

EDITORIAL

Daffodil Weekend has come and gone once more, and this year because of the excellent weather, and the absence of the Weekend last year, there seemed to be record crowds. Certainly the weekend has been an unqualified success judged by the money raised—over £4000, a record for the 34 years the weekend has been in existence. We shall be interested to see what the final figure is for the profit and its disbursement. The *Society* contributed to the weekend by opening the Smithy, employing a blacksmith on both days and by displaying the *Society's* collection of old tools, documents and photographs.

This year is a milestone for *Thriplow Society* as we now enter the tenth year of its existence. We intend to celebrate this tenth anniversary with a special issue of the *Journal*, and an appropriate social event later in the year. Suggestions for speakers, articles for the *Journal*, and for socials are welcome; please have a word with the Chairman or any member of the Committee. This year we have arranged an evening visit to the Cambridgeshire Collection, a first class collection of materials relating to the County and housed in the Central Library in Cambridge. This will be a private visit, for our members only, and the curator will have on show documents, maps and photographs relating especially to Thriplow. We should like to arrange similar excursions to collections, places of interest, and exhibitions. Any ideas welcomed and gratefully received.

We were sorry to learn that the Village Stores and Post Office had to close on Monday April 21st, and hope that the Post Office at least will be re-opened if only for a few mornings each week. It appears that the village is not large enough to support a general stores in the face of the competition from nearby regional supermarkets, but there is a real hardship for those who rely on the shop for the collection of prescriptions, and for the payment of pensions. Let us hope!

We have tried to keep the subscription to the *Society* at a modest level, and again recommend no increase in the annual fee. This is only made possible by the voluntary work of all the Officers and Committee, the booking of speakers who make only a small charge, the waiving of any fee by speakers from our own *Society*, and by the small profits made from sale of literature and from social events. The sum of £5 per year covers membership of all the persons in any household, and the costs of the issue of three Journals each year. Could anything be of better value?

Peter Speak and Shirley Wittering, Joint Editors.

ANNUAL REVIEW

It hardly seems a year since I became chairman of the Society. We have had a good year with some extremely interesting speakers – we have covered such subjects as flora and fauna of the Devil's Dyke, icehouses, plant names and folk lore; we have looked at prehistoric sites with David McOmish of English Heritage and learnt about Victorian birth and baptism with Tom Doig. We had a magical evening with the swans at Welney and the excitement of installing the stained glass window in the church to celebrate the millennium together with its dedication. After last year's cancellation of Daffodil Weekend this year saw more visitors than ever and the Smithy was thronged with people watching Mike Overall working the bellows.

We are hoping to recover and preserve a buttress stone on the south side of the church on which is carved a fascinating 'graffitti' dating from the civil war. We are working with the PCC to do this, but as with the window a lot of red tape must be unravelled first. Funds have been requested from this year's Daffodil Weekend Trust for money towards this, also for the Smithy tools restoration and for work on the Pump in Fowlmere Road.

The Thriplow Society is now featured on BBC's History website; we also had a stall at the Cambridge Family History's 50th anniversary fair at Impington in March.

The Tool Restoration Group was founded and did some sterling work on the tools from Anno Domini that we had been so kindly given by Alex Wilson. We hope to continue working on the tools during the summer, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Geoffrey Axe, David Easthope, John Lord, Michael Moule, Arthur Rowe, Peter Speak and Lewis Stone for their hard work and to extend an invitation to any member who would like to join us.

The shed part of the Smithy (the Stall) needs some weatherproofing and the Parish Council on whose behalf we care for it are happy for this to be done provided it meets the approval of the Council Conservation officer. Discussions are still under way as to the best way to do this and I should like to thank John Lord who has produced an excellent report and is working with the recommended builders and the conservation officer.

The Plough outside Cambridge Plant Breeders has been repainted; it was first restored and put in its present place in 1995. Thanks must go to Arthur Rowe for giving the paint and to Valerie and Ken Joysey, John Lord, Michael Moule and Peter Speak for painting it.

