

## **Ron Lane of Maisemore.**

The death occurred recently of Ron Lane of Maisemore. Born in Gloucester 1936, Ron attended Finley Road School and then went onto Sir Thomas Rich which then was in Baron Street now Eastgate Street. From there he worked on the Permanent Way British Railways in Great Western Road in the Drawing office, taking time out for National service. Returning to Gloucester he attended the Technical College in Brunswick Road and proceeded over 3 years to study in Mechanical Engineering qualifying in 1961.

Getting his study books from the City Library in Brunswick Road he met his future wife Rosealeen. They married in 1962 and lived in Barnwood and had three children 2 boys and a girl, Richard, Nigel and Rachel. His career progressed and he became part of the management of British Rail, being responsible for structures, i.e. tunnels bridges and stations. Spending many weekend nights in the likes of Sapperton Tunnel.

One of his great loves was for sport; football, rugby and of course cricket. He played for St Paul's cricket club and subsequently British Rail. Of the many competitions they entered, and won, one was for the 'Bircher Cup' which was given by his Father in Law, Fred Bircher.

Over the years his cameras came into use for his job and so he acquired many slides which after his retirement were put to good use, with Rosealeen, they went all over the county as well as overseas giving illustrated talks with such titles as "Glorious Gloucestershire".

With the children grown up and producing 8 grandchildren and so far two great grandchildren, there was a perfect excuse to go 'down under', in the winter months to watch test match cricket.

Ron and Rosealeen came to Maisemore to live in 1997 and immersed themselves in village life, Ron became one of the members of Parochial Church Council, both of them became members of the Maisemore Local History society Ron being Treasurer and Rosealeen secretary. Also part of the Society for the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England brought Ron as photographer for various functions connected with this organization.

The Wednesday walkers took him and his friends around this beautiful Country of ours, with Ron usually mapping out the walks. Of which as his

granddaughter described as sometimes age ‘inappropriate’ as some of the walks were quite rigorous for a group of people of their age. But most Wednesday mornings are without fail beautiful weather to go exploring the many corners of this countryside which he loved.

At his funeral the church in Maisemore, on Monday June 5<sup>th</sup> was full to overflowing, bringing friends from so many aspects of his life together. Indeed with tributes from his grandchildren Natalie Girard, Oliver and Abigale Lane and Rev Canon John Evans. The church was full of laughter and applause, for a celebration of his life, reflecting how much he was loved and respected.