

PORTSMOUTH CHIMES

SUPPLEMENT

No 1, November 2007

CURDRIDGE TOWER SECRETARY RINGS AT HER OWN WEDDING!

There was a very special wedding at Curdridge on 13th October 2007, when our Tower Secretary Gill Slater married Peter Dicks. They met while working at Manor Farm Country Park - Gill would often turn up for Sunday morning ringing in an outfit which could readily be converted to Victorian dress for her cookery stint on the Manor Farm range.



It's one thing for a groom to ring at their own wedding, but it's a completely different for the bride for obvious reasons!



L-R: Roland Jackson, Barbara Salmons, Hazel Matthews, Liz Manship, Lesley Bowler, Paul Milford, Robin Milford, Wendy Smart, Gill Slater, Anthony Manship, Nigel Blackmoore.

Gill said that she would ring for her wedding and she did, in a white Victorian-style two piece dress and blouse - which with the high heels made it a little difficult to climb the tower steps! She rang before her wedding with a band made from a number of towers around the district - the Vicar said that it was the first time he had known the bride turn up before the groom!

Both bride and groom had been married before and lost their spouses to cancer, so asked for donations to the Wessex Cancer Trust instead of wedding presents. A collection at the evening party, together with other donations received, raised the amazing sum of well over £1000.

A traditional service followed, for which the Church was beautifully decorated with corn dollies made by Gill herself. The dollies were taken down and mounted on a red background for display at the evening party in Durley Memorial Hall.



The splendid Corn Dollies, made by Gill herself



Mr & Mrs Peter Dicks with family and friends

Gill and Peter are now living at her home in Durley, so her address as given in the Annual Report does not change. Congratulations to them both, and best wishes from us all for their future together.

Robin Milford