

MAINS SERVICES NOTES

Contributed by John Cook

Electricity: Electric lights were installed in the church 1895-96 (British History Online). 1935 Negotiations for electric light in the village to proceed (Parish Council Minutes) – presumably electricity was installed soon after this.

Water: 1939 Four water standpipes to be installed in the village (parish Council Minutes) I have no information on the installation of water to individual properties.

Sewerage: 1973 Mains drainage installed in Cuddesdon (Thames Star).

CUDDESDON MEMORIES SNIPPETS

Collected by John Cook

OXFORD TIMES 15 JULY 1960: AN UNSPOILT VILLAGE (about Garsington)

Before the school [Garsington] was built by the Rev. James Ingram, President of Trinity College and Rector of Garsington, the Green was the centre of less edifying activities: bull-baiting and badger-baiting.

Mrs Caistor told us the story of the man with a badger, which – he wagered £5 – no terrier could remove from a barrel. The barrel was set on the Green and all dog fanciers of Garsington duly sent terriers into it to retire a short time later, bitten and bleeding, but without the badger.

Then, up stepped a man from Cuddesdon and said he had a dog who could do it. The five pounds were brandished by the confident badger owner. The man from Cuddesdon bent down, turned round his terrier and sent it into the barrel backwards.

The poor dog yelped, emerged again at full speed.....with the badger fastened firmly to his tail.

GARSINGTON SCHOOL LOG BOOK 7 OCTOBER 1892

The Rector visited on Thursday. Much irregularity owing to 'potato picking'.

In order to relieve the crowded state of the schoolroom, admittance has been refused to those children (10) who reside at Cuddesdon.

Average attendance 85.

PARISH MAGAZINE MARCH 1961

The Sick

Mrs Ruth Jones has had a disappointing month, in and out of hospital. It is good to have her back in Denton, and to see her strength building up again. Mrs Joyce Summers fell from the stage and broke her wrist at a critical moment in the Panto rehearsals. Colin Dimmick was rushed to hospital with pneumonia. It can't be said that he enjoyed his stay, but now has made a good recovery at home. Mr Norman has not been too fit, and is confined to the house as this goes to press. Our prayers and good wishes to them all.

PARISH MAGAZINE MARCH 1961

The Sleeping Beauty {review}

This article may appear to suggest that this year's pantomime was faultless. Of course there were hitches – inevitable with amateurs – but they were not at all noticeable however – and no script is above criticism either. But the overall impression was excellent, and the fact remains that an enjoyable time was had by all – audiences and C.A.D.S. alike – in rehearsals too, as well as in performances. So we look forward to next year's enjoyment, with Joyce and Eric Summer's help, in keen expectation.

SUNDRYY NOTES AND DATES

Collected by John Cook

	CUDDESDON AND DENTON REMEMBERED: NOTES AND DATES
956	The Saxon Royal Land Charter of Cuddesdon, Aet Cuthenesdune: King Eadwig granted land at Tadmarton to Beorhtnoth, and relocated it to Abingdon Abbey: he also granted to Aelfhere 20 hides of land at Cuddesdon (including the area of Wheatley). (<i>Barracuda Guide to County History</i>)
1086	Lands of St Mary of Abingdon: The Abbey also holds CUDDESDON. 18 hides. Land for 18 ploughs. 4 of these hides are in lordship; 4 ploughs there; 8 slaves. 24 villagers with 12 smallholders have 18 ploughs. A mill and 2 fisheries, 12s; meadow, 60 acres; woodland. 8 furlongs long and ½ league wide. The value was £9; now £12. (<i>Domesday Book</i>)
1632	Bishop Bancroft built Cuddesdon Palace: earlier bishops had used Swinbrook and Marsh Baldon. It was destroyed in 1644. (<i>Barracuda Guide to County History</i>) The Palace which overlooked a Thames crossing, was burned to prevent Parliament's making it a strongpoint.
1643	10 July: Cox the spy reported "there dies about 40 a week of plague in Oxford": allowing for occupational exaggeration, St Martin's was burying at 5, and Cuddesdon at 4 times the normal rate. (<i>Barracuda Guide to County History</i>)
1679	Dr Fell, bishop of Oxford, rebuilt Cuddesdon Palace. (<i>Barracuda Guide to County History</i>)
	The name Cuddesdon, 'hill of Cuthwine'. <i>British History online</i> .
	Until recently the villagers have always got their living from the land. A few, no doubt, had other occupations; there is a record of a maltster in 1705, and of the Stone family which sold tobacco to the neighbourhood about the same date. In 1853 there were two bakers, a butcher and a carrier. But as late as 1900 most of the men were past or present employees of the two local farmers. Those who were not found work at Denton House, at the palace or the college. More recently, many people have been employed in industrial work at Cowley. In 1953 there were two shopkeepers. <i>British History online</i>
1818	There were two private schools in Cuddesdon. <i>British History online</i> .
1841	A site for a National School was obtained in the High Street. <i>British History online</i> .
1847	School opened.
1854	Opening of Cuddesdon College on 24 June
1875	George Belcher became a servant of the College in 1875. He married Furse's [Bishop Michael Furse] parlour-maid, sang in the village choir, and the College built for him the house next door to the Cottage. <i>Founding of Cuddesdon page 160</i> .
1876	The original [College] numbers of twenty-one or twenty-two were surpassed for the first time when a colony was established in the village at Wellburne. In 1878 they bought a blacksmith's tumbledown forge at the corner opposite the churchyard, and built on the site what came to be known as 'the Cottage'. <i>The Founding of Cuddesdon by Owen Chadwick 1954 page 130</i> .
1886	Reading Room established – now the Village Hall. <i>Plaque in Village Hall</i>

