

## “REQUIEM AETERNAM DONA EIS DOMINE”

### OBITUARIES 2021

#### Ronald George Fabre de la Grange (58)



Ron, as he was always called, was born in 1940 in Istanbul of French ancestry and was sent to prep school at St Philip's before coming to Beaumont in 1953. He made a name for himself, that despite his small stature, he would always have a go whatever the challenge. He played in the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV and was awarded his socks and captained the 3<sup>rd</sup> VIII rowing at bow. Under Ron they beat UCS and at Pangbourne Regatta beat Clifton 2<sup>nd</sup> VIII before losing to the eventual winners Radley. He then rowed in the Leavers IV at Staines Regatta winning through two rounds before losing to Eastbourne. Apart from grit and determination at sport, Ron was in the Scouts, and his interests included music, debating, the Quods and various plays: he was elected to Rhetoric.

On leaving Ron initially joined the Midland Bank before he settled to a career with Chartered where he served for some 30 years with postings all around the World: the Far East, Africa, the West Indies and eventually back to the City of London. His great opudoor love was sailing and by all accounts was a most competent skipper.

He married late in life taking and acquired a ready-made family and grandchildren: it says much for the man that he was quickly accepted and much loved. Ron did much work in his local Parish at Oxted with the St Vincent de Paul Society and the Catenians. He also helped at the local care home. Ron was a most loyal member of the B U and regularly attended the dinners, lunches and the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

Ron's party piece was to walk downstairs with a pint of beer balanced on his head (as John Wolff remarked "the wonders of a Beaumont education, never cease to amaze")

Ron died on the 6<sup>th</sup> August.

#### Sir Richard Bird Bt. KHS (53)



Richard Bird was born 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1935 the son of Sir Donald Bird 3<sup>rd</sup> Bt. He spent most of the War Years in Jamaica before being sent to St Richard's Malvern before coming to Beaumont in 1949. He left in 1953 having played in The first XI and was the opening bat at Lords in the winning side of that year. He went on to Trinity Dublin before National Service in the RAF and then entered the family firm of Bird's Custard. He soon decided that this was not the life he wanted and trained as a PE teacher and this was to remain his career. His interests included good food, sport and music: he was especially fond of Beethoven. An accomplished musician he played the piano and the organ at his local church. He was the choirmaster and also sang with both the Solihull Gilbert & Sullivan Company and with a Welsh male voice choir. Richard's sporting interests included skiing, yachting and golf: he was Captain of the Veterans at his local Club. Richard also kept a holiday home in France. The Faith played a very important part in his life: he was a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, a loyal Catenian, and he helped out with the homeless and local food kitchen. Loyal, kind, stoic and determined were among his characteristics. He was married twice and with his first wife Gillian had six children and following her death a further two with his second wife Helen. He succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1963. It was Richard's Great Grandfather who started the family firm.

Alfred Bird FCS, was the Birmingham analytical and manufacturing chemist who invented baking powder, eggless custard powder and founded the well-known firm of Alfred Bird and Sons. His son Sir Alfred joined the family business, subsequently assumed sole control, and was responsible for the establishment of Devonshire works Digbeth, now known as the Custard Factory. In 1905 he retired and went into politics, being MP for Wolverhampton West from 1910 until his death. He was knighted in 1921. His house in Solihull, Tudor Grange, contained significant art treasures including works by Sir Joshua Reynolds and Lord Leighton.

### **Fr Gerard J Hughes SJ**



Fr Gerard J Hughes SJ died on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 in the Corpus Christi Jesuit Community house in Boscombe. Kevin Fox and one of the carers were with him. He was 87

