

BOOK 9

“Once upon a time”

Wembury Memories

By Peter Lugar

Trade Directories

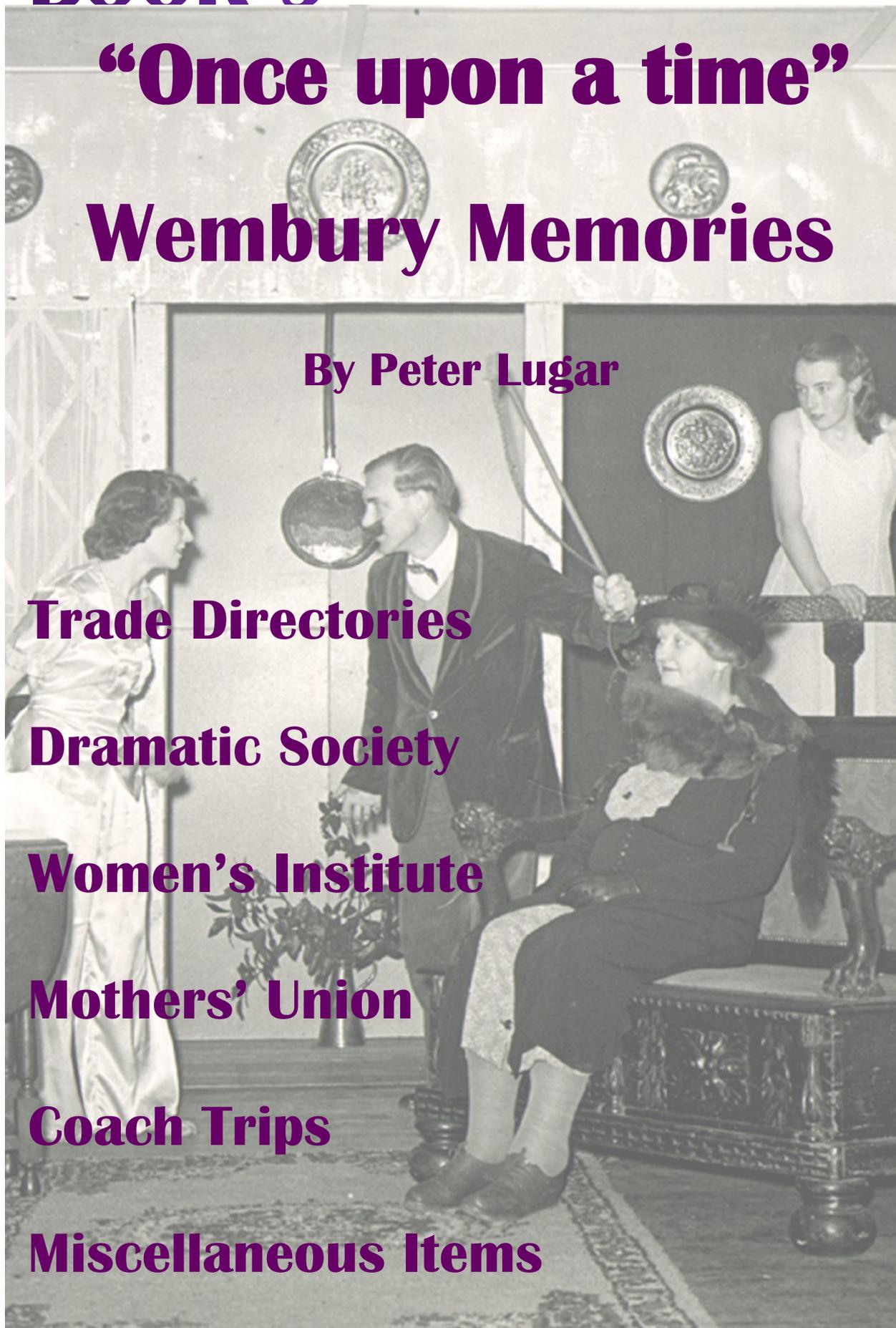
Dramatic Society

Women’s Institute

Mothers’ Union

Coach Trips

Miscellaneous Items



WEMBURY MEMORIES

Foreword

These books, which now number ten, started about five years ago when I decided that photographs which were scattered all over the house should be brought together in one place. I then decided that each photograph should have a little written account of the scene or event. After filling one quite large photograph album I decided that the system needed to be more flexible where pages could be added and the categories altered as the system expanded. The A4 clip folders and punched pockets proved to be absolutely ideal for this purpose. As more and more memories came flooding back the written work was beginning to far outstrip the photographic work. I also realised that there were now very few of us left in Wembury who had been born here and grew up in the village in the 1940s and 1950s and that really a record needed to be made of what life was like in those days just after the war when we were going through our 'austere period'.

Quite a lot of the photographs were in my parents' collection and I have accumulated a lot more. Some have been lent to me to copy by friends, some have come from the internet. I have augmented these with quite a lot of new photographs. The 'Memories' are now interspersed with 'Snippets of History' and in some places my own observations and ideas. I don't think that I would have attempted this project without my 'I Mac' computer which has proved to be a godsend, although I always had it in mind to write an account of what it was like to be an eight year old in Wembury right in the middle of the twentieth century.

Peter Lugar

November 2005

**“Once upon a time when the bird shit lime
and the monkey chewed tobacco**”

**These books are dedicated to Elsie,
and many others like her, who have
gone before us in this place.**

(The story of Elsie may be found in books 2 and 9)

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TRADE DIRECTORY - 1850

The following is a copy of the entry in White's Gazetteer and Directory for the The County of Devonshire, 1850.

WEMBURY, a scattered vilage near the sea cliffs between Plymouth Sound and the mouth of the Yealm, 6 miles S.E. by S. of Plymouth, has in its parish 616 souls and 3670 acres of land including the hamlets of *Knighton* and *Down Thomas*. The manor of Wembury belonged to Plympton Priory till the dissolution, and afterwards passed to various families. In the 16th century it belonged to *Sir John Hele*, sergeant at law, who built here a magnificent mansion, at a cost of £20,000, and enclosed a park which had a salt water lake, supplied by the tides. After his death this manor was sold for the payment of his debts. It was purchased in 1803 by thos Lockyer, Esq., who pulled down the mansion, and built a smaller house for his residence. E.R.P.Bastard, Esq., is now lord of the manor and of the royalty of the river Plym from Kitley to Plymouth Sound. C.B.Calmady, Esq., is lord of the manor of Langdon and resides at *Langdon Hall*, a neat Elizabethan mansion, which has been the seat of his family for several generations. T Lockyer and several smaller owners have estates here, and Sir Edward Thornton KCB., has a handsome seat in the parish. The *Church* (St Werburg,) stands near the sea cliff, and is a small antique structure, with a tower and three bells. It contains several handsome monuments in memory of the Heles, and an iron helmet supposed to have been worn by Sir Warwick Hele. The perpetual curacy, valued in 1831 at only £83, is in the patronage of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and incumbency of Rev Rd. Lane, jun., of Brixton. The *Wesleyans* have a small chapel here, built in 1820. The church and poor have £40 three per cent consols, given in lieu of two ancient rent charges. The *Almshouses* for ten poor people were founded by *Sir Warwick Hele*, who endowed them in 1625 with £30, arising from six tithe rent charges. *Sir John Hele* left two yearly rent charges to this parish, viz.: £6. 13s. 4d. to the perpetual curate, and £2. 12s. for the poor. They are paid out of land at Clifton in Dorsetshire, belonging to the Marquis of Anglesea. The incumbent also has £20 a year as the interest of £500, left by *Josias Calmady* in 1682, and now secured on an estate called Higher Edgecombe and Ransdown, at Milton Abbott. The same donor also left a yearly rent charge of £2. 12s. for the poor out of Colebrook estate.

Marked 2 are at Down Thomas, and 3 at Knighton.

Calmady Charles Biggs, Esq., *Langdon Hall*
 3 Colman John, blacksmith
 Cook Thomas, corn miller
 Gregory Richard, vict., *Jubilee Inn*
 Lockyer Thomas, Esq., *Thorne*
 Natt John, cider seller
 Newland R .R. gent, *Bovisand*
 2 Taylor John, vict., *New Inn*
 Thornton Sir Edward, K.C.B., *South Wembury House*
 Willson Edward, Beerhouse, *Gabber*

SHOPKEEPERS

Avery William
 3 Wire Charlotte

FARMERS (* are Owners.)

Atwill Thomas & Son
 Barons H., *Langdon Barton*
 2 Blackler Thomas.
 3 Brewer William
 Cane Daniel
 2 Edwards William
 Hern Henry
 * Hook A & S
 Horton Elizabeth
 * Light Anthony. P
 Lobb Thomas
 2 Lyndon William
 Nelder J & T
 2 * Parrott John
 Pursley John
 2 Wilson James

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1857

WEMBURY

With Down Thomas and Knighton.

WEMBURY is a village and parish about 6 miles S.E. from Plymouth. The scenery about the coast is very wild and romantic. The entire parish contains, including water area, 3205 acres, and a population in 1851 of 577. Plymouth is the polling-district, and the number of voters in 1957 was 14.

There are several mansions in the neighbourhood; Sir J Hele, Serjeant-at-law erected a fine one in the 16th century, at a cost of £20,000, and enclosed a park, which had a salt water lake, supplied by the tides; It was purchased in 1803 by Thos. Lockyer, Esq., who pulled down the mansion, and built a smaller house. The Manor belonged to Plympton Priory until the Dissolution; it is now the property of E.R..P. Bastard, Esq., who has also the royalty of the river Plym from Kitley to Plymouth Sound; and V.P.Calmady, Esq., is lord of the manor of Langdon; this gentleman has a noble mansion called Langdon court, wherein his family have resided for many generations. Sir E Thornton, K.C.B., has also an estate here.

The CHURCH (St Werburg) stands in a solitary position on the sea cliffs, and is a small antique structure, and from its romantic and retired situation is interesting to the tourist. The interior has several handsome monuments to the memory of the Heles, and an iron helmet supposed to have been worn by Sir Warwick Hele. The living is in the patronage of the Dean and canons of Windsor, and incumbency of the Rev. R. Lane, jun; Mr. N. Avery, Clerk.

The WESLEYANS have a small Chapel here, supplied by Local Preachers

An ALMSHOUSE was founded and endowed in 1625, by Sir Warwick Hele, for ten poor people.

Anthony P.L. Esq., Train Barton
Barwell Nathaniel Esq., Wembury House
Calmady V P. Esq., Langdon Court
Elliott Thomas, Esq., Hollowcombe House

Hook the Misses, Bovi Sand House
Lane Rev. R. jun Perpetual Curate
Lockyer James Esq., South Wembury House

Avery Mary, shopkeeper, West Wembury
Avery Nathaniel, Clerk
Beer William, farmer, Burton
Beer William, miller, Wembury Mill
Cackler Thomas, farmer, Down Thomas
Cane Daniel, farmer, Spurwell
Coleman John, blacksmith
Collier Henry, victualler *Jubilee Inn*
Coombe George, farmer, Langdon Barton
Dunn John, carpenter, Knighton
Edwards The Misses, preparatory school, Knighton
Edwards William, farmer, Down Thomas
French Thomas, farmer, Knighton
Horton Mrs Elizabeth, farmer, Gabber
Knott Edmund, farmer, Knighton

Lakeman Edward, farmer, Down Thomas
Lobb Thomas, farmer, Wembury Barton
Nelder Josias, farmer
Nelder Thomas, farmer
Nott Edmund, farmer, West Wembury
Pote Robert, shoemaker and Sexton
Pursley John, farmer, New Barton
Symons John, blacksmith, Down Thomas
Southwood William, butcher, Knighton
Tolcher Elias, wheelwright, Down Thomas
Taylor John, victualler *New Inn*, Down Thomas
Wetheridge Thomas, bootmaker
Wilson Edward, beer retailer, Gabber
Wilson James, farmer, Down Thomas
Wilson John, farmer, Down Thomas

Letters by Foot Post from Plymouth, which is the General Money Order Office

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1870

The following is transcribed from Morris and Co's Gazetteer and Directory for the The County of Devonshire, 1870.

WEMBURY is a village and parish in the Plympton St Mary Union, containing, by the census of 1861, 561 inhabitants, and 3205 acres; in the Deanery and Hundred of Plympton, archdeaconry of Totnes, diocese of Exeter, in South Devonshire on the sea coast, overlooking Plymouth Sound, 6 miles south-east from Plymouth. The Vicarage in the incumbency of Rev. Richard Lane, BA., is valued at £83 per annum, and is in the patronage of the Dean and Canons of Windsor. The church is a small ancient edifice, dedicated to St Werburg, which has been restored and re-seated. B.R P. Bastard Esq., is lord of the manor, which previous to the dissolution by Henry VIII., was the property of the Plympton Priory.

Letters from Plymouth arrive at at 10.a.m.; dispatched from the Jubilee Inn at 2.50 p.m., and from West Wembury at 3.30 p.m.

GENTRY

Blewett R, Esq.
Dawson Ralph, Esq., J P., Wembury House
Hook Miss Sarah, Bovisand

TRADE AND PROFESSIONS

Avery Nathaniel, parish clerk
Beer William, miller, Wembury Mill
Webb Miss Mary Ann, day school, Knighton
Cane Daniel, farmer, Spirewell Farm
Coleman John, blacksmith, Knighton
Collier Mrs Ann, "Jubilee Inn" Knighton
Hendy Edward William, "New Inn" Down Thomas
Lakeman Edward, farmer, Down Thomas
Nelder Thomas, farmer, Ranleigh
Pearse Thomas, farmer, Langdon Barton
Popplestone Richard, farmer, Down Thomas
Pote Robert, Shoemaker & Sexton
Rodney Frederick James, Esq., Bovisand Lodge
Spurrell William farmer, New Barton
Stidson Walter, farmer, Train Farm
Symons James, blacksmith, Down Thomas
Tuckett John, farmer, Wembury Barton
Williams John, farmer, Langdon Home Farm
Wilson James, farmer, Down Thomas
Wilson John, farmer, Down Thomas

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1889

The following is a copy of the entry in Kelly's Trade Directory for The County of Devonshire, 1889

WEMBURY is a parish on the south coast, six miles south-east from Plymouth, in the Southern division of the county, hundred of Plympton, petty sessional division of Ermington and Plympton, union of Plympton St Mary, county court district of East Stonehouse, rural deanery of Plympton, Archdeaconry of Totnes and diocese of Exeter. The church of St Werburg, situated close to the sea and at some distance from the village, is a plain building of local stone, in the Early English style, consisting of a chancel, nave, aisles, south porch and embattled western tower containing 3 bells of which the first is dated 1673, the second is a plain bell badly cast, and the tenor dates from 1631: in the church are several monuments, including one dated 1677 to the family of Calmady: the church has recently been restored and re-seated at a cost of almost £3,000 and has 280 sittings. The register of baptisms and burials dates from the year 1611: marriages 1612. The living is a vicarage, the tithe rent charge £30, gross yearly value £290, in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and held since 1883 by the Rev. Charles Burgess. One of the ancestors of Vincent Calmady esq, in 1682 bequeathed £500, now £522 3s 10d. £3 per Cent, Consuls, to the parish, the interest of which is distributed in bread, coals, and clothing. Langdon Court, a quarter of a mile distant, is the property of Richard Cory esq. J.P. who is lord of the manor, which up to the dissolution belonged to the priory of Plympton: in 1590 it was acquired by Sir John Hele kt, sergeant-at-law, a distinguished lawyer who died June 4th 1608, and was afterwards held by the families of Pollexfen and Calmady. R Cory Esq is the principal landowner. The soil is loamy; subsoil, clay and slate. The chief crops are wheat, oats, barley and turnips. The area is 3.132 acres of land and 303 of tidal water and foreshore; rateable value £4,395, the population in 1881 was 571.

DOWN THOMAS, half a mile north-west, and KNIGHTON, north-east are hamlets.

POST OFFICE, KNIGHTON - Alfred Perring, receiver, Letters arrive from Plymouth, by letter carrier at 9.30 a.m.; dispatched at 10.40 a.m. & 3.40 p.m. The nearest money order office is at Oreston & the telegraph office is at Cattedown, Plymouth.

A School Board of 5 members was formed June 23rd 1874; J H Stevens, chairman & clerk to the board; William Cannon, attendance officer.

Board School built in 1876 at a cost of £934 for 80 children; average attendance, 75; James Harry, Master.

Burgess Rev. Chas (Vicar), Wembury Cot
 Calmady Miss, Knighton Villa
 Coleman Nicholas, Spurwell
 Cory Richard J.P. Langdon Court
 Rodney Frederick, Bovisand Lodge

Lang Frank, farmer Train Farm, Knighton
 Nelder Thomas, farmer, Down Thomas
 Pearse Thomas, farmer, Langdon Barton
 Perring Alfred, Postmaster, Knighton
 Pote Rob't, shoe maker & sexton of parish

COMMERCIAL

Beer Wm, Miller (water), Wembury Mill
 Cane Joseph, Farmer, Knighton
 Cannon Fred'k, farmer, Wembury Barton
 ThomasColeman John, smith, Knighton
 Coleman Nicholas, Jubilee Inn, Knighton
 & farmer, Spurwell
 Hurrell Servington, New Inn
 Lakeman Nicholas, farmer, Manor Farm

Pursley Wm, farmer, West Wembury Farm
 Spurrell Wm, carpenter, Gabber
 Spurrell Wm, farmer, New Barton
 Stevens John, farmer, Down Thomas
 Symons John, blacksmith, Down
 Tolcher Elais, wheelwright & smith,
 Down Thomas
 Williams Rich'd, farmer, Gabber Farm
 Wilson John, farmer, Langdon Home Farm

(NB Langdon Court is actually one and a quarter miles distant from the church)

TRADE DIRECTORY 1893

Private and Commercial Residents from Kelly (1893)
Post Office Directory of Devonshire

PRIVATE

ARMITAGE Fento, South Wembury House
BURGESS Rev. Chas. [vicar], Wembury Cottage
CALMADY Miss, Knighton Villa
CLAY Robert. Hogarth, M.D., Wembury House
COLEMAN Nicholas, Spurwell
CORY Richard, J.P., Langdon Court; & 3 Elliot Terrace, Plymouth
RODNEY Frederick, Bovisand Lodge

COMMERCIAL

BEER William, miller (water), Wembury Mill
CANE Benjamin, farmer, Knighton
CANE Benjamin, jun., farmer, Wembury Barton
CLAY Robert Hogarth, M.D. surgeon, Wembury House
COCK Ernest, farmer, Down Thomas
COLEMAN John, blacksmith, Knighton
COLEMAN Nicholas, farmer, Spurwell
DRAKE James, postmaster, Knighton
GILES Herbert Pitts, farmer, Down Thomas
HURRELL Thomas, New Inn
LAKEMAN Nicholas, farmer Manor Farm
LISTER William., farmer, Langdon Home Farm
MILDEN Daniel, carrier
NELDER Arthur, farmer, Train Farm, Knighton
PEARSE Harold William, farmer, Langdon Barton
PERRING Alfred, Jubilee Inn, Knighton
POTE Robert, shoe maker & sexton of the parish
PURSLEY William, farmer & overseer of the parish, West Wembury Farm
SHERWILL William, carpenter, Gabber
SPURRELL William, farmer, New Barn
SYMONS John, blacksmith, Down Thomas
TOLCHER Elias, wheelwright & smith, Down Thomas
WILLIAMS Richard, farmer, Gabber Farm
WILSON James, farmer, Down Thomas
WILSON John, farmer, Princes Farm

TRADE DIRECTORY – 1899

An extract from a Trade Directory for The County of Devonshire, 1899

WEMBURY is a village and parish five and a half miles south-east from Plymouth, in the Plympton St Mary Union, in the deanery and hundred South Devonshire, on the sea coast overlooking Plymouth Sound. The church of St Werburgh is a small edifice, and the living, a vicarage, is in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor. The population in 1881 was 551; in 1891, 572.

Post and Telegraph Office - Jas Drake postmaster.
Letters arr at 7.45 a.m. and 5.45 p.m. Sundays 10.0 a.m.

Board School - Wm Scarr, master; Mrs Scarr, mistress.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

Burgess Rev C. Vicar
Clay Dr. Wembury House
Cory Richard J.P. South Wembury House

COMMERCIAL

Beer Wm. farmer, Wembury Mill and Farm
Cane Benjamin. junr. farmer, Old Barton
Cook Ernest. farmer, Down Thomas
Coleman Jno, blacksmith, Knighton
Coleman Nicholas. farmer, Spurwell
New Inn, Down Thomas
Drake Jas. postmaster
Edwards E. farmer, Manor Farm
Giles Herbert. farmer, Pages Farm
Mildren Daniel. carrier and general shop
Mitchell j. general shop
Nelder Arthur. farmer, New Barton
Pearce Harold. farmer, Langdon Barton
Perrin Alfred. *Jubilee Inn*, Knighton
Pursley Wm. farmer, West Wembury
Scarr Wm Lord. schoolmaster
Spurrell Wm. farmer
Symons J. blacksmith, Down Thomas
Tolchard Elias. wheelwright. Down Thomas
Williams Richard. farmer
Wilson James. farmer, Traine
Wilson John P. farmer, Princes Farm

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1914

The following is a copy of the entry in Kelly's Trade Directory for The County of Devonshire, 1914

WEMBURY is a parish on the south coast, six miles south-east from Plymouth, in the Southern division of the county, hundred of Plympton, petty sessional division of Ermington and Plympton, union of Plympton St Mary, county court district of Plymouth, in the Plympton rural deanery, Archdeaconry of Totnes and diocese of Exeter. The church of St Werburg, situated close to the sea and at some distance from the village, is a plain building of local stone, in the Early English style, consisting of a chancel, nave, aisles, south porch and embattled western tower containing 5 bells. In the church are several monuments, including one dated 1677 to the family of Calmady, and another on the north side of the chancel, and dated 1601, to Sir John Hele and his family, and three parclose screens, erected from the designs of Messrs Hine and Odgers, architects, and executed by Hems of Exeter: the ancient screen was taken down and destroyed in about 1850: the church was restored and re-seated in 1886 by the same architects at a cost of £3,500, and affords 280 seatings. The registers of baptisms and burials dates from the year 1611: marriages 1612. The living is a vicarage, the tithe rent charge £30, gross yearly value £290, in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and held since 1883 by the Rev. Charles Burgess. One of the ancestors of Vincent Calmady esq, in 1682 bequeathed £500, now £522 3s 10d. Consuls, to the parish, the interest of which is distributed in bread, coals, and clothing. Langdon Court, a mile and a quarter distant, is the property of Richard Wallis Cory esq. J.P. who is lord of the manor, which up to the dissolution belonged to the priory of Plympton: the house was built in 1577 by the families of Pollexfen and Calmady, and inhabited by them till 1875 when it was bought by Mr Cory. It was rebuilt in 1707 by Josias Calmady. Wembury House now the property and residence of Robert Hogarth Clay M.D. was built by Sir John Hele and was originally much larger than at present. R W Cory Esq J.P. is the principal landowner. The soil is loamy; subsoil, clay and slate. The chief crops are wheat, oats, barley and turnips. The area is 3.132 acres of land, 2 of water, 30 of tidal water and 237 of foreshore; rateable value £4,050, the population in 1911 was 522.

DOWN THOMAS, half a mile north-west, and KNIGHTON, north-east are hamlets. there is a Wesleyan chapel at Down Thomas

Post, M.O. & T. Office, Knighton - Miss Minnie Perring , sub-postmistress.

Letters arrive from Plymouth, by letter carrier at 7.25 a.m. & 4.35 p.m.

Dispatched at 9.5 a.m. & 5.45 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m.

Wall Letter Boxes - Langdon Court, cleared 7.40 a.m. & 5.20 p.m. Sunday 7.50 a.m.

Down Thomas, cleared 8.10 a.m. & 5.40 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m.

Public Elementary School School built in 1876 at a cost of £934 for 80 children; average attendance, 54, Annie Dixon, Mistress.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

Burgess Rev. Chas (Vicar), Wembury Cot

Case Rev. Joshua John, Bovisand Lodge

Clay Rob't Hogarth M.D. Wembury House

Cory Rich'd Wallis J.P. Langdon Court

Curtis Charles E, South Wembury House

COMMERCIAL

Andrews John, farmer, Langdon Barton

Clay Rob't Hogarth M.D. L.R.C.S. Edin,
surgeon, Wembury House

Cocks Ernest, farmer, Down Thomas

Coleman Nicholas, farmer, Spurwell

Edwards Wm, farmer, Manor Farm

Giles Rob't, farmer, Down Thomas

Guest Joseph Edwin, gardener to Robert
Hogarth Clay M.D.

Lake Wm, farmer, Gabber Farm

Milden Daniel, carrier

Pursley Brothers, farmers, West Wembury
Farm

Sherwill John Maurice, farmer, Knighton

Wells Frank, New Inn, Down Thomas

Wilson James, farmer, Train Farm

Wilson John, farmer, Down Thomas

KNIGHTON

Sherwill Mrs

COMMERCIAL

Coleman John, smith

Nelder Arthur, farmer, New Barton

Parsons John, farmer, Old Barton

Perring Alfred, Jubilee Inn, Knighton

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1919

The following is a copy of the entry in Kelly's Trade Directory for The County of Devonshire, 1919

WEMBURY is a parish on the south coast 6 miles south-east from Plymouth, in the Tavistock division of the county, hundred of Plympton, petty sessional division of Ermington and Plympton, rural district of Plympton, union of Plympton St Mary, county court district of Plymouth archdeaconry of Totnes and diocese of Exeter. The church of St Werburgh, situated close to the sea and at some distance from the village, is a plain building of local stone in the Early English style, consisting of chancel, nave, aisles, south porch and an embattled western tower containing 5 bells. In the church are several monuments, including one dated 1677 to the family of Calmady, and another on the north side of the chancel, and dated 1601, to Sir John Hele and his family, and three parclose screens, erected from the designs of Messrs Hine and Odgers, architects, and executed by Hems, of Exeter: the ancient screen was taken down and destroyed in about 1850: the church was restored and reseated in 1886, by the same architects, at a cost of £3,500, and affords 280 sittings. The register of baptisms and burials dates from the year 1611; marriages, 1612. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £350 in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and held since 1883 by the Rev Charles Burgess. One of the ancestors of Vincent Calmady esq. in 1682 bequeathed £500, now £522 3s. 10d. Consols to the parish, the interest of which is distributed in bread, coals and clothing. There are almshouses for six aged persons, with chapel attached, erected in 1682 by Sir Warwick Hele. Langdon court a mile and a quarter distant, is the property and residence of Richhard Wallis Cory esq. J.P. who is the lord of the manor, which up to the time of the Dissolution belonged to the priory of Plympton; the house was built in 1577 by the families of Pollexfen and Calmady, and was inhabited by them till 1875, when it was bought by Mr Cory. It was rebuilt in 1707 by Josias Calmady. Wembury House, now the property and residence of Robert Hogarth clay M.D. was built by Sir John Hele, and was originally much bigger than at present. R. W. Cory esq. J.P. is the principal landowner. The soil is loamy; subsoil, clay and slate. The chief crops are wheat, oats, barley and turnips. The area is 3,131 acres of land, 2 of water, 30 of tidal water, and 237 of foreshore; rateable value, £4,164; the population in 1911 was 522.

DOWN THOMAS, 1 mile north-west, and **KNIGHTON**, north-east, are hamlets.

There is a Wesleyan chapel at Down Thomas

Post, M. O. & T. Office, Knighton. - Mrs Minnie Brown, sub-postmistress. Letters arrive from Plymouth.

Wall Letter Boxes - Langdon Court and Down Thomas

Public Elementary School, built in 1876 at a cost of £734 for 80 children;

Mrs Annie Dixon, mistress.

The school is controlled by six managers; Philip Batenman, Plymstock, correspondent.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

Arkwright William,
Thorn

Burgess Rev. Charles, (vicar)
Wembury Cottage

Case Rev. Joshua John
Boveysand Lodge

COMMERCIAL

Andrews John. farmer,
Langdon Barton Farm

Clay Robert Hogarth, N.D., L.R.C.S. Edin
(surgeon) Wembury House

Cocks Ernest. farmer,
Down Thomas

Coleman John. blacksmith,
Knighton

Coleman Nicholas. farmer,
Spirewell Farm

Edwards William. farmer,
Manor Farm

Fowden Emily (Mrs). shopkeeper,
Down Thomas

Giles Herbert. farmer,
Down Thomas

Hoskins William. farmer,
Gabber Farm

Clay Robert Hogarth, M.D.,
Wembury House

Cory Richard Wallis J.P.,
Langdon Court

Sherwill Mrs

Milden Daniel. carrier,
Knighton

Nelder Arthur. farmer,
New Barton Farm

Parsons John. farmer,
Old Barton Farm

Perring Alfred. publican,
Jubilee Inn

Pursley Brothers. farmers,
West Wembury Farm

Sherwill John Maurice. farmer
Knighton Farm

Wells Frank. publican,
New Inn

Wilson James. farmer,
Train Farm

Wilson John. farmer,
Down Thomas

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1926

The following is a copy of the entry in Kelly's Trade Directory for The County of Devonshire, 1926

WEMBURY is a parish on the south coast, six miles south-east from Plymouth, in the Tavistock division of the county, hundred of Plympton, petty sessional division of Ermington and Plympton, union of Plympton St Mary, county court district of Plymouth, rural deanery of Plympton, Archdeaconry of Plymouth and diocese of Exeter. The church of St Werburg, situated close to the sea and at some distance from the village, is a plain building of local stone, in the Early English style, consisting of a chancel, nave, aisles, south porch and embattled western tower containing 5 bells. In the church are several monuments, including one dated 1677 to the family of Calmady, and another on the north side of the chancel, and dated 1608, to Sir John Hele and his family, and three parclose screens, erected from the designs of messrs Hine and Odgers, architects, and executed by Hems of Exeter: the ancient screen was taken down and destroyed in about 1850: the church was restored and re-seated in 1886 by the same architects at a cost of £3,500, and affords 280 seatings. The register of baptisms and burials dates from the year 1611: marriages 1612. The living is a perpetual curacy net yearly value £366, in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and held since 1923 by the Rev. Anyon Herbert Duxbury M.A. of Wadham College, Oxford. One of the ancestors of Vincent Calmady esq, in 1682 bequeathed £500, now £522 3s 10d. Consuls, to the parish, the interest of which is distributed in bread, coals, and clothing. Langdon Court, a mile and a quarter distant, is the property of Richard Wallis Cory esq. J.P. who is lord of the manor, which up to the dissolution belonged to the priory of Plympton: the house was built in 1577 by the families of Pollexfen and Calmady, and inhabited by them till 1875 when it was bought by Mr Cory. It was rebuilt in 1707 by Josias Calmady. Wembury House was built by Sir John Hele and was originally much larger than at present. It is occupied by Mrs Cecil F A Walker. Thorn, the residence of the Hon Mrs Sebag-Montefiore, is a fine mansion overlooking the estuary of the Yealm. R W Cory esq J.P. is the principal landowner. The soil is loamy; subsoil, clay and slate. The chief crops are wheat, oats, barley and turnips. The area is 3.131 acres of land, 2 of water, 30 of tidal water and 237 of foreshore ; rateable value £4,712, the population in 1921 was 501.

