

Who was Philip Ratcliffe?



Philip John Ratcliffe (1932-2018) danced all over the local area attending a number of classes and latterly many social dances. In the 1980s he was dancing at Malvern and Pershore but it is thought that he had danced at Pershore since the 1970s.

Many local clubs benefitted from his support including Stow, Cheltenham, Worcester, Malvern and Pershore.

He was an electrical engineer by profession working at CGEB on the nuclear power station on the River Severn. When this work came to an end he continued by working at petrol stations around the area whilst returning on occasion to carry out maintenance on the power station.

In addition to the above he also did volunteering work and read to a man who was blind. He also helped out at the Pershore children's Scottish Country Dance class.

Scottish dancing was not his only hobby. He did Irish dancing in Birmingham, Ballroom and English dancing, attended the Highland classes in Cheltenham and did a lot of cycling.

Ill health in the 1990s did not stop him and he carried on with both jobs and hobbies for many more years. He became interested in the financial markets taking computer courses to follow them whilst enjoying his garden, growing his own vegetables and turning his hand to many a DIY project.

Often described as a kindly, quiet man Philip died on 5th September 2018 aged 86 and RSCDS Cheltenham Branch has been extremely grateful to receive a financial legacy from Philip that we can use to support Scottish Country dancing in Cheltenham and the surrounding areas.