

Sept. 20th 2017

SNOOK

Margaret

"Maggie"

Of Bampton passed away peacefully on 13th September aged 90 years. Much loved Wife of the late Joffre, Mum to Richard & Colin, Grandmother & Great Grandmother who will be sadly missed by her family & friends. Funeral Service to be held at St Mary's Church Bampton on Monday 25th September at 11.00am. Family flowers only please donations if desired for The Stroke Association may be sent c/o E Taylor & Son, 21 Corbett Road, Carterton, Oxon, OX18 3LG. Tel: 01993 842421.

Margaret Alice Snook

Let not your hearts be troubled... Jesus said to his disciples, but as we know, and as he also knew very well, the death of a loved one is a troubling event. Today, you as a family are mourning the loss of a much loved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and others here are mourning the loss of a friend and neighbour. Maggie is someone who has been such an essential part of your lives as a family and also well-known to the wider community as someone deeply engaged in village life and so much a part of the Bampton scene.

But mixed in with the grief and the tears are all those good and happy memories of a person who lived for her family and did so much to help others throughout her life.

Maggie came to Bampton from Kempford as a teenager and the family lived at Hobbs Buildings. She met Joffrey, who was stationed at the Weald Signals Camp and they married in 1948. Their family of two sons was regularly added to over the years, as Maggie fostered children, mostly for short terms. But Wayne became a part of that family from the age of 2 until he was 16. Indeed, children were always Maggie's delight and joy and she took pride and pleasure in her 6 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren as they came along to swell the growing ranks of her family. And she always had her handbag full of their photos, and always worried about them, especially if they were travelling abroad.

Maggie would also act as an unofficial chaperone to a wider variety of children in the days when pictures were shown at the Village Hall and the youngsters had to be accompanied by a 'responsible adult' - those who didn't know her would assume that Maggie had a very large family indeed when she gathered a random flock under her wing so that they could watch the film.

Village life also meant a great deal to Maggie as, for many years, she enthusiastically championed the work of British Legion, helping to raise money through the Poppy Appeal, and also became a regular volunteer at the Charity Shop. SPAJERS, too, benefited from her involvement, as Maggie also ran a pop and crisp stall with Elsie Ellis at the Donkey Derby every year.

After Joffrey died, Maggie started going to the Bush Club, which she really

enjoyed and one of her favourite things was her weekly game of Bingo with her regular group of friends who had their own particular table and seats.

Family and charitable works occupied much of Maggie's time, but she had plenty of room in her life for her cats and dogs, too, and was also a keen gardener, when she was fit enough to do it. Even when it got too much for her to do on her own, Maggie had definite ideas about how it SHOULD be done, and was never slow to tell the men who came to cut the hedge or mow the grass if she wasn't happy with their work!

Proud and independent, but a loyal friend and loving motherly figure to so many, and a faithful servant to this community, there is so much to be thankful for when we look back on Maggie's 90 years of active life.

And it is a life which that same Jesus assures us does not simply end in death. In our reading from John's Gospel Jesus told his disciples that he would go and prepare a place for them, a place in our Father's house of many rooms, a place where life would continue in a different way - a way full of new things and fresh possibilities.

Now, her work in this life over, Maggie has come to that place where, free from illness and infirmity, she can enjoy for ever the light and peace of the Kingdom of heaven.

Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. *Amen.*