

Remembering Friends:

Peter Hensman (1917-2011)

Peter was born in Surrey in 1917 then moved to Suffolk where he lived until World War 11. He first learned woodworking, assisting the local undertaker/carpenter in the village. His family moved to Hampshire during the war as his father rejoined The Royal Navy—captain ranking. Peter was sent to the renowned Edward Barnsley Furniture Workshops at Froxfield nr Petersfield where he learned to make fine furniture.

He met Catherine at a club in London in 1964 where well educated deaf people gathered. They married in 1965 in Brighton and Catherine moved to Hampshire, temporarily in her in-laws home until they found a gardener's cottage in Headley Down. Catherine did part time gardening in a friend's garden and in a nursery nearby. Peter continued to make furniture to order or to sell at the Bladon Gallery in Hurstbourne Tarrant. When his late parent's house was sold they had to house-hunt and Peter had to give up his workshop at his parent's home. After further house-hunting they were told that Mrs. Bladon-Hawton's timber bungalow was up for sale but there was no car access, so they continued house-hunting until they were told there was now a car access as the Bladon Gallery had got it through the courts. They moved in 1976. They remained there for 28 years before moving to Dines Close where they spent many happy years—Peter driving around the village in his electric chair, happily smiling to everyone.

Our thoughts are with Catherine and the Hensman family at this time.

Footnote: Everyone said Peter was a man of few words but always had a laugh or smile but Catherine says he was frightened of his speech being misunderstood so he said little!

I would like to thank everyone for there very kind thoughts, messages and cards . They have been of great help and comfort at this time.
My thanks to you all, *Catherine Hensman*

**A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Peter will be held at
St. Peter's Church, Hurstbourne Tarrant**

on Wednesday 23rd February at 2 pm.

**Led by the Venerable Michael Harley,
Archdeacon of Winchester**

**Catherine cordially invites you to join her after the Service
at the Millennium Hall, Vernham Dean**