

KRISTIN THOMPSON (1934–2013)

Kristin Thompson, ex-editor of the *Deddington News*, died calmly on 3 December 2013, aged 79, after a year-long battle with cancer.

Kristin grew up in Suffolk and, aged 19, was awarded an Open Scholarship to Oxford to read English, where she met her future husband. She abandoned her English degree mid-course to read Philosophy at King's College London. Graduation, marriage, three children, and an international peripatetic life followed, leading her to New York, Bangkok, and twenty-two years in Geneva.



In Bangkok, she taught English, dramatised well-known English classics for Thai Educational Broadcasting, and tutored Prince Siri, the King of Thailand's nephew. In Geneva, she again taught English and worked in the American Library, ending up as Head Librarian. It was here that she developed a friendship with Jean Flux, a volunteer librarian. The Fluxes retired to Deddington and, searching for a thriving, welcoming community in England, Kristin followed in the mid-90s.

Kristin was an influential Deddingtonian, serving the community with energy, flair and intelligence. As well as editing the *Deddington News* for over four years, she was a Friend of organisations such as Daeda's Wood, the Library, and the Festival, instigating the Festival's Writing Competition, now in its ninth year. She started the very successful Writers' Group, winning prizes with her short stories, and belonged to the play-reading group. She was a member of the Parochial Church Council, Events Co-ordinator, and volunteered at Katharine House, Featherton House, and the Primary School, helping with the school's reading programme.

She was a proud allotment holder, and kept butterfly and flower records for public wildlife surveys. As a member of the History Society, she researched and wrote a history of the Town Hall and the almshouses, all the while taking English Literature courses at Oxford University's Department of Continuing Education.

Her memorial service at the Church of St Peter and St Paul on 12 December was attended by her children, grandchildren, and over a hundred guests, a fitting tribute to the love, friendship and respect she inspired. She will be very sadly missed.

Daniel, Matthew and Charis Thompson