



JOHN OORSCHOT

It is with great sadness to hear of the sudden death of our Catenian brother, John. John Van Beek writes: I first met John and his father when we arrived from Holland by ship in Fremantle harbour



in October 1953, The Oorschot family, who themselves were recent arrivals in this country, had been kind and generous enough to be our sponsors to Australia and they took our family into their home in Geraldton.

John was very supportive of my parental family, the Van Beeks, and helped us settle in quickly. He was a practical and clever handyman and soon fixed a new sink, tables and benches in our humble kitchen.

John was trained in Holland as a carpenter and in Geraldton he helped his brothers become building tradesmen. In the mid 50's his family moved to Perth and John and his brothers set up the Oorschot Building Company.

He was able to obtain his own building licence by attending courses at the local technical college and after leaving his family firm, became a building supervisor in various large building companies in Perth.

In the early 60's John met and married another Dutch lass, Riekie Verschueren and they had 4 children, Thee, Wilhelmina, Adrian and Caroline. John was always very involved in their schooling and supported the Catholic schools they attended in many practical ways, eg building extra facilities in the classrooms, and being on the parent committees.

John enjoyed being part of the church choir and sang for many years in local churches. He was a committed Christian and Catholic and a quiet achiever.

In 1981 I introduced him to Darling Range Circle in Kalamunda and he became from then on a regular attendee of that Circle. Although he lived a long distance from Kalamunda he enjoyed staying in our Circle.

John was a very active 72 years of age when without warning he had a serious heart attack and passed away one night in September 2004.

His funeral was well attended by family and many friends including a large component of the Catenian Brothers from Circles in the Perth metropolitan area. We send our heartfelt sympathy to Riekie and her family.

May he rest in peace

The deaths of the following brothers are announced with deep regret

August

24 John Barr,
Longridge

November

20 Peter Connors,
Darlington

25 Laurie Shepherd,
Cardiff

30 Cyril Morris,
Medway Towns

30 John Gallagher,
Wallasey

December

02 Ray Gardner,
Westmorland

06 Peter Elliott, *Harrow*

09 Alan Butterworth, *Bolton*

10 Charles Maguire, *Poole*

11 John Baynes,
Newcastle Upon Tyne

29 George McNamara,
London Charterhouse

May They Rest in Peace

TERRY JARROLD

The brothers of Blackheath and Bromley circles were saddened to learn of the death of Brother Terry Jarrold. Terry died at the Princess Royal Hospital at Farnborough on the 5th June 2004.

The brothers of both circles and Province 7 generally were all left with a great sense of loss. Indeed he was well known throughout the Association from his printing work which he undertook for the Association for very many years, and was a most frequent attendee at the Annual Conference.

Terry was born on 12th January 1931 in London, the only son of Margaret and William Jarrold. Terry's mother was a native of Kilkenny and it was from her that he inherited his deep and lasting faith which was to lead to his award from his holiness the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifica. Terry was one of the longest serving altar servers in Bromley having started at St Josephs in St Mary Cray and then on to St Swithuns at Bromley. He started in the 1940s and was still going strong into the new century. A devout Catholic, he was

often to be found officiating at the major Catenian services particularly at Southwark Cathedral and at the services at the annual conference. (He was awarded the Bene Merenti medal by Bishop Henderson in 1986.)

Terry was educated firstly in Bromley and attended the local school, St Josephs (with a number of current Bromley brothers). During the last two years of the war he was sent to Kilkenny where the Christian Brothers took over for a short period; on his return he continued his education in Bromley where he was known as a fine all round sportsman. There then followed a spell in the Army when Terry was called up and posted to the Suez Canal Zone.

Terry started his business life in the printing trade and graduated to his own printing company in the early 1970's. His company Invicta Printers flourished and he attended to a great deal of the Association's printing requirements over the ensuing years. He was very accommodating and most honest and forthright in all his dealings. Many of his customers became friends and were represented at his Requiem.

In 1959 Terry met and married Nancy at Garrison Co Fermanagh. Theirs was a happy and rewarding partnership, blessed with four children, Paul, Mary, Eoghain and Kerian; in due course the grandchildren came along and Terry was very proud of his six grandchildren all of whom were at St Josephs in St Mary Cray to say their farewells at Terry's requiem. The church was crowded with friends and family.

