

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
BARNES

MEMORIES, PEOPLE  
AND DEDICATIONS

(Published 2008)

**Eileen Colman**                      **1917 – 1973**  
**Ted Colman**                         **1916 – 1990**

Eileen and Ted were the parents of Mrs Patricia Bell.

Eileen was a tremendously strong character, much liked by all and a great guide to her daughters in their earlier years.

Ted worked extremely hard throughout his career, in order to give his family the best possible lifestyle and he certainly succeeded in being a marvellous provider. This effort may have taken its toll as the family saw little of him except at weekends – but he was always a loving and gentle father. After Eileen died he was terribly sad for many years, particularly as he retired early. Ted will always be remembered as a fun-filled loving person, who was also straightforward; honest and caring.

A bench was given in their memory by their daughter Mrs Patricia Bell.

**Nicola Colman**                      **07.07.1976 – 31.01.1991**

Nicola's life was very short but filled with fun and love. When she was little she excelled at gym but was forced to give that up with the onset of asthma. However, this was never allowed to intrude into her life more than absolutely necessary, and she continued to lead a very active and action-packed life, including sailing, camping, and achieving good standards at both clarinet and flute. Nicky had always wanted to have a dog and the year before she died, the family took in a somewhat wayward puppy who responded very well to their loving care and gave much joy to them all, especially Nicky. Her short life will be cherished by us all and we will always remember her with great affection.

A bench was given in her memory by her aunt Mrs Patricia Bell.

**Nicholas Mark Cooper**            **08.04.1960 – 13.12.1987**

After leaving University with an Hons. Degree in Geology, Nicholas showed great concern for the environment. He brought gladness and laughter into the lives of all who loved him, but sadly died at a premature age from leukaemia.

The bench was given by his mother, Pamela Cooper.

## **The ‘Cotton Family’**

George and Minnie moved to Barnes in 1928. Shortly after, George died leaving Minnie and their two daughters, Violet and May. They were all devoted members of Holy Trinity. For many years May was the Superintendent of the Sunday School. A Chalice and Paten was given in her memory by her mother and sister, and sent to St. Augustine’s Church in Okayama, Japan, where May’s great friend and Sunday School assistant was working as a Missionary. A photo of the Chalice and Paten is in the possession of Holy Trinity Church.

The glass cruets used at weekday services, were given in memory of “Mum” Cotton.

A bench was given by a great friend Grace O’Connor, who is well known for her work in connection with the ‘Coffee Mornings’.

## **Lily Florence Crook            1887 - 1968**

Lily Florence Crook (nee Maggs) was the maternal grandmother of John West, parishioner of Holy Trinity, and church organist from 1989-1991.

Although small in stature she was a giant in terms of pioneering spirit and family life. Born in Bristol as the eldest of fourteen children, she travelled to the U.S.A. at the age of twenty-four to marry George Crook whom she had first met in Bristol. He was one of eight children, and had sailed to America to find work at a time of high unemployment in the U.K. She was compelled by the American authorities to marry within twenty-four hours of arrival in order to be allowed admission to the country.

They settled in Worcester, Massachusetts. He set about learning the art of salesmanship, first of all in fire extinguishers and finally in brushes, while she turned her hand to running a small-holding and raising a family of four children.

They all finally returned to England in 1923, where, with his brother Harry Crook, George founded the Kleeneze Brush Company in Hanham, Bristol. The arrival of a fifth child, (making four daughters and one son) then completed the family.

Though widowed when her husband was only forty-nine she remained the solid family rock which gave rise to fourteen grandchildren. She was a loyal member of Fishponds Baptist Church in Bristol for over forty years, and her Christian commitment to family life has underpinned the attitude of all her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren thereafter.

The bench was given by her grandson, John West who has been a voluntary organist at Holy Trinity.

**Fiona Jean Davidson            17.02.45 – 15.11.88**

Fiona worked mainly in publishing, and was also for many years a Steward at the Festival Hall.

Her brother Malcolm lived almost opposite Holy Trinity, and as Holy Trinity was being re-ordered at the time of her death, Revd. Peter Sills conducted her service at St. Mary Barnes. Her ashes are interred in Holy Trinity's Garden of Remembrance.

The bench was given by her parents Ian & Bunty Davidson.

**Pandora Letitia Dewhurst   12.12.1920 – 20.02.1984**

Pandora was a graduate of Somerville College, Oxford. During the war she served in the W.A.A.F. from 1940-1946. She then became a publishers' reader for McMillans and Collins. After her four daughters had grown up, she worked in the Citizens' Advice Bureau at Roehampton. She regularly attended meetings at the Friends Meeting House in Hammersmith.

