

Howard Dixon 1914 - 2006

I first met Howard at Northampton Grammar School in 1925, where we had both just graduated. Although we thoroughly enjoyed school life it was disturbing to see so much poverty around us. Unemployment levels were very high at a time when our country was one of the worlds richest, surpassing the United States both economically and militarily.



Over the years our friendship developed and extended, encompassing our parents and subsequently the family of Howard's wife, Evelyn.

In 1930 we left the Grammar School and entered the commercial arena. Howard began a career in insurance but we had to continue with our studies at the local Technical College for a further five years.

At about this time another World War was looming, but Howard and I managed to maintain contact despite being in different locations. At one time our wives were both nursing in the same unit.

In the post-war era we all lived just outside the London perimeter and were

able to share the joys of each other's families. In 1979, when our families had all 'flown the nest' we all decided to retire to Shipton, choosing this area because of its beauty and because it was central for our respective family visits. The journey from those far away days of 1925 to Shipton was complete.

Once settled here Howard enjoyed life to the full. He was

soon a member of Wychwood Bowls Club, then playing on the Green, as well as Burford Golf Club and the Burford Horticultural Association. He was always an active member of St. Mary's Church congregation and was involved with the Wychwood Magazine in its early days.

Soon after visiting Chipping Norton Proboscis Club he took on the mantle of President. It was typical of Howard that he showed a keen interest in everything and participated actively.

The passing of this warm and very sincere member of our community is a great personal loss to Evelyn, his wife, daughters Pauline and Rosemary and their families, to me and to Shipton as a whole – a place he loved so dearly.

Ron Crisp