

EDITORIAL

The annual harvest of grain is over. Huge combines have cut the corn, threshed it, and baled it, all in a matter of hours, so that a single field can be harvested in one day. If daylight begins to fade then the operation continues with headlights after dark. Just a few workers are employed. How different a hundred years ago!

That harvest-time occupied, even in good weather, some six or seven weeks. The fields were cut by men sweeping through the crops with their scythes, followed by other men, women, and children binding the sheaves and setting them in stooks to dry. When ready the horse-drawn harvest wagon carted the crop to the stackyard for threshing by steam engine later in the year. Harvest was the culmination of the farming year concluded by the village festival of thanksgiving and harvest supper. It was generally a time of abundance for both the farmer and for the farmer worker and his family. Should the harvest fail the whole village suffered.

Times change and the historian and local History Societies such as ours have the responsibility of recording these changes. In this issue we print a piece on *Rural Gentrification* which demonstrates the changes to the social fabric of the village in the past thirty years ; just as important are the technological and economic changes that have so drastically altered the pattern and practices of the farming year.

On August 5th a party of twenty members of the Cambridge Local History Society. were given a conducted tour of the village by Shirley Wittering looking at the early medieval in our Church and the very modern in the Plant Breeding Station. Any-one who missed the talk given by Shirley to the Society last year on : *Thriplow Past and Present* is invited to a repeat at Duxford on September 9th. She has also produced a small 'History Tour' which includes a map and potted history and which can be purchased for the modest sum of 25p.

The other Joint Editor thanks members for their good wishes during his recent sojourn in Addenbrooke's and reports that he is encouragingly returning to good health.

Please note our next meeting on **Monday 21 September, 'Victorian Costume' by Margaret Thorp**

Shirley Wittering and Peter Speak-Joint Editors.

RURAL GENTRIFICATION

In the 1960s and '70s the term *gentrification* was coined to describe the processes of urban renewal where run-down properties were bought cheaply and re-modelled and refurbished, creating handsome, highly desirable dwellings of high value in the housing market. The buyers were mainly young, middle-class, professional people in such areas as Islington, Camden and the Isle of Dogs. In Cambridge similar changes were wrought in the Kite Area around the present Grafton centre. Commonly a pair of terrace houses would be purchased, the interiors stripped out to create large areas for dining and sitting rooms with modern services. The process turned old properties in shabby districts into desirable villas and flats. A similar process of *rural gentrification* has been taking place in the countryside in the mid 1980s and '90s. Thriplow and nearby villages of South Cambridgeshire are good examples of this kind of rural transformation.

Although there were new houses and bungalows built in this period, there were many conversions of existing properties such as in the former Manors and large farmhouses from former agricultural worker's cottages into which they were divided in the nineteenth century e.g. Bacons, Bassetts and the old Gildhall (Daffodil Cottage). The only remaining former farm house still divided into four cottages and ready for gentrification is Cochranes in Lower Street. Some cottages disappeared entirely and were replaced by modern houses, e.g. 19, 21 and 46 Church Street (Rowe, Gibson and Percival), and 24a Middle Street (Wittering) and Rectory Farm (Deller). Whilst the cumulative effect of gentrification in Thriplow (as elsewhere) has been to raise the values of properties in the village it has also reduced the housing stock and priced houses out of the reach of younger residents who have grown up in Thriplow. This effect has been enhanced by a similar process in the public authority sector of housing now that former tenants are able to purchase their homes and, if they wish, sell them on to new buyers. This has occurred in Sherald's Croft, and amongst the older council houses of Church Street. The net result has been that first-time buyers cannot afford to live in Thriplow; moreover there is no employment for them in the village. Agriculture has ceased to be the source of employment except for a few.