Four kneeling rails' were given in her memory by Timothy, (Tim) her husband, who for many years was Church Warden.

**Elsie Eaton                    04.08.1907 – 05.07.1989**  
**John Eaton                    20.07.1901 – 26.03.1986**

Elsie was born in Lillian Road, where she spent 67 years of her life. She married John, who was born in Hammersmith, at Holy Trinity Church. They had three daughters who were all regular worshippers at Holy Trinity, one of them helping May Cotton with the Sunday School. All three daughters were married at Holy Trinity. They were a very close united family with much loved parents.

The bench was given by a daughter Mrs Gillian Edgar.

**Audrey Payne                30.08.1931 – 27.06.1983**

On leaving school Audrey went to work at Norwich Union Insurance Company, where she met and became a close friend of Joyce Edward, who at present is Church Treasurer at Holy Trinity. After leaving Norwich Union, she worked as a secretary to the Company Secretary of Monsanto Chemicals, and eventually became a legal executive.

The bench dedicated in her memory was given by her friend Joyce Edward.

**Alfred Gookey**      **24.06.1884 – 22.02.1956**  
**Alice Gookey**      **27.12.1888 – 03.10.1984**

During the 1914-1918 war Alfred served in the Royal Army Medical Corps. He then returned to his previous work in the City involved in the tobacco trade. He and Alice came to live in Barnes in 1940, and Alice immediately became involved in the life of the Church at Holy Trinity. When the Young Wives' Group began meeting after the cessation of the War, the Church hall having been bombed, the wives met in the Church, while their offspring met in the Gookey home in Castelnau, a few yards from the church. Alice was a keen member of the Mothers' Union, and was a member of their Deanery Choir.

A bench and prayer rail were dedicated in their memory, and were given by their daughters Doris and 'Babs', who also presented the cruets which are used regularly.

**Alexander (Alec) Harbord**    **02.08.1906 – 15.05.1987**

After leaving Oxford in 1930, Alec joined the staff of St. Paul's School. He was also a Territorial, so on the outbreak of war in 1939, he joined the Royal Shropshire Regiment. After the war, he resumed his teaching career at St. Paul's School, where he became Senior Modern Languages Master. For fifteen years he was in charge of one of the Boarding Houses in Brook Green. It was when the school moved to Lonsdale Road, that Alec became more involved with Holy Trinity Church, and was a member of the P.C.C. then a Deputy Church Warden, and finally Church Warden. He was interested in music, and at St. Paul's School, and Holy Trinity he was involved with musical productions, one of the highlights being a production of part of the Messiah.

When he became a Church Warden, he shared a happy relationship with Bert Wallis, and together they organised the Interregnum prior to Peter Sills' arrival.

With Leonard Osborne, Alec gave the notice board outside the Church, in memory of Pam Osborne and Alec's brother Gordon.

The bench was dedicated in Alec's memory by Alec's wife, Joan.

**Christopher Joseph William Hillman**      **08.10.1898 – 10.06.1987**

Helena and Christopher came to Barnes in 1926. Christopher attended a Naval School at Greenwich. He served in the First World War, and subsequently in the London Fire Brigade, and during the Blitz of the Second World War he was on duty

in Plymouth and Chichester. Their son was baptised in Holy Trinity Church, where both Helena and Christopher were regular worshippers. On his retirement Christopher became a very keen gardener.

A bench was given in his memory by his wife Helena.

**Alan Ledsam**            **12.06.1909 – 21.01.1987**  
**Gwen Ledsam**        **25.04.1913 – 07.10.1989**

Alan, a solicitor and his wife Gwen, a physiotherapist came to live in Barnes in 1964 after having worked abroad for some years. They immediately began attending Holy Trinity Church, and for a time Alan was a member of the Parochial Church Council. Gwen used to help with flower arranging and decoration of the Church at important festivals.

The hymn book trolley was given in their memory by their sons Charles and Christopher.

**Walter Alfred Lewsey**        **24.05.1910 – 25.08.1980**

Walter spent most of his working life as a painter and decorator for the G.L.C. He was a good all round sportsman, and won many prizes particularly in swimming and diving. He married Hilda, who is a well-known member of the congregation at Holy Trinity, and they had just celebrated their Golden Wedding, when three weeks later he died after a long and painful illness.

A bench dedicated to his memory was given by his wife Hilda.