DOWN THOMAS, one mile north-west, and KNIGHTON, north-east are hamlets. There is a Wesleyan chapel at Down Thomas

Post, M.O., T & T.E.D. Office, Knighton - Mr s Minnie Brown , sub-postmistress.

Letters through Plymouth.

Public Elementary School School built in 1876 at a cost of £734 for 80 children; Mrs Annie Dixon, Mistress. The School is controlled by six managers, Philip Bateman, Plymstock, correspondent.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

(For TN's see General List of Private Residents at end of book)

Case Rev. Joshua John, Boveysand Lodge
Cory Rich'd Wallis, J.P. Langdon Court
Croham Commdr Patrick RN, Bay Cottage
Duxbury Rev. Anyon Herbert M.A. (vicar),
Wembury Cottage
Sebag-Montefiore Hon Mrs Rob't, Thorn
Walker Mrs Cecil F.A., Wembury House

Hoskin William, farmer Gabber Farm
Kingwell John, farmer, Manor Farm
Milden Daniel, carrier
* Nelder Arthur R, farmer, New Barton
TN Plymstock 80X
* Pursley Bros farmers, West Wembury Farm
Reid Ernest Thos, farmer, Spirewell Farm
* Sherwill Maurice John, farmer Knighton
Farm
Slade John, farmer, Old Barton Farm

COMMERCIAL

(Marked thus * farm 150 acres or over)

* Andrews Lewis, farmer, Langdon Barton
Bridgman Martin, farmer, Traine Farm
Cocks Earnest, farmer, Down Thomas
Dobson Herbert, New Inn, Down Thomas
Giles Herbert, farmer, Down Thomas
Giles Rob't Pitts, farmer, Down Thomas

Watts George, farmer, Ranleigh Farm
Watts William, farmer, Langdon Home Farm
Wilson James, farmer, Pages Farm

KNIGHTON

Rundle Col. George Rich'd Tyrell C.B. The Cottage

COMMERCIAL

Coleman John, smith
Perring Alfred, Jubilee Inn

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1939

The following is a copy of the entry in Kelly's Trade Directory for The County of Devonshire, 1939

WEMBURY is a parish on the south coast 6 miles south-east from Plymouth, in the Tavistock division of the county, hundred of Plympton, petty sessional division of Ermington and Plympton, rural district of Plympton, archdeaconry of Plymouth and diocese of Exeter. Electricity is available. Water is supplied by the Plympton rural District Council. The church of St Werburgh, situated close to the sea and at some distance from the village, is a plain building of local stone in the Early English style, consisting of chancel, nave, aisles, south porch and an embattled western tower containing 5 bells. In the church are several monuments, including one dated 1677 to the family of Calmady, and another on the north side of the chancel, and dated 1608, to Sir John Hele and his family: there are three parclose screens: The carved litany desk is a memorial to the Rev A. H. Duxbury MA, vicar 1923-17: the church was restored and reseated in 1886, at a cost of £3,500, and affords 280 sittings. The register of baptisms and burials dates from the year 1611; marriages , 1612. The living is a perpetual curacy, net yearly value £350 in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and held since 1937 by the Rev Charles ffoliot Young M.A. of Trinity College Dublin. One of the ancestors of Vincent Calmady esq. in 1682 bequeathed £500, now £522 3s. 10d. Consols to the parish, the interest of which is distributed in bread, coals and clothing. There are almshouses for six aged persons, with chapel attached, erected in 1682 by Sir Warwick Hele. Langdon court a mile and a quarter distant, up to the time of the Dissolution belonged to the priory of Plympton; the house was built in 1577 by the families of Pollexfen and Calmady, and was inhabited by them till 1875, when it was bought by Mr Cory. It was rebuilt in 1707 by Josias Calmady. Wembury House was built by Sir John Hele, and was originally much bigger than at present; it is occupied by Mrs Cecil F. A. Walker. Thorn the residence of E. G. Stanley esq. is a mansion overlooking the estuary of the Yealm, and possesses shrubberies regarded as being among the finest in England. The soil is loamy; subsoil, clay and slate. The chief crops are wheat, oats, barley and turnips. The area is 3,131 acres of land, 2 of water, 30 of tidal water, and 237 of foreshore; the population in 1931 was 596

DOWN THOMAS, 1 mile north-west, and **KNIGHTON**, north-east, are hamlets. **HEYBROOK BAY**, situated in Wembury parish, is about one mile south of Down Thomas hamlet. There is a Methodist chapel at Down Thomas

Post, M. O. & T. Office. Wembury. Letters through Plymouth

Post Office, Down Thomas. Letters through Plymouth

Wembury nearest M. O. & T. Office

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

(For TN's see general list of Private Residents at end of book)

Ayre Paym-Capt. Leslie O.B.E.

R.N. Four Corners

Bramwells Emile Henry

Langdon Lodge

Case Rev. Joshua John (Group Capt R.A.F.)

Boveysand Lodge

Church Comdr. Edward R.N. (ret),

Bay Cottage

Stanley E. Gerald M.S., F.R.C.S.

Thorn

Walker Mrs Cecil F. A.

Wembury House

Young Rev. Charles ffoliot-Young M.A. (vicar)

The Vicarage

/COMMERCIAL.

TRADE DIRECTORY - 1939 (CONTINUED)

COMMERCIAL

Marked thus * 150 acres or over

* Andrews Lewis, farmer
Langdon Barton TN221
Blampey Emily, (Mrs) shopkeeper
Wembury Road
Body Harry Libby, farmer,
Mount Pleasant, Langdon TN243
Bolt Harold. Café,
Heybrook Bay TN353
Brown Vera. (Miss),
shopkeeper & post office TN329
Camps Café (R. Stansell propr)
Heybrook Bay TN332
Coleman John. blacksmith,
Cundy Richard & Sons. farmers,
Raneleigh TN225
Deddes Dorothea (Mrs) S.C.M. district nurse
Church Road TN254
Giles Robert Pitts. farmer,
Down Thomas TN327
Hannaford William H. Builder,
Bay View, Church Road TN212
Henby Benjamin James. farmer
Higher Ford Farm
Heybrook Bay Estate Office
(R. A. Stansell propr) TN256
Heybrook Bay Lido Ltd
Heybrook Bay TN230
Jolliffe Reginald Richard. builder & contractor
Church Road
Jubilee Inn (Alf Perring)
Lamerton Mark. shopkeeper,
TN214
Lugar Henry Owen. farmer,
Gabber Farm, Down Thomas TN321
Merralls Sidney G. guest house,
Heybrook Bay TN315
Mill Café (Mrs Lily A. Little, proprietress)
Wembury Beach TN314

* Nelder Arthur. farmer,
New Barton TN218
New Inn (Edward Willcox) TN238
Newton J.W. & Son, motor omnibus proprs
Down Thomas TN217
Pursley John. farmer,
Old Barton
Pursley Richard. farmer,
Langdon Home Farm TN226
Repath John Henry, shopkeeper
Down Thomas
Serjeant Arthur William. coal & coke dealer
Church Road TN231
Shepherd George Henry. farmer
Train Farm TN222
Sherrell George. farmer,
Manor Farm, Down Thomas
* Sherwill Maurice John. farmer,
Knighton Farm TN316
Slade John. farmer,
Thorn Farm TN237
Smallridge John Henry. farmer,
West Wembury Farm
Smith's Refreshment Hut, Bovisand
Stansells Acetylene Co Ltd (regd office)
Heybrook Bay TN256
Stumbles Henry James. farmer,
Spirewell Farm TN221
Wembury Bay Guest House
Mrs Roper, proprietress
Wembury Point Holiday Camp Ltd TN
Wembury Point Sports and Social Club
(J Stansell, secretary)
Wembury Quarry Co. quarry owners
Wilson James. farmer,
Pages Farm TN325
Woolf Mary E. (Mrs). shopkeeper,
Wembury Stores TN223

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY 1949 - 1954

The Dramatic Society was formed in 1949 and aimed to stage their first production in 1950.

At the village hall the stage was rather small, and there was a passage going down one side to allow access to the room behind. This meant that the stage was off centre to the right from the point of view of the audience.

The Dramatic Society took it upon themselves to extend the stage to the full width of the hall, thereby losing the passage and widening the stage by about four feet. This they did themselves with donations of materials and labour from friends. This meant that now the only access to the room behind was by going up and over the stage. The fact that this cut off the Elsan toilet from the audience didn't seem to matter as in those days of spartan conditions at the hall most people were in the habit of "going before they came".

The society put on three very good productions, "Rookery Nook" in March 1950, "Lord Richard in the Pantry" in October 1950, and "Quiet Week End" in April 1951.

It was excellent in the way that it involved quite a lot of people in the village, of all ages, Maureen Woods who was still a schoolgirl, Barbara Snell, a teenager, Doris Harvey who must have been in her 20s, Dear old Mrs Pitts who must have been over 60, My mother who was in her 30s, Miss Maynard who must have been in her 40s, to name but a few.

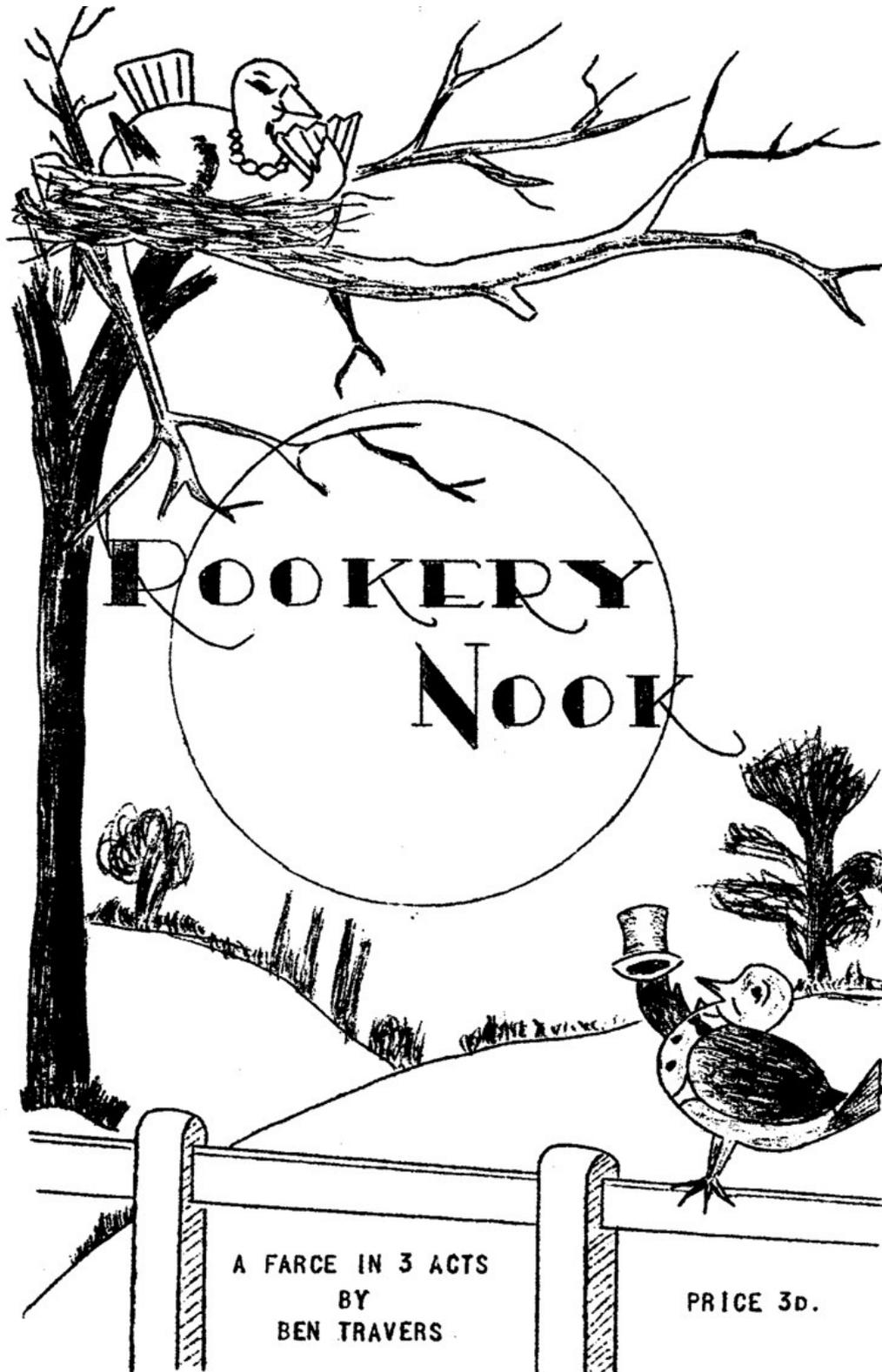
Later in the 1950s, a billiard table was bought and put into the hall in front of the stage. It was thought this could make extra revenue for the hall by having it available for use when the hall was otherwise unoccupied. This meant however, that there could not be any more stage productions with the billiard table in place, and the cost to have it temporarily removed for any such event, was prohibitive. It was decided that the billiard table would be moved to the room behind the stage, but the room was not large enough so the stage would have to be demolished and rebuilt about ten feet further into the hall. This was duly done except that by the time the table was in the new position and the dividing wall rebuilt, the interest in rebuilding the stage seemed to have waned. I think that this was mainly because the repositioned stage would have blocked where the recently installed double emergency doors had been fitted, and these would have had to be moved as well, and so the stage was never rebuilt. What with this, and with the Vicar, Revd Kenneth Tagg, who was a leading light in the Dramatic Society, moving on in 1954 to pastures new, the Society folded.

With my mother also being one of the leading lights in the society we are lucky that her photographic collection of the three productions survive and was available for the articles that follow. The stage set was built by the society of which there were almost as many workers behind the scenes as there were players on the stage. Materials were scarce, especially paint, the folly in using gloss paint was soon realised when the glare from the stage lighting almost blinded the audience! The limitations of the fifteen foot stage was also apparent. The set furnishings were provided from member's own homes. The programme illustrations were done by the Revd Kenneth Tagg, the Vicar, who was a gifted artist. These were printed on a "Gestetner" system where the drawings had to be labouriously etched onto a "Gestetner skin" then affixed to the Gestetner drum and inked, so that the copies could be run off. Those were the days!

In all the productions, Kenneth Tagg, who usually had a leading role, assumed the alias of "Jack Priest".

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

ROOKERY NOOK - MARCH 1950



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

ROOKERY NOOK - MARCH 1950

THE WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

-- PRESENTS --

R O O K E R Y N O O K

(BY PERMISSION OF SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.)

A FARCE IN THREE ACTS BY BEN TRAVERS

CHARACTERS

GERTRUDE TWINE	...	...	KATHLEEN MAYNARD
MRS. LEVERETT	...	...	BERYL LUGAR
HAROLD TWINE	...	...	SAMUEL RODGERS
CLIVE POPKISS	...	...	JACK PRIEST
GERALD POPKISS	...	...	DENNIS HORWELL
RHODA MARLEY	...	...	PATRICIA SOMERVILLE
PUTZ	...	...	JOSEPH R. MCCLORRY
ADMIRAL JUDDY	...	...	RAYMOND BROWN
POPPY DICKEY	...	...	MAUREEN WOOD
CLARA POPKISS	...	...	MARY COLE BARBARA SNELL
MRS. POSSETT	...	...	BEATRICE PITTS

SCENE: THE LOUNGE-HALL OF "ROOKERY NOOK",
CHUMPTON-ON-SEA, SOMERSET.

ACT 1: LATE ON A SUMMER NIGHT.

ACT 2: NEXT MORNING.

ACT 3: ABOUT TWO AND A HALF HOURS LATER.

STAGE MANAGER - L. V. THOMAS
PRODUCER - JACK PRIEST
CHAIRMAN - JOSEPH R. MCCLORRY

~~18TH FEBRUARY~~ MARCH 1950.

8.0 P.M.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

ROOKERY NOOK - MARCH 1950

Photograph No.1 from Left to right

Dennis Horwell
Barbara Snell
Patsy Somerville
Raymond Brown
Beatrice Pitts (Seated)
Maureen Woods
Beryl Lugar



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

ROOKERY NOOK - MARCH 1950

Photograph No.2 from Left to Right

Jack Priest
Dennis Horwell
Wyn Maynard
Raymond Brown



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

ROOKERY NOOK - MARCH 1950

Photograph No.3 from Left to Right

Mervyn Pitts	(Stage Crew)
Viv Thomas	(Stage Crew)
Jack Priest	(Kenneth Tagg, the Vicar)
Patsy Somerville	
Raymond Brown	
Beatrice Pitts	
Maureen Woods	
Joe McClorry	
Wyn Maynard	(Headmistress, Wembury School)
Samuel Rodgers	
Beryl Lugar	
Dennis Horwell	(Seated)
Barbara Snell	(Seated)



NEW SOCIETY DOES WELL AT WEMBURY

AMATEUR ACTORS IN 'ROOKERY NOOK'

By A Special Correspondent.

AMATEUR dramatics came to Wembury on Saturday night—but no one would have guessed it was the first time ever.

The newly-formed Wembury Dramatic Society's production of "Rookery Nook" would have been a nicely-finished effort for a much more experienced company. Ben Travers's famous farce can rarely have had a smoother staging in a small community.

Encouraged by applause that lasted several minutes, the society now plans to repeat the show twice before seeking fresh fields for the talent it possesses.

The players earned praise for the unruffled way they set about the farce from the first curtain, and after the entrance of Samuel Rodgers as henpecked Harold each and everyone was able to extract laughter *ad lib*.

Among the ladies Pat Somerville, Kathleen Maynard, and irresistible Beryl Lugar carried the main parts with aplomb.

Jack Priest and Dennis Horwell, in the old Tom Walls-Ralph Lynn roles, acted the fool so well that the audience began to wonder what was in the bottle on the table ...

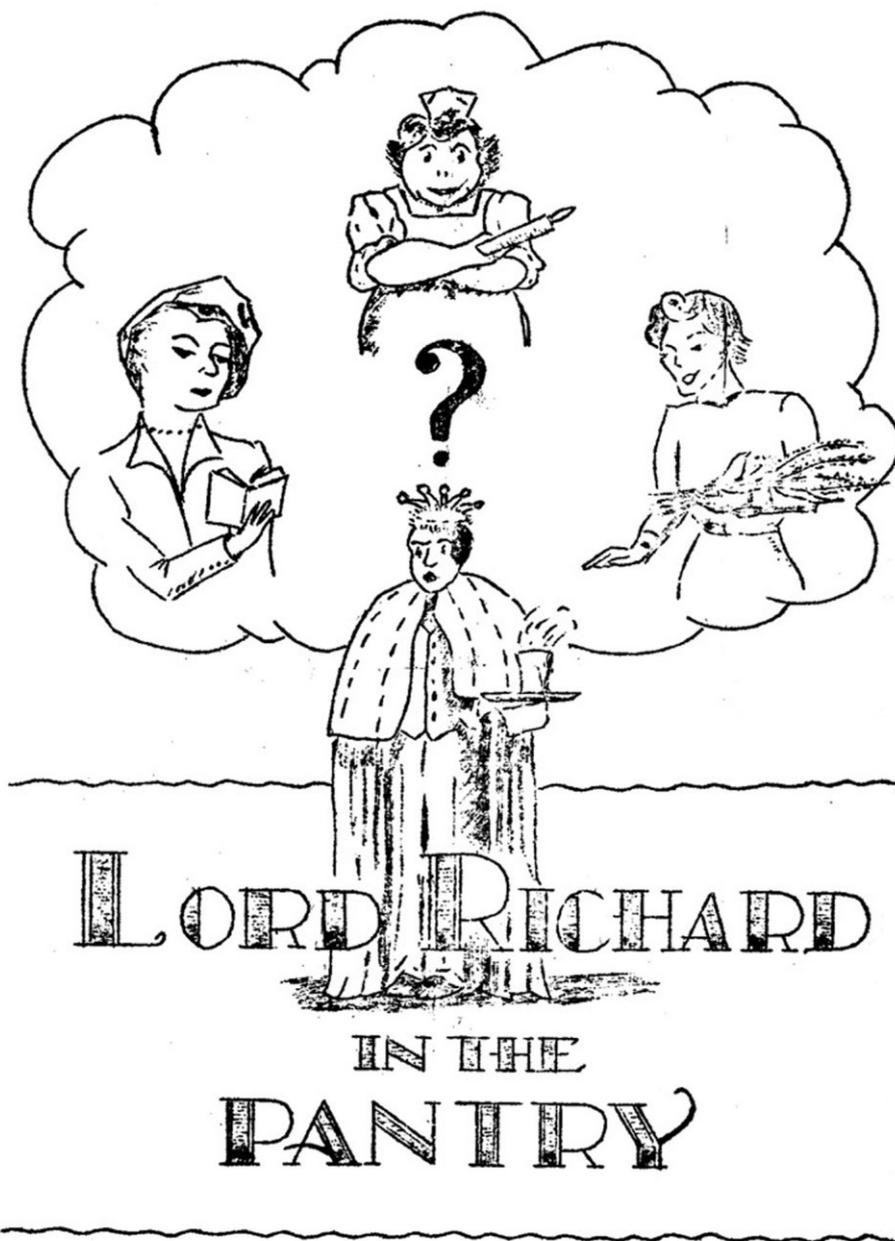
Other parts were well played by Joseph McClorry, Maureen Wood, Raymond Brown, and Beatrice Pitts.

Rev. K. Tagg was the producer and Mr. L. V. Thomas stage-manager.

Tip to a new society—hands in pockets are often better than hands in the air.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950



PRICE 3d.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

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(BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS)

"DORMERS"
WEST WEMBURY.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

THE WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

PRESENTS

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY

(BY PERMISSION OF SAMUEL FRENCH LTD.)

A FARCE IN THREE ACTS BY S. BLOW AND D. HORE.

CHARACTERS

LADY VIOLET ELLIOT	MARGARET GREIG.	
CARTER	SAMUEL RODGERS.	
LORD RICHARD SANDRIDGE	JACK PRIEST.	
SYLVIA GAYFORD	PATRICIA SOMERVILLE.	
ARTHUR THOMPSON	REGINALD ROPER.	
CAPTAIN "TUBBY" BANNISTER	JOSEPH R. McCLORRY.	
EVELYN LOVEJOY	BARBARA SNELL.	
DETECTIVE-INSPECTOR BROWN	DENNIS HORWELL.	
COOK	SERVANTS OF MRS. GAYFORD	BERYL LUGAR. PATRICIA SERJEANT. DORIS HARVEY. MAUREEN WOOD.
BRYAN		
ROSE		
GLADYS		

ACT 1, SCENE 1: THE HALL OF LORD RICHARD'S HOUSE,
LOWNDES SQUARE. (SATURDAY AFTERNOON).
ACT 1, SCENE 2: THE SAME (NEXT MONDAY AFTERNOON).
ACT 2: THE KITCHEN OF THE SAME HOUSE (NEXT DAY).
ACT 3: SAME AS ACT 1 (AN HOUR LATER).

STAGE MANAGER	L. V. THOMAS.
PRODUCER	JACK PRIEST.
ASSISTANT PRODUCER	KATHLEEN WAYNARD.
CHAIRMAN	JOSEPH R. McCLORRY.

27-28 OCTOBER, 1950.

8.0 P.M.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

ST. WERBURGH GUILD OF SERVICE

HAS A GREAT VARIETY OF GOODS FOR SALE
IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS.

+ + + + +

PLEASE CALL AT THE CHURCH ROOM ANY
TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

+ + + + +

THE GUILD WILL UNDERTAKE ANY WORK TO
YOUR PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS.

PANTRY ?

LARDER ?

KITCHEN ?

SCULLERY ?

WHATEVER YOU NEED FOR THEM, YOU WILL
FIND IT AT

WEMBURY STORES

OR

WE WILL GET IT FOR YOU.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

Photograph No.1 from Left to Right

Reginald Roper
Margaret Greig
Beryl Lugar
Patsy Somerville



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

Photograph No.2 from Left to Right

Pat Sergeant
Maureen Woods
Jack Priest
Beryl Lugar
Doris Harvey

(Kenneth Tagg, Vicar)



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

Photograph No.3 from Left to Right

Joe McClorry
Dennis Horwell
Barbara Snell
Jack Priest
Patsy Somerville
Samuel Rodgers



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

Photograph No.4 from Left to Right

Reginald Roper
Margaret Greig
Dennis Horwell
Wyn Maynard (Headmistress, Wembury School)
Patsy Somerville
Jack Priest
Beryl Lugar
Joe McClorry
Viv Thomas (Stage crew)
Barbara Snell
Samuel Rodgers
Maureen Woods (Seated)
Pat Sergeant (Seated)
Doris Harvey (Seated)

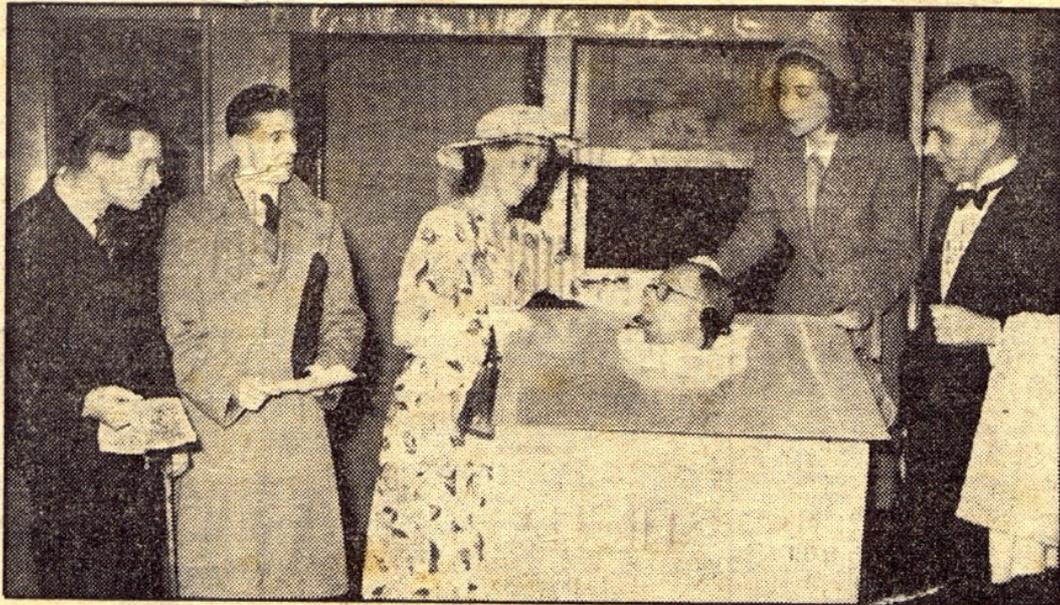


WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY - OCTOBER 1950

SOUTH DEVON TIMES, NOVEMBER 3, 1950

"LORD RICHARD IN THE PANTRY" AT WEMBURY



Left to right: Capt. "Tubby" Bannister (Joseph R. McClorry), Det.-Insp. Brown (Dennis Horwell), Evelyn Lovejoy (Barbara Snell), Lord Richard (Jack Priest), Sylvia Gayford (Pat Somerville), and Carter (Samuel Rodgers).

**STAGE SUCCESS BY
WEMBURY SOCIETY
Farce In A Pantry**

At the Village Hall, Wembury, the Wembury Dramatic Society presented "Lord Richard in the Pantry," a farce by S. Blow and D. Hore.

Jack Priest as Lord Richard Sandridge completely merged himself in the character. He was ably supported by Pat Somerville as the charming Sylvia Gayford. Beryl Lugar gave a brilliant portrayal of the cook. Scenes with Samuel Rodger as Carter, and Joseph R. McClorry as Capt. "Tubby" Bannister, also impressed. Other members of the cast were Margaret Greig, Reginald Roper, Barbara Snell, Dennis Horwell, Patricia Serjent, Doris Harvey, Maureen Wood.

Following their first excellent production last February, Wembury Amateur Dramatic Society again gave a display of their capabilities as amateur actors in another farce, "Lord Richard in the Pantry," on Friday and Saturday evenings last.

The vicar, the Rev. Kenneth Tagg, was the producer.

Mrs. Lugar in the part of Cook put the house in fits of laughter and was ably supported by Pamela Sargeant, Doris Harvey and Maureen Wood in roles of Bryan, Rose and Gladys. Mrs. Margaret Greig made a superb Lady Violet Elliott and Mr. Samuel Rogers' impersonation of Carter the Butler was excellent.

The youngest artist was Miss Barbara Snell, taking the part of Evelyn Lovejoy, and her effort was greatly appreciated.

