

The Bread Stones at Great Wishford, 2015

Bread Rationing

Built into the wall of St Giles's churchyard, at Wishford, near Salisbury, are curious tablets recording the price of bread in 1800, 1801, 1904, and 1920.

Now another tablet is to be added which will be a permanent memorial to bread-rationing.

The parishioners deciding on this at their annual church meeting last night agreed that the stone should record that bread-rationing was in operation in Britain from 1946-1948.

The tablets in the wall show that bread in 1800 cost 3s. 4d. per gallon; in 1801, 3s. 10d.; in 1904, 10d.; and in 1920 2s. 8d. The cost of bread today is 1s. 10d. per gallon.

A gallon today [1950] consists of four 1³/₄ lb. loaves, which cost 5¹/₂d. each.

Nottingham Evening Post, Wednesday, 12 April 1950

©Wiltshire OPC Project/2016/Maureen Withey