

BRIDGE VILLAGE

The village of Bridge, if you have time and inclination, is worth further study. A small distance to the south of the church is the house built by Sir Arnold Braems of which only the wing remains of the original structure; recently drawings of the original house were discovered in Amsterdam museum and after Chilham Castle it was the largest country house in East Kent in the 17th century and had a large deer park and aviary. At a later date it belonged to the Reverend Edward Taylor of Bifrons who was a friend of George IV and Jane Austen. Much of the house is built with hand-made Dutch brick which was brought over from Holland and landed at Sandwich. A little further up the road from the church towards Dover lies "Englands Old Hole" which is reputed to be the place where the seventh Roman legion captured and slew the Britons in their last attempt to stem off the Roman invasion. In 1829 when excavations were made, a number of Roman arms and skulls were discovered at a depth of five feet. The circular earthwork of the redoubt still remains in very good preservation after a lapse of more than 1900 years. The village main street has not changed a great deal since the middle of the 19th century. There is a fine example of a Tudor cottage in the middle and the White Horse public house is the scene of the famous brawl of Christopher Applegate, a friend of Christopher Marlowe who became famous in the English army in the early 16th century. This incident is mentioned in the Canterbury Court records of 1598. Further up the street at the post office is the place where Field Marshal Lord Kitchener sent his first despatches at the beginning of the First World War. A little further up the road is Dering Road named after Colonel Dering who raised the Duke of York's own Regiment in 1794. He subsequently bought Howletts, a fine palladian villa between Bridge and Littlebourne which was sold in 1816 to George Gipps a founder of the Canterbury Bank. In Union Road is an old workhouse founded in 1835 now maintained by the Kent County Council as an old age home. In 1793 Zechariah Cozens wrote: "the parish of Bridge is but small and the soil in general is but chalky and barren, producing a several places heath and coppice wood, though throughout the whole extent of the parish there is a beautiful variety of hill and dale. From the woods around Bridge we have a most delightful view of the Vales which are adorned with many gentleman's seats" and in 1815 Mr. Haddy James Assistant Surgeon to the 1st Life Guards returning from the Battle of Waterloo wrote that "The neatness of the farms and the mode of agriculture much impressed him between Dover and Canterbury".

The Dover Road	Charles H. Harper	Chapman & Hall 1885
Canterbury under the Angevin Kings.		Dr. W. Urry Cathedral Archivist
Kent	Marcus Crouch	
History of Kent 1793	Zechariah Cozens	
Topographical Survey of Kent 1792	Hasted	
England	Arthur Mee 1936	
Surgeon James Journal 1815	Joan Vasittart	

The village of Bridge, straddling the main road from Dover to Canterbury, has been an important village since the Roman occupation of England. There was probably a Roman bridge across the river (cf Brugge, Bruges which has a similar name and site). There is however no village mentioned in the Domesday Book but there is a "Hundred of Brige" i.e. a meeting point for the villagers on the "Burne" Bishopsbourne, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne and hence perhaps it had its chapel (not a chantry) built. This Hundred was part of the manor of Blecknersbury and was part of the possessions of St. Augustine's Abbey until the suppression of the monasteries by Henry VIII. In 1258 the church at Bridge was appropriated by Archbishop Boniface to the Prior and Convent of Merton in Surrey in which patronage they remained until the middle of the 15th century. The church has three aisles and a chancel with some Norman features remaining in the tower and the western doorway. There are three bells and there is a board above the belfry stating that the church and steeple were repaired by one Samuel Hills Churchwarden in 1787. The pillars which separate the aisles are large for this size of church; the east end of the north aisle was formerly partitioned off for a school room. The font is small and though it appears to be old has nothing peculiar on it. In the Chancel at the north side is a semi-circular compartment containing in stone the following particulars exceedingly well carved in "alto relievo"; in the division at the top was formerly a figure for the Almighty and now much defaced; in the second division from the West end is the serpent with Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit. In the first from the same end, the Angel driving them out of Paradise; the third contains Cain and Abel preparing their sacrifices; the fourth Abel offering his sacrifice with Cain standing beside him and the fifth Cain staying Abel.

Under an arch in the wall below the above compartments lies the effigy of a man with his hands closed in the attitude of prayer. On the same wall is the portrait of Robert Bargrove painted on carpet in a wooden frame believed to have been executed by Cornelius Jensen the Court painter.

There are several interesting tablets in the Church - in the middle of the Chancel lies buried the second daughter of Sir Dudley Bigges of Chilham Castle, Master of the Rolls in 1643, Joan first wife of Sir Arnold Braems who built much of Dover harbour in the 17th century and lived at Bridge Place behind the Church. Notice also in the left side aisle the tablet to Mr. Sicard who is one of the many people who lived in the village with Huguenot forbears. The church was restored by Mrs. Gregory of Bridge Hill in the middle of the 19th century and it is to her that we owe the striking Kentish flintstone on the exterior. She was not a native of the village but the daughter of Nathaniel Pattison of Congleton in Cheshire and whose grandfather founded the first silk mill in Congleton in 1752.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

