

# FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

*"To save Fulbourn's past for the future"*

NEWSLETTER NO. 35

Spring 2012

*Our thirty fifth Newsletter (yes, that many - and now they are even on our webpage at: [FulbournHistory.org.uk](http://FulbournHistory.org.uk)) will be devoted to research undertaken by two members of Fulbourn Village History Society. Ursula Lyons continues with her informative History of Fulbourn Farming, this time concentrating on the farming families of the village. Complementary to this, Glynis Arber provides an account of Fulbourn during the mid-nineteenth century, based on four Directories which include the parish as one of their entries. [Forthcoming events on back page.](#)*

## FULBOURN AND FARMING Part II

### FARMING FAMILIES OF FULBOURN

The story of farming in Fulbourn since the Enclosures can best be told through the families who lived on or worked the land and of the houses they lived in, not all of which were farmhouses. Among those still farming in some form, whether as owners of land or tenants, are the Wright, Wombwell, Chaplin, Stalley, White, Rolph, Bullen and Lacey families.

By way of illustration, we shall begin by telling the story of the Wright and Wombwell families.

#### 1 THE WRIGHTS of HALL FARM, School Lane

Until the 1920s, School Lane was known as Wrights Lane. There was once also a Wrights Corner, a Wrights Grove and a Wrights Pond. As Crane explains, the name Wrights Lane was already in use at the time of the Enclosure in 1806. According to him also, there have been Wrights in Fulbourn since at least the 14th century. However, the Wrights of Hall Farm can only be traced back to the early part of the 19th century when they took over the farm from the Ambrose family. By the end of that century, there were at least three Wright families in the village, associated mostly with other farms - Heath Farm, Rectory Farm and New Shardelows Farm.

Hall Farm itself is unique in two aspects. Not only is it the one remaining farmhouse, with some of its outbuildings, set in the middle of the village - all the others being situated in the middle of their fields, mostly to the south and west of Fulbourn - but it has

**By Ursula Lyons, with grateful thanks to David Wright and Richard Wombwell**

been the home of David Wright and his family for five successive generations. Furthermore, Hall Farm occupies the site of a former manor known as Dunmowes, originally in the Woods moat.

From the 18th century onwards, the Lord of the Manor of Zouches was also Lord of the Manor of Dunmowes [see Crane, p. 21]. The present farmhouse dates from about 1700. In 1778 the Manor of Zouches entered Townley hands, so that in 1808 William Cole Ambrose, living in Hall Farm, was listed as a copyhold tenant of the Zouches. When George Ambrose (?his son) died in 1831, he was described as formerly of Hall Farm. So some time between those two dates the Wright family came to live in Hall Farm, first as tenants of the Townley Estate, and then, in 1948, when David's father bought both the farmhouse and its land from the Townleys, as owners.

David believes his great-great-grandfather William was the first Wright to live in Hall Farm. Not much is known about him except that he took over the farm from George Ambrose in about 1810. His son, also called William, born in about 1818, was probably the William frequently listed as a member of the cricket team between 1842-1850, but he must also have been a person of some distinction as in 1863 he was appointed High Constable for the Hundred of Flendish. His son, John William, David's grandfather, died in 1935, the year David was born, at the age of 78.

As for David's father, Charles George, he was one of eight children and was not expected to take over

the farm, having an older brother, John Frederick (Fred). The two brothers both went off, aged 22 and 24 respectively, to serve in World War 1, taking their horses with them, according to David. Fred was called up as a trooper, rising subsequently to corporal and then sergeant, in first the Suffolk Yeomanry, then after Gallipoli in the Royal West Kent Regiment, serving in France. Recommended for a commission, he was next with the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry in Italy where he was awarded the Military Cross and Italian bronze medal for valour.

