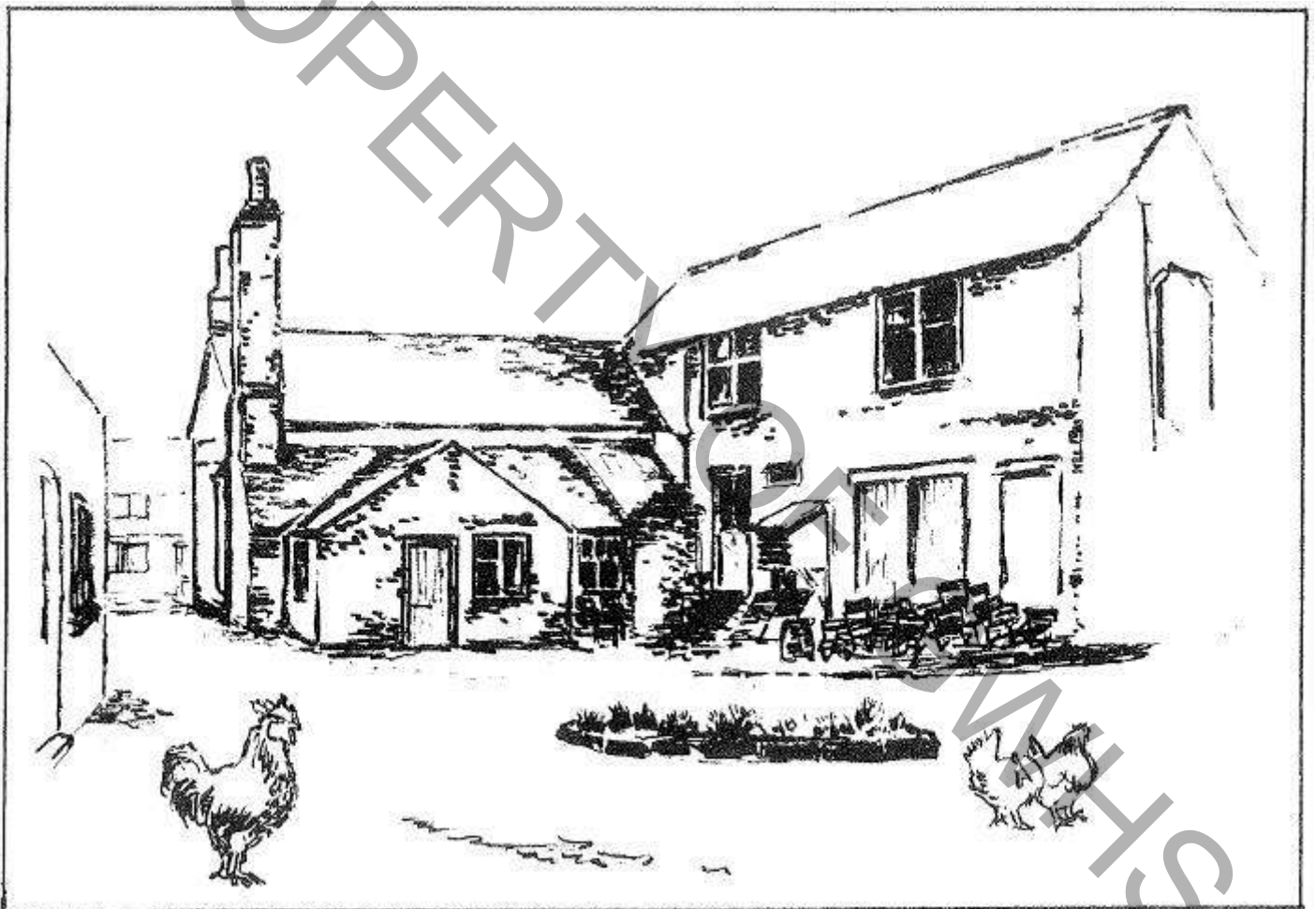




Greater Wigston Historical Society  
White Gate Farm, Newton Lane, Wigston Magna Leicestershire

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## Bulletin 27



The Old Crown, Moat Street, Wigston Magna.

