

CEDRIC McCARTHY

1923 - 2016

The King's School is very sad to have to announce the death of Cedric McCarthy on 9 January at his home in York, aged 92.

Cedric joined the History department at The King's School in September 1952 and served both as a History teacher and as Head of History until 1981, when he retired to live in Shropshire, and later in York. Cedric made a significant contribution to the School throughout his time here.

Cedric had taken a degree in History at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, and after teacher training came to King's in 1952. 'Scratch', as he was affectionately known, dedicated his teaching career to The King's School. Alongside his passion for his subject, he was heavily involved in extra-curricular activities, especially a whole range of sports, and was for many years Master i/c rowing, and regularly took a team to Henley. He also led school camps, taught raft-building in the early days of Stibbington, made props for plays and supported all drama and music events.

Cedric was a Quaker and a pacifist. Nevertheless, during the Second World War, he volunteered to serve from 1943-1946 as an unarmed medic in the 225th (Parachute) Field Ambulance of the 6th Airborne Division, parachuting into Normandy on D-Day, 6 June 1944. He was a member of a surgical team in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany; after the end of the war in Europe he transferred to the Far East, serving in India, Singapore and Sumatra. In Singapore he also worked on the South East Asia Command newspaper, and at the Army Formation College.

Cedric was a man of great passion and energy. A lively and witty colleague, he was sociable and hospitable, regularly inviting staff to share his cottage at Ravenglass in the Lake District, where he tackled the fells with gusto and real enjoyment – other younger colleagues amongst us had difficulty keeping up!

There is to be a private funeral service in York on Wednesday 3 February, followed by a Memorial Meeting at 2.30pm at the Quaker Meeting House, New Earswick, York, YO32 4AD.

We offer our sincere condolences to Cedric's widow Margery, and the family.

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