

## So Now You Know!

*The date: August Bank Holiday Sunday, 2005. The place: an immaculate garden in Milton-under-Wychwood. The event: a family get-together. The number attending:- a dozen, perhaps? Wait for it- nearly ninety- Surely not?*

But yes:- the children, their children, their children (together with in-laws) of the late Hector and Amy Morrison of Shipton-under-Wychwood. Ah well - that explains it!

### The Morrison Family

Sixty-six years ago, the Morrison family came from the north of Scotland to spend *just* the duration of the war with wife Amy's parents at the top of Fiddlers Hill. War over, Dad Hector came back and we settled in Chapel

Lane, next door to Miss Archer the infants' teacher at the village school. By 1954 the family had grown to ten - seven girls and three boys. Nurse Ford had delivered the younger ones and Doctor Scott was the family doctor. To this day many family members are cared for by Doctor Scott - Junior! The Rev. Cundel at St. Mary's Church was kept busy with the christenings and then the weddings, which occurred year after year for quite some time!

Time passed...Brothers Dave and Angus went to Australia with only rare visits - both ways. Angus, the youngest brother, had visited last year at the time when we sadly lost our eldest sister, Amy and soon after our sister Pat. Our eldest brother, Dave, suddenly announced that he and

his wife Daphne were coming in August - his first visit for twenty years. So - naturally - a celebration! Yes, but it had to be *everybody*. That truly meant nearly ninety! It was sister June (one of the younger ones) with husband Rodger who took it on. With a little help on Bank Holiday Sunday, their garden in Milton



was set. Tables, chairs, balloons, a magician on the way, quiz ready and, in the house, tables groaning under the weight of the sort of feast for which this family is well known. Families covering four

generations were on their way from Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Cornwall, Gloucestershire, Lancashire and other parts of Oxfordshire (and Australia!). Lunch was to be 1pm.

### A Remarkable Day!

The one thing beyond control was the weather! Would the huge numbers expected, be able to squeeze inside if it rained? It was a worry! But the sun shone all day and the party went on well into the evening. Both the newer and the older generations met and mixed, many for the first time. We began to realise how important it was that this huge family could and should hold on to the friendships formed on what was a most remarkable and memorable day.

### June Gorton