

Brian Eggleston 11 July 1937 – 7 December 2018

We regret to record the death of one of our long standing members, Brian Eggleston CEng, FICE, FIStructE, FCI Arb, on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Brian was a chartered arbitrator with extensive UK and international experience, adjudicator and mediator and acted as an adviser to contractors and employers on contractual matters. He was well known too as a seminar speaker on contract law and standard forms.

In a career spanning over 40 years he worked on all sides of the construction industry, firstly as a bridge designer, then as a resident engineer and contracts administrator, and subsequently as a director of various building and civil engineering contracting companies. He was the author of six books published by John Wiley (successors to Blackwell Science), including a book on Liquidated Damages and Extensions of Time and a well known commentary on the NEC Contract.

The following eulogy was given at his funeral:

*Brian was born a true cockney, within the sound of Bow Bells, but it wasn't long before the family relocated to Lancashire. He had a difficult childhood, his father died when he was six and his mother struggled to cope, resulting in Brian being placed in a Barnados children's home for a while. Back home with his mother and two sisters Patricia and Joy, he went on to gain a scholarship to a Jesuit Boys School. He was ambitious and hard working from a very early age. At eighteen he became a college lecturer at night school, teaching students no younger than himself in order to support his family. He was called up to the RAF to do his National Service where he quickly progressed becoming a Flight Lieutenant and teaching others the theory of flight.*

*It was during this time that he met and married Pauline, or Pom as he affectionately nicknamed her. A year later, their first daughter Julia was born. The RAF wanted him to stay on and train as a fighter pilot but Pauline wasn't keen on the idea so it was back to civilian life on the ground.*

*He went to work for Lancashire County Council as a road and bridge designer whilst studying for his exams as a civil and structural engineer. He liked to remind people that he won an award for getting the highest marks in the world in his civil engineering exams one year.*

*Two years later their second daughter Susan was born, followed four years later by their third daughter Victoria. Having secured a job at Coventry Council, the family moved south to Kenilworth. He was tasked with working on the infamous Ring Road, a job he was not too enthusiastic about. He then moved to Birmingham Council, a very worrying time for his family, as the IRA were bombing the centre of Birmingham where he worked. The family were on the move again, this time to Balsall Common. It was at this time that Brian met Bill Caswell of Sheldon Contracting, who offered him a job as Contracts Director and the family fortunes took a sudden and rapid upturn.*

*The family moved yet again, this time to a three-acre plum farm in Broadway. Many years ago, as a child, he had been on a working holiday to a fruit farm in the Vale of Evesham and he had never forgotten it. He threw himself wholeheartedly into the project, doubling the size of the house and digging a swimming pool and small lake by hand. Some years later he spent a month in traction as a result of all the digging. He continued to study, taking exams for the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, an institution of which he later became President, one of his proudest achievements. He was one of the very rare arbitrators to not have a law degree, as his technical expertise was more than sufficient. During this time he met his friend Vee, who has continued to work with him to the present day. Brian's career continued to go from strength to strength and he was able to indulge his favourite pastime of buying properties, living at one time*

*simultaneously in London, Arrow, Bournemouth and Edinburgh. There followed other properties in Leek Wooton and a very well loved home in the Lake District.*

*In his spare time he took to writing industry leading books on construction contract law, and had just finished his latest, a guide to the New Engineering Contract 4. He never contemplated retirement and was still working till the end.*

*He had very little leisure time, for him working was the real fun in life, but he was very fond of a game of golf, although never devoting enough time to it to be able to play as well as he would have liked. He was also a very keen runner, going out whatever the weather. He ran in the first London Marathon and many subsequent marathons.*

*In later years he was able to enjoy the company of his six grandchildren. Julia's triplets, Alexander, Oliver and Isabel, and Victoria's children, Stella, Gregory and Angus. He looked after Pauline when she became unwell and used his negotiating skills to make sure that she got the very best care.*

*Brian had a way of dealing with anyone he came into contact with, that led to people remembering his generosity, both financially and of spirit, years after they had met him. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.*