On their return, they both started to farm at Hall Farm with their father, but then realised there was not enough land to support two families. So together with Arthur Fison, Charles started a milk and grocery round from Chesterton Road with a pony and trap. Tragically, in 1926 Fred was killed in a motor bike accident at the Balsham crossroads with the A11. As a result, his brother Charles succeeded him at the farm, and for the next eleven years, farmed with his father until the latter's death in 1935.

David's father Charles suffered from poor health and to help with this, David came straight to the farm on leaving school. He had terrible rheumatism which he picked up in the trenches and latterly had heart and limb problems. He smoked like a trooper and it was said you could follow his progress just by looking for the red and black [Craven A] cigarette packets. After he came back from the war, he caught up quite quickly with modernising the farm, though it was only after WW2 that mechanisation really took off.

It was mainly an arable farm but there were animals as well. Cattle were fattened on land in the Fulbourn woods - the fen land - which was and remains even now rented from the Townleys, and there were pigs, chickens and rabbits, too, which were housed in what is now Stackyard Court. The work was hard and relied more on manual labour than machinery. In 1951, at the age of 16, David joined his father on the farm where, in addition to the two of them, there were five men employed - a total work force of seven.

From the 19th century new machines kept coming in to help the farmers and there are several references in the Chronicles to demonstrations, such as in 1869, when the wonders of laying the Fen by Steam was demonstrated by J.P. Fison's ploughing machines; and in 1918 there was a Motor Ploughing Demonstration with a Whiting Bull Paraffin farm tractor and Moline and Oliver Ploughs. In 1932 a harvester which combines cutting and threshing was in operation at Rectory Farm, but as early as 1830 Thomas Furbank wished to inform farmers and others that he had an entire new threshing machine to let. For all this, on Hall Farm manual labour predominated.

After leaving school, David, being both the only son and child, joined the farm in which his father made him a partner. By then, his father had bought the farmhouse off Mr Charles Townley, together with its stackyard and 80 acres of land (to the west of the Babraham Road). New machinery was gradually being introduced but David remembers how soon after, the grain store was built which completely changed their way of working and living.

'Machinery took away some of the abominable jobs we'd always had to do: every sugar beet had to be picked up, by hand - and there were 32,000 plants per acre - banged together, have their tops cut off and then chucked into railway trucks which were probably 8 feet above our heads. Nowadays the giant machines do the job far more efficiently .... We'd have been out there for weeks, in snow and all weathers, and all we had to wear on top of our normal clothing was an old sack with a Home Guard heavy coat, and you couldn't wear gloves with this job because they'd be soaked from the first minute. And then there was the thrashing to do in the winter time when we thrashed the stacks that had been made up at harvest time. We eventually stopped the hard work and bought a Massey Harris harvester and put up the grain store which I was put in charge of and which was fully operational until ten years ago. The buildings were recently pulled down and the site sold off and redeveloped, the former stackyard now being remembered in its new name of Stackyard Close.'

David has cause to be thankful those buildings were pulled down, not only because 'I would have worked myself to death before now (threshing the stacks alone meant carting two and a half hundredweight sacks on one's back, and we all had bad back problems) but also because of the constant risk of fire'. Farm and crop fires are a constant feature reported in the Chronicles: between 1851 and 1919, ten are recorded, of which David remembers the occasion when the cattle yard along the Balsham Road was burned down.

And Hall Farm was not exempt. In the 20th century alone, there have been four fires on Hall Farm and its land:

- Oct 1931 stackyard fire at John Wright's Hall Farm
- Aug 1949 cornfield fires incl. 70 acres of wheat and barley belonging to C.G. Wright and Robert Fison
- May 1956 fire at Hall Farm when the old piggeries were lost
- Oct 1959 stack fire at Hall Farm

And although it was before he was born, the 1931 stackyard fire, caused by a firework thrown from the Infants School, burnt up the entire farm harvest in one night.

