

## OUR PEOPLE



## Long Service Awards

At our Annual Staff Dinner in November, we were pleased to acknowledge the dedication of our team members who have worked with us for 5, 10 and 20 years.

*Our thanks and congratulations to ~*

1. Jeff-Skeates Hall: 20 years
2. Jenna Weeks and Neil Rogerson: 5 years
3. David Skeates: 5 years as a Consultant
4. Ian Maylin: recently retired
5. Claire Skeates-Hall: 10 years
6. Derek Bayford: 20 years



*And finally ....*

Two special "Bob the Builder" awards were presented to Jon Nicol and Neil Rogerson who work at our Shire Hill funeral home in Saffron Walden, in recognition of their installation of some new barriers in the car park.

**Well done chaps!**

# PEASGOOD & SKEATES

THE FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE  
EST 1847

[www.peasgoodandskeates.co.uk](http://www.peasgoodandskeates.co.uk)



# Winter Newsletter 2021



As winter approaches, it is an important time for us to say "Thank-You" to the many and varied people our team have worked with during the last, very challenging year. The professionals who work with us, the clergy and their church teams, the celebrants, the delivery drivers who bring our supplies and support our business and the work that we do, may I say a huge "Thank You" to you all, for your service and your support.

I would also like to pay my own tribute to my work family. The funeral profession is quite rightly a discreet but important part of the care sector. The last 24 months have brought untold pressures on the whole care sector, particularly our colleagues within the NHS, the care homes and the hospices who have given of themselves in their devotion and care of patients. We have joined with many of you in clapping for and appreciating those who have saved life and fought daily to do so.

The work of our team comes at the end of all that effort, when peace comes. It is not appropriate that we are applauded in the same way. But having seen the dedication, the care, the hard work and the diligent focus on their responsibilities, 24 hours a day 365 days a year, I would quietly like to applaud each of them and all who serve in the funeral profession, to thank them and acknowledge their service to those who face grief and loss.

May I also spare a moment of reflection to all those families who have instructed us in the last year. Our thoughts are very much with them as the Festive Season approaches providing an opportunity to gather and remember and to celebrate the lives of those who continue to be loved.

**On behalf of the entire team at Peasgood & Skeates, thank you to everyone who has worked with us this year and may I extend our very warmest wishes to you all for a peaceful and blessed Christmas.**

*Seán*

**Sean Martin**  
Head of Operations

We would like to remind our clients that they can access professional bereavement support through **SAIFCare**, which offers help via a free telephone helpline, email and webchat. The Service is available Monday-Friday 9am-9pm:  
**Tel: Freephone 0800 917 7224 email: [help@saifcare.org.uk](mailto:help@saifcare.org.uk)**



**SAFFRON WALDEN**  
Shire Hill 01799 523314  
High St 01799 513513

**DUXFORD** 01223 833463  
**SAWSTON** 01223 791065  
**HAVERHILL** 01440 840140

**CAMBRIDGE**  
Newmarket Rd 01223 415255  
Histon Rd 01223 791060





## Lego for Good Causes

Peasgood & Skeates, in conjunction with “FIRST® LEGO® League delivered by the IET” donated a large quantity of LEGO Educational sets to East Anglia's Children's Hospices, Milton, EACH.

Pictured are Karen Trickey (Young Persons Lead – Senior Carer), Derek Oakley (Funeral Manager) and Jessica Oakley (Funeral Arranger), Derek said “We are so pleased to be able to donate these sets to such a worthy cause, and hope they will give some pleasure to the children and their families. We also thank FIRST® LEGO® League delivered by the IET for their generosity.

## Services of Remembrance and Thanksgiving



Funeral Manager, Ben Seward is pictured above with Revd Devin McLachlan, and below, with his team, at Great St Mary's, Cambridge.



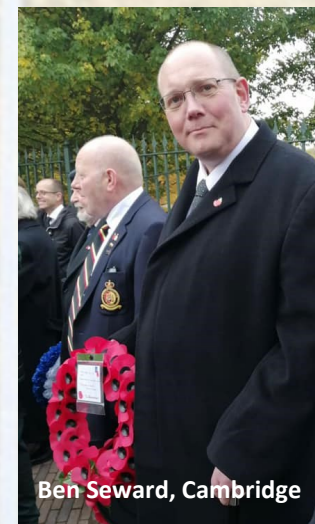
L-R: Claire, Justin, Jeff, Alan and Ben

We have supported a number of services this year including those arranged by Saffron Walden, Thaxted and Sawston Parish Churches and the Church of the Good Shepherd Arbory, who have kindly hosted our own annual service in recent years. We were also pleased to attend a special service in remembrance of those who have donated their bodies for medical education and another for victims of road traffic accidents, both of which were very thought provoking and humbling.

For the first time this year, our Cambridge team held a service at Great St Mary's, the University Church, in Cambridge. We were delighted to have so many families with us that we had cared for this year, some of whom our Funeral Arrangers hadn't had the chance to meet previously in person, as arrangements had been made remotely during the lockdown. The service was also viewed by a number of people online, some as far afield as Italy and Australia.

Our sincere thanks to all those who helped with these services in some way, and to those who attended. They provided a time for collective remembrance and reflection; a family who joined the Cambridge service online commented “Thank you all for the peaceful, thoughtful and caring service”.

Both the Saffron Walden and Cambridge Services are still available to view online via the churches' YouTube Channels.



Ben Seward, Cambridge



Jenna Weeks, Saffron Walden



Emma Whitwell, Sawston



Alan Prior, Histon



The Team at Shire Hill, Saffron Walden



David & Claire Skeates  
Duxford

## Remembering the Fallen

Our teams paid their respects by observing 2 minutes' silence on Armistice Day and wreaths were also laid at war memorials in Saffron Walden, Cambridge, Histon, Cambourne, Sawston, Duxford and Haverhill.



Nicki Hickford, Haverhill



The winners of the Saffron Walden Charity Golf Day putting competition.

We were delighted to provide the prizes for the putting competition at the Charity Golf Day held at Saffron Walden Golf Club .

The Golf Day was originally planned as part of the 2020 Carnival which had to be postponed, but thanks to the support of the golfers, the putting competition raised £315.00.



Lee Wilkins and Phil Warner are pictured with Saffron Walden's Mayor, Richard Porch, and Rachel Thomas from the Tourist Information Centre placing the first baubles on the town's Memory Tree which we are proud to sponsor again this year.

Photo courtesy of The Walden Local