Aldworth Mrs
 Ayers Henry
 Castle No Bridge Hill House
 Chapman Thomas
 Clayton Miss
 Cockburn Mrs
 Colwell Thomas White
 De Sarge Oscar Bridge Place
 Dodd Mrs
 Douglas Major Allen
 Evers Mrs
 Fryer George
 Hallett Rev. Jas Hughes M.A. Higham
 Hunstep Gilbert
 Kelsoy George
 Lambert Mrs
 Martin John Gurney
 Miles No N.M.
 Morant No Hill Side House
 Ramsay Rev. Walter Meade B.A.
 (west of Patriclawne & Bridge)
 Repley Rev. Frederick N. Stedje M.A.
 Chaplain to Bridge Union
 Sankey Mrs
 Schön Charles Henry
 Tassell John
 Thomas Mrs.
 Tutt Mrs
 Vernon William
 Hunter Capt Charles Bridge Hill

Coregate Jane (Miss) Ladies School
 Colwell Catherine No Tailress
 Fawcress George Shopkeeper
 Fawcress Johna Butcher
 Fife Stephen Farmer No Pett Farm.
 Fogarty William Mary Tubaccolist
 Ford Wm. Carpenter & Wheelwright
 Francis Henry Boat maker
 Friend Richard Coal merchant
 Gilbert Thomas Richard Blacksmith
 Hardman Wm Henry Watchmaker
 Hinds Thos Coal merchant S.E.R. St.
 Hinds Thomas Fisher Red Lion
 Carriage proprietor & living stables
 Howard Clara Wm. Veterinary Surgeon.
 Kennett Jas Newport Hill House
 Johnson George Edwist plumber
 Miles Frederick Plough & Harrow
 Carriage proprietor & living stables
 Moss Alfred Grocer & Baker
 Page Alfred Joseph Butcher
 Pagden George Corner
 Perry Annie & Ellen (Misses) Drapers
 Perry William Grocer & provision
 dealer The First Office
 Schön Charles Henry Surgeon & Medical
 Officer & public Vaccinator No 1 dist.
 Bridge Union
 Taylor Joseph & Sons Bricklayers
 plasterers, plumbers decorators & glazier
 Taylor George Robert Saddler
 Vigden George Brickmaker
 Wells William Farmer & Hops grower
 Middle Pett Farm.
 White William Miller (wind)
 Mills Richard & son Baker
 Wilson John C. chemist
 Wood William Bootmaker
 Wye Robert assistant Overseer
 of Patriclawne & Bridge.

COMMERCIAL

Austin Charles Beer retailer
 Bedingham Frank Grocer
 Bridge Gas, Coke & Coal Co Ltd
 Charles Miles Sec; Hallett Cressy
 & Percy North Sr. Ashford Solicitors.
 Caplan John Registrar of Births Deaths
 & Marriages & Registrar & Vaccination
 Office.

Population 1881 857 including 128 officers & inmates in the Workhouse
 Parish Clerk William Henry Hardeman.

Post William Daves receives.

Letters from Canterbury arrived by mail cart 6 am & 12.45 pm.
 dispatched at 10 am & 8 pm.

Bridge Volunteer Firebrigade Engine Horse Red Lion consists of a Manlyvalve
 manual engine & about 720 feet of hose; Members of Canterbury Captains
 number of men 14.

National School for the joint parishes of Patricburn & Bridge for 290 children
 average attendance 69 boys 55 girls & 55 infants Robert Nixie master
 Mrs Susan Ennals Nixie mistress Miss Fanny Nixie infants mistress.

Carries to Canterbury pass through daily.

Railway Station (S.E.R.) Thomas Kersey Station master.

Workhouse a building of red brick built in 1835 to hold 350 inmates

School Attendance Committee meets at the board room Bridge weekly on
 Tuesday at 12 noon.

Rural Sanitary Authority meets at the Board Room Bridge every alternate Thursday
 at 11 o'clock.

Carriers Burrens hail cart from 71 Northgate 'Star' daily; Spicer &

Burren 'George & Dragon' Friday & Saturday.

Member of parliament John Henrich Heaton 36 Eaton Square & Carlton
 & St Stephens & Savage Club

The Parish Council only have minute books back to 1952 and have no records previous to that date. Attempts to locate earlier records in the County or District archives have so far been unsuccessful.

PARISH COUNCILLORS since 1952

(7 councillors)

Chairman.

F. DOWN	- May'59	
H. HAWKINS	- May'68	May'56-May'59; Jun'65-May'68
D.A. LEWIS	- Aug'60	
H.T. PRICE	- May'68	May'53-May'56; May'62-Jun'65
E.J. PURSSORD	- May'68	til May'53
V.G. STOCKWELL	- Feb'55	
A. TAYLOR (40)	1924 - Mar'64	May'59-May'62
Rev G.A. CHURCH (2)	Feb'55 - Dec'57	
A. STICKELS (9)	Dec'57 - May'68	
Rev R.A. PENNY (3)	May'59 - May'62	
L.J. WILLIAMS (8)	Aug'60 - May'68	
J.A. ROBSON (6)	May'62 - May'68	
H.P.M. LAWRENCE (23)	Apr'64 - May'87	May'68-May'72; May'77-May'80

