

She gained a reputation with the local butcher for being the customer who always asked the price but never bought anything, because she never had the money. By way of contrast, Edie remembers when Diana and Oswald Mosley, with their children, were under house arrest at The Shaven Crown towards the end of The War. Edie was astonished to see all of the little Mosley children, each wearing their own fur coats, and shadowed by bodyguards. Edie joined the staff at Shipton Stores, and was a familiar face serving behind the counter for many years from the late 50s onwards.

Edie's sister Fanny married and had twins in 1933, those twins Godfrey and Margaret, who both still live locally with their spouses, remember Edie as a very independent self-sufficient person who worked hard, and was very responsible. Her most comfortable form of transport was a bicycle, and she cycled around the village cooking for all who needed her services. She was still dependent on her bicycle aged over 80, when she used it as a vehicle to carry the shopping, and to help prop her up. She travelled on the bus to Chipping Norton to do the shopping as recently as 1995, disembarked from the bus and loaded the shopping in the bicycle basket and pushed the cycle home. Today, Edie is characterised by the warm and wonderful smile on her face, and her love of laughter. She has endured a difficult life and those of us who know something about her are all the richer for having shared time with our local heroine. .

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## NEWS FROM FIFIELD

**A Barbecue in the Rain** – Wetsuits and wellies come to mind when we think of this year's barbecue! Expecting it to be wet we'd decided on Plan B -in the Hall; but a break in the clouds and a bit of sunshine tempted us to be outdoors. Big mistake! Some of us were soaked and had to yield to major forces; some, who arrived later, came better prepared with coats and umbrellas. But everyone was good humoured; the rain did stop -eventually -and the food was great! So perhaps it wasn't so bad after all. Many thanks to everyone for being such sports.

### What's next? The Harvest Supper

Cottage pies and lasagne, apple and rhubarb crumbles -all on the menu for the **Harvest Supper on 5th October**. Bob Forster will join us once again to lead the singing and we are looking forward to another hilarious evening, so let's hope he has another quiz up his sleeve! Seating is limited, so past and present residents of Fifield and Idbury have priority – until 1st October when tickets will be available to anyone wishing to join us.

Also in October, we're hoping to organise a lunch at Idbury Manor; no details are available at present but it will probably be October 12th.

Pat Yaxley.