**Major Adrian Leigh McLaughlin**    **15.12.1910 – 02.09.1979**

After a distinguished army career, Adrian joined the Foreign Service, serving in Prague and Bonn until he retired in 1978. In 1956 Adrian and his mother moved to Milbourne House, Barnes, and were responsible for much of the restoration work carried out there. He became a regular worshipper at Holy Trinity, and was a member of the P.C.C. until he died. He was a collector of valuable French books and had a most interesting library. He was very fond of children and had 20 godchildren.

The bench was given by David, a godson and Marjorie Fisher, who was housekeeper to Adrian and his mother.

## **Audrey Pamela Osborne**

'Pam' as she was affectionately called was first involved with Holy Trinity when she agreed to help with Church cleaning and magazine deliveries. At this time she attended St. Paul's School Chapel, where Graham her son was a pupil, then when Graham joined St. Mary's Abbots Choir, and subsequently became a server, the family worshipped there. It wasn't until 1969, that the family began to attend Holy Trinity more regularly, and Pam and her husband Leonard became more involved with Holy Trinity. Pam regularly helped with the coffee mornings, Barnes Fair and Bazaars, and was a member of the "catering team". Her daughter Helen was married at Holy Trinity.

The bench was given by her husband Leonard, who was for many years a member of the P.C.C. and Church Treasurer. The Church notice board is also dedicated to her and Gordon Harbord, and was given by Leonard and Alec Harbord.

## **Arthur Harry (Rufus) Riseley      07.06.1914 – 14.05.1992**

Rufus, joined the Auxiliary Air Force, City of London Squadron in 1934, whilst undergoing management training in the Cannon Street Hotel. In October 1939 he was mobilised, and commissioned two years later, and finally realised in June 1946 with permission to retain the rank of Squadron Leader.

During his service he was twice mentioned in Despatches and awarded the D.S.O. He flew first as a night fighter pilot, and subsequently in medium bombers to pin point bomb targets. He recorded 137 missions to his credit.

On one low level mission in 1943, he was shot down in flames and crash-landed in Northern France. He and his crew escaped capture, and Rufus became involved with Resistance Saboteurs and 'accidentally' became chauffeur to a local Gestapo chief. This gave him facilities for visiting enemy airfields and V.I. sites, plans of which he drew. These were subsequently baked into a loaf of bread at a bakery in Brittany, where Rufus and other escapees were gathered prior to "going fishing" in the Channel. After a 37½ hr crossing they reached Penzance, Rufus still clutching his very stale loaf. The plans helped warn the country of Hitler's new terrifying Buzz Bomb.

After his release in 1946 he joined the Foreign Office German Section and travelled extensively in Europe.

In 1966 he joined a large Security Company in London, and became their Sales Director, retiring in 1986.

The silver candlesticks on the choir altar were presented in his memory by his wife, Anne, and their daughter.

### **George Derek Rayner Slade      1913 – 1943**

George was born in Wallingford, Oxfordshire. After leaving Cranleigh School he went to St. Johns' College Oxford, and later qualified as a solicitor. In 1940 he was commissioned into the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, but sadly died from war injuries in 1943.

George was brother to Audrey Furness, who for many years has been a worshipper at Holy Trinity Church, where her husband John has been a P.C.C. member and deputy Church Warden.

The bench dedicated in George's memory was given by John and Audrey Furness, who have been regular worshippers at Holy Trinity, John having served a number of years as Deputy Church Warden.

### **Mick and Ann Stanton**

They moved in 1927 and in 1930 went to live in Lillian Road. At that time Lillian Road was middle class, and everyone was neighbourly, and long friendships were made. Although not regular worshippers at Holy Trinity, they used to help Grace O'Connor at Summer Fayres and Christmas Bazaars, and kept in touch with the Church by taking the Church magazine. They were very good living people who loved their home and Barnes was very special to them.

The bench was given by their niece Mrs Doris Morphew.

### **Dorothy Wedlake (nee Shepherd) 1904 – 1986**

Dorothy was born in St. Kitts, West Indies where her ancestors settled in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Her family was closely involved in the Church and her maternal grandfather was Bishop of Antigua, her great uncle Archbishop of the West Indies and an uncle was Dean of Antigua!

Dorothy was the youngest of seven children, and was only two when her mother died. Her father, a plantation manager gallantly brought up the few remaining children, all of them being educated in England from their teens.

Dorothy became a pianist gaining her A.C.T.L. in London, and returned to the W. Indies when her father died. There she met and married Walter, who was working for Cable & Wireless, but came from a Devon farming family.

