

Lives Remembered

Godfrey Carter CBE deceased

My arrival in the Whitehall Parliamentary Counsel Office just fifty years ago rescued Godfrey Carter (obituary 8 August 2003) from the post of junior dog. I remember how unstintingly generous he was with his time when instructing me in what the duties of that ignoble post did and did not amount to. Right at the start he helped, in his distinctive Etonian way, to lay the foundations for my understanding, built up over many years, of the very unusual nature of that important drafting establishment in which most of our laws originate. When in 1959 the Office seconded me to Ghana to draft its first republican constitution Godfrey was anxious to help. He allowed me to buy his faithful tropical suit at the reasonable price of thirty shillings; and it stood me in very good stead.¹

¹ *The Times Register* (Lives Remembered), 19 August 2003.