

FEB/MARCH 2019

## YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

Many thanks to those of you who have supported your Village Archive by purchasing our village calendar for 2019. If you haven't got one yet and need a calendar for all your vital dates, as well as important village dates already included, do pop in to the archive room to get one for £10 and support our work.

The ongoing digitisation of the archives will result in an updated village archive website, and the details of the Wheatley WW1 men are included with an interactive map showing where they lived. A search on the website works through keywords, dates, individuals, and groups of words. There are already 2,500 files, photos, and text ready to roll and the website will be trialled from the end of February.

If you are keen to join these trials, please contact us on [michael@mimomul.co.uk](mailto:michael@mimomul.co.uk) for access details. The full launch of the website will follow these trials. Watch this space!!

Our Facebook page, Wheatley Village Archive, receives lots of visitors and don't forget you can support us by participating in the SODC lottery for just a £1 a week. Log onto [www.socharitable.co.uk](http://www.socharitable.co.uk) for details.

Can you identify the location of this mystery photo? (Clue – it's somewhere on the High Street).



The mystery picture in the last issue was a bold lion atop a gatepost of a house on Park Hill. Those catching a bus there could well have recognised it!

**Steph Cox**

APRIL/MAY 2019

## YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

The new Wheatley Village Archive website is now 'live' (from March 2019) for you all to see: [www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk](http://www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk)

Over 2,500 photographs and documents have been digitised and linked to the previous website following the work of Michael Heaton, John Halliday and the whole Archive team. It is still a work in progress with the genealogy links soon to be added – so keep looking to find out about the people, buildings and history of the village. The archive room continues to house all the artefacts, census records etc, so do visit the Archive Room any Thursday afternoon or on the last Saturday morning of each month. The new website will be demonstrated whenever the archive is open. Just call in.

The WVA is now a charity and is inviting EVERYONE in Wheatley to become a member of the new Wheatley Village Archive History Group for an annual subscription of £3.00. Find out how to become a

member by either emailing [wheatleyarchive@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyarchive@gmail.com) or by popping into the Archive Room.

The new associated Wheatley Village Archive History Group has produced a programme of 4 talks and 2 trips over the next year to which you all are invited and further details of which will be publicised in the newsletter, around the village and on our Facebook page (Wheatley Village Archive). The first two events planned are:

Monday 8th July 2019 at 14:30 - Visit and guided tour by Oxford Preservation Trust to Abingdon Merchant House

Tuesday 24th September 2019 – Speaker: A talk by Liz Woolley at 20:00 in the Merry Bells - 'Beer, Sausages & Marmalade: food, drink, politics and tourism in C19th Oxford

The Archive team are also busy developing the Village Heritage Walk with information boards and an associated leaflet over the next few months.

**Steph Cox**



JUNE/JULY 2019

## YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

The new Wheatley Village Archive website is up and running and proving very popular with residents – both current and also previous from far and near. Have you checked it out lately? Just type your enquiry into the search facility (in quotes if more than one word) and see what there is. Go to [www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk](http://www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk) for past details of your house, your road, past residents, past industries, the railway etc. We have recently had correspondence from an ex-Wheatley resident living in the USA who is filling some gaps in the history of the village for us from his time, as a child, living in the High Street.



Perhaps you have photographs or something related to the village that we can scan and add to the archive for everyone to share. If so, then please contact the archives on [wheatleyvillagearchive@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyvillagearchive@gmail.com) so it can be arranged to temporarily borrow, scan and then include these on the

constantly expanding website. We're currently looking for a video/CD/DVD of the village production of Ruddigore – perhaps you have one?

The archive team are continuing the development of the Wheatley Heritage Trail for which we have received a Heritage Grant towards the cost of information boards to be placed at points in the village accompanied by a leaflet with over 20 stops of interest. Watch this space!

The Wheatley Village Archive History Group (WVAHG) is growing in numbers and our programme starts with a trip to Abingdon Merchant House on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July and a talk about life in 19<sup>th</sup> century Oxford entitled 'Beer, Sausages and Marmalade' on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Do look out for details posted around the village especially for the trip to Abingdon at the beginning of July.

We're planning the 2020 calendar even before you've had your summer holidays! If you have any great photos of the village you'd like included, then do get in touch.

