

Janet Hicks. 4th September 1952 - 27th February 2001.

It was with great sadness that the village heard of Jan's death from cancer which she had fought with such courage for a long time. She had periods when she was so much better and able to continue with her many hobbies and activities.

Jan had been a member of Ascott under Wychwood Women's Institute for about 25 years and played a very active role, she was always keen to visit other institutes or go to places of interest that were organised locally or by the County. She won various medals for her wonderful needlework which put Ascott well and truly on the W.I. map. Over the years Jan had taken on the responsibility of being the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the W.I. and spent many years on the Committee. Jan was also a member of the Wychwood Handicraft Society, which she obviously really enjoyed, having this great gift to create something beautiful.

Another one of her interests and skills was Bell Ringing. Jan was taught at Ascott and Shipton by John McVicar from Shipton and she went on to ring at Shipton Church for the Sunday Morning services. Of course she would go to the practice on a Wednesday because if she committed herself to something she always did it with dedication. The bells of Ascott and Shipton have been rung in Jan's memory – Shipton rang a half-muffled peal on the day of the funeral. She was also a distributor for "The Wychwood" for very many years, and the time and effort she gave were very much appreciated.

Jan was known by many people in the area who, like her family, will miss her very much.

Kathy Pearce.

News from Fifield

We were fairly small in number but it was nevertheless a happy group which met for coffee at Mrs. Cameron's home in April. Those who were interested in the History Project took away copies of the material we've so far gathered. Many thanks to those who read the entry for the last issue and responded with answers to the questions raised.

Soon Fifield at Home will be upon us – 9th June at 2.00pm – and we are very thrilled that The Hawks will do a parachute drop (weather permitting) to open the proceedings.

August 4th is the date of our very popular annual barbecue. Anyone with Fifield or Idbury connections is most welcome.

Please contact Les Wilcox (830 686) or Pat Yaxley (831 385) if you would like a ticket.

Pat Yaxley