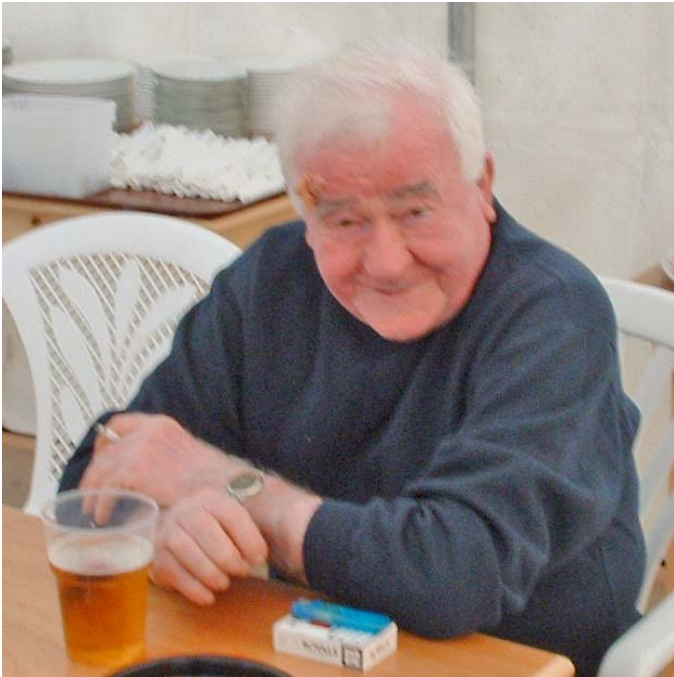


EXTRACT FROM FUNERAL SERVICE OF JAKEY RENDALL, 14/5/09.
(7/7/30 - 9/5/09).

We say thank you to God for the gift of Jakey, for having had him amongst us and for the blessing that he was to all those with the opportunity to know him. And that was a rich blessing – no question of it.



Maybe you didn't know him as Jakey – John, Jock, Jackie, Jake, Jakey – he was a man of many names - of many friends as we see most obviously here just now - and also of many talents – working on several farms, skilled as a builder and nearly 30 years of service to the Water Board – a Jake of all trades – and master of several too!

There was nothing he enjoyed more than the Sailing Club, which he served well as a member for over 40 years, many of them as Club Secretary. Jakey had a great love of sailing but also a great love of the club itself– escapism, camaraderie and just fun.

He also gave many years of his life as a dedicated Chairman of Westray Processors, fully aware of it's essential value to the community, as well as serving for several years on the OFS Committee, utterly committed to both the organisations and their co-operative principles.

But as much as anything – and certainly in later years – you just saw Jakey around – he was always down at the shop or about somewhere and he enjoyed a chat with folk – and a laugh with folk – nothing over the top – certainly never any airs and graces – just a friendly chat and an interest in how others were doing.

That's just how he was – kindly, gentle – easy going.

He was thoughtful, considerate, interested in people but fairly private by nature and someone who often kept his counsel unless you asked - modest, unassuming, quiet.

He was a non-fuss person - never one to complain about himself despite his illness and anxious to be as little bother to others as possible.

..... I spoke earlier about how we don't come here just to mourn but to affirm things. We come **also** to remember and to give thanks for the memories past and for the love that still endures.

Sometimes that's really difficult. We're so immersed in the pain of loss that thanksgiving seems impossible but that mustn't be the case today. Our sense of loss may be heavy but Jakey's life was a rich tapestry of experience and his personality one that touched many folk.

So we need to keep those things in mind as we give thanks for his life – that amidst the deep pain of separation – is the life of a person who was one of God's precious gifts and is worthy of our grateful thanks. So we think of the stories, the memories, the people helped, the family he grew up in, his working life – all these things. And beyond it all is just the friendly, gentle, intelligent, warm person who enjoyed life but did so simply and unselfishly.