

Cornfield timeline

Year	Events
1972	New parade of shops built. Unit 76 High Street occupied by D E & VA Coleman (Derek and Val Coleman) as 'Cornfield Bakery' in October. The shop also had a café and sold fruit & veg
1974	Derek Coleman left Oxford bakery job to bake full time for the family business
1975	Café closed to make more room for the bakery business. Bread subsidy removed
1976	Geoff left school and started full-time work as apprentice baker
1977	Bakery workers' strike
1979	Geoff finished college with credit distinction and also winning various awards
1985	Derek passed away in January. Geoff took over the business with cousin Paul after buying it from Val
1986	First wholesale customer was Horspath Stores
1989	Bought first computer
1991	Wheat Aid. Purchased freehold of Wheatley shop
1992	Paul left to start his own business. The 1990s were tough for Geoff struggling to recruit staff and his divorce
2000	Geoff married Rachel
2001	Joseph started full-time after helping part-time during his teens
2005	Bought Thame shop
2007	Geoff co-founded The Oxford Bread Group
2010	Moved most production to Long Crendon. Started selling at Farmers' Markets
2011	Brandon started full-time after helping part-time. Re-fitted Wheatley shop and adding café tables
2012	Dee joined the business and started bread-making classes
2020	Covid. Second re-fit removing café and adding fine local foods
2021	Online bread-making courses
2022	Cost-of-living crisis