

# RFA Handbook 1999-2000

## PAT SCALLY (1926-1999)

*Pat Scally looked after the RFA archives for a number of years, and his sudden death last September brought sadness to his many friends in Manchester and beyond. Fred Beswick, who knew Pat for nearly fifty years and who has taken over as RFA Archivist in his stead, has written this affectionate memoir of his old friend.*

Pat was number one at social events: no dinner or meeting started without Pat singing: "The Boers have got my Daddy". With his death, bottled Guinness could be no longer. We have lost the best story-teller I have ever known. "I had a friend..."

I met Pat in the early fifties - we joined the YM from the forces. He was a keen harrier; not a runner, a harrier. Easy, and looking forward to the evening - and "The Boers"!

He started playing Fives when he had already reached knock-up time. Pat was nothing hard, and plenty of fun. He came to Exeter many times, and he always did his own thing. Before next Exeter trip, it would be kind if one of us went round the city and informed them not to overstock the bottled Guinness.

Many of our Manchester YMCA men have gone in my time, and Pat will be in good company. Two of them I will mention are Harry Mellor and Peter Smith. They will be stood at the bar and they both will say "Here's Irish!"

God bless him.

**Fred Beswick**