David took over the farm on coming of age, in about 1957/8. His father was already quite ill then though he continued to live at Hall Farm until his death in 1975 at the age of 84. That was when David, who, for the past twenty years, had been living with his wife at Gt. Wilbraham, returned to live at Hall Farm and has been living there to the present day. When David first became part of the labour force, he worked with W. Brasher, Percy Deal, Jack Littlechild, Ray Peachey and, for a short while, John Shepherd who left later for a career with Ridgeons. At least four men were employed full time, and extra labour, always local, was there at the farm gate looking for work at the beginning of harvest. Later, the work force eventually was reduced to David himself and a farm manager.

When he first started work, he remembers working with horses but only the job of leading the horse home. One horse would pull a cart with eight to ten sacks of corn which were just over a ton and take it into the yard. As a 16 year old, he was already driving tractors - the Allis Chalmers model B would just about pull a binder which used to take two horses to pull. Later, a Massey Harris combine was bought - at the end of harvest each year, new machinery, tractors etc were bought, either secondhand or new - but the grain was still coming off in sacks. They would be twelve stone bags and they had all to be picked up off the floor. Two and a quarter hundredweight sacks were also used. 'We had various accoutrements eventually which would lift them off the tractor so that would ease the load a lot. But a lot still had to be carried up steps into the granary up a rickety old ladder. The grain was wheat, barley and oats and because we had stock, the oats were all put through a roller mill which, in my time was electric, but before, it was driven off the belt of an old engine in the barns'.

In the 1940's, his mother used to keep rabbits in sheds where Stackyard Court is now. She would sell them to a chap called Thorogood who lived at Highfield Gate. He used to go to the markets, originally with a bicycle with a pannier on the front. Also 30-40 chickens in sheds at night but free to roam in the yard by day - the eggs were sent by train to Spitalfields Market or Covent Garden. He'd pick up anything from moleskins to eggs.

David has run the farm now for some sixty years and has seen many changes. Thanks to the purchase of more land, there has been an increase of acreage, and more changes are foreseen for the future of Hall Farm, as running it with its 300 acres has become too difficult for one person to run alone. But five generations and nearly two hundred years in the occupation of one family is indeed something of which to be proud.



**Aerial view of Hall Farm, Fulbourn 1986**

## 2 THE WOMBWELLS of VALLEY FARM

Since the early twentieth century, three generations of Wombwells have lived and farmed in Fulbourn on the four farms all situated close to each other to the south of the village. In 1920, two brothers, Arthur and Eli, sons of John Wombwell of Thriplow where they had been employed on the Walstons farm, came as tenants to farm in Valley Farm. They were joined there by fellow tenant farmer Tom Barnes, who, with his family, went on to farm there for three generations.

The farm was and still is the property of Cambridgeshire County Council, which had bought it off Francis Joseph Chaplin in 1919, and had divided it into three or four parts. After the First World War, Valley Farm, like other farms (such as Hills Farm), had been bought with its 360 acres, possibly for ex-servicemen, and divided up to encourage people to come in to farming. Of Arthur's five sons, Fred, Len, and Gordon Wombwell's father Albert Victor (known as Vic to distinguish him from Eli's son Albert), stayed to farm in Fulbourn.

The three started by farming together as tenants at Valley Farm. Later, in 1947, Len moved to Lodge Farm (which belonged to Ralph Moore) where, after his death, his son Derek continued for a while, until it was bought by Alan Bullen. Of Eli's three sons, (Walter, Albert and Louis), Walter took on the tenancy of New Shardelows (owned by the Townleys) and Louis that of Rectory Farm (owned by the Chaplins). Albert left to farm in Ickleton. This was in the 1930's.

In 1952, Walter bought Shardelows, with its 600 odd acres, and after he died, his two sons, Ken and Terry, farmed it in partnership until Ken's death in c.1982, when Ken's widow sold his share to Basil White of Teversham. Terry continued to farm the other half. In the 1930's, Louis went to Rectory Farm as a tenant of the Chaplins, off whom he bought the farm in the 1940's. So Eli, being a pushy, go-ahead sort of chap, was willing to take on the three farms (Lodge, Rectory and Shardelows), two of which - Rectory and Shardelows - he and his sons were later

able to buy, each with about 500 acres of land. His descendants still own two of these farms - Rectory Farm is owned by and farmed by Louis grandson, Nick Wombwell, while Shardelows is part owned by Walter's grandson, Terry Wombwell.