J.R. Colver.

## Programme of Meeting June to December 1990

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 1990**

Visit to Rutland Water with a trip on the 'Rutland Bell' Coach from Wigston Liberal Club car park at 6.30pm (not 7.00pm as previously stated)

### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 1990**

A look at Hallaton with a stop at a local hostelry – Led by Ian Vary  
Meet at 7.00pm at Wigston Liberal Club car park to co-ordinate transport.  
(This is in place of the previously mentioned trip to Thrumpton Hall, Notts, which could not be organised).

### **\*Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 1990**

Videos of old Leicester (Subject probably trams) – Mr R Foxtton  
7.30pm Wigston Liberal Club

### **\*Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 1990**

Slides of Bygone Wigston with Commentary – Bill Ward  
7.30 pm Wigston Liberal Club

### **\*Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 1990**

Battle of Waterloo with display of medals – Mr R Cooper  
7.30 Wigston Liberal Club

### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 1990**

Christmas Party

- These speakers are subject to confirmation.

The Bulletin is published three times a year on 1<sup>st</sup> February, June and October.  
Articles etc. should be given to either of the joint Editors three clear weeks before publication date please.

Joint Editors:-

Mrs Chris Smart 16 Maidwell Close Wigston  
Mrs Tricia Berry 11 Hayes Road Wigston

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February Meeting ...

On Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 35 members of the Society met for the Annual General Meeting and member's evening.

1. An Apology had been received from Ian Vary
2. The minutes were read, agreed and signed as a true and correct record.
3. Treasures Report – The treasurer reported that the accounts were very healthy with a balance of £649.88 to carry forward, mainly resulting from sales of the Town Trail.
4. Subscriptions – It was agreed that subscriptions remain the same at £3.00
5. Chairman's Report – Edna reported that during the year we had had speakers on a variety of topics. Other successful events were:- hosts to Local History Council A.G.M. in May; Trip to Burrough on the Hill in June; barbeque with the Civic Society in August.

A Tape recorder has been purchased and some oral records made. Transcriptions and booklets included:- Wiggy's War; Town Trail and Another Wigston Wander for the disabled.

Stella Tweed has been appointed Membership Secretary. Membership stands at around 55 with a good attendance at meetings. A family history group has been formed on an informal basis.

6. Election of Officers

Ian Varey stood down from the committee. No nominations had been received so all officers were returned unopposed. Officers are as Follows:

Chairman	Edna Taylor
Vice Chairman	Bob Wignall
Treasurer	Brian Bilson
Secretary	Doris Chandler
Bulletin Editors	Tricia Berry / Chris Smart
Membership Secretary	Stella Tweed
	Peter Clowes
	Jim Colver

7. A.O.B.

£50 had been donated to the Oadby and Wigston Building preservation Trust

The second part of the evening then began with members talks.

**Bob Wignall**

Gave us a very interesting about life in the Uppingham Workhouse, in particular the story of Jane Brown of Seaton and Richard Bilsdon of North Luffenham. Richard Bilsdon was in the Uppingham Workhouse from 1838 to 1841 when he died aged 71. His was a tale of absentions, readmissions and gaol. Jane Brown was in the Workhouse from 1830 to 1840 when she died aged 27. During that 10 year period she has two children and various admissions and readmissions. Bob left us with the thought ... were they troublemakers or freedom fighters kicking against the system?

**Stella Tweed**

Gave us a tape recorded talk about the Midland Cottages. Stella's presentation included interesting photographs of the windows and door of the houses along Twenty Row as it is known. Her take evoked the atmosphere of the early steam days, and included an interview with someone who lived there as a child and another with someone living there now. Stella's 'through the keyhole' approach was most fascinating.

**Bernard Elliott**

Gave a talk on the 1881 census of Wigston, in particular the origins of the inhabitants. Between 1871 and 1881 the population had doubled. Some had come from far afield as far as Canada and the West Indies, others from Northampton area and many from the local villages nearby.