Patricia Somerville as Lady Gayford, Reginald Roper as Arthur Thompson, Joseph McClorry as Capt. Tubby Bannister and Dennis Horwell as the Detective Inspector all showed perfect control of those parts.

The Vicar, as Lord Richard, gave a marvellous display in this extremely funny and long part carried through without a hitch.

The stage manager was Mr. L. V. Thomas.

At the close of the play the assistant producer, Miss Kathleen Maynard appealed for a few more young male members for the Society.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

QUIET WEEK END - APRIL 1951



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

QUIET WEEK END - APRIL 1951

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KITCHEN
SCULLERY

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AT

WEMBURY STORES

OR

WE WILL GET IT FOR YOU

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

QUIET WEEK END - APRIL 1951

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

PRESENTS

"QUIET WEEK-END"

(BY PERMISSION OF SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.)

A COMEDY IN THREE ACTS BY ESTHER MCCrackEN.

CHARACTERS

SAM PECKER (OCCASIONAL HANDYMAN)	ROY HARVEY.
MARY JARROW	MARGARET GREIG.
MIRANDA BUTE	PATRICIA SOMERVILLE.
SALLY SPENDER (14-YEAR-OLD HOYDEN)	MAUREEN WOOD.
MILDRED ROYD	BERYL LUGAR.
ARTHUR ROYD	JACK PRIEST.
BELLA HITCHINS (ROYDS' MAID FOR YEARS)	DORIS HARVEY.
MARCIA BRENT (ROYDS' MARRIED DAUGHTER)	PATRICIA SMITH.
ADRIAN BARRASFORD	JOSEPH R. McCLORRY.
JIM BRENT (MARCIA'S HUSBAND)	BRIAN GARVEY.
ELLA SPENDER (SALLY'S MOTHER)	WINIFRED MAYNARD.
DENYS ROYD (THE ROYDS' SON)	DENNIS HARWELL.
ROWENA MARRIOTT	BARBARA SNELL.

ACT 1. LIVING-ROOM OF THE ROYDS' COTTAGE IN THROPPLETON. A FRIDAY AFTERNOON IN SEPTEMBER.

ACT 2. SCENE 1. THE SAME, SATURDAY-AFTERNOON.
SCENE 2. ABOUT SIX HOURS LATER.

ACT 3. THE SAME, SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

STAGE MANAGER	L.V. THOMAS.
PRODUCER	JACK PRIEST.
ASSISTANT PRODUCER	WINIFRED MAYNARD.
CHAIRMAN	JOSEPH R. McCLORRY.
ELECTRICIAN	REGINALD ROPER.

6TH - 7TH APRIL, 1951.

8.0 P.M.

WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

QUIET WEEK END - APRIL 1951

Photograph No.1 from Left to Right

Roy Harvey
Patsy Somerville
Barbara Snell
Maureen Woods
Doris Harvey
Dennis Horwell



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

QUIET WEEK END - APRIL 1951

Photograph No.2 from Left to Right

Margaret Greig	
Don't know	(Young man standing)
Don't know	(Young lady seated)
Wyn Maynard	(Headmistress, Wembury School)
Beryl Lugar	
Jack Priest	(Kenneth Tagg, Vicar)
Don't know	(Young man holding salmon)



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

QUIET WEEK END - APRIL 1951

Photograph No.3 from Left to Right

Mervyn Pitts	(Stage crew)
Roy Harvey	
Doris Harvey	
Don't know	
Maureen Woods	
Viv Thomas	(Stage crew)
Wyn Maynard	
Jack Priest	
Beryl Lugar	
Don't know	
Don't know	
Don't know	
Don't now	
Margaret Greig	(Seated)
Barbara Snell	(Seated in front)
Dennis Horwell	(Seated in front)
Patsy Somerville	(Seated in front)



WEMBURY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

QUIET WEEK END - APRIL 1951

SOUTH DEVON TIMES, APRIL 13, 1951

"QUIET WEEK-END" AT WEMBURY



Wembury Amateur Dramatic Society gave an excellent performance of Esther McCracken's three-act comedy "Quiet Week-end" in the Village Hall on Friday night.

Maureen Wood, as 14-years-old Sally Spender, was outstanding, and Winifred Maynard, as Sally's mother, was equally effective. Other parts were taken by Roy Harvey, Margaret Greig, Patricia Somerville, Beryl Lugar, Jack Priest, Doris Harvey, Patricia Smith, Joseph McClorry, Brian Harvey, Dennis Harwell, and Barbara Snell.

Jack Priest, with Winifred Maynard as assistant, produced the play, and L. V. Thomas was stage manager.

'QUIET WEEK-END'
Wembury Dramatic Society
shows competence

Despite the limitations of a 15ft.-wide stage, Wembury Dramatic Society showed all-round competence in its presentation of Esther McCracken's three-act comedy, "Quiet Week-end," at the Village Hall last night.

Maureen Wood was outstanding as a 14-years-old hoyden, Sally Spender. Sally's mother was played by schoolmistress Winifred Maynard.

Others taking part were: Roy Harvey, Margaret Greig, Patricia Somerville, Beryl Lugar, Jack Priest, Doris Harvey, Patricia Smith, Joseph R. McClorry, Brian Garvey, Dennis Harwell, and Barbara Snell. Stage manager was L. V. Thomas, and the play was produced by Jack Priest assisted by Winifred Maynard.

Wembury Memories

The Mothers' Union

ST · WERBURGH
WEMBURY



MOTHERS' UNION



Reaching out in love and service

Mothers' Union is an international Christian membership charity that aims to demonstrate the Christian faith in action through the transformation of communities worldwide.

We are working with people of all faiths and none in 83 countries to promote stable marriage, family life and the protection of children through praying, enabling and campaigning.

Our aims and objectives are:

- To promote and support married life
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
- To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity

Our vision

Our vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. This is not a vague hope, but a goal we actively pursue by praying, campaigning and enabling.

Our values

Mothers' Union is a Christian mission organisation working with people of all faiths and none. Mothers' Union is firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos centred on mutual respect and collaboration. Our governance, leadership and programmes are undertaken and driven by members within their own communities worldwide.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbour as yourself. ¹ Luke 10:27

Our membership

Our members are not all mothers, or even all women. They are single, married, parents, grandparents, or young adults just beginning to express their social conscience. Mothers' Union provides, for all four million members, a network through which they can serve Christ in their own community - through prayer, financial support and actively working at the grassroots level in programmes that meet local needs.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

The St Werburgh Wembury, Branch of the Mothers' Union was founded in 1926. The first meeting was held at the Vicarage (that is the Old Vicarage at Thorn), presided over by Mrs Duxbury, the Vicar's wife, and there were 15 ladies present.

Not much more is known about those early days, presumably it went on from strength to strength until 1939 when it was disbanded for the duration of the War. Partially due to the members being dispersed and partially due the others having more pressing duties to attend to.

In 1945, after the war, when things were beginning to get back to normal, the Mother's Union was re-established, monthly meetings were held in the Parish Room, and there was quite a thriving membership. Many of us children at Wembury School remember having to wait outside of the Parish Room on the particular Wednesday for our mothers to come out.

In 1950 a very beautiful banner was bought, and a special Service of Dedication was held at the church when the banner was dedicated by the Bishop of Plymouth, The Right Reverend F W Daukes.

The Rural Dean's Report of 19th March 1950 states that: "A fine banner (MU) costing £54 has been placed in the church." £54 in those days was a considerable sum of money especially as there were still shortages of basic materials, and many things were still on ration.



At the dedication of the banner in 1950 from left to right: The Bishop's Chaplain; The Bishop of Plymouth Rt Revd F W Daukes, Banner Escort, Mrs Nina Densum; Banner Bearer, Mrs Ethel M Burrows (hidden); Banner Escort, Mrs Rosemary Bannaford; The Vicar, The Revd Kenneth Tagg.

Mothers' Union. Our Banner Dedication Service was a joy and inspiration for us all and a most memorable day for the Wembury Branch. We are especially grateful to the Bishop of Plymouth, who practically came from a sick bed to take the service. His practical and helpful address has been fully reported in the local press—we shall long remember it. Thanks too to the Rural Dean and other Clergy who attended and to our own Churchwardens.

Both the service and the tea afterwards went without a hitch, largely owing to the splendid team work of our members and the helpful and practical co-operation of our Vicar. Our guests were delightful and appreciative and it was most heartening to see so many. We are still wondering how we managed to get about 240 into our Church and later into the Village Hall for tea.

Our grateful thanks to all who co-operated so splendidly and especially to our indefatigable secretary, Mrs. Bannaford. The offertory which was £5/10/0 has been divided thus:

£2/0/0 D.M.U. Overseas work.

£2/0/0 D.M.U. Deanery Funds and

£1/18/0 to Wembury Branch.

Reports of the Dedication of the Mothers' Union Banner appeared in the Western Morning News (right) and the Deanery Parish Magazine for May 1950 which, back then, covered the five parishes of the Deanery, which were: Yealmpton, Brixton, Holbeton, Revelstoke and Wembury.

INFLUENCE OF MOTHERS CAN BE DEVELOPED

BISHOP DEDICATES A WEMBURY BANNER

REPRESENTATIVES of 12 other branches attended the Wembury Mothers' Union banner dedication service at Wembury Church yesterday.

The ceremony was performed by the Bishop of Plymouth (Rt. Rev. F. Whitfield Daukes), who said he set a high value on the work of the Mothers' Union movement and its influence in the Church.

Although the quotation, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world" might be regarded as out of date now, the gist of it was still true.

The influence of the mothers of the country might be something beyond imagination if they only used and developed it as God intended.

The Bishop added that he had dedicated about 20 banners for Mothers' Union branches in the past few years.

Rev. E. J. Burt, Rural Dean, acted as Bishop's chaplain, and prayers were led by the Vicar (Rev. K. Tagg). Other clergy present were: Revs. T. H. Rider, Shaugh Prior; G. R. Channer, Revelstoke; and H. J. Blandford, Elburton.

Mothers' Unions represented were Yealmpton, Tamerton Foliot, Sparkwell, Shaugh Prior, Noss Mayo, Ivybridge, Hooe, Holbeton, Elburton, Cornwood, Brixton, and Revelstoke.

The bearer of the Wembury banner was Mrs. E. M. Burrows, accompanied by Mrs. R. Bannaford and Mrs. D. Densum.

WEMBURY CHURCH - MOTHERS' UNION BANNER

This photograph was taken in May 2004.

The Mothers' Union Banner dates from 1950. It cost £54 which was an enormous sum of money in those days. I remember when it was new and there were great discussions on how it should be protected from the ravages of damp and decay in the Church. It originally had a clear plastic cover which was kept on at all times except for when it was being carried in procession. Thankfully the cover, which did it no favours whatever, was eventually discarded, and I don't think that the banner has suffered too much in the ensuing fifty or so years as a result!



MOTHER'S UNION OUTING – 1960s

I think that this photograph must date from the mid 1960s.

A Mother's Union Outing to - I know not where!

Many faces are familiar but I cannot put names to all of them. In front kneeling there is, Mrs Violet Bowen on the extreme left, then, Mrs Nina Densum, Mrs Mary Jones, Mrs Clyst and Miss Eileen Drake with 'Tam'. In the rest of the gathering I can make out Mrs Battersby, Mrs Lena Baskerville, Mr Ernie Wills, Mrs Newbury, Mrs Eliza Wills, Revd Kenneth Gray (the vicar), Miss Lizzie Drake, Mr John Atkins and , Mrs Connie Atkins. I think that the photograph was taken by Mrs Marjorie Gray.



MOTHER'S UNION OUTING - LATE 1960S

This outing of the Mothers' Union took place in the late 1960s and was to the Retreat at Posbury, St Francis near Crediton.

In the photograph are:

Front row from left to right:

Mrs Marjorie Gray (Vicar's wife), Mrs Connie Atkins, Miss Eileen Drake, Mrs Beaty Spencer, Mrs Clyst, Mrs Sally Butler, Mrs Gwenda O'Connor, Mrs Doreen Beavil, and Mrs Nina Carder.

Back row from left to right:

Mrs Banbury, Mrs Dot Cleaver, Miss Wyn Maynard, Mrs Flo Sharron, Mrs Smallridge's sister, Miss Chapman, Mrs F O'Connor, Mrs Maxted's sister, Mrs Maxted, Mrs Giles, Mrs Beavil's aunt, Mrs Dawe, a lady from Heybrook Bay - Partially hidden, Mrs Smallridge, Mrs Violet Bowen, Mrs Mary Jones, Mrs Burrows, directly behind Mrs Burrows - not known, Mrs Eliza Wills, Miss Bewley, Mrs Battersby, Mrs Rocket, Mrs Newberry, Mrs Edna Bojanitz, Mrs Eileen Johnson, Mrs Lee, Mrs Smith.



MOTHER'S UNION OUTING - 1972

This little group photograph was taken on a Mothers' Union outing in 1972. The destination is not known.

From left to right there is Mr Hayden Jones (Mary must have been behind the camera), then Miss Eileen Drake, Mrs Gwenda O'Connor, Mrs Nancy Soppett, Mrs Violet Bowen, Mrs Newberry and lastly Mrs Ralph.



MOTHERS' UNION – C1974

This photograph of the Mothers' Union taken in the Village Hall is believed to date from 1974. We know that Mrs Eva Rockett in the front row died in July 1975.



From Left to Right:

Back Row: Doreen Beavil, Barbara Rossitter, Eileen Arnold, Bessie Giles, Lilian Dawe, Rosemary Bannaford, Connie Atkins, Hilda Spencer, Doris Newbury, Marjorie Gray.

Front Row: Kath Pursley, Nina Carder, Mary Jones, Eva Rockett, Harriet Maxted, Maggie Bass, Doris Turley, Violet Bowen.

WEMBURY CHURCH - MOTHERS' UNION NEW BANNER

This photograph was taken in October 2004.

A new banner was needed as the old one was no longer able to withstand the rigours of being rolled and unrolled to be taken to the various Mothers' Union events.

This new banner, although much more resilient, is regrettably nothing like its predecessor either in quality or beauty.

I suppose it is trying to interpret the Mothers' Union's modern concept as being a family and world embracing organisation, which is all very praiseworthy, but regrettably the workmanship of it the rather lets it down.

The Christchild's arms are of different sizes, as are those of his Holy Mother. Her left one is not too bad proportionally, but the right one is like a withered stump. The arms and legs on the child give the impression that they are flailing, a rather restless child, not like the child being held contentedly in his mothers arms, as depicted on the old banner. The details on the faces are not at all well defined, neither are there any definition of the folds in the robes of the virgin. In fact she looks rather like an Egyptian mummy. The use of gold kid gives the whole thing a 'tacky' look, and the multi coloured patches on the cloak do nothing for it at all.

I am sorry if the above comments have caused offence in some quarters but anybody making anything that is to go into the public domain must be prepared to take criticism as well as praise.



THE MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER

Loving Lord

We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.

We pray for the families around the world.

Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as
we seek to share your love through the
encouragement, strengthening, and
support of marriage and family life.

Empowered by your Spirit, may we be
united in prayer and worship,

And in love and service, reach out as your hands
across the world

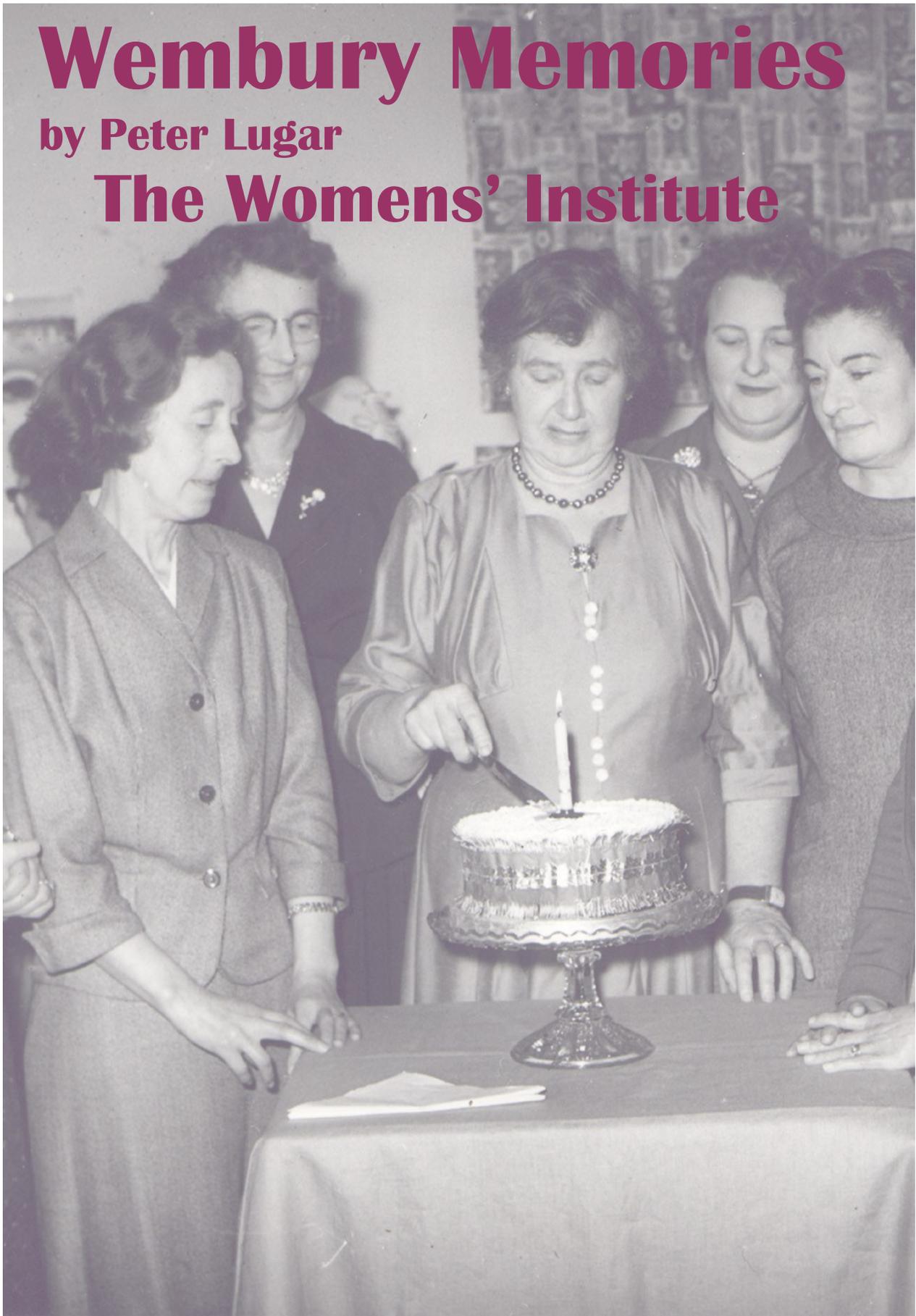
In Jesu's Name Amen

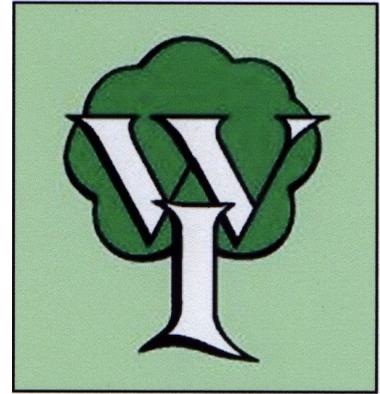


Wembury Memories

by Peter Lugar

The Womens' Institute



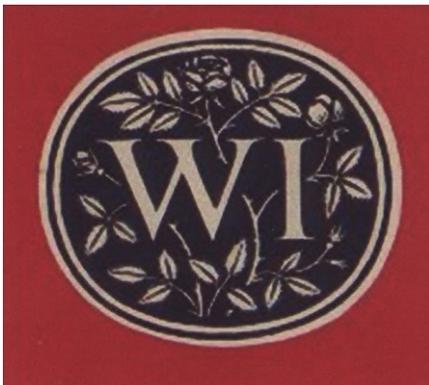


JERUSALEM

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's montains green?
And was the Holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring my my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In Engalnd's green and pleasant land.

William Blake, 1757 – 1827



WEMBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - FIRST BIRTHDAY 1958

The photograph below taken in April 1958 shows the President cutting the first birthday cake surrounded by members of the Committee.

From Left to Right

Mrs Marjorie Rowlands
Mrs Nellie Thomas
Mrs Hilda Ball
Mrs Cora Jenkins
Mrs Beryl Lugar
Mrs Nancy Soppett
Mrs Marion Paltridge
Mrs Christine Rose

Honorary Treasurer
Assistant Honorary Treasurer
President
Assistant Honorary Secretary
Honorary Secretary



WEMBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - FIRST BIRTHDAY 1958

This photograph taken in April 1958 shows the members and some of their guests at the first birthday party of the institute in the Village Hall.

Back Row from the left:

1. (white hat)
2. Mr Peter Lugar
3. Mrs Nina Densum
4. Mrs Anne Hayes
5. Mrs Beryl Boyce
6. Mrs Mary Price
7.
8. Mrs Elsie Phillips
9.
10.
11.
12. Mrs Doreen Beavil
13.
14.

Middle Row:

1. Mrs Vello Holland
2. Mrs Ivy Rodgers
3. Mr Will Johnson
4. Mr Ernie Wills
5.
6.
7. Mrs Eliza Wills
8.
9. Mrs..... Nicholls
10. Mrs Eileen Johnson
11. Mrs Lena Baskerville
12.
13.
14. Mrs Harriet Maxted (Formerly Mrs Loads)
15. Mr Gerald Maxted

Front Row - President and Committee - From left to right:

Mrs Nellie Thomas, Mrs Hilda Ball, Mrs Marion Paltridge, Mrs Cora Jenkins (President), Mrs Marjorie Rowland, Mrs Beryl Lugar, Mrs Christine Rose, Mrs Nancy Soppett



WEMBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - TWENTY FIFTH BIRTHDAY - 1982

This photograph taken 21 April 1982 shows the President, Mrs Terry Hart, assisted by the Honorary Secretary, Mrs Gweneth Futer cutting the twenty fifth birthday cake.



WEMBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - OUTING TO COTHELE 1960

This photograph was taken in 1960 at the Wembury Womens' Institute outing to Cothele House in Cornwall.

Shown in the photograph, from left to right are, Mrs Shackleford who lived in Beach View Crescent, Mrs Dawe who lived next door to her at "Windy Ridge", Mrs Maxted (previously Mrs Loads) who lived at "East Anglia" in Church Road, and Mrs Willcox who lived at "Greenbank" at the top of Church Road.



WOMENS' INSTITUTE – PLYMOUTH CONFERENCE 1960s

This photograph was taken at The Devon Federation of Womens' Institutes Conference at Plymouth Guildhall in the early 1960s.

Easily recognisable in the photograph is my mother, Mrs Beryl Lugar on the extreme left of the front row, and next to her Mrs Marjorie Rowland.



WOMENS' INSTITUTE OPEN DAY – 30TH OCTOBER 1976



		Phil Sadden		Gwyneth Futer		Kay Barton		
Mabs Lawrence	Doris Newbury	Popsie Jenkins	Joan Davey	Mary Jones	Jean Lawson	Dorothy Anson	Terry Hart	Win Stockwell
Kath Grimwood	Ruth Everitt	Sheila Wiliams	Margaret Green	Maureen Kelt	Stella Mills			
			Peter Kelt					

WOMENS' INSTITUTE

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEVON FEDERATION

The photograph below, taken on the 23rd July 1996, shows the handover of the banner made especially for the 75th anniversary, being passed from the Wembury to the Elburton Branch, on its travels through the County.



WOMENS' INSTITUTE 2000

Womens' Institute Photograph taken at the September meeting in 2000



Wembury Memories

by Peter Lugar

Coronation Day



THE LUGAR CHILDREN - CORONATION DAY - 2ND JUNE 1953

Left to Right: Nichola Lugar, Angela Lugar, Peter Lugar, Tiny Lugar

Tiny's face is covered in sticking plaster covering stitches, as the previous day he had collided with Jessie Thornton's gatepost whilst riding on the handlebars of Edward Milden's bike.

All the children in the village dressed in red, white, and blue for the fancy dress parade.

A special Coronation Day tea was held in the Village Hall (behind) and there was plenty of fun and games to be had on the field throughout the day.

The field, which is now the school playing field, belonged to Ed Smith, and the hall, which one didn't realise at the time, was quite so dilapidated, is now reduced in size and renovated, and is the Olive Tree Chapel.



THE WEMBURY CORONATION PHOTOGRAPHS

In 1953 the Wembury Coronation Committee ensured that every child in the village up to school leaving age was photographed.

These were professionally done by the Plymouth photographers Pascoe and Munday, who actually came and did them on the day. Each child was presented with a copy of his/her photograph. Mr Munday lived at Heybrook Bay, Mr Pascoe, a few years, later came to live in Church Road.

Regrettably, out of the photographs of the five Lugar children, they have all been lost except for this one of Nichola, the youngest, who was eighteen months old at the time.

It would be interesting to know, if there are in existence, any other of photographs of other children who were there on the day.

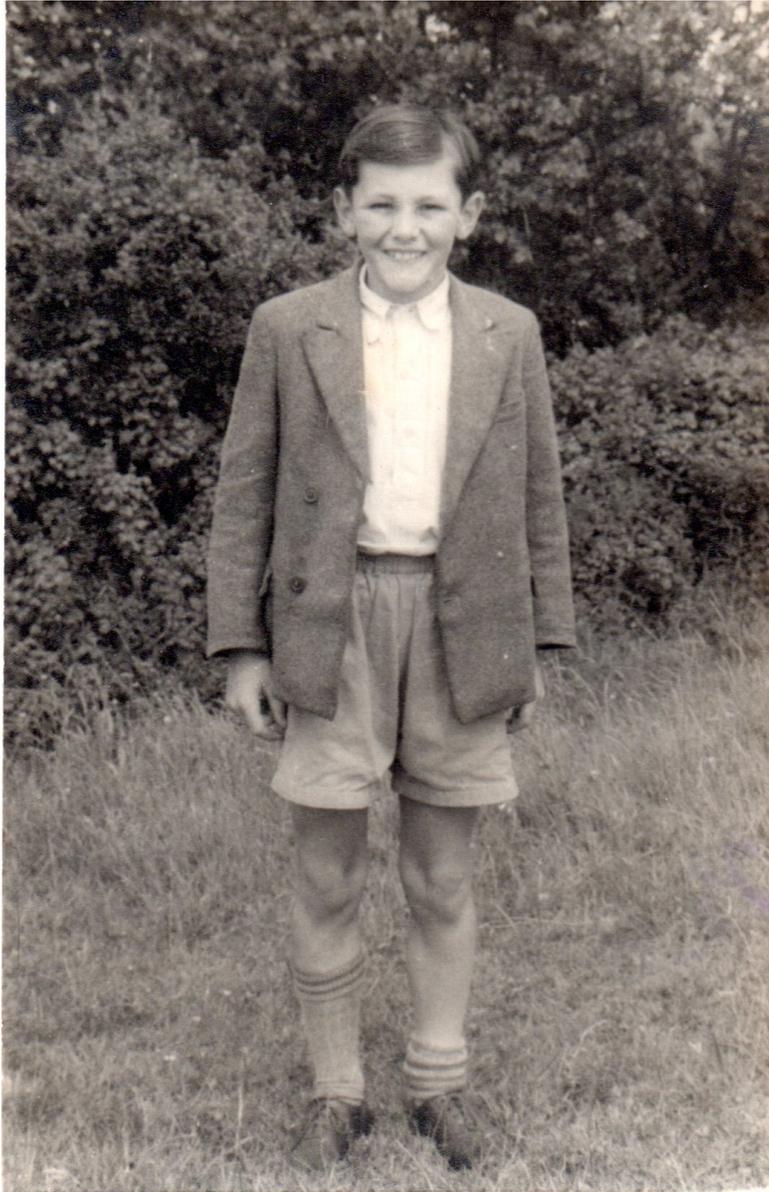
NICHOLA LUGAR – CORONATION DAY PHOTOGRAPH



DAVID HAIMES – CORONATION DAY PHOTOGRAPH

Another Coronation Day photograph which has just come to light (2015) is of David Haimes. David was my best friend, he was about 3 months younger than me and until the new council houses were built in 1951, lived round the corner from me in Aberdulais on Traine Road. Aberdulais, was, back then, 2 cottages, they had electricity but no other main services, save for a water tap in the other cottage. The privy was in the back garden, and water, for all purposes, had to be got by bucket from next door. There was one room downstairs where the cooking had to be done on an old black leaded range. Mind you, David's mother used to turn out some wonderful things! The stairs rose up directly into the only bedroom. In 1948, David's younger brother, Peter, was born, and so by the time the new council houses were built they were more than qualified to be allocated one!

He was very much berated by his mother (Pat), for not pulling up his stockings for the photograph!



PAMELA SOPPET - CORONATION PHOTOGRAPH – 1953

In 1953 the Coronation Committee decided that on Coronation Day, 2nd June 1953, every child in the village would be individually photographed. Regrettably many of these have now been lost. This one is of Pamela Soppet aged 3½ and an only child, who lived in Browns Hill Lane in a house called “Sunningdale” with her parents Cyril and Nancy. The house now goes under the name of “Redcroft”

The only other ones I have been able to locate is of my sister Nichola Lugar aged 18 months and my best friend David Haines aged 10.



Pamela’s father, Cyril, was a meteorologist and worked at RAF Mountbatten in a civilian capacity. Later he bought Leyford Farm in Staddiscombe and they went there to live. Pamela eventually went into the medical profession, met her husband Tony, and got married in Wembury Church. Many years later, in 2009, they bought the Old Smithy in Knighton, had it beautifully restored and adapted for modern day living, and now (2011) live there in retirement.