(9 councillors to be elected 1968)

L.G.S. SHIRLEY (6)	May'68 - May'74	May'72-May'74
S.E. BATE (6)	May'68 - May'74	
D.T.J. DAVIS (1)	May'68 - May'69	
E.G. DOWN (3)	May'68 - Jul'71	Resigned to become Clerk
P.K. FARROW (6)	May'68 - May'74	
B.R. MUMMERY (9)	May'68 - Jul'77	
C.S. PRICKETT (8)	May'68 - May'76	

Mrs M.A. YOUNG (19)	May'68 - May'87	May'74-May'77
T.E.G. HOARE (22)	May'69 - May'91	
W.G. PIERCE (5)	May'71 - May'76	
H.E. TURPIN (6)	May'71 - May'77	
W.K.C. CHAPMAN (2)	May'74 - May'76	
Mrs O. KNIGHT (9)	May'74 - May'83	
E. HAWKINS (6)	May'76 - May'83	
J. HILL (18-	May'76 -	May'80
B. JOHNSON (3)	May'76 - May'79	
J. ANDERSON (10)	Jul'77 - May'87	
K. CHAPMAN (5)	Jul'77 - Jun'82	
M.J. GULVIN (15-	May'79	
K. GREENAWAY (12)	Jun'82 - Nov'93	
Rev R. GILBERT (4)	May'83 - May'87	
Mrs M. JONES (11-	May'83	
F.L. EDWARDS (1)	May'87 - Nov'88	
D. HEAP (2)	May'87 - Sep'89	
Mrs A. KING (7-	May'87	
Mrs B. ANDERSON (7-	May'87	
Mrs M.E. CONNOR (6-	Nov'88	
R.J. FRANKLIN (5-	Sep'89	
Mrs J. MONK (3-	May'91	
J. HODGSON (Nov'93	

PARISH CLERKS

G.F. CATT	- May'71
E.G. DOWN (8)	May'71 - May'79
F.L. EDWARDS (8)	May'79 - May'87
Mrs K. WALDER (6)	May'87 - Sep'93
Mrs M. CHURCH (1-	Sep'93

Operational Planning
Division



POST OFFICE

General Manager: F COX

~~Telephone Manager: F. Cox~~

In any reply please quote: OP34

Your reference:

Canterbury Telephone Area
Telephone House
New Dover Road
CANTERBURY
Kent

Telephone: Canterbury ~~3684453~~ 60536
Telex: 96119 (TELMAN CANTERBY)
Giro a/c: 311 0001

OLD NUMBER - BRIDGE 409

6 December 1972

Dear Sir or Madam

TRANSFER OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGE AT BRIDGE

I am pleased to tell you that the new telephone exchange at Bridge will be brought into service at 1.30 pm on Wednesday, 13 December 1972 and all subscribers lines will be transferred to it immediately. In order that the transfer may be made with a minimum of inconvenience we should be grateful if you would refrain from making calls between 1.25 pm and 1.35 pm.

Your new number will be:-

BRIDGE

830499

(STD CODE 0227)

Will you please fix the enclosed self adhesive label over the existing one on the centre of your telephone dial when the change takes place.

After the change you will be able to dial many trunk calls as well as local calls, and some explanatory literature is enclosed which you may find useful. If you wish the operator to connect a call for you it will be necessary to dial 100. No dialling code is necessary to call other Bridge or Canterbury numbers but many local codes will change and you are advised to refer to your Dialling Instruction Booklet before calling a number on any other exchange.

It is important that callers know your new number and post-free postcards are enclosed for this purpose. If you need more we shall be pleased to supply them. We can also supply free stickers (about 2" x 1") suitable for use on notepaper, invoices, etc.

If you would like any further information about the changes please ring Canterbury 60536.

Yours faithfully

MISS P E STARKEY

Senior Telecommunications Superintendent

Call Charges from 1st July 1970 and also from 15th February 1971 (Decimal Day)

LOCAL CALLS

FROM STD EXCHANGES

Ordinary lines: Time bought for 2½d (after Decimal Day for 1p)

Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm **6 minutes**
Monday to Friday 6pm to 8am and all day Saturday and Sunday **12 minutes**

Coinbox lines: Time bought for 6d (after Decimal Day for 2p)

Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm **4 minutes (after Decimal Day 3 minutes)**
Monday to Friday 6pm to 8am and all day Saturday and Sunday **8 minutes (after Decimal Day 6 minutes)**

FROM OTHER EXCHANGES

Ordinary lines: Residence and Business 3½d (after Decimal Day 1½p) at all times

Coinbox lines: 4d (after Decimal Day 2p) at all times

INLAND TRUNK CALLS

The charge for an inland trunk call is based on the duration of the call and the distance between the charging centres.