## **Colin Towell**

Spoke on Simon de Montfort and how people travelled between battles in those days and the distance covered. He spoke in particular of two battles, The Battle of Lews where Henry III and his son Edward were defeated, followed by Evesham where Simon was killed. He described, graphically the Battle of Lewes and the movements of Simon de Montford, young Simon his son and the Earl of Gloucester on one side and King Henry III and his son on the other. Simon was killed 4<sup>th</sup> August 1265 at Evesham.

For our final item Bill Ward had brought in two tapes that he had made of two old Wigston ladies. Both still lived in the houses where they were born and had many tales to tell of when most of Wigston was just fields where they played their childhood games. This included a grisly tale of the discovery by school children of someone who had committed suicide by hanging.

After thanks were given the evening closed at about 10pm.

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## **March 1990 – Meeting**

About 30 members heard fellow member, Brian Bilson, Give a most interesting talk, illustrated with slides, on Old St Pauls London. He told us there had been a church on this elevated site since the 7<sup>th</sup> century. During the 11<sup>th</sup> century a huge cathedral was erected. This measuring 590 ft was the third longest in Europe. It has 430 ft spire.

The building was sadly neglected at the time of the Reformation when parts of the inside were used as a market. Inigo Jones did much restoration in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. During the civil war there was more neglect and £17,000 of the funds were taken to help finance this.

At the Restoration Christopher Wren was asked to make drawings for a programme of refurbishment but before this could be started the building was virtually destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666. Eye witnesses described the nearby streets as being red with molten lead running from the roof. The only item saved from inside was an effigy of John Donne, a former Dean of St. Pauls and poet ‘for whom the bell tolls:

It was decided to rebuild completely and Wren designed the Cathedral we know today.

After some questions and discussion a warm vote of thanks to Brian was given by Edna Taylor. Members were asked to hand their names in if they wished to go on the Rutland Water trip. It is hoped to get together a party of about 50 people to make this evening more economic. The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

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## **April 1990 – Meeting**

Approx 45 members settled down to hear Mr Jackson give his very interesting talk on “Bonny Prince Charley”. He told his story of the young Pretender’s attempt to regain the throne for the Stuarts.

Arriving from France he marched with his army from Scotland and reached Derby causing panic in London. George II was ready packed to go to Hanover and the banks were only paying out money in sixpences. However, there was little support for him in England and he was forced to retire back to Scotland. The King sent his son the Duke of Cumberland to take charge of the Government troops and Charles was defeated at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. He escaped to the Isle of Shy disguised as Betty Burke the maid of Florence MacDonald who was imprisoned in the Tower of London for a year for her willing involvement in this. He eventually escaped back to France and died in Rome in 1788. Strangely, a monument to the Stuarts in St. Peters was paid for by George II.

Mr Jackson who has travelled extensively then showed slides of the parts of Scotland visited by the Bonnie Prince during his wanderings to evade capture. His friend Mr Jimmy Morrison then showed and explained his wonderful collection of authentic weapons used at the Battle of Culloden.

After questions and a discussion Edna Taylor thanked the two gentlemen for a very entertaining evening.

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#### **May 1990 - Meeting**

An enthusiastic group of members visited the Leics, Records Office. We were welcomed by Dr Kate Thompson, the County Archivist, and one of her assistants. Dr Thompson began by explaining for those who were unfamiliar with the service what its function was. The dual role of preservation and conservation of the ancient records and making them assessable for obtaining a reader's ticket and the reasons for this and the various rules which must be observed when making use of the facilities.

We were invited inside the strong room and it was obvious why the staff are hoping the proposed relocation to Wigston takes place. The shelves were indeed very full. As much care as possible is taken of these irreplaceable documents. Everything is stored off the floor and humidity and temperature are kept constant. Fire precautions are thorough as was illustrated when Dr Thomson left her lunch in the oven too long and was embarrassed to find the fire brigade outside!

