



Les Drillsma 1948 - 2020 **Graded to 4th Dan St Ives 07-04-1980**

Sadly Les passed away on the 23rd of October 2020 after a short spell in hospital. All who knew him extend their condolences to his grieving Family.

He is remembered by his B.J.C. friends with wry affection and appreciation of the countless work he did on behalf of the Lancashire Area and it's Squad. He was the Head Coach of the Lancs Squad for many years a real motivator who led from the front. Additionally he was also a member of the BJC National Squad and represented the Council on many of its forays to the Continent indeed on one occasion in Paris, his opponent was Angelo Paris!

I recall on one of the BJC's engagements our party was to fly to Paris from Gatwick Airport with the arrangement being that our members were to make their own way to Gatwick where we would all meet up. Les however had a problem on his journey resulting in him arriving very late and missing the arranged meet-up. Fortunately our group being attired in full BJC uniform of Blazer, BJC Badge, Grey Slacks, White Shirt (buttoned up!) BJC Tie and Black Laced-up Shoes, we attracted the attention of an Airport Official. He very kindly, after our dilemma was explained, herded us through the check-in and taking charge of Les's ticket giving assurance that he would look out for him and escort him through control etc. This of course was a long time ago and I doubt it would or could happen in todays day and age.

Les did meet up with our group in Paris Airport were he informed us that his seat had been sold and he had been forced, much against his will, to travel in the First Class, drink Champagne and hob-nob with Shirley Bassey.

This is just one of the many memories of Les and I am sure that all of you will have others that you treasure.

Rest in Peace