DIALLED DIRECT				CONNECTED BY OPERATOR				
Ordinary lines Time bought for 2½d (after Decimal Day for 1p)				Ordinary lines 3 minute call—minimum charge (each subsequent minute or part of a minute at ½ rate shown). (Charge after Decimal Day in brackets.)				
Peak rate	Standard rate	Cheap rate	Charge letter (used in Dialling Instruction Booklet)	Distance in miles	Peak rate	Standard rate	Intermediate rate*	Cheap rate*
Mon.—Fri. 9am—noon	Mon.—Fri. 8am—9am noon—6pm	Every night 6pm—8am and all day Sat./Sun.			Mon.—Fri. 9am—noon	Mon.—Fri. 8am—8am noon—6pm	Saturday 8am—6pm	Every night 6pm—8am and all day Sunday
20seconds	30seconds	72seconds	a	Up to 35	s. d. p 2 0 (10½)	s. d. p 1 9 (9)	s. d. p 1 0 (6)	s. d. p — 9 (3)
12seconds	15seconds	36seconds	b	35 to 50	3 6 (18)	2 9 (13½)	2 0 (9)	1 3 (6)
8seconds	10seconds	36seconds	c	Over 50	5 0 (25½)	4 6 (22½)	3 0 (15)	2 0 (9)
				* May be suspended during some public holidays				
Coinbox lines Time bought for 6d. (Time bought for 2p after Decimal Day shown in brackets.)				Coinbox lines 3 minute call—minimum charge and each subsequent 3 minute period. (Charge after Decimal Day shown in brackets.)				
Standard rate	Cheap rate		Charge letter (used in Dialling Instruction Booklet)	Distance in miles	Standard rate	Intermediate rate*	Cheap rate*	
Mon.—Fri. 8am—6pm	Every night 6pm—8am and all day Sat. and Sun.				Mon.—Fri. 8am—6pm	Sat. 8am—6pm	Every night 6pm—8am and all day Sunday	
36 (30)seconds	90 (90)seconds		a	Up to 35	s. d. p 3 0 (16)	s. d. p 2 0 (10)	s. d. p 1 6 (6)	
30 (24)seconds	60 (45)seconds		b	35 to 50	4 0 (20)	3 0 (16)	2 0 (10)	
20 (15)seconds	60 (45)seconds		c	Over 50	5 0 (26)	4 0 (20)	2 6 (12)	
				* May be suspended during some public holidays				

INTERNATIONAL CALLS

CONNECTED BY OPERATOR

Many international call charges were revised on 1st March 1970 and there are no further changes. Details are in a separate leaflet obtainable from your Telephone Manager's Office. (Charges after Decimal Day will be published later.)

DIALLED DIRECT

Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Monaco	5.0 (5.14)
Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein	4.0 (4.0)
Italy	3.75 (3.6)
Norway	3.0 (3.0)
USA (London to New York City only)	1.25 (1.2)

Time bought for 2½d. (Time bought for 1p after
Decimal Day shown in brackets.)

MISCELLANEOUS CALL FACILITIES: Fixed time calls 2s. All alarm calls 2s. Most other charges for these services are unchanged.

DOVER CHARACTERS (2) Ivan Green.

THE BRAEMS FAMILY. RELIGIOUS REFUGEES.

In the second half of the 16th century many religious refugees from across the Channel fled to England to escape persecution and settled in and round Kent coastal towns and villages, particularly Sandwich, where they were well received, and some of them built their own dwellings, evidence of which still survives. They were given permission to hold their own religious services in a church in the town.

As the flow of refugees continued, it became necessary for some of them to move further afield to seek a living and, some of them, a fortune.

One of these was Jacob Braems (though some old documents spell his name Breams) a very hard businessman, as indeed were many of his compatriots. Jacob moved to Dover, attracted by the possibilities of the harbour, where he set up as a trader, becoming farmer of the Customs, and building up a steadily increasing holding of wharves and quays on the dockside.

To Jacob, in 1595, was born a son, Arnold, who was baptised in St. Mary's Church, Dover, the family place of worship, on 3rd October 1602. Arnold grew up in Dover and

joined his father in the family business. Between them they greatly increased their holdings of wharves on the dockside, eventually controlling a length of no less than 276 feet, behind which they built great warehouses, parts of which in later years became known as "The Old Buildings", and which were destroyed by fire in 1808.

They also built a new custom house near the pier at a cost of £126 in 1623. Much later this building, called "The Old Custom House", a good Renaissance style building, was demolished in 1806.

Arnold Braems married Jane, the daughter of Walter Harflete, who was a descendant of the ancient family of Septvans, Kentish gentry with a recorded pedigree stretching back into the 12th century.

It is a vivid illustration of the way in which the son of a really rich trader or merchant, even not one of English extraction, could become part of the old privileged social strata. The reason of course was that many local squires or scions of ancient privileged families, already living at, or far beyond their existing means, could not have provided for the large families of the time, especially if they were females. so sons of rich merchants were welcomed as husbands for poor daughters who were socially much superior to them. Local people often looked very warily at the arrival of young rich merchants as their new squires, and

there was an old, well used, country saying that "The lady brings the class and the man the brass".

Jane however died in 1635 and was buried in the family church, St. Mary the Virgin, Dover.

Arnold decided to do what many a prosperous businessman, before and since, have done, and that was to enjoy his considerable wealth by buying a country estate and settling down as the local squire. He purchased land in the Manor of Blackmansbury alias Bridge, just south of Canterbury, from Sir Edward Partherich, though whether he bought the whole manor or not is not clear.