The Thriplow Landscape History Group were given a grant from Local Heritage Initiative for geophysical equipment and the first item we bought was a metal detector with which we found four Roman Coins dating from the time of Christ to 440AD.

Valerie Fisher presented the Society with a copy of the 'Millennium Record' the result of a year's hard work photographing the village during millennium year. We wish her a speedy recovery.

It is the pleasant task of the Chairman to thank those who have helped keep the wheels of the Society turning smoothly throughout the year. First I would like to thank those of you for supporting the Society by coming to the meetings regularly; a society cannot exist without its members. Next I would like to thank my committee, David Easthope, Geoffrey Axe, Ken Joysey, John Lord, Michael Moule, Arthur Rowe and Peter Speak for their support and help. David Easthope has now succeeded James Quinlan as our representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

I am grateful to Pat Easthope for printing our programmes and 'Welcome to Thriplow' which goes to all people moving into the village. To Bill Wittering for updating it and also for varnishing the village sign and the village hall sign. I should like to thank my co editor of the Thriplow Journal, Peter Speak; he is a meticulous editor and the high standard of the Journal is in no small way due to him.

I am very grateful to our Treasurer Peter Yates who balances the books and always seems to give us such a healthy balance! Thank you too Peter for photocopying the Enclosure Map and this year, the Tithe map which is a new addition to our collection of maps of Thriplow.

Betty Parker is standing down as Secretary this year as she has done her five years, so we shall need a new secretary; I should like to pay my particular thanks to her. Without her these last few years, we would not have had a programme, and this year she has been a tower of strength to me, reminding me of things I should be doing and quietly getting on with arranging the programme. - So on behalf of us all -Thank you very much Betty.

Shirley Wittering
Chairman.

KENNETH JACK HOWE



Jack Howe, as he is generally known, was born 19 February 1931 at Duxford Grange Farm, moving later to one of the three cottages at Choice Hall just over the A505, and now the home of Norman and Jessie Shires. Jack's father was born in Saxon Street, near Newmarket and came to Thriplow in the 1920s to work as a shepherd for Mr. Fordham at Duxford Grange. He had served in the First World War and whilst convalescing from a wound in Mitcham Hospital, Surrey, met a young woman, appropriately named Florence Nightingale, who was working in the laundry. They were married and returned to Suffolk where their first two children were born before moving to Cambridgeshire. The remaining children were born in Duxford Grange Farm, and in all, there were 8 boys and one girl. In 1936 Jack's father caught pneumonia and henceforth transferred to working as a batman at the Duxford Airfield. He died in 1948. In 1958 they moved to Choice Hall.

Life was happy at Choice Hall as the family grew up, but living was tough-no electricity, only oil lamps and candles, only cold water from a pump, and an outside privy. They lived there for 19 years, walking to the Thriplow Stores but also providing much of their own produce; vegetables were grown, hens and goats were kept and there was often a rabbit and an occasional pheasant to supplement the diet. Jack was still living at Duxford Grange Cottages when he started school at 5 years walking all the way to Duxford but then transferred to Thriplow School where he remembered Mrs Overhill the Headmistress and

later Miss Kennedy. The children were taught in two rooms. Here Jack received his instruction in the three R's, was never truant, and enjoyed school life. He recalls Annie Wilson of *Anno Domini* cottage, as school cleaner, scrubbing the wooden floors, lighting the two stoves. At 11 he transferred to Fowlmere School and left at 14 to work on Thriplow Farms. His first job was to look after the boiler in the Dairy, but he later learned to milk and became a Dairyman where he milked the cows, every day for 21 years. He then had a spell on the Crop Drier in Farm Lane and eventually left farming in 1949. Subsequently he joined the County Council's employees keeping the highways and hedges neat and tidy, but was obliged to retire from this occupation with diabetes when he reached the age of 50.

Although as a younger man he would visit Cambridge at times for shopping and cinema, Thriplow was always his life's centre and he played an increasing role in village affairs. He was a confirmed bachelor and cared for his mother until she died in the 1960s. Jack represented the Young Farmers on the Village Hall Committee from 1959, and thereafter he was elected to the Committee by other village associations. In 1963 he helped John Augar in the establishment of a Youth Club and helped to clear the Recreation Ground, and after his retirement at 50, he became the youngest member of the Over-60s Club-an honorary member. He was always called on to run the raffle at village sales and parties, he was frequently in charge of jumble sales, and looked after the Christmas decorations of the old Village Hall.

