

SOUTHAMPTON CIRCLE NEWS

Circle No. 12 in Province No. 11

President: Michael Ingram



The Catenians
Friendship Family Faith

MARCH 2021



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

The past year is one that we will never forget. In March 2020 we began to feel the impact of COVID-19 with the cancellation of a visit to Poole Greyhounds. In the same month, we held our first virtual meeting using Skype when Council met to discuss the way forward. When it became clear that the social restrictions would be in place for some time, the Catenian Association chose Zoom as the standard for all online Catenian meetings.

Our first Circle meeting using Zoom was the Installation Night and AGM in May. We welcomed 17 visitors from 13 different Circles around the country, including the outgoing GB National President, the GB National President Elect, Directors of Provinces 5 and 10 and our Provincial President. It was clear that Brothers were taking the opportunity to use Zoom to visit Circles far and wide. In July, we had a morning meeting to allow visitors from Australia to attend. Our antipodean friends turned up in large numbers with many Circles in Perth and Sydney taking up the invitation. With UK Brothers and Bro. Eugene from India, we had a total of 39 visitors from 29 Circles. Further highlights included joint meetings with Ascot & Sunningdale in November and with Burnley in January. These were both well-attended events and drew many visitors from different Circles.

We were delighted to welcome speakers to three of our Ladies' Evenings. In June, Emma Stevens and Claire Stagg gave an excellent update on how Two Saints continues to provide support in spite of Coronavirus. In October, Rebecca White talked about the services provided by Mayfield Nurseries to help those with learning difficulties and mental health issues. Our most recent speaker Rob Trent, a member of the Mouth and Foot Painting Artists, gave an inspirational talk about his life and his art. Bro. Bob Millar also gave a fascinating insight into the history of firearms at the September meeting.

It is remarkable and heartening to see so many take up the challenge of using Zoom. I was particularly pleased to see Brothers Jim Shine and Philip Crook join us for Circle meetings, visits and the Lunch Club. Jim had not been able to attend physical meetings for some time and Philip was finding it increasingly difficult. Both took advantage of the new technology and it was with great sadness that we lost both of them within a few months of each other. In January, we were shocked to lose two more brothers, Derrick Austin and Pat O'Neill. May they all rest in peace and may God continue to console their families and friends.

cont. overleaf

March Council

Meeting

7.30 pm
Tuesday
30 March 2021
By Zoom



April

Installation Night

7.30 pm
Monday
12 April 2021
By Zoom

Dress code:

Black Tie & Miniatures
preferred
Lounge suits also
appropriate



Welfare activity replaced
by a Council ring-around



March Meeting

Statistics

Circle Strength:	37
Present:	28
Apologies:	09
Visitors:	02



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS Cont.

I want to thank members of Council for their support, encouragement and suggestions throughout the year. Brothers Bob Millar and Roger Lillie are stepping down respectively as Chamberlain and Charity officers and I would like to thank them both for their commitment and service over several years. I would also like to thank Bro. Malcolm Forster for taking on the role of Vice-President next year and Bro. Martin Counihan for offering to be Registrar.



I'm sure you will all join me in saying a huge "thank you" to Dawn for her unstinting work providing what I am sure is the best newsletter around. I am grateful to everyone for supporting my chosen charities. In spite of the pandemic, we raised over £3,000 as well as providing funds for the Holy Family Holiday Club and the Across Appeal – a remarkable achievement. I cannot end without thanking Jane who, in the background, has been a constant source of help and reassurance.

I would like to finish by wishing Bro. Roger Lillie and Margaret every success in their new venture in the higher echelons of the Catenian organisation. As a Circle, we are very proud the he is taking on the role of VP and then President of GBNC. For the year ahead, I know that Bro. Tony Murray will be an excellent Circle President and I am sure we are all looking forward to his year and the prospect of coming out of lockdown and meeting together again soon.



God bless,
Michael.

Brothers and ladies have generously supported the President's Charities for this year, for which many thanks. Unfortunately, at a time when charities need financial assistance more than ever, the absence of Circle events and dinners has adversely affected funds raised for Two Saints and Mind this year.

