

## Chair's Report for 2022

This has been a relatively busy year for the Club. Following the downturn during Covid our activities are very much back to pre-Covid levels and I am indebted to our Committee Members for organising the numerous activities for the benefit of our members. I must also thank our secretary and treasurer for their unrelenting work in ensuring the successful day to day running of the Club. In the last year we organised five walks with an average attendance of 21 and five bouldering events which attracted an average of 10 of our younger participants. As usual these events were self-supporting and were open to friends of members. We continued our tradition of golf and bridge tournaments, awarding of the Thomas Telford Award, and the Brunel Trophy and James Jones Cup respectively.

In amongst this our Committee have also been giving some thought to the longer term, and asking some fundamental questions about the future direction of the Club and its sustainability. About who we are, what we do, and the challenges we face:

- The average age of membership is over 50
- Our membership is quite small and not that diverse
- We have not appealed to enough younger ICE members
- Our range of events is rather limited
- Most of our activities are in the South of England
- Many ICE members are unaware of our existence

Of course our Committee are always quick to remind me that there are examples that challenge this view. Our golf brings together teams from across the UK, we have started to organise Bouldering Events which attracts younger participants, and we are well known in Northern Ireland because of strong links with the regional ICE Committee there. We have also made progress in reinstating sailing as a CEC activity.

With this in mind we have started work to expand our activities and to truly make the CEC the Social Club of the ICE. Our focus will be more on a partnering approach with the ICE Regions and we have already held a very positive exploratory meeting with the ICE Regional Affairs Committee to gain their support for this. We see this as bringing a number of benefits. Firstly it will raise our profile with members. Secondly we plan to run more activities jointly with our Regions across the UK and in Hong Kong. This in turn should enable us to offer a wider range of activities to a wider group of civil engineers and their friends. And thirdly we hope this will widen our appeal to all ages.

In support of this the Committee has redrafted our Constitution with more of a focus on well-being and to bring the Constitution up to date. I hope you will support this revision at our AGM. In addition we are seeking more support from CEC members across the UK to organise activities and help us to achieve our aims. If you are in any way interested do please contact our Secretary, Peter Richardson.

Finally might I encourage you to attend the AGM this year in person, and stay on for the Infrastructure Question Time Debate. I hope we can make the Debate a regular event alongside our AGM, so do please support it. If you really cannot make it in person, then join us on-line.

Professor David Balmforth  
Chair

## **Secretary's report for 2022**

Thanks are due to all the Committee members for their continuing loyal service to the Club during the pandemic, with committee meetings continuing to be held online. Our Chair Professor Balmforth chaired the meetings expertly and made many useful contributions.

Despite the pandemic, membership numbers increased from 328 in June 2021 to 351 in June 2022.

Peter Richardson  
Civil Engineers' Club Secretary

## **Bouldering report for 2022**

A newly formed Bouldering Group had successful events at the Castle and the Vauxhall East Climbing Centre in the Autumn and more events are planned for 2023.

Tony Barber  
Bouldering Secretary



# Contract Bridge report for 2022

## James Jones Cup, 2022

After a three year gap because of the Coronavirus pandemic, the James Jones Cup Contract Bridge competition was finally held again on Saturday 30 July 2022. This was at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, London. There were ten pairs and the event was run as Multiple Pairs.

In a keenly fought contest, the leaders changed place many times throughout the day. The first three pairs all scored 60% or more. At the end the worthy winners were Gitte Hecht-Johansen and Szczepan Smoczynski with 67.8%. In winning Gitta retained the trophy as she was the last pre-lockdown winner. She and Szczepan are shown with the trophy in the photos below. Alex Hannon and Martin Baker were second with 65.0% and Ken Barnett and Roy Cooper third with 60.0%

The winners also received medals.

As the organiser I would like to thank our Director Nicole Cook and the Young Chelsea Bridge Club for ensuring that the day went smoothly. Finally, a big thank you to all those who took part and helped my day go well.

The full results are shown on the following link:

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/brian/>

Below is a summary.