According to Gordon Wombwell, his father Vic came out of the navy in 1920, then went to Canada for four years where, in 1924, he married Ada Richmond. On his return in 1932, he joined his father, Arthur, and two brothers, Fred and Len, to farm at Valley Farm. However, Vic and Len went to live in Impetts Lane where Gordon was born. At the time, there was still only the one farmhouse at Valley Farm - the Georgian farmhouse built in 1817, being probably the first farmhouse to be built after the Enclosures in the fields south of Fulbourn. It was a large red brick and slate building, large enough to be divided up and shared by the families of Eli and Arthur, with Tom Barnes and his family occupying the nearby cottage.



**Valley Farmhouse 1919**

Eli's family later moved out to Rectory Farm and his sons left for other farms, but Arthur and son Fred stayed on in the old farmhouse. Fred was to die there in c.1940 but Arthur remained there until his retirement in 1968. For a brief spell one Stigwood lived there before it and the adjacent cottage were finally pulled down in c.1970. The Council had considered the house too old to be repaired, while the cottage was becoming increasingly dilapidated. In the 1960s, the old farmhouse was replaced by two new houses, into the first of which Gordon's father had gone to live. When Arthur retired (in 1968), Gordon and his wife, moved into it from Home End and then he eventually bought it. The Barnes family lived in the other new house.

In 1948 Gordon left school and with his parents Arthur and Ada moved from School Lane, where they had been living, to Valley Farm, to live in the now demolished farmhouse, which they shared with his uncle, Vic's brother Fred and his wife, Alice Barnes. For the next twenty years they lived and farmed there. It was a big house, but at the time, it had neither water nor electricity. However, they had their own generator in what was called the brew house to pump up the water.

When Gordon married in 1954, he and Diana moved to the cottage nearby previously occupied by the Barnes family. This cottage was probably built at the same time as the first farmhouse in the early nineteenth century, maybe for a shepherd or other farm labourer, and was demolished in the 1960s. With thick earth walls and a corrugated roof (it had probably been thatched), it, too, had no water nor electricity. It had a well and the water was pumped up by a small petrol engine to a tank at the back. The other half of the cottage was lived in by a newly married cousin and they would take turns to start up the engine every three days to fill the tank. Lighting was by Tilly lamps. Gordon and Diana only lived there for about six months until the house they were having built in Home End was ready for them. It was from Home End that he farmed Valley Farm until his father retired in 1968 when, after six months back in the old farmhouse, he moved into the new farmhouse built by the Council.

For a while Gordon farmed in partnership with Tom Barnes son, Stan. The Barnes family continue to farm there as tenants of the Council, but, since the old farmhouse and cottage were demolished, living in one of the new houses built in the 1970s. When Gordon himself retired in 1997 and went to live in Greater Foxes, he sold the (new) house to his son, Richard, who now lives there, together with ten acres and the original Victorian barn.

When his father retired in 1968, Gordon had first to put in an application to the Council for the tenancy of the farm along with others. He was successful and he then entered into partnership with Stanley Barnes for about ten years, sharing the machinery and trying to make an economic unit of the farm. Realising that conventional crops were not sufficient as there was not enough acreage, he went into pigs, about 400 of them, buying them at 8 weeks old, keeping them for 12 weeks before taking them off to the abattoir.

Gordon had first started working on the farm as a boy, driving the old-fashioned Ford tractor from when he was about 10, even when the tractor was pulling a combine - which he remembers well, because when a V2 fell on the farm, he had to drive around the enormous crater it left. At that age, too, he would do what was called horse raking - raking up the odd bits of barley while seated on a horse and then the full load would be carted off in a two-wheeled cart.

