BOOK OF REMEMBRANCES

about

Andrew Frederick Tinnion

'Andy'

10th June 1939 – 28th August 2009

He has made an immense contribution to the sheepskin industry during his working life and will be sadly missed by many.

Rachel Garwood

… it still takes some believing he is no longer with us. He will be sadly missed.

Karl Donoghue

I have been struggling with skin cancer Melanoma for 9 years now. I look so young because of all the bits of skin I have had cut out. Involuntary 'face lifts'.

My heart goes out to Andrew and his family.

J. G-S.

We are saddened by the news that Real Sheepskin Association Chairman Andrew Tinnion has lost his battle with cancer.

Andrew was a man whose passion and enthusiasm for his craft was infectious. We admired his fortitude and candour and there is no doubt in our minds that the Sheepskin Industry has lost a true champion.

During the twenty or so years he led our Trade Association Andrew worked tirelessly to promote the Sheepskin industry. His work with legions of students and practical support of the RSA Design Awards has helped introduce a new generation of designers to working with Real Sheepskin and is just one small but important example of Andrew's legacy.

We offer our condolences to June, Rachel and Mark, Chris & Angela Tinnion along with Andrew's colleagues at Fenland Sheepskin.

Peter Robinson & Charles Afford

Andrew was a gentleman of the old school who could not have been kinder with his time or more generous in his willingness to share his unique extensive knowledge with me over the years we knew him. I am only pleased that Jess and I were able to be at the RSA dinner in London (June 2008) to see how highly he was regarded by the whole sheepskin industry and how impressive he was in leading a public occasion. He will be greatly missed by all of us .

Clive, Lydia, Jessica Hartwell

He was just the loveliest man and I enjoyed working with him when the Sheepskin Association sponsored their Award at GFW (Graduate Fashion Week).

June Barker

I must place on record my very considerable sadness upon hearing the news of the death of Andrew. A very good friend and colleague of many years standing, he was always a pleasure to meet and to be involved with.

The very first time I got to know Andrew was when I had conceived the idea of setting up a stand at the Royal Show depicting not just the meat side of the products of sheep farming but also … all the important by – products.

I remember being put in touch with Andrew as the person most likely to help on the apparel and fashion side and also to identify the other skin based products of sheep production. No one could have been more helpful and that event was to start a relationship which has spanned 30 years.

We fought more than one battle with the Ministry [now Defra] and had some fairly sturdy arguments ourselves, but it was always good to be on the same side as someone as knowledgeable and straightforward as Andrew. His passing will leave a very serious gap.

John Thorley OBE, FRAgS.

Andrew … was one of the main influences in launching Textile Forum South West's Creative Sheepskin and Leather Workshops.

His enthusiasm for all things sheepskin and a desire to inform young creative talent were an inspiration.

This resulted in two successful workshops – Bath 2006 and Taunton 2007. His support and encouragement throughout were pivotal in their success. Andrew and June attended each session tirelessly giving the benefit of their considerable experience in the sheepskin industry to the enthralled participants.

The opportunity given to me by Andrew to work in such a creative medium, shared by likeminded others, was unforgettable. Thank you Andrew.

Judy Hutt

He will also be missed by the British Leather Industry to which he contributed so much.

John Pittard

He will be missed by the RSA and colleagues alike. A big pair of shoes to fill and sad loss to the sheepskin industry.

Joe and Danni Cloutman

We saw Andrew a month ago (July 09).... he was looking very grey then, but still his normal affable, ebullient self. That is always how I will remember him.

Nicki Port.

Andy was my first boss and the reason for me changing from textile chemist to the woolskin industry in 1967.

Andy was a wonderful boss, always encouraging and challenging. He and June introduced us to waterskiing at Burnham on Sea. Afterwards we had magnificent barbeques on a BBQ Andy built South American style.

After leaving Morlands we remained the best of friends and enjoyed many interesting nights out in Paris and other locations.

In March this year Andy and June attended the wedding of our daughter in Fiji and also celebrated their 70th birthdays. We had a fantastic time together.

I have no doubt that Andy was unique. He had a wonderful sense of humour and an amazing memory and could talk on anything with conviction.

The woolskin industry in the UK will sorely miss his drive and passion.

On behalf of all the friends you made in New Zealand and from Norma and I, farewell our dear friend and colleague of many years.

Charles (Chas) Martin

The industry has lost a great man and many of us a true friend.

John Sladen

He will be fondly remembered.

John Ettling

Such sad news. Please pass on my condolences to Peter as I know they were good friends.

Tanya Thompson

I will not forget his openness and desire to see success come from the small work and time that I spent with you (RSA) all.

Miles Macpherson

Andrew's enthusiasm was fantastic and certainly inspired me

Ben Stanley, Farmer.

Andrew was like an ocean. He held all the mystery, passion and wealth of his life in the vast space of his world. And generously shared it.

It has been an honour for me to have been a part of this great world of his. I am richer for that.

I will miss his humour and genuine interest in 'Lily'.

"Don't bar the door, there's no one coming.

The ocean's roar, will dull the drumming."

Basil Kardasis.

The Tinnion family express their sincere thanks for your incredible support and kind wishes.