James Jones 2022			
Position	Players	Total VP's	%
1	Gitte Hecht-Johansen & Szczepan Smoczynski	122	67.8%
2	Martin Baker & Alex Hannon	117	65.0%
3	Ken Barnett & Roy Cooper	108	60.0%
4	Ryan Tan & Peter Richardson	95	52.8%
5	Nicole Cook & Robot	88	48.9%
6	Chris Duckworth & Brian Callahan	85	47.2%
7=	Chris Gray & Sally Relton	81	45.0%
7=	Andrew Clery & Eve Brenner	81	45.0%
9	Paul Hickson & Ian Yates	75	41.7%
10	Andrew Ward & Claus Werner	48	26.7%



Winners Gitte Hecht-Johansen and  
Szczepan Smoczynski



Runners-up Alex Hannon and  
Martin Baker

### **Report of the Brunel Trophy Contract Bridge competition 2022**

After three long years due to lockdown, the Brunel Trophy competition as organised by the Civil Engineers' Club was held again on 6 October 2022 in the Council Room at the Institution of Civil Engineers. The trophy has been contested every year since 1990. A total of seven teams entered this year and the Bridge was, as always, both friendly and competitive.

The winners were the team captained by Gitte Hecht-Johansen who came with a late run to gain 64 IMPs to pip the second team Mushrooms, on 55 IMPs. The winning team consisted of Gitte Hecht-Johansen & Lone Liaer and Szczepan Smoczynski & Jeppe Juhl.

The Mushrooms comprised Tim Pelling & Naomi Cohen and Miranda Fellows & Mike Lunn.

For a summary of the results and a photo of the winners with the Brunel Trophy see below. For the full results visit the Bridgewebs website at:

[https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display\\_rank&event=20221007\\_4&club=mitch](https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20221007_4&club=mitch)

The Civil Engineers' Club Contract Bridge Secretary Peter Richardson presented the Brunel Trophy cut glass rose bowl to the winning team captain Gitte Hecht-Johansen, together with a glass tumbler to each member of the winning team.

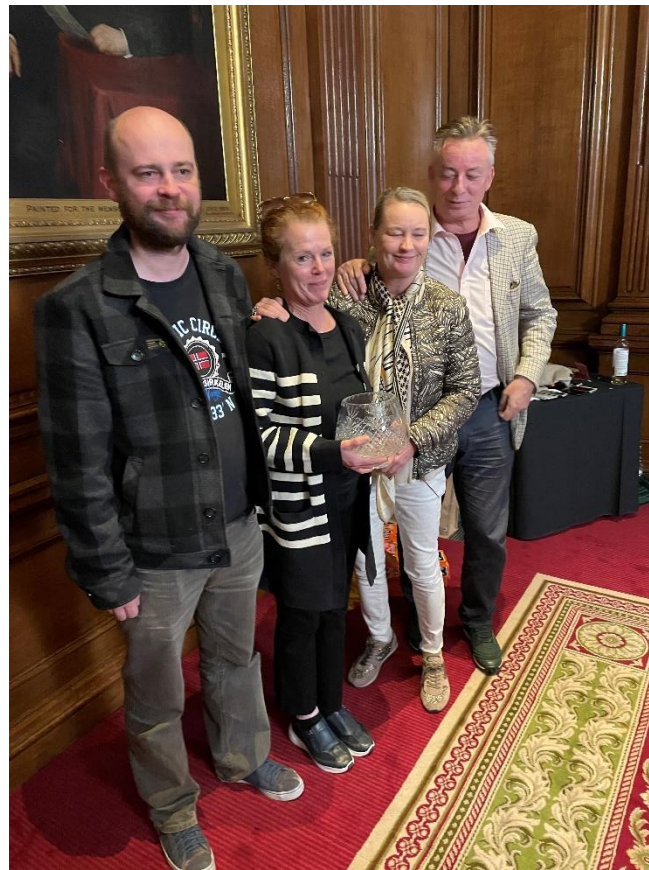
Thanks are due yet again to Nicole Barclay the Tournament Director who oversaw proceedings throughout. She performed her task with her customary efficiency and good humour and kept the event going smoothly and to time.

Thanks are due also to all the players- everyone contributed to the day, playing as always in a friendly fashion throughout.

In the evening an enjoyable dinner was taken again in the nearby Bistro1 restaurant in Soho. The restaurant has a wide selection and always makes us welcome.

