

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Alf Schroeder. Alf died on 31 December 2013 a few weeks short of his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. His funeral mass will take place at 2pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at the Polish Catholic Church on Stafford Road, Wolverhampton and the cremation at 3.15pm at Bushbury cemetery.

More senior members of the BDCL will remember Alf in his prime as a very strong player and winner of the Staffordshire Open Championship on more than one occasion. More recently he was a stalwart member of the Bushbury Chess Club and, at the age of 83, received an award from the MCCU to celebrate 50 years of chess playing in the Midlands.

Alf continued to play competitive chess in the BDCL until April 2013 when he suffered a stroke the long-term consequences of which resulted in his demise at the end of the year.

*Amicus atque magister ludi regalis – requiescat in pace.*