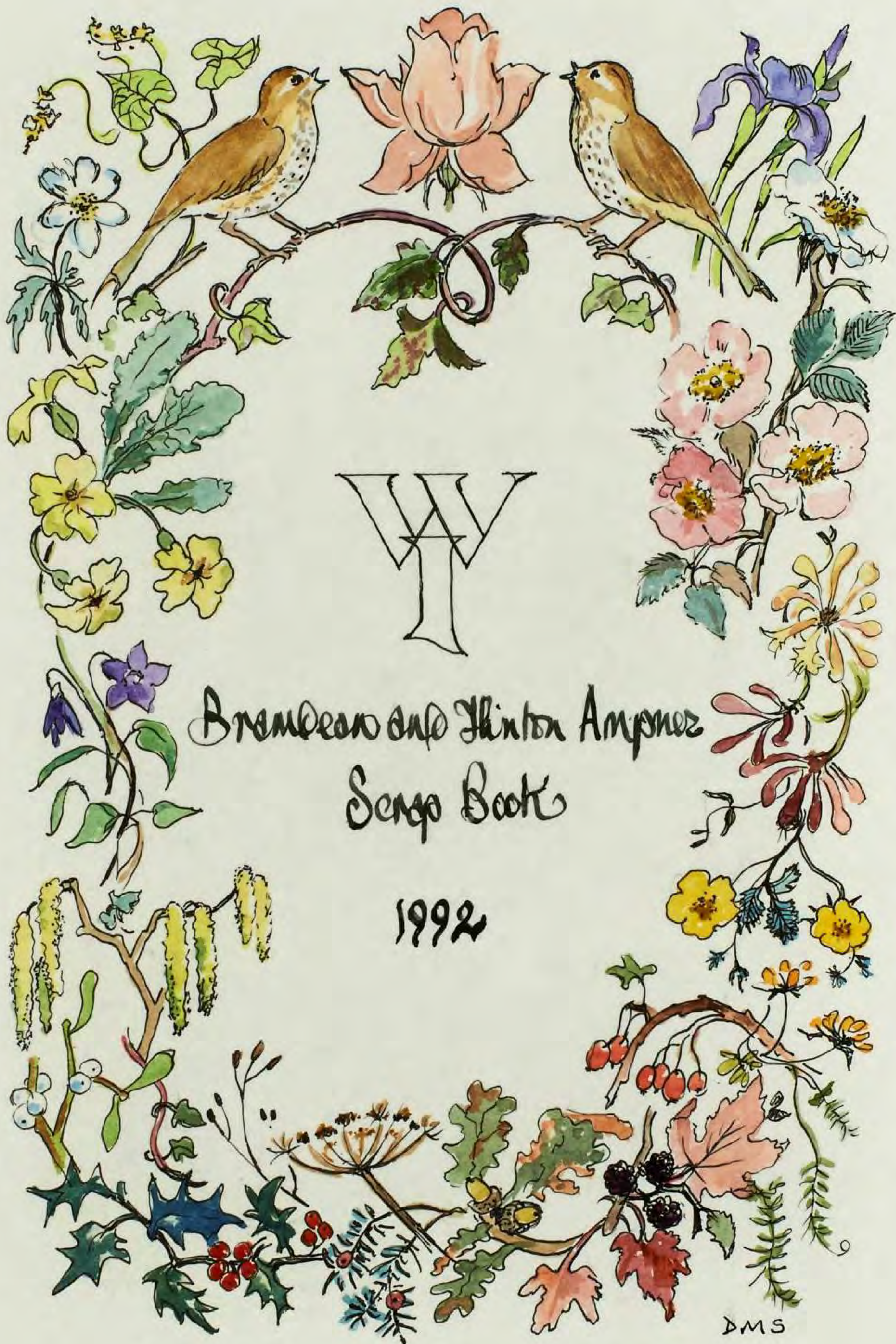
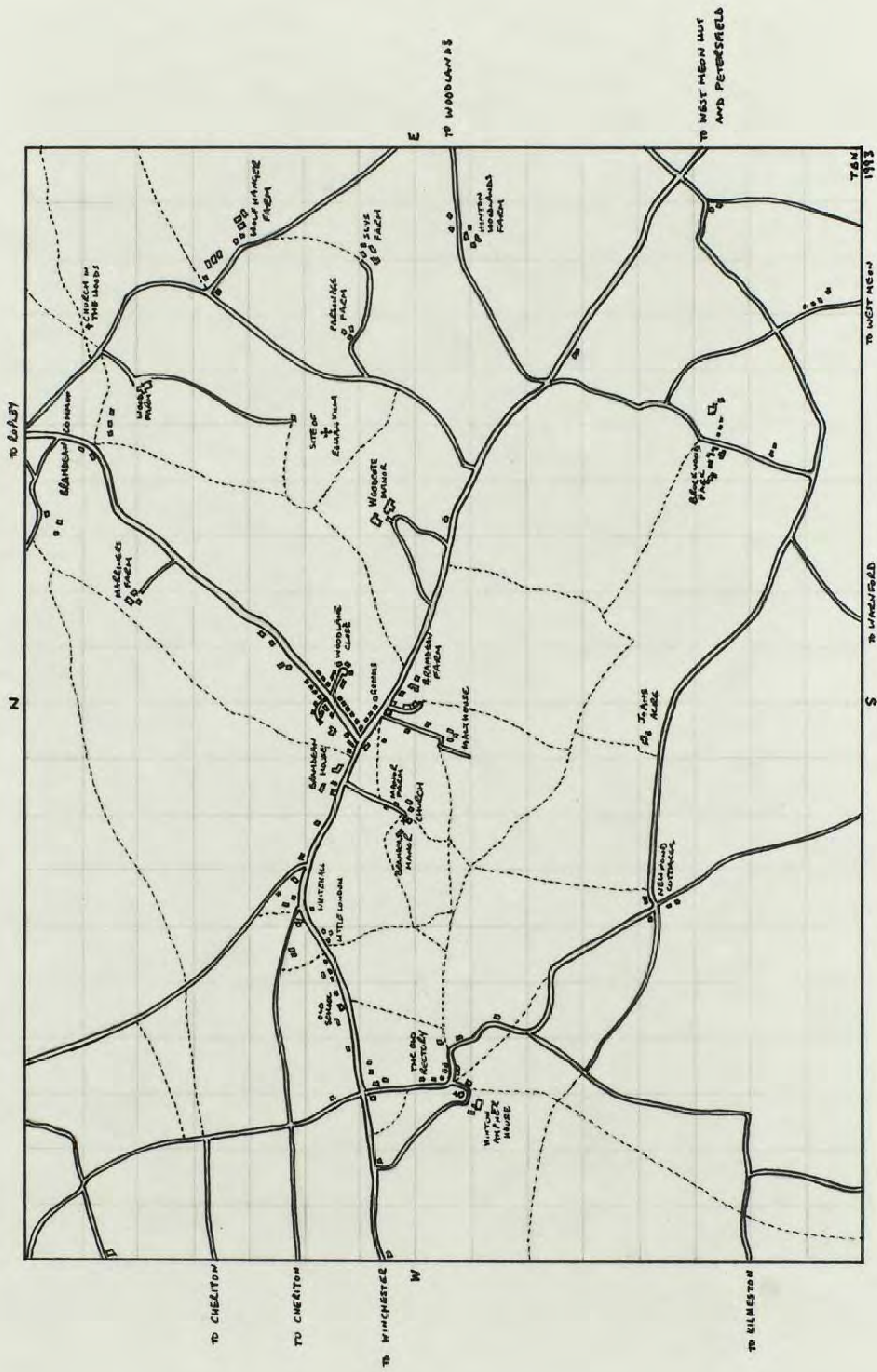






SKETCH MAP OF HINTON AMPNER & BRAMDEAN

Bramdean and Hinton Ampner W.I. Scrapbook 1992

A glimpse of deer whilst out walking, combined with the idea of updating the 1951 W.I. Scrapbook of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner villages, resulted in a week-long nature census and a Nature Awareness Day which involved the local community.

During the last week of June 1992, interested villagers recorded the natural history seen in their daily life, under the headings of animals, birds, butterflies and wildflowers.

The following Sunday, 5th July 1992, the W.I., inspired and guided by member Mandy Bulloch, put on a Nature Awareness Day in the village hall, with support and advice from the Hampshire Wildlife Trust, and about 100 adults and children went along to see the results of the census.

The Nature Awareness Day proved to be a great success and generated considerable interest and enthusiasm. The results are recorded in this Scrapbook.

Linking the nature census and the Nature Awareness Day with the updating of the W.I.'s 41 year old Scrapbook appealed to members; natural history featured extensively in the original 1951 Scrapbook and holding a nature census and related events 41 years on seemed to reflect both continuity and change.

The 1951 Scrapbook is usually kept at the Hampshire Records Office and is, essentially, a product of its own time: beautifully produced by hand, on handmade paper, with original watercolour line drawings and calligraphy.

The 1992 Scrapbook relies heavily on photography as an immediate means of recording, and has been produced on a word processor. It, too, is a product of its own time.

Mandy Bulloch

Bramdean

Even before Bramdean was known in Saxon times as "Bradandene", loosely translated as the "broad valley", there were various settlements in the area. The Iron Age farm site a few hundred yards from Woodcote Manor was probably started around 200 BC and superseded 300 years later by a Romano-British villa. During excavation in 1823 a beautiful tessellated pavement was discovered in a good state of preservation.

Although the village name is of Saxon origin no evidence has yet been found that Bramdean church of St Simon and St Jude is earlier than the Norman period. The oldest details are that of the chancel arch and the north doorway of the nave which are circa 1170. In 1989, Bramdean celebrated the 700th anniversary of its first recorded clergyman, Giles the Englishman, who was appointed to the living in the reign of Edward 1.

In Bramdean Church are two stained glass windows in memory of Field Marshal Sir William Gomm, whose grandfather was rector of the parish for 38 years until his death in 1831. There is a house in the village called "Gomms" and next door to it is Bramdean Cottage, reputed to be one of the oldest houses, if not the oldest, in Bramdean. In the walled garden of Bramdean Cottage is the grave of Sir William and Lady Gomm's favourite Arab horse, Pekin, which died on 17th October 1865.

Pekin is not the only horse to have been reverently laid to rest within the parish. When he owned Brockwood Park, Colonel George Greenwood (1799-1875) buried his favourite hunter, with which he had performed a remarkable jump. Colonel Greenwood was a keen horseman and author of "Hints on Horsemanship", published in 1839. A mound of flint stones marks the grave of his trusty steed in the small triangular piece of ground at the junction of the A272 road and the leafy lane going up to Brockwood Park.