If you would like to make a final donation to either or both of the President's charities, you can do so by following the links below.

TWO SAINTS: <https://www.twosaints.org.uk/> and then click on DONATE

MIND (Mayfield Nurseries): <https://www.mayfieldnurseries.org.uk/> and then click on DONATE

Your support is much appreciated by both charities. Thank you.

Please remember to advise Brother Treasurer of your donation.

THE RIGHT MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME by Harry Harrison

As we enter this last month of Bro. Michael Ingram's term as Circle President, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Michael on behalf of the Council for rising to such unique challenges as never been experienced by any of his predecessors in the history of the Circle. We would have to go back to World War II to find a comparable situation. But, even then, the Brothers were still able to meet up in person from time to time. Michael's command of Zoom meetings has been so impressive that he has not only sustained Circle attendance throughout his year but has continued to attract a large number of visitors, including the return visits of National Council members. It made me feel proud to be a member of Southampton Circle. Michael applied the same skill to the quizzes he hosted in the summer, which were very slick affairs with videos that played on cue and well-researched questions. Behind these stream-lined events and meetings was dedicated hours of practise, leaving nothing to chance.

Our Lunch Club has been a constant in the Circle Diary for nearly 40 years and it was pleasing for the Club's founder, the late Philip Crook, that this tradition was upheld via monthly Zoom lunch meetings and then coffee mornings. Michael and Jane have truly understood the importance of maintaining social contact, particularly for those who are in isolation, through Zoom gatherings and telephone calls. Michael's articles have encouraged fraternity through community and faith. Our Circle is as steadfast today as it was this time last year, when we last met at the March 2020 Circle meeting, and we have much to thank Michael and Jane for this blessing.

PRESIDENT ZOOMS TO THE RESCUE by John Singleton

When planning my Brother Paul's funeral at Our Lady Queen of the Apostles, Bishops Waltham, his previous parish for 27 years, we thought we should not encourage the extended family to travel to attend as they would have prior to the COVID pandemic. We thought we could live stream the service to everyone but, alas, the church was not set up for that facility, although it did have WiFi. A bleak time was made all the bleaker, even though it felt to be the right decision to restrict numbers.

Felicity wouldn't let me attempt to try to stream the service on the day but it was so sad that the family would not be able to join us in celebrating Paul's life. Enter superhero Michael Ingram who, without hesitation, offers to survey the venue to make sure the connection is ok, and to setup and operate the equipment on the day. This involved an early visit to check WiFi capability and meet the priest, a visit with me the day before the funeral to check setup etc., and then operating the streaming on the day.

Michael did a great job, starting the streaming quarter of an hour before with views of the exterior and interior of the church, streaming the Requiem Mass with both laptop and extra camera and the final touch was to open 'unmute' for everyone at the end of Mass so that relations, who had not seen each other for over 12 months, had a chance to link up for a chat afterwards as we went to the cemetery, linking family members from all over the world. There were many appreciative comments. My daughter Veronica said how connected she felt to both the Mass and with the others joining via Zoom because of Michael's clever placement of the camera. My sisters and I cannot thank Michael enough for making such a difference to Paul's memorial. Naturally the Presidents Charities are a little richer than they were.

Michael Ingram is happy to offer this assistance to anyone who finds themselves in a similar situation in return for a donation to the President's Charities.

WHAT IS INNER WHEEL by Jane Ingram

Jane Ingram has been a great support to Michael during his year as President and she has also been involved in cementing friendship among Catenian wives and ladies via WhatsApp chats and Zoom gatherings. Here she talks about her personal involvement in Inner Wheel.



I have been invited to share an interest of mine with you but it is so difficult to choose one which to talk about. Many of you will know that I have been an active advocate for the pro-life message in schools, colleges, adult groups and churches, as well as actively supporting women and babies through the charity LIFE. Although I have retired from the educational side, I continue to give my support in spreading the pro-life message. Another great passion of mine is dressmaking and tailoring. I especially enjoy the construction, the detail of hand sewing and the hidden work that creates the finished garment, as in the challenge of a man's suit. I'm at my happiest when sewing.

