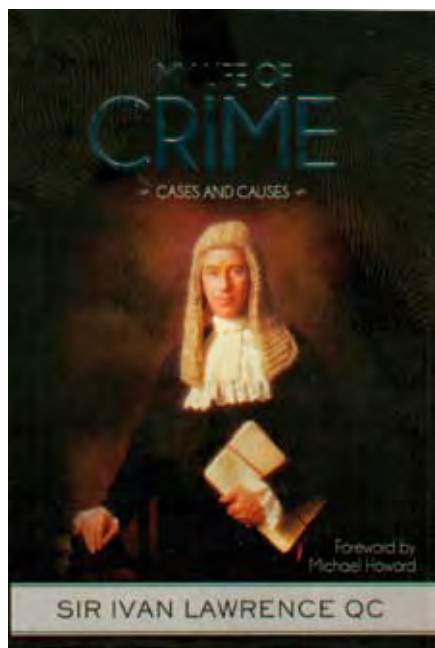


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He took part in some of the most infamous trials of the twentieth century including the Kray twins and the serial killer Denis Nilsen. He also gives an insight into life in the Commons under the leadership of Margaret Thatcher.

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by Rt Hon Denzil Davies

THE GALILEAN AND THE GOOSE by Association member Denzil Davies, MP for Llanelli for 35 years and a former Treasury Minister, is not a memoir or a collection of speeches; it is a history of the development of early Christianity within the Roman Empire. The book begins with the life and death of Jesus Christ – the Galilean, when Augustus and Tiberius respectively were Roman Emperors.



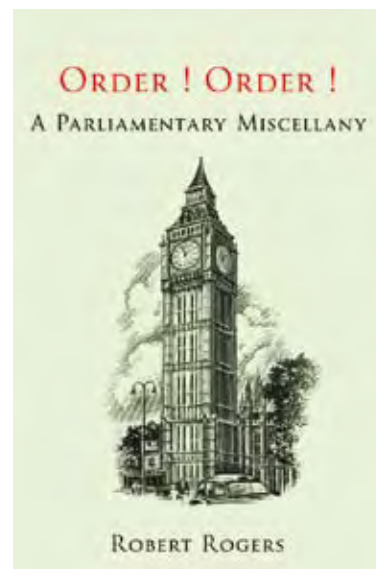
It then traces the development of Christianity until in 325 it became the official religion of the Empire under Constantine The Great.

The “Goose” relates to an incident when Julian, Emperor from 361 to 363, intent on restoring the Pagan religion, visited the Temple of Apollo, expecting a lavish ceremony. However the only sacrificial animal available was an old goose belonging to an elderly priest of the Sun God. No-one else was there. Paganism had no financial or intellectual resources left. The Galilean had won.

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2 November 2010

Dear Lady Grocott,

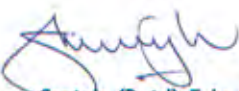
As you know the Union Jack Club has been pleased to offer Temporary Honorary Membership to members of your Association and I understand that since the last election there has been a major increase in your membership. Against this background Sir James Spicer thinks it would be helpful to set out what the Club can offer your members.

The first point is I would make is that we do not require an annual subscription to your from your members but we do ask that they have some sort of identification when they use the Club.

The Club is always busy particularly where room bookings are concerned so please ask your members to book well in advance. If your members wish to take advantage of our restaurant then there is no need to stay overnight but ask that they book a table in advance.

We are very proud of the service and facilities we offer and I do hope that your Members will make use of them. The Club is situated in a prime location only 100 metres from Waterloo Station.

Yours sincerely,


Captain (Retd) John Lenaghan
Deputy Chief Executive

Above is a letter from the Deputy Chief Executive of the Union Jack Club confirming that as a member of this Association you are entitled to honorary membership of the club which is based a short walk away from Westminster at Sandell Street, Waterloo.

This concession is **ONLY OPEN** to former MPs who are members of this Association and means that if you need

reasonably priced overnight accommodation in central London you can use the great facilities of this club which has undergone extensive refurbishment over the last six years. It has over 260 bedrooms ranging from singles, twins and doubles to family flats and an excellent restaurant and bar. The club has been sent our full list of members.

OBITUARIES



SYD TIERNEY

16 September 1923 to 6 March 2010

MP for Birmingham Yardley

Syd Tierney will forever be associated with the Shop Workers' Union, USDAW. He joined in 1938 when he worked

as a milkman in Rotherham. He was elected President of the Union in 1977 and was re-elected seven times between 1977 and 1991.

Syd was a true representative of the working class. He had served his apprenticeship for that accolade by virtue of his service on local councils and the NEC of the Labour Party. He was made Chairman of the Party in 1987. He was a persuasive rather than a polished speaker. When he stood up in the House he always commanded attention because he brought to any debate the sense that he knew what he was talking about, especially on trade union and shop worker issues.

Because USDAW was heavily involved with the Co-operative Movement I knew Syd before entering the Commons with him in 1974. We were both active in the Co-operative Party. This also accounts for the fact that he became PPS to the Minister for Agriculture Ted Bishop.

Syd was a popular member of the Commons and enjoyed his time there. After his defeat in 1979 he returned to service with USDAW. He had been active on the issue of Sunday Trading, but the change in stance of USDAW in later years from strong opposition to support was a feature of the time and that change helped to bring about amendments to the law which prevail to this day.

Syd was educated at Dearne Secondary School and at Plater College, Oxford. He married his wife Audrey in 1956.