years old, in the 71st year of religious life, and had been in failing health for some time. Gerry was born on 6th June 1934 in Wallington, Surrey. He was educated at St Aloysius College in Glasgow, and joined the Jesuit novitiate in Harlaxton in 1951, taking his First Vows there two years later. After a year's juniorate at Manresa in Roehampton, he studied for a licentiate in philosophy for two years at Heythrop in Oxfordshire, followed by a third year back in Roehampton. A year of Certificate of Education studies in Roehampton followed. Between 1958 and 1962 he took a Master's in Classical Mods and Greats at Campion Hall, then taught Greek and Latin in Beaumont College as regency. Next came an STL in theology at Heythrop, at the end of which, in 1967, he was ordained. That year he started doctoral studies in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was one of the first professors at Heythrop in London in 1967, lecturing in moral theology, and living first in Cavendish Square and later in Southwell House and then Sherwin House in Osterley and Owen House. In 1973 he became Dean of Philosophy at Heythrop, attending GC32 the following year. Between 1982 and 1988 he combined his work at Heythrop with the post of Voice-Provincial for Formation. In 1992 he had a sabbatical, teaching for a semester at Santa Clara in the USA. He was appointed Vice-Principal of Heythrop in 1995, and then in 1998 became Master of Campion Hall, a position he held until 2006, tutoring in philosophy in Oxford. He continued in Oxford as a Fellow in Philosophy until moving to Boscombe in 2018, where he remained until his death. Gerry was a prolific writer, with more than forty publications listed on the Province data-base. He received a DLitt from Heythrop in 2009.

**RICHARD JOHN MILLS-OWENS QC SC (55)**



Richard Mills-Owens was the son of the Hon Mr Justice Richard Hugh Mills-Owens, Court of Appeal Judge, formerly Solicitor General of Kenya and Chief Justice of Fiji. He came to Beaumont from the Prince of Wales School in Nairobi in 1953. What was unusual but not unique was that he was a non-Catholic. However, his father was another of those few who thought that a Jesuit Education was the best and convinced The Rector (Lewy Clifford) to take him.

It was fair to say an excellent choice for both Richard and the school: he excelled. Academically bright he moved up the "A" Stream to Rhetoric. At Sport he was in the 1<sup>st</sup> XV for two seasons gaining his colours and it was the same at cricket: he was a fine bat. An Under-Officer in the Corps and a School captain and apart from that acted in plays, enjoyed music and dancing reels.

Richard gained a place at Christ's Cambridge to read law and from there to Middle Temple to become a barrister and called to the Bar in 1961. In 1964 he moved to Hong Kong. He took Silk in 1979.

He was initially a member of Bernacchi Chambers but left to form the Temple Chambers at Admiralty in 1977. Under Richard these chambers became the leading set of chambers in Hong Kong given its high ratio of Senior Counsel's to juniors, as well as a strong history of appointments into key judicial and government roles.. Richard, or RMO as he was known, had a wide range of civil practice including procedures, contract disputes, agency, banking and finance matters. He was dedicated to the development of talent within the profession and many of the judges and senior counsels were his former pupils. He served as a member of the Inland Revenue Review Board and was also a Justice of the Peace. Among his hobbies were collecting antiques and singing: he appeared in 34 productions by the Hong Kong Singers. It was indeed sad that such a man should suffer from Alzheimers in recent years and he died on the 4<sup>th</sup> July. His Funeral took place in the Anglican Cathedral. May he rest in peace.

Two of his past Pupils write:-

Richard (RMO) was head of Temple Chambers when I started pupillage with Bob Ribeiro in 1990. He set the highest professional standards for all of us, and was revered by everyone: judges, opponents and colleagues. In particular, his meticulous attention to details was legendary. I have had the privilege of being his junior on many occasions, and have benefitted so much from his wisdom and guidance. I still recall vividly the occasion when he sang a line from Gilbert and Sullivan (I think it was from The Mikado) during a Court of Appeal hearing! I also fondly remember when he used to bring his two beloved macaws back to chambers, usually on Saturdays, to everyone's joy and amusement. To have found Amy to share his life was a true blessing. Richard will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace.

Richard was the best Head of Chambers any pupil or member of the Bar could ever have had. Quite apart from the fact that he had a busy and successful practice at the Bar, he was an extraordinarily kind, gentlemanly and generous man, a wise mentor and friend whom I have missed ever since I left Hong Kong in 1986. I have always been grateful to Richard for flying to England to give me away when I married George and for giving such an eloquent, touching and humorous wedding speech. One example of how caring Richard was as a Head of Chambers was when my father died suddenly on 10 January 1984. That day I was appearing in Court at the Kwun Tong Magistracy and Richard came all the way to Kwun Tong to give me the news in person and to take me back home to Hong Kong Island by taxi. Many of my happiest memories of my time in Hong Kong were spent with Richard. I remember so well being Richard's junior in Court when I observed the serious and professional side of Richard. I can still hear him saying to me in his distinguished baritone voice, "meticulous attention to detail is what wins cases". Outside of Chambers, the serious

