

## Winefride Mary Thérèse Hadland (known as Terry)

Born 13 October 1922 at Avon Dassett, a pretty village in Warwickshire, not far from Banbury. Lived in the village: first at Rambler Cottage, then at Bitham Lodge.

Her mother, who was born in Dublin, had been head parlour maid at Bitham Hall. Her father, who came from Somerset, was chauffeur at the same house. During WW1, he drove an army ambulance in France and Belgium and, after the armistice, in occupied Germany.

Terry attended Avon Dassett Primary School, then briefly Farnborough School nearby. In 1934, she started at Leamington College, having won a scholarship. She had to cycle from Avon Dassett to catch the train to Leamington at Fenny Compton station.

She joined the army (Auxiliary Territorial Service) at the age of 17 on leaving school. WW2 had just started. After training at Warwick, she was posted to Ilfracombe and then to Reading, where she was stationed for most of the war.

Terry met her husband-to-be, John, while they were both stationed in Ilfracombe. He was in the Royal Engineers and rose to the rank of Major. They married at Avon Dassett on 29 August 1942, when she was not quite 20. John was then posted to India, where he spent the rest of the war building airfields, returning in 1946.

Terry and John bought a house in Armour Road, Tilehurst, and moved in on New Year's Day 1947, in an exceptionally cold winter. John worked in Reading for the rest of his career in the architectural and surveying department of H & G Simonds, the brewers. (This ultimately became Scottish Courage.)

Terry has 3 sons: Anthony (born 1949), Martin (born 1953), Paul (born 1954). There are 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Terry's husband John died in 2000.

Terry was a regular churchgoer and the sacristan at St Joseph's RC Church, Tilehurst. She was deeply involved in two local branches of the Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) and became their diocesan president, succeeding the mother of Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor.

Terry taught flower arranging (City & Guilds) at Reading College of Technology and edited the Berks, Bucks & Oxon journal of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS). Her husband did the illustrations for the journal covers. She always enjoyed writing and, as a schoolgirl, had wanted to become a journalist. Another favourite pastime was gardening. Editing the flower-arranging journal enabled her to combine elements of two of her favourite hobbies – gardening and writing.