Next year's event will be held on Friday 6 October 2023 again at the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1 Great George St, SW1P 3AA. If you are interested in playing, please contact me nearer the day even if you don't have a team or a partner- if you let me know early enough I can usually find others to make up a team.

### **The Brunel Trophy**



The winning team (left to right):

Szczepan Smoczynski, Gitte Hecht-Johansen, Liaer and Jeppe Juhl

## Brunel Trophy results 2022

<i>Pos</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Team</i>	<i>Players</i>	<i>Matches</i>								<i>IMP S</i>	<i>Total IMPS</i>
1	5	Gitte	Gitte Hecht-Johansen & Lone Liaer Szczepan Smoczyński & Jeppe Juhl	5	-1	0	18	*	19	23	64	64	
2	3	Mushrooms	Tim Pelling & Naomi Cohen Miranda Fellows & Mike Lunn	20	19	*	28	0	-13	1	55	55	
3	2	Stephenson	Ryan Stephenson & Ken Barnett John Bernard & Nigel Stuttgart	5	*	-19	18	1	18	-12	11	11	
4	1	Grey Diamond	Ned Paul & Rex Goad Gerry Weston & Gary Diamond	*	-5	-20	-13	-5	3	13	-27	-27	
5	6	Lucky	Graham & Heather Oliffe Amarjeet & Gurdeep Singh	-3	-18	13	5	-19	*	-6	-28	-28	
6	4	Richardson	Brian Sharkey & Peter Richardson Chris Gray & John Beamish	13	-18	-28	*	-18	-5	20	-36	-36	
7	7	Walker	Nicole Barclay & Roy Cooper John Walker & Trevor Wilkinson	-13	12	-1	-20	-23	6	*	-39	-39	

Peter Richardson  
Honorary Contract Bridge Secretary

# Golf report for 2022- Thomas Telford Trophy

## Thomas Telford Trophy 2022 Glasgow Golf Club, Gailes Links

The 36<sup>th</sup> Thomas Telford Trophy national team golf competition was hosted by the ICE Glasgow & West of Scotland Branch at Glasgow Golf Club, Gailes Links in Ayrshire on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The Civil Engineers' Club is grateful to the organising team for making the arrangements.

The team competition was first played for in 1986 and is contested by teams of four invited from the 16 Local Associations of the ICE at that time. The team competition consists of St. Andrews Foursomes play in the morning and singles play in the afternoon with all 6 Stableford scores counting. 11 of the 16 Regions and Branches Associations were represented at this year's event.

Glasgow Golf Club was formed in 1887 and is the 9<sup>th</sup> oldest golf club in the world. The club originally played at Queens park and Alexandra Park in the city before permanent situated at Killermont in the north of Glasgow. Gailes Links was opened in 1892 and layout re-designed by Willie Park in 1912. The course was the only Open Championship Final Qualifying course in Scotland to be selected by the R&A from 2014 to 2017.



The 2022 event was held on a mostly dry and sunny day with only a light breeze for the west coast of Scotland. The course was in fantastic condition with fairways hard and baked by the recent dry weather, bunkers challenging and greens running firm and true.

In the morning St. Andrews Foursomes, the winning pairing was Stuart Haddow and Kelvin Clarke from West of Scotland with 45 points which included a hole-in-one by Kelvin at the 6<sup>th</sup> hole. The afternoon singles winner was Ben Adair from Northern Ireland with 39 points and Stuart Haddow won the Scott

Quaich for the best Stableford score of 33 points playing off a scratch handicap.

The Thomas Telford Trophy winner with a total of 217 points was the team representing Northern Ireland continuing their recent success of winning the trophy 4 times in the last 6 events. The team representing London was runners-up with a score of 213 points and the team representing West of Scotland was third with 207 points.

The Veterans competition for those who have played in previous Thomas Telford Trophy teams was also played with 4 players from 3 Local Associations competing. The Veterans competition is held over 18 holes with the best Stableford score winning the Chilterns Plate. Jack McFarland from Northern Ireland won with a score of 37 points.

ICE Glasgow & West of Scotland Branch Chair, Alan Frew attended the Tournament Dinner and presented the prizes to the various winners. In his speech, Alan gave insight into his family's rich affinity and association with golf, with his grandfather teaching some well-known names in the game and contributing to golf literature, despite Alan never playing the game



himself. Alan saw the benefit of the event in maintaining and developing regional relationships for civil engineers of all backgrounds which we hope to continue for many years to come.

