

Vera Girling (1923 to April 2013)

Vera was born in Culpho and moved Grundisburgh at some stage in her childhood. Like so many of her generation, on leaving school aged 14 she went into service, but when war broke out she moved to the canning factory in Woodbridge and stayed there until the end of the war.

In 1947, a young man from Woodbridge was working here in the village, in Stoney Road, when Vera caught his eye. Romance and courting all happened fairly quickly. After Peter and Vera were married, they made their home with Vera's parents in Vine Cottages --. Peter was to help bring water from a tap into those cottages. He was a good handyman and builder, working for Houchells.

In 1966 the family moved up to Orchard End, to the home where Peter still lives. Vera's love of sport meant that she was a keen supporter of the village cricket team and Grundisburgh Football Club. Many a time she could be found making the teas, alongside Ethel, and when she could, she would go to watch Ipswich Town. She was a good cook, loved to bake, she was a keen member of the Golden Club until quite recently and never shirked work, working cleaning the school into her 70s.



Vera Girling (left) and Ethel Quinton (right) in their guides uniforms