However, I thought you may be interested to hear about a women's voluntary organisation, which I have been involved in for the past 17 years. Inner Wheel is one of the world's largest women's service voluntary organisations, which began in Manchester in 1924 as an answer for Rotary wives who wanted to offer service in the community. In those days, Rotary was 'men only' and often called upon their wives for support in ad hoc charity work. But the wives wanted to do more and so Inner Wheel was born. A totally separate organisation to Rotary, it has now spread to 104 countries throughout the world with over 108,000 members, including a representative on the UN.

Members in local clubs share the same passion for community service and friendship. Each club responds to their own local needs, although being part of a District and Association GB&I (Great Britain & Ireland), they also support worldwide charities.

My own club is Hamble Valley. We annually assist Rotary at the YMCA Young Carer's Weekend by making 1,500 sandwiches or baguettes and cooking burgers etc on site for the youngsters in the coffee tent that is open from 6am – midnight. It is a wonderful weekend break for these kids (10 – 16yrs) who need to have a break from caring for sick parents.



Some members enjoy knitting 'Trauma Teddies' that are sent out to Syria and Iraq as medical supplies to comfort children. Recently, my own district sent 200 teddies to Syria that arrived within a couple of days and were soon being distributed to children in hospitals and camps. Additionally, we run events to raise awareness and funds for different charities to improve other people's situation.

In 2019/20, I was privileged to be District Chairman of District 11, which spans from Gillingham, Dorset, across to Havant and from Basingstoke to the south, including the Channel Islands. This District is probably the equivalent of the Catenian Province. It was an amazing year, meeting many inspiring women who were making a huge difference in their local communities, national charity support as well as international charities.

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WHAT IS INNER WHEEL Cont.

If any of the ladies are interested to find out more about Inner Wheel, then please chat with me and also visit our websites for further information: www.Innerwheeldistrict11.org.uk or www.innerwheel.co.uk or www.internationalinnerwheel.org.

Thank you for all your support, friendship and prayers for our family during the past year. I cannot believe how quickly Michael's year has passed and what a different year it has been for us all. Hopefully it won't be long before we are meeting face to face again at social events, enjoying each other's company.

Keep well and stay positive.

Jane x

SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH – 19 MARCH by Michael Ingram

One hundred and fifty years ago on 8th December 1870, St. Joseph was declared patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis proclaimed the current "Year of St Joseph" which began on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on 8th December 2020.

Joseph is known as the silent saint. We hear not a word from the lips of St. Joseph in the Gospels and yet his sanctity shines through his silence. He would have found himself in an extraordinary position. Jesus was no less than the Son of God and Mary was the Immaculate Conception. Joseph was an ordinary man with extraordinary faith and he placed his trust in God. As head of the family, he was warned by an angel in a dream to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt. When he awakens Mary, she doesn't "pull rank" but responds immediately and they get up and flee, even though it is still night.



I sometimes wonder why St. Joseph isn't the patron saint of the Catenians. He is truly an example to husbands and fathers in the care and protection he provided for the Holy Family. To quote from the [Vatican News](http://www.vaticannews.va) website,

Joseph is also a father in obedience to God: with his 'fiat' he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to 'do the will of the Father'. Called by God to serve the mission of Jesus, he 'cooperated... in the great mystery of Redemption', as St John Paul II said, 'and is truly a minister of salvation'.

Joseph provided for his family through his work as a carpenter and he doubtless taught Jesus the skills of the trade as Jesus was also known as a carpenter ([Mark 6:2-3](http://www.bible.com)). In 1955 Pope Pius XII established 1st May as a feast day for workers under St. Joseph's patronage.

As Pope Francis says, every one of us "can discover in Joseph—the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence—an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble" (Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*).

St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, pray for us!

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF CATENIANS - PART II



In the February issue, we showcased the talents of painters, Graham Palethorpe and Felicity Singleton. This month, we feature the paintings of Christine Grummitt. Like Felicity, Christine studied art during her academic life and then returned to it in later years. Here, husband Simon, writes about his wife's relationship with her art.