During the forties, there was still the full agricultural backup in the village of carpenter (Morris Sargent, also William Knights), wheelwright (William Knights), and blacksmith (Bill Webb). The cart could have been made by Morris Sargent and Bill Webb (the wheels). However, during the war they did have a combine harvester which they bought off Walter Wombwell who, in the 1930s,

was the first to have one. As for ploughing, some of it was done by contractors from the village.

The introduction of chemical sprays in the 1940s made a great difference to crop production. Fertilisers had been used already in the 1930s but the introduction of weed killers after the war had an amazing effect on the crops. Before that, Gordon remembers, you couldn't get rid of the weeds. You hoped that the barley would come up thick enough to smother most of them but invariably, just before harvest, you would see the fields all yellow with charlock or red with poppies. The barley that everyone grew at that time was called Spratt Archer, a malting barley which was the only type of barley you could grow in this part of the country and which everyone grew. He would sell it to Eaglen, the corn merchants of Home End. He also grew wheat and sugar beet, then later, mustard for Colmans. During the war, the War Act was introduced which spelt out what crops were to be grown - rye, for instance, to be added to bread.

Gordon was an active member of the Farmers Union, the East Branch which consisted of Fulbourn and the Wilbrahams, and in the 1950's he and some other local farmers (among them David

Wright) went in a delegation to Parliament to protest at the annual price review. He was also on the Pigs Committee and had to go to Ely once a month after which he had to report to the local branch, although he was the only one to have pigs in any numbers.

Gordon carried on farming until he retired in 1997. Richard Barnes, grandson of Tom Barnes, farms the rest of the land as a tenant of the Council, while Gordon's son, Richard, continues to live in the house Gordon sold him in 1997.

(To be continued)



Shepherd's Cottage Valley Farm 1959/1961

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## OCCUPATIONS IN FULBOURN 1858-1875

by Glynis Arber.

Fulbourn Village History Society has recently obtained photocopies of the relevant entries for Fulbourn parish contained in four Directories printed during the mid nineteenth century - as follows: Post Office Directory 1858: History, Topography & Directory of Cambs & Herts. 1864: Harrod & Co's Postal & Commercial Directory of Suffolk & Cambridge 1873: Kelly's Directory 1875.

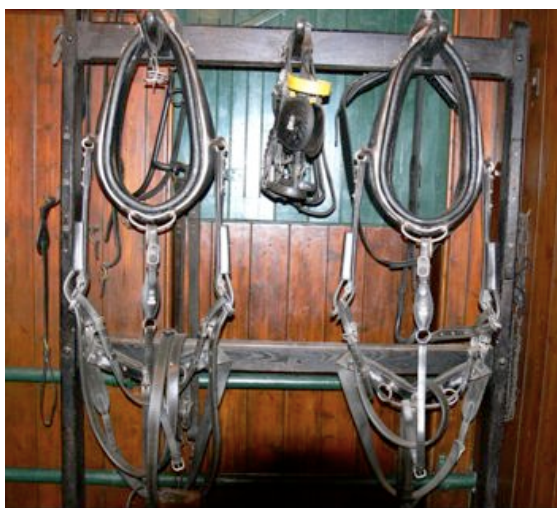
The four directories begin with an 'introductory' description of Fulbourn parish, mostly relating to church architecture. Owing to lack of space, I have not paraphrased this information, but concentrated instead on the entries concerned with the occupations of Fulbourn people which provide a fascinating glimpse of a mid nineteenth century farming community. However, they do not give specific addresses and some caution is required when identifying individuals since often sons share the same first name as their father. I have, in fact, deliberately refrained from using other documentary sources to check the facts of my account, being intrigued to discover what can be ascertained from just the Directories. Of course, Fulbourn Village History Society Archive Store contains much more information on the people and places of Fulbourn, and members are

encouraged to avail themselves of the research facilities it offers.

