

# The Parish History

**Stratton St. Margaret**, once a village, has now become the north-east part of Swindon and is rapidly becoming suburbanised. Until WWI Stratton had its own School Board, Fire Brigade from 1905, they competed in West Midlands Competition at Gloucester in 1913 (*The Gloucester Journal 19-07-1913*),

and a Brass band.

Stratton derives its name from the Latin strata ("paved way" or "street") after the former Roman road whose course traverses the parish north to south which ran from Glevum (Gloucester) via Corinium (Cirencester) to Durocornovium (Wanborough) where there was a Roman settlement on to Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester). Circular pre-historic earthworks were found between Stratton & Swindon New Town in fields of Marsh Farm, Late Mesolithic finds were found when Crematorium was built dating to 8000-5100 BC.

According to in *Dugdale's Monasticon Volume 6 Part* 2 there was an Alien Priory here in 1056, In 1131

The priory of St. Mary Magdalene at Farleigh owned lands at Stratton. Later the main estates of the Priory of Bradenstoke in Scipe hundred were in Stratton St. Margaret and Upper Stratton. In the former the priory had ½ hide, with some meadow, and rents, granted by Ralph de Arguges before 1232. His son Everard gave more rents and land and sold land to the priory because he needed money. Bradenstoke had a windmill in Stratton St. Margaret and received grants of land from other donors both here and in Upper Stratton. The manor was worth 25s. in 1291. *A History of the County of Wiltshire, Vol3*.

The Domesday Book of 1086 records the toponym Stratone, when the parish was held by Nigel, physician to William the Conqueror.

**Doomsday Translation** – STRATONE Owner Spirtes, a priest, Tenant Nigel the Physician - originally in the hundred of Scipe, afterwards in that of Highworth. There are two manors, Stratton Superior and Inferior, recorded in the Nom. V: II, both of which, from the large extent of this estate, which was assessed at thirty hides, are no doubt included in it. The village consisted of three hamlets: The Street; the area around Green Road and Dores Road and including the few houses at Kingsdown and Stratton Green, mainly around Tilleys Lane. Footpaths and coffin-ways joined the hamlets, in 1086 there were 24 villagers, 18 small holders & 12 ploughs. The mill was worth 2/-. Land was 8f x 5f to meadow and 1 league x 5f to Pasture.

The Parish was in the Hundred of Cricklade, Cricklade parliamentary borough, North Wilts & the bishopric of Gloucester & Bristol, at some point before 1194 the separate hundred of Scipe was merged with that of Worth and encompassed an area bounded by Marston Maisey, Lydiard Millicent, Stratton St Margaret.