Christine liked drawing from an early age. In Gibraltar, where she grew up, it was very dangerous to leave a piece of blank paper around: it would soon be covered in drawings. She studied Art as one of her main subjects while training to be a primary teacher at Digby Stuart College of Education in London. One of her early works was a self portrait. She also met and married a handsome man, as shown in her charcoal sketch of him (above). After 8 years as a teacher, she took a career break to bring up two children. Their portraits, along with the two right and below, are to be found on the walls on their lounge in their home. In all this time, sketching and painting was put on hold.



It was in the 1980's that she started painting again this time in watercolour, which became her favourite medium. An essential item packed in a suitcase when going on holiday was her sketch pad. There would always be a painting or two brought back as a souvenir.

It was during nearly three years spent in St. Helena, in the South Atlantic, that her flair for painting landscapes flourished. She would frequently be found somewhere on the island with her paints, easel and stool. In all she produced over 50 paintings many of which were sold as prints to tourists. An example is 'The Briars' which was Napoleon's first residence on the island. These paintings together with the numerous paintings of Gibraltar and holiday locations would fill at least one level of the National Gallery without any problems!!



HOOLIGANS COFFEE MORNING

For those of you who are free, please join Brother President at monthly coffee morning at 11.00 am this coming Tuesday, 16th March.

- To Join click: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86004808827?pwd=YU1KbnZiZRIWTK5LzFZMTRBKBHhZhdz09>
- In case you need them:
 - Meeting ID: 860 0480 8827
 - Passcode: 755767



SALISBURY SPECIAL CIRCLE MEETING

Please join Salisbury Circle for a very special Circle meeting at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25 March to support our Provincial President, Adrian Holloway, who will be receiving his 40 year scroll from GB National President, Eddie O'Donnell

Please support our Provincial President on his special evening and as he enters his second year of office. Dress code is collar & tie with a glass of wine. Please contact salisburycateniansecretary@gmail.com for details.

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ALFRED THE GREAT & VIKING ATTACKS IN WESSEX

A ZOOM TALK BY BRO. STEPHEN WHELAN

7.30 PM on 19 MARCH 2021

We are very fortunate to have a talk this month by Circle Brother Stephen Whelan. The Circle will recall that, in pre-COVID days, Stephen gave an excellent talk in pre-COVID days on the First World War. He is a very knowledgeable historian and was Head of RE and History at St Edwards RC School in Sherfield English. After retiring from teaching, Stephen took on the role of Mission, Ethos and Chaplaincy Lead for the school. He leads a stewardship group initiating a wide number of environmental projects under the auspices of Laudato Si, the promotion of Catholic Social values and the Pope's teaching on supporting the environment and the poor.

In Uganda, St Edward's School is leading a large project with the International Tree Foundation (ITF) and the Masaka and District Land Care Chapter (MADLACC) to build tree nurseries in 23 schools in south-west Uganda. St Edward's is leading the UK arm of the Development Group and has committed to providing clean water sources for drinking, sanitation and irrigation in all 23 schools. At present they have involved eight other schools but, with Bishop Lang's permission to go out to the other 62 diocesan schools in Clifton, they hope to extend the project further. They also have the support of St Mary's University, Twickenham, and a water harvesting charity in Winchester.

Stephen has given talks to various groups, such as the history societies of Wellow, Andover and Romsey and also to the University of the 3rd Age. The talks cover a wide range of topics, including:



- ❖ Dark Ages History
- ❖ 1066 (Year of 3 Battles)
- ❖ Agincourt (era of the Longbow)
- ❖ Waterloo
- ❖ The First World War
- ❖ The Holocaust

It promises to be a very interesting evening.

- Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738403680?pwd=aVYvSzVKQTYzMHNhdmNiWjZlEQIVnUT09>
- Meeting ID: 897 3840 3680
- Passcode: 008080

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INVITE FAMILY MEMBERS AND PARISHIONERS. No need to pre-register.

LADIES WHO ZOOM

The Southampton Ladies Zoom meeting is proving to be a very popular event and now includes ladies from other Circles in Province 11. The next Zoom will take place on **Friday 16 March at 8.00 pm**. The meeting will be hosted by Jane Ingram who will send on the link to participants.