Terry and Nancy were great hosts and entertained widely. They were most supportive of Catenian events and were to be found at most of the Province's functions. Terry played golf, football and badminton until his health deteriorated. He was a diligent supporter of Farnborough Old Boys, West Kent Golf Club and often organised events or rallied support. He was a keen bridge player and Nancy was his greatest supporter. He was also active in the Ex Blues Club and the Conservative Association. An Englishman at heart he would always celebrate St George's day by entertaining his many friends and always with a rose in his buttonhole.

Terry's life was shattered in 1998 when his beloved Nancy died after a short illness, in truth he never did recover from this tragic loss which he felt keenly.

Terry was president of Bromley circle in 1978/79 and latterly had transferred to Blackheath circle, which met nearer his home. However he remained a stout supporter of Bromley, (and Province 7) and visited most months when his failing health permitted. He will be greatly missed.

May he rest in peace



In Memoriam

THOMAS MICHAEL BOLTON

The Brothers and their families of Chorley Circle were saddened by the death of Michael Bolton on June 23rd, 2004, after a struggle with illness and deteriorating eyesight - a struggle bravely and cheerfully fought. He died peacefully at home after a stay in hospital.



Peter Hughes writes:

Thomas Michael Bolton was born on April 6th, 1934, the son of Thomas, a police inspector in Salford, and Mary. He was educated at St Luke's Primary School, Irlams o'th Height, and De la Salle College, Salford. On leaving De la Salle Michael began his studies in accountancy which were interrupted by two years' National Service in the Royal Navy.

After leaving the Navy, he completed his studies and progressed to become Financial Director of Shepherd Bros, a large timber merchant of Haslingden, Lancashire. In 1959 he married Frances, and they had three children - Fergus, Josephine, and Victoria.

For over 20 years Michael and his family lived in fashionable Ellesmere Park, Eccles, where he served as a Tory councillor on Eccles Council. In 1987 he retired and moved to Chorley to be closer to Frances' sick sister. That was the year that he transferred from Salford Circle, to become a staunch and well-respected brother of Chorley Circle, serving as President for the year 2001/2002, during which his beloved Frances died, and then becoming Circle Treasurer until his death.

Michael was a keen sports fan, having played rugby union in his youth for De la Salle Old Boys and Sale Rugby Club, but then his passion for football took over. He became an avid supporter of Manchester City, and was a season ticket holder for many years. When he moved to Chorley, he became deeply involved with the 'Magpies', Chorley FC, becoming a director, and serving as vice-chairman, as well as being a popular and hard-working volunteer for the club.

Throughout his life Michael was completely committed to his Faith. On July 1st St Mary's Church, Chorley, was packed to over-flowing with family, friends, and Catenians, for his Requiem Mass - a measure of the respect and affection in which he was held.

Michael will be remembered for the warmth of his friendship, his firm Catholic faith and moral strength, his humour, generosity, and especially his unflinching grace and courtesy, features of his

character that endured to the end. He will be greatly missed by his family and all who knew him.

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out to all his family and friends.

May he rest in peace

ERNEST (JOE) GERVASIO

Poole Circle was saddened by the unexpected loss of Joe Gervasio following a routine operation on 2nd August. He died in hospital on 23rd August 2004.

Paul Donlon writes:

Joe was born in Croydon in 1918 the only son of Italian parents who had settled and met in this country a few years earlier. Though British born and bred he had a quiet pride in his Italian background and always enjoyed the visits he made to his relatives near Turin.

As a young man Joe applied himself to his studies as well as his interests in sport. It was whilst he attended the Boro' Polytechnic he met the love of his life, Kitty, at a friend's house; Joe was about 18 and Kitty 16. There was no whirlwind courtship however, as WW2 got in the way and they eventually married in September 1946 at English Martyrs Church, Walworth, South London.

Both Joe and Kitty had reserved occupations during the war. He by now an engineer in the armaments industry and she private secretary to George Isaacs MP, the General Secretary of the National Society of Operative Printer's and Assistants. Joe was a member of the Home Guard and saw much dangerous 'active service' during the Blitz and bombing of London. Not long after they were married Joe and Kitty moved to Sidcup in Kent where he worked for the Ministry of Supply; he subsequently transferred to the Atomic Energy Authority(AEA) at Harwell, Oxon.

