

Y's RETIRED OF THE UK
Affiliated to the World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees



JULY 2010

www.yretired.co.uk

Greetings from our President



Dear colleagues,
I have in recent times been made more aware of the significance of ageing not least by a group of elderly retired people I meet with as Co-ordinator/Treasurer at the Friday Centre, Cambridge.

It is a lunch club where wholesome nutritional meals are served to some 40 people aided by 20 volunteers (10 - alternate weeks). Due to age we experience health problems and death all too often. I appreciate that this may sound a rather sombre note on which to open a letter but far from it.

The group is made up of retired people from all walks of life, dentists, teachers, manual workers, cobblers, a music teacher, Trade Union officer, clerical workers, Police officer etc.,

The oldest is 99 years of age, a remarkable man who taught Latin at an international school and until recently washed the pots after lunch!

A woman who during the war was involved with the team that worked on the Enigma Code, another trained in the WAAF to 'listen' for German submarines approaching the East coast, a man a POW in a Stalag concentration camp who was elected as the Physical Education Officer for the camp - trained and qualified by the Physical Education Department of the National Council of YMCAs of England, Ireland Scotland and Wales.

The 'silver thread' running through them all is their positive approach to life and so called ageing with tremendous humour. Most smile at poor health and death with fortitude, zimmer frames and mobile scooters are but aids for aching bones! Only this week an 82 year old widow was questioning her existence in a future life having been a committed Christian/church member all her life – it was a serious yet humorous conversation.

Such humour is consistent with the majority of the group, some 15 churchgoers, the others mainly nominal Christians a few agnostics, atheists & humanists. Is there such a thing as 'ageism' or is it a word coined by 'younger' persons?

I am delighted to convey the good news that the Y's Retired of the UK Reunion commencing 3pm 20th September to 11am on 23rd September 2010 in Birmingham is well organised with a programme to suit all tastes repeating highlights from the 2009 Reunion, not least the visit to the YMCA Archives in their new 'state of the art' facilities in Birmingham University and a visit to the Birmingham YMCA new building with CEO Alan Fraser and Sutton Coldfield CEO Clive Yates together with a session led by Jim Jenkinson Regional Executive Officer.

Rev Tony Malcolm will be leading our devotions. New is a session with YMCA England National Secretary, Ian Green.

David Smith will be calling in to present his report on the World Federation of YMCA Retirees (WFYR) conference held in Hong Kong July 2010. Above all of course is the contribution from members enjoying valuable socialising in a superb environment.

There will be a short business meeting to ratify Executive Committee decisions and receive the Honorary Treasurer's Financial Report. BSA, AOS, APS – whats in a name when there is a Y's Retired Reunion!

Late registrations are possible dependant on vacancies at the venue 'phone **NOW** 01223 440228 or email: j.lamb22@btinternet.com if you wish to attend.
All inclusive cost only £299!

Enjoy your summer activities.
Warm regards,

Jim



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Dear David, Even at my age I am in the first year of a degree course here at Ruskin College, Oxford! For a project I am looking at the affect early transport had on two towns, Wolverhampton and Charlbury, Oxon. I was surprised to find that there was a 'Y' in the little town of Charlbury but it closed not too long ago. For some reason the locals don't seem to want to talk about it. I'm curious. Any ideas? Regards to you and Sue.

Any clues from the readership to assist Brian Templar?

I am truly sorry to hear of Joan's Tranter's death. She was an exceptional lady. We often corresponded by E-mail and commiserated with each other about our respective ailments. I regret that I will be unable to attend her funeral.
Brian (Barrett)

Dear Colleagues - I write with sad news from President Jim to share with you that Joan Tranter passed away on Sunday 16th May - Joan will be known to many of you as one of the main National Council of YMCA's very successful fundraisers with so much charm, energy and vibrant personally. Joan would have been 96 the following week. The last address I have for Joan is:-

12 Candor Court, Spring Gardens, Narberth, SA67 8SU
David (Ed)

WORLD ALLIANCE OF YMCAs

2nd June 2010

Mr. Joseph Alfassy
Consulate of Israel
Avenue de la Paix 1-3
1202 Geneva
Your Excellency,

We are writing on behalf of the World Alliance of YMCAs, a federation of YMCA national movements in 124 countries, to express our concern and dismay at the assault last Monday on the vessel carrying vital humanitarian aid for the people of Gaza.

