

## Goodbye Katy A Wanderer No More

Avid followers of the adventures of Katy, the black Labrador, for so many years the intrepid wanderer of the upper end of Shipton will, alas, see her no more. Having reached the great age of thirteen and a half years, she was quietly put to sleep recently after a short illness.

### What Katy Did

Katy was a quiet, unassuming and affectionate dog but she also had an irrepressible “call of the wild” sixth sense for escape. Any momentary lapse of security, a door or gate left ajar, saw her gone in seconds with a stealth, which would have challenged McCavity. Padding silently up Mawles Lane and nearly always turning left up the High Street, she would call in at the Lamb to see what was on the menu before proceeding to friends in Court Close. Though accused of many misdemeanours, usually falsely, including taking duck and other game (give a dog a bad name!), she did cause anxiety to all for her Russian roulette



crossings of the A361. She lived an active and adventurous life. In earlier years she accompanied her master on many hill and mountain walking expeditions, as well as running out with Badger, the massive Clydesdale horse, who many will remember, exploring the bridleways and paths of this beautiful area.

### Intrigue Unmasked

More recently there was the intrigue of Katy's abduction from Shipton on the coldest night of the year and the detective work to which all her friends contributed their snippets of intelligence which unmasked her 'kidnapper' and led to her rescue. She was a dog of great determination and character who often used selective deafness to her advantage. Many thanks to all in the village for telephone calls and journeys back to Court Farm with her over so many years. She will be sadly missed but fondly remembered.

**Belinda and Jonathon Willson**

**Once again, a big thanks to our marvellous Illustrators:  
Jan Harvey on Page 15 and Peter Hills on Page 19.**