

# S.H.S. Newsletter.

## Quotes from: How we used to live

### DIG FOR VICTORY

'We want not only the big man with the plough but the little man with the spade to get busy this Autumn... Let "Dig for Victory" be the motto of every one with a garden.'

Broadcast by the Minister of Agriculture, 4th October 1939

### A TIN HAT FOR THE BUDGIE

'Potatoes are plentiful and if you put in extra tubers when digging for victory you will not have it on your conscience that shipping space is being taken for food for your animals.'

R.S.P.C.A. leaflet, *Feeding Dogs and Cats in Wartime*, c.1941

### A WHOLE ORANGE FOR CHRISTMAS

'I woke early ...made sure the black-out curtains were over the windows and ...had a little peep at my presents... I had a pair of slacks; mummy made them out of a blanket... a bar of chocolate and a whole orange.'

Diary of a ten year old schoolgirl, Christmas Day 1941

### Join the A.R.P.

'Under the spreading chestnut tree, Neville Chamberlain said to me: "If you want to get your gas mask free, Join the A.R.P."'

Playground song, 1938

### THE KITCHEN FRONT

'Carrot flan...reminds you of Apricot Flan – but has a deliciousness all its own.'

Ministry of Food advertisement, 1941

### WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT UP

'Until the end of May you may buy cotton bunting without coupons, as long as it is red, white or blue and does not cost more than one and three, a square yard.'

Announcement by the Board of Trade, 7th May 1945

### ANY GUM, CHUM

If Britons sit on trains or buses without striking up conversation with you, it doesn't mean they are being haughty and unfriendly. Probably they are paying more attention to you than you think.'

Britain A booklet of advice for all members of American Expeditionary Forces in Great Britain c. 1942

### UNDER THE COUNTER

'No person shall in connection with ... any sale by retail, wrap or pack any article which does not reasonably require such wrapping or packing for its protection.'

The Control of Paper Order, May 1940

### THE CARDBOARD WEDDING CAKE

I am issuing an Order prohibiting the use of sugar for the icing of cakes.'

Broadcast by Lord Woolton, 8th July 1940

### BEATING THE INVADER

'Do not give any German anything. Do not tell him anything. Hide your food and your bicycles. Hide your maps. See that the enemy gets no petrol ... Think always of your country before you think of yourself.'

If the Invader Comes, June 1940

No: 67



S.H.S Newsletter

## Seasons Greetings



December 2009

[www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs](http://www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs)



## OPEN DAY UPDATE

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped make the Open Day the success it was. It had the same buzz as the art show did three years ago, with a lot less effort.

Since the Open day we have had a number of enquiries and further wartime memories (as mentioned later in the newsletter)



We received an email from Joan Treloggan that I think shows the passion that we all have for our village. She emailed us the following the day after the open day:

*"I must say yesterday was certainly a treasure day for me. The amount of information your society has researched and the way the information is presented is superb. I spent a wonderful day talking about your fascinating church and its continuity in your villages life. Apart from a visit to the church and a brief tour of the village. I spent the afternoon reading, personal histories, village histories and talking to people whose love for the village shines through"*

### Open Day Refreshment Donations:

These amounted to £95 and have been handed to the Newport Pagnell British Legion for the 2009 Poppy Appeal. An official receipt and letter of thanks have been received.

### MURDER!

We have completely run out of all copies of the Rum Doings Booklet. A new edition of the "Murder Booklet" is being costed. If any can recommend a good and cheap publisher, the committee would be very happy to hear from you.

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DORIS AND CHARLES STEPHENS' WEDDING 1942



GEORGE WATTS IN ARDES

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## COMPUTER PROJECTOR



We have purchased a computer/projector at a cost of £400 for use at open meetings when films and slides are being shown. We were already able to make use of this new piece of equipment at our recent Open Day as well as for Gerald Mann's OPERATION SNAP meeting in October.

## PHOTOCOPIER

The old, large photocopier that we had has gone to another home. The copier was very useful to the SHS when we started up, but it has not been used now for at least a couple of years so it was felt that it would be better to pass it on to someone who would make more use of it. This has thus freed up some very valuable space in the cramped Village Hall office.



## SCAN MAGAZINE:

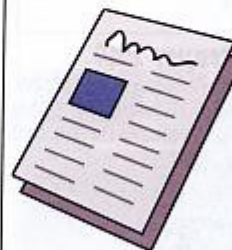
Our annual donation of £25 has been sent to SCAN. Thanks to Betty and the team for producing such a great magazine every month.

## OPERATION SNAP

Following the successful October meeting when Gerald Mann spoke about the local Home Guard, a donation of £15 is to be sent to the Emberton History Society. Gerald did not charge a fee and would not accept any expenses. We settled on a donation to the Emberton Society, of which he is a member. Gerald has sent us a copy of the "Operation Snap" exercise instructions for our archives.



