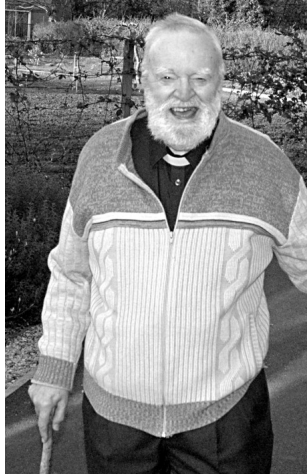


## Village Voices

### Geoffrey and Jeanne Lindley

Geoffrey was vicar of the parishes of Shipton-under-Wychwood, Milton-under-Wychwood, Fifield and Idbury from 1979 to 1985. It was his last incumbency and one which had a very special place in his heart. A lovely painting of Shipton church and old school has been in the living room of Jeanne and Geoffrey ever since - it was given as a farewell present.



Buckingham Palace to mark this fantastic milestone.

At the same time, a special commemoration badge was presented to Jeanne for her services at Bletchley Park during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. The badge was engraved "We also served" and was presented to her by the Member of Parliament for Oxford East, the Right Honourable Andrew Smith.

Geoffrey died peacefully in St John's Home, a wonderful residential home attached to the Society of All Saints Sisters of the Poor in Oxford. Jeanne was holding his hand and he passed away quickly and gently in the evening of November 17<sup>th</sup> to the words of Psalm 27. Jeanne and the family have been so grateful for the many messages of prayers, love and support which have come from all the parishes in the dioceses of Southwark and Oxford in which Geoffrey worked. Friends came from the Wychwood parishes to join the family in a memorial service, giving thanks for his life, in the chapel of the All Saints Sisters of the Poor. There had been a celebration only eight weeks before for Jeanne and Geoffrey's 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. A congratulatory telegram had come from

He observed, "This is a great double celebration of a happy marriage, which has lasted a wonderful time and of distinguished service to our country." Jeanne spoke a little of the work which was done, of the need there had been for absolute secrecy and of the terrible cost of war.

Geoffrey's view of the recipe for their 65 years together was expressed as "Well, we met and married very young - and we still feel the same now as we did then." Jeanne always comments on Geoffrey's great gift of seeing the very best in people. Many of those who have written to her have also mentioned, as an important ingredient in their marriage, their shared love of the work of the ministry and commitment to the communities of the parishes they served.

**Ruth Woolfson**

## Are You a Collector?

Are you a passionate collector? Not of Picasso's or rare porcelain but of things of little or no value except to you. Odd or unusual things or just things you like? We would love to feature the story of what and why you collect in *The Wychwood*.

Please email Wendy Osgerby on: [wendyosgerby@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wendyosgerby@hotmail.co.uk)