Colonel Greenwood also wrote "The Tree Lifter", published in 1884 in which he describes a method of transplanting forest trees up to 25 or 30 ft in height. In the book, he claimed that he had transplanted trees of this size every month of the year without a single failure. The beeches that line the leafy lane, now somewhat denuded by the great October storm of 1987, give testimony to his prowess. In all probability, he was responsible for the planting of the magnificent copper beech trees alongside the A272 near Brockwood. Travellers along this strip of road can also glimpse a pile of huge stones, reminiscent of a scaled down Stonehenge. These stones were erected by Colonel Greenwood at some time around 1845.

Past wars have touched Bramdean perhaps more than the average village. Certainly during the Civil War, at what has become known as the battle of Cheriton of 1644, Bramdean in company with Hinton Ampner shared as much of the conflict as Cheriton. Indeed, among the casualties was a Royalist officer who died of his wounds, and whose memorial at Oxford- being the headquarters of Charles 1 at that time- states that he was mortally wounded on the "Bramdene" fight.

It is only by luck that no civilians were killed within the parish during the Second World War, because bombs fell in the field at the back of Bramdean Church and at Cheriton Wood. One enemy bomber, a Dornier Do 17, crashed in a field not far from Wood Lane and exploded on impact.

The Americans arrived as the war continued. Their presence saturated Bramdean. Shortly after their arrival the A272 road through Bramdean was permanently widened to cope with the escalating military traffic in readiness for D-Day. This alteration in late 1943 was the biggest village development since Bramdean was introduced to electricity in 1936. The village is still waiting for mains drainage and gas!

What shops there were in Bramdean have gradually dwindled as village car ownership has increased to bring Alresford, Winchester and Petersfield within just a few minutes journey from home. On the other hand, Bramdean Garage is prospering - thanks to the motor car. It is nice to think so as it has evolved from the village's most traditional trade, the village forge.

Terry Norman



Hinton Ampner

The village of Hinton Ampner lies on a ridge above the A272 Winchester to Petersfield road. It forms part of the civil parish of Bramdean and although sparsely populated, it is the larger of the two, hence the correct name; 'Hinton Ampner with Bramdean'. Whilst being little more than a hamlet, the existence of a parish church with a road leading to it qualifies it technically as a village.

Until 1984, when it was bequeathed to the National Trust under the will of the late Right Honourable Ralph Stawell Dutton, the 8th Baron Sherborne and the last of his line, the village had changed very little in the previous 40 years.

The village school, now closed, had a romantic history, Mary Stewkely was the third daughter of Sir Hugh Stewkely; he lived at Hinton, dying in 1719 at the age of 81. In his will he bequeathed £5,000 apiece to each of his three young daughters 'if and when they marry with the consent of my wife'. Shortly after her father's death, Mary did marry, presumably with her mother's permission, one William Blake, who had been her father's groom. William is reputed to have been a coal merchant in Weeke, just outside Winchester, where they lived until Mary died three years after her marriage at the age of 37. William died six years later at the age of 49, having left money to erect a monument to his wife and himself in the Church at Weeke and also to erect and endow a free school at Hinton Ampner.

The Village also has one of the best documented ghost stories of the 18th century. The original Tudor manor house was demolished in 1793 after 20 years of remarkable and unexplained happenings.

Sir Thomas Stewkely had lived there at the end of the 16th century and after his death his descendants, Mary Stewkely married to Edward Stawell (later Lord Stawell), and her younger unmarried sister Honaria occupied the house. When Mary died in 1740 an affair developed between Lord Stawell and his sister-in-law, who had continued to live at the manor after the death of her sister. There were stories of 'wild happenings' and a baby was supposed to have been born and to have been murdered. In January 1765 the property was let to a Mr. and Mrs. Ricketts. Mrs. Ricketts lived at Hinton with her three children and eight servants during the absence abroad of her husband, who had property in Jamaica.

In August 1771 Mrs. Ricketts and her family were compelled to leave the place after years of strange sightings and noises like footsteps, heavy knocks, strange music and curious murmurings and groans. After a short let to a family called Lawrence, who also seemed to have trouble with apparitions, the house was left empty for 20 years and then it was demolished.

A new Hinton Ampner House was built in about 1793 some 50 yards from the site of the old building and this Georgian house forms the central part of the present building. During the demolition of the old manor a small skull was discovered under the floorboards in one of the rooms.

Deana Flindt



Bramdean Church



History & Structure The Chancel and Nave together with the Bell Tower of wood formed the medieval church (1170). The first recorded Rector was Giles the Englishman who began his ministry on the 1st January 1289. The Porch, South Transept and the vestry were added in the later 19th century.

The structure of the walls of the Chancel and Nave were mainly flint rubble with stone dressing to the windows, whilst the walls are rendered with a variety of mixes.

Thomas Durnford in the eighteenth century, Rector for fifty-one years from 1741-1792, wrote that, "he found the church little changed since Giles the Englishman began his ministry in 1289".

In the South Transept and vestry the walls are dressed with split flint on the outside with quoins of stone dressing to the windows.

On the 8th November 1918, the Parish Church of Bramdean was joined with All Saints' Church, Hinton Ampner and on the 6th September 1974 St. Andrew's Church, Kilместon joined, making them the United Benefice of Hinton Ampner with Bramdean and Kilместon.

Chancel The Communion table is early 17th century and on the south side of the Sanctuary is a Credence Table made from parts of the 17th century Communion rails which were unfortunately removed during a period of restoration. The Chancel was repaired and re-roofed in 1863. The present communion rails were replaced in 1894 in memory of Louisa F.K. Bishop, wife of the Reverend A.C. Bishop who was rector from 1866 to 1885. The two North windows (St. Matthew & St. Marcus) and the south window (St. Lucas) are dedicated to the Reverend William Gomm, who died after being rector of Bramdean for 38 years, and his family, by their relative General Sir William Maynard Gomm GCB in the year 1863. Probably the oldest monument existing in the church is a small brass plate on the south Choir Stalls which, when the Latin is translated reads, "Here lies Maria Travers wife of Thomas Travers who died on the 27th May 1693". The Choir Stalls themselves are dated 1911.

Nave The roof is a very old trussed rafter roof. The Font is modern, of 13th century style. The Entrance Doorway and Chancel Arch are part of the medieval church. The Front Door is old, being made of two thicknesses of board with strap hinges and a wooden lock case. The pulpit was replaced in 1972 by a carved oak linenfold pulpit which came from the redundant church of St. Barnabas, Silverton.

Of the windows, the large (lower) West window is 15th century. Unhappily during the 1939/45 war, the stained glass was damaged by bombing and in 1949 was replaced by plain glass. The two other windows in the North Wall are dedicated to Honora Legge 1861 and Field Marshall Sir William Gomm 1875. Also on the North Wall you will see a list of the Rectors of Bramdean from 1289 up to the present day and a chart of the graves in the churchyard.

The lectern, in American white oak, was given to the church in January 1990 by the rector at the time, the Reverend H. Llewelyn, and his family, in the memory of his wife Margaret. The relief carved roundels in the base of the lectern include Margaret's initials and symbolic emblems. The lectern was made by a Bramdean craftsman.

The Bell Tower is above the West end of the Nave. It is carried on the West Wall of the church and on a wooden beam spanning the Nave.

There are two bells but neither carries any inscription, date or weight. Although the Bell Tower is believed to be part of the original 12th century church it has certainly been rebuilt at least twice, the last time in 1953 by R.G. Crockford of Cheriton and the bells rehung to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth the Second. Access to the tower is by means of a long ladder.

South Transept This was added to the church about 1877 although it may well be older than this as two of the stone tablets on the west wall are dated 1857 and 1863. The west window in the South Transept is to the memory of William

Cowper-Coles, a rector of this church, dated 1867. On the ledge is a War Memorial list of parishioners who served in the 1914/18 war (23 names) and the 1939/45 War (6 names).

The Vestry was built at the same time as the South Transept. Until recently this housed an organ given and installed by M.A.Garle in 1911. The organ Chamber has been converted into the Vestry as the old organ has been replaced by an Allen electronic organ.

West Wall On this wall is a list of past benefactors with dates between 1675 and 1766. There are also three pictures of this church, one dated 1835 showing the south aspect before the South Transept was added. All the old registers, dating from 1573, of Baptisms, Confirmations, Banns, Marriages and Burials are deposited in the Hampshire Records Office, Winchester, and only those in current use are held in the church.

One interesting entry in the Registers is the Baptism in 1812 of a black boy released from slavery.

Churchyard Many of the older graves to the south and west sides of the church have been levelled in the past, but the record of burials is still shown on the chart on the North Wall of the Nave. On the East Wall, outside either side of the large east window, can be seen the remains of two Norman windows which were uncovered during recent restoration work. Only the outline in stone of these windows shows. On the south side of the Nave, again on the outside, can be seen the faint outline of an original window from before the addition of the South Transept. There are two fine 18th century Renaissance table tombs on the left of the path to the main door and two more behind the church. The Lych Gate was erected about 1894 to the memory of Mrs L.F.K.Bishop. This lady endowed in her will the 'Church-in-the-Wood' on Bramdean Common.

Peter Day

The War Memorial



All Saints' Church, Hinton Ampner



The church still retains some pre-Conquest work, an internal doorway now leading to the vestry, two pilaster strips (typical Saxon ornamentation) on the north and south outer walls of the nave near the east end, and some long and short stonework in the north east quoin of the nave.

In the 13th century the church seems to have been largely rebuilt, although the plan and proportions of the Saxon church were preserved. To that century belong the priest's door on the south side of the chancel, the sedilla (priest's seat) within the communion rails, and the double piscina with a recess at the back, later used for keeping vessels. There are also medieval tiles surrounding a memorial stone of later date set in the floor of the chancel. The exact date when the chancel was restored and the stone work severely retooled is not known, but it was probably early 19th century.

The nave was rebuilt in 1880, but apart from the addition of a small vestry at the north west corner the original plan was adhered to. The mediaeval church would not have needed a vestry, the books and vestments being kept in a box under the altar, and the priest, entering by the chancel door would vest in the chancel.

The pulpit is largely Jacobean, whilst the robust door leading to the vestry was given as the inscription on it shows, by Nicholas Lacey in 1643. The baluster communion rails are late seventeenth century and were put in the church in 1949 to replace the brass rails. There are a number of interesting marble monuments to the families of Stewkeley, Stawell and Dutton and several 17th century brasses to the memory of the Stewkeley family. The two large monuments on the south wall of the nave were brought from St. Mary's, Laverstoke on its demolition in 1952.