A selection of material relating to Wigston was displayed for us including the first Parish Register and early registers for Frederick Street Methodist Chapel and the Wigston Independent Chapel. A grateful vote of thanks to Dr Thompson was given by Tricia Berry standing in for the chairman and other officers of the Society who were unable to attend and for a variety of different reasons.

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#### **Leicestershire County Council Heritage Awards 1990**

This scheme was created to recognise and encourage non Country Council projects undertaken in Leicestershire and Rutland. Now in its second year the winners were announced recently. The award ceremony was held at the new Walk Museum on 29<sup>th</sup> March. The event was sponsored by the Leicester Mercury whose managing director Mr John Aldridge made the presentations.

After an opening address by Duncan Lucas the seven nomination were red out:

1. A series of booklets produced by the Loughborough Bell Foundry Museum
2. Preservation work at the Rothley Stream Railway Line
3. Display of the Leicestershire Yeomanry Collection housed in the Carillon War Memorial, Loughborough.
4. Restoration by the Cheshire / Sue Ryder Foundation at Staunton Harold Hall.
5. Restoration work at the Framework Knitters Cottage, Wigston by the Oadby and Wigston Building Preservation Trust.
6. World War II Display at Hallaton Museum
7. Work at Rutland Railway Museum Cottesmore

The judges were Mr Stephanos Mastoris, Curator of Market Harborough Museum and Mrs Sue Hollins, publicity manager of the Leicester Mercury. All the entries were excellent in their own very different ways, but in the end the judges said ‘we finally chose the Framework Knitters Cottage as the restoration had been carried out so sensitively!’ Peter Clowes, honorary curator, went forward to receive the winners plaque and certificate and managed an excellent speech of thanks in spite of suffering from a bad chest infection. Runners up were Staunton Hall and third place went to the Leicestershire Yeomanry Collection.

The company were then entertained by the talented hand bell ringers from Trinity Church, Barrow-upon-Soar. Afterwards refreshments were served.

All these projects sound well worth visiting during the coming months.

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### **Quotes of the Month**

“No man really becomes a fool until he stops asking questions”  
Charles P Steinetz

“And I found a register of genealogy of them which came up at the first ...”  
Nehemiah Ch.7 v.5

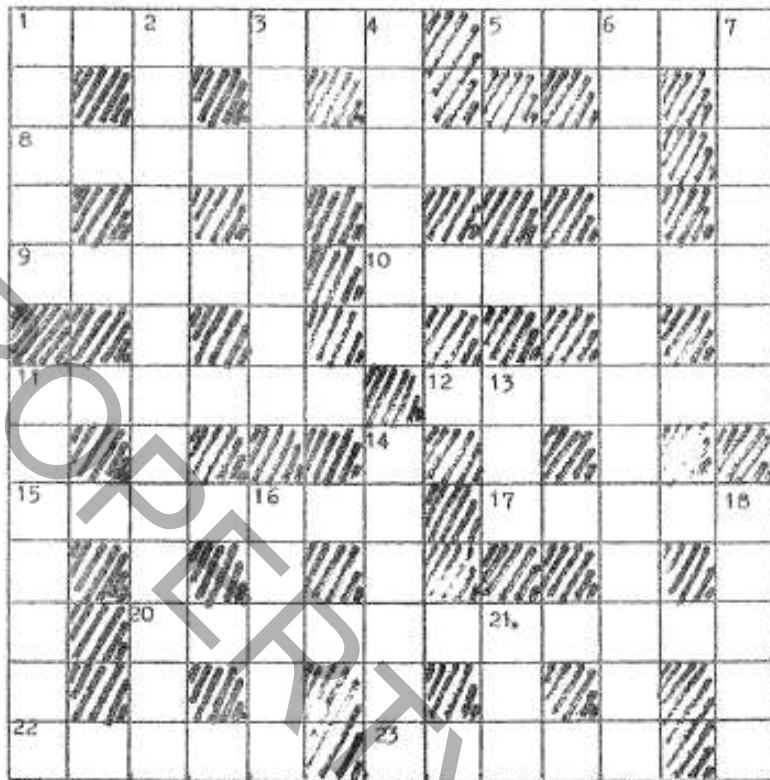
“Through in the grave mens’ bodies soone bee rotten; yet hear theyr names will  
hardlie bee forgotton”  
Register Book of St Peter’s Cornhill

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### **1990 Subscriptions**

A number of people have not yet paid their subscriptions for this year. As these were due in February. Treasure Brian Bilson, would be glad to receive any outstanding ones as soon as possible please.

