

Archived by Wheathampstead
History Society from the website
compiled by the late Brian Joyce.

Malcolm Saville

(Author of children's books)

Leonard Malcolm Saville, author of the '**Lone Pine**' series of children's books, was born in 1901 and published his first book in 1937. At the outbreak of the Second World War the family were living in **Harpenden**. They were then evacuated to **Shropshire** and in 1942 were reunited at **West End Farmhouse, Wheathampstead**, which had previously been the home of actress **Elizabeth Allan**. "Seven White Gates" was written in 1943 by Saville at West End Farmhouse. In September 1949 they moved from West End Farmhouse to

He was quite a prolific writer -

Book Series	No of titles
'Lone Pine'	21
'Jilly Family'	6
'Buckingham Family'	6
'Marston Baines'	7
'Mike and Mary'	7
'Susan and Bill	8
'Nettleford'	4
'Lucy and Humf'	3
Other story books	3
Non-fiction	26
Further reading	2

The above information is a small extract from '**Book and magazine Collector**' September 2002.

Some of his books were based upon the local area, but with name changes. Drawings or maps were included and it is not difficult to see the resemblance to the local area - in particular "**Trouble at Townsend**" and "**Jane's Country Year**". The former of these originated as a screenplay, filmed in 1944 on location at the farm, teaching children about the countryside (shut gates, don't light fires etc.). The young Petula Clark appeared in it. It was released in 1946.

Several of his Lone Pine series were dramatised for Children's Hour broadcast by BBC Radio.

For those interested, a biography of Malcolm Saville was published in 2001 (20 years after his death). ISBN 0 9528059 3 6 "**Beyond the Lone Pine**" by Mark O'Hanlon, 10 Bilford Road, Worcester WR3 8QA.

Visit the [Malcolm Saville Society](#) web site

A visit by the Malcom Saville Society to West End Farm, Wheathampstead

On 15th September 2002 members of the **Malcolm Saville Society** visited **West End Farm** and were well received by the Dickinson family. Below are some pictures of the visit.



A view illustrated in a book



The group being welcomed



An introduction by Mr Dickinson



A view illustrated in a book

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