The timber bell turret, typical of the smaller church in this part of England carries three bells. Two of them from 1603 and are inscribed "Serv God" and "Fere God" with the founder's initials J.W. standing for John Wallis of the Salisbury bell foundry. The tenor bell is dated 1619 with the inscription "My hope God is" some of the letters reversed and the M inverted. Although it bears no maker's name or mark it might well be a bell cast by John Higden, an itinerant, and one time foreman of the Reading foundry. As his earliest known bells date from this year, and "God is my hope" was known to be his favourite motto, it could be a mediaeval bell recast on the site.

The church has sustained many alterations over the centuries, and the late Lord Sherborne comments in his book, "A Hampshire Manor": "Almost as sad as the loss of the original nave is the loss of monuments, of which I believe there were many. The entrance to the vault, into which they were thrust, was so carefully sealed that I have no clue to its whereabouts, and I have so far been unable to examine them or the coffins of the generations of owners, with their spouses and children which lie there."

The mystery was solved in 1970 during the removal of the underfloor heating system and a stone now marks the entrance to the vault at the foot of the altar steps. It was during this time that a number of improvements were carried out consisting of the removal of the pews from the chancel, relaying the floor with flagstones, lime washing the walls, and replacing opaque glass by clear glazing in the windows of the nave. But the major improvement was the insertion of new stained glass windows at the east end. These were designed by Patrick Reyntiens and represent a quotation from the Book of Exodus, Chapter X111:-

"The Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night."

Houses of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner 1992

Since 1951 very few new homes have been built in the villages of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner, probably no more than twenty. The ancient, the historically and architecturally interesting houses, of which the villages have many, continue to be lovingly cared for by their current owners.

All village home-owners were invited to contribute to the 1992 Scrapbook. The W.I. is indebted to all who submitted an entry and all are included in this Scrapbook and help to create an image of the villages as they are today.



April and Post Cottages



April Cottage and Post Cottage were formerly known as 1, Wood Lane and Jasmine Cottage, respectively. For many years, both were owned by the proprietor of Bramdean Garage, upon whose retirement, in 1970, all three properties were sold.

The small haberdashery shop in Jasmine Cottage ceased to exist and the Post Office moved to Jordan House.

In 1972, 1, Wood Lane was sold again and renamed April Cottage, since when it has been extensively renovated and has acquired a rear entrance on the north face. Again in 1972, Bramdean Garage obtained some of the garden of Jasmine Cottage to add to its forecourt, which was then fenced off to become a separate entity. Jasmine Cottage was re-sold in 1977, to the Landlord of The Fox Inn, having also been modernised in the meantime. It then changed hands again in 1982, and was renamed Post Cottage, since when it has gained garages and an extension of three extra rooms to add to the original three up and three down.

Post Cottage



The old Post Office (haberdashery) is now the kitchen. Unfortunately, the Landlord of The Fox removed the old bread oven, next to the inglenook fireplace, to make another doorway into what is now a sitting room. Otherwise the original cottage(s) has been fairly faithfully preserved.

Valerie Williams
Sue Gerrard

Bramdean Cottage



If Oliver Cromwell and his soldiers could return for a brief time today, they would be amazed to see the launching of a hot air balloon from the field behind the cottage. This happens, weather permitting, throughout the year. During our ownership of Bramdean Cottage, the interior has seen little change, although a recent severe thunderstorm sent the hall ceiling descending rapidly to the hall floor. We'd always rather hoped for just a small and friendly ghost, but instead, for all its memories and history, Bramdean Cottage today is a warm and welcoming home.

Sylvia & Brian Reader

Bramdean House



There have been minor internal alterations made to the house to make it more practical to manage. The garden has been greatly improved and extended and a tennis court was built in 1991. The National Gardeners Scheme made a presentation in 1988 to record 40 years of opening as these gardens were amongst the earliest to join.

It is also open by appointment and visitors come from all over the world on private tours and are now numbering in thousands. It has featured in many gardening books and articles, including on the covers of Country Life and The Field.

Princess Margaret and Lord Lindley made a private visit in 1990.

The major part of Marriners Farm, which adjoins the property, was purchased in 1989 and added to the small existing land holding.

Victoria Wakefield

Bramdean Lodge



In an earlier stage this seems to have been a Georgian block with a double pitch of roof. Something of what it may have looked like can be seen from the walled garden behind. In the 1871 census it was inhabited by a family named Barnard (there are several Barnard graves in the churchyard). A few years later a general's widow, Mrs Cole, came to live here, presumably to be near her sister, Mrs Bishop, then living at Bramdean House. (Both sisters are also buried in the churchyard). Mrs Cole added two much grander wings and remodelled the facade and roof, with its ornate chimneys, so that from the front the house now appears uniformly Victorian, with Gothic details. The 1881 census lists Mrs Cole as living here with six servants.

Since then the house has had several owners. Linzee, Campbell and Lindsay are some of their names. From 1946 to 1968 it belonged to Admiral Sir Geoffrey and Lady Barnard (no relations of the earlier Barnards) and is now lived in by their son-in-law, Peter Dickinson, a writer, and his second wife, Robin McKinley, who is also a writer.

Peter Dickinson

Bramdean Manor

Circa 1740



The Manor was bought in the early 1930's by Mr Henry Dutton of Hinton Ampner House. After his death in 1935, his widow (the mother of the late Mr Ralph Dutton) moved into Bramdean Manor, where she lived from 1936-47.

In 1971, Mr Ralph Dutton had a great many alterations done to the inside of the Manor. He also had the attractive balustrading constructed on the south side of the house. He had applied for planning consent to add balustrading to the north side, but for some unknown reason, this was turned down.

The present owners bought the house from Mr Dutton in 1975. They altered the garden, planting many trees and shrubs to give a park like look to the field, which was once used for cattle grazing.

The copse has been allowed to grow wild, and in the spring it is a mass of aconites and snowdrops and miniature daffodils. It is a home for many species of wild birds, from woodpeckers, pheasants, owls, and to all the smaller garden birds.

Robin & Jill Vlasto

Brockwood Park



In December of 1968, Brockwood Park was purchased in order to begin a school. In January of 1969, the first classes began in what has become The Brockwood Park Krishnamurti Educational Centre Limited. Krishnamurti, who was an internationally known speaker, author and educator, had previously started several schools in different countries. A group of people who wanted to start a school in England which explored the issues raised in Krishnamurti's many educational books finally settled on Brockwood Park after looking at many properties.

As Krishnamurti would stay at the school when his international speaking schedule brought him to England, people from around the world would come to Brockwood in order to speak to him. People from every walk of life and every country, the rich and world famous as well as poor and ordinary working people, would come to Brockwood every year for both private and public talks. Brockwood Park became internationally known as one of the large venues for Krishnamurti's public talks, and at the end of August 1969 until Krishnamurti died in 1986, thousands of people from around the world would come to hear him speak. Hundreds camped on the grounds of Brockwood for the one week of public talks while others stayed in hotels or bed and breakfasts from Bramdean to London. Talks given by Krishnamurti at Brockwood have appeared in many books and video tapes that are sold internationally and translated into more than a dozen languages.

In order to meet the international demand for a place where people might study the work of Krishnamurti and where the entirety of that work might be available, the Krishnamurti Centre was created. This new building located three hundred yards south of the original manor house is a major addition to the property of Brockwood Park. The twenty -two thousand square feet addition contains the archives of Krishnamurti, twenty guest rooms, a library, living and dining rooms. This building was included by Prince Charles in his book, " A Vision of Britain," as an example of what he feels modern architecture should be.

Several other buildings have been added to Brockwood's property to expand the accommodation and educational facilities required by the school. These include an octagonal meeting room for the whole school, a quadrangle, accommodation and a large traditional oak-framed barn for the art facilities.

The Brockwood Park Krishnamurti Educational Centre has, intentionally, remained small and international. There is a limit of approximately sixty students who always come from at least twenty different countries. Brockwood is respected in educational circles for its innovation; several theses have been written on the educational methods and philosophies at Brockwood, and almost all of its students go on to university.

Fir Tree Cottage



Anne and Bruce and Esther Newson and 'Tarey'

Fir Tree Cottage, in 1992, now has a chestnut front door, as indeed are all the windows and external doors, made by Southwick Park Estates in 1984. The roof was rethatched, using combed wheat reed in January 1989 by Matthew Holt of Widley, Portsmouth, at a cost of £5,000. The present family owners, Bruce and Anne Newson and Esther (aged 2 years) have lived in the cottage for 10 years and have carried out an extensive programme of renovation which included the replacement of the wooden garage with a brick and flint workshop and a garage at the south side. On the 22 December 1987 the cottage suffered catastrophic internal smoke damage when the television set spontaneously combusted during the owners' brief absence. Only the density of the smoke prevented the cottage actually bursting into flames. The smoke damage, throughout the cottage, took 4 months to eradicate completely.

Anne Newson

Hinton Ampner House



On April 3rd 1960 disaster struck when the main part of the house was almost completely gutted by fire, leaving the outer walls intact. The fine collection of pictures and furniture was lost forever. Fortunately the Adam ceiling in the dining room and the magnificent porphyry chimney piece in the hall survived the fire.

But nothing daunted, Mr Dutton started restoration almost at once. The interior has been rebuilt within the outer walls with only one major alteration, the omission of the attic storey. The height of the house is thus reduced by several feet and several rooms. Another change was the elegant columnar screen in the double drawing room.

In 1982 Mr Dutton succeeded his cousin as the eighth Baron Sherborne and took his seat in the House of Lords. On April 20th 1985 the village was shocked at the death of Lord Sherborne following a fall at his home.

Hinton Ampner House, its contents of Italian paintings, hardstone, porcelain and fine furniture, 1,650 acres of park and agricultural land were left to The National Trust.

In 1986 the gardens became open to the public. The following year the house was opened with its beautiful contents on view. The public can now enjoy the splendid views and the peace and tranquillity of Hinton Ampner.

Gladys Trickle

Littledean



Diana Snagge

Littledean sits parallel to the road with only a narrow paved garden in front. It is a Georgian house with additions made on the garden side in the 1920's. The front door now faces the garden with a pretty pillared portico. The only recent alteration has been to enlarge the kitchen, incorporating the old butler's pantry and cloakroom.

The garden covers approximately two acres and has a tennis court and a swimming pool. It also has some interesting 18th century bee holes built into a corner of the walled garden.

At present the house is owned by Tom and Diana Snagge who with their four children - Charlotte, Emma, William and Henrietta have lived here for seventeen years. Tom works for IBM at Hursley and Diana paints in watercolours locally in Alresford & Winchester.