He was elected to the Parish Council and apart from one brief absence has served the village in that capacity longer than any other councillor. He recalls Thriplow before and after the last war. It was another age. He lived in Church Farm, which in those days was divided into two cottages, (Sid Freeman and his wife lived in the other), where Ken and Valerie Joysey now live. The village shop was run by the Softlys and later by the Co-op, and milk was available from Dellers. There was door-to-door delivery of bread and meat by the Co-op, groceries from Deans of Fowlmere, or Thriplow residents could walk to shop at Jacksons virtual emporium at Fowlmere. Browns came with their van selling paraffin and all hardware and a fish and chips service was available on Fridays. It seems like another world! .But many who live in Thriplow today still remember it, and it is fortunate that Jack and other long serving residents can still tell the tale.

In recent months Jack has had a prolonged stay in hospital, but with home help, nursing care and good neighbours he is making an excellent recovery. He particularly wishes to thank Paul and Eileen McGinty of 7 Sheralds Croft who found him collapsed and rendered first aid helping to save his life and who continue to give assistance.

Peter Speak.

The Story of Widow Moule

Or how the Poor were cared for before the days of the Welfare State

This story was the subject of the talk at the AGM but as many members cannot get to meeting we thought you might like to read it in the Journal.

Have you ever thought about how the poor, the old, the handicapped, the orphaned and the unemployed were cared for before the days of the welfare state? Were they left to starve? Who was responsible for the underprivileged people of England?

Before Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries in the sixteenth century, the sick and needy could go to the religious houses and be fed and cared for, indeed the very word Hospice comes from that time. Pigeon's Close once belonged to the Pittenser of Ely, the monk who was responsible for growing food to feed the poor and sick.

After the dissolution of the monasteries the parishes were made responsible for the care of the 'impotent poor'. Private almsgiving was made an offence. The priest and churchwardens could collect money after Sunday services, but able-bodied vagrants were still whipped and branded with a 'V' if they did not have a begging licence. In Queen Elizabeth's reign, these people were added to by thousands of soldiers and sailors injured and homeless after the Armada. The Queen and her government became concerned about the large groups of vagabonds roaming the countryside begging and causing alarm among law-abiding citizens. In 1572 two Overseers of the Poor were appointed in each parish to collect donations for the poor and in 1597 parishes were allowed to levy a rate and set paupers to work. But it was the Poor Law Act of 1601 that was the basis for care of the poor for the next two centuries. The overseers were empowered to set and collect a rate within each parish. These rates were calculated on how much land each man owned and were collected once or twice a year.

Thriplow has some very detailed Overseers accounts for the parish of Thriplow covering the years 1760 – 1790. They show a parish caring for its poor and unemployed in a very generous way. Not only did the Overseers provide work, and pensions but they also provided fuel, food, clothes, and medical care including stays in hospital. They paid for nursing, rent, and burial costs.

The rate for Thriplow in 1775 was one shilling in the £ and was levied twice that year; this raised £102-9-9, some rents and sales of paupers goods increased this to £113-1-2 and the amount spent that year came to £112-10-4½ leaving 10shillings and 9pence halfpenny in the kitty for the next year. The amount spent was divided between pensions or regular outgoings which came to £54-14-0 and ‘extraordinary’ or one-off payments which came to £59-16-4½. The number of pensioners, which didn’t necessarily mean old, was 9 widows, 4 women, one man and a child belonging to one of the widows. A total of 14 people received between 6d and 3s 6d each week.

But this generosity extended only to those legally resident within the parish. A glance at the Quarter Sessions Records of that period reveals numerous disputes between parishes all trying to push the responsibility of caring for the poor onto another parish. Only people who were born in the parish, or were married to those born in the parish or who had worked for a year or more within the parish or who owned property worth £10 could apply and legally claim Parish Relief. If the Overseers thought that a person was not of sufficiently good character they could refuse their claim, but I have no evidence for this in Thriplow.

