

Walter Kennaugh

It was with much sadness that I received the news that Walter had passed away. He was a much loved and respected life member of the IOMVAC - always cheerful and ready to lend a hand with any event, be it Fell Running, Parish Walk or our Marathon. He along with Arthur Jones and Dennis Lace were the three main persons who “carried” the Parish Walk when the entries were not so large and other help not so readily forthcoming. He was for many years a most reliable timekeeper for the fell runners and ever present when any event needed a marshal. Even when well into his eighties he would be standing out at Bride for hours as he encouraged runners on our marathon day.

I first met him when he was a football referee, and as a player I was always glad when he was in charge. His judgement was always fair and he stood no nonsense or “backchat”. He brought this no-nonsense approach to his building work and I once asked if he would re-roof my house. Straight away he said “I would love to but I have eighteen months work ahead of me. If you are prepared to wait that long then I will put you down”. You knew he would do a good job and you knew where you stood. After all he had been trusted to remove the face of the Elizabethan Clock on Castle Rushen and service and repair it for future generations. Every time I am in Castletown and I look up at that clock it will be a reminder to me of a kind man who put so much back into the community he lived in without seeking any reward.

Thank you Walter – the World is a poorer place for your passing. A measure of the esteem in which you were held were the number of well wishers who called when there was “Open House” for your 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, four years ago.

Colin Watterson  
Chairman, IOMVAC.