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Across

Down

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Japanese warrior (7)</p> <p>5. Greek author (5)</p> <p>8. Native of place in Gulliver's Travels (11)</p> <p>9. Short golf shots (5)</p> <p>10. Drunk, given to drunkenness (7)</p> <p>11. Old-fashioned undergarment (6)</p> <p>12. Food cupboard (6)</p> <p>15. Queenly (7)</p> <p>17. Works in stone (5)</p> <p>20. He studies ancient times (10)</p> <p>22. Forest in Warwickshire, supposed setting for "As you like it" (5)</p> <p>23. Escape from (7)</p> | <p>1. Shropshire (5)</p> <p>2. Protector (8,5)</p> <p>3. Give out again (7)</p> <p>4. Accustoms (6)</p> <p>6. Pre-1974 English county (13)</p> <p>7. Leicestershire village (7)</p> <p>11. Spanish city (7)</p> <p>13. Part of the body (7)</p> <p>14. Dentists hate it (6)</p> <p>16. Original name of Radon (5)</p> <p>18. After the eighth (5)</p> <p>21. Woman's name (3)</p> |
|---|---|

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD IN BULLETIN NO: 26

ACROSS 1) Dresser 5) Drinking 8) Crest 9) Name 10) Eat 11) Crown  
12) Owston 15) Corn 17) Sign 18) Iron 19) Elapse 20) Motte 21) Baffled  
22) St. 24) Warn 28) Edits 30) A.D. 31) Craftgilds 32) Actor

DOWN 1) Dungeon 2) End 3) South Wigston 4) Rack 5) Deed 6) King Richard  
7) Green 13) Northfield 14) Tune 16) Roses 23) Tudor 25) Ruff 26) MDC  
27) Dig 29) Sic

## “Pleasures of Food”

### From writing about Old Wigston by

#### Eileen Goodwin

As I grow older I think back to the pleasures of food in my childhood that children of Wigston today will never enjoy. I can recollect as a little girl about 1917-18, walking to Kilby (knob) turn to meet Jacky Knight with his horse and cart with large zinc containers in which tripe and cowheels were transported. He would have travelled from Bruntingthorpe stopping at Arnesby. Food was so scarce that as soon as I finished school on Friday, I would run home, pick up the big quartz jug and some money, about 10d and start walking. There would be about four of us and we would walk to the turn to meet him coming out of Kilby. Once our jug was full it would be made lighter by drinking the gravy. There's no tripe today like Jacky Knight's. It used to be warm as he would cook it on a Friday morning.

A good character was Billy Clarke who used to live in what is now Little Hill, one of the cottages were Kingdom Hall used to be. In my young days we used to call it “Horse & Trumpet Avenue”. Billy Clarke used to come round with a two-wheeled barrow with pieces of wood nailed each end and a bar across the top. He would shout “Rabbits Kippers and Fish” and would skin and chop them on board across the handles. He was a lame but likeable man.

The children in Wigston used to flock to Ned Smith's in Cross Street known to locals as the ‘posties’, who made the best ice cream that was ever sold here., also his home-made potted beef which he used to bring around in cups (mostly with the handles off) and sell at 3d. You could see the beef in it, not paste as it is today. It would be nice if someone knew the recipe and how he made it. Also in Cross Street there was Mr Brookes who came round with a large basket selling his home-made pickles. They were just grand. There was Mrs Proctor's toffee at 1d a bag. This place was very popular with all the school children. You could buy plain, coconut or mixed nut made in large tin trays.