THE WEMBURY CORONATION DAY EVENTS

In 1953 the Wembury Coronation Committee ensured that every child in the village up to school leaving age received a Souvenir Coronation Mug. Each mug had been stamped on the underside at the potteries, before firing, with a special commemorative stamp. These were given out on Coronation Day (2nd June 1953) at the Village Hall.

There was a whole day of fun and games on the field behind the hall (which is now the school playing field). There were all the usual village games like sack races, three legged races, egg and spoon races, skittles, lucky dip, skittles to win a piglet, and much to the delight of the children - ice cream (a rare treat back then). I won one of the thee legged races with Roland Frod as my partner.

There was a fancy dress parade for the children, most dressed in red, white and blue. One boy (David Spreat) dressed himself completely in seaweed from the beach, and came as King Neptune. He won a prize and deservedly so, as it wasn't the nicest of days for the beginning of June, and he was freezing after having to spend a considerable time clad only in wet seaweed and a pair of swimming trunks!

The children of Wembury School sang "Elizabeth of England". There was a tea for the whole village in the hall, the centrepiece of which was a huge coronation Cake which stepped up in three tiers terminating in a crown made of marzipan. After the cake had been distributed, the crown was raffled.

A doll, which was in a 'Coronation' gown, had been dressed and presented by Mrs Stanley of Thorn House, and for sixpence (2½ p) a go, people had to try and guess its name in order to win it. I don't know what the contingency plan was if two people guessed the name correctly! As it turned out the name of the doll was "Eunice" and nobody guessed correctly. The doll was auctioned, and the bids went up in sixpences, and my mother successfully out bid all others and got the doll for £1.

In the evening there was a 'Gala' dance in the village hall,

A further treat for all the children was that the Coronation Committee paid for all of them to be taken to the Odeon Cinema in Plymouth to see the film of the Coronation when it came out. This was some time after the Coronation, and the supporting feature was the Queen's Coronation tour of the Empire.

At Plymstock School, the Headmaster, Dr Stephens, was not too happy with the older children being taken to the cinema when they should have been at their studies. He eventually relented in that they would see history in the making, and also benefit from the geographical aspects of the Empire Tour.



THE WEMBURY CORONATION MUGS
SPECIAL STAMP

The photograph below is an enlargement of the special stamp that was on the underside of the Coronation Mugs distributed to the children of Wembury.

This was done through the good offices of Mrs Ivy Rodgers of 'Seacrofters' at the bottom of Cliff Road. She came originally from Staffordshire, and her father was, at that time, a foreman in one of the potteries, and it was through this connection that the mugs were purchased and specially stamped.



THE CORONATION – A PERSONAL VIEW

In 1953 our local Member of Parliament for the Tavistock Constituency, of which Wembury was a part, was Mr Henry Studholme of Wembury House.

In addition to his parliamentary duties, Mr Studholme was also Vice Chamberlain to the Royal Household, and as such had a prominent seat in Westminster Abbey at the Coronation. Here follows an extract from a letter to the staff at Wembury House on 3rd June 1953, the day after the Coronation. (The Studholmes had a flat in Knightsbridge just around the corner from Harrods).

----- It was a great privilege to take part in the ceremony in the Abbey yesterday. The beauty of the service and the dignity and majesty of the scene, with the colours of robes and uniforms and the sparkle of diamonds and decorations; but above all the superb bearing of the Queen herself throughout were things that one can never forget

The weather was horrible and that was most unfortunate for all the people outside who were not under cover. But it did not seem to damp their spirits or enthusiasm.

Mrs Studholme looked her best and I felt proud of her. We both had excellent seats in the Abbey and saw the whole ceremony, crowning, acknowledgement, anointing, etc., and the homage. We were on the opposite side to the Royal Family and so we saw them all perfectly. Little Prince Charles behaved very well and was frightfully interested in everything.

I hope the television was a success, it seems to have been a tremendous success in London.

Best Wishes to you all

HS

The television referred to was the one that Mr Studholme had temporarily installed in Wembury House so that the staff were able to see the Coronation as it was taking place. In those days there were only about three television sets in the whole of Wembury, and the quality of the reception was rather hit and miss as there was no transmitter at North Hessary Tor, and Caradon Hill was far into the future!

In the Coronation Honours List Mr Studholme became a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO), which is in the personal gift of the Sovereign, and in 1956 was promoted to Knight Commander, thus then becoming Sir Henry Studholme.

Wembury Memories

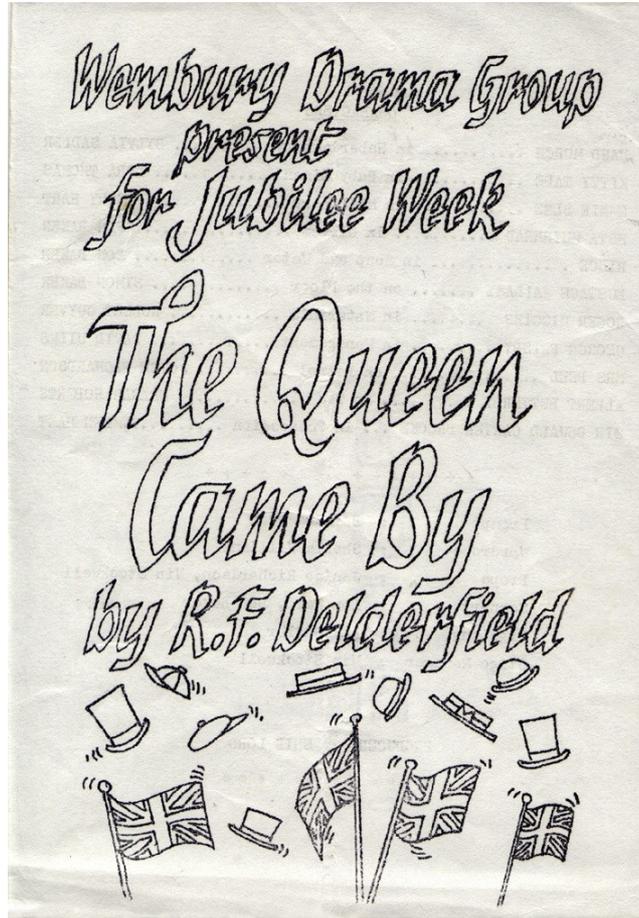
by Peter Lugar



**Silver Jubilee of
HM The Queen 1977**

JUBILEE WEEK PLAY

The Wembury Ladies' Drama Group put on the play by R F Delderfield, "The Queen Came By", on the evenings of Monday 6th June and Tuesday 7th June in the Village Hall.



CHARACTERS

MAUD MURCH in Haberdashery SYLVIA SADLER
KITTY TAPE in Baby Linen DORA THOMAS
EMMIE SLEE in Millinery TERRY HART
ESTA MUIRHEAD in Gloves PAM BAKER
RIDGE in Soap and Water DON BAKER
EUSTACE WALLASY on the Floor SIMON BAKER
ROGER HIGGINS in Materials ROBERT GUYVER
GEORGE FRISBY in Management DAVID WILKS
MRS PEEL on Patrol JOYCE RICHARDSON
ALBERT BETTEREY in Tea GRAHAM ROBERTS
SIR OSWALD CARTER BROOKE ... in Possession LEN HART

+ + + + +

Prompt : Barbara Lear
Wardrobe : Sheila Williams
Props : Janice Richardson, Win Stockwell
Scenery : Len Hart, Don Baker
Lighting : Roy Sadler
Stage Manager : Win Stockwell

PRODUCER : ENID LORD

THE ACTION TAKES PLACE ABOUT THE TIME OF QUEEN
VICTORIA'S DIAMOND JUBILEE IN 1897

ACT ONE

The Millinery trimming-cum-workroom at Carter Brooke's Drapery Emporium in the Brixton Road, 1897.

INTERVAL

ACT TWO

Scene I
The dormitory of the female staff on the top storey - about 10 pm.

Scene II
The same. Sunday afternoon, about a fortnight later.

INTERVAL

ACT THREE

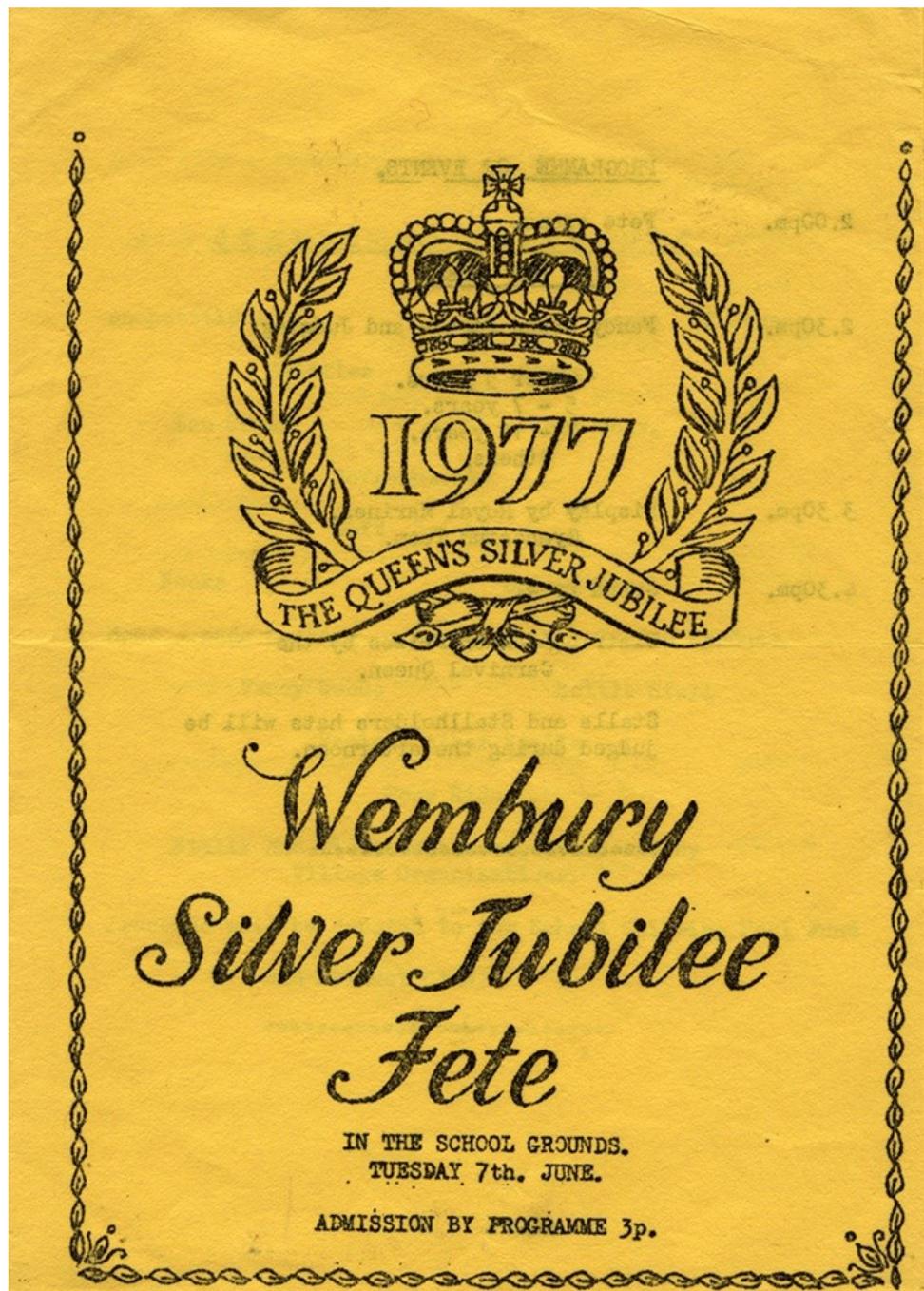
Scene I
The same as Act One. About a month later. Jubilee Week.

Scene II
The same. About an hour later.

SILVER JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN 1977

The Silver Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen was celebrated in 1977 with a whole week of events in the parish in June from Saturday 4th to Saturday 11th. Finishing with a grand procession of carnival floats around the village and a Fete on the playing field at Barton Close. In the evening there was a disco in the Village Hall run by the PTA, and at HMS Cambridge The Silver Jubilee Carnival Supper Dance was held by kind permission of the Commanding Officer. All of the village organisations entered floats in the parade plus some private individuals as well. There were both mobile and walking floats. The Royal Marine Cadet Corps provided the marching band, and the Jubilee Carnival Queen, Miss Mandy Carder was borne in procession in a horse drawn buggy. The photographs give a very small glimpse into what was a most enjoyable day to end a very eventful week, with much hard work put in by a lot of people to make it a success.

Fete Programme Cover:



The Carnival Queen (Miss Mandy Carder) in her carriage with attendant



The Marching Band from the Royal Marines Cadet Corps



The Wembury Guides' Float



The Wembury Scouts' and
Cubs' Float

Wembury School Float



Wembury School Float



St Werburgh's Young Wives Group Float



Wembury WI Float
Depicting the achievements
of Women from 1952 to
1977

Wembury Tennis Club Float



Miss Barbara and Miss Pat Snell's
Float Advertising
their Flower Arranging and
Cake Making Business

WATERGATE COTTAGES - JUBILEE DECORATIONS

Our two cottages at Watergate, No.s 2 & 3, were decorated for the Silver Jubilee.

The words:

The Queen
God Bless Her

were emblazoned in brass lettering on all of the rum tubs in the Royal Navy, back in the days when sailors had their daily ration of rum "the tot".

The tot was abolished in the Royal Navy on 31st July 1970.

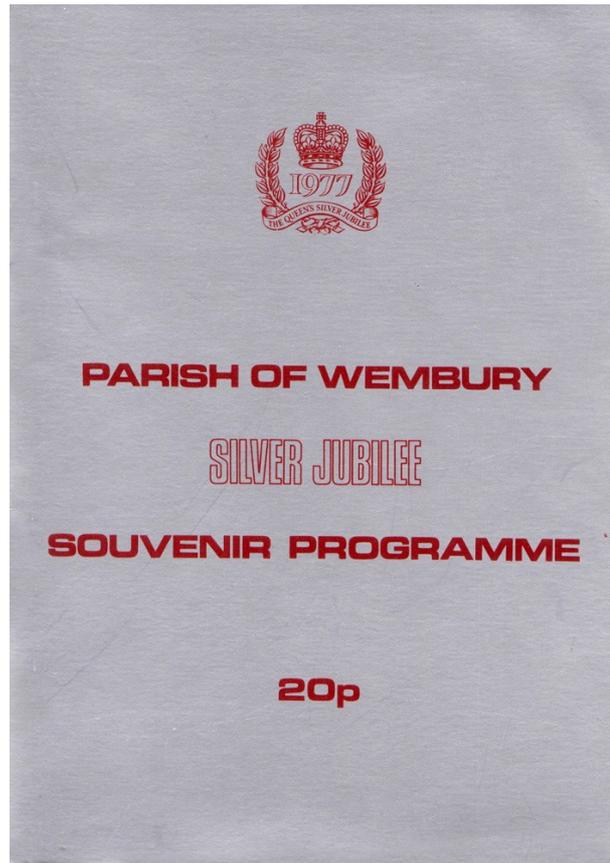


LUGAR FAMILY GROUP AT THE SILVER JUBILEE FETE

This small family group is of my parents Henry and Beryl Lugar on the left, my brother Thomas and Sister Angela (Jewell) and two of her children, Gary and Sandra (in the push chair).



SILVER JUBILEE SOUVENIR PROGRAMME



SATURDAY, 4th JUNE

Down Thomas Ward Jubilee Celebrations
at Down Thomas Jubilee Hall Field

PROGRAMME

- 2.00 p.m. FANCY DRESS Parade leaves Heybrook Bay
2.15 p.m. CELEBRATIONS OPEN
2.30 p.m. JUDGING OF FANCY DRESS
3.00 p.m. CHILDREN'S SPORTS
(including Sack races, Obstacle races, Three Legged races etc. —
all children attending may compete).
4.00 p.m. CHILDREN'S COUNTRY DANCING
5.30 p.m. AFTERNOON CELEBRATIONS END

During the afternoon there will be sideshows, snack stalls, pony rides and other attractions. H.M.S. Cambridge and Renney Camp will take part in the events and put on displays in the afternoon.

- 8.00 p.m. EVENING CELEBRATIONS COMMENCE
During the evening there will be a barbeque, bonfire, singing and dancing.

*Entrance to both afternoon and evening free of charge.
Organised by Residents of Down Thomas and Heybrook Bay.*

Knighthood Ward

- 3.00 p.m. BELL RINGING FESTIVAL AT ST. WERBURGH'S CHURCH

On Saturday 4th June, teams of bellringers from Churches throughout the Plympton Deanery will be converging on Wembury to compete in the Annual Deanery Ringing Festival. This is a six bell competition which began in 1938, with each Church in the Deanery acting in turn as host.

Prior to 1948, Wembury could not be used as a venue, because it only had five bells! but in that year, as a memorial to parishioners who fell in the 1939-45 War, a sixth bell was hung.

In 1954 Wembury staged the competition for the first of the four occasions when it has been held here. It seems to be a very fitting start to the Silver Jubilee Celebrations in Wembury, for the Festival to be held here again this year.

- Wembury Village Hall.
8.00 p.m. JUBILEE DISCO. Rock Revival.
to Dancing to Night Flight.
Midnight Tickets from P.T.A. price 50p.

SUNDAY, 5th JUNE

- 3.00 p.m. Silver Jubilee Civic Service at St. Werburgh's Church.
Preacher: Reverend A.J.F. Metters, Vicar of Crownhill.

MONDAY, 6th JUNE

- SPONSORED BEATING OF THE BOUNDS**
Starting at St. Werburgh's Church 9.30 a.m.—10.30 a.m.
Proceeds in aid of Silver Jubilee Appeal Fund
Forms available — Phone 862945
Marshalling by Wembury Amenity Society

BEATING THE BOUNDS

W. E. Tate, in his book "The Parish Chest", comments that the traditional manner of securing the maintenance of the ancient bounds of the Parish was the Rogationtide perambulations or beating of the bounds. At Turnworth, Dorset, according to the parish register in 1747

"On Ascension Day, after morning prayer at Turnworth Church, was made a publick perambulation of ye bounds of ye parish ---- beginning at Church Hatch and cutting a great T on the most principal parts of the bounds. Whipping ye boys by way of remembrance, and stopping their cry with some half-pence -- which perambulation and Processioning had not been made for five years last past."

Perambulation is still quite lawful and parish officers have the right to enter private property in carrying it out. Expenses properly incurred (including the cost of refreshments) may be paid from the rates but perambulations may only be once in three years and the rates will not pay for music, banners, and "other unnecessary adjuncts".

There appears to be no reference to "perambulating" in the old records of Wembury Parish — possibly because the Wembury Parish Boundary stayed the same for several hundred years and presumably there was no dispute about it. After the local government act of 1888 the Ecclesiastical and Civil boundary of the Parish were identical until Plymstock was included within the City of Plymouth in 1967 and this caused an alteration to the North-Western corner of the Civil Parish boundary. In May 1967 it is recorded in the Parish Council minutes that "on the proposal of Cllr. Rowland it was resolved to beat the bounds of the Parish". Arrangements were made and this "perambulation" duly took place round the Civil boundary.

The route of the sponsored walk does not follow the civil boundary exactly but uses the public footpaths nearest to it bearing in mind it would be impractical to walk along the upper part of the River Yealm.

- Wembury Playing Field
6.30 p.m. TENNIS TOURNAMENT FINALS
Wembury War Memorial Village Hall
8.00 p.m. WEMBURY LADIES' DRAMA GROUP
3 Act Play — "THE QUEEN CAME BY" by R.F. Delderfield.
Entrance by ticket 50p. Tickets — Phone 862605
Proceeds in aid of School Swimming Pool Fund.

FRIDAY, 10th JUNE

- Wembury Village Hall
2.30 p.m. **CHILDREN'S FILM SHOW**
5 to 11 year olds. Refreshments
Organised by Mr. & Mrs. J. Richardson
Wembury Village Hall
8.30 p.m. **BARN DANCE.** Dancing to Macs Maggots.
Tickets 75p. including refreshments. Phone 862441

SATURDAY, 11th JUNE

- WEMBURY SILVER JUBILEE CARNIVAL PROCESSION**
1.00 p.m. Procession assembles Barton Close.
1.30 p.m. Judging
2.00 p.m. Move off. Via Mewstone Avenue - Sea View Drive - Southland
Park Road - Church Road.
Return Via Church Road, Post Office and Mewstone Avenue to
Recreation Ground.
Enter via Car Park and through gates on right hand side.
3.00 p.m. Procession forms around edge of field.
app. Display by Majorettes and Marching Bands.
3.30 p.m. app. Prizegiving.
4.15 p.m. app. Wembury Village Hall
7.45 p.m. P.T.A. DISCO
Teenage Disco. Limited numbers. (First come, First in). End 11 p.m.
No pass out after 9.45 p.m. 25p pay at door.
S.O.S. Disco and Lights. Pop and Crisps.
At H.M.S. Cambridge by kind permission of the Commanding
Officer
8.00 p.m. **WEMBURY SILVER JUBILEE CARNIVAL SUPPER DANCE**

TUESDAY, 7th JUNE

- Wembury School Playing Field
2.00 p.m. **GRAND JUBILEE FETE**
To be opened by Jubilee Carnival Queen Mandy Carder
Attendants: Christina Roberts, Avril Blogg
2.30 p.m. **CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS**
3.30 p.m. **ROYAL MARINE GYMNAST TEAM**
4.30 p.m. **GRAND DRAW**
Stalls. Refreshments.
Wembury War Memorial Village Hall
8.00 p.m. **WEMBURY LADIES' DRAMA GROUP**
3 Act Play - "THE QUEEN CAME BY"
Tickets available as for Monday.

WEDNESDAY, 8th JUNE

- WEMBURY SAILING CLUB**
2.00 p.m. Trips to the Mewstone leaving from Wembury Beach.
Weather permitting.
Wembury Village Hall
3.00 p.m. **UNDER 5's PARTY** Organised by Wembury Liberals
End 5.30 p.m. approximately
Wembury Beach
6.30 p.m. **WEMBURY YOUNG WIVES BARBEQUE**
Tickets 25p each available from any Young Wives
Committee member or on the beach. Phone 862525
WEMBURY SAILING CLUB
7.00 p.m. Sponsored Dinghy Sailing Race.

THURSDAY, 9th JUNE

- Wembury Playing Field
5 a side **FOOTBALL COMPETITION**
6.00 p.m. Under 11's
6.45 p.m. Under 13's
7.30 p.m. Men "In Drag"
Prizes will be awarded to winning Teams.
6.30 p.m. Wembury Tennis Club - **TENNIS TOURNAMENT FINALS**
Wembury Village Hall
7.00 p.m. **DEMONSTRATION OF CHILDREN'S DANCING**
Arranged by Mrs. P. Coath. Admission 30p. Adult. 15p. Children.
Proceeds to School Swimming Pool Fund. Finish 9 p.m.
7.00 p.m. Mewbury Club - **FIREWORK DISPLAY** Admission 25p.
Church Room, Ford Road - **WHIST DRIVE**
7.30 p.m. Arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Atkins and Cancer Research Committee.
Tickets from 862200. Proceeds in aid of Silver Jubilee Appeal Fund.

JUBILEE BONFIRES - Midnight 6th June

The Committee has been unable to organise a Parish Bonfire but for those interested a national chain of Bonfires is being organised by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the nearest being on Western Beacon (behind Bittaford). It should be clearly visible from Hollacombe and Staddiscombe just before midnight. Also a ring of 5 bonfires will be lit around Plymouth Sound after a torch light procession around the Hoe and again should be clearly visible from Jennycliff between about 11.00 p.m. and midnight.

BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION

During the Jubilee Week and the week before, inspections will be made to find the three best kept front gardens in Wembury. Members of the Gardening Society will make a preliminary survey to select gardens to be finally assessed by judges from outside the village.

Points will be given for the general layout and good cultivation as well as for the plants being grown.

A Diploma will be awarded for the best kept front garden with certificates for runners up.

QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE APPEAL 1977

This Appeal, inspired and led by the Prince of Wales, was launched in April 1977 to enable the whole nation to commemorate the 25 years of the Queen's Reign, to express its affection for Her and its gratitude for Her service. By Her Majesty's own wish, the Appeal will be dedicated to young people, above all through giving them greater opportunity and encouragement to serve the community in which they live. The primary objective of this Appeal will be to establish a Fund to be held in trust to help young people to help others, and support the changing needs of younger generations.

The target for this parish is approximately £750 and The Silver Jubilee Co-ordinating Committee, which compiled this programme, will be organising further events throughout the year to raise this sum of money.

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN,
WEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

Residents of Wembury Parish, this is Jubilee Year and so that we may all enjoy the Festivities various organisations are aiming to entertain you with a week of events. I hope you will throw yourselves into the spirit of the occasion by supporting this "Wembury Week" to celebrate 25 years of the reign of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

Please show your appreciation by your support.

JOHN SQUIRE

Wembury Memories

by Peter Lugar



**Golden Jubilee of
HM The Queen 2002**

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN 2002

What Happened?

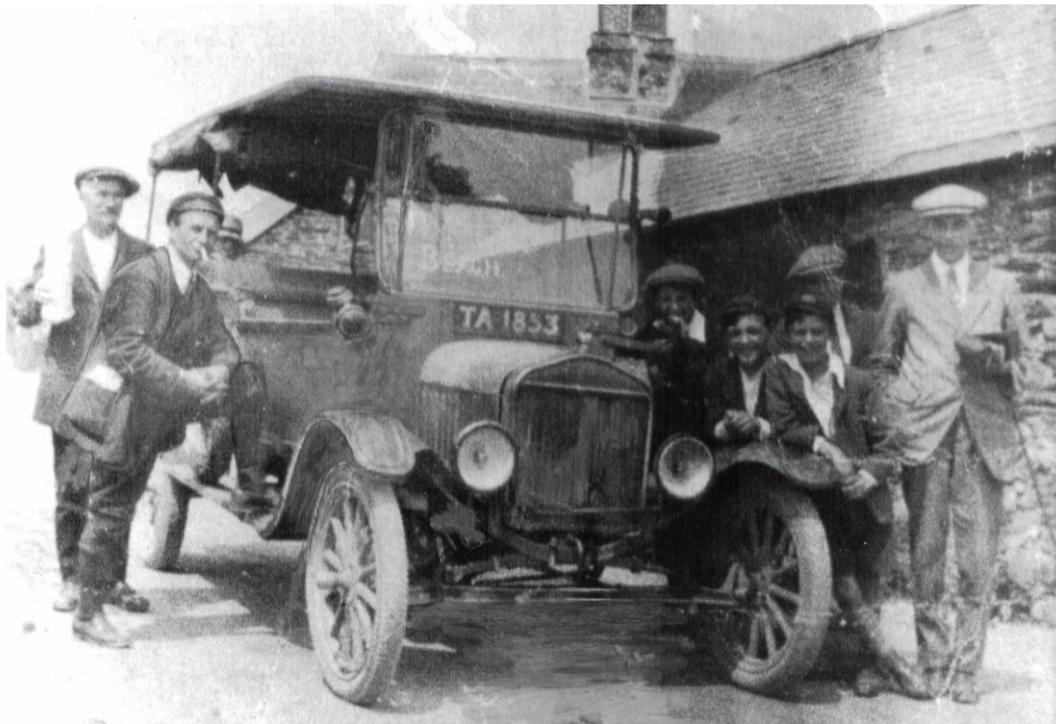
Precisely nothing!

What an indictment on the society of today.

This is the state that we have got ourselves into, with Health and Safety, Protection of Children Etc, being taken to such extremes that nobody will take on anything that has the slightest element of risk, for fear of litigation.

One can only hope that the pendulum may have swung the other way by the time the Diamond Jubilee comes around in 2012.

BUSSES



The Very First Bus in 1922 and 'First Bus' 2012

The top photograph shows the very first bus to operate a service from Wembury to Plymouth in 1922. Bill Newton bought the 14 seater, 22,4 h.p. Ford, with a £20 loan from his Mother-in-Law. The service ran on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, four trips each way.

The Lower photograph shows the No. 48 "First Bus" service operating on almost the same route on a daily basis.

N.B. Since 2017 the service has been operated by "Stagecoach".

THE VERY FIRST BUS!

Bill Newton came to Wembury in 1919 as chauffeur to Doctor Clay of Wembury House. He and his wife and three children moved into the Lodge, which was the tied accommodation which went with the job. Everything was fine for three years until disaster befell when Dr Clay died, leaving Bill without a job or a home.

He managed to rent two rooms behind Mr Avery's cobbler's shop in Down Thomas where he set up home with his wife, and by this time, four children.

He then had to find a way to make a living, and also to be independent. His previous experience as a bus driver in Chesterfield must have been in his mind when he decided to enter the motor-bus business. In 1922, with the aid of a £20 loan from his Mother-in-Law (which was later repaid), he managed to purchase a Model 'T' Ford with open sided body, and seating for fourteen on benches down each side. There were canvas curtains which could be rolled down in the event of inclement weather.

Its Registration Number was TA 1853, it was a Ford 22.4hp, and was made in 1921.

Thus was started the very first regular bus service between Wembury, Elburton and Plymouth. This ran on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

This service allowed village folk to go into Plymouth for shopping and entertainment or just to see the sights. During the summer it brought people out to the beach at Wembury. On these trips Bill would buy a consignment of ice cream in Plymouth to sell on the beach until it was time to start taking people back into town in the late afternoon.



BUSSES

The Star Motor Bus - Heybrook Bay and Down Thomas had a bus service into Plymouth run by J W Newton from the Star Garage at Down Thomas. The photograph shows a Morris bus from the 1930s with Mary Taylor. Luggage was carried on the roof accessible via the iron ladder!

The terminus in Plymouth was the Theatre Royal (the original one in Millbay Road). This was very handy for Millbay Station opposite the Duke Of Cornwall Hotel, which was then the main Railway Station, and also for George Street and Bedford Street for shopping. Later it moved to East Street, behind the old Spooners Store, and in front of the Corn Exchange (all now sadly gone).

