

Obituaries

George William Reeve

Members of the EDOA will be greatly saddened to learn of the death of George William Reeve who passed away suddenly on Friday March 6th. He was a member of the Association from its early days having been a pupil of the first President, Alfred Flower. Bill, as he was known to many, was active as an Organist and Choirmaster in a number of different churches but most notably in St Andrew's Totteridge and King Charles the Martyr, Potters Bar. His commitment and dedication to church music was very special, and his patience, kindness and generosity earned him the respect and affection of all those he came into contact with.

Bill, a skilled mechanic, had a passion for classic motor vehicles owning, amongst other cars, a superb Riley Saloon of 1955 which was in regular use. This, restored to showroom condition, won numerous national prizes and gave him considerable satisfaction.

He had a long and successful career in primary education, eventually becoming Headteacher at a school in Hertfordshire. He finally retired having been a tutor for primary education at Middlesex University.

Church music is immeasurably the poorer for his passing. Bill's musicianship, teaching talents and an indestructible sense of humour will be greatly missed. I count myself as privileged to have been his friend. Our deepest sympathy goes to his widow Judith.

Robert Evans

* * * * *

Peter Tongue 1928 – 2015

Born in Bush Hill Park in late 1928 Peter Tongue was an Enfield resident for most of his life. The family lived there throughout the war and Peter was evacuated to Wincanton for a short time. After the war they moved to Hoddesdon and Peter attended Hertford Grammar School. In the late 1940s he undertook two years' National Service, spending some time in Germany, and upon returning home became a Shipping Clerk, mainly in the City docks. He and Phyllis married in 1954. After being made redundant in 1971 he started his own driving school, retiring in 2000.

Peter's association with St George's, Freezywater goes back to 1958 when he started to attend there with Phyllis who was already a parishioner. Prior to this he had regularly attended Cheshunt Methodist Church. In the early 1960s he joined the bass section of St George's choir, becoming heavily involved in the life of the church, including being PCC secretary. In 1976 he joined EDOA and became church organist shortly after. A notable event at St George's was on Saturday 19th November 1983 when the Association held its annual choirs' festival, something in which Peter was heavily involved. On this occasion the Service was conducted by the late Peter Branker with John Eagles at the 3-manual Lewis organ. The Responses were sung to a setting by Robert Evans. By this time Peter was also EDOA secretary, a post he held until 1990 when I took over. He retired as St George's organist in 2006.

Peter died on 15th April. He is survived by his brother Michael, his three sons Michael, Andrew and Christopher (his wife having pre-deceased him in 2007), and grandchildren. May he rest in peace.

Michael Hennin