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**BRO. PRESIDENT**

*Bro. President, Folkert van Galen, shares his thoughts as he prepares to hand over office in April.*



The time has now come for me to pass over the office of Circle President. When I was installed as President last April, I shared with my brothers my thoughts on the role of the Catenian Association in the future: the need to continue ‘inspiring and supporting young people to undertake social projects’ so that they can discover their role in the world for the creation of justice and peace; the sharing in the spirit of Catenian values by inviting fellow Catholics to join the Circle. As I enter my last month in office, it is interesting to look back over the past year and to evaluate how we are responding to these challenges.

We had already forged a connection with the CathSoc students in early 2014 when we jointly donated a keyboard for their Sunday Masses. Last June, the Circle further cemented this relationship when we hosted a barbeque for the students which raised £765, alongside a £100 bursary award, towards their pilgrimage to Italy. We subsequently gave them £350 from the Central Fund towards their weekend retreat on the Isle of Wight and are currently assisting with the purchase of a guitar and a banner for their Masses. During last year, we also continued our tradition of awarding bursaries to young individuals and, at the August dinner, we heard from two such awardees: Ruth McCullen, who had returned from working with underprivileged people in Romania, and Hannah Forest, who had participated as a junior HCPT helper at Lourdes. In October, we purchased ten tickets for Flame 2 which were donated to St. Mary’s and St. George’s Colleges. This month, our Circle donated start-up funds for the CAFOD-led ‘Harvest of Talents’ in which three of our brothers participated along with the Provincial President. Clearly, we are not only continuing to financially support the young people in our area but we are also taking an active and visible role in their social projects. The recent formation of a Youth Committee, comprising Bros. Roger Lillie, David Palmer and Andy Philpott, signals our ongoing commitment to help young people discover themselves and their gifts through helping others.

Sharing our values of faith, fellowship, family life and fun is just as important now as when our Circle was inaugurated in 1913. Last year, we were pleased to welcome John Farran and Henri Kemhadijan as brothers and, currently, we have three potential new members. We are marginally short of our target of 50 brothers but we maintain a healthy and active membership and our events are always well attended.

Thank you for your support during the past year. My thanks also go to my Vice-President, Bro. Peter Clapham, and I wish him well during his forthcoming year as our President. Together, we will continue to promote Catenian values among ourselves and our community.

*Folkert van Galen, President*

**SOUTHAMPTON CIRCLE MEETING**

The 1,159th meeting of the Southampton Circle will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 13 April. It will be the Installation Meeting/ladies night. Dress code: black tie. Venue: Mercure Dolphin Hotel, 34-35 High Street, Southampton SO14 2HN.

**CIRCLE DUTIES**

March Welfare Officer: David Palmer (report at April meeting). Whisky donor: Ron Smith (April meeting).

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Council meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 31 March 2015.

**March Meeting Statistics**

Circle Strength	46
Present	23 (50%)
Apologies	23
No apologies	0
Visitors	1
Visiting gentlemen	0



## Helping to harvest young talent!

Southampton Circle's Roger Lillie is an active Education Volunteer for CAFOD and in February he helped to plan and execute a Lenten project called Harvest of Talents for years 7 and 8 at St. Mary's College, Southampton. The project was financed by the Southampton Circle whose brothers, Harry Harrison and Daverio Matteucci, acted as business mentors to the young students on the day. Provincial Director, David Cawdery, Mgr Canon Vincent Harvey and three CathSoc students also attended.

CAFOD's 'Harvest of Talents' project is based on St. Matthew's Gospel (25) which reminds us that God gives us gifts and skills that can be used for the good of others. The young students are challenged to think of ways in which they could use their gifts to raise money for charity and thus helping those in their wider global community.

The morning started for St. Mary's College children with a reflection on the parable lead by Mgr Vincent Harvey and a talk about a young Brazilian girl who uses her talents to fight for adequate facilities and housing in her area. 49 students were asked to reflect on their own talents and were then invited to form random groups of three which would pitch a fundraising business idea to their teacher and mentors. Harry and Daverio were on hand with some 'dos and don'ts' and helped the groups to set realistic goals. Roger, David Cawdery, the Monsignor and the CathSoc Students also provided encouragement.



Ideas came in thick and fast; a vintage bake off, a sports tournament and a 'pop up' hair salon. After a successful pitch, each group was given £15 to invest with the aim of multiplying this sum as much as they can. This start-up fund was provided by the Southampton Circle and Harry is quoted on the CAFOD website as saying: "The Catenians are always looking for ways to engage young people and this provided us with a great opportunity to do just that!". Both Harry and Daverio will visit the pupils again over the five week period to offer further guidance and help make the project a success and Roger will report back to the Circle on the results. The pupils' fundraising will have a double impact as each pound raised and donated to CAFOD during Lent will be matched by the UK government!