side of Richard disappeared and we had such fun times on boat trips to Lamma Island – there were unforgettable egg nog parties and entertaining Chambers dinners at which the most delicious menus were carefully selected by Richard and his Clerk, Mrs Elizabeth Carmo. We also went to many productions of The Hong Kong Singers, some of which Richard performed in, always with great gusto. My family and I remember when Richard came skiing with us in Switzerland in 1985. On our first day on the slopes, Richard watched my sister, Penny ski down the slopes in a very accomplished fashion and then mistakenly believing that my other sister, Bunny and I were equally accomplished, he went next down the slopes. Unfortunately, Bunny and I were mere beginners and Bunny managed to snow plough straight into Richard as he waited for us at the bottom - after that he kept a wide berth and ensured that he skied behind us for the remainder of the week! I also remember how Richard would suddenly break into song at dinners or on the boat – more often than not, Gilbert and Sullivan and so it was not surprising when Richard romantically serenaded Amy at their wedding! When I returned to Hong Kong in 1997, Richard, Amy and I had a truly memorable few days attending concerts and dinners and even though by then I had left Hong Kong eleven years earlier, it was as if I had never left! Richard loved his macaws and gardening and when Richard and Amy came to the Cayman Islands he was delighted to see so many wild parrots and he insisted on spending hours working in our garden (pulling weeds and planting, not legal work), despite the heat and our pleas to him to come inside. In closing, special thanks must be given to Amy for being such a devoted, loving and caring wife to Richard. Our thoughts and prayers are with Amy and her family at this difficult time. And finally to Richard, I would just like to say that I was incredibly lucky and fortunate to have known you and to have been a member of your Chambers in the 1980's. Thank you for all your kindness and the happy memories – I will never forget you. RIP.

**PAUL EVEYLN (66)**

**further to his Obituary a life remembered**

His Daughter writes:-

Trying to decide how best to capture Dad in words has been really tricky.

Dad loved life. He was the eternal optimist. His pick of the Christmas trees would always mean at least two feet needed to be cut off. Every rainy day was apparently going to brighten up and he showed his commitment to this belief through his wearing of shorts from March to November.

Dad loved Mum, Liz, his wife of 45 years. They held hands constantly and although his habit of leaving things lying around drove Mum mad, they were inseparable from the moment he began to court her by hiding Cadbury's crème eggs in her pockets at work.

Dad loved his family and he really loved to embarrass us. During all our times at Secondary school, Dad's favourite game was forging his own signature in our homework diaries. One week it would be tiny, one week it would be full of loops and huge. It caused him unending hilarity, although poor John did end up with a detention because of it!)

His other, not terribly pc, habit was walking with a really pronounced limp whenever he was joining us in public. He would rag his leg as he approached the car and loved our horrified reactions!

Family gatherings happened at every opportunity. Dad would festoon the house with lights at Christmas and even wear a set himself. This year he kept the interior lights up so that the house felt magical right to the end.

He loved fireworks – the bigger the better and they did get really very big. We'd all be shouting at him to stand back and he'd be sauntering away from the lit fuse. The year that the Mongoose multishot firework blew out at the bottom, firing 30 shots in quick succession at us all, became the stuff of legend and I won't mention the indoor fireworks he sourced one Christmas that were certainly more lively than anyone was expecting.

Dad also loved to garden, his sweetpeas as beloved as the rest of us. His legacy lives on in all the people he encouraged to garden including all the many children he gardened with at school.

Because schools were Dad's other passion. As a schools' fundraiser for Barnardos, he loved chatting to all the harried Headteachers armed with all the knowledge he had gained through decades of school governance. He was passionate about getting children the best, especially those who had had a hard start. He also loved the gossip and intrigue of education. He loved to "know" what was going on. It's probably pertinent to say at this point that he was also prone to a little bit of exaggeration and was not a great one for keeping secrets but he really, really cared. He also remembered everyone he ever met and would ask how things had panned out months or years later. Dad's work in education saw St Peters Catholic Primary move from this site to where it now stands and more recently, as the Chair of Purbrook Park, he continued to push and challenge for children to get the best.