The Glasgow & West of Scotland Branch would like to thank the following companies for their donations which helped to make the event so successful: Tony Gee, Fairhurst, SSE Renewables, RJ McLeod and Viking Energy.

The Thomas Telford Trophy 2023 is being hosted by ICE Wales and will be held at The Vale resort in Hensol, Wales on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Martyn Taylor  
Golf Secretary



Thomas Telford Trophy 2022 Veterans

## Northern Ireland Region report for 2022

### Virtual Presentations

During lockdown it soon became evident that our only means of keeping some form of activity alive was by the introduction of Virtual Presentations. We were fortunate to have a very helpful NI Association Past Chair who facilitated these events using his own ZOOM platform – Sam Phillips. We had a total of three which were reported to the 2021 AGM.

These continued into the first half of 2022 as on-site visits were still considered too risky and were regarded as ‘off limit’ for the time being.

We therefore had one further virtual presentation: -

Date	Subject	Name
31-Mar-22	New South West College Erne Campus	Barry McCarron

Dr Barry McCarron is acting Head of Business Development within South West College.

He holds an honours degree in Architectural Technology and Management from Ulster University and an MSc in Sustainable Development from the Queens University Belfast. Barry is also the Current Chairperson of the Passive House Association of Ireland.

He recently completed his PhD research in monitoring indoor radon concentrations in certified passive house buildings. His current research relating to post occupancy monitoring of radon concentrations has provided opportunities to visit numerous cities such as Toronto, San Francisco, and Christchurch, New Zealand.

Barry has broad research interests in the areas of learning, building energy performance and indoor air quality in buildings.

He has been widely recognised for his studies including: -

1. Awarded the Belfast Builder’s Association Outstanding Achievement Award for the H.N.D 2006
2. The Gibson Institute Scholarship for MSc Sustainable Rural Development 2009/10.
3. He was selected as a climate change advocate on delegations to the international youth forum on climate finance and the 2011 United Nations Climate Change Conference.

He gave us a comprehensive overview of the design, construction and operation of the New Southwest College Erne Campus in Enniskillen County Fermanagh.

The event was well attended and generated a lively Q & A session.

This project is the largest PassivHaus (the gold standard in energy efficiency) Education Build in the world which recently was acknowledged as a UN Special Status Building and formed part of a SWC gold standard in energy efficiency Session at COP26 in Glasgow.

### On Site Visits recommenced in September 2022

Obviously, after a paucity of 2½ years, there was considerable enthusiasm among the members for the resumption of these visits which were the principal function of our CEC NI activities before lockdown.

## **Wednesday 21 September 2022 - A6 Dualling.**

This was to the almost completed dualling of the A6 from near Londonderry to Dungiven.

My contact was David Porter BEng (Hons) MSc CEng FICE, who facilitated the arrangements with the contractor. David is Director of Engineering, DFI Roads and Rivers and is in charge of this major scheme.

The programme started with a Buffet lunch at the Belfry Hotel close to the project at 12noon. The hotel provided a room for lunch which was followed by a presentation which included progress photographs.

There was an introduction to the scheme by David Porter, Director of Engineering for the client and a more detailed presentation by Michael Troughton, Project Director with the joint venture contractor team of Sacyr/Wills Bros/Somague JV for the Contractor. They were assisted by other members of the team delivering this project.

The Construction team then facilitated this on-site visit to the undivided A6 bypass from Drumahoe to Dungiven (A6 d2d). A coach was required for H&S reasons to navigate the areas not available to the public. We stopped at various locations along the route as guided by the Contractor.

A total of 26 attended this well received outing.

## **Monday 14 November 2022 – Belfast Transport Hub Site Visit.**

Philip Brown, Head of Major Projects with Translink organised and facilitated this site visit to what is an extremely important Transport Development for Northern Ireland. The site is presently the largest Transport Infrastructure Project under construction in Ireland.

