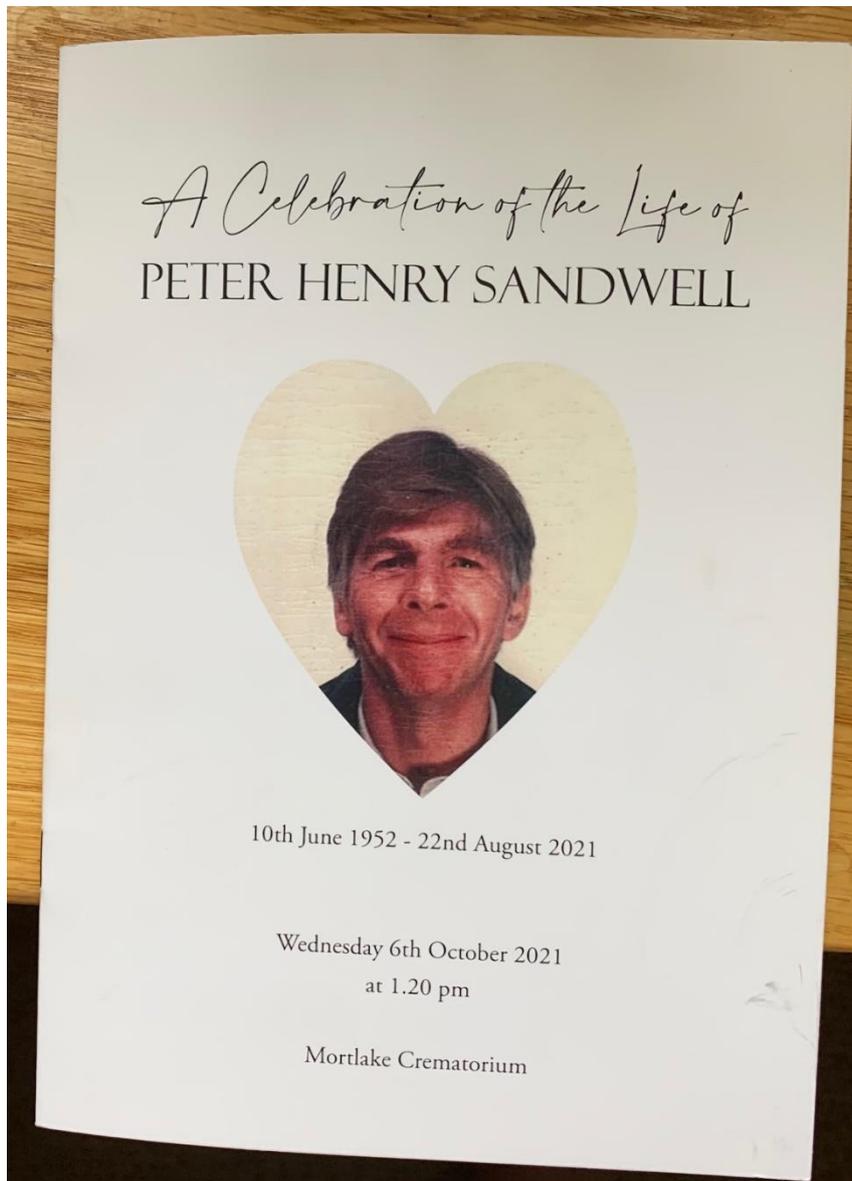


Peter Sandwell RIP

Peter Sandwell, one of our regular walkers for many years, sadly died on Sunday 22nd August 2021.



Bob Ball:

Peter was a man for all seasons. Someone with an insatiable interest in the world around him. Walking and cycling and seeing friends. The most loyal of the good guys.

And devoted to Anna.

I first met him at the Department of Transport as a temping redundant insurance manager. He a top civil engineer and at that time a route manager. The disparity in our respective backgrounds was no barrier to what became true friendship.

He then did something astonishing. Around fifteen years ago, taking a two year sabbatical from what was now the Highways Agency. Two became three became four. And he never came back to the world of work. His loyalty to those he worked with, now mostly retired, continued undiminished to this day. Meeting them regularly for pub lunches. Many of them have been deeply saddened by the news.

What else can I say? I will really miss him.

David:

Strangely I didn't know Peter too well at our office in Dorking and I cannot really recall how our friendship began over 20 years ago, but it was mainly through the Civil Engineers' Club walks that my friendship with Peter (and subsequently his partner Anna) developed.

I don't recall where Peter studied, but believe Peter began his working career with what was the South East Road Construction Unit based in Guildford. When the SERCU was absorbed into the Department of Transport, Peter transferred across. When I joined the DoT in 1993, there were two offices in Dorking and Peter was then working for the South East Network Management Division of the DoT. Shortly after the Highways Agency was set up and the SENMD moved into the one Dorking Office at Federated House where I was working at the time. I did have dealings with Peter at work for a brief time, and he was always a delight to engage with, always helpful and positive. As Bob mentioned, Peter decided to take a sabbatical from work and that morphed into early retirement.