

SALISBURY CATENIANS NEWSLETTER

September 2025



Province 11 Circle 266
Founded 14th March 1972
Current membership 25

Circle Website: <https://www.salisburycatenians.org>



Joint meeting with Andover Circle



Salisbury and Andover Brothers, plus 10 Visiting Brothers and 2 visiting Gentlemen. Missing is Brother Albert who took the pictures.

And we all thought that August was a guaranteed quiet month with regard to attendance, but definitely not this time. The August joint meeting with Andover Circle attracted visiting Brothers from 5 different Circles (Southampton, Winchester, Basingstoke, Fleet & Abergavenny). The resulting attendance at the meeting was 31 including 2 visiting gentlemen. With wives, widows and other guests, 51 sat down to enjoy a splendid meal afterwards.



After the meal Province 11 President, Roger Lillie, had the pleasure of presenting Salisbury Brother, Tony Sadler with a scroll to commemorate his 35 years as a Catenian. Prior to presenting the scroll, Roger gave a summary of all that Tony had achieved in that time. Having joined in 1990 in Salisbury he spent one year "in the ranks" then took up the position of

Chamberlain, then Vice President the following year and President the next. Ever since then, Tony has continuously held one position or another at both Circle and Province level. After 24 years at Salisbury Tony moved down to Cornwall and became a joint member with the Duchy of Cornwall Circle, where he later set up the West Cornwall Circle of which he is also a joint member. He currently holds positions in both Circle and Province 13.



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The next item on the after-dinner agenda was the presentation of a Catenian Bursary cheque for £1,200 to Salisbury student Dominic Layet who is taking a gap year to teach English & Maths to Primary School children in Malawi. Before the presentation was made Dominic, who joined us for dinner along with his parents, was asked to say a few words about his forthcoming enterprise. He

explained that he will be volunteering with the charity "Project Trust", teaching at the Ladybird School in Blantyre, Malawi. Apart from teaching he will also be leading some extra-curricular activities. He had recently returned from training on the Isle of Coll (where the charity is based), where he met the other volunteers going to Malawi, as well as volunteers going to other countries. After dinner a collection raised a further £225 to help him on his way. Dominic sets off on his journey in early September, and has promised to keep in touch with us to let us know how things are going.



Finally, in addition to the proceeds of monthly "Salisbury Swindle" a Raffle raised a further £240 for the Presidents Charity, the Parish Poor Fund.

Dining Matters

The price of Circle meals will increase from October as follows, 2 courses will be £31 and 3 courses will be £35. The intention is that all future meals will be 2 courses except for the Christmas Party and our Charter Night, both of which will be 3 courses. Exceptions may be made for other special occasions.

This Month

Pub Lunch TBC

Tuesday 9th Council mtg;
Zoom 7.00pm.

Thursday 25th Circle mtg;
(ladies night); 6:30pm,
Registration from 6:15pm.

Anniversaries

Enrolments:

None

Birthdays:

Albert Rhodes

Ladies Birthdays:

None

Wedding Anniversaries:

None

**See end of the Newsletter
for the "Circle Meetings &
Dinner Planner" and also
the "Events Diary"**

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Circle Meeting, Thursday 25th September (Ladies)

Meeting 6:30pm

Registration from 6:15pm

Dress Code: Smart Casual

Dinning Cost: £31

Brothers are kindly asked to advise the Dining Secretary Steve Carrivick of their dining intentions, menu selection plus any dietary requirements, especially allergies, no later than the preceding SUNDAY.



Starter

French Onion Soup with Cheese Crouste.

Trio of Melon with Mango Sorbet.

Tempura King Prawns with Sweet Chilli Dip.

Warm Brie and Asparagus Tart on a bed of Mixed Leaves.

Main Course

Roast Loin of Pork with House Stuffing and Apple Sauce.

Breast of Chicken with a Mushroom Cream Sauce.

Poached Fillet of Salmon, with Wilted Spinach & Lemon Butter Sauce.

Baked Aubergine filled with Ratatouille with Pesto Cream Sauce.

Served with Potatoes and Vegetables.

Dessert

Sticky Toffee Pudding with Toffee Sauce and Salted Caramel Ice-cream.

Strawberry Eton Mess.

Chocolate Cheesecake with Raspberry Sauce.

Lemon and Champagne Posset with Shortbread Biscuit.

Fresh Fruit Salad.

Don't forget your tickets for the Salisbury Swindle

Each square selected costs only £2, with a monthly prize of £20. The draw takes place after the monthly circle meeting during the meal. Squares may be purchased on the night or you can choose from the available numbers and pay in advance. Profits go to the Presidents Charities, which this year is the Parish Poor Fund.

Brothers are reminded that photographs may be taken at our Circle functions for inclusion in the Newsletter and our website unless an objection has been notified. Please advise any of your visitors accordingly.

