 2022 Awards here.
(Martin Green's award is at 6m.25s)

https://youtu.be/uZUBSXwyi1U

Foundry Wood Sidings, Leamington Spa

Foundry Wood, Leamington Spa, has recently taken on the piece of adjacent land to the woodland - via a lease from Network Rail - to manage as a woodland and wildlife space. Much of the rail track has been left in situ (4 x railway sidings and buffers). You can see from the attached picture - how the silver birch trees are all growing between the tracks and look quite amazing. Full details available at http://www.foundrywood.co.uk/ and in our WIAS photo gallery here.

The Late Keith Rogers. I have received details from Martin Woolston of a Memorial Meeting to be held for Keith Rogers on Tuesday 5th. July at 2pm at the Hatton Locks Café on the Grand Union Canal just outside Warwick. Rather than sending full details to everyone, I thought it more appropriate just to send to those who knew Keith and would like to remember

him via this gathering. There are no formal proceedings but simply a chance to share memories of Keith. I am very happy to pass on fuller details or they are available from Martin Woolston at martinwoolston@talktalk.net. Martin Green, Chairman WIAS *1st June 2022*

Visit to HS2 Tunnel Site. Thanks to an initiative by George Illingworth, Alain Foote has arranged a visit to the Long Itchington Wood HS2 Tunnelling Works Visitor Centre for Wednesday 29th June at 13:00. We will visit the purpose-built Visitor Centre and viewing platform. We will not enter the tunnel nor require PPE. The visit will last around one hour. Not quite industrial archaeology just yet, but it will certainly be of considerable interest. Please book your place with Alain Foote, WIAS Visits Secretary, email alain.foote@outlook.com, and he will send additional details. *23rd May 2022*

City Safaris. The last tour of the season in 2022 is now open for booking. Hamburg is Germany's second largest city and has been a port for almost 1000 years. As a member of the Hanseatic League it had a lot of influence in the Middle Ages and traded with most of the known world. Full details of this trip are available at the Heritage of Industry web site. Click here. *23rd May 2022*

Replacement of Rugby Rd Railway Bridge. Details and photos of the Rugby Rd, (Milverton), bridge replacement project in Leamington Spa have been added thanks to George Sayell. Visit this new page here. 26*th April 2022*

'Silent Servants: the long story of electric vehicles in Britain' by Eric Woodcock.

If you weren't able to get to the brilliant April meeting of WIAS, why not visit Eric's website, Zavanak.com, for more information on this fascinating topic. *15thApril 2022*

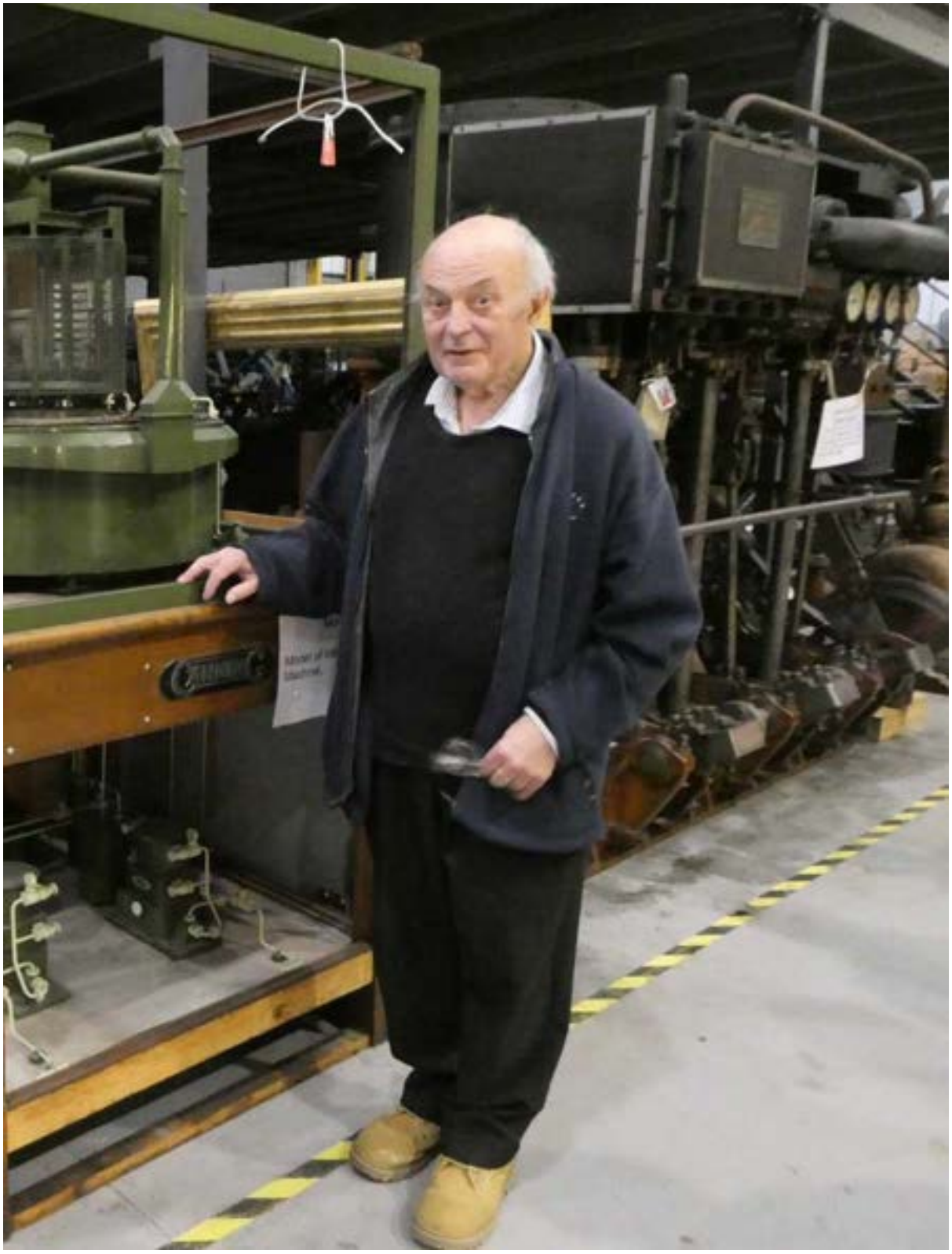
Left - The last of a large fleet of battery powered refuse trucks operated by Birmingham City. The vehicle is in the museum store and not on public display.

