

John S Murray, BSc MA (Cantab) 1931 – 2020



It is with deep regret that the Village Trust has to announce the death on May 20th of one of its longest standing members.

John moved to Honley as a young man in the early 60's, having already begun what was to be a life-long career in the media. After national service in the RAF John went to Cambridge University from where his interest in the media began to take shape on Varsity Magazine. While at Cambridge he won a photographic competition run by Picture Post Magazine and was recruited to their staff upon graduation. And he was off as they say. The rest of his life his love of photography continued and developed into film and video production. His work for Yorkshire Film Company and Leeds University Film Unit and as an independent

producer, took him all over the world including Libya, Syria and India, filming documentaries, some for David Brown Tractors of Meltham. His stories about his travels and adventures are legendary as many will have seen in the talks and screenings he has given to local organisations.

John was an avid conservationist, and was a well-known figure seen cycling around Honley and beyond, using the car only when absolutely necessary. John attended Trinity Church where every Sunday he could be found in the corner of the back pew managing the Church sound system. He had many and varied interests including Sustrans (Sustainable Transport) cycling organisation, he was a keen European and supported many conservation organisations. John was a founder member of the Honley Village Community Trust and was still a member of the management committee at the time of his death. The photo shows John as MC at the opening of the Whitby Bridge at Magdale in October 2016. For many years he was the editor of the Honley Flyer, the newsletter of the Trust and only retired from that post when he reached the age of 87 when as he put it, he kept falling asleep at the keyboard!

John's funeral will be held on Friday 5th June. Family members only due to the current pandemic, but if you would like to send a donation to Yorkshire Cancer Research in lieu of flowers you can do so on the obituaries page here: <https://www.radcliffefuneralservice.co.uk/>

May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him.