Up until the end of the last war, agriculture in Thriplow was 'mixed' i.e. the raising of animals and the cultivation of arable crops. Thriplow Farms alone employed around forty agricultural workers; they now manage a purely arable farm of over 2,000 acres with just four men. Today only George and Mark Deller rear flocks of sheep. Ironically the only new employers of labour, a highly specialised plant breeding company (Twiford International) employs no-one born in the village out of a work-force of 38 and employs just two of the recent incomers. Of the 200 dwellings in the village only 29 house one or more residents

who were born here and have spent all their lives here. The newcomers who are not retired from regular employment most work either in Cambridge or Royston or travel daily to London. Mobility has increased dramatically over the years with many homes possessing two or more motor cars. In the past twenty five years there has been an emigration of the young, born and brought up in Thriplow, and an immigration of middle-class, professional and retired people who come, principally, from towns and suburbs.

It might be imagined that the village school would suffer irreparably in this situation but the concept of 'freedom of choice' of schools rather than 'proximity' has been introduced and the admirable Thriplow School attracts children from a large catchment of neighbouring villages. Now there are over 99 children on the school-roll, whereas in the mid 1980s the number had fallen to 38. Of the 99 only 26 live in the village with a further 15 within the parish, so that over 50% of the children and their parents do not identify with the village, nor do they feel loyalty towards it.

The pre-war romantic concept of the traditional English village has disappeared. The village is no longer self-contained in essential services, nor socially unified. As late as 1960 the Co-op ran the General Stores, delivered milk daily, and the Co-op baker came to the back door three times each week. Newspapers were delivered each morning from the Variety Shop in Fowlmere, fruit and vegetables and fresh fish came by van on Wednesdays, and Leech the butchers from Melbourn delivered on Wednesday and Friday. Alas all have gone, although Chris at our Village Stores has done wonders to remedy the deficiencies.

Not all is negative in this transformation from the rural idyll. The newcomers have invested heavily in their grounds; planting trees, planning new shrubberies and flower beds and fashioning new lawns they have given Thriplow the Garden Village look, so much appreciated by visitors at Daffodil Weekend. But the large vegetable gardens, sufficient to feed the family, no longer exist. It must also be noted that many, but not all, of the new residents have made significant contributions to village activities and sometimes started new ones. The Thriplow Society has a household membership of 84 out of a possible 200.

The Church has benefited from a new bell frame and a new bell. A new Village Hall has been planned principally by new-comers rather than by long serving village residents. The local pub (Green Man) has recently been re-styled and upgraded both in its excellent service of food as well as fine ales, but it too depends on outside customers rather than on local demand. In spite of (and because of) these transformations Thriplow remains a very attractive village and a good place in which to live.

Peter Speak.

THE CORONATION AND THE BUS SHELTER



The Bus Shelter opposite Church Farm built to commemorate the Coronation

A very interesting hand-written book has come to light which records the minutes of meetings of a committee set up to organise Thriplow's celebration of Her Majesty's Coronation on 2nd June 1953. The Thriplow Coronation Committee, as it was called, arose from a public meeting held in the school on 28th October 1952. It was formed from representatives of organisations in the village, as follows:-

Mr John Shaw (representing the Parochial Church Council)

Miss M Softly (Congregational Church)

Mrs N Howes (Thriplow Women's Meeting)

Mrs Irene Bowes (Mothers' Union)

Mr Quarry (Jubilee Friendship Club)

Mrs Deller (Women's Voluntary Service)

Miss D Parker (Young Farmers' Club)

Mr Greenall (Jubilee Room)

Mrs Rowlands (Conservative Association)

Mr A Flack (British Legion)

Mrs Flack (British Legion – Women's Section)

Mr Honeyball (Labour Party)

Mr Badcock (Cricket Club)

Mrs Barron (Women's Institute)

Mr Hodge Sheldrick

John Shaw was appointed chairman, Mr Howes Secretary and Mr Quarry Treasurer. The Committee held 15 meetings before it disbanded on 7th October 1957. At the first meeting, the chairman expressed the view that the committee was too large and that its work would better be carried out by sub-committees as follows:

Social (Convenor – Mr Howes)

Whist Drive (Mr Vic Freeman)

Jumble Sale (Mr Flack)

Raffle & Draw – later renamed Ways & Means Committee (Mr Honeyball)

Dance (Mrs Flack)

