



In memoriam

Patrick Ashe

Patrick Ashe (Paddy) recently passed away on June 19th-2022. The final months of his life were difficult as he fought to keep a better end of life that he certainly deserved. He achieved his doctoral thesis in the University College Dublin as he was student in the laboratory of prof. Declan Murray.

Paddy has published many papers and reference works, including his large comprehensive monographs on the biogeography of Chironomidae, including the Ashe and O'Connor worldwide legacies of: A world catalogue of Chironomidae (Diptera, Parts I-II, published in 2009 and 2012), which present his important and extensive original knowledge, providing inspiration and ambition for many generations.

Paddy was much more than a simple colleague to every one. He was so helpful and so kind. Together, we were real close friends and we both had many interests in common. During the last symposiums (Czech Republic, Fribourg, Trondheim, Trento) we friendly shared the same room and same table for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Several times, he has visited France, where we did some great fieldwork over the Eastern Pyrenees, Auvergne Region, Maritime Alps, French and Italian Alps. Together we successfully published some papers in biogeography and taxonomy,

mainly of new taxa/species collected in France, Corsica, and the French and Italian Alps, over the last three decades.

A few wide ranging papers have been published on the fauna of continental France, Corsica and New Caledonia. Based on his vast experience of worldwide biogeography and geographical distribution of species, Paddy kindly put together an important and valuable faunal database for the Southern Hemisphere. This resulted in a first paper on the Chironomidae of NC as ‘A first generic faunal data’, published by Moubayed, Mary & Ashe in 2021. Unfortunately, the remaining works on the chironomid fauna of NC, which might be published in 2022-2023, was interrupted by the sudden death of Paddy following his long illness. May God bless our dear departed Paddy, and may he Rest in Peace.

This contribution written by J. Moubayed (France) has been kindly and fairly accepted to be shared on behalf of Paddy’s brother, Fergus, and the following colleagues: P. and B. Caldwell (USA), V. Lencioni (Italy), P. Michailova (Bulgaria), B. Lods-Crozet (Switzerland), D. Murray and J. O’Connor (Ireland), P.H. Langton (Northern Ireland), B. Baranov (Ukraine), M. Yamamoto and R. Cornette (Japan), X. Wang and X. Lin (China), N.M. Yavorskaya and E. Makarchenko (Russia), A. Mora (Hungary).



Patrick Ashe with some colleagues at the symposium in Trento (Italy, July-2017).

Patrick Ashe avec quelques collègues lors du Congrès de Trento (Italie, Juillet-2017).