



## Dennis Jenks: much loved, sadly missed

Dennis and Judy Jenks came to live in Sarratt when they married. They lived in Pear Tree Cottage at first but soon moved to Little Sarratt Hall where they lived happily with their four children, eventually sadly leaving the village after almost fifty years.

A Memorial Service for Dennis will be held at Holy Cross Church on 4 April at 1 pm

**Carol Chorley**

About 10 years ago a small group of Sarratt chaps were invited to take over the maintenance and management of Dennis Jenks' old bus as he was moving from the village. He wanted to leave his lovely 1932 bus for use by local people. Consequently The Grey Knights were formed. The bus has given a lot of pleasure to many people. It has been used by village organisations, is always on The Green on Boxing Day and has gone to weddings,



christenings and funerals. It has visited local breweries and vineyards and has taken villagers to horse races, air shows, motoring events, jazz concerts and restaurants. The annual Brighton Historic Commercial Vehicle Run has been much enjoyed over the years and once she won third prize in her class much to the delight of everyone. Dennis, your memory will live on with The Bus and The Grey Knights. Thank you.

**John Roe**

Dennis was the most wonderful friend to so many of us and he will be deeply missed. He was so much fun to be with as he had such a zest for life, always living it to the full. Den always saw the best in people, never saying a bad word about anyone. Dennis was young at heart, always ready to do something 'daring' (and mad!) best known for walking along the top rail of the Chess Bridge, carrying an umbrella. I am not sure how many times he fell into the river!

He was kind and generous and a loving husband, father and grandfather, taking interest in all his family and their activities. He adored his dogs, mostly Sealyhams, although not everyone shared this love.

The world will be a duller place without dear Den and our thoughts are with Judy and the family.

**Pam Dickins**

It is an enormous privilege that I have been asked to write a few words about Dennis Jenks who sadly passed away on the 19th January.

Dennis was to me the epitome of a gentleman – generous of nature and silent benevolence, caring and kind, never uttering a bad word about anyone, who would do anyone a good turn. He was also an amazing ambassador for the village of Sarratt.

His many fundraising activities, particularly for the church and for the village hall, were just awesome, and I especially remember him for his various schemes when chairman of The Friends of Holy Cross. Of particular note was his publication of 'The Draper of Watford' and his subsequent selling of no fewer than 2,000 copies which, together with his related other bookselling efforts, raised in excess of £100,000.

But mainly his very private care and thoughtfulness for others will be remembered – from picking up litter whenever he went walking, to repairing peoples' fences after a storm, to helping those in trouble getting treatment for serious illnesses, and to the regular trips in his bus. Two trips a year to the Heath Enclosure at Royal Ascot for friends, acquaintances and for people whom he really didn't know – were just to give us all a good time. And of course not forgetting the bus itself, which he generously gave to the village when he and Judy left us some ten years ago.

I could go on and on as there was so much more to Dennis, but words really just don't do him justice. He was simply the best, and he leaves big shoes to fill.

**Graham Peiser**