He demolished the old court lodge there and built a large mansion, Bridge Place, where he lived with his son, Walter, and his second wife Elizabeth, also from Dover, but she died in 1645 and was buried in Bridge Church where Arnold set up a memorial to his two wives, having lost both of them in ten years.

Arnold was a committed Royalist during the struggle between king Charles the First and Parliament, holding the rank of major in the East Kent Force. Later he was a member of the Kentish royalists which tried to take Dover Castle with two thousand men and guns in 1646. It, like an earlier attempt four years earlier, failed, and Arnold had to go into hiding for a time.

However, he was present on the beach at Dover as a

member of the party which welcomed Charles the 2nd on his return in 1660. The king knighted him and he also became one of Dover's two members of Parliament, but he only served in one Parliament, the attractions of business in Dover, and of his Bridge Place mansion, being more to his taste. He died in 1681 aged 85 years and was buried in Bridge church near his memorial to his two wives.

The parish registers recorded that "no affidavit was brought (within the limit) that the body of Sir Arnold Braems Kt. interred November 21st. inst. in the east chancel of the church of Bridge, was wrapped in woollen only according to the Statute made and provided".

This statute stipulated that bodies should be buried in woollen as a defence of the wool industry which was then fighting a losing battle against linen cloth. Since Sir Arnold's body was wrapped in the newly fashionable linen and not in wool a fine of £5 was imposed, half to be paid to the "minister" (the parish priest) and the other half to be distributed among the poor of the parish.

His son Walter continued to live at Bridge Place and to be interested in the wharves and other family business interests in Dover. This Walter was a member of the five man committee under the mayor of Dover, Capt. William Stokes, R.N., appointed on 20th January 1676, "to report on the limits of the Port of Dover, seaward, and the wharves

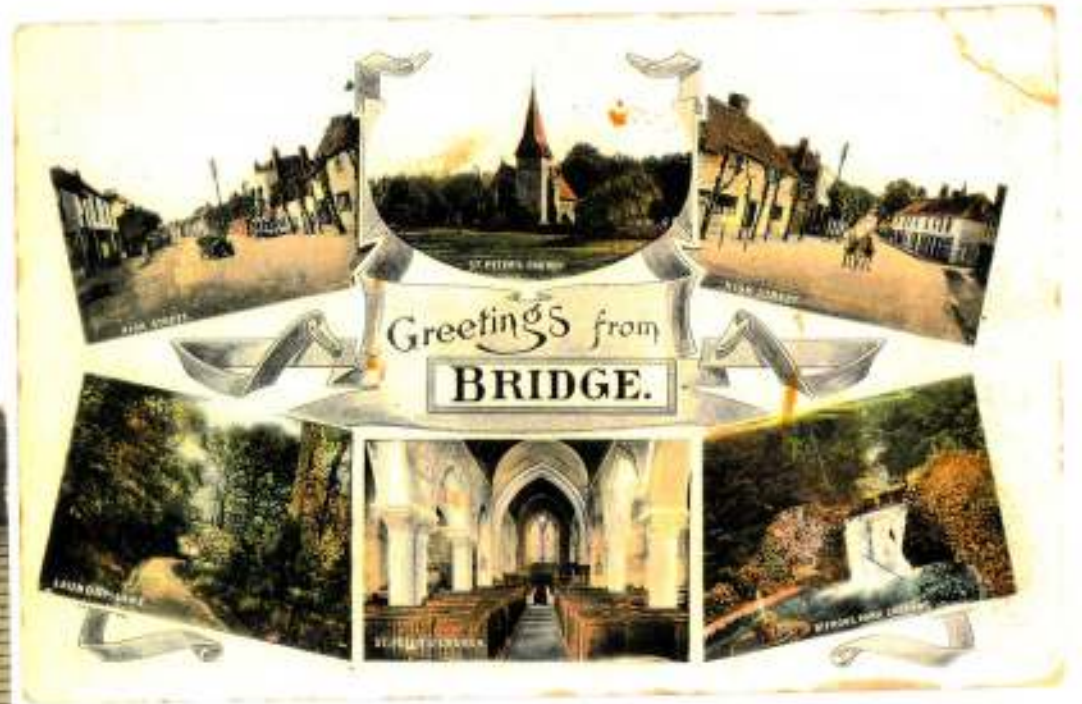
and quays in the harbour".

Walter died in 1692, but the great house proved to be too expensive for his descendants to run, so they sold it to John Taylor in 1704. He pulled down most of it, leaving only one corner standing and this part survives today as a very substantial property a little to the south-west of Bridge church. It is at present used as a club.