The expansion of the civil nuclear energy programme in the 1950s saw the building of the AEA's research establishment at Winfrith Heath near Wool in Dorset and, when Joe transferred there in 1958, the family moved to Wimborne, Dorset where Kitty still lives. He retired from his position as Chief Inspector (Engineering) in 1983. He remained an active member of the Winfrith Retirement Fellowship and was their current Chairman.

Joe joined Bournemouth Circle in 1964 transferring four years later to become a founder member of Poole (244) Circle. He held office as Marshall, Vice President and then President in 1970/71. He represented the Circle as Provincial Councillor for nine years from 1984 to 1993. He was a popular, well respected and interesting member of the Circle.

Joe had many interests and pursuits. He had retained his boyhood love of sport. He

was a great cyclist, had been a member of the Cycling Touring Club and 30 or 40+ mile rides were the norm, even in his later years. Skiing was another of his many accomplishments. Music was his other love. Blessed with a good singing voice, he once sang with Bing Crosby at a Stage Door Canteen Concert in 1944. He enjoyed the swing bands of the 30's and 40's and the songs of Frank Sinatra. His great love of course was Italian Opera.

Always modest, Joe was a man of great conviction but always tried to see each side of an issue. The causes for which he cared most were in one way or another those of the disadvantaged. He believed passionately in fairness. He was truly a man of peace.

The family received many messages and letters of condolence. The following extracts illustrate the nature of Joe and why he was so well liked.

'He was a lovely man, so kind and gentle'.

'He was always kind and gentle and a pleasure to be with'.

'Joe, with his quiet sense of humour was liked and respected by all'.

'Joe was a truly caring man who loved people and will always be remembered with great affection and gratitude for his thoughtfulness and many kindnesses'.

Above all else Joe cared for, nourished and loved his family. His wife Kitty, sons Jim and John, daughters-in-law Katherine and Jenny and of course their four grandchildren, Amy, George, Emma and Harriet. Joe will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

May he rest in peace

PETER DAVID STOKES

It gave me great pleasure when Peter joined Accrington Circle in February 2002 writes Michael Finley, close friend and colleague.

Peter Stokes was born in Leyland on 24 December 1950, the third of six children born to Michael and Elsie Stokes. He attended junior school at St Mary's, Leyland and from there progressed to Preston Catholic College in 1962, having passed the 11+ examination as the highest achiever in his year.

Peter then went to Loughborough University in 1969, where he took a BSc Hons degree (with Distinction) in Chemistry in 1973.

It was about this time that he met his wife Sheila at a party in Preston in 1973. Peter was the strong silent type so Sheila must have done most of the talking. They were married at St Joseph's Darwen on 7 September 1974.

Peter continued his studies, doing an MSc at Newcastle University in 1973/74 followed by a PGCE at Manchester Polytechnic in 1974/75.



He then joined St Mary's College in 1975. He was an excellent teacher who could adapt to the needs of his students whether they were applying to Oxbridge or struggling with first year chemistry. Peter also had a great vision of education, eventually becoming Deputy Principal at the College, which he served with loyalty, dedication and devotion for 29 years until his untimely death on 30 May 2004.

Peter was a great family man. He was proud of the achievements of his son Gareth and daughter Katherine. He was also a perfectionist in everything he did. When the family went on holiday, it was Peter who did all the packing, while Sheila, Gareth and Katherine did all the fetching and carrying. He was the only one who could pack the car as well. He was the one for detail until, to the great delight of his children all his meticulous planning came to nought when they were stranded in Devon, without money or petrol on one holiday.

He was also one of life's great moaners, not about himself or his illness, which he bore with great fortitude supported constantly and lovingly by his family. He was a constant critic of his daughter Katherine's performance on the netball court even when, as it often happened, she was the star player. Peter, himself, was a very good sportsman, having represented Loughborough University and then St Mary's Old Boys' at soccer. But he was never satisfied with the team's performance. They could always do better. In the same way he motivated the students at College, always pushing them to do better.

Peter and Sheila were keen ornithologists and members of the National Trust. It was appropriate in his last few months that he was able to view the woods behind the house from his bed.

Peter was strong in his faith and died in his own bed, saying his prayers with his family around him, surrounded by love.

They will miss him dreadfully, as will we, his friends and colleagues. He touched the lives of many people with his humour, his integrity, his firmness and his love.

It was a privilege for us to know, work and play with Peter.