We were in touch with Mr. Issa Saba, the General Secretary of Gaza YMCA who told us that there is anger and deep sadness in Gaza for what happened, for the loss of life as well as the continued denial of their right to humanitarian assistance especially in view of the economic blockade imposed on the Strip since 2007.

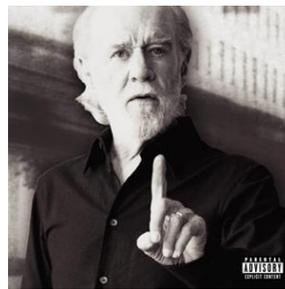
We are convinced that the assault on the humanitarian convoy was a violation of international law and reiterate the call of the UN Security Council on the Israeli Government to conduct a "prompt, impartial, transparent and credible" inquiry into the incident. We also urge the Israeli Government to ensure the successful delivery of humanitarian aid from the convoy to Gaza and lift the economic blockade it had imposed on Gaza since 2007. Clearly, the assault underlines more than ever the need for an end to the occupation of the Palestinian territories.

We pray for those who were hurt and especially for the bereaved families of those who lost their lives. We express our sympathies and solidarity to the Gaza YMCA as well as the YMCAs in East Jerusalem and the West Bank and reiterate our commitment to a just and lasting peace in Palestine and Israel.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Martin Meißner
President

Dr. Bartholomew Shaha
Secretary General



A Message written by 70s-80s comedian, by George Carlin.

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider Freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less.

We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbor. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things.

We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less. We plan more, but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, big men and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete...

Remember; spend some time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever.

Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side.

Remember, to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent.

Remember, to say, 'I love you' to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all mean it. An embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you.

Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again.

Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

ROY FRANCIS JARMAN – OUR MAN IN MANCHESTER



Born in Exeter in 1927 only child of Samuel and Rosena. His father was an Anglican so Roy attended the local Anglican Church and Sunday School. But his Mother was a Methodist, his Grandfather a Methodist local Preacher and so was one of his uncles.

Most of his school holidays were spent on his Grandparents farm with his cousins with whom he attended the Methodist Chapel. As a teenager he joined the Boy Scouts movement to which he was very keen, helping to run two Wolf Cub Packs as so many leaders had been called to join the armed forces.

When he left school he started work with a firm of accountants then in 1944 at the age of seventeen he joined the RAF where he spent the next four years in Egypt and some time in Palestine. He was in the Jerusalem YMCA when the King David Hotel opposite was blown up.

When he was demobbed from the RAF he went back to the accountancy firm but found accounting and auditing rather dull and realised he would like to work with people so he applied to the YMCA whose work he had seen and admired in Egypt. Previous to that he had applied to the Church of England to train for the Ministry and had been accepted for training but as he was unable to fund himself, his Mother being a widow, and the grant being insufficient, he was unable to take it up. He had been doing the accounts for the Exeter YMCA for about two years and was known to the Board of Management, his office Manager being one of them. He had good business training at the accountancy firm. As Roy had leadership experience of youth work through the Scouts and Church Youth Clubs he still had to go through the proper National Council selection and interview committee.

They were not at all happy about him starting work in Exeter and wanted him to move away from his home. However, Exeter wanted him, so he was appointed on a temporary basis and stayed there for five years. He was very keen on combining the work of YMCA and YWCA and in Exeter the two Associations worked together. I (Mary) joined the YWCA as a member and was also a Girl Guide Lieutenant.

