

A Celebration of Lives

There have been a number of deaths recently in the area, too many to count it seems.

Here is a short 'celebration of life' of those that we know about.

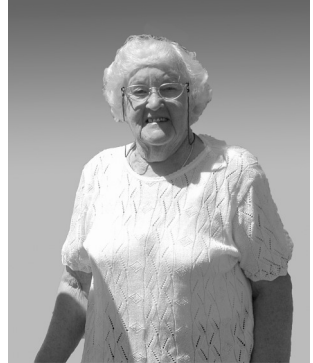
If we have missed your loved one, we apologise and send our condolences to everyone who has lost someone dear to them.

Mrs Win White

1923 - 2013

Mrs White was best known as Clerk to the Parish Council, an office she held for more than 40 years, and as a stalwart member of Shipton WI.

We featured Win in our Oct/Nov issue, on the occasion of her 90th birthday and send our condolences to her son Bill and daughter-in-law, Catherine.



Jack Prew

1928 - 2013

Jack was the proprietor of Milton Service Station, which he took over in 1965 and built up over the years to the business that we know today.

Jack was born in a farm cottage at Lyneham. In 1951 he met Margaret and they were married in 1952. Before taking over the service station, when Mr Scott retired, Jack had worked at Morris Motors in Oxford.

Jack celebrated his 80th birthday in style when his family arranged a surprise party for him with 95 family members and friends. The highlight of the day was driving a steam engine at Toddington. Jack was featured in our June/July 2005 and Aug/Sept 2008 issues.

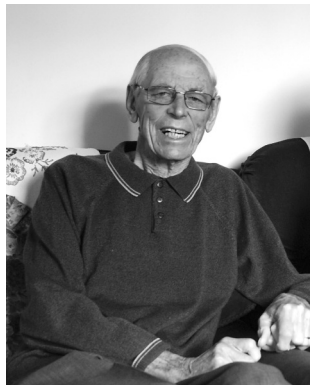


John Miller

1921 - 2013

John was born in Mitcham in Surrey but spent the war years working on Hurricanes and Spitfires at the de Havilland works in Witney. It was here that he met his future wife Cicely. When they married in 1948 they moved to her family home in Milton, where they continued to live together until John's recent death. John held the post of secretary and subsequently chairman of the Milton Village Hall committee for 41 years. John and Cicely loved dancing and were still enjoying tea-dances when they celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary in 2008.

John was featured in the magazine in Oct/Nov 2001 and June/July 2008.



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Joyce Beaney **1921 - 2013**

Joyce was born and brought up in a cottage in The Square, Milton where she lived with her parents Albert and Margaret Barnes and her brother Derek. After leaving school she worked in Chelsea as children's nanny to the Hartley and Tate and Lyle families.

She returned to Milton to marry Dick Beaney and they had three sons; David, Ted and Jack. The family lived in a cottage on The Heath, Milton for many years. They were all very involved in village activities, especially the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Her last year was difficult when she lost her mobility. She spent several months in Witney Hospital where she was very well cared for.



Ron Crisp **1914 - 2013**

Ron and his wife Mary came to live in Sinnels Field, Shipton in 1979 when the estate was newly built and Ron was recently retired. They soon settled into village life and made many friends.

Ron was born in Northampton. On leaving school in 1930 he began work in a solicitor's office, studying commercial law at evening classes. In 1937 he moved to Midland Bank legal section in the City of London and also joined the RNR. He was commissioned in 1938 and when war broke out he was called up for active duty in the Navy. He served the bank and the RNR for 40 years.

Ron enjoyed a round of golf at Chipping Norton, played a mean hand of bridge and was a member of Chipping Norton Probus Club for many years.

After Mary's death he continued to live independently until the last year of his life when he moved into the Old Prebendal House. He died just five days short of his 99th birthday.

Ron's own account of his wartime experiences are on page 45.



Our online archive contains the articles referred to in this *Celebration of Lives*.

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Peggy Flatman

1925 - 2013

Peggy was born in London, one of eight brothers and sisters, but lived in Bruern for 55 years. Her husband was chauffeur at Bruern Estate and they lived in a cottage on the estate. Peggy was one of the last estate employees still living in those cottages.

As well as bringing up her sons Kevin and Paul, Peggy worked at the Parker Knoll factory in Chipping Norton. She loved watching sport and enjoyed standing on the touch line when her sons were playing.

She loved her Thursday visits to the Day Centre in Shipton, enjoying the company of friends old and new.



Joan Townsend

1918 - 2013

Joan was born in Lane House Farm in Shipton. She helped her father deliver the milk before going to school at St. Mary's. When she left school at 14, her father arranged a job for her at the village telephone exchange. She moved on to the exchange in St. Aldate's, Oxford. In 1939, just a week before war broke out, she married Bennie and moved into the new bungalow that he had built in the Bruern Road. They had five sons.

Joan enjoyed many years of companionship at the Day Centre in Shipton. We featured her 90th birthday in the Apr/May 2008 issue.



Windrush Valley School

All back to school, refreshed and ready to go after a wonderful Christmas break. We were all so good Father Christmas came to visit us. Our lucky Foundation Unit and KS1 children had been working hard all year, so Santa felt he should pay them a visit and give them each a small gift at their Christmas party.

The older children have also worked hard throughout the year, and we celebrated with a trip to the Swan Theatre in High Wycombe to watch a very funny Cinderella.

The children are very excited to be auditioning for our annual Easter performance at New Beaconsfield Hall. The school has competed in a variety of competitive sporting events this year, including cross country, netball, football and tag-rugby local school matches. Well done for a very successful year to all the children who took part. Thank you to our football coach, Mr Madden, for coaching our most successful junior and senior teams, and PE staff for encouraging the children in sport.

Victoria Taylor