In Memoriam

... know thou for a certainty, that in the divine worlds, the spiritual beloved ones (believers) will recognize each other, and will seek union (with each other) ...

(Tables of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Vol.1, p.205)

THESE DISTINGUISHED believers have recently passed on to the Abhâ’í Kingdom. Please join us in remembering them, their families and friends in our prayers.

Robert Cheek, Norwich
Bob Cheek became a Bahâ’í in London at Naw-Rûz 1945 and pioneered to Bournemouth the following year, to Bristol in 1947 to help form the first Assembly there, and to Norwich in 1948. Apart from a special pioneer project in Blackburn in 1950-51, Bob remained in Norwich serving continuously on the Spiritual Assembly for the next four decades. He was a source of wide knowledge and advice to the rest of the local community and was able to quote extensively from the Writings from memory. Everyone who came into contact with Bob heard something about the Faith from him – he viewed every social encounter as a teaching opportunity. His total fearlessness in conveying the “good news of the coming of the Promised One of all ages” was a source of inspiration and encouragement to his fellow believers. Tony McCarthy writes, “Bob was a man of great integrity and sincerity with unfailing courtesy towards others. His life of service and dedication to the Faith and his own high standard of conduct remain an example to us all.”

Renee Aldridge, Brighton
Renee Aldridge, who has died at the age of 89, became a Bahâ’í in the spring of 1955 and immediately made plans to pioneer to Malta in the Guardian’s Ten Year World Crusade. Encouraged and assisted by Marion Hofman, Renee set off to become the second Bahâ’í on the island after Knight of Bahá’u’lláh Olga Mills. A typesetter and printer by profession, Renee lived off her savings for two years and unable to find work on Malta returned to Britain. She taught herself the craft of upholstery, drapery and soft furnishings and returned to Malta where she gained an upmarket clientele. Her society contacts led her to provide furnishings for the home of the Governor General, Sir Maurice Dorman in the St. Anton Palace. There she carried out the preparations for the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh in 1964 and the state visit of the Queen in 1967. Renee moved to Brighton in 1968, served for a period on the Local Spiritual Assembly, and remained a staunch and constant believer till the end of her long life.

Joyce Honeyman Perdu, Cardiff
Joyce Honeyman married a Persian Bahâ’í in Egypt and was catapulted into an eventful life in Sudan, Madagascar, South Africa, the Canary Islands and Spain, and then, more recently, a gentler existence in England, Honduras, United States and Wales. Despite periods of...
extreme hardship through more than four decades of pioneering, she never complained and managed to get each of her three children through education. "With a bright and friendly face," writes her son Nabil "she kept nothing for herself, generous in prosperity...even thankful in adversity... Joyce saw her three children and eight grandchildren living in different countries of the world as a credit to her. She truly believed in the oneness of mankind, enjoyed the richness of unity in diversity, felt attracted to the variety of colours, races and languages." On hearing of her passing, the Universal House of Justice wrote, "Her steadfast and devoted services in the pioneering field for more than 40 years are recalled with warm appreciation. Be assured of the loving prayers of the House of Justice in the Holy Shrines for the progress of her soul, and for the comfort and solace of her family."