

Life spans three centuries



KATHLEEN Mear celebrated her 102nd birthday last Sunday despite not looking a day over 65!

Kathleen was born in Victoria Road on July 22, 1899, which means she has lived through three centuries. Kathleen had three brothers and three sisters all of whom have passed on.

She attended Exeter Road Primary School and left at the age of 14 to work in a shoe shop. In 1921 at the age of 22, Kathleen married Reg Mear and the couple had two sons, Reg and Basil. After 50 years of marriage, Reg sadly passed away.

Kathleen has two grandchildren, three great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren whom she often sees.

At the age of 102, Kathleen is still very alert - she enjoys watching sports and writes a number of letters every week to remain in contact with her family. Her memory is amazing. She is able to recall her primary school teacher and can remember who came where in the recent US Golf open.

Kathleen has been a resident at South Garth Residential Home, Elewyn Road for the past four years where she is loved by staff and fellow residents alike.

Cherry Lifton, one of the carers at South Garth said: "Kathleen is amazing, so full of life. No one can believe how old she is when they meet her - she doesn't look a day over 65."

Development to be named after town's first mayor

A NEW development of three care units in the grounds of Exmouth's Halsdown Nursing Home is to be named after long serving councillor Geoff Chamberlain.

Members of the town council heard on Monday that a suggested name of Halsdown Gardens had

been rejected by Royal Mail and they were asked to provide an alternative name.

Members decided to name the development Chamberlain Gardens in tribute to the 20 years' service on the council by Geoff Chamberlain who was also the town's first mayor.

● **MANY happy returns - Kathleen Mear celebrates her 102nd birthday.**
Picture by Paul Taylor. Ref 1819/19.