In 1953 an Anglo/German youth exchange visit was planned and whilst practising English Country Dancing to teach the Germans, Roy and I danced together and our relationship grew from there. We were married in 1955 and the following year moved to Maidstone in Kent where Roy was appointed to what was known as the Maidstone YMCA and Church Institute. It had quite a large building in the centre of the town and a sports field on the outskirts. A lot of tennis and cricket was played there as well as other sports and Roy took part in this as he had always been keen on sport and quite athletic as a boy. Two of our children were born in Maidstone marking Andrea a 'Maid of Kent' and David a 'Man of Kent'.

After four years there came a move to Torquay and after only six weeks there our third child was born. This made life quite difficult as we lived in a flat with three very young children, at the top of the YMCA up 48 stairs and no lift. This was Roy's first YMCA with residential accommodation and he was extremely busy in the summer with school groups and youth clubs coming to stay. One highlight of the year was the Reading Youth Orchestra staying every Easter.

To cap it all that first summer Roy got mumps but fortunately he didn't pass it on to me or the children. There was a very loyal skeleton staff with us all the year round, but in the summer a lot more were needed who couldn't always be relied on and if they were offered more pay in one of the local hotels they would leave without notice. One weekend the chef walked out and the assistant cook was on holiday so Roy and I had to do the cooking until Monday.

In 1964 our fourth child was born so he was just two years old when we made the move to Manchester in 1966. Manchester YMCA was and is very large and at that time had the highest membership in all of Europe. The main club building was in Peter Street in Manchester City Centre (since moved to Castlefield) with a side entrance on Mount Street for short stay residents. There was also Montgomery House for students and long term residents situated about 3 miles out at one end of the sports field. We lived about half a mile from Montgomery House so I was much less involved than I had been and was very busy with four young children. There was also Gatley YMCA, a small satellite club, a narrow boat on the canal at Poynton and a camp site in Derbyshire all under the umbrella of Manchester YMCA.

In 1970 Roy went on a Study Tour of Canada lasting five weeks and a short visit to New York. He visited YMCA's from Toronto to Vancouver and was taken to see Niagara Falls. It was made possible by a bursary from the King George VI Foundation. In Toronto he attended a meeting at the Canadian National Council Offices in Yong Street then went to Geneva Park Conference Centre to participate in a Training Programme for new staff and Consultation of Training. The following week was spent in New York at the Grand Central Branch then back to Toronto and a flight to Vancouver where he studied the re-organisation process of this Association and observed results of the 'Management by Objectives' Workshop. Then a few days on Victoria Island. He was then scheduled to fly from Vancouver to Calgary but chose to pay his own fare to go by train through the Rockies to Calgary - an experience he thoroughly enjoyed. Calgary was a more traditional Association. While there he visited Banff National Park and Lake Louise then flew to Ottawa then on to Montreal then home to Manchester arriving on Easter Sunday 29th March.

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL YMCA COMMITMENTS

Roy was elected by European YMCA's to the World Alliance Urban Committee and served as Vice Chairman for a time. He visited India, Hong Kong and Japan. He was also a National Board Member (elected by the North West Region of YMCAs) and on the National Executive and Finance Committee of YMCA England.

He became a Magistrate in 1974 and with a short break in 1984 after a cancer operation continued until we left Manchester in 1996. He was a member of the General Synod of the Church of England 1970 to 1980 and lay Chairman of Hulme Deanery Synod.

Executive Member of Manchester Council for Christians and Jews (10 years), was a member of Executive of Manchester Council for Voluntary Service also Convenor of Manchester Council for Voluntary Youth Service, Member of Executive of Manchester Council for Community Relations Youth Sector, Executive Member of Greater Manchester County Ecumenical Council to which he was the Founder Chairman (1973 – 1976).

Unfortunately due to ill health and another cancer operation he was advised to take early retirement and was given only a short prognosis of life. With a great deal of prayer, and a lot of fight and determination on his part, he lived for more than another twenty years for which we both were extremely thankful.

