

A celebration of the life of



Jean Bennison

14th September 1946 - 19th March 2023

Service held at Dukinfield Crematorium on the 5th April 2023 at 12pm

Remembering Jean.....

Jean was a warm and loving lady with a big heart. Born in Ashton-under-Lyne on 14th September 1946. Daughter of Eva Melia, she was the youngest of three sisters, Alice and Betty. They all lived on Envil Street, where at the age of five, Jean met one of her life long best friends, Margaret Matthews. The two girls attended Parochial School and went on to Ashton Grammar, where at the age of twelve, Jean met her second close friend, Alice Shah. On leaving school, Jean worked for the Inland Revenue with Carole Savery, who was Jean's bridesmaid when she married Frank.

Jean and Frank met at Ashton Palais de Dance in 1965. As time passed, Jean became a partner in Frank's family business, The Toby Jug Chicken Barbecue. In 1968, Jean married Frank and had two children, Nicola and Nathan. The family enjoyed going on lovely holiday's together over the years and lived in various old properties, Knowl Top Farm being Jean's favourite. Along with the farmhouse came a selection of farm animals-who's numbers grew at a fast rate. Jean over came her fear of horses with the family pony Beekie and bottle fed eight day old twin baby goats, until they were old enough to happily ride around the field, stood on Beekie's back.

As you all well know, Jean was quite a dab hand at making her home made wine. It tasted fantastic and was like rocket fuel, winning trophies at the local competitions yearly. She often sold it to family and friends. One day in the shop, Jean was pouring samples into plastic cups for two of her eager customers to try. Little did she know, Alf Arrowsmith, a famous Liverpool football player was stood at the back of the shop watching the wine tasting go on. When it was his turn to be served, he couldn't wait to ask if he could order some too. The next week he arrived and the shop was heaving. His booming voice shouted from outside "Have you been treading Jean?" making all the customers jump. This particular story tickled Frank for years.

It was at the farmhouse, where she first began making her amazing jams and marmalades. People came from miles around to buy Jean's jars of preserves out of her basket on her doorstep, dropping their coins into her little honesty tin.

Another hobby that Jean enjoyed was knitting. She could knit anything, even jumpers for Nicola and Nathan with their pet horses on. She'd knit for everyone in the family, especially the new editions. So was thrilled when she became Grandma to Georgia and Ralph-those knitting needles never stopped.

After thirty one years of working in the Toby Jug , Jean and Frank sold their business. Jean absolutely loved babies. So following her passion, took on Waring's, a nought to two and christening wear specialist shop in Ashton, where she was surrounded by beautiful babies all day long-she loved it.

Following retiring from here, she enjoyed days out with Frank and her family, especially at the races, where she was sure to pick the winners on most occasions. Also, meeting up with her much loved friends and family for lunch and a catch up over a glass or two of wine.

Jean passed away at home on 19th March 2023 surrounded by her family. That is one Mother's Day that we will never forget. She was one of life's very special people and will always have a place in everyones heart. We will all miss her love and laughter and not forgetting-the sound of the clicking of those knitting needles.





Appreciation

Frank, Nicola & Nathan would like to thank you all for your kind support during this time of sadness.

Refreshments will be served after the service at:

Hare & Hounds Inn

Luzley Road

Ashton Under Lyne

OL6 9AL

Donations

Brooke Hospital for Animals