Their eldest daughter Charlotte was recently married in St. Simon & St Jude, Bramdean, with a reception afterwards in the garden. Emma drives into Winchester every day to work. William presently works in Tokyo and Henrietta is still at school.

Diana Snagge

Manchester House



Manchester House was built in the Seventeenth Century. There is an unfinished date of 16-- carved on one of the corner stones of the central fireplace as well as a number of initials. The earliest records that are to be found say that a Richard Barnes owned the house in 1810.

The house was originally a farmhouse and much of the surrounding area was part of the farm. Over the years most of the farm land was sold and now only about one and a half acres remain.

At one time the present kitchen area was a dairy and supplied milk to the villagers and there was a bakery with a large bread oven in one of the outhouses in the courtyard, as well as a bread oven in the central fireplace of the house. For many years part of the house was the village general store and post office but this area was demolished when the house, which had been occupied by two families, was turned into a single dwelling in the late nineteen sixties.

Many alterations have been carried out over the years but most of the original structure remains. There are two large open fireplaces and some of the beams are ships' timbers, the carved one in the central room being eighteen feet long by one foot deep. There is a well inside the barn area which the present owners have covered over.

No-one seems to know why the house is called Manchester House but in the eighteen hundreds there was a shortage of cotton being imported into this country and this caused great hardship in the Manchester area. As a result of this, weavers and people connected with the cotton industry moved south and this could account for the name of the house. There is apparently, another Manchester House in the West Country, near Bristol.

Sandy Stevens

Manor Farm



Manor Farm was built in the first half of the 18th Century - the flush chimney breast, the brickwork above the window on the south side and the large bread oven are all indicators. Manor Farm has been extensively modernised, and slightly enlarged, during the period 1976-1990; there is no longer an entrance to the property directly off Church Lane and because of relocation of the front door it was necessary to reverse the staircase to gain best advantage to the downstairs layout. Part of the present kitchen was a washroom and store, underneath which is a room-sized well about 8' deep. There is also a one-room cellar and an attic.

The house stands in an acre of garden in which, on all Ordnance Survey Maps, there is shown a dew pond alongside the wall bordering the farmyard (which no longer belongs). This leaked and was consequently filled in in 1975, later being replaced by an ordinary, slightly smaller, concrete-lined garden pond.

Tessa Feilden

Mead Cottage



Mandy and James, Alistair and Ailsa Bulloch and 'Jack'

When we bought Mead Cottage in 1984 it was a two-up two-down late Victorian farm cottage with a lean-to kitchen and bathroom. We moved out for a year whilst builders made alterations and additions (and ruined large parts of the garden!) And now we have a larger family house which is home for us and our two children Alastair (10) and Ailsa (5) and several pets including Jack the dog.

Mead Cottage's former life as a farm is apparent in the garden where the outlines of earlier outbuildings can be clearly seen and whilst attempting to improve the back lawn we are constantly coming across the flint farm yard. This year we found the unblemished head of a Victorian porcelain doll in the old compost heap which was started years ago within the remains of a neighbouring cottage.

Alastair and Ailsa both attend the local school which is now in Cheriton and travel to and fro by coach. James works for a computer company that is based in Weybridge and commutes daily whilst I work part-time for Social Services in Winchester on three days of the week.

Mandy Bulloch

The Old Cottage



The Old Cottage is a white-washed three-eyebrow thatch.

An indenture dated the 15th of March "in the 27th year of Charles the Second (1687) states that one, Sarah Ogle, spinster, sold the house and "said several parcels of ground" to Thomas Edwards, a carpenter, for "eight pounds of lawful money of England". Later "all the ground belonging to said house at the East side thereof" mentioned in this document was apparently sold. The only other alteration to the boundaries, which has taken place since the time of Sarah Ogle occurred in 1974 when the previous owner acquired the garage on the West side, which now forms part of the property.

It has recently been established that the "Old Cottage" dates from somewhere between 1530 and 1580 and that the conversion from the original "open hall" was probably done shortly after the time of the sale mentioned above, by the carpenter, Thomas Edwards. The doorframes have been skilfully constructed and have obviously all been made by the same hand.

In fact, this early conversion has stood the test of time and remains largely intact.

At the end of last century the "Old Cottage" was the residence of the village policeman.

In 1983 the cottage was re-thatched by Steve Cleeve, whose father was the previous thatcher. A single-storey kitchen was added on the North East side in 1985. This was roofed in slate, in keeping with the Victorian extension, which runs along the North side of the cottage.

Moir Blackwell

The Rectory

A stone outside the French window bears the inscription:-
"A.G.H. 1876. J.C.H. 1876"

Presumably 1876 was the date when the house was built and the two initials the builders or first owners.

No memories exist of pre 1920 days. But in the '20s and '30s, maybe till after the 2nd World War, a Mr & Mrs Burns lived in the house, which was then a farmhouse. Mr Burns owned the cottages in Fox Lane which are now combined in the large house known as The Old Curates' House.

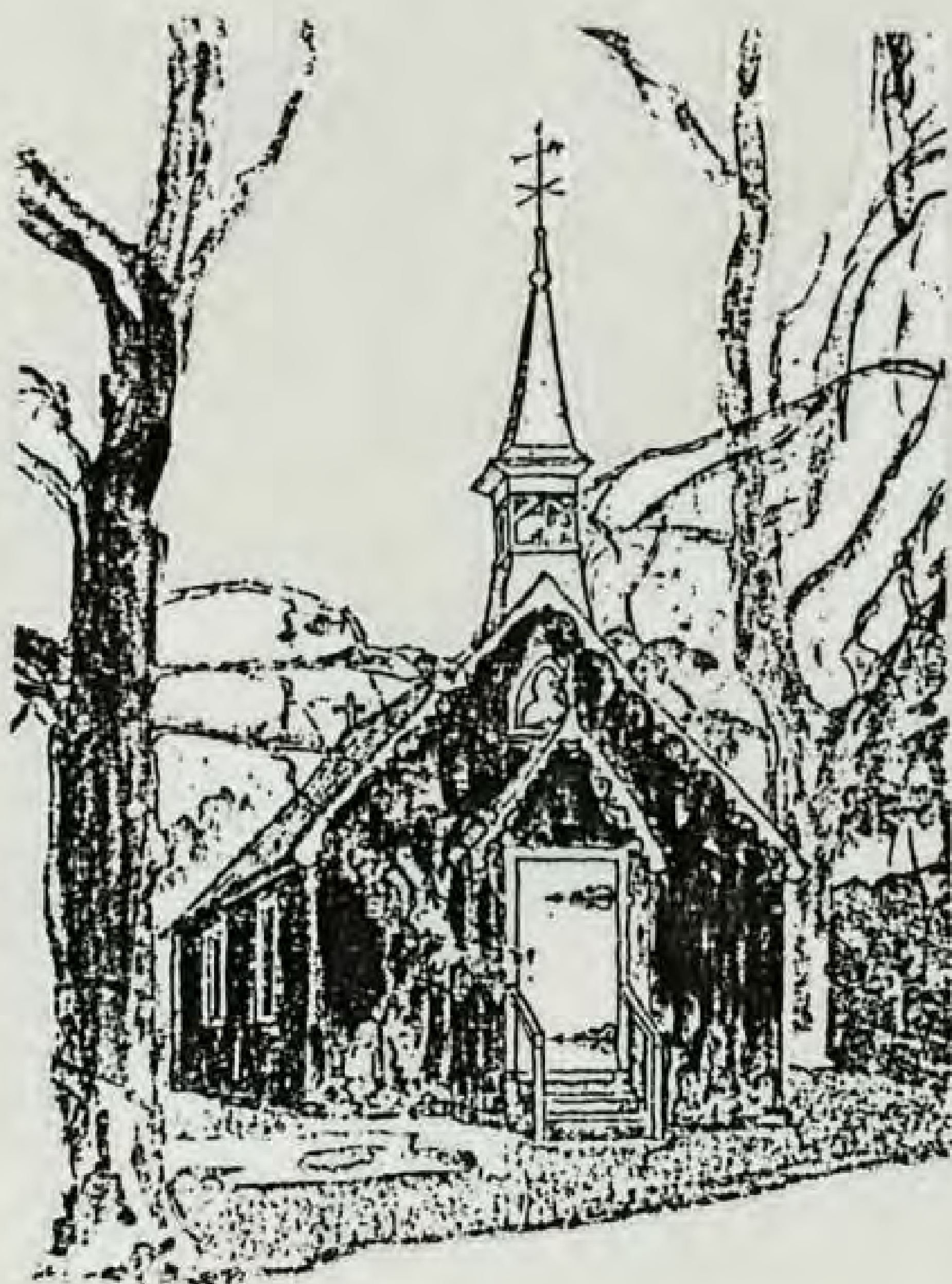
After the Burns, came Miss Rowe, and her sister and husband. Presumably they continued to 1960.

In 1960 it was bought by the church to become The Rectory. Prior to that the Rector lived at what is now known as Hinton Ampner Place, on Hinton Hill.