Mary Jarman

World Alliance Secretary General Joins Commemorative Celebrations for Henry Dunant



This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the death of Henry Dunant, co-founder of the Geneva YMCA and founder of the Red Cross, and winner of the first Nobel Peace Prize.

Throughout 2010 a series of commemorative activities will be organised by the Henry Dunant and Gustave Moynier Association 1910 - 2010, together with the ICRC, the City of Geneva and other partner organisations including the World Alliance of YMCAs.

On Saturday 8th May, the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant and also the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the official celebrations were launched in Geneva with an event at Geneva's Town Hall in the famous "Salle de l' Alabama". This important event brought together local and national dignitaries, as well as representatives of the international community and media.

Dr Bart Shaha, Secretary General of the World Alliance of YMCAs, in his message at L'Oratoire, the church where the first meeting of the Geneva YMCA took place, highlighted how important Henry Dunant has been for the YMCA Movement. He pointed out that Henry Dunant was an outstanding leader, and as many historians have recognized, he was a hundred years ahead of his time in ecumenical thinking.

Dr. Shaha recalled that at the 150th Anniversary celebrations of the World Alliance of YMCAs in Warwick University, England, he had acknowledged the special contribution of Henry Dunant to the YMCA Movement, particularly his focus on human rights. Henry Dunant was one of the key leaders present at the first International Meeting of the YMCA held in Paris in 1855 and played a crucial role in the articulation of the YMCA mission statement.

Later, Henry Dunant was well recognized for conceiving the idea of the Geneva Convention. Dr. Shaha concluded by thanking the organisers of the Dunant-Moynier celebrations for their excellent work, and also thanked them for recognising the important connection between Henry Dunant and the YMCA Movement.

FROM OUR TREASURER – RAY ALLEN

Hi to all Y's Retired members. This is just a gentle reminder to any of you who have not paid their subscriptions for 2010. To remind you that it was agreed that they would be £10 (£5 to Y's Retired and £5 to Secours Speciaux). If it makes it easier for you, a Standing Order form has been produced and can be downloaded, if you are on line, alternatively one can be mailed out to you. I must apologise to all of you who have paid and not yet received a receipt. You will be getting one shortly.

NEWS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS



Sir Harold Haywood KCVO, OBE, DL

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Sir Harold Haywood.

Sir Harold gave great voluntary service to the YMCA over many years.

Chairman of the National Board and National Executive prior to the formation of the 'new style' National Board in June 1991, he continued to chair the Board until July 1992 when he was appointed Vice-President, serving until 1995. He was devoted to 'his Amy' Lady Haywood.

Sir Harold was President of Burton-on-Trent YMCA from 1995 to 2006 and then became their Patron. He was Patron of Nottingham YMCA from 1995 onwards.

When he retired from National involvement Sir Harold personally assisted me as Central Region Vice President chairing many meetings, always helping to promote the work of the YMCA.

I know that in his latter years he was most proud to have been involved with a multi faith Centre created within the University of Derby

On 19 October 2005 HRH the Duke of Gloucester unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark the official opening of that Multi-Faith Centre.

The project created a purpose-designed centre - to promote mutual understanding and respect through dialogue. In 1999, after further preparation, the then Mayor of Derby, Councillor Sara Bolton, launched a fund-raising campaign, which was chaired by Sir Harold Haywood, former Director and founding Chairman of the Prince of Wales' Trust.

The project would never have been realised without the Millennium Commission, which in its final round of funding, provided half of the total costs of just over £2M.

At the Official Opening, messages of congratulations and support were read out from leading civic and religious figures, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Dalai Lama, the Chief Rabbi, the Director General of the Islamic Foundation, and national leaders in the Bahi, Hindu, Jain, Sikh and Zoroastrian communities.

He was a good Methodist and like good Methodists he always had a story to tell, whether in the pulpit or not – he will be sadly missed.

A public memorial service will be held at the end of July.

I was always taught to respect my elders.
Now I don't have anyone to respect.



www.pmcaregivers.com/Humor.htm