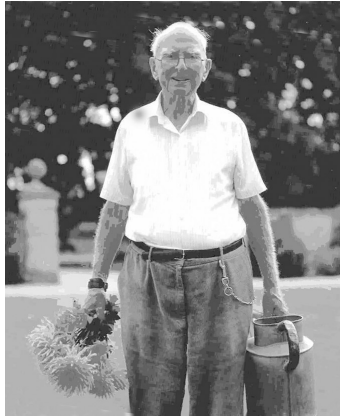


Alfred Valentine Mitchell 1907 - 2005

Sadly, Alfred Valentine Mitchell (Val to family, Mitch to friends and colleagues) died on 28th April 2005 aged 98. He had been suffering from pneumonia for several weeks, but fought valiantly to the end.

Val had been a gardener all his working life and gardening was his hobby. He was Head Gardener at Bruern Abbey from 1955 and wrote the gardening page for The Wychwood for many years. Over the years he judged at many local



Horticultural Shows and was often on the panel of local 'Gardener's Question Time' events.

He was able to potter in his beloved greenhouses until last November, when increasing dementia and physical frailty forced him to give up.

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, letters and support we have received.

Nancy, Robin, Jackie, Bobbie and Family

Make Britain Proud

Supporting the Olympic Bid

The giant 20m x 2m 'Make Britain Proud' flag aims to demonstrate the enormous support for the bid amongst the UK's biggest and brightest stars in the worlds of sport, politics, art, fashion, music and entertainment. The giant flag will be presented to the International Olympic Committee before they make the decision on which City will host the 2012 Games.

Celebrity Signatures

The flag has already been signed by sporting and celebrity luminaries such as; Ricky Gervais, Sir Michael Caine, Keane, Rhys Ifans, Roger Moore, Ashley Cole, Matt Lucas (Little Britain), Sir Alex Ferguson, Rio Ferdinand, Alan Shearer, Johnny Vaughan, Neil Fox, the

GB Rugby League team, Sol Campbell, Tim Lovejoy, Dermott O'Leary, Craig Doyle, Joseph Fiennes and Sir Clive Woodward. The flag has also appeared at half-time at St James' Park, Upton Park, the Millennium Stadium and at Twickenham during the England v Australia game.

Your Name Too!

In addition, every single person who registers their support by backing the bid online or via SMS will have their name printed on the reverse of the flag when it is presented to the IOC in Singapore in July 2005, a world's first. *Back the bid at www.signtheflag.co.uk or by texting LONDON to 82012.*

John Drew