

## DAVID SCOTT 1924–1996

It was perhaps a portent of things to come that David Scott was a student of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, that college founded by Bishop Bateman and seminal for the study of law. Though other obituaries have paid justified tribute to David's many accomplishments and distinguished service to the Church—as parish priest, rural dean, archdeacon, Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen, Vice-Provost of the Woodard Schools, Eastern Division—this modest contribution is intended to express the Society's own gratitude to its first Executive Officer and loyal founder-member. Only those most intimately involved in the work of the two committees can know the extent of David's activity, though all who attended the conferences for which he was responsible soon became aware of the diligence, meticulous attention to organisational detail and unruffled serenity with which he moved among us.

As might be expected (though not always to be found) in one who had held high diocesan office, he was a master of diplomacy, while his unflinching courtesy endeared him to all. Patience, not a typical archidiaconal virtue, characterised his strategic thinking, and unlike some involved in consequential decision-making, he would rather wait for consensus than hurry through a measure (small m!) by trampling roughshod over others' susceptibilities and doubts.

My personal memories are many and precious. Happy occasions at Honing Drive enjoying Christine's hospitality; tramping through six inches of snow in Cardiff on a conference 'recce'; tea at the Oxford and Cambridge (shared with the Editor) before committee meetings; drives to Ripon—these and other recollections will remain, extending the affection and respect with which we all welcomed him into our circle, first as acquaintance, but quickly as friend. He was Chaucer's 'verray, parfit gentil knyght' and I, like many, am the better for having known him. May he rest in peace.

T. Hughie Jones

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<sup>1</sup> Church of England (Worship and Doctrine) Measure 1974 (No. 3), s 1(1).

<sup>2</sup> In *Concerning the Service of the Church*.

<sup>3</sup> See Briden and Hanson, *Moore's Introduction to English Canon Law* (3rd edn) (Mowbray, 1992), p 57.

<sup>4</sup> Stephen, *The Book of Common Prayer* (Ecclesiastical Historical Society, 1849), vol I, p 123.