



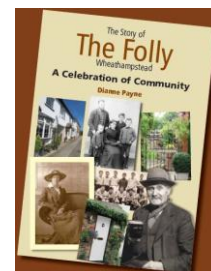
Wheathampstead History Society

Bulletin no. 3, 20 September 2017

REMINDER: Mavis Soane will retire as the Society's Treasurer in April 2018. **The Society cannot function without a Treasurer.** Please contact us if you could take on this important role.

Latest news

- We are delighted to announce that Dianne Payne's new book *The Story of The Folly* will be published in December. To reserve your copy (price £10.00), please complete the form you will find on your chair or email us at the address shown below.
- Next meeting: Wednesday 18 October. Julie Moore, Research Fellow at the 'Everyday Lives in War' project at the University of Hertfordshire, will tell us about their work on *The Home Front during World War One*.



Notes and Queries



This gravestone is in St Helen's Churchyard, next to the chest tombs of the Lattimores at the east end of the church. **Sarah Dorrington** was born in Digswell in 1819 though her father, Charles, came originally from Wheathampstead and her sister Ann was born there in 1817. Ann married William Higby Lattimore, the Wheathampstead brewer, in 1843 and lived at the house we now know as Lattimore's. In 1851 Sarah was working as a governess next door at The White Cottage, home of the Sibley maltster family. William Higby Lattimore died in 1864. In 1871 Sarah was living with her widowed sister in the Lattimore household where she seems to have stayed until her death in 1899. Ann died in 1879. **Marian Barnes** was born in Wheathampstead, where her grandparents lived, in 1856. In 1871, she was living with her family in Peckham (her father was 'traveller to a wine merchant') but both the 1881 and the 1891 censuses show her as a 'visitor' at Lattimore's. In 1901, two years after Sarah's death, she is listed as 'friend'. In 1911, she is one of the Lattimore household of just four people, with her occupation shown as 'Nil'. She died at an address on The Hill in 1926, leaving an estate valued at £2178.1s.1d. The research explains why the grave is next to the Lattimores but not why these two ladies were buried together, though 27 years apart.

The First and Last

In the course of research into our local pubs, we have found a beerhouse, *The First and Last*, that existed in Gustard Wood in 1868 but had been demolished by 1877, probably during the construction of The Slype by Robert Birley Baxendale of Blackmore End. We know that John Thompson was the licensee from 1868 to 1874 but can find little more information about this beerhouse. Can you help? Do you know where it was? Or anything about John Thompson? Do you have any old photos? Please have a word with a member of the committee, or email us at the address shown below.

Can you help?

We have ten cassette tape recordings, made in the 1970s, of elderly Wheathampstead residents talking about their memories of life in the village, going back to the late 19th century. Partly to preserve them and partly to make it easier to transcribe them, these tapes should be digitised, ie copied onto a CD, DVD, USB flash drive, or memory card. Do you have the equipment to do this? Could you do it for us? Please have a word with a member of the committee, or email us at the address shown below.