The programme was follows: -

- 10am arrival – tea, coffee & scones
- 10.15 Welcome by Jim Workman
- 10.20 Welcome and presentation by Philip & discussion
- 11.25 Split into groups – PPE and site safety brief
- 11.30 Group 1 to Busway Bridge Site  
Group 2 to Main works Site
- 11.45 – 11.50 handover
- 11.50 – 12.10 Group 2 to Busway Bridge Site  
Group 1 to Main works Site
- 12.15 return to offices/debrief/questions
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.15 CEC Thanks to Translink and 6 colleagues who had recently joined the CLUB

The well-organized visit by Translink was much appreciated by all who attended. The site works were mostly underground to-date – Massive piling through the famous Belfast Sleafish which covered the complete site as well as the diversion of a major underground river culvert.

There was a sad tinge to the visit as Bob Roulston received an urgent call to the hospital where his wife Pat later passed away that afternoon. Bob and his family appreciated the fact that five of us attended the Memoria service. I have formally written to Bob and his family extending the Club's condolences at this sad time of loss. Pat and Bob were married over sixty years.

## **Club Membership**

Progress continues to be made in recruiting new members of the Club. Peter recently was able to advise that NI membership on my list increased from 17 (There are 8 that I am unable to contact since they have failed to contact me as Peter has request) by a total of 11 since the last head count. This was welcome and encouraging news. Apparently, there is a misnomer among the older general ICE membership that the club is only for seniors. I'm working on this issue!

### **Issue addressed at a number of committee meetings in 2022**

This was the continuing problem associated with the ICE website for a member **first** seeking to join the club through the ICE Website.

This still presents a barrier to members who want to **JOIN** the club. Once an individual has joined then the annual subscription for the CEC automatically appears in the renewal request.

I'm of the opinion that ICE could do more to promote the Club.

Jim Workman,  
Northern Ireland Representative for the Civil Engineers' Club  
24 November 2022

## **Sailing report for 2022**

The sailing season commenced with the Round Island Race on Saturday 26th June. The Island in question being the Isle of Wight.

The CEC offer two trophies for this race, the Telford Goblet for boats entered under IRC rules and the Smeaton for non IRC entrants. This year there were 6 entrants for Telford and the winner was David Greenhalgh on his boat J'ronimo, a J/92 design ( which clearly influenced the name).

There were no entrants for Smeaton this year.

The next event on the calendar was the Little Britain Challenge Cup which took place at Cowes over the weekend 10/11th September. There were 5 entrants for the CEC Sir John Coode Trophy and the winner was Jamie Chalmers on board the boat Knightbuild.

The Sir John Coode Trophy is in honour of the famous Civil Engineer who specialised in Harbour Works. His achievements include Portland Harbour (UK), plus Colombo Harbour (Sri Lanka), Cape Town and Victoria Dock, Melbourne. He also designed the first lighthouse made of reinforced concrete at La Corbiere, Jersey.

Unfortunately the trophy attracted no entrants for the Little Britain Challenge Cup which takes place at Cowes and so was not awarded. This is surprising as there are usually a number of civil engineering boats competing in this regatta.

The Telford Cup in the summer is awarded to the highest placed Civil Engineering boat competing in the Round Island Race (Isle of Wight) competing in IRC classes. There were 5 entrants for this cup and the winner was Lulu Wallis on 'Expressly Forbidden.'

There were no entries for the Smeaton Trophy which is awarded for non-IRC entrants to the RIR.

I am pleased to report that Chris Jones won the Elvera Trophy yet again in 2022 for the fourth year running for his most interesting log of the year. Full of drama and incidents it is well worth a read. It includes how two teenagers Elin and Lou competed in the round Britain and Ireland Yacht Race and won one of the legs.

David Hardcastle

## **Singing report for 2022**

Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 pandemic there was no participation in the joint CEC/RICS Carol and Remembrance services.

Tony Barber  
Singing Secretary

## **Walking report for 2022**

We managed to have four out of five planned walks and also an extra walk which was a joint event with BSYM. Unfortunately, we had to postpone the planned Walking Weekend again.

### **16th January**

The planned walk for January was cancelled as a result of Covid restrictions.

