



Devotion to duty personified – Janet Elliott opening the HGS Sunshine Garden in the pouring rain! (Photo: Family archive)

Janet Elliott

1932 - 2022

LAURA ELLIOTT

Janet was born on 13 December 1932 to a working class family in Plumstead. She refused to go to grammar school, instead she became head girl at a commercial school, then straight to work for the Daily Mirror at 16. In 1959, Janet married John Elliott, a Jewish refugee from Vienna. She continued to work, by this time for Vogue, then took A levels to enter the LSE in 1965. At this point, their children were four and two and much of their income went on childcare and domestic help. Janet grasped the cost of pursuing your ambitions and having much-wanted children.

Graduating in 1970 with a master's degree, Janet briefly taught at Tottenham Technical College before rocketing up the career ladder to become Deputy

Chief Officer of the Business Education Council (later BTEC). Janet travelled the UK and the Commonwealth setting up vocational qualifications, and enjoyed conducting Whitehall negotiations on vocational educational reform.

In her mid-fifties Janet was appointed Chief Executive of Pitman Examinations Institute, visiting its worldwide centres. She oversaw PEIs takeover by City and Guilds.

Janet moved to the Suburb in 1994 after retiring from full-time work and soon threw herself into Suburb life. She was the RA Membership Secretary for 13 years and chaired the Residents Association (2009-2014). She was also involved in Fellowship House, the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute and the HGS Library. Janet was a very able and fair-minded leader as well as a super-competent administrator. She was much-respected as chair of the Residents Association, a firm hand at the tiller in sometimes stormy waters. She received an award from Barnet for her community service in 2012.

She and her husband John were dedicated Lib Dems. She worked for Sue Garden's Parliamentary

campaign in 2005, and could often be seen delivering election leaflets round the Suburb or at the all-night Barnet counts, disappointing though the results would always be. Sue Garden, now in the House of Lords, writes: "She could be a formidable presence, but like other formidable women I have come across, you discover warmth, humanity and care behind the professional exterior, and she had those in spades!"

Some of her other Suburb interests included the Horticultural Society, the Proms at St Jude's, and Friends of Big Wood. Always

active, Janet was taking drawing and country dancing lessons right up to the start of the pandemic.

Janet had put up with a serious heart condition for many years. During the pandemic, vascular dementia removed her independence. However, she continued to enjoy life in her home in Temple Fortune Lane and her visits to Fellowship House. Janet died peacefully in the Royal Free on the 5 June 2022, with her daughter beside her.

She is survived by her children Dan and Laura, and her grandchildren Sam, Nanon and Nye.



Photo: Family Archive

David Pope

1950 - 2022

ELINOR DELANEY
(WITH THANKS TO ANNA HALLS)

David was born in Hillingdon on 11 June 1950, and attended Abbotsfield School for Boys.

His love of history and art showed at an early age: he studied History of Art for O level and because the school had no teacher for this subject, he taught himself and was duly enrolled into the exam and gained an A grade.

He took English Literature and Art at A level, gaining an A for art and went on to study Graphic Design at Kingston School of Art. A little while after his marriage to Jennifer Stoneham, David gained

his diploma in Art and Design and started on a career as a graphic designer. David started worshipping at St Pauls in Dorking, close to the family home, where his children sang in the choir and they found a supportive community.

Following a period of illness David left the family home and came to live in Hampstead Garden Suburb in his own flat in Waterlow Court. It was at this time that David started worshipping at St Jude's, where his faithful attendance was so much appreciated and he found companionship and a rhythm to his life. David became the lynch pin of the Sacristy team at St Jude's and devoted many hours to cleaning the church equipment and preparing for the weekly services and the more complex services. He gained a detailed knowledge of the liturgy and was never happier than when he was able to pass that knowledge to others in the team. He left meticulous notes for the Sacristy team on all aspects of preparation for which we are so grateful. His other joy was running the Book Stall at our Church Markets and his skill as an artist was recognised when his fine drawing of the church was chosen for the tea towel which was produced in 1994.

Always somewhat of a recluse, the impact of the pandemic on his health was huge. During this time he lost his father and sister and the effects of Parkinson's Disease worsened without regular exercise. His physical and mental health took a severe blow from which sadly, he never recovered.

David died at Easter in 2022 and his ashes are buried, together with those of his parents, in Dorking cemetery with a fine view over to Box Hill. His devotion to St Jude's will be long remembered.

He is survived by his son Oliver and two daughters, Julia and Anna.

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