In all four Directories the occupation of **farmer** had the most numerous entries with 17 names in 1858 and 1864 and 21 in 1873 and 1875. During this eleven year period the surnames changed little, and include William Archibald Adams, Charles and Philip Brown, John Hancock Chaplin, Joseph, Abraham, Thomas and Basil Chaplin, Henry, William and Joseph Hardwick, Frederic Kent (1873,75), James King, Robert Layton (1873,75), Daniel Whiskin Merrington, Thomas Oslar (1873,75) and John Alfred Oslar (1875), John and Stephen Payne (1858), Thomas Payne (1858, 64), and Arthur Payne (1873,75), Esau Stalley (1873), John Wells (1858), Thomas Wells (1864), John Willis (1858, 64,75), Joshua Woollard (1858, 64), Thomas Wright (1858, 64, 73,75), Charles Wright (1864, 75), William Wright (1864,73, 75). Personally, I was surprised to also find women designated farmers eg Mrs Susan King (1858), Mrs Phoebe Furbank (1858), Miss Sophia Payne (1873,75), Mrs Wells (1864) and Mrs Ann Wright (1858). Were they the widow or daughter of a farmer, carrying on the family business until a male heir was able or old enough, to take over? ( I am speculating here!)

After farmer, **beer retailer** was the most popular occupation listed - seven in 1858, two in 1864, ten in 1873 and five in 1875. There were also Victuallers of Public Houses such as Robert Mason (1858,64) and John Jaggs (1873,75) for the Coach & Horses, Henry Wiltshire (1875) for the Crown & Thistle, Christopher Page (1864) and Mrs Mercy Page (1875 - another widow?) for the Harrow, Elijah Moore (1864, 75) for the Railway Tavern/Inn. Robert Layton (1858,64), Thomas Sutton (1873), Robert Barton Miller (1875) for the Six Bells, Samuel Chapman (1858,64,75) for the White Hart and Mrs Parrish (1873) for the Townsend Arms. The residents of Fulbourn certainly would not go thirsty! Moreover, at least some of the beer sold appears to have been made locally. In 1873 Richard Mason was described as a **maltster, brewer** and beer retailer whilst the Messrs Chaplin combined farming with being a **miller** and **malster**. (1864, 73,75). Perhaps Fulbourn beer was also kept in the barrels made by Charles Dawson, **cooper** (1858,64).

In terms of traditional rural trades, Fulbourn had several **wheelwrights**, James Veal (1858,64), William Knight (1873,75) and the Dawson family - Mrs Sophia Dawson (1858, 64) and Henry Payne Dawson (1875 - Sophia's son? His main occupation was listed as builder). There were two surnames associated with the village **blacksmith** - Richard Webb (1858) and Joseph (1858,64), William (1873,75) and Daniel (1875) Redhouse (the latter only listed as 'smith' in 1864).



Another rural craft was that of the **saddle and harness makers**, Peter Haggard (1873, 75) and Joseph Norman (1873). Animals were an important part of the farming scene of course, with Robert Bricheno (1858,64) and Robert

Layton (1873) described as '**horse dealer**' and Frederick Layton (1875) as a '**cattle dealer**'. Fulbourn even had its own **veterinary surgeon**, Benjamin Pooley (1858,64,73,75).

Building work also had local practitioners. There was John Fincham, (1873) a general **builder** and the **thatchers**, James (1858,64,73) and William (1873) Turner. During the period covered by the directories there were six **carpenters** living in the village, Thomas Sutton (1858,64, 75), Joseph Bye (1858), Robert Barrett (1873), George Mason (1873, also a builder) and William Woodhouse (1873). John Downs was both a **painter** and **plumber** in 1873 and a **glazier** in 1864 and 1875. The **bricklayer** trade (with the Victorian building boom in Cambridge, not necessarily confined to Fulbourn) was well represented by Mathew Cowell (1858,64), Henry Harris (1858,64,73,75), John Littlechild (1873) and John Fincham (1875).