To build up profiles of the people mentioned in the overseers account book I entered their details from the Parish Registers on to slips supplied by the Cambridge Group for the study of Population and Social Structure, CAMPOP for short, who are situated in Trumpington Street. To these details were added records from the Overseers Accounts and the Manor Court Rolls and Quarter Session Rolls. This built up as complete a picture as possible of those members of the community who are normally invisible, having no vote, no say in parish politics and rarely appearing on parish records.

At the back of the Overseers Book were various notes regarding the fostering of Orphans and the housing of old people and one sentence caught my eye –

“30th August 1775, William Pomfrett of Waldon agrees to keep his daughter the Widow Moule for half a guine per quarter of the year and to have five shillings till next Michaels and then to have half a guinea a quarter.”

Why was Thriplow paying for a lady to live in Saffron Walden? I was intrigued and set out to find more about this mysterious Widow Moule. And this is the story I found:

Finding no evidence of a marriage in Thriplow's registers, I went to Saffron Walden's Record Office and looked up their records.

Elizabeth Pomfrett was born in Saffron Walden in 1742. On the 2nd May 1774 she married John Mowl, a Higler of Thriplow in Thriplow Church. (A Higler sells goods from a horse and cart, unlike a Pedler who goes on foot.)

Elizabeth was 32; I don't know how old John was. 32 seems quite old to get married, but in the 18th century the working classes married much later than they did in Victorian times, often in their late twenties.

Elizabeth and John set up home in Thriplow, but only nine months after they were married, John died. Elizabeth returned to her father in Saffron Walden, but within a week the Overseers of Walden had brought her before the Magistrates to be examined as to her financial circumstances. They already had 70 pensioners on their books, and were probably reluctant to add another and increase the burden on the taxpayers of the town. The very same day February 25th a Removal order was made.

Elizabeth was put on a cart and brought back to Thriplow. One of the Thriplow Overseers, probably Mary Tinworth who being a widow herself felt some sympathy for Elizabeth, bought her some beer. The overseers' entry for that date reads "*Paid at Widow Brands for beer on Widow Moules account when she was brought from Walden 1s 10d.*"

Beer was 3d a quart so 1s 10d would be enough for quite a few people

A week later on 3rd March, a Settlement Certificate was made out agreeing that Elizabeth was the responsibility of the Parish of Thriplow as she had been married to a Thriplow inhabitant. The document is signed by the two Churchwardens – Bennet Cranwell and George Coleman; and the two Overseers of the Poor, Mary Tinworth and William Faircloth, and witnessed by John Godfrey and William Triplowe.

The next day 4th March the document was signed by two J.Ps. Hale Wortham senior and junior. This signing probably took place in the Green Man Inn, as Hale Wortham sen. was Lord of the Manor of Bacons in Thriplow and owned the Green Man Inn that was kept by the Widow Brand. The Overseers' accounts state "*paid for bear at Brands on Widow Moule's account – 3 shillings.*" 3 shillings was a lot of money, the equivalent of three days wages for a labourer.

The next day Elizabeth was taken back to Saffron Walden.

And in August of that year 1775, a note was made in the back of the Overseer's book that an agreement had been made to pay Elizabeth's father to keep his daughter. The money was duly paid for the next eleven years until Easter 1786 when it suddenly stopped – why? Had she died or re-married perhaps?

The burial register records the burial of Widow Moule in Thriplow in 1815 at the age of 74, so why had the money stopped?

Back to Saffron Walden archives, and this is where the story takes an intriguing twist.

On three dates in July 1785, the banns of Marriage were read for Elizabeth Moule and William Hayden but there was no record of any marriage taking place.

BUT nine months later on 30th April 1786 the baptism was recorded of George and John Moule twin sons of Elizabeth and David Moule! David Moule; who was David Moule? I could find no further records of David Moule, was there really such a person?