During the 13th century there was established a Benedictine Priory opposite the old vicarage this was confiscated in 15th century by Henry VI and presented to King's College, Cambridge. C.1233 Bradenstoke Priory (Simeon, prior) to John de Harnhull, shows a Grant of land in Stratton St. Margaret sold to them by Everard de Arguges<sup>1</sup>: In Saxon times it was a market town held at the manor on a Thursday granted 12 Jun 1257 by Henry III by charter to Baldwin de Insula and also had a fair (St. Margarets 21-23July). In extract from The Commercialisation of English Society, 1000-1500 By R. H. Britnell - 'In 1280 Adam Hoget was said to have sold 4 ells of linen, where the linen merchants were, at Stratton St Margaret Fair and on the third day of the fair at Stratton St Margaret (Wilts) 1282 a horse and three mares were separately claimed and proved in the associated Hundred court'. The bailiff from 1269 to 1286 was one John Aylmer he was succeeded in 1287 by Henry le Bedel. Isabel de Forz, Countess of Aumale held the parish in 1276 when she passed it over to Walter de Stratton who held it to 1289. Walter De Merton, Bishop of Rochester had a rectorship here and bought the Manor which he presented to Merton College, Oxford who retained an interest right up to recent times. In 1316 Queen Margaret had Upper & Lower Stratton in dower and began the association. During the Civil War Stratton sided with the King. In 1363 Humphrey de Bohun had the Manor, when his estate was divided in 1421 Lady Anne Plantagenet (Countess of Stafford) inherited the estate. In 1372 there was an inquest into the age of Thomas Canynges of Stratton, so that he could inherit, as his guardian raised no objection his birth in 1361 was accepted. Around 1400 there were 4 houses mentioned in area owned by Braose family and in 1439 2 of these were bought by Lord Hungerford and given to his son Sir Edmund of Down Ampney. In 1445 it is mentioned as "Margrete Stratton" and had passed to her husband's nephew Humphrey Stafford (Duke of Buckingham), by 1445 a report states the Grange to be roofless & thatch rotten. In 1450 there was a petition to King to sort out ownership of Stratton between Kings College, Cambridge and Merton College, Oxford, this was finally settled in 1494. 1484 sees Sir John Savile given land in the South including the manor of Stratton St Margaret in Wiltshire. In 1491 Stratton was on lease to a Hugh Auseley. 1554 shows a grant to Sir Thomas Bridges. During the 17th century English Civil War, Parliamentarian troops camped at Penhill reportedly stabled their horses in the church. In a Church census of 1676, there were 289 people registered. During the 19th century Ermin Street was used by Welsh drovers taking their cattle and sheep to Smithfield's, London. There was also a village Feast or Revel on first Monday in August for a week which included sports such as 'back-swording', in 1845 a prize of £2 was offered for winner of Single-Stick at the Jacobs Ladder public house, well known contestants of 19th century were Abraham, Peter & Richard Pinnock, George Hinder, George Gregory, Richard Slade & John Lewis. By 1858 this had become more of a family event with country sports.

In various other documents Stratton names are mentioned; 1093 aettam penn (Penhill), 1227 Kingsdown,1277 Slade Keys in Oxford Rode, 1278 Henry de Dochull

The stocks were situated next to The Jacobs Ladder.

In 1793 the first Toll House was built in Stratton Road, where Marshgare is now, by a Mr Wicks. A Deal board house was built at cost of £7 10s this was later replaced by a Stone building at the cost of £61, In 1855 it was let at £170 per annum. (Jacksons Oxford Journal 13-10-1855), which also mentions two additional Toll Gates at Bury Gate and Side Gate at £92 per annum.

CATTLE PLAGUE – At the end of 1865 it was reported in local papers that there was a Cattle Plague in the local area including Stratton and there was a complete ban on all movement of livestock until it could be brought under control. *Reading Mercury 23-12-1865* 

1877 – Overnight storm on Wednesday caused an Elm in Mr. Gauntlet's field, to crash onto the tomb of Mr. T Day, breaking the crown of the vault, at Kingsdown an Elm fell across the roadway. *Swindon Advertiser 20-10-1877*.

1879 – Proposal to extend Swindon into Stratton and Rodbourne. After the enquiry held at the Mechanic's Institute, one of the examiners, Major Hector Tulloch arranged a walk around the affected areas. *Swindon Advertiser 27-10-1879*.

1887 Jubilee Celebration – In the village, 900 children were provided with a free tea at Madcraft by Mr. T Arkell of Kingsdown, about 40 older residents were given a tea by Mrs. Crawhall and friends at the Nation School. Many residents were provided for by a committee set up for the occasion. The children met at Upper Stratton schools and marched through Kingsdown to the parish church, headed by a band, stopping at National School to pick up Lower Stratton children. Swings, Coconuts, and an Aunt Sally were laid on in the field along with some sports. The village had been decorated with several arches and proceedings finished with 'God Save the Queen!'. *North Wilts Herald* 24-06-1887.

In 1889 there was a proposal tabled to include Stratton St Margaret into New Swindon, this was rejected.

During the late 1890's proper roads, drainage and sewers were installed to the parish.