May he rest in peace

DR EDWARD FRANCIS MULCAHY KSG

The brothers of Guildford Circle were very saddened by the death of Dr Edward Mulcahy on the 25th June 2004 at the age of 89. There was a large gathering of his family, friends and fellow Catenians at his Requiem Mass and Thanksgiving at Our Lady of England Priory, Storrington, on the 7th July 2004. The Mass was celebrated by Father Tony Lovegrove, a great friend of many years.

Dr Desmond Carroll writes: Edward was born in Cork in 1915 and was educated at Presentation College. He then attended University College Cork and qualified as a Doctor of Medicine in 1937. He set off for England shortly after this and trained in various hospitals, during which time he did a number of General Practitioner locums. He decided to join the RAF after the outbreak of war and ended up in RAF Eley for a period of two and a half years. It was while stationed there that he met up with his beloved wife, Pip, who had qualified as a nurse at the Middlesex Hospital and who had joined the RAF as well. They married in due course in the Roman Catholic Church in Midhurst in 1944.

Edward continued with his training and obtained other appointments, notably at the Bristol Royal Infirmary, following which he bought a practice in Guildford in 1947. He and Pip had two daughters, Anne and Elizabeth, and the family settled in well in the town. His reputation as a General Practitioner steadily increased over subsequent years. He was gentle, kind, deeply committed to his work and always a good listener. He was renowned for the good advice he gave to the patients under his care. He looked after the Franciscan Sisters in Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, and Ladywell Convent in Godalming in addition to the priests and seminarians at Womersley Seminary. He became, in fact, a Life Member of the Franciscan Order. He was also responsible for the Chilworth Friary's finances and for that he was the Apostolic Syndic. His considerable amount of work over the years was honoured when His Holiness, Pope John Paul II made him a Knight of St Gregory.

Edward was initially a member of West Surrey Circle and then became a Founder of Guildford Circle. It was his custom to make arrangements for a live tree to be put on top of Mount Alvernia Hospital every Christmas and, despite failing health, he made sure it was there last year. He regretted very much being unable to attend Circle Meetings in recent years due to progressive loss of his vision.

Pip and Edward enjoyed music, good food and wine, especially on their frequent trips to France, and they particularly enjoyed the company of their friends. Sadly, Pip became very ill and died in 1990, and this was a great tragedy for Edward. He moved to live in Plaistow and in recent years to West Chilmington, where he made more friends and entertained on a regular basis. Edward was always very proud of his daughters, Anne and Elizabeth, their husbands and his grandchildren. Many of us received a long letter every Christmas about all their activities and the grandchildren's progress

and activities. He really enjoyed his last Norwegian voyage around the North Cape in 2001, which on this occasion was with his daughter, Elizabeth. He mentioned afterwards that he had suffered from scenic exhaustion and that perhaps he was past his sell by date!

Edward is greatly missed by all his family, to whom we send our most sincere condolences, together with his friends and fellow Catenians who also mourn his loss.

May he rest in peace

GEOFFREY ROWE

Geoff Rowe of Axminster Circle died on 13th October 2004. The following was written by Bill Stead from the eulogy given by Jonathan Rowe, Geoff's son.

Geoff was born in Portsmouth on 2nd January 1940, and when he was three years old the family moved to Isleworth Middx.

It was here that he met and married Sue on 5th September 1964, making their first home in Worcester Park, where daughter Melanie was born in April 1968. Son Jonathan was born in March 1972, when they lived in Banstead.

Geoff's extrovert personality inevitably took him into sales in the retail market including a venture into bookshops.

After his first heart attack in July 1982 at 42 years old, and a minor stroke the following year, the family decided to move to the West Country where they had previously enjoyed several holidays.

Treetops Residential Home, in Lyme Regis, became their home and business for the next 19 years, and from where they became involved in many other activities.

Geoff was always a great joiner and contributor to local business, sporting and church organisations - from Ewell and Worcester Park Round Table, Wycombe House Cricket Club, Sutton and Cheam Motor Club, to 41 Club, Rotary, the Catenian Association, the local parish church, the Joseph Weld Hospice and the Dorset Magistrates Association. There was no doubt that he liked living in Lyme Regis and being "Judge Geoffrey"!

The family played a large part in his life, with a great love of his three grandchildren James, Verity and Emily.