The Inventory of Bridge Brewery

- Cold Liquor Back
Iron Wort Back
Hop - Back
Wort - cooler
2 old coolers
Mash Tub & pipes
2 Wort Pumps pipes & Fittings
Grain Shoot & Shoot
Malt Mill Hopper & Fittings
Refrigerator & Back
3 Horse power Engine Boiler with
Gear to grind & pump
3 working Squares & Fitting for
Temperature
2 Working Rounds
Under Back & Fittings
5.5. Barrel Vats & Fittings
46 Racking Taps & Hoses
5 Pulleys - - -
2 Tipping Cabs, Funnels & Ladders &
40 ft India Rubber clearing Hose
Turnall Irons, Shovels, Gas, & Liquor Fittings
about 300 Casks of different sizes
5 Millions
Dunlop & Fage Saccharometer



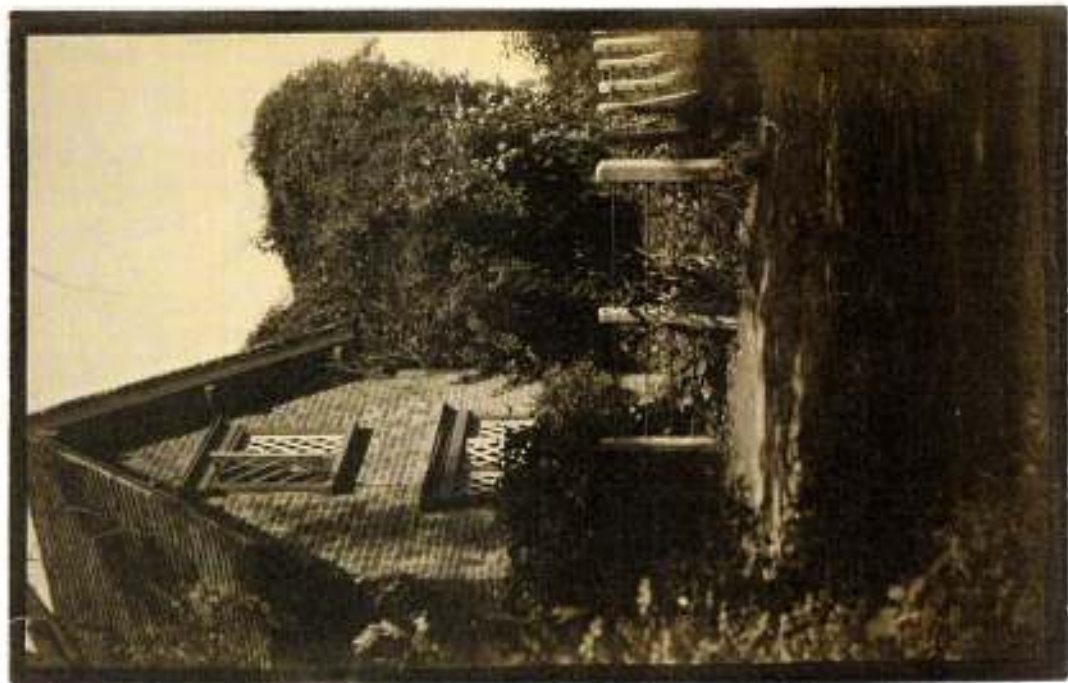


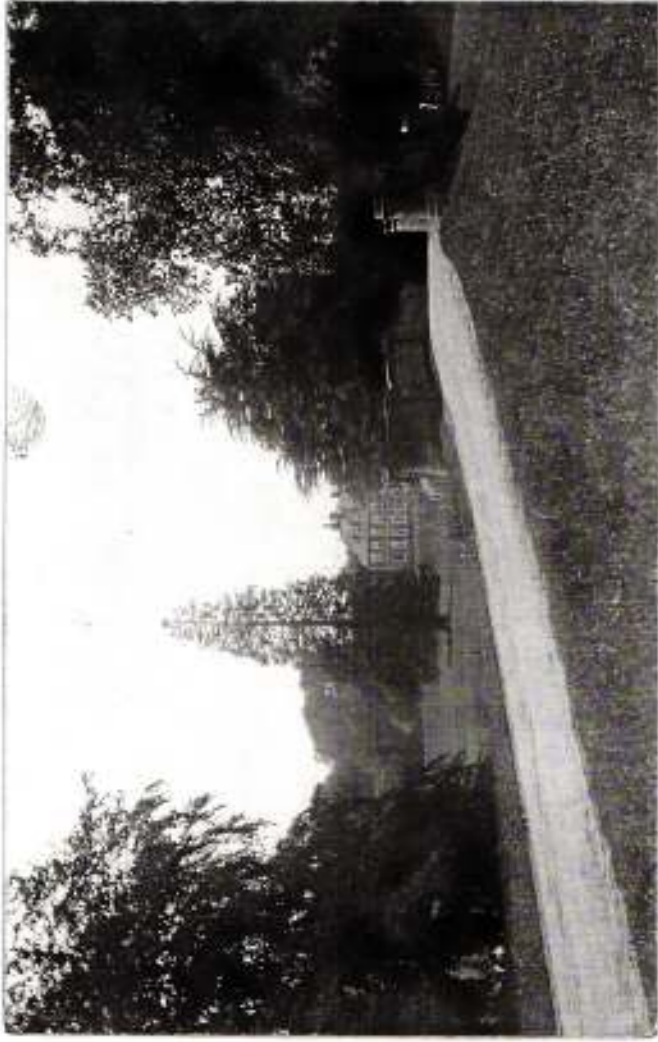




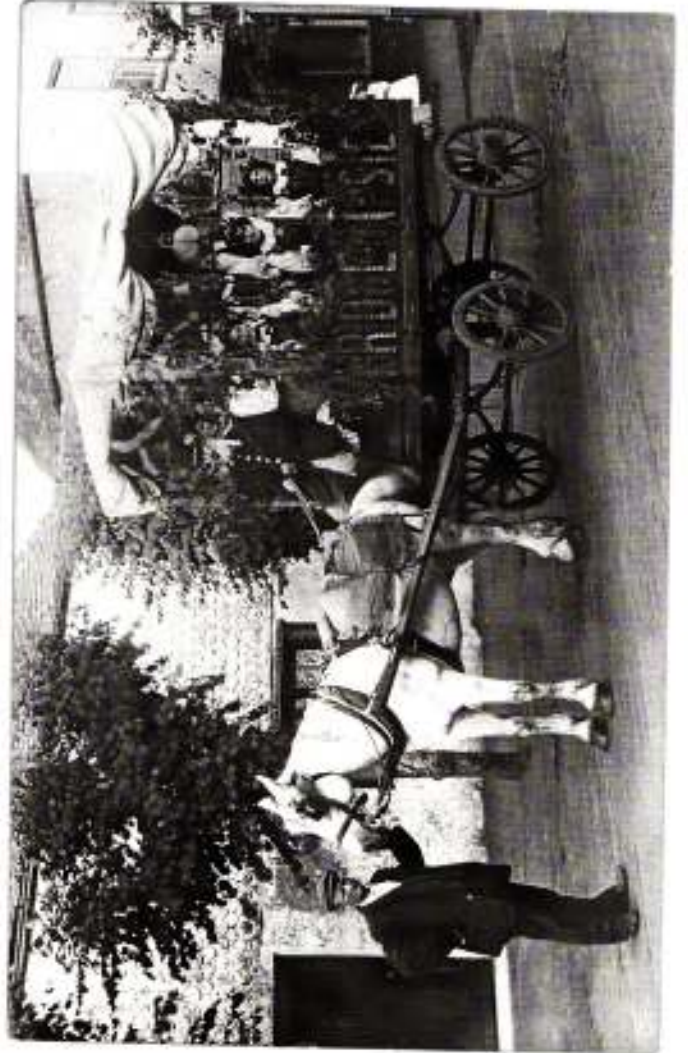


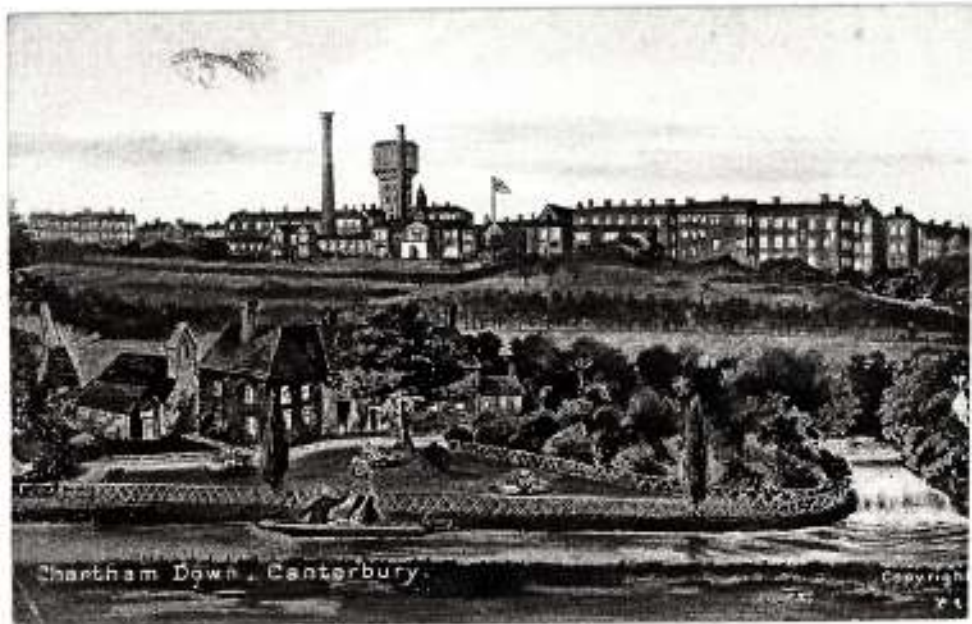
Golf Lane, Bishopsbourne.





Bridge Minstrel Troupe.