### **17th April**

The walk started from Chipstead Station in magnificent weather and took a track across the railway to a path which overlooked the valley and went by Shabden Park, an area of farmland which is being returned to natural vegetation. We ultimately arrived at Chiphouse Wood which is owned by the Woodland Trust and contains a quarter acre woodland plot dedicated to Patrick Lewis Maloy, a long-time Member of the Walking Group who died in 2013 and to a Seat dedicated to Patrick's wife, Jean Dorothy Maloy who died in 1998. See photo.

We returned to Chipstead via Banstead Wood where we saw the CS Lewis inspired tree sculptures of the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.

The length of the walk was approximately 8 miles and 9 walkers took part.

Thanks to John Baron and Ray Sterry for leading the walk and providing interesting commentaries.

### **15th May**

The walk started from the Darent Car park just east of Westerham and followed a path through the graveyard of St Mary's Church and the village green with its statues of past residents Churchill and General Wolfe. After crossing the High Street, we went through an open area with views of Westerham and the surrounding countryside, passing the site of an Iron age fort before entering Crockhamhill Common Wood.

Upon entering the National Trust grounds, we had a good view from the path of Chartwell, Churchill's home before descending to the cafe for lunch.

The length of the walk was approximately 6½ miles and 13 walkers took part.

Thanks to Haydn Davies for leading the walk and providing an interesting commentary.

### **25th September**

The walk started from the south bank of the River Thames under Hungerford Bridge by the Royal Festival Hall and followed the Thames Towpath to Greenwich finishing alongside the Cutty Sark. The route passed many points of interest which included several Tideway Construction Sites, Blackfriars Bridge and the station, Tate Modern, Millennium Bridge, Globe Theatre, Golden Hinde, Shard, London Bridge Station, Hays Galleria, HMS Belfast, City Hall, Tower Bridge which was raised for a sailing barge as we approached.

Downstream of Tower Bridge we saw the Tideway Chamber's Wharf site and the gantry used for handling the tunnel boring machines. We passed the Mayflower pub from where the Pilgrim

Fathers had sailed to America in 1620 and stopped briefly at the Brunel Museum, where Guide Tom Collins gave us a short talk about the museum and its history.

After lunch at the Ship and Whale we continued along the path to Greenwich by way of Deptford Naval dockyards and Deptford Strand.

The length of the walk was approximately 8 miles and 27 walkers took part.

Thanks to Mike Packer for leading the walk, organising the pub for lunch and providing an interesting commentary.

### **13th November**

The walk started from the car park in Upper Green Road opposite The Chaser Inn in Shipbourne, and followed a route across Shipbourne Common, along the Greensands Way, through Fairlawn Home Farm and on to the Kentish Rifleman at Dunk's Green. We then continued to Old Soar Manor, a thirteenth century medieval knights house, run by English Heritage and the National Trust where we were able to look round. We returned to Shipbourne via Plaxtol; with a brief visit into the church, Fairlawne House and Park to The Chaser Inn by The Common for lunch.

The length of the walk was approximately 6½ miles and 20 walkers took part.

Thanks to John Coplestone for leading the walk, organising to have Old Soar Manor opened for us by Robin James of National Trust and booking the meal at the Chaser.

### **Joint CEC/BTSYM Walk 4th December**

We met in the piazza outside the Royal Exchange, by Bank Station and went along King William St to the Monument, for a brief stop, where we could gain a view of the Bank Station Capacity Upgrade site before heading East to St Dunstan's visiting the garden in the ruins of the church. Our next stop was at the shaft of the Tower Subway by Thames Street. The shaft was for the tunnel beneath the River Thames, opened in 1869 as a cable operated passenger subway but now a utility tunnel for hydraulic and water mains.

We proceeded along the Thames Path, with views of the Thames Tideway Chambers Wharf construction site across the river, towards St Katherine's Dock before continuing to the Captain Kydd for a break and to quench our thirst.

After the break, we continued along the Thames Path with a stop to view the Thames Tideway King Edward Memorial Park Foreshore Site, where a shaft is being constructed, before heading to Limehouse Basin to finish the walk at Commercial Road.

The length of the walk was approximately 3½ miles and 11 walkers took part.

Thanks to Divik Bandopadhyaya for leading the walk and giving such an interesting commentary about the Thames Tideway project and places of note along the route.

Thanks to everyone who joined us during the year.

Tony Barber  
Walking Secretary