The Rectors who lived in this house are:-

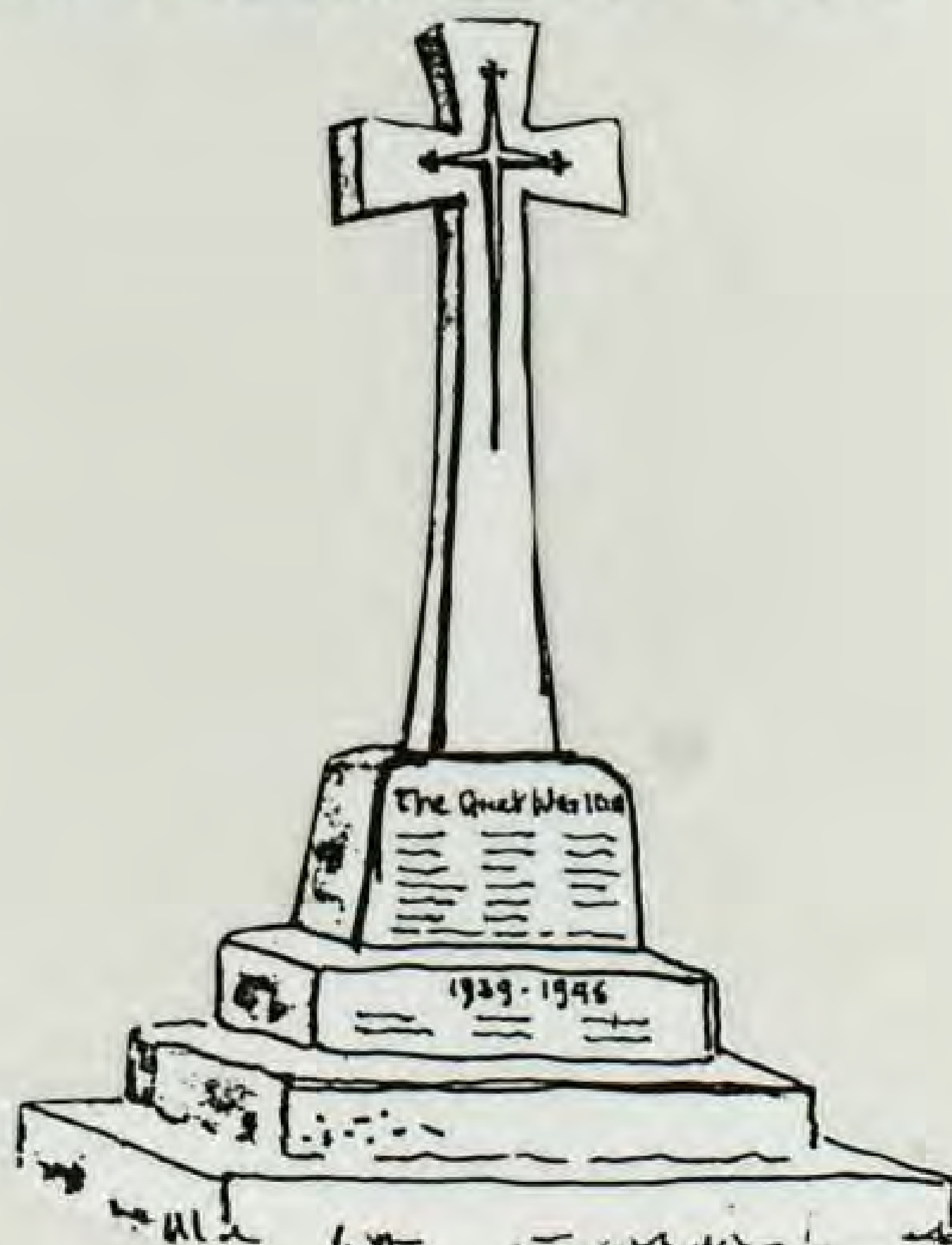
Raymond Sefton Hornby	Instituted 22 October 57
Matthew Garnant Roberts	Instituted 27 September 68
Douglas Charles Hancock	Instituted 26 April 79
Robert Richard Earnshaw	Instituted 7 June 85
John Humphrey Norman Llewelyn	Instituted 1 December 87
Arthur Robert Croad	Instituted 12 March 92

Presumably Mr. Hornby transferred from Hinton Ampner to Bramdean in 1960.



Church-in-the-Wood

The Reverend Arthur Croad



War memorial

Woodcote Manor



Woodcote Manor is a medium sized country house in its own small park of about fifty acres. The house is set in well wooded rolling Hampshire countryside, where the chalk is never far from the surface except where the clay cap covers the top of the hills. The area is good farming land and the woods are mainly oak, beech and chestnut. Oaks grown on the clay cap are of particularly high quality and the massive timbers used in the construction of Woodcote are no doubt of local origin.

It is possible that Woodcote was the farm of the Roman settlement (found north of Woodcote) and might have provided the water as there is a very productive well beneath the house.

The Manor of Woodcote was mentioned in the Domesday Book as being held by the Keeper of the Royal Castle at Winchester, (then the Capital of England) it was associated with this office until 1670 when it passed into private hands.

Architecturally it shows typical features of five different periods, 1400, 1611, 1630, 1690 and 1911. The house was a Catholic stronghold when the Cavaliers and Roundheads were fighting the battle of Cheriton. Hence the secret rooms, chapels and passages.

Over the years several interesting families have lived here - The Venables were here in the 17th century, followed by Edward Cooper and then John Greenwood in 1819 whose claim to fame was the planting of so many copper beeches along the roadsides, Sir Thomas Lawrence came here to paint the family's portrait and an avenue was planted in the park in his honour.

The next owner was Sir Seymour-Hayden the artist and etcher. He was also the founder of "The Hospital for Incurables" in London. I met his granddaughter who told me fascinating details of life here at the beginning of the century. The lawns were mown by ponies wearing rubber over their hooves!

In 1911, Edwin Abbey, another artist bought the house and extensive alterations were carried out by Sir Reginald Blomfield A.R.A. He built two new wings, and moved the front door to the new south side of the house.

After the 1914-1918 war the Tudor Owens lived here. She was a very skilled gardener. The place was run in great style with five gardeners and a large indoor staff.

Tennis parties were held at the two tennis courts, and there were many children's parties and Hunt Balls. In 1958 the large Morton family arrived and set about running the place in a more modest style.

The ugly servants' wing was removed and a very heavy looking front porch demolished.

Over the years it has been a wonderfully happy family home. We have struggled with dry rot, wet rot, death watch beetles, crumbling chimneys and roof repairs! As this is a listed building all the work has to be supervised by an architect .

The garden is still open at Easter and one hard-working gardener is employed.

We try to use the house for Charity Sales, Exhibitions, and gatherings whenever possible.

The house is now divided for two families and during the spring and summer we do Bed and Breakfast and sometimes Dinners.

People from abroad especially seem to enjoy staying in a house with such a long history.

Mardi Morton

Woodlane Close



Nurse Tomkins lived at number 16 from about 1950 to 1958. After she left Nurse Douglas took over, she then married and left for the north. Mrs. Lee who lives in number 5, was a great friend of both nurses.

A Water Tower used to be in the garden of number 11, but was pulled down in 1955.

The bungalows, number 19 - 20, at the bottom of Wood Lane Close were built in 1953. The new bungalows, number 21 to 26, were built in 1973.

In September 1992 new double glazed windows were installed in the bungalows. The allotments were taken over to build the sewer plant for these bungalows and houses, and the Pump House at the bottom of number 26's back garden. Bungalows number 21 to 26 were built on top of the old sewer plant.

Some of the original tenants who came into the houses as they were built are still in the same houses, and are listed below

(See over)

Mrs. Blake	number 14	
Mrs. Maton	number 13	
Mrs. Lee	number 15	
Mrs. Wingrove	number 9	
Mrs. King	number 8	(now at number 25)

Irene Munday

Other Local Properties



Molly and Derek Wadsworth, Gardener's Cottage, Bramdean House



Moody's Farm



Bramdean Farmhouse



Betty and Ron Hamblin, Kingswood



Maple Cottage



Gladys Trickle, 1 Church Cottages, Hinton Ampner



Rickaby, Kilmeston



1 Church Cottages, Kilmeston



Porch Cottage



Bobel Whittingham, 2 Woodcote Cottages



Mellow Cottage



Judith and Barry Willis, Hazeldene



*Results of the Nature Census
June 1992*

in the villages of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner



Animals

recorded in the villages of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner in June 1992



Bat
Common shrew
Deer
Dormouse
Feral cat
Fox
Frog
Hare
Hedgehog
Mole
Mouse
Rabbit
Squirrel, grey



Birds

recorded in the villages of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner in June 1992



Blackbird
Blue Tit
Bullfinch
Chaffinch
Chiffchaff
Coal Tit
Cuckoo
Eastern Ring-Necked Dove
French Partridge
Goldfinch
Great Tit
Greenfinch
Green Woodpecker
Heron
House Martin
Jackdaw
Jay
Kestrel
Linnet
Long-tailed Tit

Magpie
Mistle Thrush
Nuthatch
Pheasant
Pied Wagtail
Robin
Rook
Skylark
Song Thrush
Sparrowhawk
Sparrow, Hedge and House
Spotted Flycatcher
Starling
Swallow
Swift
Tawny Owl
Whitethroat
Woodpigeon
Wren
Yellow Bunting

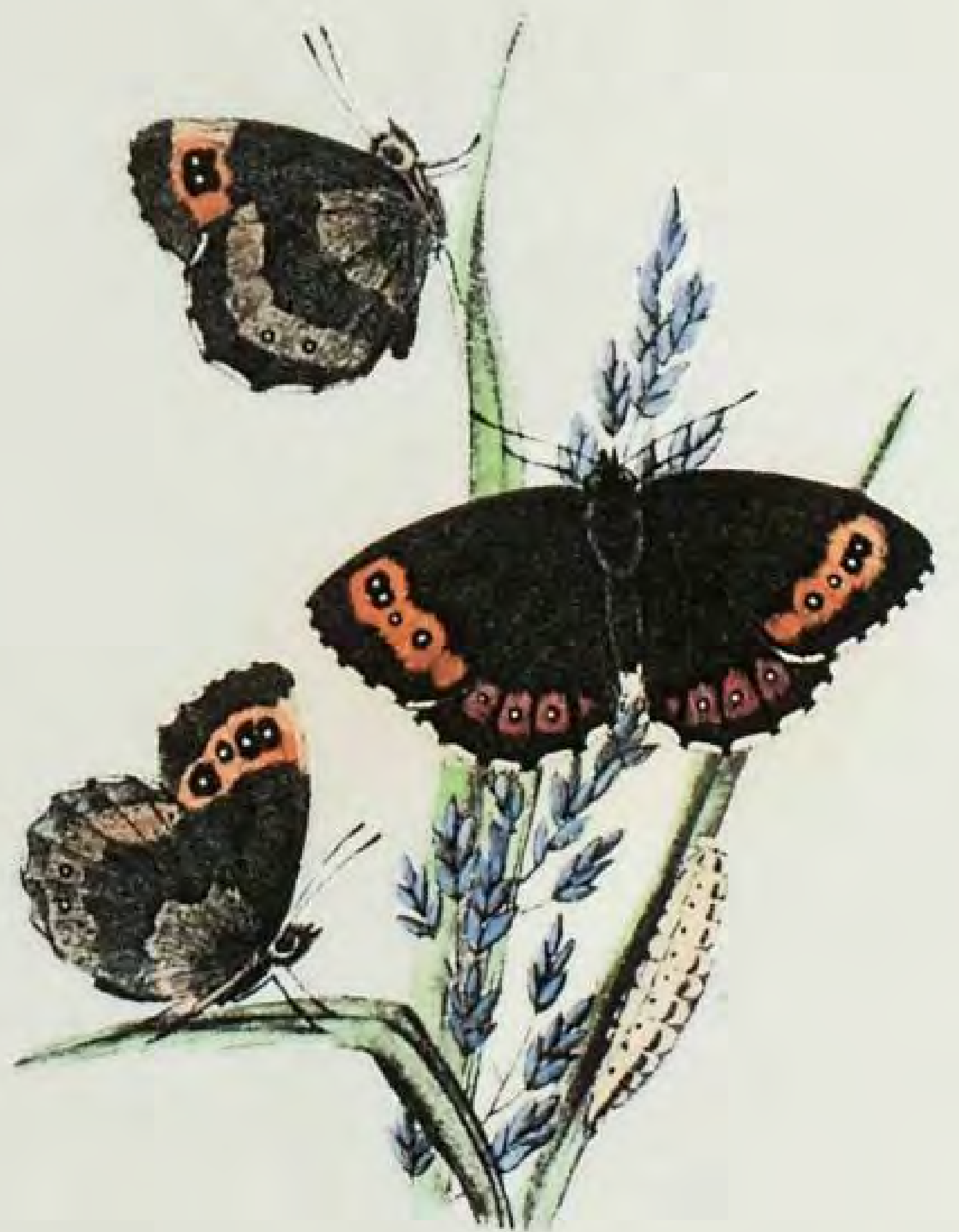


Butterflies

recorded in the villages of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner in June 1992

