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BEM for Tony Watson in King's first honours list

TONY WATSON'S over 50 years of active support to Saffron Walden Museum has been acknowledged this week with the award of the British Empire Medal in the King's first birthday honours list.

The citation is to "Ernest Anthony Watson, Chairman of Saffron Walden Museum Society, for services to heritage and the community in Saffron Walden." These services have been wide-ranging; Tony has contributed not only to the Museum Society but to local associations ranging from the Round Table Carnival Committee to the Saffron Walden Housing Association and Buffy Bus.

Born in Bury St. Edmunds in 1935, Tony attended Friends' School – as did his wife Margaret – undertook National Service with the

RAF in Cyprus and qualified as a solicitor in 1965, becoming a partner in Adams & Land, later Adams Harrison. He retired in 1999.



Tony emphasises the heritage component of his award – joining the Museum Society in 1971 he was closely involved in establishing its partnership with UDC and acted as Chairman from 2008 to 2021, when he was appointed President.

He hopes that the award of his honour will help the Museum to become more widely known: "Although the Museum has progressed considerably in the past 50 years there is still a long way to go to make it more accessible to the community of Saffron Walden and the district around it. I will continue to help as much as I can over the next few years."

Congratulations to Tony Watson YG 1954 on being awarded a BEM in the King's first honours list. Above article from the Walden Local 21st June 2023. Tony adds " My interest in history and charity work was largely due to the excellent education I received from the Friends' School and in particularly to Cyril Mummery who developed my interest in history."