

# *OBITUARY*



## PETER CLELAND - ? – 2022

I heard recently from Steve, our standard bearer, that his predecessor in that rôle, Peter Cleland, had passed away. Peter was born in Hunstanton, but grew up and lived for most of his adult life in Sedgeford; he had lived in Snettisham ever since I became membership secretary in 2006, and had latterly been living in a retirement and care complex there for several years. He was branch standard bearer when Terry and I joined the branch, and had helped Steve when he handed over the standard and the responsibilities in 2014, after about 25 years in the rôle. Peter had asked Steve to carry the branch standard at his funeral when the time came: this took place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July in Sedgeford church, and Steve was indeed present with the standard; the branch Chairman and myself also attended along with Pam and Peter Goddard.

The church was very full, with over 100 in attendance, and the service was conducted by Rev'd Dan Tansey in the absence on holiday of our branch Chaplain. Peter had worked locally in the Sedgeford area at a number of jobs until he applied to join the Navy; he was refused, apparently, on the grounds that "We need people who obey regulations"! That could have been an allusion to his driving (without a licence) a lorry into a ditch and turning it over! Instead, he joined the Parachute Regiment and served for 10 years, despite being terrified every time he jumped from an aircraft. He returned to Sedgeford after leaving the Army, and after several more varied jobs, became the landlord of the Queen Victoria in Snettisham - apparently loving every minute.

The tributes paid were many and varied; many Norwich City FC supporters (and scarves, t-shirts, and more) were in evidence in the church, and he received a good send-off.