So how will we all remember Dad? Whether it is as the cheeky school boy who shot his sisters with a bow and arrow, the slightly Mexican looking young man with impressive moustache, the committed school governor or as something personal to you, I know that we all have many memories to cherish. And Dad knew he was loved and will be loved forever.

### **PAUL EVELYN (66)**



#### **Valete from the Beaumont Review, October 1965**

**EVELYN, P.;** Sept. '60; Ruds B; Chichester. July '65; Upper Poetry, G.C.E: O- and A-levels. *Games:* Colts 3rd: Hockey 1st *C.C.F.:* Under Officer. *Plays:* Panto '64.  
*Societies:* Photographic, Motor, Scientific.

#### **John Flood**

This is news that we had been expecting to receive for several weeks, but no less sad and upsetting to read. I am sure that I speak for everyone in the Beaumont Class of 60 in saying how much we missed his always bright and happy contributions to our Zoom gatherings each week, after he was unable to join these. Paul attended the Class of 60 dinners for our Silver Jubilee at the Basil Street hotel in 1985, the Rag in 2007 and most recently for the Golden Jubilee at Beaumont in 2010.

Arthur Cope and I were delighted to have the opportunity to visit Paul on 21 May 2019 when returning from a trip to the Isle of Wight, while Arthur was over from Indianapolis and staying with me for the Class of 60 Dinner at the Rag on 17 May.

Prior to this Paul had shown considerable interest in my wife, Celia's, special needs programme, 'Grasp', which she had designed while she was laid up for nearly a year convalescing from pericarditis, herself making a dozen or so sets, each one comprising hundreds of individual cards, each set filling a briefcase. We had a number of helpful conversations about how this might be mass produced for wider distribution, which I believe he also discussed with his son, but alas Paul's illness prevented his pursuing this.

**Chris Newling-Ward**

Thank-you for the very sad news. We were wondering last Thursday how he was getting on. The family will be in our prayers. May he rest in peace He was a good friend.

**Mike Wortley**

I echo Chris's thoughts. Will keep you all in my prayers.

**Anthony Burton**

Terribly sad news. A lovely man. My condolences to you and the family. My thoughts are with you all.

**Michael Newton**

My condolences to you and all your family; Paul will be in our prayers. In sympathy.

**Simon Potter**

Paul was a really decent, kind school-fellow with a dry and intelligent sense of humour. It was really pleasant to have been able to catch up with him on the weekly Class of 60 Zooms - and to find, as I did in 2010, that he hadn't changed a bit in all those years.

**Damian Russell**

Paul Evelyn was a cheerful soul and an enthusiastic cricketer, if I remember rightly, and seemed to have the world in perspective. Not given to gloom! A sad passing.

**Charles Morris**

Very sad news. Paul and his family are in my thoughts and prayers.

**Ian Bangham**

We were good pals at Beaumont and always enjoyed catching up with him at reunions. It was a privilege to have been a friend and colleague of Paul. I had forgotten we both played hockey! My condolences to all the family who will be in my prayers together with Paul. Stay well and Stay Safe.

**Tony Shannon**

Many memorable years with Paul at Beaumont. RIP Paul.

**Arthur Cope**

We've been thinking about him a lot in the past weeks - and he will be very much missed. He was such fun on our Beaumont zoom calls. My prayers go out to you and all the family.

**John Devaux**

The news of Paul's death is no less sad by reason of it being expected.

Among my fondest memories are those of St John's school holidays in the late 1950s spent at Southfield at a time when my parents were living overseas. The household consisted of Paul, his parents Pat and John, and his sisters Mary and Clare. Theirs was a relaxed and welcoming home, so much so that I continued with the occasional visit for some years after leaving Beaumont. Paul and I arrived for our first term at St John's in the autumn of 1955. His birthday closely followed mine and that of Richard Woods.

**James Halliday**

Such sad news. Photos evoke powerful memories, RIP

**George Greenfield**

Very sad about Paul: his seventeen-year-old face came back to me quite clearly as I thought about him! Outliving a contemporary is indeed a strange feeling - why not me? Why him? It's a mystery.