They had two children, and led a life of regular travel and home upheaval, whenever and wherever Walter was posted. Wherever she was Dorothy managed to use her musical skills in churches, dancing schools, teaching and in the home.

The family settled in England in 1947, but five years later Walter died. She then worked as a Civil Servant, living in Marylebone until she came to Barnes in 1962. She then became a faithful member of Holy Trinity, playing the piano for services when necessary, and her grandson Jonathan was organist here for some time.

The bench dedicated in her memory was given by her daughter Margaret and grandchildren.

### **Henry Porter            1902-1962**

Henry Porter was born opposite Holy Trinity Church at 157 Castelnau just after his Father had joined forces with Mr Boon and had moved their Garage business to Barnes from Hammersmith. Boon & Porter was a landmark in Castelnau for some 70 years.

Following a happy school life at Framlingham in Suffolk, Henry became apprenticed to Osrams in Hammersmith where he learnt the fundamentals of engineering. His fathers business had now begun to grow with the advent of Cars and Henry joined his father in the family business. They firstly imported cars from France and Henry would go to France to collect them driving back at a snails pace no doubt. The British Motor Car business was developing at this time and soon the garage was selling Rileys in particular but also others such as Jaguar's, Morris, Triumph, Armstrong Siddeley and many other well known names.

During the 1938-45 War Years Henry now married with three children turned towards the manufacture of munitions at the garage and was an integral part of the war effort. He worked in the Fire Service from Lonsdale Road, Barnes, and spent many a night's duty fighting the incendiary bomb fires and others all over the area.

Obviously a talented driver he took part in many different club rallies and hill climbs and won many prizes.

A proud family man he was well known and respected in his trade and Boon & Porter enjoyed a strong reputation in their field as a very happy family company who prided themselves on their service but above all looked after both their employees and customers.

Henry sadly died too young to know his seven grandchildren but he will be remembered by many for his kindness and interest to others. Holy Trinity was filled for his memorial service by many who respected him and his integrity. The screen at the rear of the church was given by his wife and family. His daughter 'Sue' is well known in Barnes. She is a member of St. Mary's Church Choir, and is a partner in an Estate Agents.

**Edith Joan Marston                    12.10.1917 – 10.02.1978**

Edith, who was known to her family and friends by her second name Joan, read Classics at Westfield College, London. After leaving University she taught for a while in a boarding school. She was then drafted into the Ministry of Agriculture, where she remained until her retirement. Sadly not long afterwards she died of cancer.

She was a wonderful godmother to Cecilia Macdowall, who has given a bench in her memory.

Cecilia has sung in the choir at Holy Trinity and has composed a number of choral pieces for special services.

**Albert Henry Wallis                    03.05.1914 – 14.12.1988**

During the war, 'Bert' as he was affectionately known by his many friends, served in the 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Regiment. He was captured at St. Valerie and was a prisoner of war in Poland. On his release, he returned to his pre-war job at J & P Coats where he was Manager of Transport. However his years spent in Poland had taken its toll on his health, and the pressures of his job forced him to leave, and he became caretaker at Lower School, where he worked for 30 years until his retirement. During this period he qualified as a Youth Club leader, and was assistant leader at the Castelnan Youth Club, which meets in Skillingfleet Hall.

In recognition of his youth work, Bert and his wife Mabel attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

Bert was a Churchwarden at Holy Trinity for 26 years, and was also the Church's representative for the Youth Club.

On his death instead of sending floral tributes, many people chose to donate money to a Memorial Fund. After consultation with Mabel and their son Geoffrey, the large table, suitably inscribed, was made, and has since been referred to as "Bert's Table".

**Edward Albert Rutland West                    06.08.1909 – 18.09.1987**

Edward and his wife came to Barnes in 1939. For 42 years he was chauffeur to the Chairman of Dunlops.

He was a helpful neighbour who was well liked locally, and was a loving and devoted husband. The bench was given by his wife.

### **Leonard Jack Osborne      1908 – 1993**

For many years Leonard was a very efficient Church Treasurer. His spontaneous wit and humour enlivened many a P.C.C. meeting. His wife Pam, was also a valuable supporter of the activities within the Church.

Both were great followers of the game of tennis and Leonard was also a cricket 'fan'. Their daughter, Helen was married in Holy Trinity Church, and her husband, Martin, gave valuable help and advice concerning the lighting for the church.

During the war he was involved in the transport of essential supplies. Prior to his retirement he was awarded the M.B.E.