But the fact was that Elizabeth's pension was stopped at this time as she was no longer the responsibility of Thriplow parish. So did she marry William Hayden and move away?

Did she give birth to twins and give them a fictional father?

R. B.

To the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of *Sapton Walden* in the County of *Essex*

Cambridgehire (to wit)

WE the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of *Thriplow* in the County of *Cambridge* do hereby certify, own and acknowledge, that *Elizabeth the Widow and Relict of John Moul Higler Deceased* is an Inhabitant legally settled in our Parish of *Thriplow* aforesaid. In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our Hands and Seals, the 9. Day of *March* in the Year of our Lord 1775

Attested by *the Mark of Bennett* and *the Mark of George Colman*
John Godfrey

Churchwardens

Wm Thriplow

Mary Jiworth
Wm Faircloth

Overseers

WE

two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said County of *Cambridge* do allow of the above-written Certificate. And we do also certify, that *William Thriplow* one of the Witnesses who attested the same, hath this Day made Oath before us the said Justices, that he the said *William Thriplow* did see the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of *Thriplow* aforesaid, whose Names and Seals are thereunto subscribed and set, severally sign and seal the same; and that the Names of *John Godfrey* and *William Thriplow* who are the Witnesses attesting the said Certificate, are respectively of their own proper handwriting. Given under our Hands this 11. Day of *March* 1775

A. Wortham J.
W. Wortham Junr.

Remember she was now 43; Moule was a common name in Saffron Walden as well as Thriplow, so it was more than likely another Elizabeth who had the twins.

If she did marry William Hayden; who was the Widow Moule being buried in Thriplow in 1786?

This story leaves us with more questions unanswered than we started with but we can draw several conclusions from this tale;

By paying for Widow Moule to live with her father the Overseers' of Thriplow were saving their ratepayers a considerable amount of money. Had she stayed in the village, they would have had to provide her with fuel, clothes, food, nursing and medicine as well as paying her rent, and given her a decent burial.

The unreliability of Parish Registers – there are still Moules in Thriplow to this day yet between 1670 and 1815 there are only five Moules in the registers.

The danger of assuming that if the name's the same it must be the person you're looking for. Other evidence must be found before one can assume the name of the person **is** the person you're tracing.

By 1834 times and attitudes had changed; poor harvests, a rising population, a shift from a predominately rural to a predominately urban population resulted in an increasing demand for a change in the law. The poor were no longer seen as deserving of Christian charity but as shiftless, lazy ne'er-do-wells living off the hard work and industry of the law-abiding citizens of the country. The Poor Law Amendment Act was passed and this New Poor Law created Unions of several combined parishes and enabled them to set up Workhouses where the poor were sent until they could provide for themselves. These Workhouses were to be more of a punishment for shiftlessness; husband and wives, mothers and children were separated and put to work. The workhouse for Thriplow was in Royston. People from Thriplow were still being buried here as from 'the Union Workhouse' in Royston as late as 1914.

Stories like that of Elizabeth Moule remind us that we are dealing with real people with real feelings and emotions. It is this that makes Local History so compulsive.

Shirley Wittering

WILDLIFE I HAVE KNOWN

As a child, I lived in the then small town of Stevenage; population 5000 in those days! I have always been a wildlife enthusiast and I would bike the five miles or so to a piece of woodland near the village of St Ippolyts where I could be sure of seeing red squirrels. When I first worked in Thetford forest in early 1963, once again I met up with red squirrels. 1963 was a very cold winter and some of these little creatures were so hungry they would come and eat out of my hand. I would be very lucky to see any there now as they have been overwhelmed by the grey variety and I doubt if there are any at all in St Ippolyts.

My garden however is a great rendezvous for the grey squirrel. They steal the walnuts and hazelnuts before they are ripe which is hardly cricket is it? I don't mind competing with any animal on a level playing field but this is just not playing the game. They also have an annoying habit of planting them all over the garden, especially the lawn. In digging my vegetable patch this spring, I dug up six well-rooted walnuts!

