



John Browning Griffin 21st November 1934 – 19th June 2016

It would be fair to say that without the drive and infectious enthusiasm of John Griffin, the New Lyke Wake Club would never have been “born” in 2004. A truly multi-talented individual who could genuinely communicate with people of all ages and levels bringing his infectious enthusiasm to any group.



As well as being a key player in the formation of the New Lyke Wake Club, John led many parties over the Lyke Wake Walk over the years and organised Wakes in places where it was not thought possible, like the Crypt of St Martin-in-the-Fields, an English Anglican church at the north-east corner of Trafalgar Square and the Saint Michael's Abbey, a Benedictine abbey in Farnborough. And being a particular fan of all things French (where he part owned a house) John always wanted to hold an underground Wake in Paris!

There are so many wonderful stories about John that it is difficult to know what to mention.

He and his wife Mary, when in their seventies, decided to do a round the world tour – but without the use of flight. Thus they travelled by train, typically non-passenger boat and, naturally, by bike around the world (John had a passion for bikes and had a sizeable collection).

John's "working life" was as a Solicitor where, not unsurprisingly, he excelled. Without this bespoke legal knowledge and contacts, the new Club could not have been born.

As well as being involved with the Scout Movement, John also loved sea canoeing and was a devoted father to Lucy and Tim.

John was always the Gentleman who never sought confrontation and conflict but was a doughty performer and the sort of person who one would always want on their side.....

John didn't just talk the talk.....he walked the walk
.....some 33 times, usually with his beloved 25th
Southampton Sea Scouts..... often in extremely arduous
conditions and invariably introducing young people to the opportunities of
the great outdoors.

Many thanks for everything John from the New Lyke Wake Club. John was
a glass half full man and always encouraged people to look to the
alternatives in life..... A truly one off individual.....
Summing up his life in one article, never mind a whole
book.....impossible.

At least 13 Dirgers and Witches attended John's funeral, with the Lyke
Wake tie being worn by many.