Ted Graham



EDWARD LYONS

17 May 1926 to 23 April 2010

MP for Bradford

An obituary for Eddie was headlined "Bradford MP in Turbulent Times". Those like Eddie and I who served in the House during the 70s and 80s can vouch for that.

Besides having to respond to three line whips it seemed morning, noon and night, we were also battling with elements in our constituency parties. In more than one constituency party the charge the loyal MP had to face was that of supporting the government - their own Labour government!

Eddie Lyons saw service in the Royal Artillery and from there re-trained as a Russian interpreter with the British Control Commission in Germany.. He studied for a LLB and was called to the bar in 1952, becoming a QC in 1954. He was a Recorder until 1998.

Eddie was heavily in race relations and in 1966 he plunged into leading marches against the National Front in Bradford. He was a founder member of the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration. In 1968 he was one of 15

Labour MPs to join Conservative back benchers demanding immediate curbs on immigration.

He supported Ted Heath's application to join the Common Market, which earned him local condemnation though he survived a vote of no confidence in 1972. Although re-elected in 1979 with a comfortable majority, he was in trouble again when he preferred to support Denis Healy to succeed Jim Callaghan rather than Michael Foot and came under threat from the left in his constituency. He left the party and joined the SDP when it was formed in 1981. He lost his seat in 1983 but returned to the Labour Party in the mid 1990s.

Eddie was a good companion and will be missed. As his daughter in law, Sally Morgan, who has served at high levels in the Labour Party and is now Baroness Morgan says:

"Edward never forgot his roots and worked tirelessly to help people less fortunate than himself. He was a thoroughly principled and decent man.

He leaves his wife Barbara and a son and a daughter.

Ted Graham



THE RT HON DAME ANGELA RUMBOLD DBE

11 August 1932 to 17 June 2010

MP for Mitcham & Morden

I met Angela on my first day at Westminster and was invited to share an office with her, which I did for some five years.

I soon realised what a special person she was and I recognize how much she will be missed by all who came into contact with her throughout her dynamic career.

Angela was born Angela Claire Rosemary Jones, daughter of Harry Jones FRS, the distinguished physicist. She was educated at the Perse School for Girls and Notting Hill and Ealing High Schools followed by reading law at King's College, London, qualifying as a barrister. She found an early foray into Fleet Street publishing tedious and resorted to the duties of marriage, taking up public service and campaigning which led to her life long interest in politics and education.

Angela was elected to Parliament in 1982 in a by-election when Bruce Douglas-Mann defected to the SDP. Her politics were clear and positive, being a supporter of the No Turning Back Group within the Conservative Party. In 1985 she was appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of Education and from 1986 to 1990 she was Minister of State at the Home Office when I was her PPS, taking a particular interest in women.

The "championing" of women often led to frustration. I remember her arriving back at the office one day in late 1983 extremely exasperated. She declared in a loud voice that "this bloody place runs on the Old Boys Network and we are not members so we must do something about it".

So we jointly set up a non-party Old Girls Network – the Westminster Dining Club – designed to bring together influential women from different backgrounds and from all areas. The idea was, and still is, to encourage influential women of widely varying disciplines to take an active interest in the issues of the day and for them in turn to encourage other women to take part in public life. Throughout her life Angela's ethos was that women should have options and be able to pursue careers at the time and place of their choosing.

I believe that the remarkable nature of her approach to life was underlined by her passion for large left hand drive Chevrolet cars, with their large engines!

Angela will be greatly missed not only by her family – her husband John, her children Philip, Polly and Mathew, and her grandchildren, but also by all who came into contact with this remarkable woman.

Elizabeth J Peacock JP DL



LORD WALKER OF WORCESTER

25 March 1938 to 23 June 2010

MP for Worcester

Peter Walker was the man who defeated Britain's striking miners in one of the greatest and bloodiest industrial battles of the 20th century

He first joined the Cabinet under Edward Heath with whom he was far more in tune than with Margaret Thatcher. Throughout a ministerial career that spanned both regimes, he deployed the leadership skills he had first acquired as a successful businessman. He was a self-made millionaire by the time he reached Westminster in 1961. He went into insurance, becoming Chairman of a firm of Lloyd's brokers and then switched to the fashionable world of unit trusts. It took him into partnership first with Edward du Cann and then with Jim Slater. He was lucky to have left that world on becoming a minister, well before the crash came for Slater's empire in 1975.

Peter Edward Walker was the son of a capstan operator turned greengrocer. He left school at 16 and was the only member of Heath's Cabinet not to have been to university.

He managed Heath's campaign for the leadership in 1965 and was rewarded when in 1970, aged 32, he became the youngest member of the Cabinet.

At the new "super department" of the Environment, he introduced programmes to tackle inner city deprivation. The sale of council houses, later implemented by Mrs Thatcher, was his idea. When she succeeded Heath, Peter Walker was sidelined. He left government at the age of 58 and returned to business.

Perhaps the greatest irony in the relationship between Thatcher and Walker was that in spite of their profound political differences, they had something in common in their backgrounds. He was born in Brentford like her; his parents were grocers, like hers, and they were both educated at grammar school.

In 1969 Peter Walker married Tessa Pout who had been his secretary. They had two daughters and three sons, one of whom Robin, became MP for Worcester in the 2010 election. They all survive him.

Ted Graham

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FORWARD DATE: All Member Meeting on Thursday the 31st March 2011

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