### **Timothy Littleton Dewhurst      1920 – 1993**

During the war, Tim served with the Rifle Brigade and was wounded at El Alamein. He was mentioned in dispatches and was awarded the Military Cross.

After the war he resumed his studies and went to the Bar, and worked in the Chancery Division. Climbing the judiciary ladder he became Head of his Chambers, then a Bankruptcy Registrar and finally he was appointed Chief Registrar.

He was a great family man, who was devoted to his wife Pandora and four daughters, who all at one time worshipped at Holy Trinity. His eldest daughter Anne, was married at Holy Trinity.

Tim was a great and generous worker for the church, and his experience and legal knowledge gave invaluable help and guidance to the P.C.C. He was a churchwarden and having once retired was persuaded to return for another period of office. He ran and organised the Stewardship Campaign, was Chairman of the Fish Scheme and a great worker for Christian Aid.

### **Caroline and Edgar Ballinger**

For many years Caroline and Edgar lived in Lillian Road, when after retiring from work as a French Polisher, they moved to Cheltenham. During the war Edgar was an A.R.P. Warden and in 1941 was awarded the George Medal for his courageous rescue work. In one raid when bombs burst a large water main, and caused extensive flooding, he quickly warned people who were sheltering in basements, and rescued a man from a flooded bomb crater.

His wife Caroline, was an expert needlewoman and the Mothers' Union Banner was made by her. She too was recognised for her war efforts in boosting hospital supplies,

and was presented with a special certificate by the Duchess of Gloucester on behalf of the Red Cross.

Edgar was a churchwarden for many years, and Caroline was a leading member of the Mothers' Union. A large green curtain which used to cover the side of the organ, was given in their memory by their family. The curtain has since been made into an altar cover for the nave altar.

**Frank Belfield            1909 – 1987**

Frank joined the Army in 1939 and by January 1940 was in East Africa Command where he served for the whole of the war, and where he met his wife.

In 1949 married Betty and they came to live in Barnes where Betty has worshipped to this day at Holy Trinity. Frank was confirmed at Holy Trinity. They have lived in Barnes since 1949.

Frank was a very keen and superb gardener. His occupation was Service Manager in the Motor Trade. A man much loved by all who knew him and deeply mourned by all his friends and family.

A bench was given by his wife Betty, who is a member of the P.C.C. and Parish Secretary.

**Dr. Paramanathy Nadarajah            27.07.1924 – 18.05.1988**  
**Victor Brainerd                            23.02.1916 – 15.08.1983**

Dr. Nadarajah was father to Vathsala, and Victor was Henry's father

Both Vathsala and Henry are well known to the worshippers at Holy Trinity Church, where their marriage was blessed, and where Henry is a sidesman and server.

A bench was given by Henry and Vathsala in memory of their fathers, who were not only dutiful fathers, but more than a friend to them.

**Alice Maude Brigden      01.03.1905 – 26.07.1986**

Alice and her husband Arthur came to Barnes in 1950 and from then on were regular worshippers at Holy Trinity.

At Christmas they took a trip into the country returning with armfuls of greenery to decorate the Church. Their son was married at Holy Trinity.

Two benches were dedicated in her memory, one being given by her husband Arthur, and the second by her son.

**Elizabeth Monica Bullock   24.10.1928 – 03.05.1985**

Brought up in a Methodist household in Wales, Monica also attended the local Church with a great aunt. At boarding school she worshipped at Llandaff Cathedral but it was as an undergraduate that she took her first communion at the University Church in London (sadly now demolished). At St. Pauls, Goodmayes, Monica played an active part for over twelve years, teaching in the Sunday School. Moving to Barnes in about 1969 she joined the congregation at Holy Trinity and typed the magazine for a number of years. Monica loved to visit her parents in Devon, so the Festivals of Christmas and Easter were usually celebrated at St. Cuthberts's, Widworthy, where she is now buried.

Monica took a degree in history at Bedford College where she played cricket and rowed. She worked as a secretary for a subsidiary of Standard Oil Company, New Jersey (Esso Export) for eleven years, buying oil from the Middle East and selling to Europe. After some years working for a Study Society she returned to Regents Park to work at Bedford College, moving on to Senate House where she joined the administrative team dealing with the appointment of Professors and Readers throughout London University. Finally she joined the secretariat of the Warburg Institute. Monica was intensely interested in the esoteric heart of religion. She enjoyed cooking, sewing, music, theatre and walking, and followed the sporting achievements of young members of the family with enthusiasm.

The altar in the Lady Chapel has been given in her memory by Monica's sister Hilary.