

3 NOV 2021

CHI LOWEN, CHAPELDOWN ROAD, TORPOINT, PL11 2HU

Telephone: 07365 233393 or 01752 954442

2 November 2021

Dear Torpoint Town Council

Following my telephone conversation with Milly, Clerk to the Council, today I am writing to ask for your consideration and permission for the erection of a commemorative bench along the waterfront in respect of my husband Anthony Roger (known as Roger) Toms, who died on 3 October 2021.

Roger was a proud Cornishman, born in Redruth in 1940 and living in Cornwall where he loved the sea and coastline and everything Cornish with a passion. Owing to lack of suitable work he moved away in his early twenties.

He and I met while both living and working in Surrey and set up home together in 1983, 38 years ago. He introduced me to Cornwall where I had never been before and we bought a cottage in Lelant where we stayed for long weekends every 5 or 6 weeks as well as for holidays. We married in Lelant church.

We managed to secure early retirement in 1996 and moved permanently to Cornwall living overlooking the sea in Carbis Bay. While we loved everything there increased age and mobility problems caused us to look for a new home in a flatter area and closer to amenities likely to be needed as years went by.

We then found our present home here in Chapeldown Road and this ticked all the boxes and so we moved here 8 years ago in May 2013. Torpoint met the bill as still being in Cornwall and we soon realised what a great place it was to live, in particular a real place not a tourist destination. We joined Torpoint Bowls Club enjoyed our new surroundings and made friends in the area.

Unfortunately Roger's health started to fail in August 2020 by which time he was 80. After a short spell in Derriford he was discharged but was very weak and frail. Walking was a real difficulty though he persevered

with walks along the waterfront sitting on benches as we went and on good days even made it to the town. Then in August this year there was a major deterioration leading to six weeks in Derriford. I fought to get him home to our peaceful setting looking out over the water and eventually succeeded. Unfortunately he survived less than two weeks before he died here at home at the beginning of October.

His last 14 months therefore were not good ones and of course coincided with the covid restrictions. The only good thing was that we were together and so enjoyed our peaceful and beautiful setting here on the Torpoint waterfront.

I realise that there are a number of benches already along the waterfront but would ask if you would agree to one more to recognise Roger's final home and the pleasure we both enjoyed here plus of course a very special place for me and many others to sit and think about their loved ones.

Having looked at the existing benches perhaps you could consider an addition either after the third bench going the opposite direction to the ferry and no.36a Chapeldown Road where the space seems to be about double that between the other three benches along that strip.

Alternatively along the strip going from Chi Lowen towards the ferry might it be possible to erect a bench just beyond Chi Lowen/opposite no 23 or further along say opposite no.15. These are only potential possibilities having walked along and I would be delighted to accept any other location the Council might consider more suitable bearing in mind your own needs and plans.

Finally I would like to thank you very much in anticipation of your consideration of my request. Also I will be very pleased to provide any further information you may need.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doreen Toms". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent loop at the start of the first name.

Doreen Toms