Residents of Fulbourn had most of their needs served by the village's **shops**, with Esau Stalley (1858,64,75), John Standley (1858), James Pamplin (1873) and William Bell (1875) all being described as **bakers**. There were several **butchers**, Charles Dean (1858), William Whitmore (1858,64,75), Robert Miller (1873,75) and Newman Radford (1875). Furthermore, there was a surprising number of **grocer** and **drapers**, Mrs Sophia Haggard (1858), William Holmes (1858,64,73,75), James L Camplin (1864,73,75), Ed Pooley (1864), and James Juffs (1873), who was also described as just a '**shopkeeper**' in 1858, 1864 and 1875, as was Mrs Newbury in 1873. I was expecting to find the occupation of dressmaker listed, as being suitable (?) employment for a woman, but found instead only that of **tailor** - Christopher Fickess (1858,64) and Frederick Stearn (1875). Probably most everyday clothes were sewn in the home.

**Shoe and boot making** no doubt required specialist equipment and both were undertaken by Stephen (1858) and Eli (1864,73) Reed, Charles Dare (1873), George and Peter Webb (1873). It is interesting that only the description of 'shoemaker' was applied to Josiah Haynes (1858), Peter Webb (1858, 64,75) and Thomas Bray (1864) - did this require less skill? Nonetheless, Fulbourn people were well shod for the year 1873!

Information about other occupations provided by the Directories include, in 1875, that of **florist** for Jonathan Sollowes and James Creek (also named a '**seedsman**'). John Grunwell Mitchell was a **coal** and **corn merchant** in

1873, though just a corn merchant in 1875, with Frederick Tabrum described as a '**coal agent**' in 1875. The general transport needs of the community were provided for by the **carrier**, Henry Rolfe (1858, 64) and in 1873 the latter year also declaring he operated this service to Cambridge on Wednesday and Saturday. In 1875 it was taken over by John Watson. The **station master** for the Cambridge to Newmarket Railway line was Thomas Riches (1858,75) and Peter Hagger performed the duty of **sub-postmaster** in 1873 and 1875 when letters arrived at 5.45 and 2.00 p.m. and were dispatched at 12.30 and 7.50 p.m. (Ah, the good old days!)

One aspect I found fascinating was the way the layout of the Directories indicated the various social strata of Fulbourn. The 1858 Post Office Directory's first heading was '**Private Residents**', under which fell, not surprisingly, the landowner and lord of the manor Charles Watson Townley. So also did a Mr William Collier.

The 1873 Harrod & Co's Directory also avoided the description 'Private Residents' but enlarged the list and provided the names of their residences: Joseph Chaplin Esq, Ludlows, the Misses M and E Chaplin, Ludlow House, Mrs A.T Chaplin, Mr William Johnson, Mulberry Villa, Richard Wisken Merrington Esq. the Cottage, Mr Thomas Thorpe, Montrose Cottage. Moreover, in 1873 farmers in Fulbourn came under their own heading.

In Kelly's Directory of 1875 there were a few changes to the (un-headed) section for private residents. The Chaplin family replaced Joseph with Paul Thomas, and there was the addition of Richard Watson Maris, Robert Spooner and Charles Watson.

It is evident that the compilers of the Directories were unsure how to categorise some residents of Fulbourn. Thus in 1858, William Knox esq. appeared in the Private Residents section and also had a further entry in the Commercial section, being described as 'surgeon'. Yet in 1864 he was only once listed as William Knox esq. with no mention of his profession. Nine years later, the name of his presumed successor, John Francis Stafford. Esq. surgeon was included in the section relating to private residents but absent from those who fell under the heading 'General Trades'. However, in Kelly's Directory of 1875 it seems the position of village doctor was held by Charles Edward Walker, described under the Commercial entries as being both 'physician & surgeon'. This time, though again recorded amongst the private

residents, he appeared as Charles Edward Walker and the title 'Esq.' omitted - as it was for the other men listed.

