

Doris Kate Field - 100 Not Out!

Doris was born at Water Eaton, Oxfordshire on the 9th November 1909, daughter of a dairy farm worker. She had one brother, Oliver. Aged 13 she went to work as a live-in help in Oxford.

To the Rescue

After a visit to Fifield with a friend, whilst cycling back to Milton, she realised that the lamp on her bicycle was not working. A young man, Ellis Field, came to her rescue and from that chance encounter romance blossomed. Doris was then just sixteen. They were married at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Summertown in June 1933, beginning married life in Fifield. Son, Oliver was born in September 1934. The family moved to Idbury in 1935 and there Doris remained until August 2005 when, after a period of illness, she moved to Jasmine House in Witney.

During the war years she belonged to the WVS; she would cycle to Kingham Station to serve refreshments to the troops. In 1939 she gave a home to three young evacuees; they were brothers and she could not see them separated. Oliver



gained three brothers over night and they stayed for the next two and a half years.

Shining Like Gold

She was a member of the WI and has been a member of the Mothers' Union for 73 years. She served on the PCC for many years, cleaning Idbury Church and making

sure the brasses shone like gold. She was a keen member of the Evergreens and sang regularly with the Wychwood Singers.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s a Saturday market was held at The Old Smithy and Doris regularly cooked items for sale. For 40 years she worked at Idbury House.

Doris was widowed in 1983 but managed to pick up the threads of her busy life. She celebrated her hundredth birthday quietly at Jasmine House with Oliver and Shelagh, her son and daughter-in-law, grandson Kevin and his wife Julie. Many friends called in to wish her Happy Birthday, including those three evacuees. And her recipe for such a long life - just hard work.

Oliver and Shelagh Field

Moving On

Sarah Thacker, who for several years has been delivering *The Wychwood* in Courtlands Road, Shipton is passing the job on to her mother Fiona. Sarah is moving to her own flat in Carterton, which she will be sharing with a friend. Many readers will remember Sarah as a

volunteer helper at Wychwood Library, where she worked with Beryl Brown for ten years.

We send our best wishes to Sarah as she takes this big step forward and thank her for all her help over the past years.

Christine Halliday