Later in the 1940s Tommy Hart of the Heybrook Bay Motor Services took over the routes, when he had the bus garage built in Down Thomas. Tommy had the contract for the school busses from Wembury to Plymstock School and Plympton Grammar School. His busses were also hired for all of the coach outings from the village. In addition to this, with a couple of other companies, he ran busses all over the country carrying servicemen home on leave from Plymouth. In those pre-motorway days, the journey from Plymouth to Liverpool took 16 hours. It was in 1958 that Tommy sold the business and the bus routes were transferred to Western National. The new owners took over on 1st January 1959.

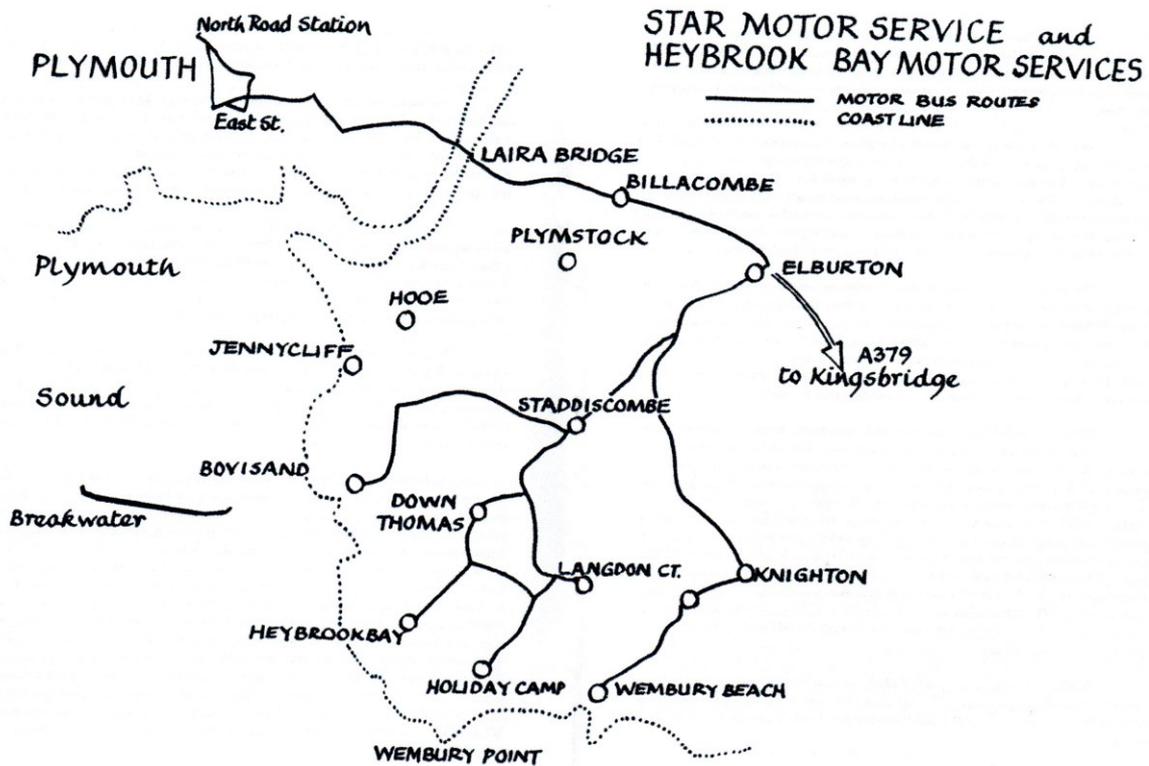
In the 1950s The Wembury Bus was a green single decker Western National No. 96A that used to run into the bus station which at that time was in Union Street in Plymouth behind what was later to become the Drake Cinema and alongside the great railway viaduct which occupied the site now taken up by the 'Pavilions'. The bus later became the No. 97, and when the bus station moved to Bretonside, it changed to No. 57. In 1958 when the road was widened at the Jubilee Inn, double deckers were then able to get through and the route was served by Plymouth Corporation busses, still retaining the No. 57, a few years later it changed to No. 60; and then to No. 48, and now we are back to Western National buses again (2012)!

The busses ran right down to the bottom of Church Road, turning around in the area at the bottom of the Church drive, before coming back up. It was a straight route down and back up, through Knighton West Wembury and Church Road, as there were no other roads that needed to be served.

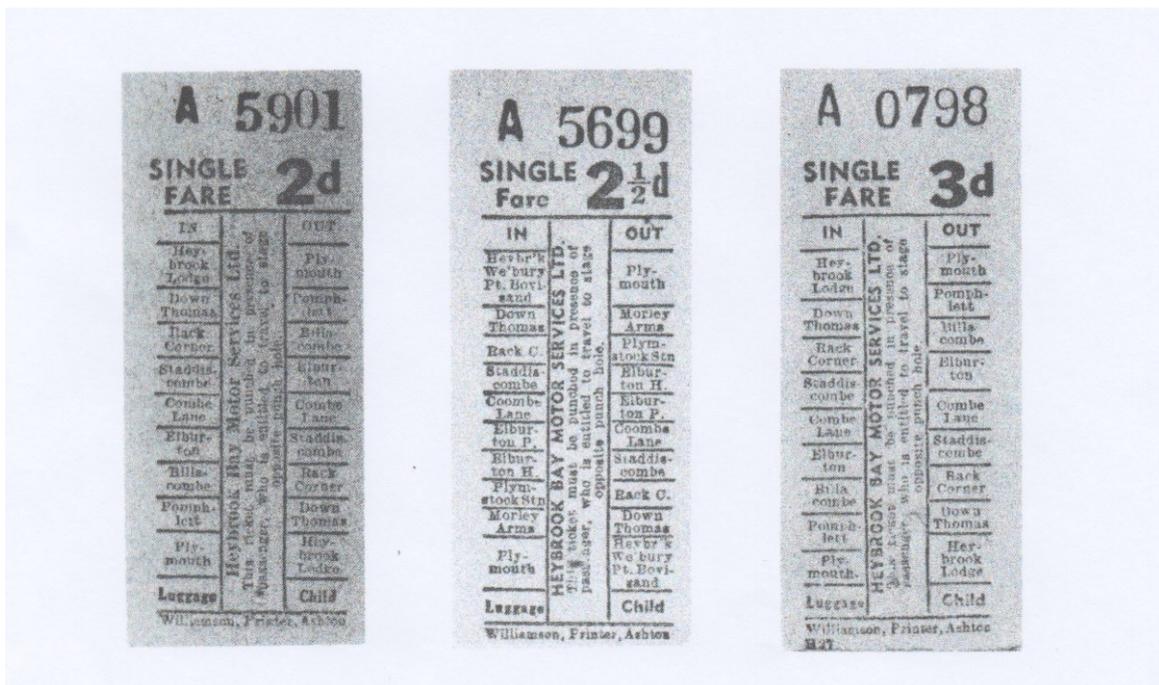
The route into Plymouth was via Elburton, turning onto the main Plymouth road at the Elburton Hotel. Plymstock was completely bypassed as really in those days before the "Broadway" there wasn't a lot to go to Plymstock for, except, in many cases, school. Anybody wishing to go to Plymstock had to disembark at Billacombe, or at Pomphlett by the railway viaduct adjacent to Pymstock Station.



The map below shows routes covered by the Star Motor Busses pre-war routes. In 1924 the Knighton Plymouth route was taken over by Devon Motor Transport Co by their sheer intimidation of the much smaller Newton organisation.



Some Heybrook Bay Motor Services bus tickets. The ticket price indicated the distance one was to travel along the route. The conductor or conductress would punch a hole in the ticket at the desired alighting point. During the time of wartime shortages these 'punchings' were saved up to be used as confetti at weddings.



The next photograph shows a Heybrook Bay Motor Services bus standing in East Street in Plymouth in about 1950. All that remains of East Street is the actual street, and in the photograph, we are looking across the old

Spooners Store site and the old Bedford Street to St Andrew's church in the distance. The roof of St Andrews looks rather strange, this is because the new concrete roof trusses are in place, and the panels fitted in between, but the roof outer covering has yet to be put on.



Another Heybrook Bay Motor Services bus on the newly laid out St Andrew's Cross roundabout at the top of Royal Parade in August 1952. Note the absence of buildings, the spire of St Jude's Church can be made out in the distance.



COACH OUTING - 1940s

This coach outing took place sometime in the 1940s, The organisation and destination are unknown.

All coach trips always left from 'The Square'. The Coaches used were usually Tommy Hart's from Down Thomas ('Heybrook Bay Motor Services'). This is certainly the case in this photograph as can be clearly seen on the side of the coach.

This is an amateur photograph, "a snapshot" that was taken when the coach had reached its destination.

Those recognised in the photograph are, from left to right:

Bertie Bird; Jack Webber; Jimmy Milden; Mervyn Pitts; Lady not known; Joan Hendy; Lily Milden (wife of Jimmy); Mrs Toogood; Mrs Jude; Gentleman not known; Mrs Milden (Hollacombe). Those inside the coach, not known.



COACH OUTING FROM THE SQUARE - MID 1950s

I think that this photograph must date from the mid 1950s. The two little girls in the front of the front are Verina Hobbs and Dianne Fierne. Verina was born sometime after Mr and Mrs Hobbs moved into the council houses in 1951, Dianne's mother, Elsie (nee Jolliffe) didn't get married to George Fierne until about 1950, therefore I would put a date of 1955/56 on the photograph. It is thought that trip was going to Paignton or Goodrington. That is where most summer trips went to back then, to get a taste of the "proper seaside", i.e. with fish and chips, piers, amusement arcades, donkey rides and "Kiss me Quick" hats!

All coach trips always left from the 'Square'. West Wembury Farmhouse can be seen behind the coach. The Coaches used were invariably Tommy Hart's from Down Thomas ('Heybrook Bay Motor Services').

Recognisable in the photograph are, from left to right:

Brian Perring: next to him, Young man laughing - not known: in front of him looking to her right is Granny Channing: then, Mrs Jolliffe: slightly behind her, George Radmore: in doorway of coach, Alf Perring: in front of him, Elsie Fierne (holding Dianne): next to her, not known: old lady in front, not known: next to her with white hat, Mrs weeks, next to her, Mrs Densum, slightly behind, Pop Rowe: then Beatty Spencer, with white sandals: next to her in black hat and coat, Mrs Rowe: Next, Frances Milden Slightly behind, unknown: next, Margaret Radmore: next, Olive Harvey: next Ronnie Weeks: next, Mrs Stevens, in front on the left (crouching) Mrs Hobbs with Verina.



COACH OUTING FROM THE SQUARE - 1953

It is thought that this coach outing took place in 1953, The organisation and destination are unknown.

All coach trips always left from 'The Square'. The Coaches used were usually Tommy Hart's from Down Thomas ('Heybrook Bay Motor Services'), and for every coach outing there was invariably a group photograph taken before setting off.

Those recognised in the photograph are, from left to right:

Sonia Harris (Mrs Toogood's daughter); Mrs Toogood; Gentlemen not known; Lady not known; Mrs Dawe; Mr Dawe; Mrs Stephens (Mother of Thelma Smale); Thelma Smale; Little girl in front, Angela Smale; Mrs Pitts; Edna Ponting (Mrs Pitts's daughter); Little boy in front, Graham Ponting; Mr Ponting; Lady not known; Mrs Miller.



WEMBURY YOUTH CLUB OUTING

I think that this was 1953, leastwise it was the year before the other one which was the first one that I was allowed to go on. Weymouth was the destination.

From Left to Right Standing:

Jack Webber, Les Fone, Raymond Vincent, Jim Lugar, Bertie Bird, Violet Warden,
Victor Carn (with pipe), Rosie Easterbrook, David Warden, Ronnie Weeks (partially hidden), Dennis
Thornton,, Jim Vincent, Gordon Weeks, Peter Hendy,, Joan Hendy

From Left to right Kneeling:

Edward Milden, Brian Furzeland, David Spreat, Mavis Furzeland, Raymond Furzeland,
Derek Rickard, Mervyn Pitts



WEMBURY YOUTH CLUB COACH TRIP

I think that this must have been about 1954, the coach was Tommy Hart's new 41 seater.

The destination was Weston-Super-Mare.

Going by the numbers on the photograph, the ones I can make out are as follows:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Les Fone | 12. Violet Warden | 23. Christine Jones |
| 2. Derek Rickard | 13. Edward Mildern | 24. Wendy Densum |
| 3. Mervyn Pitts | 14. David Spreat | 25. June Dixon |
| 4. Gordon Weeks | 15. Rose Easterbrook | 26. Jenny Spencer |
| 5. Jim Vincent, | 16. | 27. Maureen Mildern |
| 6. Roderick Gilbert | 17. Joan Hendy | 28. Angela Smale |
| 7. Peter Hendy | 18. Ruth Dawes | 29. Margaret Radmore |
| 8. Peter Lugar | 19. Valerie Rushbrook | 30. Kathleen Hobbs |
| 9. Dave Warden | 20. Josie Jolliffe | 31. Jeanette Mildern |
| 10. Jim Lugar | 21. Anne Warren | 32. Nina Densum |
| 11. Brian Furzeland | 22. Pat Jones | 33. Marjorie Jolliffe |
| | | 34. Verina Hobbs |



VICARAGE CHRISTENING PARTY 1973

Every year during the Revd Kenneth Gray's incumbency, A "Christening Party" was held in the garden of the Vicarage. This is when all of the children who had been christened over the previous year all got together with parents and pre-school siblings for a tea party. It was always a well received and popular event.

In 1973, due to inclement weather, at short notice, the party had to be moved into the Village hall.

Recognisable in the photograph are:

Maureen Portwood (Nee Milden) holding her little girl,
Jean Imm holding Nicholas (now Surgeon Commander Nick Imm RN {2016})
Jackie Gray (Nee Rowland) holding her little girl,
Nina Carder holding Fiona,
Jerry Riley (as she was then) crouching in front, holding Dominic (I think), and next to her
Christine Booth holding Karen.



ST JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE - 1940s AND 1950s

In the 1940s and 1950s the St John Ambulance was run by Mrs Toogood, who lived at "The Cottage" West Wembury. She was assisted by Mrs Dolly Ayres wife of Captain Ayres from "Four Corners". The group seemed to comprise entirely of girls, the meetings were held weekly in the Parish Room. These usually took place quite soon after school, and on the day of the meeting, the girls who didn't have time to go home and change and then to come back, would come to school in their nurses uniforms. Very smart they looked too, and wouldn't give us boys a passing glance!



In the Parish Room they had their cupboard which at all other times was kept securely padlocked. Even other organisations using the room could not gain access in the event of an emergency. Mrs Toogood would have to be called if there was a requirement for first aid. She was normally called out attend any accidents in the village which usually involved people falling from horses or bicycles.

In the Parish Room cupboard there were all manner of things, slings for injured arms, splints for broken limbs, all kinds of bandages, gauze, cotton wool, and the old stalwart - iodine. Sticking plasters were not included, They were considered at that time to be a form of cheating! On the door of the cupboard was a large chart showing how bandage different wounds, splint broken legs and put an injured arm in a sling. There were also diagrams showing the different ways of administering artificial respiration, this was, of course, before the days of mouth to mouth resuscitation (I am not sure how that would have gone down back then!).

The photograph below taken in the late 1940s, those recognised are; from the left, Lily Harris, Mrs Ayres (in the hat), Barbara Jones, Mrs Toogood (in a St John beret), girl with hair ribbon - not known, on the extreme right Betty Greig. In the foreground girl on the left - not known, girl on the right, Wendy Densum.



SIX WEMBURY “MAIDS” IN THE 1940s

This photograph taken in the 1940s shows six “maids” from Wembury on a day out dressed in the fashions of the day!

From left to right they are:

Doris Thornton, later to become Doris Harvey
Pearl Phillips, later to become Pearl Stephens
Maureen Toogood, later to become Maureen Humphries
Alice Spencer, later to become Sally Butler
Elsie Jolliffe, later to become Elsie Fierne
Norma Little, later to become Norma Greig



LADY BELLRINGERS IN THE 1940s

This photograph taken on the 2nd July 1943 shows the five bellringing “Belles” . During the war there was very often no men available to ring the church bells on the very few occasions that they were allowed to be rung.

A ladies bellringing team was made up, mainly from the Pitts family, Mr Pitts (Ernie) was Captain of the Tower for many years.

From left to right they are:

Edna Sly, Edna Pitts, Hazel Bachelor, Doreen Pitts and Mrs Pitts (Beatrice).

There were, at that time, only five bells. The new treble being added in 1948 as a memorial to those of the Parish who gave their lives during the Second World War.



BELLRINGERS – 1992

This photograph of the Bellringers was taken at the Bellringing Festival held at Wembury Church on 7th May 1992.

Those in the line up are, from left to right: Doreen Morris, Edna Bojanitz, Brian Deacon, Mike Arnold, Christopher MacBean, David Vasey, and kneeling in front Calvin Roberts, Captain.

The two ladies on the left Doreen Morris (néé Pitts) and Edna Bojanitz (néé Sly), also appear in the Wartime photograph of the lady ringers taken almost 50 years earlier. Sadly both ladies died within two years of this photograph being taken.



WEMBURY SCOUTS - 1944

This photograph is thought to have been taken in 1944. The Scout troop is sitting cross-legged having a sing-song around an imitation campfire. They are being led in song by their leader, the Revd Kenneth Tagg, the Vicar, who is up on his knees conducting with the aid of his pipe! Mr Tagg started the troop in 1943 after the former Scout Leaders were called up for war service. The furnishings and the bare floorboards would indicate the venue as being the Old Village Hall.

I regret that apart from the Vicar I am unable to put names to any other of the faces.



WEMBURY VENTURE SCOUTS - 1992

The photographs below are of the Wembury Venture Scouts preparing for their trip to Romania on 11th July 1992.



WEMBURY VENTURE SCOUTS - 1993

The photographs below are of the Wembury Venture Scouts leaving for their trip to Romania on 17th July 1993.



1ST WEMBURY BROWNIES – SWIMMING GALA – SEPTEMBER 1982

The photographs below show the 1st Wembury Brownies at the Area Swimming Gala, at Ballard's Pool in Plymouth on 25th September 1982 . Regrettably I am not able to put names to faces.



1ST WEMBURY BROWNIES – PRESENTATION OF CHEQUE TO OXFAM – 1985

The photographs below show the presentation of a cheque from the 1st Wembury Brownies to OXFAM on 10th July 1985. Presumably the knitted items in the lower photograph were all part of the fundraising activities.



1ST WEMBURY GUIDES – QUEEN’S GUIDE AWARD – 1982

The photographs below are of Nicola Pearson (top) and Tracey Heslop (bottom) receiving their Queen’s Guide Awards at Wembury School, on 8th December 1982.



AREA GUIDES 75TH ANNIVERSARY AT WEMBURY HOUSE - 1985

The photographs below are of the area gathering for the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the Girl Guides. This took place on 27th June 1985 at Wembury House, by kind permission of Sir Henry and Lady Studholme, with the 1st Wembury Guides as the Hosts.



1ST WEMBURY GUIDES – TREFOIL AWARDS – 1988

The photographs below are of the members of the 1st Wembury Guides who received their Baden Powell Trefoil awards on 19th January 1988. Regrettably I do not have any of their names.



WEMBURY GUIDES – 1988

these photographs show the presentation of the Baden Powell Trefoil Award to Katie Taylor on 13th December 1988..



WEMBURY CARNIVAL

The Carnival was a great event, which took place annually in June. It brought the whole village together in a day of merrymaking and fun. The idea of the Carnival started in the mid 1960s and it came to embody all of the village organisations.

The Carnival Committee, which comprised of members from each of the village organisations, usually got itself together in about the October to sort out the bare bones of the event. Firstly deciding on the day on which it would be held (usually the third Saturday in June).

From that decision the various bookings could be made, i.e., Marching band for the procession, dance band for the evening, marquees, PA system etc., and permissions obtained i.e., for the use of the playing field, for the temporary closure of roads for the procession, etc.

Each organisation would organise its own float and very often great ingenuity was used. There could be the usual float on the back of a lorry, or smaller floats using private cars or pick up trucks, walking floats, and very often individuals who dressed up and just joined the procession for the hell of it. After the procession, when the floats would all end up on the Playing Field, a prize would be given to the best float in each class.

A carnival queen was elected during special elimination events leading up to the Carnival, and she and her attendants had a special place in the procession.

Each organisation usually had their own stall on the Playing Field where they would raise money for their particular organisation. A nominal fee was paid to the Carnival Committee to have a stall on the field.

There was an arena space on the field where different displays and competitions took place like a display by the marching band (after they had regained their breath after the procession), very often Maypole Dancing by the children of Wembury School, and the usual races for adults and children associated with such events.

The day was usually divided up into four main parts.

1. In the morning was the preparation time where flat backed lorries were parked up in all sorts of secret places for the building of the floats. Up on the field the marquee would have been put up the day before and the tables and chairs delivered. The committee would be preparing the marquee and laying out the arena area. Others would be rigging and testing the PA system and sorting out electrical supplies. The various organisations would be setting up their stalls.

2. By 1.30pm the procession would be formed up ready to move off, part from Barton Close and part from Mewstone Avenue, it would basically follow the bus route going down Mewstone Avenue and up Church Road, tuning back into Mewstone Avenue at the village hall junction, then into Barton Close to the Playing Field.

3. After the procession, the judging and presentation of the prizes would take place, and then the field events would follow. There was not a beer tent, but the pub would have a special licence to remain open all day. Some of the stalls did food and beverages, and the Carnival Committee sold hot pasties from a stall on my front drive, very conveniently sited near the entrance to the Playing Field

4. In the evening would be the Gala Dance in the marquee. This ended at midnight, and in those days all of the street lighting went off at 11.00pm so a torch was an essential piece of equipment to have.

The Carnival was held annually until the late 1980s. It died out, very sadly, due to a lack of people willing to take it on, coupled with the minefield of red tape that was coming in regarding the holding such events, and now of course it has got so bad that nobody will dare do anything that has the slightest hint of risk for fear of litigation.

It makes me wonder sometimes how I have managed to survive this long. Born during the War, living on a farm and riding on all manner of farm machinery as a child with very little or no protection except for common

sense. Riding horses, very often without saddles, and certainly not riding hats. Climbing trees, rocks, and cliffs totally unsupervised, swimming in the river and the sea also totally unsupervised. We had total freedom in the village, we went anywhere and did anything, our parents had no idea, most of the time, where we were, and didn't really worry as long as we arrived home for our meals.

Of course there were a lot less people living in the village then, and no traffic to speak of. After the few people who had cars had driven off to their work the only other traffic was farm machinery and the occasional delivery vehicle, and maybe the doctor on his rounds, and the green single decker Western National Bus about every 2 hours.

Here follows a series of photographs from some of the Carnivals during the 1980s.

Saturday 20th June 1982







Saturday 25th June 1983





Saturday 23rd June 1984





Saturday 27th June 1987 - On one of the few occasions when the weather was bad.





I am very greatly indebted to Vic Fowler, onetime photographer with the Western Morning News and Evening Herald, who gave me many of his negatives before emigrating to Australia.

VILLAGE FETE 1955

Village Fetes had always taken place either in the field behind the Old Village Hall, or in the park at Wembury House. It was decided on this occasion that we would have it in the new recreational field, which is now covered mostly by Barton Close, and partially by Mewstone Avenue.

A large khaki coloured tent was borrowed from the army, and was erected in the corner of the field in the space now occupied by the new Village Hall. The tent was used mainly for refreshments but would have been pressed into additional service had the weather been inclement. An electric lead was run from the old village hall, across the field (now occupied by the school) and into the tent to provide power for kettles, lighting, and PA system.

In the picture, the hedge is that which now forms part of the school boundary, the field behind is one the higher fields at Train Farm, and the arrangement of electrical posts is part of the old sub-station that was, for many years, behind the Jubilee Inn.

The only people that I can recognise in the photograph are the three boys on the left, the Jones boys, Michael the older one, and the twins Gareth and David. The boy between the two taller people, I think is my younger brother Thomas, and the girl, third in from the right is Ann Paltridge.



WEMBURY STARS FOOTBALL CLUB 1923

Wembury Stars were champions of the Plymouth and District League in 1923

Shown in the photograph are Alf Brown (who with his wife Minnie [formerly Perring] ran the Knighton Post Office at Watergate), Bill Griffiths, William Milden, Henry Milden, Jimmy Taylor, Clem Spencer, two Pedricks and four not identified.



WEMBURY AMATEUR FOOTBALL CLUB 1937/38

The team used to play on the field at Ridge Cross, which now lies within the boundaries of Plymouth and has been made into proper playing fields for the city.

Named in the photograph are:

Back Row: - Jimmy Rowe (Referee), Nobby Andrews, Not Known, Les Milden, Raymond Henshaw, Herb Spencer, Ned Harris, Albert Andrews, Eric Warley,

In front of them: - Godfrey Milden, Raymond Brown, Albert Parsons

Front Row: - Len Stear, Bert Stear, Arthur Yates, Ben Hick, Roy Spencer.

After the war when the team reformed as the Wembury United Football Club they played on my father's field on the higher side of the Alms Houses. Later they moved to Ben Clifton's field behind the Wembury House plantation, and eventually to the new playing field, which later became part of Mewstone Avenue.



WEMBURY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB 1949/50

When the club reformed after the war, my father allowed them to play on our field on the higher side of the Alms Houses. There were no changing facilities on the field so they would change in the old Village Hall and walk up to the field, and then of course would have to walk back again after the game. I believe that this situation persisted for the 1947 and 1948 seasons. In 1949, Ben Clifton of Knighton Farm allowed them to use his field (Tree Field) where the public footpath runs through alongside the boundary wall of Wembury House. The field was not quite as flat as my father's but had the advantage of being much nearer to the old Village Hall. It was still a rather spartan set up as there were no toilet or washing facilities in the hall, but at least there was the wherewithal for making a cup of tea even though the water had to be fetched from the 'shoot' at Watergate.

The photograph below shows the team of the 1949/1950 season when they won the Plymouth Combination League Cup. The cup was initially displayed in the window of the shop in the square, where it was on show for a week or so, tastefully arranged on a draped Union Flag. For the remainder of the year it had pride of place in the centre of the top shelf behind the bar of the Jubilee Inn.

In the photograph are:

Top Row - Des Deacon, L Miller (Dusty), Alf Full, (Hon Treas), Kenny Woods, Herb Spencer,

Middle Row - Stan Cutchee (Hon Sec), L Daniels, Peter Laphorne, George Fierne, Arthur Williams, Horace Horton, Stan West, George Bannaford (Hon Chairman),

Bottom Row - Arthur Ralphson, Dennis Horwell, Clem Spencer, Doug Butler (Vice Capt), Roy Spencer (Capt).



WEMBURY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB 1950/51

Wembury United were runners up in the Plymouth Combination League, Division 1 East, in the 1950/51 season.

The Team is photographed with officials and some family members in the field behind the Wembury House plantation, where they played their home matches.

Included in the photograph are: Dennis Horwell, Sally Spencer, Barbara Scott, Ken Scott, Peter Laphorne, Donald McDonald, Des Deacon, Brian Sugden, Dave Lavers, Stan West, Lew Thomas, Dave Hurrell, Stan Cutchee Jenny Spencer, Beaty Spencer, Herb Spencer, Mar Butler, Arthur Ralphson, Clem Spencer, Brian Spencer, Roy Spencer, Roy Waterfield, Doug Butler, Mrs Cutchee, Diana McDonald and Elizabeth McDonald.



WEMBURY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB 1956/57

When this photograph was taken the team were still playing on the field adjacent to the boundary wall of Wembury House.

In the 1956/1957 Season they were winners of the Challenge Cup and also the King's Head Cup.

In the photograph are:

Top Row - Roy Spencer, Roy Burgess (Hon Sec), Brian Perring, A Heaton, B Sugden E O'Neil, G Nicholls, A Wood, Dennis Horwell.

Bottom Row - Alf Perring, F Hall, Fred Hopkins, J Laity (Vice Capt) J Mogridge (Capt), W Hudson, A Chown, Pierre Louis (Chairman)



PLYMOUTH ARGAUM RUGBY TEAM - LATE 1940s

Throughout the 1940s and into the 1950s my father played for the Plymouth Argaum Rugby Club.

In the top photograph of the 1947/48 season he is third from the right in the top row.

In the bottom photograph of the 1948/49 season he is in the front row on the extreme right.



WEMBURY CRICKET CLUB IN THE 1970s

This photograph of the Village Cricket Team was taken sometime in the 1970s

Working left to right and starting in the back row, those recognised are as follows:

Back Row - David Boardman, Tony Boardman, Not Known, David Jones, David Imm, Not Known, Peter Boardman, Mike Jinks, Bill Harris, Colin Baines, Edward (Ted) Wilcocks, Joyce Burgess, Not Known, Not Known.

Front Row - Graham Gunby (reclining), John Montague (with dog), Alan Tuck (Treasurer), Abe Booth, Thomas Batterbee, Roy Burgess, Christopher Boardman.



MICHAEL HESLETINE AT BAY COTTAGE - 1960s

This photograph was taken in the late 1960s at a Conservative Party event at Bay Cottage, where Sir Henry Studholme was introducing his successor, Michael Hesletine, to the local group of members.

From left to right in the photograph are: Mrs Marjorie Rowland, Lady Studholme, Mrs Anne Hesletine and Michael Hesletine and next to him, behind the ladies is Sir Henry.

Michael Hesletine became the Conservative Member for the Tavistock Constituency, of which Wembury was a part, on 31st March 1966 after the retirement of Sir Henry. He remained the Member for Tavistock until the Constituency was abolished on 28th February 1974.

On the far right is Fred Rowland then Denis Soppet. The gentleman third from the right and the lady receiving the bouquet are believed to be the couple who owned Bay Cottage at that time.