The Church and cremation services, both full, echoed our many thoughts and memories and were a great tribute to Geoff.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family.

May he rest in peace





In Memoriam

PIP GAMBARDELLA

The brothers of Swale Circle were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Joseph George Gambardella, known to all as "Pip".

Terry Mahoney writes:

Pip got his nickname whilst serving in the Royal

Air Force. There were two airmen serving in his squadron named "Joe" and because Joe Gambardella's father was Italian and "Guiseppe" Italian for "Joe" and "Pipino" being a nickname for "Joe", he was known as Pip from then onwards.

Born in January 1919 in Stratford, in the East End of London, his parents, Maria and Andrew, owned a local hairdresser's shop. Pip was one of six children and in 1931 when Pip was 12 the family moved to Blackheath. After he left school he attended Regents Street Polytechnic where he qualified as a hairdresser.

In 1938, with war looming, Pip volunteered for the RAF. He had a successful career in the Royal Air Force and also became a boxing champion at his weight. He was also an enthusiastic and talented dancer.

After war broke out, Pip saw service in Egypt and North Africa. In 1942 while on home leave he married Maria Anna Funicello whose parents owned a barber's shop in Rhodeswell Road, Mile End, London. After the war ended in 1945 Pip and Maria opened a hairdresser's shop in Rhodeswell Road, opening at 4am 6 days a week and closing only when the last customer had departed.

Pip and Maria moved to a larger shop in nearby Burdett Road. Pip was a founder member of the Tower Hamlets section of the National Hairdressers' Federation. He travelled the country competing in competitions and became a highly respected judge of hairstyles. Moving to a new shop in Wager Street, Bow in 1972 he became a local councillor. Pip also found time to play football, later became a qualified referee, and played cricket and judo.

In 1976 Pip joined Blackheath Circle where he was a member for some 17 years, maintaining contact with many members of the Circle after he had moved out of London to Kent. He continued as a hairdresser until 1989 when he suffered a serious injury to his thumb whilst using a drill which prompted him to retire.

In 1962 Pip astutely bought a plot of land on the Isle of Sheppey at The Leas, which overlooks the shipping route in to the Thames and Medway Estuaries. He had a bungalow built on the plot and it became his weekend retreat from the hustle



and bustle of the East End. Following the injury to his thumb, Pip moved with his family to his Isle of Sheppey retreat. Pip joined Swale Circle in 1993.

Sadly, Maria died in 1995 so that he lived alone on the Isle of Sheppey enjoying his active retirement, which included gardening, golf, pool, sunbathing, walking the dogs and enjoying the company of his many friends. He regularly visited his daughter and son-in-law in Sidcup and still remained very active including helping out at the local rugby club as "pot man" or serving burgers. His favourite local pub was "The Playa", close to his home, where he spent time socialising with the staff and customers and particularly Eddie Moran, the licensee and a past president of Swale Circle.

Pip is greatly missed. He was always scintillating company with great charm and a ready smile. He showed a wicked sense of humour, was very gregarious and was the most talented ballroom dancer in Swale Circle and probably in Province 7.

On 20th May 2004 whilst playing pool he suffered a massive heart attack and was rushed to the Medway hospital where he died within the hour. Catenians from far and wide filled St Henry and St Elizabeth church in Sheerness for his Requiem Mass on 28th May 2004.

Our sympathy and prayers go to Tonina and Albert Patrick, daughter and son-in-law, his brother Nicky and sister Nini.

May he rest in peace

JOHN REIDY

The sudden death of John Reidy on February 23rd 2004 aged 67 came as a considerable shock to his family and many friends.

Laurie Quigley writes:

The attendance at John's Requiem Mass in St Paul's Dover, was testament to the esteem in which he was held. The emotional but stirring service was supported by a great number of Catenians, friends and relations who filled the church to over-capacity. John was one of those larger than life characters, as soon as he walked into a room or if you met him on the street, he could bring a smile to your face. He had a great love for his fellow man and was much loved in return. Rank meant nothing to John, and he could hold his own in any company and always treated everyone with the same high respect.

