

## **Andy Norfolk's eulogy for Pip Richard's**

I'm Andy Norfolk, the chair. I met Pip many years ago and before I knew it I was up to my ears in the Sustainable Trust. As you know, this came into being as a result of Pip's successful efforts to save Crenver and Fox Groves from being damaged by time-share development. Pip and I spent hours in Crenver Grove doing practical conservation stuff, burning mountains of rhododendron, scattering bluebell seed, pulling up laurel, and chatting about all kinds of things as we did so. She asked me to be a trustee – and of course it was always hard to say no to Pip - so I said yes. Then she asked if I'd chair a meeting – and all of sudden I was the chairman of the trust – I didn't see that coming.

I was going to try and tell you about all the things Pip achieved. There are two things wrong with that idea. Firstly you probably know it all anyway, and secondly it would take a very, very long time.

Instead I'd like to try and tell you what a special person Pip really was. Lots of people see something wrong and say something should be done about it, or "they" should do something about it. Pip saw something that needed to be done and set out to do it herself. She set out to make the world a better place – and did.

More than that she talked to people about what needed to be done and got them involved. She was exceptionally good at networking, which is a rather inadequate word for how well she got on with people, and how good she was at getting them caught up in her enthusiasm.

She was one of the most inspiring people I've ever met. Not because she made big speeches about what could, or should, be done, but because she quietly got on with doing it and inspired others to join in. Good things have happened in Cornwall, but also in Sri Lanka, because of her.

This place, the restored quoit, which is now in a field named Pip's Field, is an example of what she achieved and how she did it. She personally worked very hard at projects she took on. Getting the money to buy this land and then to put the quoit back up took a very long time and Pip gave her time and energy with great generosity. As usual however this turned into a scheme involving lots of other people, who may not have known they cared about the quoit to start with, but who got drawn in by Pip's enthusiasm. I have always felt that one of the very best things about the Giant's Quoit project was just how many people became involved in all sorts of ways – because of Pip. She helped build communities in a way which few have the gift to be able to do. She was my friend and I'll miss her – and I know very many other people who were also her friends will feel the same way.

The project here got a national award for community archaeology, but it was really her award. She was made Heritage Champion by the Cornwall Heritage Trust and she was given an award for exceptional endeavour by the Cornish Gorsedh for an outstanding Cornish achievement meriting international recognition. The quoit is going to be a lasting reminder of a remarkable woman. We should remember that what she has done – apart from all those things that I haven't listed here today – is to inspire other people to follow her example and do things that make the world a better place and to find common ground with lots of others to do so. That is likely to be a greater legacy.

She was a truly remarkable person and touched the lives of a lot of people, and those of us who are lucky enough to have known her are the better for it.