

A THANKYOU
GEOFFREY CLARKE R.A.

On Saturday 29th December 2014, at the annual tidying of the Millennium Wood, some residents from the Village, raised their coffee cups in tribute to Geoffrey, who died recently on 30th October, in acknowledgement and thanks of his gift to the Village of the "The Gift" in 2000. Geoffrey moved to live in the Village in the mid 1950's to live at Stowe Hill.

On reading the obituaries in the National newspapers or when listening to Last Words on BBC Radio 4, one can only but admire how he used the gifts that he had been given, in such an varied way and how many have been affected by his influencing work, especially as demonstrated in Coventry Cathedral.

Many, who live in the Village and in the district, could probably regale you with stories of times spent in his company and who also appreciated Geoffrey's friendship over the years.

More recently, we recall the fun and excitement of being involved with the planning, planting of the wood and going to the Annual Royal Academy Exhibition to see the sculpture being displayed. This was followed with the lovely sunny day of the great unveiling. Children from the School joined by many from the Village Community who were involved, gathered to participate in a memorable occasion, which has added to the rich heritage of our Village.

For us, every time we walk through the wood or sit there early, on New Year's day with a bacon butty and a coffee, we can give thanks for this generous gift, placed to face east at sunrise on the 1st January. It will stand for many years to come, in memory of an amazing man. Thankyou Geoffrey.