Another shop was Windridge's in Bell Street, a fruit shop which children loved and was about where Radcliff's is now. Right on the corner of Bell Street and Long Street was Parker's Poultry and Fish a Chip shop. There was always a good bird hanging at that shop and he knew the names of all of his customers.

In the Ball Dyke district was Foulston's shoe shop which was where my father took me to be measured and fitted with shoes and boots. Maybe that is why I have no corns because my shoes were always well fitted. Next door was Peabody's Clock & Watch shop. His grandfather's clocks can still be seen in the district today. Next, Mrs Pym's shop was where you could get a good assortment of sweets and anything on cards, such as pencils, rubbers etc. Burdett's furniture shop came between Pym's and Snibson's Fruit Shop on the corner of Aylestone Lane. Mrs Parr's shop (later Wigginton's) was where you could buy cards, presents and sweets.



My shopping place never to be missed was Misses Creasey's shop in Moat Street, scratching 1d a bag, pork pies out of this world. All made on the premises selling anything that could be produced from a pig. Further along Moat Street was Ross the bakers shop, with the bake house at the back. Their scones and iced buns were special and the bread too.

The Co-op branch in Moat Street was a very busy shop and the venue for our weekly shopping in those days. On Thursdays the shop boy would call for your grocery book and with your order he used to cycle the district. A horse and Cart followed later by a motor van used to deliver the goods. The service is very much missed by each older generation. A personal service to which everyone looked forward.

In Moat Street the Diamond Cottages were a lovely feature of the road, the small diamond shaped window panes and pointed roofs, known locally as "London Cottages". They were where heating elements was more recently situated.

Levi Sampson's pork butchers which was taken over by Frank Foster. It was to Levi's I used to go on a Saturday when he cooked a leg of pork with stuffing and roast potatoes to take home for dinner. Saturday was the only day you didn't cook. Remember, people used to work five days from 8am to 6pm and on a Saturday 8am to 12 noon. His pork sausages and faggots were lovely. Made and eaten on the same day.

Smith's farm in Bull's Head Street where Mr Smith used to deliver the milk with a yoke and buckets to carry it along the street. The little hut in Newton Lane was where a tinker used to do all kinds of pans. A new pot was the last resort. Saturday mornings used to see a visit from Jaques with horse and cart selling black for the grate, paraffin, saucepans and kettles. He came from Aylestone (at that time a village) and would wander to Kilby and Newton.

A focal point was the shop of Marty Chapman on the Bank, where Ray's fish shop used to be more recently. The was nothing she didn't sell behind the counter, where as long as I can remember there were large bundles of all shapes of hat pins. A woman with a marvellous memory.

I could go on but at least I have given you a selection of Wigston's good food shops for over fifty years.

### **About the Author**

Eileen Goodwin was born in Wigston on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1908. Her father was Harry Wignall and she was the sister of GWHS member Ralph Wignall. Her paternal grandparents lived in Avenue House, Long Street and Mr Wignall senior made a speech on the Bank to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897.

A lifelong member of the Guiding Movement her other main interest was local history. She died on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1990 aged 81 years and at her funeral mourners were handed copies of an article she had written on her memories of 'Old Wigston' shops. It is reproduced here by permission of her family.

N.B.

Time marches on and some of the premises mentioned are not named as they were in the original text. The Editors have therefore altered certain phrases to read ‘until recently known as’ instead of ‘known as’ etc.

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**Front Cover illustration .....**

The cover for this edition of the Bulletin has been prepared and drawn for the society by Jim Colver. It is a sketch of the Old Crown in Moat Street. A search of Local Trade Directories for references to the Old Crown has revealed some interesting details.

The pub was listed as either the Old Crown Inn, the Old Crown or the Crown Inn.