Refreshments (Mrs Deller & Mrs Howes)

Sports (Mr Shaw)

Fancy Dress (Mrs Barron)

Two whist drives per month were to be held, a social on 12th December 1952, a social and dance in the school on New Year's Eve and a further dance in the New Year. In addition there would be a house to house collection and cups and saucers (at 30/- per dozen) would be presented to the children. The highlight of the day was to be a Coronation Tea in Deller's barn. Between meetings, members of the sub-committees obviously went round the village persuading other people to help. For example, a Mr Cooper offered to connect up a number of TV sets so that everyone could see the Coronation in progress in London. Mr Hodge Sheldrick suggested that cherry and oak trees be planted on the village green.

As time passed, money came in to finance the events; the social on 12th December raised £8.18.6 and the three whist drives £5.13.0. Tickets for a raffle were said to be going well and, by 19th December, the balance in the Post Office Savings Bank account had reached £30.

Further ideas were forthcoming:

Hold an auction with Mr Hitch as auctioneer.(It was held on 17th April 1953 and was a great success)

Put up a bus shelter (to be designed by Mr Crompton) in Brook Road.

Have a firework display at a cost of not more than £10.

Have a fancy dress parade.

Hold a religious service.

Mr Quarry to run more dances.

The Ways & Means Committee to hold a fete.

A social to take place in the Jubilee Room on 27th March 1953. (it must have been a bit of a squeeze!) [The Jubilee Room is now in private ownership and stands in Georgina Butcher's garden in Middle Street.]

The house-to-house collection to take place on 23rd March.

Arrangements for the Coronation Tea in Deller's barn were progressing and an estimate of those who would be attending was 265 including 76 children. Transport was to be arranged for the 'Thriplow Heath people'. Mr Honeyball reported to the Committee on 21st April that he had purchased the cups and saucers for the children but to do so, he had had to buy plates as well at an additional cost of 4d each making 3/- per set. By the time of the meeting on May 8th, with less than a month to go, detail assumed importance. The Secretary was instructed to order 30 dozen Walls ice-creams (to be collected) at 2s.3d. per dozen (twopence farthing each). Mr Hodge Sheldrick was to make a maypole; Mrs Kath Pettit to train children for the dances and Mr Quarry to obtain appropriate music from Miss Grandjean, schoolmistress.

It was decided that because of the small number of TV sets in the village, their owners would be reluctant to loan them and the proposal to put some in the school to enable non-owners to

watch the celebrations in London would have to be abandoned. A proposal to ask Mr Nobby Clarke, entertainer, to come to the village was not proceeded with and Mr Murray was to be asked instead. A combined religious service would be held on Monday June 1st at 7.30 pm and judging of decorated houses at 2.0 pm on Coronation Day, June 2nd. Mr Badcock would organise a men's comic cricket match on Coronation Day with Mrs Bowes and Mrs Flack organising a ladies' cricket match

A final pre-Coronation committee meeting was held on May 20th with no more meetings until June 12th. Coronation Day had been wet but, very sadly, there is no record in the minutes of how the day went. Perhaps readers who were there will write and tell us. However, it was recorded that Mr Davies of Barrington brought his funfair free of charge but had been given a donation of £2. But what effect had the weather had? Did the fancy dress parade, the cricket matches, the sports events and the maypole dancing still take place? How successful was the tea in Deller's barn? What did the food consist of and how many people turned up? Are there any photographs of the day's activities in existence? Sadly Miss M Softly died in the autumn of 1953 and members of the Committee stood for two minutes at the beginning of the meeting on December 14th in her memory. The cherry and oak trees were planted on the village green at 2.30 pm on Saturday December 19th 1953.