The area of the parish was originally much larger. GORSE HILL was a hamlet of one or two houses and a public house called the 'Tabernacle', it grew through the building of Avening, Chapel, Hinton, and Bright Streets, and the long terraces on the west side of the Cricklade Road. Both districts were taken into the local board area for public health purposes in 1880; it was joined to New Swindon for all purposes by order of Wilts County Council, confirmed by Local Government Board Order, dated 24 September 1890.

Stratton Fire Brigade was originally a group of volunteers in the 19th century becoming a full uniformed Brigade in 1905 when a fire house was built on a corner of the allotments in Station Road, *Swindon Advertiser 17-11-1905*, Francis GLYNN, captain of Fire Brigade has offered to train Workhouse staff in fire drill. Swindon *Advertiser 11-08-1905*. Revd. F. Burgess being an active member of the crew. *Swindon Advertiser 18-08-1905*, Captain E F Glynn retired in 1910 with a tea on the lawn at his house in The Close, both he and his wife we given gifts from the new chief officer, A G Keene. *Swindon Advertiser 12-08-1910*. Joseph Spenser of Hyde Road was a fireman. The Brigade finally merging with Swindon in 1924.

1901, 22 Jan and the villagers repeatedly call into Telegraph Office for updates on Queen Victoria's health, on hearing of her death all the village draw shutters or blinds. *Swindon Advertiser 25-01-1901*.

1902, A Willow tree was planted in High Street, last Saturday, to commemorate coronation of King Edward VII, by Mr F A Blake, the tree is a gift from Mr T Arkell. *Swindon Advertiser 28-11-1902*.

In 1903 there was a public enquiry into supplying Stratton with a proper water supply at a Public Loan cost of £6220. Swindon Advertiser 01-05-1903. This and the new Electric supply were agreed in November. Swindon Advertiser 20-11-1903.

In 1904 The new Sewerage works were completed, although late due to weather and ground conditions. *Swindon Advertiser 12-02-1904*.

permission was given for Telegraph posts to be erected between Stratton and Blunsdon. Swindon Advertiser 23-09-

In 1904/5 Stratton to Apply for Urban Powers, Swindon Advertiser 28-10-1904.,

Resolution 05-01-1905, "That application be made to The County of Wilts, under section 17 Local Government Act, 1888, for powers of local self-government, constituting the whole parish of Stratton St. Margaret, an Urban District." Swindon Advertiser 07-05-1905.

Swindon Borough Council originally oppose Parish Councils application for Urban Powers, to enable road repairs etc., 14 votes to 4. *Swindon Advertiser 05-05-1905*.

Swindon Borough Council agreed to a commission to investigate the issue. Mr Arkell objected but was overruled. Swindon Advertiser 19-05-1905 It was agreed the Clerk should appear at the Parish's representative at the inquiry.

Wilts Council ordered any Inquiry on same for 22 July 1905 at 2 pm at the Workhouse. Swindon Advertiser 30-06-1905.

The Inquiry, although acknowledging Stratton was a fast-growing area suggest rejection of Powers. *Swindon Advertiser 17-11-1905.* 

#### W.W I.

As part of Queen Alexandra's 'Eggs for the wounded' campaign, Mrs A. M. Sellers of Stratton co-ordinated the collection of eggs for the area, and a lady collector was appointed for each village in the district. The first adverts appeared in January 1915 and eggs were sent as far as France. In total £355 was collected in cash and nearly 162 thousand eggs.

Charles BARNES, Green Lane, had 8 sons who enlisted, at least one died and another was reported missing.

In 1928 another small part of the parish was taken over by Swindon Borough Council. *The Western Daily Press 02-10-1928.* 

In 1931/32 the Parish was divided into 2 St Margaret's and St Phillip's.

