



January 27th 2007

Kinsale TC mourns passing of former mayor of Barry, Wales

SYMPATHY was extended at the January meeting of Kinsale Town Council to the family of the late Mr. Haydn Holmes, a former Mayor of Barry in Wales who died, aged 83 at Llandough Hospital, Barry on Christmas Day.

The former Labour councillor and long serving trade unionist, was to the fore in bringing about the signing of a 'Friendship Pact' between the Barry branch of the Merchant Navy Association (MNA) Wales and Kinsale Harbour Board and also supported efforts, which are ongoing, for similar pact between Kinsale and Barry Town Councils.

The vote of sympathy was proposed by Mr. Charles Henderson, seconded by Mr. Billy Lynch, the latter of whom was a signatory of the friendship pact at the 'Welsh Leg' of the ceremony in the Sea View Labour Club in Barry on September 29th 2001. Mr. Lynch said a wreath was sent to Barry on behalf of Kinsale Harbour Board of which he is a member.

Former mayor of Barry and leader of its Town Council, Mr. Theo Strenstrom, said the late Mr. Holmes, who had been a councillor in the Castleland Ward, was "a sincere, caring person who was very, very strong willed". There was also a tribute from Mr. Jim Greenway, chairman of the Barry branch MNA, Wales.

The late Mr. Holmes, who served in the Merchant Navy and Royal Navy, made a number of visits to Kinsale for the annual 'Sea Sunday' ceremonies as well to Courtmacsherry to visit members of the royal National Lifeboat Institution since Barry has a lifeboat station, He was also a friendly face for visits by delegations from Kinsale to events in the Welsh Port which has strong family and maritime links with Ireland and especially Kinsale.

Survived by his daughters Shelagh and Lynne and grandchildren and great grandchildren, Mr. Holmes from 18, Morgan Street, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, was buried after a funeral service in St. Mary's Church, Barry on January 10th. His wife Margaret died in August 2001.

Efforts are also ongoing to forge links between the respective Royal National Lifeboat Stations in Barry, Kinsale and also Courtmacsherry which has connections with the Welsh port. This is being spearheaded by Keith Greenway who has compiled the excellent website www.ss-tregenna.co.uk.

*Messages of sympathy were conveyed on behalf of the Barry branch of the MNA by Chairman Jim Greenway and chaplain Rev. Malcolm Davies to the people of Kinsale and Dunmore East following the recent double trawler tragedy off the south east coast which claimed the lives of seven fishermen including skipper Ger. Bohan and crew man Tomasz Jagla of the Kinsale based Honeydew II. Prayers were offered at all services in All Saints Church, Barry.