TV Tonight! Peter Coulls draws our attention to a programme tonight at 7.30pm 'The Story of Slate' on BBC4 where Huw Stephens visits the National Slate Museum in Llanberis. The North Wales slate industry has been very much in the news recently due to the award of World Heritage Status, and, of course, we benefited from the recent Zoom lecture by David Gwyn to WIAS. *4th April 2022*

Rugby Road Railway Bridge, Leamington Spa. George Sayell has drawn attention to the activity associated with the replacement of the railway bridge at Milverton, Leamington Spa. Most obvious is the use of the fields in front of Rock Mill (known by many as the Potterton Fields), and he supplies photographs of that activity. He has been monitoring progress, with the field levelled and raised to create a working area, the creation of an access ramp for low-loaders; 'ready-made' pieces of the structure (e.g. concrete from Ireland) arriving by low loader; and the large crane installed (which arrived in pieces and was erected on site). It will be interesting to observe progress. *30th March 2022*

WIAS. A reminder to one and all that WIAS meetings re-start in person at The Halse Pavilion, Warwick School tomorrow, Thursday 10th March 2022. Doors open at 7pm for coffee and chat with the presentation at 7.30pm. If you cannot attend in person the meeting is also being 'ZOOMED'. *9th March 2022*

WIAS Newsletter No. 75. Thanks to Mike Hurn, the latest newsletter is now available on the WIAS website. Visit the Newsletter & Retort page or click here. *9th March 2022*



Death of WIAS member. I am afraid I have to pass on the very sad news that Keith Rogers passed away on Friday last. Keith was one of the earliest members of WIAS and had loyally supported the society for many years, travelling from Coventry on a regular basis to society meetings. His enthusiasm for transport and industrial heritage, and for steam power in particular, was renowned, and he would often phone me with snippets of news or suggestions that might be of interest or benefit to the society. He also involved himself enthusiastically in

other groups, for example the Wickman Railway Club, where for several years he gave an annual DVD presentation, characterised by meticulous preparation of his material. He not only brought considerable knowledge to proceedings of any group in which he was involved, but did so with an upbeat optimism, and his infectious smile and sense of humour was greatly valued by us all. He will, indeed, be greatly missed. Our condolences go out to family and friends, and I will pass on details of any funeral arrangements once they are known. Martin Green, Chairman, WIAS, *28th February 2022*

White Japanned Clock Dial. The latest paper from John Willock is a brief history of the White Japanned Clock Dial and its manufacture for about a century, predominantly in Birmingham. Everyone is familiar with the so called "Grandfather Clock", more accurately called a long case clock, and the white faced dial that is often an accompanying feature. Click here to read John's latest contribution with excellent illustrations. *18th February 2022*

Photos. The photo gallery is available again but may disappear from time to time to allow for updating and re-construction. Contributions welcome. *9th February 2022*

Heritage of Industry Tours. Managing Director Bill Barksfield is pleased to announce that a full programme of UK and International tours is now available. Bookings can be made through their website at this link. *8th February 2022*

- Grand Film Show -

RAILWAYS REMEMBERED

THE RAILWAY FILM ARCHIVE

Introduced by Rob Foxon

Victorian Railways, an Englishman's Trip to Paris in 1904, the films of Model Engineer Bassett-Lowke, Rugby Locomotive Testing Station in action, the steam hauled 'Royal Scot' express in 1955, Electrification to Glasgow & much more!

Plus - The Pre-war Golden Sreamlined Age of Steam in colour!