After Coronation Day, there was still a lot to be done. The bus shelter in Brook Road had to be erected. Mr P Cope of Duxford built it to Mr Crompton's plans and charged £72.15.1 which was £6.18.1 more than had been collected. After its erection, a suitable plaque was fixed to it, but members were not pleased with it. The bolts holding it to the ground were inadequate, they should have been two feet in length. The shelter had been built of softwood instead of hardwood and should therefore have cost less. A fence should be built at the back to prevent cattle breaking the windows. Mr Honeyball offered to erect this fence as a gift to the Committee. At a later meeting, he said that there was a rumour going round that the posts he had used were not new but had been given to him. He denied this and tabled the receipt for their purchase for the Committee's inspection. Mr Sheldrick said that the glass used in the shelter was only 18 oz not 30 oz as specified. Blue clout nails had been used instead of galvanised ones and were rusting already! By July 10th 1954, reports of vandalism at the new shelter were already before the Committee and the police were notified.

There was still the matter of the outstanding £6.18.1 to be found before Mr Cope's account could be paid and it was agreed to hold a whist drive in the school at a charge of 1s.6d. The Committee objected strongly when they learned that the hire charge for the school would be 10/- and the Secretary was instructed to cancel the booking. The whist drive eventually took place in the Jubilee Room free of charge as a contribution to the funds; Mr Vic Freeman organised the event. The Committee wound up at its last meeting on 7th October 1957. The chairman presented a précis of the Committee's work in its five years of existence and that and all other relevant documents were handed to the Parish Council – and that was that. But where are those documents now? Does anyone know?

Bill Wittering

This is the last of our series on the pubs of Thriplow. Geoff Axe has delved deep into the records and the editors would like to thank him for his contribution to the history of the village.

THE GREEN MAN



The history the Green Man can be researched in documents held in Cambridgeshire Record Office, Shire hall, Cambridge. These include; newspapers - the Cambridge Chronicle, Herts. and Cambridge Reporter; the Licensing Returns; Kelly's Directories; and Census Returns. The first record indicates that the place was called the Garden and Spade from 1788 to 1793. It then changes to the Gardener's Spade from 1794 to 1797. And then to Gardener's Arms from 1798 to 1799. It then changes back to the Gardener's Spade in 1800 to 1821. In 1822 it became the Green Man and the only licensed victuallers for all this time were John Chapman and his wife Mary Chapman.

The property originally belonged to Barenton's Manor and in 1657 is recorded as '1 messuage with orchard and garden and 3½ acres arable land, rent 5/-.' By 1785 it had passed into the hands of one John Chapman, Victualler, then William Beldam of Royston, Common Brewer.

There is a mention of an auction at this public house in the Cambridge Chronicles dated 9th of May 1795, which quotes the following '*To be sold by auction on Tuesday the 19th of May at the house of Mrs Chapman, known by the sign of the Gardener's Spade, at Triplow, between the hours of 3 and 5 in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will be then produced.*' An interesting record about the Gardener's Spade is displayed in the Square and Compasses public house in Gt. Shelford. This record is in a picture frame hanging on the bar wall. It quotes that in 1815 Mary Chapman was the licensed victualler with a new public house at Triplow for Messrs Phillips

In the Cambridgeshire Record Office there is some interesting information on the Green Man, contained within some old notebooks of Crocket and Nash. Surveyors. They quote, *April 15th : Estimate of sundry work proposed to be done in rebuilding a public house in Triplow (what happened to the old one?) at a cost of £190. Another entry on 26th. April 1822 shows an estimate for intended work in rebuilding, including 'digging the walls; brickflat floor &*

filling in trammings 6" above present surface; addition to kitchen & living room; passage under stairs; dairy, cellar (where is it now?), bakehouse, chimney in bedroom and window in back bedroom',. the final costs including the labour of plasterer; smith; mason; plumber; slater; bricklayer; joiner and painter & glazier come to £400. On 11th. July of the same year there's more work done and the final total is £1,150-9-0. In May of the next year Wm French is paid £109.for brickwork and plastering in the Club Room floor.

