

## Concluding The Celebration Of Our 25<sup>th</sup> Year Honouring The Past

In a world where everything changes, perhaps faster than we would like, it is reassuring to note how much continuity there is between that first volume of February/March 1981 and The Wychwood of today.

### Wonderful Advertisers

Firstly how many publications can claim continuity of advertisers over 25 years! These are the people who keep the magazine alive. We are delighted that so many famous local businesses of 1981 remain important advertisers today; just look at the list:

*The Shaven Crown, The Red Horse Inn, F.W.P. Matthews Ltd, Station Road Garage, R.J. Bradley and Son, Hunt and Townsend, Shipton House Stores, The Post Office in Milton, Gorton Building Services... and others!*

Not only a testament to the powers of the magazine's ability to reach readers, but also a great achievement for local businesses to be in such good health after 25 years! Thank you and keep up the good work!

### Wonderful Contributors

Many of the regular features of 1981 would be familiar to today's reader. For example: gardening was covered then by V. Mitchell and J. Timms; now we are very grateful to Elaine Hunt for continuing a strong tradition with her popular regular gardening column. The WI is still going strong, as is

Bowerham where a photograph of 'Christmas Party of Good Neighbours' taken on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1980 could easily have been this year! There are still candle processions in Fifield Church and we still care about feeding the birds in winter and raising money for good causes.

### Wonderful Local Characters

Noting new arrivals and paying tribute to sad departures has always been important. In Volume 6 of 1981, the 'Getting to Know Your Neighbour' article featured Doris Warner (then 76), who had lived all her life in a cottage called Three Centuries in Ascott-Under-Wychwood.

Do any of our readers remember Doris or know the whereabouts of her son Harvey? We might have more weather statistics these days (see Page 27), but Doris had no need of these. "I listen to the voice of the weather", she said. "I can tell when it is going to snow by the voice of the wind in the branches".

### ...Back to The Future

And so... 'Goodbye' to the last 25 years, and 'Hello' to the next 25 years of The Wychwood.

Let us hope that we can preserve the traditions of the past whilst constantly making improvements to the quality of the magazine for the benefit of our advertisers, contributors and most of all YOU the reader!

 **Please turn to Page 25 where our Chairman, Martin Gibbs, will be welcoming you to the exciting changes we have planned for the future of The Wychwood.**