7.30pm Wednesday 16th February

THE BENN HALL

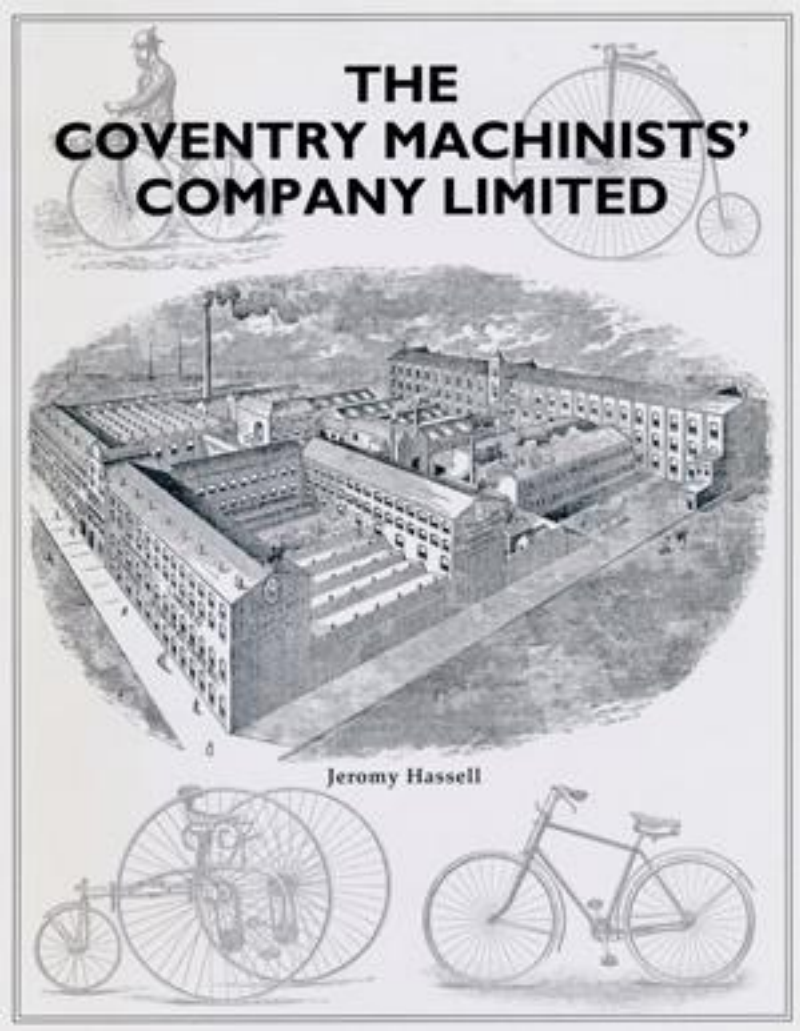
Newbold Road, RUGBY, Warks
CV21 2LN

Information: (0116) 289 0531

Tickets: £8.00 at the door

Railways Remembered at Rugby. Rob Foxon returns to The Benn Hall, Rugby at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16th February 2022. This new programme includes footage of the famous

Rugby Locomotive Testing Station in action plus much more. Tickets are £8 on the door, licenced bar and sales stand. *29th January 2022*



Death of WIAS Member. I'm afraid I have to pass on the sad news that Jeromy Hassell has died. Jeromy had not been able to attend meetings in recent years, but many members will remember the series of talks he gave to the Society associated with his pamphlets on various aspects of Coventry's industrial history e.g. 'The Coventry Machinists' Company' and 'White & Poppe'. There will be a memorial service at midday on Thursday 3rd February at St James' Church, Alveston (Stratford-upon-Avon). All friends welcome. No gifts or flowers please, but Jeromy was a keen supporter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society and it seems fitting that if anyone would like to make a charitable donation, it goes to this organisation please. Martin Green, WIAS Chairman. *26th January 2022*

'Brass, Steel and Fire: 100 years of Model Engineering'. A talk by Anthony Coulls, Senior Curator Rail Transport & Technology - National Railway Museum. If you were not able to join our January ZOOM meeting, this excellent talk by Anthony was recorded and is now available, (with sub-titles), on the web site at this link. *19th January 2022*

The Bentley BR1 & BR2 Rotary Aero Engines of World War 1. This is the subject of the latest paper from our WIAS aviation writer, John Willock. John has excelled once again with

a detailed history of the rotary aero engines, a joint collaboration between W.O. Bently and the Humber Motor Co, Coventry. Click here to read the full article. *12th January 2022*

AIA eNews Bulletin January 2022. The latest edition from the AIA is available now at this link. Full of information, as always, there is an interesting item about the re-purposed Catesby Tunnel between Rugby and Banbury. The tunnel is now a high tech vehicle test track, possibly the only one of its kind in the world. *12th January 2022*

WIAS Newsletter No. 74. The latest WIAS Newsletter is now available on the web site. Click here to visit the Newsletter page. Many thanks to Mike Hurn for preparing the newsletter which involves a great deal of time & effort. *6th January 2022*

'ZOOM' Visitors. Non-members can now visit a new page where they can complete a short form and make a suggested donation of £3 to access a 'ZOOM' meeting. If you know anyone who may like to take advantage, pl