The public house is mentioned again on a sale-poster from the Cambridgeshire Record Office which quotes: *That at the Green Man, Triplow next Tuesday, June 3 1828 at 7pm. in one lot. Freehold dwelling house and close of pasture is to be sold by Auction by Elliot Smith.* The next mention of the Green Man is in the 1841 census where a William Gambie (aged 40 yrs) is quoted as being the publican. He is mentioned in the 1847 Cambridge Post Office directory as being a beer retailer, but there is no mention of the name of the public house. The 1851 census shows there's another William Gambie (aged 30) as the publican of the Green Man with his wife Rebecca (aged 28) and his two sons James (aged 2) and Phillip (3 months old). William Gambie is listed again as the licensed victualler of the Green Man in the History Gazetteer of Cambridge 1851.

In the 1864 Cambridge Post Office Directory James Huddlestone is mentioned as the publican of the Green Man. He's also mentioned in the P.O. Directories of 1867 and 1869. And in the census of 1871, which quotes his age as 39 yrs old with his wife Elizabeth (aged 42 yrs) and three sons Charles (aged 16) Frederick (aged 14) and Albert (aged 7). On June 1st 1872 an inquest was held at the Green Man. The following report appeared in the Cambridge Chronicle:

Inquest-. On Tuesday C. W. Palmer, Esq. , Deputy Coroner held an inquest at the Green Man, concerning the death of Azubah, wife of William Flack, labourer. Mr. Carver, surgeon who made a post-mortem examination of the body, said that death resulted from inflammation of the bowels and disease of the heart; and a verdict to the effect was recorded. The deceased was 42 years of age.

James Huddlestone continues to be mentioned in Kelly's Directory of 1873 and 1876 as the publican of the Green Man. Then in 1878 his name appears in the Herts & Cambs Reporter where the following quote appears under the Melbourn Petty sessions section, in an application for renewal of the annual licence :

The Green Man, Thriplow

In the case of the license of the above house at Thriplow, held by James Huddlestone, Mr. Stretten had given notice to the holder of the license of an objection being made at the present meeting against his license being renewed. The notice set forth that Huddlestone was an unfit person to hold the license from his having when goods were offered to him at very much under value by one Walter Morley, and which there was every reason to believe might have been stolen, expressed his willingness to purchase the same, and would have done so except for the interference of his wife; and also that he concealed and denied that the said goods had been offered to him until he was informed the one of the persons had confessed the robbery, and that he (Huddlestone) had offered to purchase the goods.

Mr. C.W. Palmer, solicitor of Cambridge, appeared for Huddlestone, and submitted that the notice was bad in law. The objection, however, was eventually waived, and Mr. Stretten, in support of the facts stated on the notice, called Police-sergeant Levitt, of Chesterton, who said that in February last he received

information of a robbery from Thriplow of a quantity of wheat. He went to Duxford and found the men suspected and charged them with stealing it. From what was said to him by the prisoners he called upon James Huddlestone, of the Green Man, Thriplow and told him that he (witness) was informed that a sack of wheat had been stolen from Mr Webster's premises at Thriplow and that the wheat had changed hands at or near his (Huddlestone's) house. He replied that he saw nor heard nothing of the wheat. In company with Huddlestone witness looked round the yard but saw nothing of any corn. On the following day February 25th, witness had further communication with the prisoners, and from what they said he went to Thriplow and saw Huddlestone again. He said to Huddlestone then, 'These prisoners have made a very strong Implication against you. One of them said it was offered to you for sale by Walter Morley.' Witness told him he thought as he was a licensed man he had better tell him the truth about it. He replied that he would do so, and said that Walter Morley came to him as he was drawing beer in his cellar and asked if he would buy a sack of wheat, to which he (Huddlestone) replied, "I have made up my mind to buy anything worth the money."

Huddlestone: "In a straightforward way," I said. Witness (continuing) said Huddlestone told him that he asked Morley the price of wheat and he said 7s. and that he should have bought it only his wife came up and he should not buy it for anybody. HE never saw the wheat.

The Clerk, referring to the circumstances of the robbery, said he believed the prisoners were brought up to that bench and dealt with summarily, and that no charge was preferred against Huddlestone. Sergeant Levitt said that was so, Huddlestone was called as a witness by Deputy Chief Constable Stretten: Huddlestone did not say anything to me about it until I told him that the prisoners had confessed to stealing it and to offering it to Huddlestone for sale.