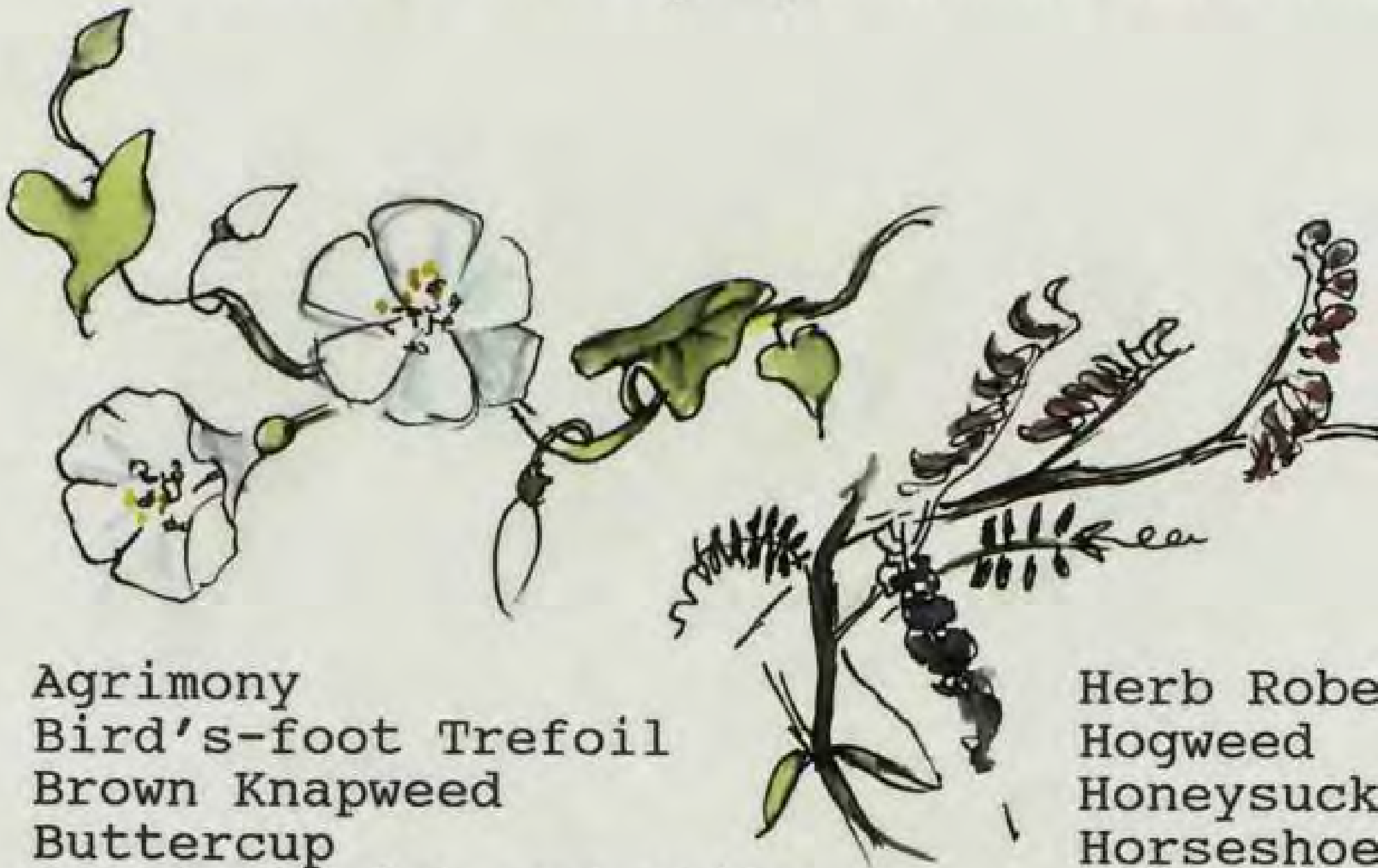


Cabbage White
Comma
Common Blue
Dingy Skipper
Meadow Brown
Peacock
Red Admiral
Small Heath
Small Tortoiseshell
Small White



Wildflowers

recorded in the villages of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner in June 1992



Agrimony
 Bird's-foot Trefoil
 Brown Knapweed
 Buttercup
 Campion, pink and white
 Clematis vitalba
 Clover
 Comfrey
 Common Toadflax
 Convolvulus
 Cow Parsley
 Cuckoo-pint
 Daisy
 Dandelion
 Deadnettle
 Dog Rose, pink and white
 Dock
 Dog's Mercury
 Forget-me-not
 Foxglove
 Ground Elder
 Ground Ivy
 Groundsel
 Hedge Woundwort
 Herb Bennet



Herb Robert
 Hogweed
 Honeysuckle
 Horseshoe Vetch
 Ivy
 Ladies' Bedstraw
 Lamb's Tongue plantain
 Lesser Stitchwort
 Loosestrife
 Mallow
 Milkmaids
 Poppy
 Nettle
 Nipplewort
 Pilewort
 Ragwort
 Ribwort
 Rosebay Willowherb
 Thistle
 Tufted Vetch
 Scabious
 Silverweed
 Sorrel
 Sweet Woodruff
 Yarrow



Bramdean Playing Field

The land for the playing field was bought in 1978 from Commander G. Paine R.N. who owned Bramdean Cottage and adjoining land. It was funded from money raised by the "Silver Jubilee Fund Raising Committee", 1977 being the Silver Jubilee of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Second and H.R.H. Prince Philip. The money was handed to the Parish Council which was to purchase the land and become the Trustee. On completion the Council obtained a grant which enabled the land to be fenced. Unfortunately the first two or three years were not a great success and the council decided that a sub committee should be formed to run it. The council chairman, Ron Gerrard, agreed to take the "Hot Seat" and invited parents of local children to a meeting at The Fox Inn on 7th April 1981. Four other parents present agreed to help and "The Parish Council of Bramdean Recreation Committee" was born.

In 1981 there was a plot of land with a fence and no money. The first job was to raise money. The original committee worked very hard to raise money to buy equipment, and with the help and generosity of other locals managed to achieve a very high standard of maintenance and some good equipment.

The original committee continued mainly unchanged until 1989 when a new committee was formed. Names of all members, helpers, progress etc can be found in the minute book of the P.C. of Bramdean R.C.

Ron Gerrard



The Bramdean Society - Here To Help

A village association that covers Hinton Ampner as well as Bramdean, the Bramdean Society was founded in the 1960s and membership is open to everyone residing in this area.

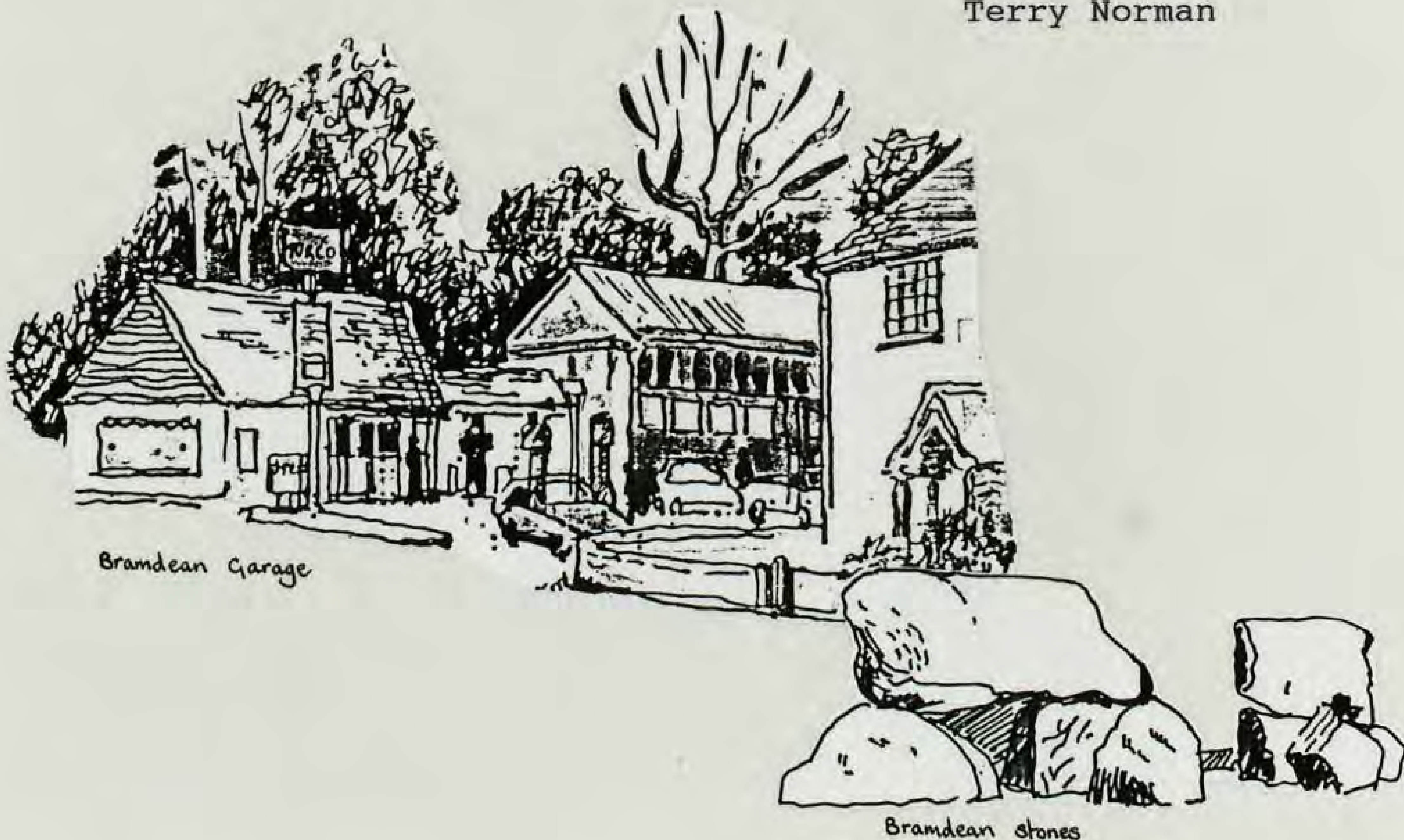
The Society's aims are straight forward and include helping in practical ways to make our village a better place in which to live for both young and old, and to support our parish and council representatives to achieve this goal.