Talking of the lawn; we have had our share of molehills this year. I think they hide themselves under the paving stones of the path where they are warm and secure then nip out early in the morning before I am up. Shirley heard of a good way of getting rid of them by sticking toy windmills in the piles of soil but to no avail, the wind didn't blow for several days! Anyone have a better idea? Has anyone ever seen quite so many molehills as this year? Hardly a garden or verge is without them. And they are so big too.

Field mice can be a menace. I try to grow enough potatoes to see us through from June till the following Easter and I am usually successful but one year, my potato harvest, in sacks on the garage floor, was discovered by these little beasts and the majority had chunks bitten out of them. Tony Webb's advice was that they would go as quickly as they came – and surprisingly, they did! The stockpile of potatoes is now kept in the loft above the garage. But there are still some mice about, as my neighbours know only too well!

Rats can be a considerable nuisance especially if you keep chickens as we do. They enjoy nesting in my compost heaps but the District Council Pest Control Officer is very good with rats!

Foxes are considered by some people to be such a lovely countryside animal that that they object most strongly to hunting them. Obviously they have never kept chickens. Some years ago, on the one night of the year when we forgot to shut our fowls in, the fox got in and despatched the lot! Some were dead in the hut, three ended up on Arthur Humphreys' lawn and the rest – well, they were never seen again!

We have once or twice seen a hedgehog in the garden but, in spite of building them a nice comfortable home, the 'To Let' notice is still to be taken down.

Deer are common in the village. They certainly have a route through the fields between Church Street and Middle Street. Muntjacs are shy but can be seen and now and then you may see a roe deer – or, more often, a pair. They can do a lot of damage in gardens, but, touch wood, we have never had any in our vegetable patch so far, but neighbours have.

There are a few badgers living in the village and of course plenty of rabbits and, sadly, enough hares to attract coursers.

People who keep cats have to accept that they will catch rabbits and the occasional bird but one of my cats brought a stoat in one day. This is the first one I have seen south of the border though George Deller tells me that there are quite a lot in the village.

I think that covers the animals I have known or does it? Some people will remember Bill Deller's dog! It would take itself for walks especially at lunch time on Sundays and many a joint of meat has disappeared from the table and been seen going up the road at high speed!

When we came to the village some 25 years ago, we dug a pond. We woke up one morning, Shirley looked out of the window and remarked that we had a heron in our garden. Closer inspection revealed that it had one of our fish (most likely the last) in its bill! Now and then we get moorhens and ducks in our pond.

We get a variety of birds in the garden including a kestrel in the fruit cage, jays, goldfinches, etc, etc. But I wonder how many people have been visited by a pair of peacocks? One morning, there they were walking down the back garden path! I knew that Mr Smith the antique dealer at Fowlmere, had some so I rang him. He had sold a pair to Michael Walton in Thriplow House and obviously they had gone walkabout. Efforts by me to capture them merely persuaded them to go for higher things and they went up onto the roof. After a while, they jumped into Arthur Humphreys' garden. He shooed them on – and we never saw them again!

One doesn't often find anything remarkable about snails to warrant a sentence in an article but, recently, Arthur Humphreys cut back a clematis on the wall at the front of his house and uncovered the winter quarters of a battalion of them – 210 in all!

Frogs, toads and newts appear every year. The latter have a habit of hibernating all over the garden so I have to be very careful where I dig.

I think that just about lists all the different beasties I have known except for the bats. They are pipistrelles. They used to live in the barns next door along with an owl or two when John Shaw was there but now they are in my attic! We have never seen any up there but the evidence is there for all to see! But Shhhh! I must not say too much or EC rules will insist that my attic is declared a Nature Reserve!

Can anyone add to this list? Anyone seen a pterodactyl yet? One did escape from the last chapter of Conan Doyle's *Lost World* after all!