Mr. Palmer: were you present when the prisoners were convicted? Witness: I was, they pleaded guilty.

Mr. Palmer: There was not a single word said against Huddlestone upon that matter in Court-they made no statement in the Court against the applicant at all? Witness: No. I have resided in this (Melbourn) district for several years. I am not aware that any complaint has been made against Huddlestone.

Mr. Palmer said there was no proof that "he would have purchased it" as set forth in notice, and he took it that the clause in the notice was abandoned by Mr. Stretten.

Mr. Stretten said he did not abandon it at all. If a man offered to do a thing it was a matter of inference as to whether he would do it, and that must be left to the Bench to decide.

Mr. Palmer submitted to the Bench with confidence that there was nothing in the evidence adduced to justify them in withdrawing this man's certificate. These prisoners plead guilty of having stolen the corn. They did in all probability offer it to his Client, but he did not purchase it; and the prosecution was so satisfied with his respectability that they actually would have called him as a witness to prove the case against these men had not they pleaded guilty. While as to the statement of the corn changing hands at Huddlestone's, the witness searched the premises and could find no traces of having been the case. Then they had to look at the character of a man who had conducted his house for 17 years in a respectable manner, and never had any charges brought against him. Upon this matter coming to the knowledge of the Messers. Phillips, the owners of his house, they gave him (Huddlestone) notice to quit, but upon subsequent inquires they considered him a proper man to conduct the house, and therefore, subject to the magistrates

decision now, did not propose to put the notice into force. In addition to this he had a testimonial from the clergyman of the parish as to the character of his client, which, utterly unsolicited, was sent to the owners of the house in consequence of the notice to quit.

Mr. Palmer then read a letter from the Rev. J. Watkins, Vicar of Thriplow, in which that gentleman stated that from what he had seen and heard of him (Huddlestone) during the last 4 years he considered them to be very respectable and hard working. They conducted their business-which as well known was always a difficult one-in as honest and straight forward a way as was possible among people who were to drunkenness, as Thriplow people unfortunately were. (laughter). With regard to the question of the corn he (the writer) believed them to be entirely innocent. He should be the last to defend a publican against whom he knew any real ground of the complaint; and it was in the interests of justice both to tenant and to the owners of the house that he had written a letter. Mr. Stretten said he admitted all that had been said, and would go even further in speaking of the good character borne by the applicant during the time he had conducted his house, but it was his duty to lay the facts concerning the conduct of the houses in the division before the magistrates from year to year, and that was his only object in bringing the case before them.

The magistrates then retired, and on their return the chairman said they were unanimously of the opinion that there was no case to justify them in withholding the license, and that it was the opinion of the whole parish of all ranks that he was a most respectable man as publican. At the same time it was the duty of the police not to refuse any information they could get. The license was granted as usual.

in Kelly's Directory of 1879 James Huddlestone is listed as the publican of the Green Man and this is confirmed in the 1881 census. it lists James Huddlestone as publican of the Green Man (aged 49 yrs) with his wife Elizabeth (aged 52) with one son Richard a scholar (aged 7) and one daughter Ruth (aged 4). In Thursday 20th. April 1882 an inquest is held at the Green Man and reported in the Cambridge Chronicle on the death of Elizabeth Fuller aged 2 yrs and 7 months. In the following year the same newspaper quotes the following:

June 23rd. 1883 *Suicide-On Tuesday, at the Green Man public house, Mr. C. W. Palmer, County Coroner, held an inquest touching the death of Wm. Bush, aged 70, bailiff to Mr. Perkins.- It appeared that the deceased, since the death of his wife, 2 years ago, had lived by himself. For a fortnight or so prior to Friday, the April 8th, he had been in a depressed state of mind. During Friday, the deceased had some refreshments at a neighbours house, where he said his poor head was very bad, and when it was suggested to him that the Doctor should be call on him, he said that "there was no telling where he should be". He was missed from his home on Friday evening, and on the Saturday was found lying in a neighbouring field. A four chambered revolver, with 2 chambers empty, was lying close by, and the deceased had apparently shot himself. He was however, alive. After being taken home he admitted he had done wrong, but assigned no reason. He had been in the habit of keeping the revolver by his bedside. He died on Monday last-Mr. Earle, surgeon, give evidence showing that the death resulted from a bullet wound in the head, and said that judging from the position of the wound and the state of the ear, he believed the wound was self-inflicted.- Verdict, "suicide while of unsound mind".*

