

# *Obituary* - Susan Jennifer Holt (1948-2015)

by Sylvia Ladyman

Susan, née Hobson, was born in Acton on the 14 September 1948 and educated at Bourne Primary and Queensmead Comprehensive schools. The family moved to Northolt Avenue, South Ruislip in 1950 – a road in which she lived for much of her life. After her marriage to Christopher Holt in 1966 she and her husband lived in Pinner (4 years) and Whitby Road, Ruislip Manor (13 years) before returning to South Ruislip in 1983. They had three children, Carol, Neil and David, and a grandchild Victoria.

On leaving school she worked as an Admin clerk at Kodak for three years (1964-67) and then from 1979-88 as a Query clerk for Audits of Great Britain. In 1988 she became an Admin Officer in the Department of Environment and Transport in South Ruislip and later in their Lime Grove site in Eastcote. When this closed she moved to the MODs H.M.S. Warrior at Northwood (1994-2001).

In 1988 Sue, as she was always known, met Celia Smith and they became great friends – often together at our monthly meetings and outings. Celia and Carol have been of great assistance in providing information for this obituary.

Sue had a large number of interests and was a born organiser, quietly dedicated and efficient in all that she tackled. She was a blood donor from 1972-2000, giving a total of 73 pints! She joined a local choir in Ickenham 'Singing for Fun', the Ruislip and Pinner Travel Club, the U3A (Hillingdon Science and Technology Group), the Hillingdon Friendship Group, and after her husband died in 2001, the Ruislip Widows' and Widowers' Club. She became an active member of the latter club, and was soon organising outings for its members. Throughout her life she was interested in several sports activities; Ten Pin

Bowling at North Harrow, reaching club level performance; Archery for Ruislip Archery Club; and a founder member of the Bowmen of Harrow, winning medals at various shoots. She was a member of Ruislip Ladies Cricket XI, being their Secretary for many years. She and Carol provided cricket teas and often watched cricket at Lords and Uxbridge. Another great interest was Formula One Motor Racing.

She sponsored the London Air Ambulance, and completed walks to raise money for Cancer Research as her husband had died of throat cancer. In spite of her many activities, and work, family and home responsibilities, she studied with the Open University and obtained a degree in Geology in 1990 aged 41; a most commendable achievement.

Sue was of course an active member of our Society, and when the post of outings organiser became vacant in October 2011 she volunteered to take over; no small task. She gently persuaded friends to each arrange at least one outing a year and write up an account for the Journal. In spite of deteriorating health (COPD) she organised five or six outings a year. Some were in London with Blue Badge Guides (Spitalfields, Greenwich, Brentford), others further afield (Stonehenge, Leicester, Bletchley Park).

She was a loyal Committee member and when Mary Pache retired in 2013 she volunteered to become Minutes Secretary. Once again she saw a job needed to be done and stepped into the breach. With so many activities and interests it is not surprising that she had a vast number of friends and acquaintances. Sue is greatly missed for the help and pleasure she has given so willingly to so many people.