Ladies who would like to join in should contact either Margaret Lillie or Jane Ingram. Those ladies outside Southampton Circle can obtain Margaret or Jane's contact email from Southampton Circle Secretary.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

Myra Andrade (4)

Valerie Summerton (6)

Paul Andrews (10)

Christine Grummitt (12)

Henri Kemhadjian (25)

Tony Murray (31)

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS!**

Daverio Matteucci (3)

Jane Ingram (5)

Bosco Andrade (8)

Ron Smith (11)

Michael Ingram (14)

**CIRCLE WELFARE**

Please pray for our Brothers & ladies who are unwell:



Myra & Bosco Andrade, Jane Barber,
John Berridge, Ann & Tony Brady,
Henri Kemhadjian, Claire Lund Yates, Peter O'Connor,
Ann O'Neill, Graham Palethorpe, Alma Phillips,
Catherine Porter & George Wysocki.



Derek advises that Alma particularly needs our prayers at this very difficult time.

Please also pray for:

Luke Andrews, nephew of Paul & Jackie Andrews
Courtney Andrews, father of Paul Andrews
Mark Ingram, son of Mike & Jane Ingram
Mark Owen, Bournemouth Circle

IN MEMORIAM

March anniversaries:



George Campbell

Frank Ellen

Freddie Tindall

Peter Hatcher

Andrew Wilson

Bill Day

Maira O'Connor

Jean Reese



Please pray for Brother Andrew Kurzon (Bournemouth) who passed away at the end of February. May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Please also include the Kurzon family in your prayers.

CATENIAN DIARY 2021

Tuesday 30 March	COUNCIL MEETING	7.30 pm: By Zoom
Monday 12 April	CIRCLE MEETING - INSTALLATION NIGHT	7.30 pm: By Zoom
Friday 16 April	SOTON LADIES ZOOM	8.00 pm: By Zoom. <i>Contact: Jane Ingram</i>
Tuesday 20 April	COFFEE MORNING	11.00 am: By Zoom <i>Contact: TBA</i>
Tuesday 27 April	COUNCIL MEETING	7.30 pm: By Zoom
Saturday 22 May	GB VIRTUAL CONFERENCE	Details have been circulated by email

BROTHER PRESIDENT'S ZOOM CIRCLE VISITS

Isle of Wight Circle: Wednesday 17 March at 7.15 pm

Salisbury Circle: Thursday 25 March at 7.30 pm

❖ Presentation of 40 Year Scroll to Provincial President, Adrian Holloway ❖

CIRCLE OFFICERS 2020-21

President	Michael Ingram	01489 799 992	wbcfns@hotmail.com
Vice President	Tony Murray	023 8094 3357	tonycfc@hotmail.co.uk
Immediate Past President	John Singleton	01425 650 957	johnsingleton@pc-q.net
Provincial Councillor	Harry Harrison	01794 388 418	d.harrison9.dh@gmail.com
Secretary	Folkert van Galen	023 8073 6551	fvangalen@aol.com
Treasurer	Paul Andrews	023 8025 3233	p.andrews@fastlizard.co.u
Membership Officer (+ Province)	John Farran	023 8026 8184	jfarran1@aol.com
Registrar	Malcolm Forster	023 8067 8229	malcolmandrita@btinternet.com
Chamberlain	Bob Millar	07811 388 273	millar.bob@gmail.com
Marshall	Andy Philpott	023 8086 9853	andrew.philpott@virginmedia.com
Dining Officer	Harry Harrison	01794 388 418	d.harrison9.dh@gmail.com
Charity Officer	Roger Lillie	01794 501058	roger.lillie@gmail.com
Benevolent Board Chairman	Martin Counihan	023 8184 6918	mjc@gmx.ie
Youth Officer	Harry Harrison	01794 388 418	d.harrison9.dh@gmail.com
Careers & Employment Officer	Harry Harrison	01794 388 418	d.harrison9.dh@gmail.com

Circle website: www.southamptoncatenians.org / Charity websites: twosaints.org.uk & mayfieldnurseries.org.uk