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virtue of his editorship. There, he was a renter warden in 1986–1987.

Some City of London guilds originated in the twelfth century. Workers in a craft grouped together to regulate competition and maintain high standards. ¹⁶ Early guilds controlled the manufacture and selling of most goods and services in the City, benefiting members and customers. As guilds were established, many set up headquarters in large houses or halls. They were for meetings and settling trade or domestic disputes.

Guilds introduced distinctive clothing and regalia – livery – to distinguish their members from other guilds. They became known as livery companies, supporting trade, education, charity and fellowship. There are now about 100 companies. Among the most recent are Hackney Carriage Drivers and Tax Advisers. A renter warden is an officer of the company who receives rents on its behalf.

Honours and awards

Archie's BDA honours were a fellowship (1967) and honourary membership (1986).

The Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of England elected Archie to a Fellowship in Dental Surgery in 1974.

The year 1986 saw honourary membership of the Lindsay Society. Archie particularly valued his honourary membership of the American Academy of the History of Dentistry which he received two years earlier.

He was a Fellow of the International College of Dentists. Fellowship is by invitation only. The honour is bestowed upon those dentists who have made significant contributions to the profession, their community and successfully completed a thorough peer review process.

National recognition came in 1979, when he became an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) and as he retired from editorship.

Personal life

Archie met Eileen Fanny Gawn at University College Hospital Dental School. She qualified with an LDS a year before him. In December 1939, she changed her name in the Dentist Register to Donaldson. They had little time together before Archie went into the army. At the time, she worked at the George Street Clinic in Thornaby-on-Tees. Archie was listed in the Register at 2 Scarborough Street, West Hartlepool. They had two daughters, Liz and Maggie.

He and Eileen were religious, practising as members of the Society of Friends (also known as Quakers). Archie was a Registering Officer and Elder in Esher. As such, he officiated at weddings. The Society is a Christian movement which began in 1650s England. Early Friends sought to revive 'primitive Christianity' by going back to the roots of Jesus' teachings around nonviolence, simple living, God's concern for the marginalised and the immediate and equal access to God's Spirit.¹⁷ He also read widely about other religions.

Archie loved classical music and was interested in art. He enjoyed walking in the Lake District. While working as editor, he studied for a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Open University, which he gained in 1974.

Archie Donaldson was a quiet, gentle man with a warm sense of humour, one who never divulged a confidence. He died in Bath on 20 February 1993.

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Helen Nield, Head of Library and Knowledge Services, sourced many leads to sources. Rachel Bairsto, Head of BDA Museum Services, provided information and the photographs. Carolyn Nield located invaluable information on Census returns and Baptism notices.

Ethics declaration

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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Correction to: Hospital dentistry litigation in England may benefit from patient safety measures and effective communication

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Research Insight Br Dent J 2022; 233: 776.

When initially published, the middle name initial was missing from this author's name. The correct author name is Kelvin I. Afrashtehfar. The journal apologises for any inconvenience caused.