
Obituary - Jim Kemp



In appearance, Jim was everyone's picture of Friar Tuck: small, rotund, fresh cheeked and his rimless spectacles revealed eyes that were grey and constantly twinkling. He had a powerful baritone voice and was a bubbling inferno of who swayed in and out of Circle functions like a gun barrel.

He was one of the first few new members of the Circle after its inauguration, joining after retiring from his successful printing business in Manchester. He gave his enthusiasm and affection to the activities and personalities of the Circle. He and Betty lived in Wilmslow where she looked after him and he looked after his garden beautifully - and played golf badly at Alderley Edge.

His Achilles heel was to react violently to any criticism of Ireland from where his loving wife originated. He was however a warm and loving character who gave particular individuality to those early years of Knutsford Circle.

When Knutsford 'mothered' the Wilmslow Circle into life, she gave to it many of her sons but none more original or lovable than Jim. He died on 21st November 1979 aged 78 years.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE