

# Peter Dudley Marsh PHF - R I P

Peter Sherred

As you are no doubt aware Peter Marsh a Vice President of the Society died on 21st February. His Funeral Mass was held on 12th March 2014 at a packed St Mary's church Lydden at which the celebrant was Fr Paul Christian who gave a homily. The Very Reverend Dr John Simpson OBE, former Dean of Canterbury Cathedral and I gave tributes. Dean Simpson focussed on Peter's work for the Cathedral and its renovation in particular the replacement of stonework with stone from France. He commented on the high regard with which Peter was held by all who knew him. I was asked to focus on other aspects of his life.

So, Peter has departed from us and, as a consequence, our lives will be empty in the areas he had brightened for us. It has been said the value of a man should be seen in what he gives and not in what he is able to receive. He gave much to his profession, to Canterbury Cathedral, to the Diocese generally, to the town and port, to the societies he was associated with such as The Dover Society, where he was a Vice President, the Royal Institute of British Architects - he was Chairman of the Canterbury branch and the Rotary Club of Dover.

Peter's life is, I suggest, all that exemplified service and one that set high moral and ethical standards to which we should all aspire. In summary Peter was living proof of just how fine a person can be. He was a conscientious architect, a loving husband to both his wives, June and Valerie, who sadly both predeceased him and a devoted parent. Characteristics of the life he lived might be considered I suggest as follows: he was sincere, faithful, loyal, humorous



*Peter Marsh*

and the truest of true gentlemen. Indeed a regular dapper chap.

He exuded charm and was a consummate professional who seemed to bring the best out of people he encountered. With his sense of humour he enjoyed good banter and combined this with a gentle demeanour. Typical of this was how he wore his status as a Freeman of the City of London. After nearly 40 years of Rotary service he was, belatedly in my view, recognised with the award of a Paul Harris Fellowship, the highest honour a club can award to one of its members.

For his children Richard, Anne, Jonathan and Henry and their families you were blessed to have had Peter as a father and rôle model. Such are the hallmarks of a good man. We will all miss him.