## WW2 MEMORABILIA



Jean Haynes' sister, Pauline Cave has given us a packet of WW2 memorabilia. Much of it is correspondence from her husband to his sister when he was a prisoner of war.

Some poems are also included but Pauline doesn't know whether her husband wrote or copied them. Whichever, they are very poignant. There are also original food, clothing and petrol coupons.

## Oh Dickens!

This year Olney's "Dickens of a Christmas" will be held on Sunday 6th December 2009, starting at 10.00 a.m. and finishing at 4.30 p.m. With events and stalls all around the town, it's a good local event. Go early if you want somewhere to park!

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## Up and coming events

### December Social Meeting:

Don't forget the December Social on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December. Usual format – please bring something tasty to add to the table and be in festive mood! The Society will provide the liquid refreshments!

### JANUARY JOLLY!

We have now set January 19<sup>th</sup> for our annual get together in January. The committee think that the White Hart is the most convenient place as most members are within walking distance. Tickets are £20 for members, £25 for non members, We have a limit of 32 tickets, so book early to avoid disappointment. The first drink is included in the ticket and menus should be distributed with the newsletter. It starts at 7:00 for 7:30, hope to see you there.



### ALAN RICHARDSON, 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2010

This is an open meeting with Alan Richardson, with one of his engaging slideshows. This would make it our 10th anniversary as the first meeting was in February 2000.

## PROPOSED NEW COMMUNITY BUILDING

Following the meeting held in the Village Hall about a possible replacement for the Virginal Stores, a letter has been sent to the Parish Council expressing our interest in exploring the possibility of any new community building being large enough to incorporate some improved space for us.

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### WEBSITE

([www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs](http://www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs))

Ian writes:

*\*The most recent addition to the SHS website is a set of photos showing October's Open Day. In fact, they were online before the event had even finished! There are also photos of the entrants and winners of this summer's SHS Scarecrow Competition.*

*The historical data continues to be steadily extended, including further details of the Wesleyan Chapel, the second photo of the POW camp and the archaeological dig in the churchyard relating to the Iron Age settlement.*

*The most significant new feature is an interactive map based on the Google aerial photographs, illustrated in the screenshot. 87 colour-coded markers show the locations of the main village features, listed buildings, historical sites and the conservation area. Clicking on a marker or the menu produces a pop-up box with information about that location and a link to the web site page containing the details. The developments at Google are quite exciting and when they extend Street View to cover the village, we'll be able to link in those pictures too. What do you think of the interactive map? We would like your views. Are there other locations or other information we could add? Any ideas on how we could make further use of it, make it more useful or easier to use? We plan to convert the other web site maps to a similar format over the coming months.*

Ian"



HOME GUARD CAP BADGE



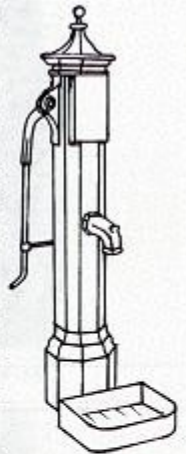
SHERINGTON HOME GUARD

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### Hands to the Pump! (recent emails)

During the summer we received an email from Janet Bishop who is tracing her family history; she is related to the Joyce family, many of whom moved to Crewe to work in the railway industry. Janet still lives there but came to Sherington with her husband for a visit and was shown around the village by Philip Smith. They liked us so much that they returned for the Open Day in October and another look around the village and the church.

We have received an email from Murray Eckett and those of you who are interested in "things railway" may like to know about a book he has written. It is entitled "Signals; A Railway Miscellany" and is a collection of illustrated essays about lines in Herts., Beds. and Bucks. The routes are a collection of lines that are still part of Network Rail, some that are closed and others that have become heritage routes. Mr. Eckett does not tell us who published his book.



Ian Broad has emailed from the Isle of Wight, where the widow of the Rev. John Pretyma settled in about 1860. He tells us that we have probably got the Rev. Pretyma's age at death wrong on his memorial plaque. He is recorded as being 52 when he died but Mr. Broad suggests that he was 57!! It also seems that Rev. Pretyma was ordained by his uncle, Bishop George Pretyma Tomline, who was Bishop of Lincoln and later of Winchester.





DOUGLAS LINE



BOMBARDIER CHARLIE HAYNES, ROYAL ARTILLERY

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NORMAN ARNOLD, RAF MELKSHAM



DON MACFARLANE, 1943

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If you would like to receive regular copies of the full printed Newsletter, why not join the Society? Membership is only £5 per year. **Email for further details**