

### Bramham Millennium Characters 3 : Anne Palmer



Born at Dennison Hall in central Leeds , the youngest daughter of the Hiley family of Horsforth , Anne attended the junior section of Leeds Girls ' High School before completing her education at Queen Margaret 's , Escrick. After Anne met Stuart , a Hull man , when they were both working in Leeds , they were married in 1966 in the Crypt of the House of Commons , a privilege extended to children of sitting Members of Parliament. [ Anne 's father was then MP for Pudsey 1959 - 74. ]

After twelve months in Nigeria , eighteen in St Albans , and six in Hull , the Palmer family bought the Old Vicarage in 1971 , the fourth lay residents after short stays by the Russells , Hills and Mallets. Anne and Stuart brought with them their first two children , Charles and Jane , and added a third , Nick , after a couple of years in Bramham. By 2000 all three are building their lives , respectively in Hampshire , Hoyle and London , with Jane having produced Anne 's first two grandchildren , and Charles a further grandson.

During her 29 years in the village , Anne has made a remarkable contribution to its life through her desire to be involved and to give her time , energy and skills to voluntary work for the good of others . She belongs , though she wouldn 't be pompous enough to say so , in the the great tradition of British charity

work . Indeed , pointing to the increasing difficulties she finds in getting people to come forward to give their time, she feels considerable concern that changes in our society --- especially with so many women on full - time payrolls --- could be leading to a decline in the British custom of working voluntarily for the community. Few are better qualified to make this assessment than Anne Palmer.

**Anne 's work for the community since 1971 has included :**

- Helping organise home visits by American and Japanese young people to Bramham over a number of years [ some still keep in touch ] .
- Being one of the small group [ with Sheila Green & Miss Boswell ] who began a village playgroup in the early 70 's , and being secretary for several years.
- Giving a helping hand in extending NSPPC to the village.
- Running and developing the Church Magazine for a quarter of a century . During this time it has remained in the black , and brought ever - increasing church and village news , together with local advertising , to every household each month.
- Membership of the All Saints Parochial Church Council , again for over 25 years, including being a member of the very lively social committee which , in the 70 's , produced annual village carnivals ; holding the role of Secretary for many years ; and undertaking fund raising and a range of church duties.
- Introducing and promoting the work of Action Research [ formerly for the Crippled Child ] to Bramham , raising funds for this national charity , of which Anne is currently Yorkshire Chairman .
- Being involved in work locally for the Save the Children Fund.
- Working for the Conservative Association [ Anne is Chairman of the Elmet Constituency ] .
- Being a lay member of the Wetherby & Skyrack Bench , in which capacity she helps select and appoint local magistrates.
- Membership of the Governors of Bramham Junior School since 1980 , in recent years carrying the ever - increasing responsibilities of chairmanship.

In the year 2000 the village of Bramham and its people already owe a considerable debt to Anne Palmer for her continuing contributions to our life and well - being.