Another man who did not conform to the usual pattern, was J.F. Herring, '**animal painter**' first found under the 1864 Directory heading 'Trades and Professions'. He must have been successful, because in 1873 Mr J.F. Herring was not included in 'General Trades' but with the other private residents, along with the name of his house the 'Poplars'. But only two years later, John Frederick Herring, 'artist', had migrated once more to the 'commercial' heading.

It is probably to be expected that the **vicars** or **rectors** of the two parishes within Fulbourn were found in the private residents section of all four directories ie rector of St Vigor, Rev. Francis Russell Hall D.D., (1858,64) and Rev. John Vavasor Durrell M.A. (1873,75) and for the discharged vicarage of All Saints. Rev. James Harley Usil, M.A.(1858-1875). Information about who provided the patronage and the yearly value of each (about £750 and £250 respectively) is also provided in the general paragraph about Fulbourn as is the existence of chapels for the Independents and Baptist, and the names of Rev. William Anstey (1858) and Rev. George Moore (1875) are amongst the private residents in the Directories for those years.

The **schools** in Fulbourn receive acknowledgment in this overall description of the parish, and in the two earlier Directories the names of the teachers are displayed under the heading Commercial or Trades and Professional - Henry Payne, Day School (1858,75), John Mason, schoolmaster (1858,64) Esther Payne, schoolmistress (1864). The later publications give more information about the schools ie in 1873 'There is an Endowed school for boys. Jabez Cadge, master, and a National school for girls, Miss Emily Greenhill, mistress.' and 1875 'There is a Free School for boys and girls, endowed with £38 yearly; also a National school for girls.' followed by the names of the same teachers.

Henry Payne (assuming this is the same one) also was listed as the **Relieving Officer** in 1864 (an official appointed to administer relief to the poor) whilst John Mason combined teaching with being a '**surveyor, parish clerk**' and 'postmaster' (1858). Furthermore, in 1875, Isaac Miller was noted as being a 'surveyor', but primarily an '**assistant overseer**' though in what capacity is not clear. However, such occupations suggest that these residents of Fulbourn were amongst the more educated within the parish.

From the very basic information obtained through the four directories the village would, it seems, during the mid nineteenth century, have been more or less self sufficient (no doubt people grew their own vegetables and kept chickens) - with enough shops, trades, medical help etc. to serve the community. Something to aim for now?

**FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY'S ARCHIVE STORE**, in The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn, is open to members and the general public, on Monday and Wednesday morning from 10.00 a.m. until noon.



**A Wheelwrights workshop (on display at the Farmland Museum, Denny Abbey.)**

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**WANTED!** Photographs of Fulbourn people, places, shops etc. celebrating the Royal Family over the past decades. These will be scanned and returned to you within a week. Also Royal memorabilia which would be displayed in the locked cabinet located in the Fulbourn Centre foyer during our Diamond Jubilee Exhibition. Contact Tony Goodall,(01223 880401).

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## **FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

***Thursday 17th May, Fulbourn Village History Society A.G.M. Fulbourn Centre, 7.30 pm.***

***Saturday, 19th May Fulbourn Village History Society Fund-raising Cake Stall. Fulbourn High Street from 9.00 am. Please bring your contributions to the stall as soon as possible on Saturday morning - we sell out fast!!***

***Monday, 4 June Fulbourn Village History Society Exhibition 'Fulbourn Celebrates the Royal Family', Foyer of The Fulbourn Centre (time to be arranged).***

***Sunday, 24 June Fulbourn Village History Society Exhibition 'Fulbourn Celebrates the Royal Family', Fulbourn Feast***

***Saturday, 21 July Fulbourn Village History Society Exhibition Fund-raising Coffee Morning, Hall Farm, School Lane from 10.00 am until noon.***