Officers

President	Kevin Lynn	Vice President	Gary Porter
Imm. Past President	Steve Carrivick	Provincial Councillor	Joe Falzon
Secretary	Albert Rhodes	Treasurer	Allan Trowbridge
Presidents Marshall	Ziggy Kajota	Registrar	David Gillen
Welfare	John Detain	Charities	Phil Jones
Dining Secretary	Steve Carrivick	Benevolence Board	David Morehead
Membership	<i>vacant</i>	Chamberlain	David Morehead
Press & Publicity	Eamon Duffin	Newsletter & Website	Richard Verrian

Province 11 Website: <https://province11.catena.org.uk/homeProvince.aspx>

Catenian Website: <https://thecatenians.com>

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Poets Corner

By Brother Eric

Recognition

On Reading Melvyn Bragg's Memoir, *Back In The Day*

"One of the most lasting memory pictures I have is ofthat smile,... which showed the man he was, contented in his own thoughts....

It said – we can make something of this life, we are all in this together; the way is to see it through together; it was recognition."

Melvyn Bragg on his father *in Back In The Day*

There are times when time seems to be suspended
Like a silver thread held up for the sun's inspection,
A weightless wire connecting memories and dreams -
Supple, steady to ride the rise and fall of each breath.

Death may be like this minus the sensation of loss,
That nothing can be held without its passing into
Something out of reach you fear you cannot catch
As you watch the light trace its lingering farewell.

Pictures build and mass like cumulating clouds into
Recollection. Reading your childhood translates mine:
Parents, brother, grandmother, neighbours, friends
Slide and merge in flimsy images, fleeting glimpses

Of incidents uncompleted, wisps of stories that might
Have been, fitful snatches of hope and disappointment
Wrapping over each other like yesterday's newspaper
Interleaved with the day's before. Your memoir my mentor,

Mirroring the smiles and mouthings of our dead, flitting
Through your lines and page-breaks, almost touching in
Voiceless echo. Dust stirred into dancing flecks of light,
Shards of memory splintered into momentary alignment.

It is good to celebrate our loved-ones' contentment, their
Communal belonging their passing preserves in silenced
Recall. A disparate throng of ghosts brought together into
Recognition, discovered in backs of drawers like home-

Movies unspooling birthdays, weddings and christenings,
Parties in paper hats, a prize catch, sandcastles before the tide
Returns, our dog braced to chase after the thrown ball, an
Uncle sculling us across a lake, Mum a shrieking teenager

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Perched behind him on his motorbike, holding on tight,
Dad and his workmate grinning through the firm's van
Window, hand on the steering wheel, foot on the brake:
Paused before they all slip out of focus, flicker out of
Life. We knew what happiness meant then, snatched
Out of the daily drudge and drizzling grey, our well-
Being glowing cheeks and pulsing veins, willed to
Remain and reassure, as now while the clouds dissolve.

Earliest Memories

Written for U3A writing group

Pictures build and mass like cumulating clouds into recollection... slide and merge in flimsy images, fleeting glimpses of incidents uncompleted, wisps of stories that might have been... shards of memory splintered into momentary alignment... while the clouds dissolve...

from poem Recognition

I try to catch one now, gingerly in case I drop it, hold it up to the light for scrutiny. Is it the earliest? Apart from the markers of monochrome snaps of events – my joint christening with cousin Jeanette in Fareham, babes in arms; a studio professional portrait propped up on pillows, enveloped in white, looking lost, legless; on Southsea common with long grey socks and bare knees and a grey cap, matching grey overcoat buttoned up to the chin, arms stretched round shaggy Duffle as tall as me, both of us laughing or barking – the narrative of time is collapsed into unordered snatches, that come and go like the changing pattern of a kaleidoscope. I like this one, wish I could hold it up to a lens for capture:

I am on the floor with my soldiers, lining them up for inspection. Their legs are in motion, on the march, rifle held to the chest, upright, eyes fixed forward. One holds bagpipes, wears a busby and a kilt over tartan stockings; another blows a cornet; a third wears a French horn round his neck like a scarf; a fourth beats a bass drum before him. They are on the point of entry to the silver fort, in file, 'left-right-left...', I call in a no-nonsense voice of command as the door opens behind me and ushers sharp voices raised in greeting, speaking indecipherably at once. A car purrs past behind them. The front door closes heavily, I can hear them more clearly now, a man, two women, one is my mother. A sudden rush startles them, blows past me, hair tickling my ears, and Duffle scatters my army, tail swishing the military band off the ramparts onto the lino. It will be my job to restore order, set the ranks straight again. Duffle is always forgiven

Dissolve

Splashing water, banging a yellow duck on the zinc rim of the bathtub that other times I can see from the highchair hanging on the wall outside

Dissolve

Being lifted up near the ceiling, legs kicking the air, the lightbulb swinging wildly under its shade, shouting 'Daddy!'. He is always laughing in my earliest memories, enjoying a joke with Mum or my uncles, or popping up out of the sea on a wave like a porpoise, the sunlight glistening on his shoulders

Dissolve

Another cot next to mine. A boy with dark eyes standing up and rocking the frame. He wasn't there before

Dissolve

My finger sore. Mummy kisses it better.