John's early childhood was spent in the lovely setting of Tralee on the West Coast of Ireland where he was born on the 10th November 1936. In 1945, he moved with his family to London; a very different



environment for a nine-year-old. At school he was found to be very good at football and a bit of a joker, so he quickly adapted to his new surroundings and became a popular pupil. Football could have been John's career, however Queen and Country intervened when he received the call for National Service. Joining The Royal Fusiliers he was posted to Dover. This posting was to change John's life, for he met Adeline, the future Mrs Reidy. After leaving the army and marrying Adeline, they moved to Faversham and joined forces with her parents in running the famous Ship Hotel. These were exciting times, and for the next 12 years John became a popular host in the hotel business. Eventually they decided to seek a more settled life for their young family, so the wheel turned full circle when they returned to Dover and opened the now famous Number One Guest House in Castle Street. Thus began the Reidy dynasty in Dover.

His many friends in The Catenian Association will fondly remember John. He joined the Association in 1983 as a founder member of Dover Cinque Port Circle. He supported the Circle to the fullest by filling almost every office, including President. He was a dual member of Ramsgate, and was well known throughout Province 7. Quite simply, the Catenians were John's club.

John was highly regarded for many reasons, but his most appealing traits were his sense of humour and sharp wit. He could easily have fitted into many of his favourite Radio and TV programmes. John's one liners were legion. He had something for every occasion, and everyone will remember something different. It was the same with his jokes. John would always be laughing before he got to the punch line. His laughter was so infectious we all laughed along with him.

According to John's son, his father's great loves were his family, his beloved Manchester United and golf, but not necessarily in that order. It is certainly true that John was a great supporter of Man United FC and he loved to watch his team on television. Space does not permit me to get into the realms of his golfing activities, as the stories are too numerous to mention here. Suffice to say that John loved the challenge and camaraderie of the game.

It was symbolic, that on the Sunday John passed away, the Christmas lights in the street where he lived were somewhat belatedly taken down. The bright light of Castle Street had truly gone out. He will be sadly missed. He often said he hoped his funeral would be a happy occasion. In his lifetime he gave us all enough laughs to last us for many years to come, and that is how we'll remember him.

May he rest in peace



FRANCIS (FRANK) O'HANLON

Southgate Circle mourns the recent death of Brother Frank.

Alan Worsfold writes:

Frank O'Hanlon was born on 31 July 1923, the third son of eight children to Mary and Joseph, in Denny, Stirlingshire. He attended St Moden's High School and the family were parishioners of St Alexander's church in Denny.

The early death of Frank's father required him to leave school aged 14 with no formal qualifications and seek employment to help support his mother and siblings. Frank worked for the local Co-op before joining the Mill Hill Missionaries where he was able to complete matriculation at Freshfield, Liverpool. He continued his priestly training until conscription in 1943.

On demobilisation in 1946 Frank returned to the Mill Hill fathers and continued his studies in philosophy in Holland for two years, and then a further three years at the mother house in Mill Hill.

However, in 1951 Frank decided that the priesthood was not for him. He found work on the factory floor at STC before deciding to enter the legal profession as an articled clerk with a London firm of solicitors, qualifying in 1960 just after marrying June, his wife of 44 years.

Frank spent most of his career with Hammersons and, among other things, was responsible for the legal side of the major shopping centre at Brent Cross in North London.

Throughout his life Frank demonstrated a thoroughness and dedication to whatever task was before him. He retired from Hammersons in 1988 but was immediately snapped up for part-time legal consultancy work with a City law firm, retiring completely in 1992.

Frank and June moved to Southgate in 1968 and became involved in St Monica's parish. Frank served as chairman of the parish council, was appointed Grand Knight (KSC), was commissioned a Eucharistic Minister (at Mass and for sick visiting), was a reader and served as clerk to the board of governors of a local Catholic secondary school.

Frank joined Southgate Circle on 17 May 1983. Although he held no major office in Circle, Frank's presence at meetings and functions was valued as he was a kind, loving and generous man, cherished by many.

Sadly Frank became ill with

Alzheimer's disease in 2001 but managed to continue attendance at Mass right up until May 2004 when his condition required hospital treatment. Fortified by the Rites of Holy Church, Frank entered Eternal Life on 7th October 2004.

Frank leaves behind his wife June; children Sarah, Susan and David; four grandchildren Tim, Tom, Emma and Kate.

May he rest in peace

FRANCIS FORSHAW

Brothers of South Bucks were greatly saddened by the death of Frank Forshaw who died on 25th January 2004 after a long battle with cancer.

