

A New Year message to the Southampton Circle

by Bro. President Graham Palethorpe

The virtues of generosity and goodwill toward others appear to be much more prevalent at Christmas time than at any other time of the year. Most people are happy to talk and exchange a Christmas greeting and often thoughtful gestures become much more spontaneous. Smiles are much more plentiful and just for a short while spirits are lifted as Christmas time approaches. Later, as the New Year beckons, you might start to wonder what the year might bring; happiness, sadness or both. If you were classified into a group, you might be deemed pessimistic (in the half empty brigade), not wishing the current year to end and fearful of the future, or optimistic (in the half full brigade), looking forward with excitement to the challenges and rewards yet to come.

We should remember though that, as a Catholic Christians, we are not taking on those challenges alone: we are walking with God. I'm reminded of that beach scene where you are walking along a beach conversing with Our Lord and as you look over your shoulder you only see one set of footprints. "You promised me Lord that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I've noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has only been one set of footprints in the sand. Where were you when I needed you?" Our Lord responds by saying "The years when you have only seen one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you."

What I have seen as a Southampton Catenian is that when I look over my shoulder in times of stress and trouble I see my fellow Catenian brothers and sisters walking with me. Thank you for being there for me, for my wife, for my family, and more importantly, for being there for each other.

We still have much to look forward to during these last few months of my presidency with a Circle Day of Reflection hosted by Sister Valentino on the Isle of Wight and I pray you will join with me and Christine on this special day. We have the privilege of sharing in Philip's 95th birthday celebration at which our Grand President is attending, a Clergy Night to celebrate our priests, deacons, sisters and brothers, and of course an Italian night at our most favourite restaurant, Keats, with Daverio and Helen.

May I wish you all at very happy 2017.

Graham

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING

7.30 pm, Tuesday 31 January 2017, Mercure Dolphin Hotel, Southampton.

FEBRUARY MEETING DETAILS

- **Circle meeting:** Clergy & Ladies Night. 7.30 pm on Monday 6 February 2017.
- **Venue:** Mercure Dolphin Hotel, High Street, Southampton SO14 2HN.
- **Dress code:** Jacket & tie.
- **February Welfare Officer:** Tony Murray
- **February Whisky donor:** Mike Lund Yates

JANUARY Meeting Statistics

Circle Strength:	47
Present:	25 (53%)
Apologies:	22
Visitors:	8
Visiting Gentlemen:	0

HOOLIGANS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Thanks to these super photos by Siobhan Shine, we can see what a great success the Hooligans Christmas lunch was once again. Hosted by our good friends at Keats in Ampfield, the food was fabulous as always and the atmosphere most festive. Some brothers and wives even donned party hats! Thank you to Bro. Daverio Matteucci, wife Helen, Martin and all at Keats for a great lunch and to Bro. David Palmer for bringing everyone together.



THE PRESIDENT'S CHARITY LOTTERY:

December 2016: 1st prize: Chris Barber (6) 2nd prize: Jackie Barber (69)
January 2017: 1st prize: Claire Lund Yates (31) 2nd prize: Christine Grummit (80)

JANUARY WHISKY DRAW: The January winner is Harry Harrison.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS: Congratulations to those who celebrate birthdays in January.

Jean Reese (6), Mary Berridge (13), Jackie Andrews (15), Peter Clapham (15) and Fiona McKeever (18).

BROTHER SECRETARY'S RAMBLINGS FOR JANUARY

An author owned an asterisk and kept it in his den,
where he wrote tales which had large sales of erring maids and men,
and always, when he reached the point where carping censors lurk,
he called upon the asterisk to do his dirty work!

Anon

CIRCLE WELFARE

Your prayers for these Brothers and wives who are currently unwell would be much appreciated.

Myra Andrade, Mary Berridge, Tony Brady, Roger Carter, Bill Eales, Rita Forster, Joe Gleeson, Margaret Kemhadjian, Louise O'Shea, Alma Phillips, Katie Smith and Valerie Summerton.



IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for Circle Brothers whose anniversaries occur in October.