Dissolve

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In the street, In the cold grey morning. Everyone wrapped up, shuffling forward then stopping. Nobody says much. I am up on my father's shoulder so I can see their hats and scarves. I shall be put down soon among their skirts and trousers

Dissolve

Big purple flowers growing up tall out of the pavement behind a tumbled-down wall, loose bricks on the ground, a boarded-up window behind. A bee buzzes between and around them

Dissolve

I am playing with my own coloured bricks, yellow, blue, green, building towers for Duffle to knock over. He holds a big bone in his mouth, growling, tail wagging. The sun is peeping under my sunhat then the wind blows it away as Mummy fastens another sheet with clothes pegs. She drops one and I crawl for it, put it in my mouth. It is hard and soapy. I don't like the taste. The sheet flaps over me, the memory closes on clouds, big puffy ones high, high above me, sailing slowly in and out of one another. I want to reach one, hold the clothes peg up towards it -

Cut

now, in the present of sitting on a chair in another house, eighty years later, tapping out memories as snatches of voices and the occasional purr of a car pass in and out of focus through the opened window on a grey windless morning.

Eric Williams, Salisbury 20 August 2025

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Events Diary

Date	Event	Notes
Wednesday 10 September	Joint Meeting at Fleet Circle with West Surrey Circle.	Ideal Circle Visit Meeting 7pm Dinner 8pm Dress code Dinner Jackets.
Wednesday 17 September	Joint Meeting at Isle of Wight with Southampton Circle.	Excellent opportunity to cross the water and enjoy an Circle Visit at Yarmouth Yacht Club. Lunchtime meeting at 12 noon to fit in with ferry service from Lymington.
Thursday 25 September	September meeting.	Guests Matthew Higgins and Otto Blaho (St Joseph's School.
Thursday 02 October	Weymouth Circle -60 year scroll event.	Circle Visit - to Weymouth Circle.
Friday 03 October	Jersey Weekend.	Details email. Steve and Maureen Carrivick attending.
Tuesday 07 October	Military Icon Blessing. Guests invited who have donated to the cost of the ICON.	Aldershot Cathedral 1400hrs several from our circle attending.
Tuesday 21 October	Westminster Cathedral.	Coach trip arranged -pickup at Salisbury.
15 -21 November	Malta Week.	Details circulated by Joe Falzon.
Wednesday 10 December	Christmas Party.	
11 – 13 December 2025	Christmas at the Medieval Hall. If sufficient interest Eric and Gary will arrange. Please indicate interest. Sales open 10 October. Can we arrange a group on one day.	 https://www.celebratevoice.co.uk/whats-on-2025.html
TBA	Deceased brother mass	
TBA	Michael Cairns – 60 Year scroll presentation.	Invite National President Gerry McCormack to attend and make the presentation. Visit M Cairns at home in Worcester in November.
20 March 2026	Provincial weekend Prices reasonable and great venue: Send in your booking form as soon as possible.	Provincial event at Cricket St Thomas, Chard. Booking form circulated. Support this event. A weekend with friends from around Province 11.

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Meetings & Dinner Planner 2025 – 26

Month	Date	Lunch / Dinner	Courses	Gents / ladies	Mtg Time	Meal Start
April ^{Note 1}	Thursday 24 th	Evening	Two	Gents	1800	1930
May	Thursday 22 nd	Evening	Three	Gents & Ladies	1830	1930
June	Thursday 26 th	Evening	Two	Gents	1830	1930
July	Thursday 24 th	Evening	Three	Gents & Ladies	1830	1930
August ^{Note 2}	Thursday 28 th	Evening	Two	Gents & Ladies	1830	1930
September	Thursday 25 th	Evening	Three	Gents & Ladies	1830	1930
October	Thursday 23 rd	Lunch	Two	Gents & Ladies	1200	1300
November	Thursday 27 th	Lunch	Two	Gents & Ladies	1200	1300
December ^{Note 3}	Wednesday 10 th	Evening	Three	Gents & Ladies	1800	1900
January	Thursday 22 nd	Lunch	Two	Gents & Ladies	1200	1300
February	Thursday 26 th	Lunch	Two	Gents & Ladies	1200	1300
March ^{Note 4}	Thursday 26 th	Evening	Three	Gents & Ladies	1830	1930

1. April, earlier start time due to AGM immediately before Circle meeting.
2. August, joint meeting with Andover Circle (Hosted by Salisbury in 2025).
3. December, Christmas Party, no meeting, no dress code. Arrival/Drinks from 1800.
4. March, Charter Night, Black Tie or Lounge Suit.

Registration commences 15 mins prior to meeting time: i.e. 1145 or 1815.

Two course meal comprises Main & Dessert.

Lunchtime meetings Oct/Nov & Jan/Feb