**Romain de Cock**

I did not know Paul that well at Beaumont but remember him as a thoughtful, gentle and thoroughly decent man. A gentleman, of whom there are not that many left. May he rest in peace

**Mike Dickens**

Very sad to hear about Paul.



**Paul at Beaumont – what style!**



**TIMOTHY WILLIAM RUANE (52)**



**David Flood writes:-**

Tim died last night 16 January in Kings Lynn hospital where he had been after a heart attack the previous week. He was unable to talk and the Covid made visiting him very difficult for his wife and three sons, one daughter. We met at St John's when he was ten and I was eleven. He was vice captain of St John's to my cousin Micheal Bohane. At the College he played in the First XV and rowed in The VIII and went on to be a Captain of Beaumont before reading agriculture at Caius Cambridge. He completed his National service in the Royal Engineers in Germany. As his father had captained the Wasps between the wars, Owen arranged for Tim to play for the Wanderers, third team in the holidays and included me. His home was then in Woking. Tim took over his father's fen farms near Sandringham where he was invited to shoot. He ran a local rugger team on his own land and was a keen golfer. His much younger brother Richard was Captain of the School at Beaumont. I have had the great pleasure of his friendship for some 76 years. I recall we used to bicycle to Twickenham from school to join his parents for the Varsity match to be lunched in the car park by his mother.

**Richard Ruane adds:-**

I have two particular Beaumont related memories of Tim. Firstly, when I and others, crawled under the tent canvas in which BU old boys were celebrating their annual Ball, in order to check that the beer was up to scratch and seeing Tim dancing with a very beautiful girl who was to become his wife, and secondly playing against him in the annual 1st XV v. Old Boys

rugby match. Our father, who was watching, seemed pleased that not much brotherly love was evident !

### **TOM HARAN (61)**



**“The Wild Rover”**

Tom, the younger brother of **Patrick (59)** came to Beaumont in October 57. Actually, Bill Gammell remembers Tom visiting Beaumont during the summer term before he was to come up in the autumn. Tom joined them all in the swimming pool and instantly endeared himself to his future contemporaries. Tom moved up in the “A” stream starting with Fr Fizz in Ruds. He was one of those that form the backbone of the school, never making the First team but always joining in. Tom was in the 2nd XV and was awarded his socks, played cricket and was Captain of the fledgling Hockey side.

Colonel Roddy always used to say that all the great soldiers were good artists; Tom proved that to be a talented artist you didn't have to be a good soldier leaving still a Cadet in his final year!

He left Beaumont a year before his contemporaries in 1961 and then was offered a place at Trinity Dublin to study medicine but eventually changed to read

History of Art and Mediaeval history receiving his BA in 1974. There followed Art Education at The Heatherly School Chelsea (Foundation), Central-St Martin's (BA Hons) and Cyprus College of Art (Post-grad diploma).

Tom was one of those remarkable artists who produced fine paintings both portrait and landscape as well as sculpture portrait busts: few are masters of all three. Many of his landscapes were inspired by the countryside around the home he kept in Pezenas in the Hérault region of France where he was part of the colony of artists in this little town, but

most of his sculptures were of Irish dignitaries and celebrities from his studio in Dublin. When in London, Tom frequented the Chelsea Arts Club where Tony Outred has fond memories of their meetings. (see below)

Tom's work was not just private commissions, some are in public collections, including The Irish Arts Council and the Irish Embassy in Rome.

**His sister in law Rusty wrote :**

Mike my eldest son studied with Tom first at a studio run by Linda Nugent and then both went to Heatherleys. After this, Tom went to Central St Martins and Mike to the Slade. This was 1988 onwards. Mike did not finish the Slade having had an argument with his department and walked out! I am glad to say he has now returned to painting. Both my other sons loved talking to Tom as they have artistic lives. Barno is a Senior Lecturer in American Arts at Hull university and Rory who also went to Heatherleys and then spent many years in Florence studying with Charles Cecil. now painting in Salsibury. I just thought you might be interested in when Tom's artistic career. started. It was very much mutual encouragement between Tom and Mike!

Tom had been very unwell with various conditions over the last year and recently had been in great pain with his leg. He died very peacefully as he had been on morphine for the last couple of days. Sadly, with the Covid no-one could be with him.



