

Sylvia Turner

1917 - 2010

Sylvia was born Sylvia Crowdy in Lewknor, near Thame. After the death of her mother, when she was just three years old, she came to live with her Aunt and Uncle Dore at Rose Cottage in Milton High Street. She was separated at that time from her brother and sister but grew up with her cousin Harold. She left school at 14 and went into service with the Holloway family at Grove Farm in Shipton. When war broke out she went to work at the de Havilland factory but suffered poisoning from the lanolin that was used on the planes. She then went into the Land Army and worked for Mr Wells at Poplar Farm in Milton.

On her first day Mr Wells took her out in the van to show her the deliveries.

On her second day he told her to get on with it alone, even though she had never driven before.

In 1941 she married her first husband Reg Watkins who was in the RAF at Little Rissington. In 1943 she



adopted her son Michael; her family was complete when she adopted daughter Marilyn. Sadly, Michael died in a tractor accident when he was 17.

In 1956 she took over the milk round from Mr Wells, delivering milk to the Wychwoods and surrounding villages. In 1963 she bought the near derelict Blenheim Cottages on the A361, which she and her

second husband, Dick Turner, restored and turned into three cottages.

Sylvia was an expert needlewoman and made the cushion for the Bishop's chair in Shipton Church. She sang in the church choir for many years.

Sylvia went into the Ramping Cat Nursing home for a short stay while

Marilyn was in hospital. She was very happy there but sadly had a stroke and died before she was able to return home.



A thanksgiving service for her life will be held at Shipton Church on Wednesday, 4th August at 12 noon.

Ironically, a few days after Sylvia died, her daughter Marilyn saw our article on the bus trip to Weston in 1931 and identified Sylvia as the young girl in a beret

Bridewell Organic Gardens

The gardens will be open on **Sunday 12th September**

Teas, plants and Bridewell organic wine for sale.

Bridewell is situated in Wilcote, between North Leigh and Finstock.

For more information, please telephone: 01993 864530 or: 01993 868313.