

BROS NEWSLETTER

April 2008. Number 108

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1 BROS Meeting.

The BROS meeting will take place at 5pm for 5.30pm on Thursday, 13th September, 2008 at the Lou Paradou Club. There will be a small charge for the 'Pot d'amitie'.

Will those members in arrears with their subscriptions pleas use the proforma at the end of this newsletter to send them to Tony Godwin.

2. Domaine AGM

The Domaine AGM was held on Saturday 19th April, 2008 at the Salle de Fetes. I understand that all the resolutions were carried. Mr Valentin was re-elected as Gerant but said that he was disappointed that no one else stood for the position. He said that he will not be standing again.

The new regulations which were not translated into English caused some concern amongst members however Melanie spoke to M Jacquemin who said that there no changes in substance but they had been updated into a more easily read form.

The Mayor of Le Muy was due to address the meeting but I understand arrived late when the proceedings had been completed.

I understand that M Valentin has been unwell and has had a period in hospital. I have sent a 'get well' card on behalf of BROS members.

3 Paul Richardson' Seat

I have received the following letter of thanks from Helen Richardson.

Dear Friend of Canebieres,

Bob West has written and told me of your great generosity in giving a very nice seat to the domaine in memory of Paul. Sue Clive and I appreciate this very much.

Paul loved Canebieres as we all did and I am so grateful he was able to spend so many happy years there. Our last holiday we were able to spend there was a very happy one culminating in a wonderful party with so many friends

I thank all the French staff who worked so hard to make Canebieres such a wonderful place.

With very best wishes,
Helen.

4 Joan Sadd's Funeral

On Wednesday 6th December, 2007 Dot and I attended the candle light funeral service for Joan at the historic and picturesque church of St Lukes Thurnby, Leicestershire and afterwards at Oakham Castle, Rutland.

As a mark of thanks for her work as treasurer on behalf of BROS I made a contribution to a seat that has been installed at Rutland Water, a local beauty spot. A plaque on the seat reads Joan Sadd 1937 – 2007 'Come sit on me'.

A copy of part of the moving eulogy to Joan which was read by a family friend is included at the end of the newsletter.

5 Art Exhibition at Lou Paradou

Monday 14th April, 2008 saw the opening of an Exhibition of Amateur Art at Lou Paradou. All the work exhibited was by Canebierians. The event was organised by Madame Rouy who put a great deal of time and effort into organising a wonderful event. Hundreds of people including Monsieur Valentin and Monsieur Jacquemin enjoyed a glass of wine while viewing the many exhibits. The quality of the work was superb and we do indeed have a great deal of talent at Canebieres. BROS was represented by three members. Keith Spruce, lot 68 exhibited a series of oil paintings depicting Canebieres through the seasons. Elsie Shutt, lot 677 exhibited tapestries showing scenes from Ste Maxime as well as some novel knitwell. Eric Bartholomew, lot 658 exhibited two sculptures, one in stone and one in metal. The exhibition remained open until Friday 18th April and culminated in a Pizza Evening for exhibitors.

This report was kindly supplied by Anne Spruce.

6 Miscellaneous

a) Ste Maxime Road

About one mile of the road past the new piece towards Ste Maxime is now subject of substantial earthworks preparatory to widening. The tarmac on the new piece has had three long sections removed.

b) Pattie Solley

I understand that she has now left the Domaine to live with family in Spain. We all wish her well.

I hope that all our members have wintered well. Dot and I expect to be at the Domaine throughout June and early July.

Bob West

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BROS MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2008.

Will you please use the below section t of this sheet when paying your subscriptions. I hope you will find this an aid to your administration.

If you are paying by post please send to:-

Tony Godwin
36 Woodmans Vale,
Chipping Sodbury,
Bristol.
BS37 6DL
01454 315467

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Name.

First Names

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Joan was born on the 22nd August 1937 in Leicester, the second of five children; she had four brothers and sisters: - Margaret, Anne, John and David.