Directory	Date	Landlord
Post Office	1855	Hurst, John and shoemaker
Drakes	1861	Hurst, John
Whites	1862	Mary Hurst
Post Office	1864	Hurst, Mary (Mrs)
Barkers	1874	Hurst, Mary (Mrs)
Post Office	1876	Mary Hurst
Whites	1877	Hurst, Mary vict.
Kellys	1881	Goodwin, Thomas
Wrights	1882	Forryan Jno
Wrights	1888	Barron Wm.
Kellys	1888	Barrow, Wm.
Wrights	1895	Hill, Albert
Wrights	1899	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1900	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1904	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1908	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1916	Hackett, Ben
Kellys	1922	Hackett, William Ernest
Kellys	1925	Hackett, William Ernest
Kellys	1928	Hackett, Wm. Ernest
Kellys	1932	Hackett, William Ernest
Kellys	1936	Clark, Desmond K
Kellys	1941	Clark, Desmond K

Landlords leaving one Public House have appeared to stay in the locality, for example:- in 1895 Ben Hackett is at the Star and Garter before going to the Crown and in 1936 W. E. Hackett is at the Horse and Trumpet after the Crown. Also the tenancy appeared to pass from one generation of a family to another to William Ernest Brackett (His son).

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As a result of the list of house names and dates that were published in February's edition of the bulletin, the following omissions have been drawn to my attention by Bill Ward.

Junction Road/ Frederick Street	L.H.Side	R.H.Side
Wesleyan Chapel 1839 (on north gable)	Doric	Revelstoke
Spa Lane	Stanholme	Wynstowe
I	Mostyn	Maiwil
R : E	Farringford	Cleveland
1740 Slate plaque on the Chestnuts	Wendover	Heathfield
Station Road	Westbury	Beaunets
No. 121 1907	Govier	Sketty
	Heathcliffe	Hamerton

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## Housewives' Work in Wigston in 1881 Part 1

The census of 1851 showed that there was in Wigston Magna at that time 414 married women of whom at least 90% stayed at home to do the housework. This included cooking, cleaning and doing everything for maintaining a home. Thirty years later in 1881, the number of housewives had increased to 925 and the percentage of those staying at home was about the same as in 1851.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Wigston had not yet obtained piped water; so most housewives had the onerous and everyday task of obtaining and transporting water to their homes. It was a major household chore necessary for cooking, washing-up, laundry and cleaning. And fetching water was nearly always women's work: men rarely did it. At that time in Wigston almost every cottage and farmhouse had a water butt at the side for catching water from the roof for rainwater was particularly good for cooking and cleaning because of its softness and comparative purity. The difficulty was that in a dry season the butt would soon become empty. Consequently, families in Wigston had to procure additional water supplies from wells and springs in the vicinity. These, of course, were reached by pumps, one of which was to be found in Spa Lane, another in Spring Lane and another in the cobbled yard at the back of the Framework Knitters Museum in Bushloe End. So, though Wigston had several pumps, many women had to travel some distance to obtain their water. Moreover if supplies ran short in a dry summer, they would have to queue for their water.

Another difficulty facing Wigston housewives at this time was how to get rid of dirty water and slops, for homes without piped water nearly always lacked sanitary conveniences as well. So, Wigston housewives faced the additional burden that without sinks and drains they had to get rid of all dirty water and slops from their homes by throwing them out of the window or by carrying them outside.

Another important household task for the Wigston housewife was to look after the fire. The open fire was indeed the focal point of domestic life in the British Isles, for in addition to providing heat and a cheerful blaze, it was in constant use for several other functions, such as cooking, lighting and rubbish disposal. In most households

only one fire burned at a time and that was in the main living room. Wigston housewives kept their hearths spotlessly clean and lavished great care upon them. Nineteenth century photographs of fire-places nearly always reveal a shiny black range or grate, a whitened hearthstone, a gleaming fender and a freshly starched 'chimney cloth' hanging from the mantle with a vast amount of bric-a-brac above.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century coal had become the main domestic fuel in Wigston, supplemented from time to time with wood. In 1851, Wigston Magna had five coal dealers: Thomas Carr, Elizabeth Chapman, John Meekin, Samuel White and William Wright. Thirty years later there were three coal dealers, John Ellis & Sons who had a coal wharf at Wigston South station and another at Kilby Bridge. The manager at the former was Joseph Sanders and the manager at the latter was George Lilley. George Parker was another coal merchant with a wharf at Kilby Bridge and the third coal merchant was George Shipp, who resided in Bull's Head Street but whose wharf was at Wigston South station.