In Friday May 29th 1891 there is a report in the Royston Weekly News that quotes an inquiry that was held in the Green Man on the death of Emily Hannah Freeman aged 4½ who had died from scald caused by pulling a frying pan over herself.. The jury found the verdict of "Accidental Death"

James Huddleston continues to be mentioned as a publican until 1896. Then in Kelly's Directory of 1900 James Brookman is mentioned as publican of the Green Man. By 1903 the Arrington & Melbourn Petty Sessions Division quotes that a Ernest Edwin Wooster was the publican of the Green Man; it also shows that his other occupation was a labourer and that it was most used on Fridays and Saturday nights. Other information quotes the rateable value which was £17 a year. The size of property (3 bedrooms, 2 public rooms, 1 stable, front & back entrance and a 1 W.C). The class of Licence is shown as being a tied alehouse belonging to Phillips & Company Royston Herts.

By 1904 Charles Smith is quoted in Kelly's Directory as publican of the Green Man, he is also a farmer and carter. Again his name is mentioned in Kelly's Directory of 1908. Then there's a gap of 7 years before William Robinson appears at the Green Man; his name is quoted in the 1915 polling records for the parish of Thriplow. His name is also mentioned in the Kelly's Directories of 1916, 1922, 1926, 1929 and 1933. The last Kelly's Directory from Cambridgeshire in 1937 quotes Percy Charles Buckerfield as publican of the Green Man. And the polling records show he remains there until 1950. He was Kath Pettit's father, (see Journal Vol.3/1)

The following list of publicans' names and dates come from the Parish of Thriplow polling records

Alfred George Wilson : from 1951 to 1951.

Derek G. Rhone : from 1951 to 1956.

Thomas Hodson Boyle : from 1956 to 1967

Reginald Charles Francis : from 1968 to 1968.

William Flint from : 1969 to 1969.

Reginald Charles Francis ; from 1970 to 1972.

Margaret Francis ; 1973 to 1975.

Robert Andrew ; 1976 to 1976.

Derek Corben : 1977 to 1983.

Val Elliot : 1984 to 1991.

Val Elliot died of alcoholic poisoning in September 1991. The Green Man had been closed since the previous May and the Brewers, Charles Wells, wanted to sell it off as a house with planning permission for another house in the grounds, but pressure from locals prevented this and it was bought by Lawrie Childs and Roger Ward. It then became a Free House and today is under the sole ownership of Roger Ward.

Footnote *In 1961 Flowers Breweries Ltd. sold the Green Man to Charles Wells, brewery of Bedford. There are some chronological gaps as to who was the publican/landlord at different periods as unfortunately the records are not consistent.*

Acknowledgement – Thanks to Roger Ward for the loan of the photo of the Green Man

Geoff Axe

GREAT WILLOW

I tell of tree with girth so grand
It outshines columns made by man,
A tall and stately finger rare,
Sifting souls on heaven's stair.

Sylvan shade in verdant hue,
The light well knows just what to do,
It fractures, shatters Amund's hand,
Shifting tendrils dust the land.

When wind and sun they do agree,
Patterns made by filigree,
Stencil etchings on the land,
God's work is great, His care is grand.

In spring when just the lightest breeze
Gives all those infant leaves a tease,
She wears her best kept secret gown,
All aglow in emerald crown.

Through the leaves the west wind blows,
Sharps and flats this flautist knows,
Freshened up with sweet spring showers,
Those wordless songs, the thief of hours.

Can this world of form and line
Have cut and run with Father Time?
Tears, Great Willow shed for me
With only eyes to search and see.

Graham Walker, 1996.

