

## Ettie Fox

January 1922 – May 2016

Ettie Fox was an extremely popular member of the Otley village community and will be sorely missed by many. She originally moved to the village from Framsdon fifty years ago and, after losing her husband in 1969, began work at Swiss Farm as a housekeeper and was also caretaker of Otley Village Hall. Both roles she continued for many years.

She was heavily involved in village activities, including the Mother's Union and the Women's Institute, and took up bell ringing in later life, where she became President of Otley St Mary Handbell Ringers. Bell ringing became such an important part of her life that the group of ringers performed for her 80th birthday.

Ettie loved nature and the outdoors and for many years kept a beautiful garden and grew her own vegetables. She also loved to walk around the village and took a daily afternoon stroll around Otley up until the end of 2015, when it became more difficult for her. Her regular appearance and her involvement in many of the village groups made her a popular figure in Otley and the high attendance at her funeral was testament to that.

Above all else, family was closest to Ettie's heart. She was extremely close to her daughter, Ann and her husband, Pat, who have always lived close by in Grundisburgh. For many years, every Saturday afternoon was spent with Ann and the family and more recently, Ann spent a lot of time caring for her mum. Ettie had two grandchildren, Paul (my Step Dad) and Tracy, and also two great-grandchildren: Connor and Emily. Emily is only three and Ettie took great delight in getting to spend time with her in those early years. The family was blessed with George, Connor's son, in December 2015, and Ettie was thrilled that she got to meet him and that a photo of all five generations was taken to treasure the moment. I personally knew Ettie since I was a teenager and even though her relationship to me was 'only' as Step-Great-Grandma, I always thought of her as 'Little Nan'. For a lady of tiny stature (which is highly amusing as her husband, Maurice, was 6 foot 10" tall!), she had an enormous heart.

Tanya Fosdick