

A BREAK WITH FAMILY TRADITION AT CHRISTMAS

Ian Matthews was born in March 1930 in his present home Oak Lodge, Station Road, Shipton-under-Wychwood and for the next sixty-seven years he had Christmas Lunch at Oak Lodge. Although he went to school in Swanage and Oxford, and was stationed at Oswestry for his National Service before going to university in Aberystwyth, he was ALWAYS home for lunch on Christmas Day. One Christmas he had pneumonia and was not sure that he ate much but still he was at home! In 1955 after our marriage we lived in Milton House, Milton-under-Wychwood, but came back to lunch at Oak Lodge with his Father and Mother, his uncle Bill from Durban and his brother Gordon. In the evening we went to my parents in Stow-on-the-Wold and had major problems getting up Stow Hill because of a heavy and sudden fall of snow! In fact we bought our first set of chains for the car which got us up the hill!

In 1997 our elder daughter Charlotte invited us to go to her home at Compton, near Winchester and gave us a lovely day. I had cooked lunch at Oak Lodge for 40 out of 42 years of marriage, but it was Ian who was tempted to shed a tear at the break with a very long tradition, although he enjoyed the day with Charlotte, her husband and children. Can anyone in the Wychwoods beat this record?

Anne Matthews.

MELPLASH TURKEY FARM

(Proprietor: Joanna Cook)



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SHIPTON BRIDGE CLUB

We are a friendly club which was formed two years ago following an Intermediate class held in the village. We meet weekly on Wednesday afternoons 2 - 4.30 pm in Milton Village Hall and welcome new members from any of the surrounding villages. Do come and join us - what could be better on a dreary winter's afternoon than a game of cards with a friendly group?

Call Philip and Janet Shackle on 01993 - 831475 for further details.