Bill Wittering from the Spinney, Middle Street



snails on garden wall of 24 Middle Street, April 2002



THRIPLow SOCIETY

Programme 2002/3

Date	Speaker	Title
2002		
Friday 17 th May	Dr Chris Taylor	Village Landscapes
Friday 14 th June	OPENMEETING	Archives and Artefacts , bring your finds along and your friends too.
Sat. 14 th September		Visit to Burwell Museum
Friday 18 th October	Anne Rowe	Dovecotes: Historic features of the Landscape
Friday 15 th November	Chris Jakes	Visit to Cambs. Collection
2003		
Friday 17 th January	Michael Bentinck	Women at War
Saturday 15 th February		10 th Birthday Party
Friday 14 th March	W.O.Wittering	Kings Cross to Cambridge An historic trip.
Friday 25 th April	AGM David Lee	Duxford – Past, Present and Future

Thriplow Society Committee 2002/2003

President	Oliver Walston	208306	Thriplow Farmhouse, Brook Road
Chairman	Shirley Wittering	208269	The Spinney, Middle Street
Vice-Chairman	David Easthope	208401	Cochranes, 6 Lower Street
Secretary	Peter Speak	208368	23 Church Street
Treasurer	Peter Yates	208651	23 Sherald's Croft
Members	Geoffrey Axe	208457	Chapelfield, 14 Fowlmere Road
	Ken Joysey	208553	Church Farm, 1 Church Street
	John Lord	208094	The Hidden Cottage, 9 Lower St.
	Michael Moule	01223 840806	56 Cambridge Road, Gt Shelford
	Betty Parker	208654	49 Church Street
	Arthur Rowe	208323	19 Church Street

Editors of the Journal are Peter Speak and Shirley Wittering

Shirley Wittering also keeps the Thriplow Society Archives and is always happy to receive information and photographs of old Thriplow. If you do not want to donate the photos, then we will copy them and return them to you.

GLEANINGS

The Supper/Dance held in the Village Hall on February 16th 2002 was enjoyed by all who went, special thanks are due to the Committee who provided the raffle prizes; the delicious food was cooked by Lena Browne, Valerie Joysey, Joyce Luckham, Margaret Moule and her friend Margaret, Betty Parker, Barbara Pointon, Barbara Speak, Ruth Stone and Pat Yates. Others deserving thanks are Peter Speak for being Master of Ceremonies, Bill Wittering for selling tickets, raffle and otherwise and Peter Yates for buying and serving the drinks. Betty Parker also organised most of the event and special thanks must go to her for all her hard work. And lastly our thanks to the Tony Budd Trio/Duo who manfully managed to produce some tuneful music despite being minus a player.

DAFFODIL WEEKEND

The Society set up its display of Village History as usual in the Smithy together with some of the tools restored by the Tools Preservation Group. Mike Overall the blacksmith created a colourful atmosphere at the forge and anvil on both days, we are very pleased to have his help each year. Thanks must also go to David Easthope who provided the water and lit the fire on the Saturday, Geoffrey Axe who provided and put up the peg board for the tools, they looked very good. Thanks also for manning the Smithy to Arthur Rowe, Michael and John Moule, Peter Yates, Bill Wittering, Peter Speak and two members of the Thriplow Landscape Research Group, Elizabeth Livingstone and Pat Davies. At times the smithy was so crowded that those at the back couldn't see anything and a lot of interest was shown in what we were doing.

Web of the month – <http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/woods/index.htm>

Thank you to Mrs Eileen Ashby, nee Huddlestone for a newspaper cutting about her family, related to the Huddlestons of Sawston Hall. Mrs Ashby was evacuated to Thriplow during the war. Her grandfather James Huddlestone kept the Green Man from 1864-1896 (see Journal Vol.7/1).

Thanks also to Betty Parker for a small paraffin powered lantern and an upholsterer's tool.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

To celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee the Thriplow Society will be opening the Smithy on Saturday June 1st. to coincide with the other celebrations on the Green. There will an exhibition and we hope to light the forge and do some smithing.

NEXT MEETING – Dr Christopher Taylor – 'Village Landscapes' How did Thriplow originate?

Friday June 14th.- ARCHIVES & ARTIFACTS – an open evening for everyone to come and see our archives, and findings. Do bring anything you may have found in your house or garden to show us.

Apologies for leaving Mr and Mrs Grant Snr. off the list of contributors to the Millennium Window Fund; we have now included their names.



May Blossom