The Society also participates in helping to maintain and improve the area's natural beauty whilst ensuring that any village growth is done gracefully. The third main aim is to ensure that plans for the development of southern Hampshire do not detract from this designated area of outstanding natural beauty, and that those who come to enjoy the scenery do not destroy it.

During its existence, members of the Bramdean Society have been active in diverse causes, from helping to save a church in the parish to stopping the construction of a galvanising plant on the edge of Bramdean Common.

Bramdean Society is made up of villagers, run by villagers for the benefit of villagers. Everyone in the parish is welcome to join.

Terry Norman



Bramdean and Hinton Ampner Village Hall



The Village Hall stands on the site of the old Bramdean Village School. It is a wooden Colt construction and was built in 1965 at a cost of £6,000 with money collected in the village and a grant from the Ministry of Education.

The Hall is used by many different organisations including The Women's Institute, The Parish Council, The Woodlands Kindergarten and various village recreational groups as well as being rented out for parties and fund-raising events.

There is a committee which administers the running of the Hall and a Caretaker and Booking Secretary. The committee is composed mainly of representatives nominated by different organisations in the community.

The Hall is bright and cheerful and is maintained to a high standard. It plays an important part in the life of the community as it provides a convenient meeting-place for many varied activities.

Sandy Stevens

Bramdean and Hinton Ampner W.I.

Sue Gerrard is the president and there are twenty two members who live in the villages of Bramdean, Hinton Ampner, Kilместon, Hursley, Alresford. The Institute was re-formed in 1986 and Mrs. Betty Day was elected President. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month in Bramdean Village Hall. There is a wide range of interests and activities amongst members, some of whom are employed as teachers, social workers, as district nurses, cooks, house wives and mothers. None can be said to be retired. Mrs. Joyce at 95, an honorary life member, still bakes for the W.I. teas. Mrs. Waterston runs a well-stocked sales table each month and the profits go to the Lord Mayor Treloar College in Alton. There are three sisters and three Churchwardens amongst the members. Members keep active by attending yoga and keep fit classes, walking, swimming, sailing, fishing and playing golf and tennis. Bramdean is a member of the Alresford group and this year won the spring competition with its tableau vivant. Members take part in group activities, helping in the Alresford Show Tent and at the Winchester Guildhall Festival. Delegates attend Council and Resolution meetings in the County. During the Summer members have provided afternoon teas when Bramdean House Garden was opened to visitors under the National Garden Scheme. We have also provided teas and ploughman's lunches to visitors to the village.

A Nature Awareness Day was organised by Mandy Bulloch in June and a report was published in the "Home and Country" magazine in November. Mrs. Bulloch came second in the County Press officers competition for her report on our Resolution meeting in May.

Apart from the Resolution meeting when there is no speaker members have enjoyed a variety of speakers ranging from the music of Ivor Novello to Victorian Jewellery to an Analysis of Hand Writing. A visit to Whitchurch Silk Mill was enjoyed by friends and members. A supper and garden meeting was held at the home in Hursley of Peter and Betty Day in August. A visit to Winchester Theatre in November and a Christmas Party for members and friends rounded off another busy W.I. year.



Molly Wadsworth
Honorary Secretary
The W.I. 1992

The Bramdean and Hinton Ampner W.I. Tableau Vivant



The tableau was produced by a small committee, headed by Diana Snagge, and depicted the skills that the W.I. would be taking into Europe. Members acted out the activities mentioned in the following poem, written especially by Molly Wadsworth.

"In fourteen hundred and ninety-two
Columbus sailed the ocean blue.
In nineteen hundred and ninety-two
Europe's the place for me and you.
And these are the skills and crafts we'll take,
For we can brew and we can bake.
We can paint and we can sew,
And in our gardens flowers grow.
We'll take our poems, plays and songs
Our resolutions to right all wrongs,
And when we have some time to play,
A round of golf we'll have each day.
Please clap your hands, enjoy our tableau
As into Europe we all go!"

Judith
Ramsay

Isobel
Whittingham

Betty
Day

Molly
Wadsworth

Anne
Newson

Mandy
Bullock

Judith
Willis

Diana
Snagge

Liz
Ashley

The Tree of Life Embroidery



In 1989 we celebrated 800 years of recorded worship in our parish church of Saint Simon and Saint Jude, Bramdean. As part of the celebrations - which included a Flower Festival masterminded by Molly Wadsworth - fourteen members of the parish, many of them W.I. members, stitched a wall hanging for the church.

It is a Tree of Life and on the leaves are embroidered the names of children baptised in our church. Betty Day and Anne Newson went to the Hampshire Records Office in Winchester to research the baptism registers. It was decided to have just two names from the preceding centuries and then all the names from 1960 onwards. The oldest "living" name in 1989 was ex W.I. member Dolly Baker.

The Tree of Life is taken down every spring so that the new leaves can be sewn on.

The embroidery was dedicated in the memory of W.I. member Margaret Llewelyn - the wife of the Benefice Priest - in - Charge, Humphrey Llewelyn - who originally inspired the work.

Diana Snagge

Local Businesses

As well as updating the existing material in the 1951 Scrapbook, the W.I. decided it would be appropriate to record the local businesses which trade in Bramdean and Hinton Ampner in 1992. All local businesses were invited to submit a short article outlining the nature of their business.

The W.I. would like to thank those who contributed and is pleased to include all the entries which were received. These help to build up a picture of life today in the villages compared with life in 1951 which was, essentially, centred on agriculture.

BILL TAYLOR
Light Building, Decorating,
Property Maintenance

TAYLOR SERVICES

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John and Sally Gallagher

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*Petersfield Road, New Cheriton
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- * *Parties and Weddings catered for .*

Sunday Evening Reservations only until Further Notice.

BRAMDEAN GARAGE

(Bramdean 771541)

(Junction of A272 and Wood Lane)

FOR ALL YOUR MOTORING NEEDS

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Agriculture

The state of Agriculture in the 1990s is very uncertain. Having worked hard during the last thirty years to improve our crops and increase our yields and our flock of sheep, we are now in the situation of having to "set aside" 15% of our land this autumn according to C.A.P. regulations. This "set aside" land cannot be used to produce anything for the food chain, to try and cut down on the surpluses that have been produced. The sheep flock will be cut down from 850 to 450 using only permanent pasture.

We are currently growing arable crops under contract for definite markets. Wheat for bread making, oats for cereals, barley for malting, aniseed for paint manufacture, peas and beans for protein in animal feed.

Farming incomes are at their lowest since the war. As regards forestry, after two hurricanes in 1987 and 1990 and natural wastage, we have been busy replanting four thousand trees this year, and will continue in wind blown areas with a policy of 5 acres per annum of mainly native hardwood trees.

Mardi Morton

Bramdean boys. Sorting potatoes in clamp. 1943



David
Gerrard

Len
Smith

Ron
Gerrard

Peter
Butler

Douglas
Butler

Nellie
(dog)

Robin
Joyce

Don
Smith

David
Cristie

Ashley Consultancy Services



Badgers Holt, Wood Lane is the home of Conrad and Elizabeth Ashley, and also the base for Ashley Consultancy Services.

Conrad Ashley is a professional engineer, who trained as a marine engineer, and then in 1973 gained a further qualification as a mechanical engineer.

After being made redundant in 1990, he decided to work for himself and formed the company Ashley Consultancy Services.

This company gives advice to industry on the suitability, selection and sizing of Liquid Ring Vacuum Pumps and Compressors, for different applications or processes. He is an expert on "Liquid Ring Technology".

Liquid Ring Pumps are a special type of machine that use a liquid as the pumping medium, so are capable of handling "wet processes" or slugs of liquid through the suction side of the pump without damage to the pump.

Typical examples are:-

Paper Making : L.R. Vacuum Pumps are used to dewater the paper pulp at the start of the paper making machine.

Food Processing: L.R. Vacuum Pumps are used to reduce the pressure in process vessels to ensure that the product boils at a lower temperature, and hence reduces energy costs. An example of this is jam making and sugar refining.

Oil Refining: L.R. Vacuum Pumps are used to reduce the pressure in distillation columns to produce the different oil fractions (petrol, diesel, paraffin) and hence save energy. L.R. Compressors are now used to recover the flare gas (that was once burnt off) and use it as fuel. At Esso Fawley they have this system, which saves about £1,000,000 per year in fuel costs with the added benefit of reducing air pollution.

Pharmaceutical Industry: L.R. Vacuum Pumps are used to reduce the pressure in vessels, and hence temperature, when microwave drying very costly drugs and products that are heat sensitive and, if allowed to heat up, would be damaged.

Conrad Ashley

George Cann - Garden Machinery

George started the business nearly 20 years ago, literally single-handed in a garden shed. Over the next six years or so he moved into a corner of a building at Laceys Farm, adding some help along the way. In the late seventies George's son, Steve, joined the business and gradually it expanded into different buildings around the site. With an opportunity to acquire the freehold in the middle 80's a major refurbishment programme started with new workshops, showroom and stores being constructed.

The whole process of expansion has always been gradual and Steve hopes to carry on in the family tradition with the help and support of loyal customers and staff.

Steve Cann

Butler and Partners

Doug Butler started the firm Butler and Partners with two friends twenty five years ago. They carry out electrical and plumbing work.

Doug is the third generation of his family to live in the village.

Doug Butler

GEORGE CANN

GARDEN MACHINERY

TEL Bramdean 771800

LARGE SELECTION ON DISPLAY

SHOWROOM & WORKSHOP

AT

LACEYS FARM on A272

The National Trust at Hinton Ampner

On the death of Lord Sherborne in 1985, Hinton Ampner Estate came under the management of the National Trust, according to the terms of Lord Sherborne's legacy.

This involved some considerable changes in management policy, as it was necessary for the Trust to run the property from funds generated from within the estate, and also to comply with the Trust's commitment to preservation and public access.