**Roger Johansen:**

Tom Haran's parents were both doctors who ran a general practice from the large family home in Worthing. No doubt Tom's ability to get on with his companions at Beaumont was largely due to his being part of a large and lively family which included Patrick his elder brother, who was also at Beaumont. They had three younger sisters, one of whom, Maeve, became a well-known and successful romantic novelist.

During his years at Beaumont Tom succeeded in avoiding the wilder and rowdier behaviour that marked the early teenage years of some but approached life with a mixture of gentle humour and irony, an attitude of mind probably inherited from his Irish father. It was

amusing to hear Tom's account of occasions when worried patients would telephone and launch into a description of the symptoms that were troubling them, before establishing that they were talking to one of the doctors' offspring rather than a medic. He was well read, reading for pleasure rather than just to pass exams, and leaned towards the arts, which was where he was to find his avocation and success in adult life.

An early and happy sailing memory was of crewing, together with Tom and Ian Glennie under the command of Ian's parents aboard their spacious and well found converted Looe lugger *Guiding Star*. Towards the end of our cruise around the South Coast we came into Poole Harbour in a fierce gale. Things had become fairly hectic on board, however Tom remained calm and later observed, characteristically, that Mrs Glennie's language had become rather more salty as the conditions worsened!

After leaving Beaumont Tom attended Trinity College Dublin, and went on to develop his artistic talents as a sculptor, achieving success in Ireland. He was a member, and welcome visitor at the Chelsea Arts Club, where his unassuming and quiet wit were well appreciated.

### **Tony Outred:**

Although Tom, Roger Johansen and I all arrived at Beaumont in 1957 and studied for three years together in the A stream, I left before the sixth form so my memories of Tom at school were not of an adult but a likeable, gentle boy who kept his own counsel. We did bump into each other occasionally after Beaumont but it was not until 1994 when Tom joined the Chelsea Arts Club that our encounters became more frequent. A particularly memorable evening took place when Tom joined several of our year to welcome Father Joe Dooley to our house in Fulham. He also came to my 55th at the Club when Gerrard Fiennes, who was staying the night at the Club, decided at three o'clock in the morning to re-visit our firework display which had been cancelled due to bad weather. Needless to say we, as CAC members, were not exactly popular with our illustrious Chelsea neighbours, but Tom was, as always, quietly amused by the whole episode. On another occasion Annie and I were entertaining Guy and Paula Bailey for dinner at the Club when who should appear just arrived from Dublin but Tom. He seemed to have the knack of being in exactly the right place at the right time and his friendliness and wit were always welcome.

I am not quite sure when Tom decided to become an artist. Certainly any aspirations in the latter direction at Beaumont would have been quickly extinguished by the Jesuits who, although surrounded by magnificent works of art, appeared to have no interest in creativity. I guess that the first indication of his artistic leaning came from his BA in history of Art at Trinity and his involvement in editing the Student and the Dublin Magazine. However, this was followed by his co-founding Catering Ireland which spawned Captain America's Cookhouse and Solomon Grundy's restaurants, the latter of which he designed. Presumably, soon after these ventures he undertook a foundation course at the Heatherley School Chelsea, followed by a BA Hons degree at Central-St Martins, no mean achievement. Lastly, a PHD at the Cyprus College of Art seems have been the final stepping stone to Tom becoming a fully-

fledged professional artist. As an antique dealer with a particular interest in sculpture I can honestly say that his sculptures of the great and the good of Ireland are outstanding and even more remarkable, given his Beaumont education. His creative brilliance, his friendship and his sense of humour will be missed by many. May he rest in Peace.

**Oliver Hawkins** remembers -Tom was a Sussex boy, so we sometimes met out-of-school. I remember him drinking beer from a saucepan at the Stickneys and urging us to join him in a song; he was rather a latter-day Brendan Behan.

**ED:** I can only add that in the tribute at his funeral Tom was described as “Original, witty, well-read, loveable but at times infuriating”. During his student days he was remembered for “turning up at a party and leaving four days later”. So whatever Roger said of his abstemious teenage years he made up for later. His family thought it appropriate that he was played out to the Dubliner’s “The Wild Rover”. RIP.