Back to the archives, for those who'd rather see the real thing, all the archives are still accessible every Thursday in the Merry Bells 14:00-17:00 and the last Saturday of the month 10:00-12:00.

See you soon!

**Steph Cox**

# YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

Looking through some photos on the archive website the other day [www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk](http://www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk) we wondered whether you'd be able to help us. On some photos taken at the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebrations in 1977 in the gardens of Morland House there are some traditional games shown:



Does anyone know what Pong Ball Flunking is or how to play it? Is it a Wheatley speciality? Other games shown at the celebrations included Knurr-and-Spell, Tin can shy, Tossing the hay bale, Throwing the horseshoe, Marbles, Welly wangling and a Greasy pole. Were you at the celebrations 42 years ago?

Morland House itself was built as the first vicarage for St Mary's Church in the nineteenth century. Have you spotted the datestone above the porch? A hundred years later, after a period of private ownership by the Fane family and used by the army during WW2, it was sold to Oxfordshire County Council and became a children's home before its current role as the local surgery/medical centre which moved from Church Road in the 1990s.



Your Wheatley Village Archive Heritage Trail is almost ready. Production of the information boards should be soon underway and we hope to have these installed before the clocks go back.

The new Wheatley Village Archive calendar 2020 will be available soon too. This year it will show 'Then and Now' pictures of Wheatley, will make a great gift and look good on YOUR wall too! Priced this year at only £8. Pop into the archive to view it and place an order.

**Steph Cox**



# YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

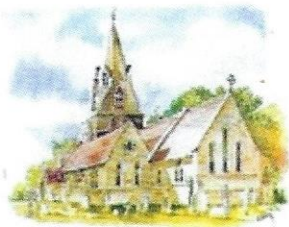
Exciting times for the village as eagle-eyed people would have spotted the planning application notices for the Wheatley Village Archive Heritage Trail over the summer.

The five information boards will be installed in October around the village with accompanying leaflets. The Trail, made possible by a Lottery grant, will be launched by Tom Hassall OBE MA FSA Hon.MCIFA on Thursday 14th November at the Merry Bells at 8pm. Tom is an ex-resident of the Manor House, an eminent local historian, an archaeological consultant, and a trustee on the board of the Oxford Preservation Trust.

Everyone is welcome to the launch but for catering purposes (wine and 'finger food') entry will only be by (free) ticket available by e-mail from michael@wheatleyarchive.org.uk or 01865 425909; the Parish Council office when open; or the archive room on any Thursday afternoon from 2-5pm and also on Saturday, 26th October between 10-12. Tickets are limited.

**STOP PRESS:** The 2020 calendar is now available, price £8 from the Archive.

12 months of then and now photos, see a few from the back page below.



HERITAGE TRAIL

Wheatley  
VILLAGE ARCHIVE

A fascinating 1 mile walk through this historic village

Steph Cox



The Windmill



45 High Street



Cricketers Arms, Littlewerth



\* 94 Church Road



# YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

The Wheatley Heritage Trail is now officially launched. The Trail, funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and a generous donation by Wheatley WI to commemorate their centenary, was launched by Tom Hassall. We do hope you all enjoy the Trail while furthering your knowledge of the village from the comprehensive leaflet.

The Archive History Group had its last talk of the year on 26th November on Farms and Farmhouses in the village and an interesting programme of talks and tours has been arranged for 2020 with talks taking place in the Merry Bells. Initial dates for your new calendar include 'Oxfordshire in the Civil Wars' on 7th January and 'The Lost Villages of Oxfordshire' on 4th February. Contact Michael Heaton on michael@wheatleyarchive.org.uk for

details of membership or just turn up at a meeting.

Talking of new calendars – copies of the Wheatley Archive Calendar are selling like hot cakes. Do buy yours at the village Christmas Fair, or before at the Archive room for £8.00 if you want to send one abroad.

The Archive Room is open on Thursday afternoons from 2-5pm and on the last Saturday of each month from 10-12. It can be available at other times by request.

The History Group, the Trail and the new website have made 2019 a very busy and productive year for the Archive team and we would like to thank all those who have supported us. Happy Christmas and New Year.

**Steph Cox**