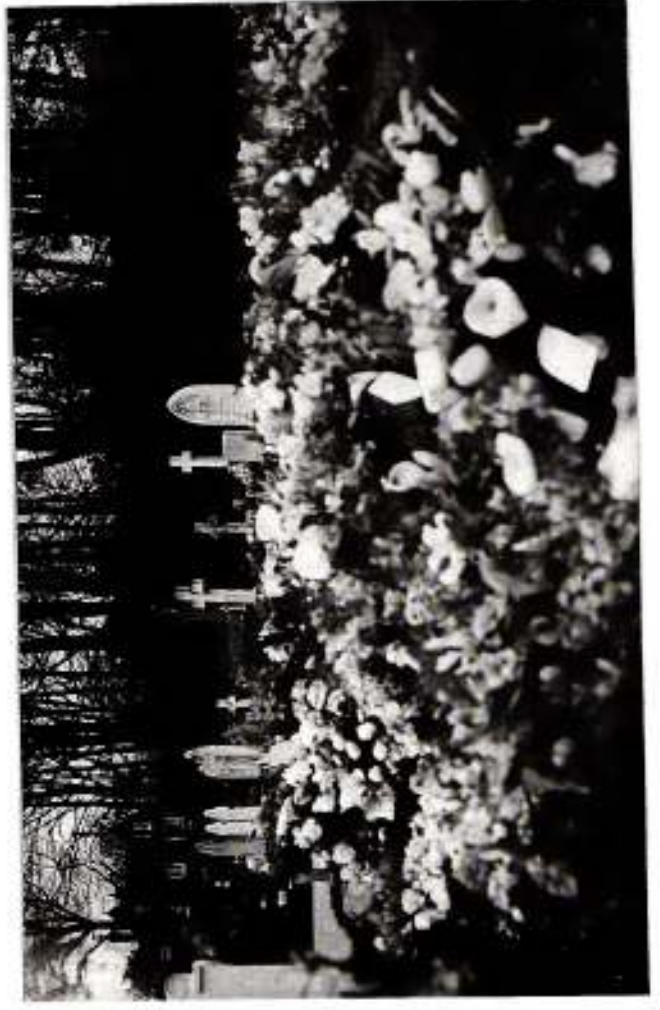




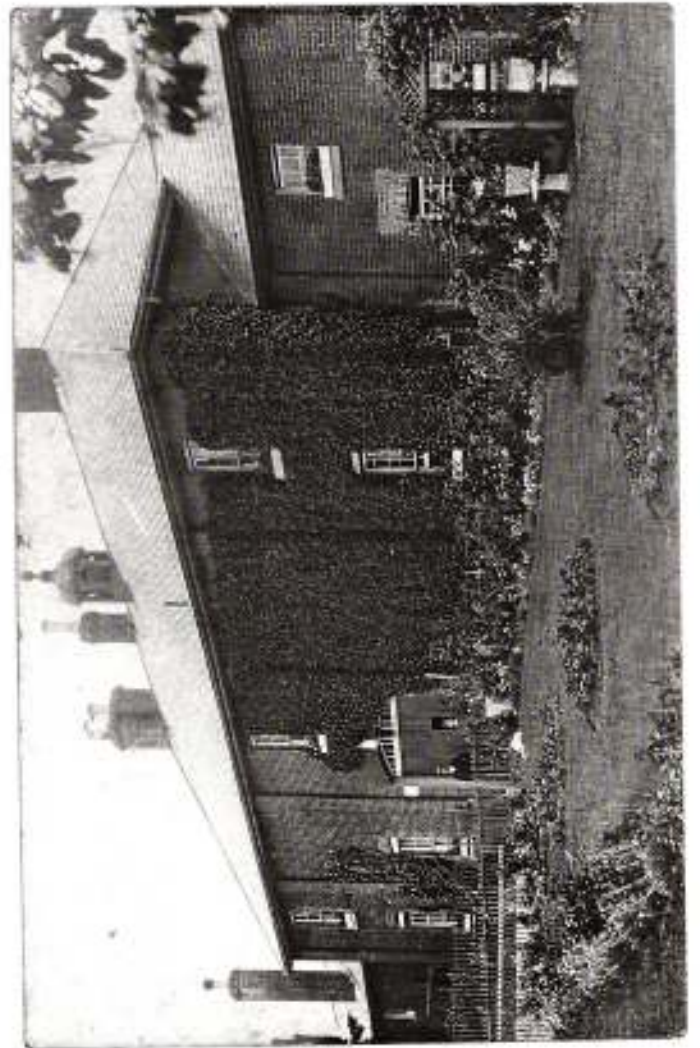


The children's miniature gardens had a record entry at Daiden class.









The car is a Rolls-Royce 1910 Silver Ghost chassis no. 1271 which originally was a 'Barker landaulette' built for Major. S. Strang Peel, M.P., London SW. No other owners known.

The pictures show the original body removed and no clear evidence of a fire appliance rear. Perhaps it was just a platform so that it could be used as wedding dray in one picture and a funeral bier in the other.

Perhaps Strang had Kentish links and allowed the body to be demounted temporarily.

A monumental volume on Count Zborowski was published by the Vintage Sports Car Club last year, now remaindered. Lots on Higham in there. 'Zobbers' also supported the Bligh garage coachbuilding company.

Both the steam rollers Aveling and Porters built at Rochester. The KCC and local councils both had them in large numbers just before the Great War.

The top one is of the mid 1920's and is a compound ie with two cylinders and fitted with two speeds. It has outside valves to the steam chest.

The bottom one (oval mounted) is a single cylinder machine built during the 1910 period (approx). It could be later. Both engines have scarifiers fitted to the l/h side. They also have the typical A and P awnings fitted the top one is press steel the bottom one is in timber.