Chris Cooke writes:

Born on 7th July 1924 in Liverpool, Frank was the second son of William and Kathleen Forshaw.

After attending St Matthew's RC Primary School, Frank moved on to St Francis Xavier's Grammar School. Here he was taught by the Jesuits, who clearly made a deep impression on him as he always held them in high regard thereafter.

The Second World War broke out when Frank was still at school and, three years later, he enlisted in the RAF where, as a radar technician, he was posted to India. He remained there until the end of the war, by which time he had become seriously ill with typhoid. On the troopship home, HMS Oxfordshire, concerned that Frank might be contagious to the other men, one of the Medical Officers transferred Frank to hospital at Aden, whence he finally returned to Liverpool.

Before going overseas, Frank had met Margaret (Peggy) Maclean at a friend's house. Although it was only a brief encounter, they nevertheless kept in touch. On Frank's return from India, they were soon reunited. They had both decided to teach and Frank enrolled at the Sefton Park College. On qualifying, Frank obtained a position at his old school, St Matthew's, where he remained until 1953.

He then moved to St Anthony's, Farnham Common. He and Peggy were married that year in Slough where they remained until 1966 when they moved, with their daughter Catherine, to High Wycombe.

Appointed head of St Augustine's RC Primary School in High Wycombe in 1961, Frank was the driving force behind the move to the school's present site in Daws Hill Lane in 1964. Frank's frequent meetings with parents to inform them of approaches to religious education were

especially welcome. Frank was thrilled when Fr James Evans, a former pupil, was ordained priest at St Augustine's, High Wycombe in 2001. Fr James was one of the celebrants at Frank's funeral Mass.

When he retired in 1983, Frank's dedication to his school, the pupils and the staff was marked by the award of a Papal medal for services to Catholic Education.

In 1965, Frank enrolled in South Bucks circle. A committed Catenian, he held the offices of Guard in 1968 and Vice President's Marshall in 1970. Vice President in 1981, Frank served the circle as President in 1982. He keenly followed the fortunes of South Bucks and, unlike many of his age, he always viewed innovation, in Catenian matters as elsewhere, with an open mind.

A loyal and active parishioner of St Augustine's, High Wycombe, Frank served for many years on the Parish Finance Committee.

In retirement, Frank continued his passionate interest in education in general and St Augustine's School in particular.

He devoted his life to helping others and in 1985 joined the board of the Bucks Housing Association. He served as Vice Chairman from 1991 to 1998 and remained a director until his death.

Frank was hugely fond and proud of his grandsons, James and Alasdair, and provided them with stability and affection in their early years. When Peggy contracted Alzheimer's in 1998, he was extremely concerned for her welfare despite being himself diagnosed with cancer.

Nevertheless, throughout his illness, he was assiduous in his attendance at Circle meetings. In October 2003, he agreed to undergo major surgery in the hope that he would have had two or three more years, which would have enabled him to continue to care for Peggy. Sadly, the operation revealed that the cancer was too far advanced.

A packed congregation of former colleagues, Catenians and friends at his funeral Mass at St Augustine's bore witness to the love and respect in which Frank was held.

South Bucks has lost a very special brother. Paddy Miles, Frank's predecessor as President, spoke of his tremendous admiration for Frank while Peter Owen spoke for all of South Bucks when he said he was very proud to have known him.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to Peggy, Catherine, Ian, James and Alasdair.

May he rest in peace



In Memoriam

MAURICE VINCENT JAMES HIRD

Keith Pearson writes:

Maurice Hird was born in Port Said, Egypt in October 1916. He was the sixth of seven children and his father was MD of the Eastern

Telegraph company in the Mediterranean region. Maurice lived in Egypt until he was 3 years old and he grew up in Malta and Trieste, Italy.

In the 1930's he joined the Louis Dreyfus corporation for which he worked until retirement in 1981. Pre WW2, he was based in Rome, Milan and Paris.

He was conscripted into the British Army, sent for officer training at Sandhurst and subsequently assigned to the Intelligence Corps. He became a Major on the General Staff and was demobilised at the end of 1947.

Little is known of his secret activities in the War and there is still an embargo on such information. He was highly decorated for his services with decorations for the North Africa and Italy campaigns and the 1939-45 Star, Defence and Victory Medals.

After his return to Louis Dreyfus based in Paris, he met his wife Colette (Tissot). They married in 1952 and continued to live in Paris where their first two children were born.