In 1881, the best coal used for drawing rooms, cost 22/10d a ton, the best bright coal for general household use cost 19/11d a ton, kitchen coal for cooking costs 18/1d a ton and mixed coal consisting of nuts and small coal cost 13/11d a ton.

By 1881, coal was usually delivered directly to customer's cellars and only people who did not have the coal delivered to them were the very poor who could not afford coal anyway. Compared to other fuels coal was extremely dirty. No matter how careful a housewife was, she usually spilled lumps of coal when making up the fire just as she spilled ash when she was removing it. All these messes had to be cleared up at once; otherwise they blackened the floor and were trekked round the rest of the house. In addition, chimneys had to be cleaned regularly. The chimneys of upper class and middle class families of Wigston had to be cleaned about three times a year, while those of working class families only got an annual sweep. No sweeps are mentioned in the 1846 directory for Wigston, but by 1881 two sweeps earned their living in Wigston. One was William Bale who with his wife Mary and their three children lived in North Street while the other sweep, Daniel Kirby and his wife lived in Bull's Head Street.

Chimney cleaning was a nightmare for the housewife, even though it was done by professional sweeps (men dominated the trade, but there were some women). At that time there was no effective way of trapping all the soot brushed down the chimney into the fireplace. Innumerable black, greasy particles floated into the room and settled on all available furniture and once Bale and Kirby had left the housewives of Wigston began cleaning the room. Despite these difficulties, chimneys had to be swept, for unless they were swept regularly they posed a fire hazard and if the operation was put off, soot simply fell down the chimney of its own accord.

Another domestic chore carried out almost exclusively by women in 1881 was cleaning. Men were extremely loth to scrub floors and never dusted if they could avoid it. Men only cleaned if they lived alone and could not afford to pay a charwoman to do it for them. Most housewives engaged in a number of regular cleaning activities. They cleaned the fireplaces and hearths, swept, washed floors and steps, dusted and scoured pots & pans. Most Victorian women felt it to be a moral duty to keep their home spotlessly clean. People were shocked if women cleaned on a

Sunday. It was, after all, their job to ensure that the entire house was cleaned before the Lord's Day began. One nicer and more attractive time was that a house looked nicer and more attractive if it were clean and for household wives who wished to retain their husbands' affections and stop them from drinking their wages away at the local pub was an important consideration.

Bernard Elliott

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## **Special Interest Groups**

At a committee meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January it was suggested that some members with a special interest in a particular aspect of history such as archaeology or genealogy might like to form specialist groups. This was put to members at the AGM and as a result a genealogy group was started. The first meeting was held at Mike and Linda Forryan's home in Blakesley Road on 28<sup>th</sup> March. Mike Forryan reports:-

### **Genealogy Interest Group**

Members who were at the AGM will remember the idea put forward by Duncan Lucas that members may wish to form an 'interest group' for those interested in genealogy, especially of Greater Wigston families. Four members showed interest, Tricia Berry, Louise Ladkin and Linda & Mike Forryan.

The first informal meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1990 where general ideas and own interests were exchanged over coffee and biscuits. It was agreed that in the early stages the best format for the group's meetings would be to continue the informal "get together's".

Members Interests were identified as follows:-

Tricia Berry

Wigston Area: Broughton, Lewin, Roe, Daykin, Forryan, Any Date.

Leicester Area: Herbert any date

Louise Ladkin

Leicestershire Area; Faulkner, Marsh, Hutchinson, Ladkin, any date

Linda & Mike Forryan

Anywhere: Forryan any date (Full single Name study)

Members would be pleased to hear from other GWHS members who would be interested in the interest group, or who could provide any information on the above genealogists.

It is hoped that the genealogy interest group will attract new members for the GWHS, so developing further interest within the local community.

Anyone interested in joining the informal group should contact Mike Forryan [Tel:- 810431](tel:810431)

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