

Obituary to Pauline Flemons

Pauline was one of the Centre's real stalwarts! She was appointed Sales Secretary in 1992 when, with a group of friends and helpers she set out – usually on Saturday afternoons - to sell National Trust goods at many of the local fetes, fairs, shows and other village and town events and for several years she even ran a stall in the foyer of the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. Gradually, however it became more and more difficult to obtain National Trust goods to sell, and the sales were reluctantly discontinued, but only after many hundreds of pounds were raised for local National Properties.

At the same time as Pauline was running the Stall she found the time to organise and lead several National Trust coach holidays and outings for the Centre. I believe her last outing was to Sunnycroft near Telford where she had been taken by friends and which she enjoyed so much that she wanted to share with other Centre Members - so she ran a Centre outing! She must have been in her eighties when she did this, and all the Members who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

But perhaps Pauline's most significant service to the Centre was to research and publish an excellent commemorative book "From An Acorn Grown" which was a detailed account of the history of the Centre from its foundation in 1964 to its 50th Anniversary in 2014. Pauline was very proud to be able to present the first copy of her book to the National Trust Director General when she attended the official 50th Anniversary Lunch at the Queens Hotel in Cheltenham.

Pauline was a softly-spoken Christian lady, and was a lifelong lover and supporter of classical music. She had a wide circle of friends, many of whom she had quietly helped and assisted over the years and whom she diligently supported and helped as they grew older and more frail. She always took a great and informed interest in the activities of the National Trust itself and diligently attended all its local and national functions. Pauline had a very happy marriage to Ken who sadly died about a year ago and who valiantly supported Pauline in all of her many activities, within and outside the Trust.

Pauline will be greatly missed both as a loyal and hard-working supporter of the National Trust, and a sincere friend to so many of us. May she rest in peace.

David Cooke