Various options for the mansion were considered as running and maintenance costs had to be met, and the Trust was keen to allow some public access. It was decided that the best course of action was to find a tenant who would accept the opening of the important room to the public.

Accordingly, the gardens were opened in June 1986, and the house was let to a tenant, Mr. C. Shaw, and opened to the public from April 1987.

For two seasons the tea room was run very successfully by Bramdean and Hinton Ampner W.I. In 1988 the catering facilities came under the management of the National Trust Enterprises. Originally conceived as a non-profit-making visitor service, the tea room operated at a profit whilst still providing a pleasant, homely service with home-made teas and cakes baked locally.

At the end of 1990, the garden restoration proper began, to undertake a backlog of work which extended back many years. By the end of 1991 visitor numbers had jumped to almost 25,000, a figure which was repeated in 1992, despite an unusually wet summer and a period of severe recession in the tourist industries.

The garden restoration is scheduled to continue until 1996, during which time it is hoped that visitor numbers will continue to increase. This will enable the National Trust to maintain Lord Sherborne's unique creation in the foreseeable future whilst allowing the visiting public to enjoy and share in that creation.

The Trust is very keen to maintain close relations with the local community. To this end, a special open evening for local residents was held in 1991, and it is hoped to be able to follow this with similar events in years to come.



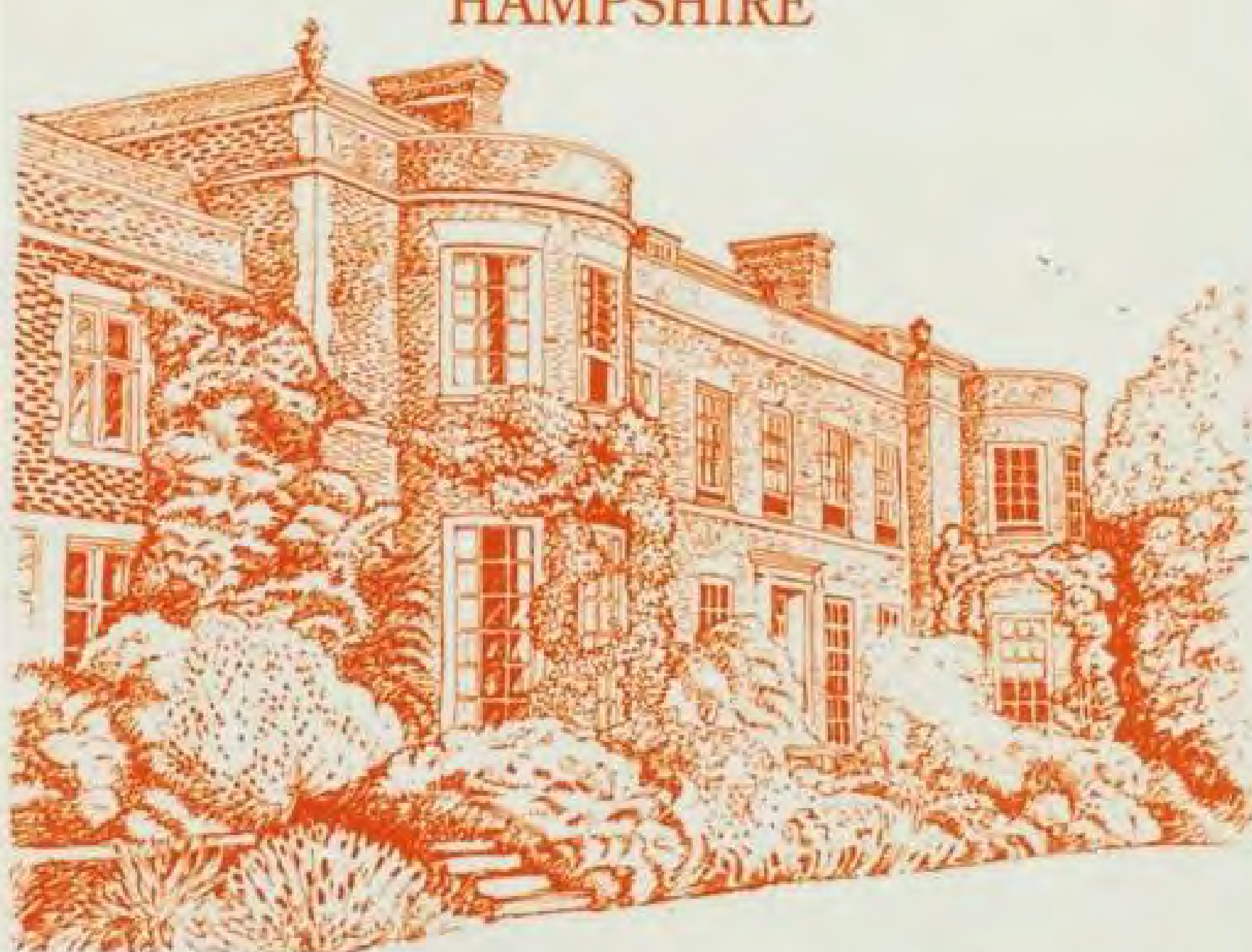
A continuing programme of restoration of buildings in Trust ownership in the village is under way, and although progress is initially slow because of financial constraints, the considerable backlog of repairs needed to cottages is being fitted into a planned programme of maintenance as part of the Trust's obligation to the estate as a whole.

The success of the project has been dependent from the beginning on the knowledge, experience and co-operation of those of Lord Sherborne's staff and local residents who have continued to be associated with the property as employees and voluntary helpers of the National Trust, and we look forward to a continuation of this association.

Nick Brooks

Hinton Ampner

HAMPSHIRE



On A272 1 mile west of Bramdean Village, about 8 miles east of Winchester. Entrance for cars through main gates on A272 (ignore signs to village). Special entrance for coaches only through village.

It is the site and surroundings which provide the principal charm of Hinton Ampner. The house which now stands with wide views over the placid Hampshire landscape, has suffered a chequered history. It was remodelled in the Georgian style in 1936 by Ralph Dutton, the 8th and last Lord Sherborne, and is a tribute to the energy and devotion of this man. Having lovingly restored and refurnished his home, he relinquished it to a school during the war and then saw it decimated by fire in 1960. Undaunted, he rebuilt and refurbished the house with fine Regency furniture, pictures and porcelain.

The gardens juxtapose formality of design and informality of planting, producing delightful walks with many prospects and unexpected vistas.

Bruce Newson - Cabinet Maker

Having served for 18 years in Her Majesty's Royal Navy as an electronic engineer, Bruce Newson decided to change careers. On the 7th August 1992 he left the Senior Service to set up business as a self employed cabinet maker.

Working from the small workshop attached to his home (Fir Tree Cottage, Wood Lane) Bruce Newson produces unique hand crafted pieces of furniture commissioned to his customers' requirements of style, colour and finish.

He prefers traditional, functional styling rather than the artistic interpretations of modern furniture designers.

An example of his work can be found in the church of St Simon & St Jude, Bramdean. The Lectern, commissioned by the late Reverend Humphrey Llewelyn in memory of his wife Margaret, is made in Amercian White Oak and designed to reflect the pillars and arches found in the church.

Bruce Newson



Woodlands Kindergarten



Woodlands Kindergarten has been meeting in Bramdean Village Hall every morning for the past six years, and caters for approximately eighteen, three to five year olds. The children are introduced to the basic principles of reading, writing and number work. Some time is also spent in painting, craft work, singing games, music-making and dancing. Other activities include cooking (and eating the results) and on fine mornings we play outside in the garden.

The Kindergarten is a non-profit making venture and children come from Bramdean and the surrounding villages.

Joan Bate

Additional Local Businesses trading in Bramdean

1992

Bramdean Garage
Bramdean Shop and Tea Room
J.M. Butler and Co., accountants
Dave Butler, plumber
The Fox Inn
The Jolly Farmer
Lewis Communications, business language centre
M. Payne, tree stump removal
Pandora Printing Services
Snakes and Adders, timber
Taylor Services, property maintenance
B. & A.J. Willis, builder



Reminiscences

I have lived in Bramdean for 70 years and have seen many changes and not all for the better. We had a bus into Winchester twice a week. Before the Hants & Dorset came around Mr. Trott would take our pushchairs and some times a pram, if he had room. Five butchers delivered meat and now we have none. Several bakers came out from Alresford and West Meon delivering bread and cakes as well as our own local baker where you could take your joint to roast on Sundays in the hot oven.

There were two local shops, also a Boot and Shoe repairer and a Taxi for hire, Mr Pat Bead.

We haven't even got a Post Office or a policeman in the village now.

E. Joyce

Mrs Joyce, founder member of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner W.I.



Bramdean and Hinton Ampner W.I.

1993 Update

January	Work commenced on the development of five detached houses, The Spinney, behind Bramdean village hall.
January 9th	W.I.'s New Year party for the village children.
January 28th	Diana Snagge's first grandchild, Thomas, was born.
February	Diana Snagge attended Denman College.
March 29th	Drama Festival. A red star was awarded to the Institute.
March 30th	Anne Newson's second child, David Jonathan, was born.
April	The Institute won the first prize in the collage competition at the Alresford Group Spring Meeting.
April 24th	The marriage of Jenny Jones to Mike Bryan.
June 19th	Judith Willis's third grandchild, Callum, was born.
July 6th	Doris Abrahams's 80th birthday.
July 23rd	Sue Gerrard's daughter, Alison, graduated from the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, London with a 2:1 in History and Politics.
July 29th	Mrs Joyce died, age 94 years.
July 31st	Audrey Elliot moved house from Kilместon to Alresford.
August 31st	Bramdean Shop and Tea Room ceased trading.
September 4th	The Institute won third prize in the W.I. flower arranging competition at the Alresford Show with an arrangement entitled, "Mother Teresa of Calcutta".
September	The Schoolhouse at Hinton Ampner was bought by Sue Firth and husband.

October Diana Snagge's youngest daughter, Henrietta, started reading Medicine at University College, London.

October 17th The baptism of David Jonathan Newson followed by a tea party provided by the Institute.

October 30th Ivy Williams died, age 85 years.

December 4th Betty and Peter Day celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.



The Institute's collage

Acknowledgements

This Scrapbook has been compiled and edited by members of Bramdean and Hinton Ampner W.I. in conjunction with many villagers. The W.I. is indebted to all who submitted entries for the Scrapbook which have helped create an image of the villages as they are today.

Artwork by Diana Snagge and Anne Newson

Edited by Anne Newson

Photographs by Ron and Sue Gerrard

Sketch map by Bruce Newson

Type-setting and lamination by Pandora Print Services

Watercolour frontispiece by Diana Snagge