This poem was inspired by the great Weeping Willow on the Village Green.

LETTERS PAGE



Harry William
born 1888
d. June 1908
aged 15

Joseph Ison = Emily Jane Anderson

married at Thriplow in September 1867
born Dec. 13 1846
died June 4 1910 aged 63

born Oct. 24 1847
died May 12 1932 at Harston

Rhoda (Rose) Anelia
(Twin sister of Harry)
born June 5 1988
died 5 Jan 1966

We have had a letter from Mrs Pat Pauley a member of the Ison family. She writes-

My branch of the Ison family has been traced back to living in Thriplow from the 1700s. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has any information on my Great grandparents (Joseph Ison and his wife Emily Jane Ison née Anderson) born 1846 and 1847 respectively, they were married in Thriplow in 1867 and later moved to Harston.

I would also be interested to know if they had any connections with the Smithy, as there appears to have been a great love of horses in the family.

Thank you for your help,

Can anyone name the young lady in the photograph, standing at the back with her hands on Joseph's shoulder?

Pat's address is – 5 Clare Close, Waterbeach, Cambridge, CB5 9 PS.

GLEANINGS (Vol. 7/1 Summer 1998)

IN MEMORIAM – we send our deepest condolences to the family of Brian Freeman who died on July 6th. Brian and his wife Lynne were a founder members of the Thriplow Society,

THANKS TO:

Hilda Sheldrick for a Thriplow W.I programme dated 1930. It is beautifully produced and printed with a motto or saying at the beginning of every month such as:

“An ounce of loyalty is worth a pound of cleverness”, and

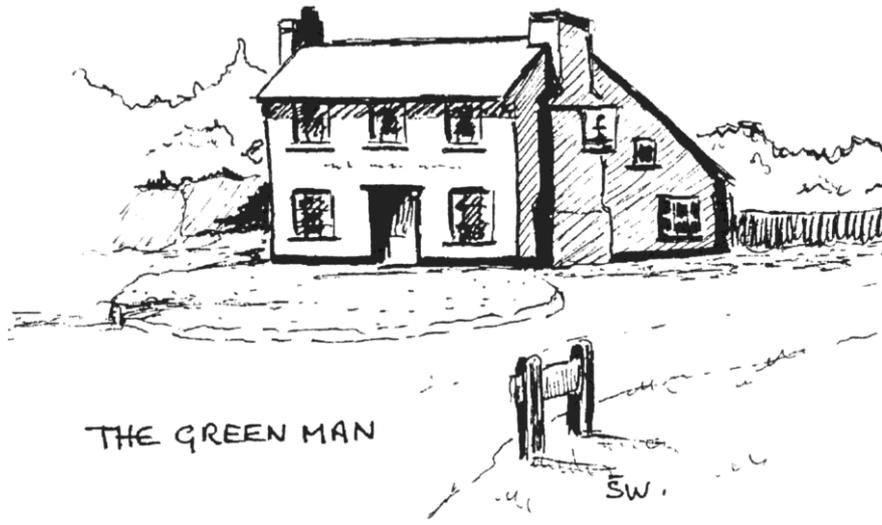
“A wise man must remember that while he is the descendant of the past,
he is the parent of the future”.

Thanks also to Jean Dobson who has sent us details of Thriplow boys killed in the first world war, from various newspapers including the Saffron Waldon Weekly News. As she points out, ‘In the early days of the war, everyone was caught up in the glorification of war and the honour of dying for King & Country but the heavy losses of men, especially young lads, soon brought home the sad reality of large-scale warfare’.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Graham Wynne of Goward’s, Middle Street, formerly the RSBP’s Director of Conservation who has been made their Chief Executive. In the Autumn 98 edition of the RSPB’s magazine ‘Birds’ he says “We are here to make our countryside and seas, hills and wetlands, heaths, downlands and gardens better places for wildlife. We will have failed if we do not make an impact”.

Next meeting, Margaret Thorpe on ‘Victorian Costume’. Monday September 21st, 8.0pm in the Village Hall.



THE GREEN MAN

SW.