Maurice founded the Paris branch of the Royal Overseas League and served as President. His father had been a founder of the League in London.

In 1954, Maurice transferred his job to London and they settled in Chislehurst, Kent for the next 39 years.

Maurice was already a member of Bromley Circle when he joined Orpington Circle as a founder member in 1962. His wife was a well-respected French teacher at Holy Trinity Convent for many years until her retirement in 1993.

During their stay in Bromley two more children were born (the last one, Louis, has assisted in providing information about his father).

In 1993, Maurice and Colette moved back to Ingham in France where Maurice eventually died in August 2004. Five years earlier he had suffered an accident at home and this severely reduced his mobility and he became bedridden during his last two years.

Nevertheless, he and Colette celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in September 2002. All four of their children married and there is now



a total of 10 grandchildren ranging in age from 2 months to 28 years.

Maurice kept in touch and remained a staunch member of Orpington Circle despite residing in France over the last ten years. He is well-remembered by the longer-serving members as a quiet and gentle brother, unassuming and yet with a never revealed background of accomplishment and bravery on secret War service.

Maurice's only remaining sibling was George Hird, formerly of Bromley Circle and latterly of Torbay Circle. He passed away just 12 days after Maurice in September, aged 94. Our sincere prayers and sympathy are offered to Colette and her family.

May he rest in peace

PADDY HARRIGAN

The brothers of Leicester Circle were greatly saddened at the passing of Paddy Harrigan.

Terry O'Connor writes: Paddy arrived as a young man in Leicester before diversity was

celebrated. He worked diligently to promote and network on behalf of the Irish population. He had a strong sense of justice, without becoming political, and worked ceaselessly to give voice and expression to Irish people. A gentle friend to many, he understood the value of community and empathised with those who were strangers and needed support.

He was a founder member of the Irish Society, organising social events, celebrating culture and building esteem. The society's greatest contribution to the life of the city of Leicester has been the establishment of the annual St Patrick's Day Mass. It has become so popular that it is difficult to fit every one into the church. The Irish Society supplies the shamrock and the Lord Mayor and many local dignitaries are welcomed. Many people become honorary Irishmen for the day.

Paddy's motivation was his Catholicism. He was always active in the parish life of St Peter's in Leicester; a eucharistic minister, organiser of covenants and parish finances, arranger of social events, a member of the Knights of St Columba and the SVP.

He was easy to talk to, gave of his time freely and visited many people who were in need, including prisoners and ex-offenders. He was known to replace his suit early to give it to someone who



needed it for a fresh start, his excuse being he needed a smarter one for his job. These were practical expressions of an ethos based on the teachings of the Gospel. He lived these out in a Christian life and rarely, if ever, gave offence to anyone.

Although always busy, he was available to help others, giving particular support to the clergy. His networking expertise was invaluable in fundraising, for example, in response to financial difficulties in Leicestershire Catholic schools: Paddy was a member of the committee that created valuable revenue; a monthly car draw also became a social event at the different schools.

Patrick Harrigan was born on the 22nd December 1930 in Carnahalla Doon in County Tipperary. He was the oldest of seven children and came to England at 22 to work. He met Bridget, his wife to be, at a social dance at the old St Peter's Parish in Leicester. They were married in 1956.

He was a loving husband to Bree and a devoted father to his four children, Kevin, Patrick, Norah and Eamonn and his three grandchildren.

He continued as foundation governor at Christ the King Catholic school (which his children attended) long after they had left, and regularly ran the bottle stall at the school's annual fair.

He was introduced to the Catenian Association on 16th July 1980 and was a regular attendee at Leicester 53 Circle, joined with retreats at Mount St Bernard Abbey and frequently accompanied the president on his visits to other circles. He never aspired to office, but was always ready to support others.

Paddy suffered from an incapacitating illness for a number of years and died on the 14th October 2004.

He will be sadly missed by Bree and his family and fondly remembered by a great number of parishioners, friends, Catenians and associates in the city he adopted, as was witnessed by the large congregation at his Requiem.

May he rest in peace

A Prayer of St Anselm (1033-1109)

I pray that I may so know You and love You that I may rejoice in You. And if I may not do so fully in this life, let me go steadily on to the day when I may come to that fullness... Let me receive that which You promised through Your truth, that my joy may be full.