It was Clive Soppet who built the bungalows on the hill above Bay Cottage through Mewbury Developments Limited. Originally called "Mewbury Mount" it later became a part of Southland Park Road when the two met up and were joined together.



PLYMSTOCK SCHOOL TEACHERS - 1956

This photograph was taken on a school trip to Cheddar Caves.

From left to right:

Mrs Dainton - English & PE.

Mrs Budge (Headmistress) - Needlework & Religious Instruction

Mr Coysh-Busby (Headmaster)

Miss Couch - English & Geography

Mr Gallagher - English & Art



In those days Schoolteachers looked like Schoolteachers, and that they were capable of imparting knowledge to their pupils, which indeed they were.

Mrs Dainton also had the distinction of being a survivor of the “Titanic” disaster.

TEACHERS AT PLYMSTOCK SCHOOL - 1953/54

Headmaster & Mathematics	Dr A E Stephens ('Doc'), lived at Hooe. (Replaced by Mr H D Coysh-Busby in 1954).
Headmistress & Needlework & RI	Mrs D Budge, lived at Elburton.
Deputy Head & Science	Mr Herford ('Herby'), lived at Plymstock.
Geography	Miss M Couch, lived at Yealmtpon.
History	Miss M Scadden (Became Mrs Ham during the year), lived at Noss Mayo her father was licensee of the 'Globe Inn' later to become 'The Ship'.
Music	Mr Page ('Dicky'), lived at Plymstock (reputed to have had lots of children).
English & RI	Mrs O B Greening, lived at Furzehatt Road, Plymstock.
English & History	Mrs Smale, lived at Plymstock.
English & RI	Mrs Lugg ('Jessie') (formerly Miss Porter), lived at Wembury, then later at Furzehatt Road, Plymstock.
Mathematics	Mr R Ratcliffe, lived at Deans Cross in lodgings
Art	Mr Crossley ('Percy'), lived at Deans Cross in lodgings
Woodwork	Mr Burroughs ('Boney'), lived at either Yealmpton or Ermington.
Cookery	Mrs Gibson, lived at Newton Ferrers
Domestic Science	Miss Fyfe ('Beryl')
Metalwork & Technical Drawing	Mr Flint ('Captain')
Gardening Deputy Head	Mr Clay ('Digger'), lived at Plymstock, died at quite an early age, whilst later still at the school.
Physical Training (Boys)	Mr L Ellis, lived at Heybrook Bay.
Physical Training (Girls)	Miss Snell
English (supply)	Mrs F Payne, lived at Stentaway Road (right next door to the school).

Mrs Smale used to play the piano in the School Hall at assembly every Morning, Dr Stephens was also a very accomplished pianist and often used to play during the lunch hour.

Mrs Lugg lived in Wembury, at the end of Beach View Crescent, when it was a 'cul de sac' accessible only from Church Road.

Mr Coysh-Busby came to live in Wembury in retirement, at 'Sylstan' in Ford Road.

PLYMSTOCK SCHOOL - UPPER 1 - 1953/54

In the 1950s the Plymstock School catchment area for secondary education covered the whole of Plymstock, Hooe, Oreston, Gooswell Staddiscombe and Elburton, also the outlying areas of Wembury, Brixton, Newton Ferrers, Noss Mayo, Yealmpton and Ermington.

In the photograph are four children from Wembury, Ann Gifford, Wembury House Lodge; Peter Lugar, Watergate Cottages; June Dixon, Cliff Road; and Brian Etchells, Heybrook Bay.

From left to right all are named:

Fourth Row: Christine Saunders, Pauline Hick, Anne Ball, Anne Gifford, Gillian Clarke, Muriel Adams, Janet Rockey, Pamela Baker.

Third Row: Pat Murphy, Florence Coleman, Glenda Woods, Andrea Greenaway, Zoe Scott, June Dixon, Barbara Allen, Leslie Mellor, Jeanette Dodridge.

Second Row: Christopher May, Roger Sly, Billy Noon, Peter Lugar, David Brown, Leonard Sutton, Kenneth Carter, Graham Jenkins.

Front Row: Simon Perry, Brian Etchells, Frank Rowley, John Drake, Brian Riggs, Dennis Trickey, Dennis Gillings, Graham Carter, David Herringshaw.



Pat Murphy later went on to Plympton Grammar School, she lived at Plymstock, and she was a granddaughter of Mrs Annie Horwell who lived at the Jubilee Inn, in Wembury. Annie was the widowed sister of Miss Lottie Perring, the licensee.

CO-OP 'CAVES' - PLYMOUTH - 1940s

After the bomb devastation of the Second World War, which resulted in the almost total destruction of the city centre, one small piece of the shopping centre to survive was part of the Co-operative Building in Frankfort Street. This along with a group of nissen huts in Raleigh Street operated as a temporary Co-operative store until the new Co-operative House was built.

Every year at Christmas the great attraction was the Christmas Grotto locally known as "The Caves" where one could walk through and then get a gift from Father Christmas. The theme was always a nursery rhyme, childrens' story or pantomime and for the particular year in the photographs it was "Alice in Wonderland".

We all had to enter a special lift which took us down a rabbit hole, we knew we were going down a rabbit hole as we could see the rabbits and offshoot tunnels, through the small windows, as we went down. When we landed in Wonderland we walked through the various scenes from the story and ended up meeting Father Christmas and getting a small gift. There was also the option of having your photograph taken with Alice and the Queen of Hearts.

The top photograph shows my older brother James and myself, I think that the year was 1949.



The Lower Photograph shows my younger brother Thomas, and my sister Angela



FOX SHOOTING IN THE 1940s AND 1950s

Foxes were a great menace over the years and regular shoots were organised to reduce their numbers.

In the 1940s and 1950s a lot of people kept poultry in their back gardens, which in those time of rationing, went a long way to supplement the normal meat and egg allowances. Foxes were a real problem, and the regular shoots were very much approved of and well supported. Sometimes up to forty people would meet for these shoots. January was the best time as this was when the farmers had some time to spare for such an event.

Recognised in the photograph are, Tom Staddon, Stan Williams, Archie Milden, Willy Jenkin, Albert West, Edward Jenkins, George Body, Jim Booth, Joe McBean, Fred Rowlands, Des Rider, Sid Smith, Jim Baker, Joe Rowlands and Harry Booth.



WINTER FOX SHOOT IN THE 1950s

Winter shoots used to take place on the fields above the beach going from the Mill right over to Wembury Point, beating the ground cover and shooting the foxes as they ran out.

Looking on in this photograph are, Roy Harvey, Joe Rowland, Terry McCoy, Albert West, Stan Williams and others.



EVERYDAY OBJECTS OF THE 1940s

The photograph below shows many objects which give an insight into life in the 1940s. Included are ration books, clothing coupons, an identity card, money, bus tickets and a postage stamp.

The two penny (2d) postage stamps were used on postcards and letters which were not sealed. For sealed letters the postage was two pence halfpenny (2½d).

The propelling pencil was a very desirable article when I was a child, it was on most people's wish list for Christmas.

I remember the bus tickets being issued on the Wembury bus, the conductor in black uniform with green piping, and peaked cap, would have his leather money bag slung over one shoulder and his rack containing the tickets over the other one. There were usually about four different kinds of ticket that could be purchased, adult single or return, child single or return. That was on the old green Western National single decker bus, No.96, which used to run in to the bus station which was then in its temporary Union Street position.

I remember going to the Wembury shop on errands for my mother armed with a basket, ration books and a purse containing less than ten shillings, (50p), and returning home laden with goods!

Identity cards were issued to all people, green for adults and buff for those under 16 years of age. From late 1939 until 1952 every civilian had to carry such a card as proof of identity and address. Each card had a personal number of six or seven digits, but did not have a photograph.



The ration books were first issued in 1939, their use had been well anticipated and they were actually ready in 1938. The system was devised to ensure that everybody got a fair amount of the goods that were in short supply. People had to register with a chosen retailer, (butcher, baker, grocer, etc). The books were colour coded, green for babies, blue for children and buff for adults. An average weekly food ration for each person

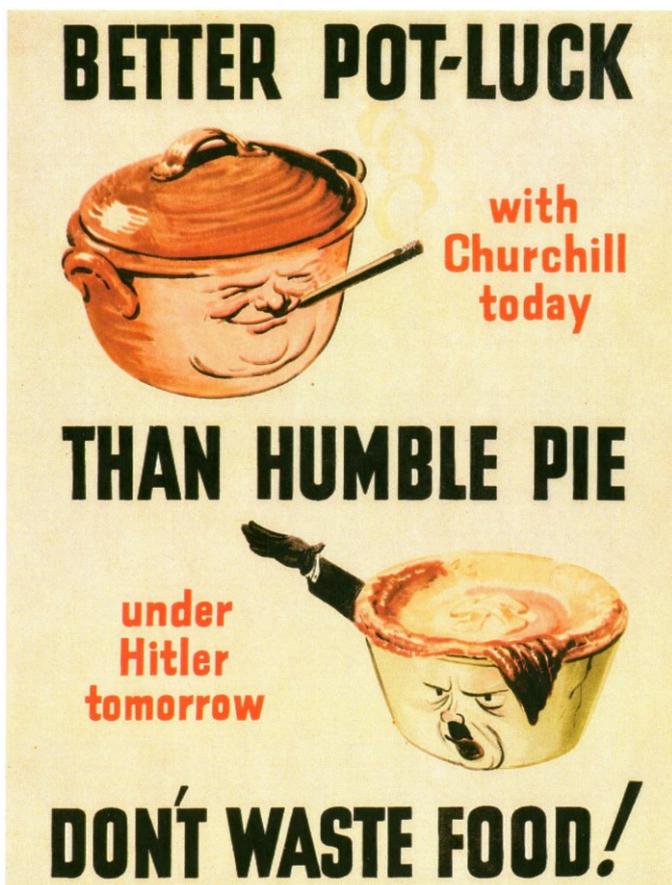
was; one shilling and sixpence (1/6) worth of meat, (7¹/₂ p) (meat was rationed by price not quantity, so cheap cuts became the norm). 8oz sugar, 4oz butter or fat, 1 egg, 1oz cheese, 2 oz tea (1oz = 113 grams). It should be noted that sweets were rationed to 8oz per person every four weeks, and brought a notable improvement in the health of children's teeth. Less vital foods were rationed on a different system, rice, jam, biscuits, dried and tinned food were given a points value and each person had 20 points per month. Clothes were rationed with similar coupons and the points value of each item was indicated on the price label. Each person had an average of 24 points per year. Typical points for children clothes were, 5 for a dress, 7 for an unlined mackintosh, 4 for a shirt. Children's clothes especially were in short supply, 'make do and mend', 'hand-me-downs', 'trading and bartering' between parents became general practice. Old adult clothes were cut down and adapted, woollens were unpicked and re-knitted. Clothes were even made from parachute material, and army blankets. A 'utility' standard was introduced in 1941 to regulate the design and manufacture of clothes, shoes and furniture to minimise waste. During the war itself, utility furniture was only available to those who had been bombed out of their homes or newly married couples. It was more generally available after the war, and was in fact the only furniture readily available for quite a few years.

Coins in use are the Half Crown (2/6), the Florin (2/-), the Shilling (1/-) commonly known as the 'Bob' Sixpenny piece (6d) commonly known as the 'Tanner', silver three-penny piece (3d), and the later 12 sided three-penny piece, also the Penny (1d), Half-penny (1/2d), and Farthing (1/4d).

The smallest coin in circulation was the Farthing, there were four of them to the Penny and twelve Pennies to the Shilling, therefore 48 farthings to the shilling.

(In 2005, the old shilling is now the five pence piece, and the smallest coin in circulation is the one penny piece, only five to the shilling!)

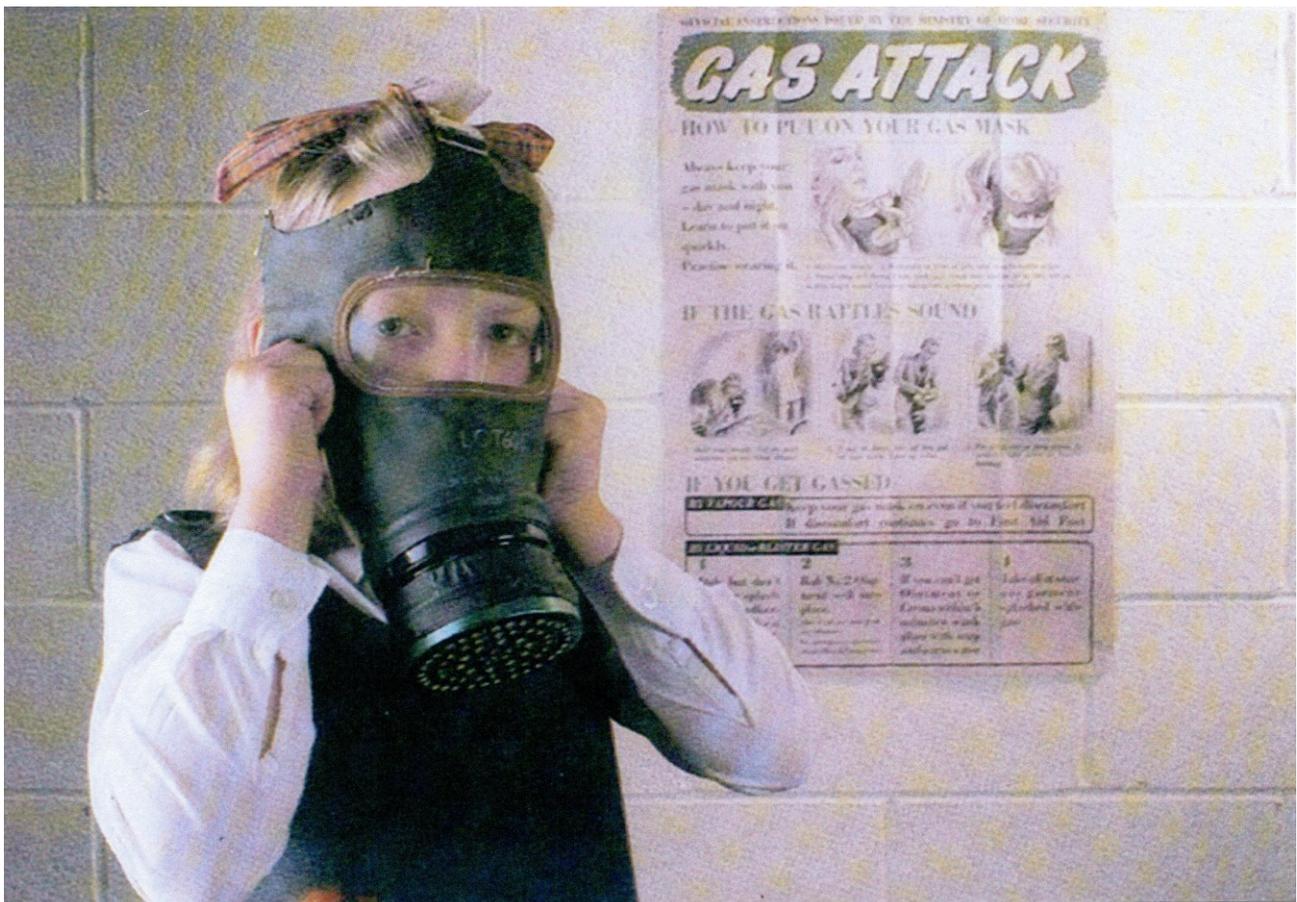
Wartime Posters encouraging people to conserve food supplies



GAS MASKS

During the Second World War there was a real fear that Germany might drop gas on Britain from their bombers. Thirty eight million gas masks were issued by the government, and the tops of pillar boxes were painted with a special yellow gas detecting paint. The gas mask consisted of a metal container which was filled with material that absorbed the gas and a rubber face mask with a non inflammable transparent eyepiece. In the earlier ones, the filter unit was carried in the haversack and was connected to the mask by a rubber tube. People had to carry their gas masks with them at all times as there would be very little warning of an impending gas attack. They were also encouraged to practise putting them on so that they could do so quickly if required. Regular drills were held in schools and sometimes classes spent a whole morning or afternoon working in their masks to get used to them. This was not popular as the masks has a strong rubbery smell, they also made one sweat profusely where the rubber came into contact with the skin, and tended to steam up inside. Children under five had a special 'Mickey Mouse' gas mask which was designed so that they would be less frightened to put them on. For babies, who were too small for gas masks there was helmet arrangement into which the baby placed and totally enclosed, air had to pumped in by hand all the time the baby was in the device, as the baby's lungs were not strong enough to draw the air in. Parents were encouraged to practice putting babies into the device, so that they could get used to it, but most babies howled all of the time they were inside. Much to everyone's relief the gas attacks never materialised and so the masks were never used for the real thing.

After the war all of the gas masks were called in, not all made it, and many haversacks were in use long after the war had ended as school satchels, and for carrying picnics and swimming gear, to the beach. In fact as late as the mid 1960s some dockyard workers were still using them to carry their sandwiches in.



WEMBURY SCHOOL – WARTIME TABLEAU – EARLY 1940s



During the Second World War, the children were intensely patriotic, with quite a few parents in the armed forces, and of course in Wembury, others who were employed in reserved occupations, such as the production of food, armaments and ship repair.

The tableau above was part of a presentation put on in the Old Village Hall by the different organisations in the village as a morale boosting event

In the tableau, the four countries of the United Kingdom are represented, also the armed forces, the ARP, and Peace, with Britannia in the centre.

It has been possible to name all but one of the children in the photograph.

From left to right they are:

Back row:

Jeffrey Harris, Jimmy Booth, Dennis Thornton, Bertie Milden, Maureen Toogood, Frank Milden, Mervyn Pitts, Margaret Taylor.

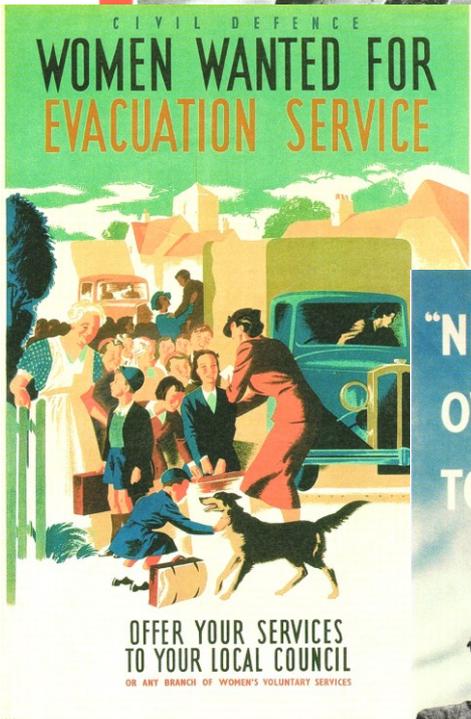
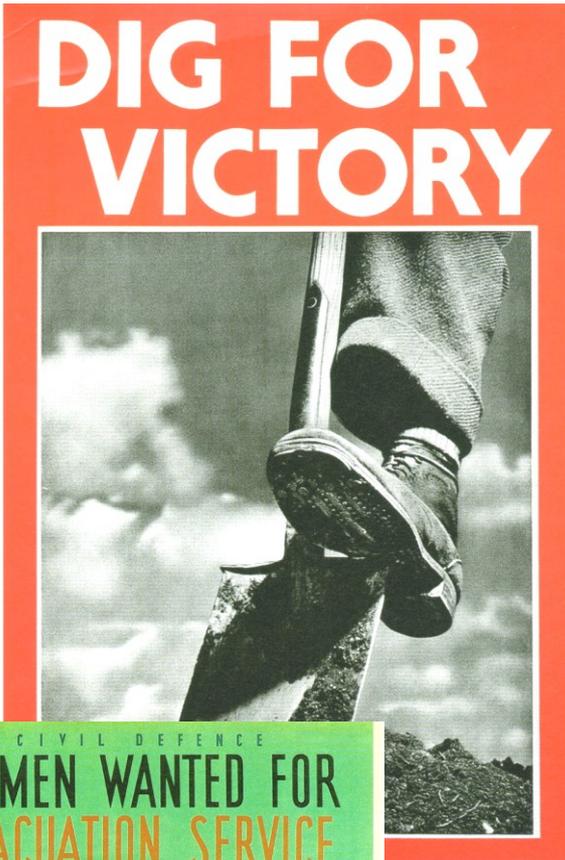
Front row:

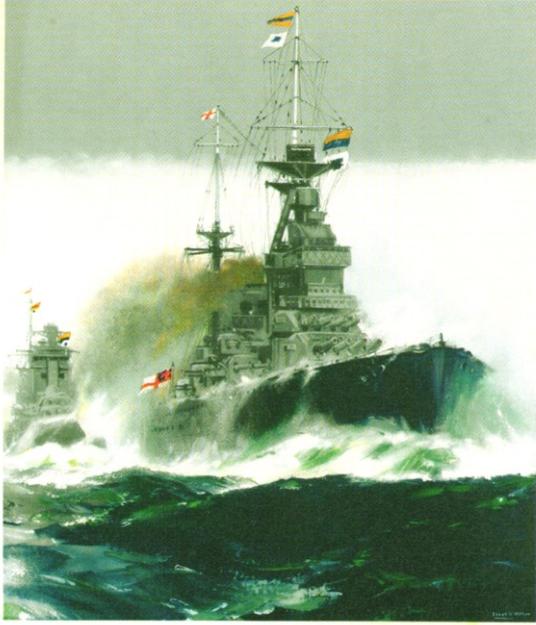
Ronnie Harris, Wendy, Joan Semmens, Doreen Booth, Marjorie Sheppard, Archie Walker.

Ronnie Harris representing “Bonnie Scotland”, Wendy ----- representing “Ireland”, Joan Semmens representing “Peace”, Doreen Booth representing “A.R.P”, Marjorie Sheppard representing “Sweet England”, Margaret Taylor representing “Wales”, Maureen Toogood as “Britannia”, and all of the others representing the Armed Forces.

This photograph was kindly donated by Mrs Maureen Humphries *née Toogood* (“Britannia” in the picture).

WARTIME POSTERS





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AIR RAID SHELTERS

There are now only four air raid shelters left on the Knighton and West Wembury side of the Parish. One at the top of Thorn Drive another one beside the Parish Room, and two in what was known as “Roper’s Field”.

There used to be many more of them and they seemed to hang around for many years after the end of the war. I do not recall any at Hollacombe but there must have been some, I vaguely remember one being in the vicinity of the Silver Jubilee Hall at Down Thomas but other than that do not recall any others there or at Heybrook Bay.

The ones on the Knighton and West Wembury side of the parish were sited as follows

1. Top of Thorn Drive (still there).
2. Wembury House Drive opposite the lodge.
3. West Wembury Farm between the shippen and the side gate
4. Next to the Parish Room (still there)
5. Outside of School Playground east
6. Outside of School Playground west (removed in 1946)
7. Cross Park Road (left hand side next to the 4th bungalow)
8. Church Road (in the garden of what is now “Yonderwood”)
9. Church Road (where the entrance to Seaview Drive now is)
9. Beach View Crescent (top of the hill where the road now goes through to Southland Park Road)
11. Entrance to Cliff Road (on the left).
12. On the cliff (in front of what is now “Jogram”)
- 13 & 14. Roper’s Field

It seems strange but I do not recall there being an air raid shelter in Knighton. Whether there was and it was demolished right after the war I do not know. The one at the west end of Wembury School was demolished as soon as the war was over, and yet all of the others just hung around for years. Even the one at Wembury House was there until the late 1950s.

The Air Raid Shelter in the photograph below is the one at the top of Thorn Drive, this is the type with the short passage way and a room on either side. The window in the side is a post war alteration.



They were of redbrick construction with a flat roof in reinforced concrete. The walls were eighteen inches thick and they usually comprised a narrow passage with two rooms coming off it. Depending the shape and size of the site they were either arranged as a shortish passage with a room on each side, or a long passage with both rooms coming off one side. The latter seemed to be the preferred option. I think that the idea of the two rooms was to segregate the sexes, how this worked in practice, I have no idea. Where the two rooms were together on one side of the passage there was an opening between them. At the end of the shelter remote from the passage there was a “soft spot” in the outer wall so that in the event of the entrance being cut off by debris the bricks could easily be removed to effect an escape. In the case of those shelters with a room on each side of the passage, there had to be two “soft spots”.

The one at West Wembury Farm we used to use for storing all the paper and other combustibles for the Guy Fawkes bonfire. I think that this was completely unbeknown to Mr Smallridge though! It was also used as a prison or torture chamber in some of our games (we were very nice children really!) all of the shelters smelt of damp concrete. I can't imagine that they would have been very pleasant to spend any length of time in.

The photograph below is of the one by the Parish Room which is the type with the long passage with two rooms coming off one side. I can remember going into this one when I was about thirteen years old for an illicit smoke before catching the school bus one morning, there were two or three of us and we thought that we were being quite daring.



The house peeping over the top of the shelter was the first house to be built in Wembury after the war. It was built for the Cutchees, Sylvia and Stan, who called the house “Sylstan”. Mrs Cutchee was the first cook at Wembury School when it went over to self catering. She and Stan were both very involved with the Wembury United Football Club in the 1940s and 1950s. As they got older Sylstan was too big for big for them so they downsized by having “Little Sylstan” built next door adjacent to the school.

Of the two shelters in Roper's Field, The flat roof of one of them can be made out from the bottom road of Church Walk Wood but is now almost completely grown over with ivy. The field, in which they are sited is more correctly called Mill Meadow. It is where the Langdon Mill stood before its demolition in the early part of the nineteenth century. It is possible to get close up to both shelters, and to go inside. They are well

camouflaged with ivy but are quite easily found. In the top one of the two photographs below there is a well camouflaged shelter on the left. The lower photograph clearly shows, as one gets nearer, the entrance and passageway linking the two compartments within.



WARTIME RELICS

Having not been born until 1942, I remember very little of the war itself, but can remember quite a lot of the things left behind afterwards as result of it. Some of it hung about for quite a long time, in some cases many years.

There were of course the air raid shelters, four of which now remain on the Knighton side of the parish. Working from Thorn down through the village to the Roper's Field, there were originally thirteen of them,

There was the wrecked aircraft in the field near the top of Knighton Hill, which we used to play on as children rather hoping that it was one of "theirs", but finding out later that it was in fact one of ours. The pilot had ejected safely. though

There were the blackout screens that I remember being put over the windows at Old Barton Farm, they were sheets of plywood fixed to a wooden frame. The ones at the village hall, I especially remember as they remained in use for many years afterwards to black out the hall on "Cinema Night". They were made of a funny kind of material which was like a layer of tar and horse hair or something similar sandwiched between two layers of heavy paper, this was fixed to wooden frames and painted to match the walls, and was quite lightweight. These covered the windows entirely, so there was no ventilation once the hall was blacked out, which wasn't too bad in the winter, but could be quite oppressive in the summer.

Gasmasks were another thing, there were the ones that were carried around in a small khaki coloured satchel with a shoulder strap, which most people had. These had a long crinkly tube that went from the mask to the filter unit, which remained in the satchel (or haversack, as they were more commonly called). There were the ones for children which were carried in a small square satchel and had the filter unit attached directly to the mask, these did away with the flexible hose, and were considered to be easier for the children to handle, Later an adult version of these was brought out which was considered to be more 'posh' than the old ones with the crinkly pipe! There were also ones for putting babies in, where the baby was totally enclosed in the assembly. There was a hand pump fitted so that a supply of air could be admitted via a filter, as the baby's lungs would not have been strong enough to perform the task. Parents were supposed to carry out acclimatisation tests with these so that the baby could be put into them with no problems if it ever came to the real thing. After the War, the gas masks were supposed to have been returned to the War Office who set up receiving points for them. The one for our area was the Duke of Cornwall Hotel in Plymouth. Even after this recall, many still hung around for a long time afterwards and most people retained the haversacks to be used as school satchels, or for carrying beach picnics, and swimming gear in, and also for working men for their sandwiches.

My father was issued with a Bren gun and ammunition, which I believe he was supposed to set up at Gabber Farm ready to repel the enemy should they ever have landed. This had to be returned after the war and was duly taken in to the Duke of Cornwall Hotel in Plymouth which was the receiving point. There was quite a lot of concern on the part of the Army authorities because there were two rounds of ammunition, which my father could not account for. I think that they were told in no uncertain terms that he was certainly not going to worry himself, and neither should they, over two rounds of ammunition especially in view of the countless



millions of rounds that they had expended in the previous five or six years of which a great percentage could not be accounted for!

On the beach a network of scaffolding bars intertwined with barbed wire, had been set up across the beach to deter enemy craft from landing. The barbed wire quickly rusted and fell away and the network of poles got rather battered by the heavy seas but managed to stay in place throughout the war. Up on the cliffs, barbed wire defences had been set up, the wire having been strung between stanchions which had been driven into the ground. These were like large corkscrews at the bottom with a long straight section with a four loops at the top. The corkscrew section was screwed into the ground using a long bar through one of the loops, and then the wire was strung from pole to pole using the loops, and then more barbed wire liberally distributed in coils over the top. The majority of the ironwork was removed after the war, in fact Russell Snell took most of it away to use as fencing. Many bits and pieces hung around for a long time and featured in our sandcastle and dam building on the beach for many years. The barbed wire on the cliffs just rusted away and for many years the stanchions were being discovered amongst the undergrowth and removed.

Some fragments still remain and come to light from time to time. The photograph below, taken in October 2007, shows a coil of barbed wire, which became exposed by the natural erosion of the cliff.



Two pill-boxes were built on the beach to overlook the sea defences, one on each side, and were manned throughout the war. The majority of the structure was, removed just after the war, but for some reason, the bases were left. The one by the Mill has just about disappeared, just a part of the steps now remain, and of the other one quite a substantial part of the base remains. But the sea is gradually eroding it. A pill-box was also built in the garden of Bay Cottage, and is still there. And another one at Ridge Cross, which was removed very shortly after the end of the war, as it caused a bit of an obstruction.

