

### Eulogy to the late Bernard Smith

It was with a great deal of pain and a very heavy heart that I read in the June *Diary* of the unfortunate demise of Bernard Smith.

Bernard Smith was, undoubtedly, a gentleman of great charm and humility to all the male species of this Parish and will be sorely missed and also, if I could be so bold to say, his ungrateful wife rarely appreciated quite how much Bernard achieved for her well-being.

If only there were more gentlemen of his ilk - where his tenderness towards his wife should be a lesson to us all and, maybe, it is not too late to follow his example. Our wives in the long term will thank us for our unbounded generosity in making their lives so much easier to follow.

I feel we men have a great deal of empathy with the late lamented Bernard Smith and, I consider us men from the village of Dolton should, perhaps, form a club to uphold the teachings of Bernard.

To name but a very few gems men have achieved for sake of their ever loving and ever respectful wives.

- 1) We gave women the vote - was it worth it??
- 2) Parliament and what did they do?? - They fiddled their expenses.
- 3) We permitted women to hold driving licences - need I say more??

The list becomes endless as to how much we have achieved on behalf of women. As Bernard Smith so eloquently put in his letter " After all we are put on this earth to help each other" and I do believe we accomplish this superbly. It is only when we romantically suggest that a woman perform with us a perfectly reasonable show of affection are we presented with the irrational answer of "I've got a headache".

Gentlemen, the answer lies in your hands.

Finally, however, I do recall an extremely apt line in a play of some years ago when the gentleman of all gentlemen a Mr Rex Harrison who stated " Why can't a woman be more like a man"

*From: Hen-Pecked to Oven-Ready*