

CONGRATULATIONS!

Donald (Don) George Ward and Joyce Lucy Ward celebrated their Diamond Wedding on April 10th 1999. With a card from H.M. The Queen and a party at the Shaven Crown which included their daughter, son, four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Joyce was born and raised in Witney and helped in the family bakery. Don was born in Melksham (Wilts.) and moved to Witney to take up a pharmacy apprenticeship at Boots the chemist, where he met Joyce. They were married at Cogges Church on the 10th April, 1939, living in Witney until they moved to Milton in 1952. Don spent the war in the Navy and Joyce was busy looking after their daughter Diane, born in 1942. Son John was born in 1947. Don returned briefly to Boots after the war and then moved to the Radio Station at Leafield in 1946, becoming Branch Secretary of the P.O Engineering Union. He remained there until his retirement in 1979.

Joyce is very creative, writing poetry, painting and a keen member of the Handicraft Society. She was also a member of the Wychwood Singers and Mothers' Union.

They were both very active members of the St. John Ambulance Wychwood Division (which has now closed) and in recognition of their services for Oxfordshire, attended the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in 1983.

When Don rang me and told me of their Diamond Wedding, I said that this was just the thing for the magazine and arranged a meeting.

It wasn't until we were chatting that I discovered that what they really wanted was to convey their thanks to all their friends and neighbours for the cards, flowers and good wishes on the occasion of their celebration. I know our readers will join in offering our warmest congratulations and best wishes. Joyce has written a poem

Fond Memories

As we sat in the firelight glow
And the sun sank behind the hill,
Outside a carpet of snow
Lay and the wind was chill.

We recalled the war
And the lonely days apart,
But you returned from afar
To a bright new start.

By then we had a little girl
Who was our pride and joy,
Her hair a mass of curls,
Followed soon by a baby boy.

Then came the school times,
How hard it was to learn,
The logarithms and rhymes,
and 'Ode to a Grecian Urn'.

So suddenly it seems,
They've gone their separate ways,
Now comes life's dream
Of happy, peaceful days.

Joyce Lucy Ward.



Don and Joyce, John and Diane,
at the celebration party.



Outside Buckingham Palace
June 1983.

HAVE YOU ANY TIME TO SPARE?

How often have we heard that? **The Wychwoods Day Centre** is now up and running very successfully, and is very popular with the people who attend. Currently there is room for five more people to attend, and reference is not now needed from the surgery or the D.S.S. If you are housebound and don't see many people, and would like to attend, please apply to Yvonne Macdougall 01608 651119, or Caroline Beaumont 831891.

Card games, dominoes and other games are played, and there is a monthly service with our local vicar Revd. Mike Williams. Outings are arranged and other suggestions for activities are always welcomed. A home cooked hot meal, prepared at the Hall, is served at lunch time.

To successfully run the Day Centre, Yvonne needs a willing band of volunteers and drivers on a Thursday from 10am to 3.30pm. Volunteers are asked to spare as much time as they can to help run the Centre, and drivers are asked to deliver by 10am, and to collect for return at 3.30pm.

So, please are you able to help in any way, for however long? This is a very worthwhile facility for the Wychwood area, and any offers of help