

## **Bertram Walter Bradley (changed to Bradbury)**

Bertie Bradbury was born in Malpas, Cheshire on 25<sup>th</sup> July 1885. He was 4yrs. old when his estranged mother died in poverty in Manchester in 1889, his grandparents brought him and his 2yr. old sister, Lillian, to Shropshire to be looked after by others. His father remarried in 1895 and took in Bertie and Lillian, but it was never a happy relationship. Bertie trained as a master butcher under his grandfather and in 1909, aged 24, he boarded a ship to Hong Kong where he lived until his death in 1970.

Bertie started work as a master butcher for the Dairy Farm Ice & Cold Storage Co Ltd and later founded his own business, initially in the printing industry and then in the property and stock markets. He married Margaret Alice Taylor, from Wrexham, in 1915. He was a successful businessman, a keen sportsman and also a racehorse owner. During the Japanese invasion of China, he was interned in Stanley Camp between 1942 and 1945. As a prisoner, he received food parcels from the Red Cross, this support made a lasting impression on him.

In 1964 Bertie and Margaret and their two daughters, Violet and Joan, established the Bradbury Charitable Trust (BCT) to help British charities that assist the elderly and disadvantaged in Hong Kong. The YMCA in Kowloon, the British Red Cross blood transfusion Centre in Shatin, Bradbury School, Bradbury Hospice and the Salvation Army were all recipients of large grants. These charities continue to operate to this day.

Following the 1984 Sino-British Agreement on Hong Kong and a 1987 court ruling that, after 1997, all charities would lose their British-registered status, the Bradbury Foundation was established with HSBC as the Trustees in the United Kingdom.

The Bradbury Foundation maintains its historic ties with the Salvation Army and British Red Cross, amongst others, and continues to donate every year to British Charities in the United Kingdom. Bradbury Community House, Glossop, received a donation of £400,000 in 1993 to help build the present building for which we are extremely grateful.