My father's field on the higher side of the Almshouses was one of the longest and flattest in the parish. The War Office felt that this could be used by the enemy for the landing of small planes or gliders. Obstacles were placed across the middle of the field in the form of sections of concrete sewage pipe of about four feet in diameter, and six feet in length, stood on their ends and filled with sand, and placed about eight feet apart. There were there until the late 1950s. I think that one of Harry Penny's fields at Spirewell was given the same treatment.

Down at Cofflete creek there used to be a tank or armoured car in the undergrowth stuck in the mud, whatever it was it had caterpillar tracks! We used to get down there by going down a little footpath that was opposite

the Hollocambe end of Train Road. We used to work our way around the edge of the river and come back up through my father's fields at Thorn.

Over near Wembury Point was the old Ack-Ack camp which had been vacated, and in which we used spend a lot of time. Quite a lot of materials had been removed from the buildings, as there was a great shortage of new building materials and recycling of such items was the order of the day. The buildings were mostly of wood or asbestos construction except for the guardhouse by the main gate, which was built of blocks and smooth rendered. This was later converted into a couple of bungalows. Right beside the main gate was a large nissen hut type of building where my father used to winter his threshing machine.

The old swimming pool at Wembury point, which was actually a part of the Wembury Point Holiday Camp before the war, had been fitted with diving boards after it had been requisitioned by the Army, and we used to spend quite a bit of time there in the summer.

In the back room at the Parish Room, the Home Guard tin helmets were still hanging on the pegs for a long time after the war had finished.

There were several bomb craters, which had grassed over and were great fun for playing in. One of these was behind the old Village Hall, there was one in Jack Smallridge's field just in front of Ruskin Cottage, and another one in the field off Church Road where "Crossways" now is. There were a few more up on the Warren, which as far as I know are still there.

Up on the cliff there was the ruins of a house that had received a direct hit. Just the outer walls remained, and four gaunt chimneys pointing skywards. It had been quite a substantial house but not all that old, probably from the 1920s or 1930s. It was very hard to get to because of the brambles and blackthorn which had grown up all around it. Having made the effort of getting there we found that it was not all that interesting, so it was left out of our list of places to play! It was removed in the 1960s.

The photograph below shows the pill box in the garden of Bay Cottage, which is now a garden feature, and now better camouflaged than it was during its wartime service.



STREETLIGHTS AND TELEPHONES

In the late 1940s and 1950s Streetlights were literally few and far between.

Between the top of Knighton Hill and Old School there were nine lights and they were sited as follows:

1. Opposite No.4 Knighton Hill
2. Opposite Tap Cottage
3. Opposite Rose Villa
4. Opposite No.1 Knighton Villas
5. Opposite the Jubilee Inn
6. On the brow of the hill before West Wembury
7. By the gateway to West Wembury Farm
8. The Square
9. Opposite the Parish Room

There was an additional one at the bottom of Jubilee Hill, at the end of Watergate Cottages

They continued on down through Church road at about the same gap intervals, the last one was at the Cliff Road Junction. There were none in Beach View Crescent, or Cross Park Road. They were just ordinary 100 watt lamps under a white enamel reflector, they were fixed to the wooden post by an inverted 'U' shaped bracket with an ornamental spike at its crown. They came on at dusk and went off at 11.00 pm.

Telephones were just as sparsely distributed, and coincided almost with the list of those with cars.

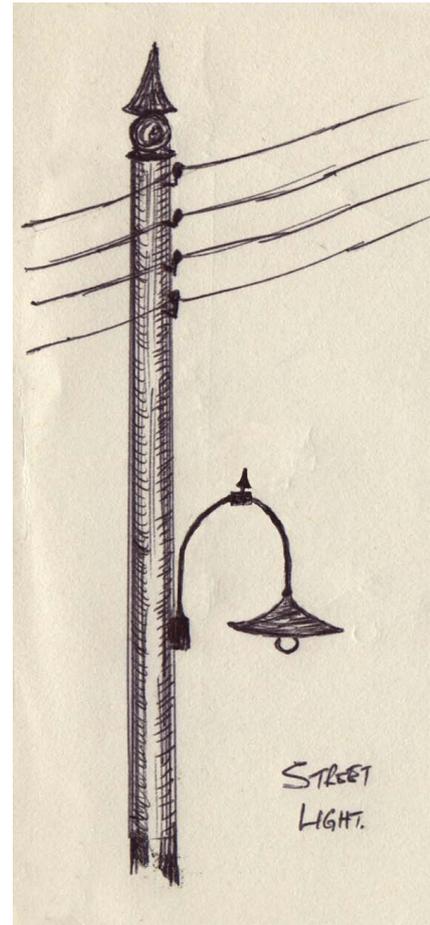
There were twelve between the top of Knighton Hill and the Old School, and were as follows:

1. Ben Clifton at Knighton Farm
2. Captain Ayre at Four Corners
3. Mr & Mrs Paltridge at Rose Villa
4. Henry Lugar at 3 Watergate Cottages
5. Raymond Brown at 5 Watergate Cottages
6. Telephone Kiosk opposite the Jubilee Inn
7. Captain Poyngun at 'Osmia'
8. Mr & Mrs Toogood at 'The Cottage'
9. Jack Smallridge at West Wembury Farm
10. Vic Smith at the Post Office
11. Robert Moon at West Wembury Cottage
12. Mrs Nicholas at 'Willowhayes'

It would seem quite amazing to us today that the Jubilee Inn was not on the telephone, neither was the School.

There were of course, other people with telephones in Church Road, Brownhill Lane, Cross Park Road, Beach View Crescent and Cliff Road.

To make telephone call to Plymouth, one had to dial 01 to call the operator at Plymstock, tell her the number required, and if a line was available she would connect you. If not, she would get you to hang up, and would call you back, when a line was available.



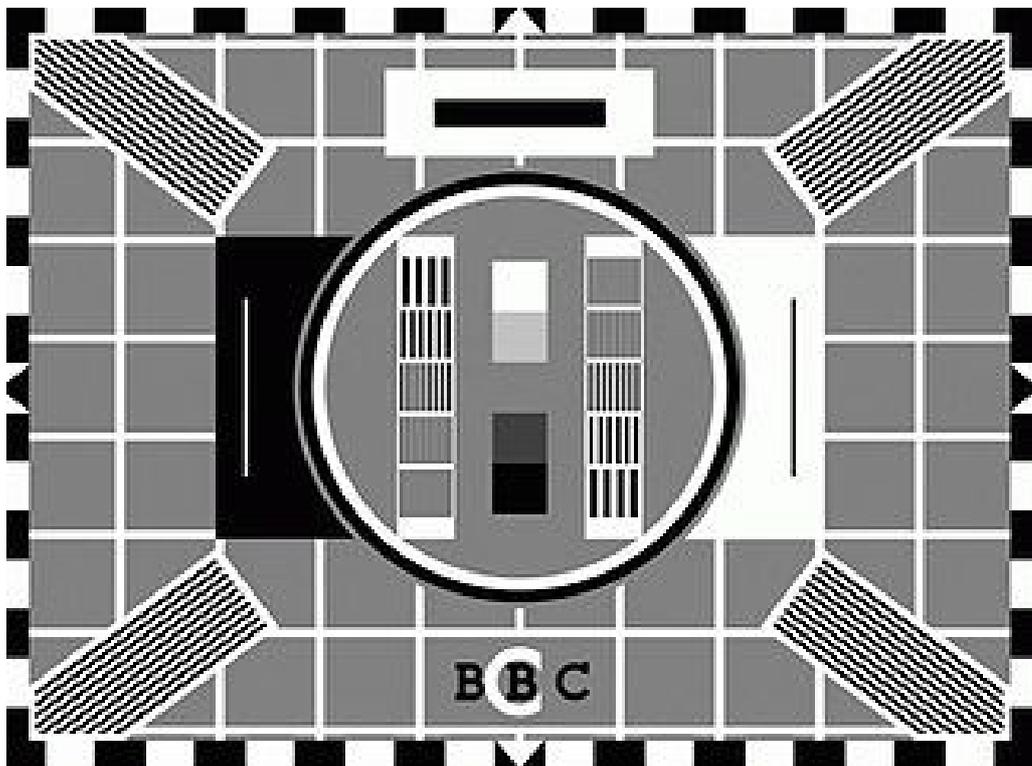
TELEVISION

Television came to us in Wembury in the mid 1950s when the mast was built at North Hessary Tor. This then enabled BBC transmissions to be received throughout the Westcountry. Of course as with all such things we were the last in the country to get it. This was to repeat itself for the advent of ITV, BBC2, and colour television, Devon and Cornwall were always the last on the list!

One of the first television sets I remember in the village was in about 1952 and it was at West Wembury Cottage, which at that time was the home of the 'Moons'. It was a 'console' model which meant that it was floor standing, the bottom part being occupied by a large good quality speaker. Mr Robert Moon was a senior partner of Moon and Sons of Exeter and Plymouth, whose stock in trade was originally Pianos. Moons Pianos were well known all over the Westcountry. They later extended into gramophones and gramophone records, then radio, and later on again, television. They had a television set before the mast at North Hessary Tor was built, and consequently had a huge aerial on the chimney. Mrs Moon did tell my parents that it was all rather hit and miss, and it was seldom that they managed to get a decent reception.

Mr Ken O'Connor also had a Television set up at No.1 Crosspark Road, he was an electronics enthusiast and he built the set himself. It was said that it was not enclosed in a cabinet but spread out over the top of a table. I never actually saw this for myself. I do remember there being an 'X' aerial at the top of an enormous pole in the garden, which I also remember as always being at a somewhat jaunty angle! At Hollacombe the Channings were the first to have television, they were also 'pioneers' from the days before the North Hessary Tor transmitter.

Those were the only television sets in the village for quite some time. In 1953 Mr and Mrs Studholme, as they were then, had one installed in Wembury House especially for the Coronation, for the benefit of the staff. They themselves were both in Westminster Abbey on the day, as he was one of Her Majesty's Privy Councillors at the time. The set was removed after the Coronation and they didn't bother to have one at the house for many years. They did have one at the flat in Knightsbridge, but felt that when they came down to Wembury it was to escape from all of that. I think that they had one when they finally retired to Wembury to keep abreast of events and also for the benefit of the grandchildren when they came to stay.



I think that the transmissions from North Hessary Tor began in 1954, and it was from that time that television aerials started to sprout up all over the village. We children considered ourselves 'experts' in the merits of the different types of aerials there were mainly 'X' and 'double X', also 'H' and 'double H'. The 'double X' were two 'Xs' superimposed one over the other, whereas the 'double H' were two 'Hs' alongside of each other. Indoor aerials were circular and usually sat on top of the set.

At first, of course, it was a great novelty. I remember that when my parents had it installed at Watergate Cottages, we were the first cottage in the terrace to have it, and children and grown ups from the village came and stood in the lane to watch the aerial being put up, and when the set was actually put into place and switched on, we had a full house! We had a set with a 14 inch screen, a "Sobell", which I believe was an American company. It was enclosed within a highly polished wooden case, it was a piece of furniture in its own right, and filled the alcove beside the fireplace. It was 405 lines, monochrome of course.

Every day during the morning there were test transmissions in the form of short films interspersed with Test Card 'C', This was specially put out for the installation of television sets. Each set had to be adjusted on site, not like today where you just buy them and plug them in and away they go! In some cases the set would need readjustment if it were moved to a different position in the room. In the afternoon there would just be Test Card 'C' transmitted, with classical music. There was no avid viewing in the mornings as the same films were repeated day after day.

In some areas of Plymouth there were terrible problems with 'ghosting' whereby a secondary fainter image would appear on the screen offset from the main image. In the late 1950s I used to assist with the delivery and installation of televisions for Spooners of Plymouth. Many a time we would have an aerial engineer on the roof slowly turning the aerial with another engineer at the set trying to get the best picture. In those days before such things as two way radios, the chimney served quite well as an intercom, and I was usually the one who had to shout up the chimney to tell the man on the roof when to start or stop rotating!

The proper transmissions started in the evenings. From 5.00 pm until 6.00 pm Children's Television was transmitted. The only thing that I can really remember from this was "Crackerjack", which went out on a Wednesday, and was presented by Eamon Andrews. There were also several Western programmes. "Range Rider" was one that comes to mind, also "Circus Boy" with Mickey Dolenz who about a decade later became one of the "Monkees". After Children's Television the network shut down until 7.00 pm when it would reopen with the BBC Television News. This always started with a picture of the Alexandra Palace Transmitter with the words 'BBC NEWS' rotating around it and background music a bit like Morse Code. The newsreaders were always immaculately turned out, the gentlemen in evening dress with black bow ties, and the ladies in smart evening gowns.

The news would be followed by the entertainment for the evening, which was usually in half hourly stints, and there were such things as "Panorama" with Richard Dimbleby, "Sportsview" I think that was presented by Peter Dimmock. There was also, I think, the first ever Television Soap Opera, "The Grove Family", which had a mother and father, a teenage son and daughter and a younger son and daughter, The younger son was played Christopher Beeney, who later went on to star in "Upstairs, Downstairs" as Edward. There was Granny Grove, played by Nancy Roberts, she had a companion called Miss Jones who used to call her 'Cherub' much to her annoyance. I seem to remember the signature tune being played on a harmonica. There were American sitcoms, one was the "Burns and Allen Show" with George Burns and Gracie Allen, with their neighbours, Harry and Blanche Morton, and also a friend, Harry Von-Zell who dropped in from time to time. Another one was the "Amos 'n' Andy Show" which was an all black sitcom 'Sapphire' was the wife of 'Amos' the 'Andy' character was a friend of Amos with whom he used to get into various scrapes, very much trying the patience of the long-suffering Sapphire. The plots were very much the same as the Burns and Allen show, with plenty of the American 'feel good' factor and plenty of dubbed on laughter.

The News was at 9.00 pm. and afterwards there was sometimes a forum type of programme where 'issues' were discussed. I remember one such programme called "Is This Your Problem" I think that this was presented by a woman called 'Edana Romney' and which went into things like birth control and pregnancy out of wedlock, quite revolutionary for the times! The network closed down for the night at 10.30pm, always ending with the National Anthem. Some people used to actually stand up in their own living rooms for it! After the anthem, the picture would reduce to a small white spot in the middle of the screen, when you were reminded

to 'switch off your set', This would be followed up by a high pitched continuous whistle, I think for the benefit of those who might have fallen asleep.

On Saturday nights there was "Dixon of Dock Green" with Jack Warner as Constable George Dixon, this carried on right through to the days of colour television, by which time he had reached the dizzy heights of Sergeant! There was usually a variety show, which came from the BBC Theatre, which I think was at Shepherd's Bush, and which starred many musical variety acts always including the "Television Toppers". These were a dozen high kicking, dancing girls, six blonde, and six brunette, who carried out the most dazzling dance routines. There was also football on a Saturday night, "Match of the Day" and it was due to television transmissions that it was decided to change the colour of the football from brown to white so that it could be more easily seen by the viewers. Teams always had to be, one in a dark coloured strip, and one in a light coloured strip, so that they could be differentiated between, instead of looking all grey on the screen.

On Sunday evenings, I think that transmissions started at 6.00 pm. I remember there being Sooty with Harry H Corbett, and 'It's Magic' with David Nixon. There was "What's My Line", which was a quiz programme, where a panel of celebrities had to guess the occupation of contestants within a limit of ten questions. Eamon Andrews was in the chair and there were four panelists I remember there was Gilbert Harding, Isobel Barnett, Barbara Kelly who was the wife of the Canadian comedian Bernard Braden, and Cyril Fletcher. There was always a celebrity guest from show business or sport, or some other high profile occupation, for whom the panelists had to wear blindfolds and guess the person's identity in ten questions. Very often, later in the evening, there would be a Play, which was very often a special television drama adaption and which was usually very good. Sometimes they would broadcast a farce straight from the Whitehall Theatre, these always starred Brian Rix and Elspeth Gray. Later on there was the "Brains Trust" with such worthies as Sir Mortimer Wheeler, where highly intellectual matters were discussed. There were also Edgar Lustgarten murder mystery stories which were made into short half hour plays. I think that transmissions finished at 10.00 pm on a Sunday.

Everybody watched Television in the dark. At night one always knew which houses had television because there would be a greyish glow against the curtained windows, I think this was mainly because people had been used to going to the cinema and sitting in the dark, and automatically assumed that this must be the way to watch this new wonder. Anyway rumours soon abounded about this being bad for the eyes and so the 'television lamp' came into being. These were meant to sit on top of the television set. There were of a variety of them and they were designed so that the television viewer did not have a direct view of the bulb in the lamp. A very popular one was shaped like a ship's wheel where the centre area was occupied by a painted underwater scene with brightly coloured tropical fish. The bulb was positioned behind and as well as illuminating the fishy scene, it also lit up the wall behind. Another favourite was shaped like a Dutch clog onto which sails had been fitted to make a little ship. The bulb was concealed among the sails. In our house an ordinary table lamp was used, and with a large enough shade and a small enough bulb, served the purpose very well.

I am afraid that the poor old radio, which we used to avidly listen to every evening, got kicked into touch, although it was listened to during the day, and later made a bit of a comeback when the novelty had worn off the television, and we were missing our Sunday night favourites like "Take it from Here", or the "Al Read Show".

EARLY CLOSING ETC

In the 1950s we had such things as “Early Closing Day” where on one weekday all of the shops and businesses except for the banks in towns and cities would close at 1.00pm for the day. In Plymouth this was on Wednesdays, and after 1.00pm the whole city centre became like a ghost town, all was peace and quiet, very little traffic noise, the silence only being broken by the clock of St Andrew's Church striking, and the carillon playing every hour on the hour. This is very hard to imagine today with shops open all day and every day, including Sundays, and Royal Parade teeming with traffic.

Even in Wembury, early closing day was on Tuesdays when the village shop and post office would close at 1.00pm.

A lot of organisations had their own unique working hours, which usually had some historical significance. For instance, the banks all closed at 3.00 pm every day and did not open on Saturdays. I believe that the early closing was so that the tellers could count and check the money, so they didn't actually finish work at 3.00pm, but went on working behind closed doors until 5.00pm. When I worked for Spooners of Plymouth in the late 1950s the old porters there had to get the money for banking to Lloyds bank each day, before it closed. Their routine was unchanging, they set off every day at the same time, in a little procession, from the store in their khaki coloured dustcoats, carrying the money in some old battered brown suitcases. One could set one's clock by them. Such a thing would be unthinkable today (2005).

Pubs also had their own hours, which harked back to the First World War in an effort to keep the armaments workers out of the pubs between shifts, in an effort to improve productivity. In the 1950s they opened at 10.30am until 2.30pm and then again from 6.00pm until 10.00pm. On Sundays they didn't open until 12.00 Noon, and 7.00 pm in the evenings. Later on in the 1960s, on weekdays and Saturdays, opening was extended to 10.30pm in the evenings but remained at 10.00pm on Sundays. There was no “drinking up time” every body had to have finished drinking and be ready to leave the premises when “time” was called. Later on again it was decided that pubs could remain open until 11.00pm on Saturday nights, and then this was extended to include Friday nights as well. In the 1970s it was then decided that the opening could be extended to 11.00pm every night in the summer, with Sunday closing remaining at 10.00pm, (this was later extended to 10.30pm). These times were decided at the discretion of individual licensing authorities and varied from area to area, especially in what was considered to be “summer time”. In some areas it coincided with the changing of the clocks in March and October, others felt that it was from the 1st May until 1st October, whilst others ran it from Easter to Michaelmas. We had a situation where the old Plympton Rural District was more liberal in their ruling than the Plymouth authorities, and pubs were open later on the Plymstock side of Laira Bridge than on the Plymouth side. In places like Plympton where there was a cattle market, the pubs were allowed to stay open until 4.00pm in the afternoon on Market Day, which in the case of Plympton was Mondays. Then, of course, later on again came “drinking up time” where patrons were allowed ten minutes after time had been called in which to finish their drinks.

Very little Sunday trading was allowed, mostly restaurants and cafés in places where there were likely to be lots of visitors needing refreshments. This usually meant most seaside places, where usually the sale of certain other goods as well like postcards or small souvenirs was also permitted. The Mill Café on Wembury Beach opened on Sundays, where as well as buying ice cream lemonade and other refreshments, one was also able to buy buckets and spades, and postcards as well. The Sunday Trading Laws were very strange indeed, I seem to remember that there was a clause which made it illegal to purchase a Bible on a Sunday! Plymouth city centre was deserted on a Sunday, in fact I know of some people who used to go in there on a Sunday especially for the peace and quiet, just to walk around and window shop, and perhaps to stop off at the Barbican for a cup of tea before returning home.

THE MILK LORRY

When we were children in the 1940s and 1950s the milk lorry used to call at all of the farms each morning to collect the daily milking, which was taken away in churns for testing and pasteurising, and leaving behind empty churns for refilling for the next day. Some of the milk came back, the following day, in bottles, to Wembury Dairy for household deliveries. All of the farms had to have the milk in churns ready for collection at the farm gate. Some of these churn platforms are still in place.

The lorry which was operated by H G Hines (George) the Plympton Carriers, had a set route each day and it was possible to set the clock by it passing one's house. The lorry carried the churns in two tiers and there was a system of stanchions and keep chains to hold the churns in position. There was a distinctive noise made by the clanking of the chains against the sides of the churns. Many is the time that my mother said to us, "You'll be late for school if you don't hurry up, the milk lorry has gone down".

For many years it was driven by Les Willis who used to start his Wembury collection at Hollacombe, and his first call would be at Stan Channing's to wake him up, in order that he could get his few Jerseys milked so that Les could pick it up on the loop back to Train Road. Stan was not a 'Morning' person, especially if he had been to the 'Jubilee' the night before. The next stop was at Raymond Brown's at Jeny's Park on the top road, and then on to Old and New Barton Farms. The original idea was for the farmers at Old and New Barton to have their milk at the top of Knighton Hill ready for collection, but there was one who never got it there in time and Les had to wait, sometimes for quite a long time, and in those days when the lorry cabs were unheated, it could be quite uncomfortable in winter. Les eventually said to my father "Henry I will do a deal with you, I will call first at New Barton and then to you at Old Barton, if you will let me come in the kitchen for a cup of tea and a warm beside the fire". My father said, "Les if you call at the farm to collect the milk you can not only have a cup of tea but a cooked breakfast as well". This arrangement worked well, and when we left Old Barton, it was nice to know that Miss Neil and Miss Wardrop continued the custom, and so did Tom Steer after them.

After Old Barton and New Barton the lorry would then go down Knighton Hill to Ben Clifton at Knighton Farm, to pick up there, and then back up the hill, to Hollacombe and Stan Channing's by which time he should have finished his milking! It would then do a sharp left turn into Train road to pick up from Harry Penney at Spirewell and Fred Rowland at Train. From there it would carry on down Train Road up Jubilee Hill past the Jubilee Inn and on to Jack Smallridge at West Wembury Farm, then up the hill to Brownhill Lane to Bob Phillips's at South Barton, then to Harold Willcox at Greenbank, and then back down the hill, and down to Harry Booth, at Ford Farm. From there up the other side of the valley to George Body at Mount Pleasant, then on to Lewis Andrews at Langdon Barton, Dick Pursley at Langdon Home Farm, then to Joe McBean at Gabber Farm, then Robert Giles at Princes Farm, Frank Rogers at Manor Farm, Jim Pursley at Manor Bourne then on to Wilsons at the top of Bovisand, and then out of the Parish, presumably to pick up in Staddiscombe (Raneliegh at this time was arable only).

Bob Phillips and Raymond Brown used to sell their milk directly to Norman Little at Wembury Dairy, later on this was not allowed, all of the milk had to go into Plymouth to be tested. The following day 'fresh' milk would be delivered back to Wembury Dairy for household sales. This meant that our 'local' milk could have come from anywhere in the catchment area which covered South Devon and East Cornwall!

The milk used to be taken in to the old Three Towns Dairy in Union Street for processing, but when that closed, it had to be taken to Saltash. In those days there was no Tamar Bridge, so the lorry had to use the Saltash Ferry sometimes having to wait for long periods down at Saltash Passage with the sun blazing down on the churns.

Sometimes mishaps occurred when churns would be contaminated by 'foreign objects'. In our case, it was one of the farm cats that had managed to get into the dairy on one occasion. It must have been trying to help itself to a free drink, lost its footing and fell into the churn. The lid was put on and the churn went off in the lorry. The churn and its contents were returned to us the following day! There were many stories of other similar occurrences, I think that rats were the most common thing that found their way into churns. There is a story of a set of false teeth turning up in a churn, I always found that one a little hard to believe, as surely somebody would know if their teeth had fallen out, unless of course he kept them in his top pocket, only to be put in should he be required to speak to the farmers wife, or any other lady.

Many years later, under the Milk Marketing Board, the whole thing changed when the churn lorry was dispensed with and a tanker called to each farm and pumped the milk out of cooled holding tanks adjacent to each milking parlour. Now of course there is only one milking herd left in the whole parish, at Gabber Farm. So gone is the old ritual of herds of cows being moved on the roads in the parish between fields and farms, mornings and afternoons, drivers having to sit patiently in their cars while this ritual was played out. Along with this, of course, no cow shit all over Knighton Hill, Train Road, Church Road and Ford Road, and no natural fertilisation of the meadows, which attracted the wild birds and made the wild flowers grow in profusion.

Les Willis ended up working for the old Plympton Rural District Council and drove the last remaining steam driven steam roller which the council owned. This was normally kept in the old Plympton Market cattle pens at Skew Bridge alongside the railway line where livestock transported by rail was embarked and disembarked.

THE BIN MAN COMETH

On Thursdays the dustcart came to the village. It was green and the back part was of semi circular cross section with curved sliding doors on each side, a bit like a fryer in a fish and chip shop! There was usually a garden rake and a couple of tin baths hanging off the back of it

There were no plastic dustbins and bin bags were totally unheard of. Dustbins were made of galvanised iron and had vertical corrugations to give added strength. The lids were also of galvanised iron and the corrugations fanned out from the centre. There were two stout carrying handles.

All that ever went into the dustbin was tins, bottles, bones and ash. Everything that came into the house was either wrapped in paper or enclosed in a cardboard box. All houses had open fires and anything that could be burnt, was burnt in the household grate or in a lot of cases, the cooking range.

Coal was very expensive, and was sometimes in short supply, the greedy power stations and factories being given preference over what was available. People had to look for other alternatives for fuel. Many went to the beach picking up driftwood, and a lot of others picked up fallen wood and fir cones in the woods, also the field hedges were quite a good source of pieces of decaying wood. Those who were not into gardening and the manufacture of compost, would burn their vegetable peelings on the household fire after first wrapping them in newspaper.

The dustman came round to each house and emptied the contents of the bin into a tin bath which he would carry away over his shoulder and tip into the back of the cart. They usually wore a black shiny cap and a sort of black cape over the shoulder on which they rested the tin bath.

The lorry could go through the whole village in a morning and still have room for more. Even in our house where there were five children, and my mother cooked every thing that we ate, the bin was only ever half filled.

CANS FROM CANADA

In the late 1940s and 1950s, about once a year, there arrived at the school a number of cardboard boxes with the maple leaf of Canada proudly emblazoned on their sides, along with the legend "From the children of Canada to the children of Great Britain".

The boxes contained tins of stewing steak, about two dozen in each box, each one also bearing the maple leaf logo and the legend. These would be distributed to all of the children in the school and it usually worked out that most children had two. Any left over were given to those considered to be worse off than the others so they would have three. In our family where there often three of us at the village school we would take home a total of six tins.

In Canada they had heard about the rationing in Britain, and must have thought that we children were pretty well on the bread line! It would seem that this system of 'food aid' (as they would call it today) was devised where the tins would be sent by the children of Canada directly to the children of Great Britain, thereby keeping the respective governments out of it.

It was all very well meaning of the children of Canada, and perhaps in the industrial Midlands and the North, and in the run down areas of our large cities, was well warranted, but in a place like Wembury where in spite of rationing we all managed to live quite well. It seemed a little as though we were getting something undeservedly.

I am not sure as to how far the scheme went, I know that all of the primary schools in the area were included, but I don't ever recall anybody bringing tins home from Plymstock or Plympton Grammar School.

PARAFFIN STOVES

The 'Rippingille Portable Paraffin Stove' as shown in the photograph was the ultimate in portable cooking appliances and with its more plainer 'Valour' counterpart was a regular sight in the many dwellings without electricity in the village.

It was 18" high by 15" deep and the oven was 18" wide. It comprised two paraffin burners beneath the oven, with two hotplates on the top. The hotplates had covers which were kept in place when the plates were not in use in order to conserve the heat in the oven.

The Valour stove was less ornate having an oblong viewing panel in the door and plain metal sides where the Rippingille had the pierced cast metalwork.

I can remember seeing ovens like these in use in the Almshouses, and the many wooden dwellings scattered up and down Church Road and Roper's Field, Mrs Jude had one down at Ford Orchard. Most people augmented them with a 'Primus' which was more efficient for boiling a kettle.

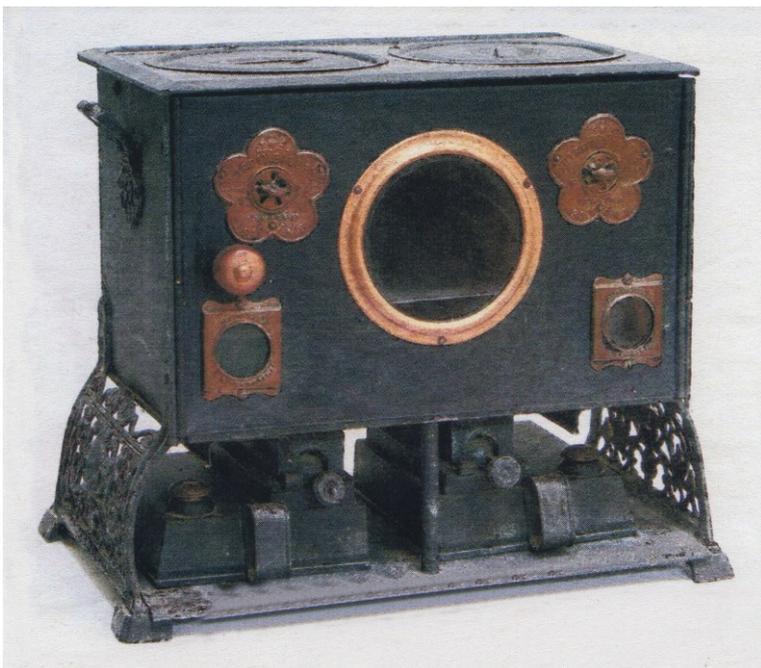
Even in some dwellings with solid fuel ranges, the paraffin ovens were used in the summer when it more economical than firing up the range.