Joan was very bright at school and she soon demonstrated a flair for languages. Although circumstances made it difficult for her to follow her talents at university, her French skills stayed with her to good effect in later life.

In her teenage years Joan was a popular member of the Enderby Young Farmers club. Derek realised how popular she was when he counted 40 cards on her 21st birthday. ALL FROM BOYS.

Derek first met JOAN after a walking weekend with his good friend Alan Hughes, in Dovedale. They ended up in the Bell hotel in Leicester and, on hearing music, attended the dance that evening. Derek asked Joan to dance in a general "excuse me" and they fell in love.

Derek courted Joan long distance and before long asked Joan for her hand in marriage. No sooner had he asked on the Sunday when to his dismay on the Monday, Joan was rushed to Neasden hospital with suspected meningitis. After falling into a coma for several days a revolutionary German drug saved her.

Joan and Derek were married at the Church of the Martyrs in Leicester.

When back in London, Joan shed Derek's name for her own endearing RICKY. They made their family home in Ealing.

Derek soon realized what a great choice of partner he had made. He soon saw how much she was loved by other people, with her warm personality and that constant selfless approach to life. Of course he also loved her for her beauty and stylish and fashionable dress sense. Joan knew that a way to a mans heart was through food and being an excellent cook, this certainly was not lost on Derek.

Derek was soon to be surrounded by other females with their three beautiful daughters DONNA, WENDY AND PHILLIPA.

Joan was a super mother to them, teaching them many skills and always encouraging them. She was constantly creative and always making time stretch as far as possible, preferring to hand make clothes and toys, adding a personal touch to any occasion.

One of her greatest skills grew from her work earlier in a florist shop. Her love of flowers meant she could prepare outstanding arrangements and grow plants from small cuttings with her magic green fingers.

Joan's family life was carefully shared with her sense of public duty and none of the duties received anything less than 100% of her attention. So when Joan and Derek bought their second home in Norfolk the family were able to escape from the huge responsibilities that they had taken on.

It was not uncommon to be travelling at the eleventh hour and Joan's endless energy enabled her to run the family and home, work, be a Guide Captain and pack up and go away for the weekend, all in one day.

There is an enormous list of commendable causes to which Joan gave her time. Her roles included:-

- Sunday school teacher,
- Chair person for the Ealing Conservatives ball committee,
- School Governor
- and Inner Wheel President.

At other times there were simply just actions of kindness and friendship which represented everything that made Joan the person she will always be remembered for.

Joan also had a love of France and so their next second home was treasured by her for many years. Cambieres near Le Muy, in the south of France, provided many happy memories and was shared with the family and grandchildren.

In later life moving back to Leicester was a surprise to both Joan and Derek as neither had thought about living their retirement years here. For so many reasons it has proved to be a good choice. A whole circle of both ex school friends, family and new friends have added to Joan's story. With our daughters located in the South, Joan made sure that there were plenty of visits to her beloved grandchildren.

She went out of her way to visit them regularly joining in their care, special events and staying in contact in the true spirit of the modern world, by text and e mail.

Although Joan had battled with cancer for many years, when it came back to haunt her in it's more extreme form she could not have wished for better care and treatment than she has received here.

....And so its time to day good bye JOANY, we can't imagine life without you but you will always be around us guiding us through the years ahead.

In times of recent illness and confined to bed, Joan could still produce a moment of laughter. When Donna, Wendy, Philly and Derek were sitting around her bed, leading up to the last day, fearing the end was finally upon them, holding hands in that special moment and in anticipation of the final good bye

After a long period of silence Joan suddenly uttered the words "We could all be here until Christmas" and they all collapsed with laughter.

That for Derek was the perfect example of Joany's optimism.

Whenever Ricky was low, Joany would always say

"CHEER UP RICKY" things will work out, *and they always did*