See CAFOD blog: <https://cafodportsmouth.wordpress.com/2015/02/13/making-the-most-of-their-talents/> Photos courtesy of Harry Harrison



## Circle Profile: The 'Magical' Anne Brady!

Can you keep a secret? One of our ladies, Anne Brady, certainly can as Roger Lillie discovered when he interviewed her about her life as a magician's assistant.

Anne has been in the entertainment world from a very young age. At the age of 3 she was singing on stage at Westfield Hall, Swaythling, in a show produced by her mother. The only problem was that as soon as Anne saw the audience she turned around and sang the song to the back of the stage. Not quite the start for a budding Shirley Temple! Anne's father was a founder member of Southern Theatre Productions, an amateur company who produced music shows at the Gaumont Theatre (now The Mayflower). Anne was a regular singer and dancer at the Gaumont and, whilst in the dancers' chorus of 'Waltzes from Vienna', she fell in love with fellow chorus member, Tony Brady. She says that he did not dance; thankfully!

Anne's life took a new direction when a good friend asked her to stand in as an assistant for local magician, Jeffery Atkins. She supported Jeffery in shows all around England, meeting celebrity magicians such as Paul Daniels and David Nixon, and she even shook paws with Sooty! Marriage did not intrude upon this exciting life as Tony joined the act, in charge of scenery and stage sets, and occasionally appearing on stage. The picture right shows Anne in a 'substitution trunk'. On this occasion Anne, placed in a sack, was put in the trunk which was chained and padlocked. A curtain was raised over the trunk and then dropped to reveal Tony inside it! However, Tony was not always an asset to the act: Anne recalls one show when her new husband forgot to change a lever which would have resulted in her being burned alive. Just in time, Tony sneaked unseen on stage and made the correction - it could have brought a sizzling start to their marriage!

These days, Anne still keeps in touch with the world of magic. Shortly before his death, Jeffery Atkins made Anne a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and she attends the annual conventions. As to how the tricks are done, does Anne know the magicians' secrets? She says not. As a member of the Brotherhood, no doubt she has been sworn to secrecy!



## CIRCLE EVENTS

Tuesday 17 March	LUNCHEON CLUB 	12.00 noon: Green Dragon, Brook. <i>Please confirm your attendance to Bro. Secretary at drtpalmer@hotmail.com.</i>
Tuesday 31 March	CIRCLE COUNCIL MEETING	7.30 pm: Mercure Dolphin Hotel
Monday 13 April	CIRCLE INSTALLATION MEETING	7.30 pm: Mercure Dolphin Hotel. Ladies night. Dress: black tie.

## AROUND THE PROVINCE AND BEYOND 2015/16

16 March 2015	South Hams Circle Inauguration	Devon
20 - 22 March 2015 (Friday to Sunday)	Province 11 Provincial Weekend	Dartington Hall. Programme to include meetings, Mass and dinners. <i>All bookings to be made through christina.barnaby@dartingtonhall.com.</i>
20 - 26 March 2015	Association's Official Rome Pilgrimage 2015	Bro. Secretary has already circulated the brochure. <i>Contact Bro. Philip Dean (Mid Herts Circle) on 020 7485 3003/ info@paxtravel.co.uk.</i>
11 April 2015	Provincial Council Meeting	Winchester
15-17 May 2015	AGM	Durham
13-15 May 2016	AGM	Malta. <i>Bro. Secretary has circulated details on this event and the special discounts that have been arranged.</i>

### CIRCLE BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to those whose birthdays are in March.

Frank McKeever (4), Myra Andrade (4), Ilda Ourique (5), Philip Crook (6), Valerie Summerton (6), Pat Feighery (10), Paul Andrews (10), Christine Grummitt (12), Bill Day (19), Malcolm Forster (21), Louise O'Shea (26) and Tony Murray (31).

### LOTTERY WINNERS

Whisky winner: Bill Day

There was no lottery at the March lunch but there will be a double lottery at the Installation Dinner.



**PRAYERS** Your prayers are requested for those who are unwell: Bosco and Myra Andrade, Roger Carter, Rita Forster and Joe Gleeson.

**IN MEMORIAM** Please pray for the March anniversaries: George Campbell, Frank Ellen, Margaret Gleeson, Peter Hatcher, Moira O'Connor, Freddie Tindall and Andrew Wilson.

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

President's Charity website: [www.cathedralinnovationcentre.com](http://www.cathedralinnovationcentre.com)