

Douglas Marshal, they were married in 1941. The first years of married life were spent living with relatives but in 1948 they moved into a house in Church Street Margate where Madge stayed for 58 years. They had three children, John, Anne & Carol. Madge returned to work some time later as a Home Help, using her bike to visit her clients. Once again the family holidays were taken in country locations and the love of the outdoor life was passed to another generation.

In 1969 Douglas died, in her indomitable way Madge picked up the pieces and got on with her life. The children married and made Madge a grandmother eight times over, then a great-grandmother with eleven grandchildren. A family she was so very proud of that brought her great joy.

Cycling was still a great part of her life; she became a stoker on the tandem with Geoff Fright & they joined the Potterers. Mark remembers them at Painters Forstal when, on the next table a grandmother with her family told everyone how she used to cycle, but at 57 felt the need to look after herself more carefully and had given up. Madge agreed, saying at 86 she might have to think the same way in a few years time. They still did the CTC rides

and attended the Birthday Rides in Dorset where Madge met Phil Liggett, as the oldest member present at 91 years she had the honour of cutting the birthday cake.

In 2006 the family became very concerned with her health & she moved to Ocean Swell in Westgate. Life was easier; she thrived on the care, the social activities & the family visits. On July 18th this year she became unwell & died in hospital on the 22nd aged 97years.

Repeatedly I hear phrases like 'full of life' & 'fun person'. This was our Madge a great example to us all.

(With thanks to Anne Phillpot, Madges daughter herself a Potterer, and Mark Jacobson, for their memories which helped me to write this profile)

PIM