1887	During the 19th century the Wesleyans established themselves at Cuddesdon (once visited by Wesley himself) and built a chapel there in 1887. In 1953 it was pulled down as there were insufficient numbers. <i>British History online</i> .
1892	Sir Edward Loughlin O'Malley, former Attorney General of Hong Kong , Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements and Chief Judge of the British Supreme Consular Court at Constantinople purchased property in what had been Denton in 1892. He died at his residence, Denton House, and was buried in Cuddesdon in 1932.
1894	First Cuddesdon Parish Council meeting. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
1895-96	Electric lights installed in Church. <i>British History online</i>
1898	Recreation Ground formed from Farm Orchard - organized up by Cuddesdon Parish Council. Village Feast held on Recreation Ground in October. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
1905	Iron Room erected at end of Reading Room for use of lads not old enough to be admitted to Recreation Room. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
1914-18	During the war of 1914-18 the College was never without students, although the main buildings were closed for a year, 1917-18, during which the remaining students were lodged in the vicarage and palace. The buildings were reopened in March 1918 to house the Seminary of St. Sava, Belgrade, and the Liturgy of the Serbian Church was celebrated in the chapel every Sunday and on great feasts. The icon in the chapel survives to commemorate their gratitude. <i>The Founding of Cuddesdon page 159</i> .
1929	Three Compasses pub destroyed by fire. <i>British History online</i> .
1935	Negotiations for electric light in Village to proceed. <i>Parish Council minutes</i>
1939	On the outbreak of war in 1939 King [new College wing built in 1904] was taken over by members of the staff of Queen Anne's Bounty, evacuated from London. As the number of students dropped, the Ministry of Labour requisitioned the buildings as a hostel for munition workers from Eire. The College retained Gore [new College wing built in 1920 as a war memorial], the Bursary, the electricity station, and the workshops. The vicarage became part of the College and the Principal migrated to the old vicarage. The College buildings were released in August 1945. <i>The Founding of Cuddesdon page 159</i> . Four water standpipes to be installed in Village. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
1945	Post Office telephone posts to be erected in Recreation Ground. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
Feb 1958	Bishops Palace west wing damaged by fire. <i>Oxford Times</i> .
1962	First meeting of Cuddesdon and Denton Parish Council. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
1970	Playground equipment installed in Rec. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
July 1972	School was closed because of decreasing numbers, and the children were, and still are taken to Garsington by coach. <i>Angela Day thesis</i> .
1973	Mains drainage installed in Cuddesdon. <i>Thames Star</i> .
1975	Extension to Village Hall complete. <i>Parish Council minutes</i> .
1976	Parish Council acquire Village Green from Mr Nixey
Apr 1977	The Old Stocks Tree on Denton Green was cut down – because of Dutch Elm disease. <i>Oxford Mail</i> .
1977	Silver Jubilee
5 Sept 1982	Football lighting pole removed from Rec
Spring 1984	Mr Keene planted trees along Wheatley Road to stop snow drifting
June 1986	Petrol pumps removed from garage
Jan 1987	Church vandalised. <i>Oxford Times</i> .
Sept 1987	Jack Fellows, postman retires. <i>Oxford Times</i> .
Sept 1987	John Marlow, 11 Parkside, attacked. He died in May 1988
Mar 1989	Trees planted by Combe Wood on Dandelion Corner

Mar 1989	Burt Turner left village
Mar 1989	Mary Day leaves village
25 Jan 1990	Gales cause damage: houses lost tiles, telephone box roof blown back. Fazackerly trees blown down. <i>Oxford Times</i> .
Mar 1990	PO may close.
22 Nov 1991	Attempted murder of Terry Reeves by family members. <i>Oxford Times</i>
2000	Millenium
2002	Golden Jubilee
	Denton has a large spring which in years gone by supplied the hamlet with its water. Because of its quality the water was collected by the then Oxford Eye Hospital and used for eye treatments. Now of course it is all mains water. (<i>Marshalls Chartered Surveyors</i>)
	Coombe Wood: A hydraulic ram supplied Cuddesdon with water from the eastern most spring within living memory. (<i>Coombe Wood by Jasper Scovil, 2000</i>)
Oct 2018	Telephone box removed from High Street.