Eddie Bonnar, Charles Hall, Michael Hamilton, Richard Harvard, John Morgan, Charles Riddle and Charles Wills. Please also pray for recently deceased Brother Andrew Morris of the Cardiff Circle and President of the Residential Property Tribunal for Wales who tragically suffered a cardiac arrest in a traffic accident.



CIRCLE EVENTS 2017

Tuesday 17 January	HOOLIGANS LUNCH CLUB	12.00 noon: The White Horse, Ampfield, SO51 9BQ. <i>Please advise Bro. Secretary if you wish to attend.</i>
Wednesday 18 January	PRESIDENT'S VISIT	Isle of Wight Circle. <i>Please contact Bro. Secretary if you wish to accompany Bro. President.</i>
Friday 20 January	NEW AGE KURLING:	7.00 pm: Banister Park Bowling Club. <i>Please contact Bro. Peter Clapham if you wish to attend.</i>
Thursday 26 January	VISIT TO THE BALLET	12.00 pm: 'Cinderella' at The Mayflower. <i>Sold out!</i>
Monday 6 February	CIRCLE MEETING & CLERGY NIGHT	7.30 pm: Mercure Dolphin Hotel, Southampton. Clergy & Ladies Night.
Tuesday 14 February	HOOLIGANS LUNCH CLUB	12.00 noon: The Pilgrim Inn, Marchwood, SO40 4WU. <i>Please advise Bro. Secretary if you wish to attend.</i>
Thursday 23 February	ITALIAN NIGHT AT KEATS	7.30 pm: Keats, Ampfield SO51 9BQ. <i>Please advise Bro. Secretary if you wish to attend.</i>
Saturday 4 March	CIRCLE RETREAT	Isle of Wight. <i>Further details to be advised.</i>
Monday 6 March	MARCH MEETING & SPECIAL CELEBRATION!	7.30 pm: Special Ladies Night to celebrate Philip Crook's 95th birthday. Dress code is Black Tie.
Monday 3 April	CIRCLE INAUGURATION NIGHT	Installation of Bro. Pat Feighery as Circle President and Bro. Harry Harrison as Circle Vice-President.

FEBRUARY CIRCLE DINNER MENU

Smoked mackerel salad with horseradish crème fraiche

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Confit of duck leg

or

Baked fillet of salmon with a redcurrant glaze

or

Goat's cheese, mushroom & spinach tart with a balsamic glaze

all served with caramelised onion & chive mash with carrots & braised red cabbage

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Dark chocolate cheesecake with fruit compote & Chantilly cream

or

Cheese platter

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*Please advise Bro. David Palmer of your choice of meal if you intend to dine.*

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>President</b>               | <b>Graham Palethorpe</b> | <b>01489 780 910</b> | <b>grahampalethorpe@gmail.com</b>      |
| <b>Vice President</b>          | <b>Pat Feighery</b>      | <b>023 8076 0255</b> | <b>pfeighery245@btinternet.com</b>     |
| <b>Provincial Councillor</b>   | <b>Daverio Matteucci</b> | <b>023 8025 2744</b> | <b>daveriomatteucci@googlemail.com</b> |
| <b>Secretary</b>               | <b>David Palmer</b>      | <b>023 8063 0008</b> | <b>drtpalmer@hotmail.com</b>           |
| <b>Dining Officer</b>          | <b>David Palmer</b>      | <b>023 8063 0008</b> | <b>drtpalmer@hotmail.com</b>           |
| <b>Treasurer</b>               | <b>Patrick Dobell</b>    | <b>023 8077 3631</b> | <b>pj.dobell@btinternet.com</b>        |
| <b>Membership Officer</b>      | <b>John Farran</b>       | <b>023 8026 8184</b> | <b>jfarran1@aol.com</b>                |
| <b>Benevolent Fund Officer</b> | <b>Tony Wilson</b>       | <b>023 8026 6617</b> | <b>tonypaulwil@gmail.com</b>           |

Southampton Catenian website: <http://www.southamptoncatenians.org>

President's Charity website: <http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk>