

Each Member

28th December 2022.

It is with great sadness that I advise our membership of the passing of our colleague, a truly inspirational man, a founding member and former Secretary of St Pauls Garda Medical Aid Society, Retired Garda Member Michael Conway who passed away peacefully on the 27th of December 2022.

Michael Conway, a Clare man was born in the parish of Barefield and attended school in Toonagh, Co Clare. After his garda training he was assigned to the Garda Station in Monaghan. Michael had an aptitude for figures and took over the job of payroll management at his station. He was involved in the Garda Representative Association for many years at the highest level and was involved in pay negotiations and the developing of a roster system for the force.

He later went on to set up the Garda Medical Aid Society and he dedicated his service to it and more importantly to the membership of the Society. He was a caring man and tried to assist members and their families during periods of hardship and his work has made a great difference to so many Gardai and their families over the years.

His own words echo his thinking at the time.

“The welfare of Gardai and their families had been talked about for years. In the late 1950’s I took over the Garda Medical Aid. All I had was a table a chair and a typewriter. I brought the claims home and sorted them out. In 1981 I was writing out cheques, writing them into a book, and tallying up at the end of the day.”

That was how it all began and his vision and forwarded thinking has led on to the Society we have today with its own bespoke health system which manages subscriptions, payments, and claims. The Society’s reputation is second to none within the medical world in hospitals and among consultants and doctors providing medical services.

Due to the vision and determination of Michael Conway, the Society is in the position it is today, looking after the medical welfare of serving and retired Garda members and their families and we are all indebted to him.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis.

Michael Dodd

General Manager.