

## IAN JEFFREY WILLIAMS

Ian was born on 27 May 1936 in Blackburn to Walter and Eleanor Williams; he was their third child having two sisters, Doreen who was 7 and Carol who was 3. In 1939 the family moved to Leeds Road, Nelson when Walter took over maintenance at the Victory V factory.

Ian completed his education at Nelson Grammar School in the Science stream. It being the period for National Service, Ian joined the RAF and, hoping to get further qualifications, he signed on for four years. Perhaps the RAF's maths course was not quite as hard as he had hoped as there is a big question mark after the title Maths on one of his books! Ian served at a number of bases including Valley on Anglesey and Manby in Lincolnshire. He served elsewhere but I couldn't really ask him – no doubt he will tell you if asked. In the early years I remember going to Manchester with Dad, Walter, to pick him up from the bus when he came home on leave. These journeys were, at times, hazardous with fog and snow to contend with. I well remember one incident . . . Time went on and eventually Ian bought his own car, an MG PA with a registration number beginning MG – what would that be worth now! I remember doing a few jobs on it with Dad, not least trying to fix up the friction dampers – no hydraulics for that car! Ultimately he sold it. Ian came out of the RAF in 1958, I think, as 4176272 SAC Williams IJ.

Again I think, shortly after leaving the RAF, Ian met his wife to be, Brenda. They were married on 15 August 1964(?). I should remember the day as I was best man! They set up home in Brierfield and were blessed with two daughters, Louise and Rachel. Louise, who teaches at Art College, now lives in Banbury with Neil and their two children, Lily and Isaac who give Ian and Brenda great pleasure. Rachel, who works for the English Institute for Sport, lives in Sheffield with Wesley, her cat! Both girls are in very regular contact particularly at Christmas and birthdays.

When Ian left the RAF he joined Lucas Automotive Division (the bit that did car electrics) at their Burnley factories, joining and ultimately leading the Proving Team responsible for testing items to destruction. Only recently we were talking about having rows of semaphore indicators opening and closing for days or weeks on end to see what would fail. He went to night school during this period getting Higher National qualifications in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

With the changes taking place in many of our traditional industries with large multi nationals taking over, Ian took early retirement in the 1980s, again I can't remember the year but I do remember going to his leaving do when it was obvious he was held in great respect by both the managers and his colleagues. However, not long after retiring, Brenda became ill and after trips to London and other hospitals it transpired that the condition was irreversible and Brenda was confined to a wheel chair unable to walk or even stand unaided. Ian has continued to look after Brenda faithfully. I

think the only period when he couldn't was when, a good few years ago, he had a heart attack which put him in intensive care for several weeks. Fortunately, he has good health now and continues to care for Brenda to the present day.

Of course, this evening we are here to celebrate Ian's 50 years as a Freemason and a member of Calder Lodge. He was initiated on the 21st December 1960, having been proposed by our father, Walter. I believe his seconder was W Bro Fred Read who had been Worshipful Master in 1944 and had proposed Walter Williams into the Lodge. The Worshipful Master was W Bro W Stevenson. Have a look at your summonses and read the names of the officers at that meeting who ultimately became Worshipful Master of Calder Lodge. Ian progressed through the offices, applying himself with diligence to the ritual . . . and became Worshipful Master in 1972. During the intervening 11 years he joined Red Rose of Lancaster Chapter and Secret Monitor in which Order he is a Grand Officer. I joined Calder Lodge in 1966 and so have seen Ian undertake the principal offices. I know he has always done an exemplary job. He was appointed to acting Provincial Junior Grand Deacon and later promoted to P Prov Dep G Sup Wks, a rank he currently holds. He has always supported Calder Lodge serving in a number of Offices after his Installation but will perhaps be remembered for his long spell as Chaplain prior to him having to retire from that position when Brenda became ill. Ian is a Provincial Officer in Chapter having served Red Rose Chapter faithfully also.

But what of Ian as a person – I should know as he has been around all my life. I remember him helping me with my homework and doing many things for others. Perhaps our sister Carol summed things up when she said that Ian would always share his sweets with others even if he went without himself. I have already mentioned that Ian can be relied on to undertake ritual and to do it well. Well Ian can be relied on to do any job well. When Ian does any DIY job around the house it is always done to the highest standard. Brenda tells me he is not always the quickest at doing the job but when it is done it is done right. I can't remember Ian falling out with anyone – that isn't his nature and as we say in Chapter "humility and docility are sure signs of merit".

Ian is my brother in two ways and this evening it has given me great pleasure to share some of his life with you. Congratulations Brother, nay Worshipful Brother, Ian on attaining 50 years as a member of Calder Lodge and I look forward to celebrating your 60 years in 2021.

## Talk about 1960

- [January 9–11](#) – [Aswan High Dam](#) construction begins in [Egypt](#).
- [March 3](#) – [Elvis Presley](#) returns home from [Germany](#), after being away on [duty](#) for 2 years.
- [March 6](#)
  - Vietnam War: The United States announces that 3,500 American soldiers will be sent to Vietnam.
  - The [Canton of Geneva](#) in [Switzerland](#) gives women the right to vote.
  - The first 3 female priests are ordained in [Sweden](#).
- - A Soviet missile shoots down an American [Lockheed U2](#) spy plane; the pilot [Francis Gary Powers](#) is captured.
- [July 4](#) – Following the admission of [Hawaii](#) as the 50th [U.S. state](#) the previous year, the 50-star [flag of the United States](#) debuts in [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania](#).
- [July 13](#) – U.S. Senator [John F. Kennedy](#) is nominated for President at the [Democratic National Convention](#) in [Los Angeles, California](#).
- [July 21](#) – [Francis Chichester](#), English navigator and yachtsman, arrives in New York aboard *Gypsy Moth II*, having made a record solo Atlantic crossing in 40 days.
- [August 11](#) – [Chad](#) becomes independent.
- [August 17](#)
  - The newly named [Beatles](#) begin a 48-night residency at the [Indra Club](#) in [Hamburg, West Germany](#).
  - [1960 Summer Olympics](#): [Cassius Clay](#) wins the gold medal in heavyweight boxing.
  - The first episode of the long-running drama [Coronation Street](#) airs. It was
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  - [February 19](#) – [Prince Andrew, Duke of York](#)
- [April 2](#) – [Linford Christie](#), British athlete
- [July 13](#) – [Ian Hislop](#), British journalist and broadcaster
- [August 14](#) – [Sarah Brightman](#), English soprano singer and actress
- [September 9](#) – [Hugh Grant](#), English actor
- [November 17](#) – [Jonathan Ross](#), English television presenter

- [Gary Lineker](#), English footballer and sports presenter
- [January 12](#) – [Nevil Shute](#), English writer (b. [1899](#))
- [July 6](#) – [Aneurin Bevan](#), Welsh politician (b. [1897](#))
- [November 16](#) – [Clark Gable](#), American actor (b. [1901](#))

MINUTES

TRIBUTE

PRESENTATION then parade

Tyler retires

Collect Alms