Vic Smith used to sell paraffin at the village shop and people walking back from the shop with a bag of shopping in one hand and a can of paraffin in the other was a regular sight.

Very few of the wooden dwellings had proper fireplaces so the majority were heated by the Valor free standing paraffin stoves which were cylindrical, black, about 2'6" high, and with three cast metal cabriolé style legs. There was a viewing window with red glass in the side, and the top was perforated with a series of holes which cast a pattern on the ceiling when the stove was lit. I can remember at one time when we were children, there being two or three of these in the Church, when the central heating was not working.



The Primus



The Rippingille Portable Oven



The Valor Heater

“GUNPOWDER, TREASON AND PLOT”

Starting in October each year there was always great deal of activity taking place in anticipation of ‘Firework Night’, which we all knew would come on November 5th.

We had been told at the village school of the significance of this great annual celebration of how in 1605 Guy Fawkes and his group had plotted to blow up the Houses of Parliament along with King James I and his government, and that the plot had been foiled.

We had to draw our own pictures of how we imagined the event to have taken place, and I remember that most of us elected to draw the barrels of gunpowder piled up in the undercroft of the Houses of Parliament, ready to be ignited.

For the children of Knighton the Guy Fawkes bonfire was always sited on the empty plot where the Knighton Stores now stand. The procurement of the materials and the building of the fire was done solely by the children.

Come the first week of October we would start collecting combustible materials with which we would build the bonfire. For the core we would get two or three old tyres, usually from Noah Goad who lived in ‘Shirley’ which was a little asbestos and corrugated iron shack in the field behind Cross Park Road. Noah was what one would call a ‘rough diamond’ there was always parts of cars and lorries in the field and plenty of old tyres, and he was always pleased to let us have a couple of them. These we would roll from Noah’s place up to the bonfire site. Trying not to let them crash into the shop window in the square as they hurtled down the hill! Brushwood was quite plentiful as this was in the days when between the harvest and the ploughing, the farmers would be cutting back hedges, especially those that gave onto public roads. More substantial wooden items were usually donated in the form of redundant items of furniture, I hate to think of what we burned back then that would probably be worth decent money today! There were usually other pieces of miscellaneous timber, picked up in the highways and byways, also bits of old garden sheds, broken doors and the odd window frame. It was not unusual to include pieces of roofing felt and linoleum (I don’t think that the burning of rubber tyres and roofing felt in the middle of the village would go down too well these days!). Newspaper was collected and stored in the air raid shelter at West Wembury Farm to keep it dry. I don’t know whether Mr Smallridge knew that we used it! In the week working up to the 5th November the proper construction of the bonfire took place. It usually finished up so high that the bigger boys would be standing on top of it having materials thrown up to them to pack into place. On the day before the fire was to be lit we would bring the paper up from the air raid shelter and work it in all around the base of the fire, keeping some back in case it rained on the day, so that we would have enough dry paper to re-prime the fire if necessary. Some of the adults brought cans of paraffin with them on the night to assist with the ignition should the fire have got wet. Sometimes one of the adults would make a proper Guy which would be hoisted up to the top of the fire.

On the night the fire would be lit at about 6.30pm and when going nicely everybody would start letting off their fireworks taking turns so that the display would last! At about 8.00pm, when all of the fireworks had been lit, most of the adults used to wander off to the Jubilee Inn, and that would be them sorted for the rest of the evening. The older boys, and some of the girls as well, would go off with pockets full of squibs and bangers to terrorise those who had been selected for ‘special treatment’. It is something that I am not particularly proud of, but we all did it, and our parents knew that we did it, and it would be wrong to omit it from this account. It was the same ones each year and they were selected normally because they were particularly nasty to us children, or as in one particular case, used to retaliate with buckets of water and spuds, and usually ended up by chasing us down Knighton Hill, which we all thought was great fun.

The younger children would stay at the bonfire site with the remaining adults to watch the fire burn right down and then go off to their homes. Very often on the following day we would revive the fire and bake potatoes in the hot embers.

The whole event was great fun. Nothing was actually organised, it just happened, I cannot recall there ever being any accidents. There were no Government guidelines that had to be followed, just good old common sense prevailed, a commodity that nobody seems to be credited with having these days.

NO PLASTIC

It would be hard today to envisage a world where there was very little plastic and no polythene, but that was how it was in the 1940s and early 1950s.

Some toys were made of plastic, I remember especially the 'Bayco' building sets which were actually 'Bakelite' hence their name. Having worked out the plan of the building, one would insert small steel rods in to a green bakelite base to make the shape of the building and the bakelite brick, window, and door, sections were slid down between the rods to make the building. The brick sections were in either red or white, and there were special ones for the corners. The window and door sections were in green, there were various sizes of window, including bays, and two types of doors glazed for the front, and plain for the back. There were also garage doors, plain openers, up and over doors were still in the future for domestic garages! There were differing lengths of rods depending upon whether the building was to be single or two storied. One was really restricted in the variety of building shapes by the roof sections which were all in one piece and of green bakelite. The roofs were 'hipped' as one would see on a pair of 'between the wars' semis. The larger the set the greater the number of roofs shapes, of course the purchase price was proportional to the size of the set! (Bakelite was named after its inventor L H Baekeland who was Belgian born, but invented and developed his product in the United States).

There were quite a lot of small toys made of plastic but they were very brittle, and probably today would be considered too hazardous for young children. Very few household items were made of plastic, kitchen canisters, cruet sets, and egg cups come to mind. We had a device for putting a jam or marmalade jar in so that it could be brought to the table without have having to decant it into a dish, it was green with a conical lid. Funny old days! these days nobody thinks twice about bringing a jam jar to the table! There were plastic plates and cups and saucers, but these were not very popular, as they scratched very easily, and were brittle, although not as brittle as china which back then, was still quite hard to come by, and usually only available in white.

The first polythene item I ever came across was a washing up bowl that my mother bought sometime in the early 1950s. We were very intrigued by its pliability. I remember it was a muddy pale yellow colour, it wasn't until later that the manufacturing process improved sufficiently to allow a range of colours to be made. It was much later again before the bright colours and the trendy ones that are available today were possible. Up until then all such items used in the kitchen were either of vitreous enamel or galvanised iron. The heavier duty items being of the latter i.e. buckets, baths, washing boilers.

There were no formica or other laminate working surfaces. These were of wood and kept scrubbed, or if one was really well off it was possible to buy a table with a white vitreous enamel top. The first formica topped table I saw was in the kitchen at Wembury House in about 1954. They had the big kitchen table covered in a pink and white gingham patterned formica, and very smart it looked too. Most formicas or laminates in those early days were of bright and usually quite gaudy colours, not the subtle tones that one sees today, or the wood and stone simulations.

Polythene bags started to appear in the early 1950s. If one received anything in a polythene bag, it had to be opened very carefully so that the bag could be used again. People used to wash them out and hang them out on the line to dry, so that they could be reused. All of the shops used paper for wrapping, and paper bags and carrier bags. Carrier bags usually had string handles which were attached to a couple of cardboard strengthening pieces on each side. There was no polystyrene packing, electrical items had cut cardboard formers which fitted around appliances to hold them securely in cartoons. Brown corrugated paper was used a lot, as was very fine wood shavings, which we used to call 'wood wool' but which the Americans called 'excelsior', this was used mainly for the packing of china. When one came home from shopping in Plymouth, all the paper bags were carefully flattened out and folded so that they could be used again. The same with any parcels that came by post, these had to be carefully unwrapped so that the brown paper and string could be reused. 'Jiffy bags' were a long way off in the future! If one was lucky enough to get a Christmas present wrapped in Christmas paper, the paper had to be carefully removed so that it could be smoothed out, folded up, and put away for use the following year.

At the butchers, meat would be wrapped in greaseproof paper and then newspaper, and handed like that to the customer, it was the same at the fishmongers. In the shop at Wembury, vegetables such as potatoes, carrots,

onions etc., were, once weighed, tipped straight into one's shopping bag. Small items such as dried peas would be put into a paper bag, but greens, such as runner or broad beans cabbages, etc., would just be wrapped in some newspaper.

Clotted cream came in waxed cardboard tubs with cardboard lids. Single and double cream came in miniature milk bottles. Things such as yoghurt, fromage fraise, creme fraiche, and cottage cheese were totally unheard of. I don't think they appeared on the scene until the 1970s with the advent of the large supermarkets. All lemonades, mineral waters, cordials, and sauces came in proper glass bottles. Drinks in cans were totally unheard of. There was no such thing as soft margarine or any of the other spreads. Milk of course came in glass bottles and could only be bought from the milkman, it was not stocked in the shop. Other than that, one bought it directly from a farm. My father supplied milk, directly from the farm, to Miss Perring at the Jubilee Inn for many years. One of us children would have to take it up to her in the special carrying container. We would have to go in via the back gate which was on the Knighton Road side of the pub, and into the kitchen and decant it into a large jug. We would often be rewarded with a small bar of Cadburys chocolate for our efforts.

Ready sliced bread did not make an appearance until the 1950s, up until then a loaf of bread would be wrapped in a piece of tissue paper and put into a brown paper bag. The bread vans used to deliver to the door, and in every van there was a broom handle with a long nail through one end of it. If the loaf that one desired was beyond the reach of the van man, he would spike it with the nail and drag it to within reach. This piece of equipment was standard on all bread vans and nobody gave it a second thought!

As soon as sliced bread appeared, a way of wrapping it had to be devised in order to keep it together, and to keep it fresh. Waxed paper was used, this had the brand name of the bread on it, and the loaf once wrapped, was sealed in by the application of heat to the joins in the waxed paper, to weld them together. In the summer the paper was saved and reused to wrap ones picnic sandwiches in for the beach.

There were no plastic boxes for taking food to the beach in, tin boxes especially for the purpose could be bought, but we usually waited for an 'OXO' tin to become available at the shop. OXO cubes in those days came in tins of, I think 144, and were sold individually for one penny each. If one spoke nicely to Vic Smith at the shop he would put your name down for a tin when it became available, there was usually a waiting list!

All brushes and brooms were of wood, with proper bristles, and dustpans were of metal. Laundry baskets were real baskets, curtain tracks were of a cheap alloy type of brass with fittings of the same material. Telephones were black bakelite, although the first telephone that I remember at Old Barton Farm was mainly of wood, with bakelite fittings, and was the old spindle type which many years later people made into table lamps. Electrical cable was rubber covered, some of the older stuff in use was lead covered, Twin flex for table lamps was rubber covered which in turn was covered with a woven silk fabric in maroon or gold, light switches and plug sockets were of porcelain with brass or bakelite covers. All sockets were round pinned 5 or 15 amp, there were also 3 amp sockets but these were usually used in lighting circuits. There was, for a short time 13 amp round pinned plugs, which I think were a trial for the fused plugs which were to come. In these the fuse was actually the positive pin which had to be screwed in. If the fuse blew one had to go to the nearest electrical shop and buy a new pin. It was in the early 1950s that the 13 amp square pin plugs came in to be made standard throughout the country.

Guttering and drain pipes were of either cast or galvanised iron, and of course window frames were mainly of wood although there were quite a few metal ones around. In the garden, wheelbarrows were either of wood or of thin galvanised steel sheet, hose pipes were usually of rubber. Plant pots were of terracotta, large planters sometimes of stone or lead, Watering cans were galvanised, seed trays were of wood. People made their own nets for runner beans, or to keep the birds away from fruit trees. I remember my mother making nets not only for domestic use, but also for the war effort, when the making of nets for camouflage was equally as important as knitting socks for soldiers. Radios and the early television sets were encased in wood with the component chassis mounted on wooden bearers inside. These items were very often a piece of furniture in their own right. The list is quite endless, plastic and polythene nowadays we take completely for granted. It is sometimes quite hard to think how we managed in those 'olden days'!

THE INDIANS ARE COMING

Back in the early 1950s two Indian gentlemen in long black coats and white turbans would sometimes get off the bus at the top of Knighton Hill. Each of them would be carrying a large brown suitcase and they would call door to door at all of the houses in the village trying to sell their wares.

Their stock mostly comprised of small household linen items usually of damask or Indian cotton, some fancy goods all highly embroidered, and some small brass ornaments. With a great flourish they would fully open up a table cloth in front of a prospective customer wielding it like a matador's cape!

Quite a lot of the ladies treated them with great suspicion, and many would not answer the door to them. In those days many of the ladies were at home all day being housewives, the days of the full-time working mother were far in the future.

We children were most intrigued by them, we had never seen such a thing before, I suppose it must have been our first encounter with people of a different skin colour. The girls were mostly frightened by them but the boys used to follow them around watching their every move. I think that they were more wary of us than we were of them. We used to think that it was incredible that they had come all the way from India to sell us things in Wembury!

PRE-SCHOOL POETRY

When fresh five year olds first joined the school to start their educational climb through the 'Little Room' and then the 'Big Room' before being sent off the 'Big Schools', they were of course in the care of Miss Axworthy, who was later to become Mrs Algate.

This little group always sat under the big window at small desks turned sideways on, facing into the room, whereas everybody else faced forward towards the blackboard. Having been dropped off by their mums at the beginning of the day, this was probably the first time in their lives they didn't have a parent in close proximity. They of course felt quite intimidated by the surroundings, and also by the other children.

As an ice breaker, Miss Axworthy would ask if any of the new children knew a piece of poetry that they had been taught at home, and that they would like to recite to the class. Of course there were quite a lot of shrinking violets, but usually one two of the bolder types, who would instantly volunteer. On one such occasion, which must have been in 1940 or thereabouts, one of the volunteers was little Elsie Jolliffe. Her father, Reg, was a builder who, in the 1930s had built most of the bungalows in Church Road and Cross Park Road. They themselves lived in one of the bungalows at the top of Church Road (which is now No.56); later in the 1940s they moved into a new bungalow that he built at the bottom of Cross Park Road.

Elsie said that she knew this piece of poetry that her Uncle Stan had taught her. Stan Channing was Mrs Jolliffe's brother and lived up at Hollacombe with his Parents. Theirs was the next to the last bungalow as one comes towards Wembury proper. It is lower than the road level and from the road looks like an ordinary double fronted bungalow. As one moves round to the rear, because of the slope of the ground, the bungalow turns itself into a full two-storied house. I believe that Old Joe Channing built the house himself as he, like his son-in-law Reg Jolliffe, was also a builder.

Anyway Elsie quoted:

“Once upon a time, when the bird shit lime,
and the monkey chewed tobacco.
The pig ran past with a feather up his arse,
to see which way the wind blew.
The wind blew north, the wind blew south,
the wind blew the feather from his arse to his mouth”.

This was followed by a silence which was broken by Miss Axworthy who said, “And who did you say taught you this little poem, Elsie”? “My Uncle Stan”, she replied, “Oh”, said Miss Axworthy, “I think I will have to have a word with your Uncle Stan”.

PS: Elsie died in January of 2006 aged 77, so the event described above must have taken place in about 1934 and not 1940 as stated. By the 1950s it had become village folklore and the little poem was well known and recited (out of the hearing of grown ups) by all of us children.

THE WHISTLE BLOWER

In the late 1940s, on most Sundays, my older brother and I were sent to church by our parents, we always walked there and back, firstly from Old Barton Farm and later on from Watergate Cottages

As children we were made to sit in the two rows that were set aside for the Sunday school. These were on the south side of the nave and were the second and third rows from the front, the front row being set aside for the Vicarage.

The Sunday school was run by a well meaning, but leaning more towards the busybody type, of woman called Mrs Burrowes. She and her husband Philip had moved to Wembury from London during the war, primarily as a retirement move, but I think that the blitz in the capital also played a contributory role in this decision. They both busied themselves very much in church affairs, and both became members of the Parochial Church Council. It was all highly commendable but was usually done with an air of 'enlightening the peasants' whom they had come to live amongst. It was all very odd as they lived a concrete block and corrugated iron shack very imaginatively named 'Wendy Cottage' whereas we, for our part, being some of the peasants, lived in very substantial farmhouse.

Our seats in the church were in full view of everybody so the possibility of getting away with any misdemeanour, however minor, was pretty remote. If my brother and I had misbehaved, and this was often the case, my mother will have heard about it before we reached home because Mrs Burrows would have got straight on the telephone when she got in. There were very few telephones in the village in those days, but they were better than any jungle telegraph!

One Sunday morning my older brother, Jim and the Vicar's daughter, Juliet had a fight during the service which brought proceedings to a halt "I will continue with my sermon when my daughter and Jimmy Lugar have finished their fight." is what Mr Tagg said, from the pulpit! I remember another occasion, quite soon after Christmas one year, when I had a referee's whistle, which had come out of a Christmas cracker. It was a proper one with a 'pea' in it. Whilst sitting in church waiting for the service to begin there was quite a hubbub of noisy conversation going on, when it suddenly occurred to me that at Wembury School, Miss Maynard or Miss Axworthy only had to blow the whistle and a great silence would fall upon the place. I thought that I would give it a try in church! The result was immediate and devastating. Silence fell upon the place, quickly followed by me being pounced upon by Mrs Burrowes and a pair of her Lieutenants, and the whistle wrested from my grasp, never to be seen again!

Needless to say the news reached home before we did. The walk home from church should have been about three quarters of an hour, less in the summer when the path fields could be used, but as children we never walked straight home, but meandered, usually dragging the journey out to an hour and a quarter. On getting home our hearts dropped finding my mother standing at the door like a watchman, and knowing there was no way of getting into the house without avoiding the hand ready to deliver a cuff alongside the ear.

WEMBURY NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 1961

The Wembury Newsletter was a monthly publication published under the auspices of the Village Hall Committee, whilst The Church Magazine was church orientated and dealt only with church matters, and covered the parishes of Wembury, Brixton, Yealmspton, Holbeton and Revelstoke

During Keneth Gray's incumbency the decision was made for the Wembury Parish to 'go it alone' and combine with the Wembury Newsletter, and thus was born 'The Wembury Review'. The Village Hall then bowed out of their part in the arrangement and it was left to the Parish Church to run. This they have done very happily for the ensuing years, and have tried to keep it all embracing covering all parts of the community, with a great degree of success.

WEMBURY NEWS LETTER.

Sponsored by the Village Hall Management Committee.

DECEMBER 1961.

8th Number of 8th Edition.

EDITOR:- Mrs. E.H. BURROWES, WENDY COTTAGE, WEMBURY - TELEPHONE Wembury 260.

EDITORIAL.

First of all a very happy Christmas to all our Readers and Peace and Prosperity for the New Year. Talking of Peace let us remember that on Christmas Day we celebrate the Birth of our Blessed Lord - the Prince of Peace. There is little peace in many parts of the World today and many feel that we can do nothing about it, but we can if we are really earnest in our desire. We can start with peace and understanding in our own families; Peace with our neighbours and peace with our Village and with our workmates and we can all have that Peace in our hearts that "passeth all understanding", which nothing can take from us except our own wilful sin. I believe that if every Christian prayed honestly and earnestly for "Peace in the World" and worked towards that end, that Peace would come, but dare we expect it when most of us live in comparative luxury when millions in Asia and Africa exist on starvation rations - and children die every hour of the day from starvation. Each and everyone must try to do something to help feed, educate, and show love to these frustrated and bewildered people. Perhaps the first things we should do is to try to get in touch with God - He will soon show the way and I don't think it will often be just putting a 6d into a Missionary Box or buying a flag, but some very much greater and worthwhile effort.

Again a Happy and Blessed Christmas to you all.

A THOUGHT.

"Trust God, see all nor be afraid"

Browning.

OUR VILLAGE.

There has been plenty of activity in the Village this month, and for many it cannot have been a "dull November". We have had, like everyone else, our inspiring Remembrance Day Services in Church, the formation of our New Youth Club which should be a great asset to the Village in general, and the youth in particular, and we hear that it is going well. Two lads of our Village, David Carter and John Bellantyne have brought honour to their School by being what one might perhaps call "Top of the Form" in more ways than one. We congratulate them and hope they will continue in this way.

And the Sales! Much more exciting to the Village than shopping week in Plymouth! Everyone in the Village nearly must have turned out something for the "Jumble" and how profitable it all was to the people who ran the Sales. Naturally the School topped the Bill and they made something over £40 for the School Fund. Earlier there was the Football Club and the "Not so Nimble" who all did quite well and the Mission Prayer and Study Group who made £15 for the C.M.S. and the Christmas Sale in which all workers interested in C.M.S. joined, the Vicar and Mrs. Bronhan, the Young Communicants' Guild the Study Group and several individuals who gave generously and those who patronised the Stall. The grand total was round about £40 which was a wonderful effort seeing that we had so few buyers.

A recent event was the "OLD PEOPLE'S PARTY" organised by the Mothers' Union and what a wonderful Party it was! and a splendid effort of the M.U. willing helpers, cooked, cut sandwiches, laid tables, cleared away and washed up and did everything possible to make a happy evening for those "Not so young" and the workers themselves were certainly a very happy band, with Mrs. G. Jones the General Organiser.

Mr. Atkins ran the Entertainment Programme assisted by the Down Thomas Choir conducted as usual by Mrs. G.S. Thompson. Mr. Atkins decorated the tables and platform and the "Show" was largely run by Atkins, Atkins & Co - Mr. & Mrs. Atkins, their daughter and son-in-law and the small grandchild. Members of the Choir assisted Mr. Bojanitz, Miss Pat Jones, Miss Eileen Drake and the 3 Jones boys. It was full of fun and laughter especially when it

came to the burlesque of "Dick Whittington". Miss Heynard was as usual at the Piano. The singing of the Choir was much appreciated and they led the Carols that ended the evening's entertainment which closed with Auld Lang Syne, and the Blessing by the Vicar. The Party was honoured by the presence of the Chairman of the R.D.C. (who wore his Chain of Office for the Occasion) and the Chairman of the Parish Council, each accompanied by his wife. We missed Captain and Mrs. Giles. A big "Thank you" to all those kind people who provided Transport.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRISTMAS

Midnight Holy Communion 11.45 p.m. Christmas Eve.
Christmas Day. Holy Communion 8.0 a.m. and 12 noon. 11 a.m. Christmas Service. For other services see the Parish Magazine or Church notice board.
Christmas Eve. Carol Service 3.30 p.m. No evensong.

PERSONALIA.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. & Mrs. Jessup on the birth of their 3rd daughter, just a day old as I write this letter. We hear that both are doing well.

I expect in a few days there will be Christmas letters from our former Wenbury friends, but as this letter has to be written early in the month so that it can be completed before the Schools break up they haven't arrived yet.

Mrs. Waters I visited her last week and though I found her in bed with a cold she was very lively and chatty, and like the wise old lady that she is she said she had a cold and she thought the best place was bed! How right she is!

Mrs. Hambling too is better but not able to do much walking.

Mr. Smith still in the Nursing Home is happy and cheerful but not fit to be moved yet.

We are glad to see Mrs. May back from Malta where she has had a short stay with Commander May. We hear that Edward is doing well at his new School.

Congratulations to the children who have got through the first part of the 11 + test.

The death has occurred of Muriel Hoekin (the sister of Mrs. Sergeant) who has been in hospital now for many years. The other residents will remember Muriel well, almost daily trotting up to the Shop and every Sunday morning attending Church. Her death cannot be mourned for she suffered very much lately and no one could wish a continuance of that suffering. Our sympathy to Mrs. Sergeant who has been a most devoted Sister. R.I.P.

It is good to see Mr. & Mrs. Maxted home again. Mr. Maxted is certainly looking better for his stay at Hastings.

We are glad to know that Mrs. Ayres is better, and hope to see her out again soon when the weather is better. We missed her at the "Over 60's" Party. Also Mrs. Waterton and several others.

Mrs. Rose is still in Hospital and is waiting for X-rays. We hope she will soon be quite fit and that we shall see her in her own home soon.

We hope Mr. & Mrs. Rowe (of Hollacombe) will be happy in their new home in Plymouth. Mrs. Rowe was for many years a very active Member of the Village Hall Committee and had many friends in Wenbury. She will be very much missed.

The death of Mr. Taylor of Wenbury Road has also occurred. He was an old gentleman living alone and had been ill for some time. While sending our sympathy to his relatives we could not wish him back. R.I.P.

Our sympathy to Mr. Ron Jessup who is also in hospital suffering from severe X-ray burns on his hands which are extremely painful - the only consolation he has is that of being in the same hospital as his wife. He was able to see his new born little daughter soon after her birth. We hope he too will soon be out of hospital.

WEMBURY CHOIR FESTIVAL

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The first Ever Choir Festival was held in the Church on Sunday. In spite of dreadful weather there was a fairly good congregation and those who braved the weather had a real musical treat. The Choir being in good heart and good voice.

Special items rendered by the Choir at Morning Service were:-

Processional Hymn	303
In place of Venite	"Morning has Broken"
Antiphon	"God so loved the World"
Childrens' Hymn.	
Hymn	Saviour of the World.
Hymn	394
Recessional Hymn	657.

And at the Evening Service instead of a Sermon Musical items were sung by the Choir. They consisted of:-

Hymn.	302.
Solo.	Sanctuary of the Year.
Children	"Glad that I live on I."
Solo	"O for the Wings of a Dove"
Antiphon	"God so loved the World."
Solo	"Such lovely things".
Antiphon.	"Softly falls the Shades".
Solo	"Holy City."

We very much hope this will be an annual event, and that next year the weather will be kinder.

The Church Christmas Tree. As last year Members will be asked to put a silver coin on the Tree in aid of the Church of England Children's Society. When perhaps you spend several pounds in presents for your own children will you keep a little back for those children who to all intents and purpose have no parents and I am sure your children will love to know you have done that. On the whole they are very generous little souls, even if they do sometimes invite you to share a sweet they have already sucked!

A carol service in Church on December 19th at 10.15 a.m. - for the School, to which all parents are invited and there is room for all in the Church - Films and tea party in the afternoon, and then the Christmas Holiday to look forward to.

We sympathise with all those who had "Gale" damage. Mrs. Durnford of Clover Cottage had her very heavy Television Aerial blown down, Mr. Leslie Jones lost most of his glass from his verandah and Miss Eileen Drake's heavy plaster ceiling collapsed in her bedroom. Luckily she had not gone up to bed, and spent the night downstairs. Mrs. Morton also had most of her glass blown away from her conservatory, and many slates blew off roofs.

Little Carrie Collins is still in hospital - one foot has been operated upon and the other will be done shortly. We hope soon to see Carrie walking about without irons.

We rejoiced to see Capt. Giles in Church again on Sunday. His knee is far from right but he managed to drive his car to Church and back.

We hope that Paul, Mrs. Durnford's grandson who has had his tonsils out will soon be out of hospital. Our sympathy to Mr. & Mrs. Heys and parents.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Allgate is not at all well again, and hope she will soon be feeling better.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1959

2d.

CROP OF COMPLAINTS AT WEMBURY

Anonymous Letter is Ignored by Parish Council

A CROP of complaints and grumbles was dealt with by Wembury Parish Council, when it met in the Jubilee Hall, on Monday, with Mrs. E. M. Burrowes in the chair, but an anonymous letter was, by unanimous decision, not read to the meeting.

A second letter had been fully answered by the vice-chairman, Councillor G. S. Thompson, J.P., who is also chairman of the R.D.C., the chairman being ill at the time.

This letter, written by Mrs. Kekwick, was also of complaints. One was that the coastal path passing through land let by the National Trust for grazing had been churned up by cattle and made very difficult for pedestrians to negotiate. A letter was sent to the National Trust asking that this particular section might be gated to prevent the cattle straying on to the path.

The answer to a protest against the number of chalets being erected in Church Woods was that these were in accordance with planning permission given.

The same answer also applied to the fact that houses, instead of bungalows, were now being built in Wembury.

BEACH TOILETS

The next complaint was about the closure of the toilets on the beach for the winter months and the fact that they were free. The answer was that much wilful damage had already been done and had they been opened in the

winter they would probably have become a shambles and used for improper purposes.

The cost of a caretaker throughout the year would be a heavy burden on the rates. The toilets had been erected at the request of the Parish Council. The use of a turnstile with coin box may be considered. The conveniences will be opened at Easter.

The Clerk announced that the new maps for the Plympton area would soon be issued. These follow the draft maps and will be displayed for 28 days, so that the public can study them.

DEVELOPMENT

The sub-Postmasters on each side of the village are to be asked if the maps may be displayed in their respective offices in Wembury.

It was resolved that the Council ask that a plan of future development in Wembury be submitted to them.

Mr. A. Selleck sent a letter tendering her resignation, owing to pressure of other work. This was accepted with regret and a vote of thanks to him for his past work was recorded.

Parish Meeting

Other items on the agenda were quickly dealt with and the annual parish meeting followed. The minutes of three previous parish meetings (two of them special meetings) were read, confirmed and signed, after an objection had been made by the one member of the public present to the minutes referring to the public meeting held at Down Thomas on Nov. 17, 1958 on the subject of footpaths. An addendum of the minutes was added stating that a full report was pasted in another part of the minute book.

Friendly discussion followed on other matters of general parochial interest, and it was stated that the new roads made by Mr. Yabsley had been named "Valley Road" and "Crossways" respectively.