West End was an area of fields and cottages mostly built on now by the Pressed Steel (BMW) car plant, West End Road was originally call Pump lane after the deep well hand pump installed at the end of road in Swindon Road, after a Cholera epidemic, it was removed during road widening works in 1989, the row of terraced cottages was originally called West End Terrace. Balls farmhouse now demolished was dated 1691. At the top of West End Road were the last two thatched cottages in Lower Stratton, the last occupant being Mrs Mulcock, they were demolished after 1960's gales brought a tree down across their roofs. Edward Day had a clay pit here for his brickworks, used by the locals for fishing, swimming and ice skating in winter it was filled in when the factory was built. One of the street's Day's Close is named after him. At the top end of the road a footpath leads up to and joined the coffin way to Upper Stratton. It was the people of Pump Lane and Tilley's lane that made up the nucleus of Stratton Green Baptist Chapel.

A <u>Parish Council</u> has served Stratton St Margaret as part of <u>The Local Government Act 1894</u> which introduced elected councils at district and parish level. The present Parish Council dates from 1973 following <u>The Local Government Act 1972</u> the first clerk being John Elwyn Thomas

The large corporation housing scheme at PINEHURST was planned by <u>Sir Raymond Unwin</u> (1863-1940) just after 1918. In 1928 the borough boundary was extended to take in these parts of Stratton St. Margaret. At the same time, the first Council Estate was built at Wildern Square originally named 'The Quadrangle', another in Kingsdown Road was originally called 'The Crescent' but is now part of Beechcroft Road and other groups of houses were built in Green Road and Kingsdown Road.

14th May 1932 - An 'Air Pageant' was held on fields of Penhill Farm Upper Stratton.

7th November 1935 at 3:00pm Mr Darling County Councillor planted a Cedar Tree at the Recreation Ground in commemoration of King George V Silver Jubilee. The tree was donated by Mr Blake JP.

5<sup>th</sup> June 1936 – A 2-seater fighter aircraft piloted by Pilot Officer Harold Morley Starr crashed in field at Stratton. Both he and Aircraftsman T W McCarthy were treated at Victoria Hospital.

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1940

In the summer of 1940 members of Stratton St Margaret Women's Institute bottled more than 800lbs of jam.

William Arthur Brettall, 24, of 37 Kingsdown Road, member of Church of Christ, was put on Conscientious Objectors list and tasked with manual or farm work. *North Wilts Herald 12-04-1940.* 

National Service Industrial Hostel built for labourers at Vickers Aircraft Factory. After the war it was used for refugees, then for first employees as Pressed Steel and latterly for homeless. Demolished. In 1970's.

15<sup>th</sup> August and a string of 20 bombs landed by Catsbrain Farm, the nearest attempt to hitting the Short Aircraft site.

In February Stratton applied to set up its own Air Training Corps. Mr H H W Brice, Senior School Headmaster was to be 1<sup>st</sup> Commander. *North Wilts Herald 07-02-1941*. By April they were holding social evenings at the British Legion to raise funds. *North Wilts Herald 25-04-1941*.



On Sunday 7th December 1941 at about 10:10, while children were waiting to go into Sunday school, a Canadian spitfire pilot, Sergeant Norman W. Barbeau, R/88806 of Canadian Air Force, aged 20, crashed his Mark 1a Spitfire X4354 in Ermin Street cutting the Lime tree at Church Street junction in half. Husband of Florence Marguerite Louise Barbeau, of Montreal, Quebec, he was buried at Holy Trinity, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire. The plane was seen to break up before it crashed, and one wing landed in a nearby street just missing resident who had been hanging out her washing. The local bobby P.C. Phillamore did his best to keep local children from getting too close, two boys, Reuben Scarrott and his mate saw the crash. Bill Taylor helped to cover the body with a hessian sack. On 23rd April 2005, the parish put up a plaque in his memory.

The fortnightly Whist Drive in aid of 'War Comforts', was held at the Reading Rooms on Saturday. The parcels are dispatched by the local committee from Stratton Park the residence of Mrs. J Deane Willis.

They also made collections, £18 7s 7d was collected Oct 1941. North Wilts Herald 24-10-1941.

Of about 400 evacuee children who came to Stratton only about 90 remain, a lot of their teachers have also returned, among them Mr. B Banfield, Miss Parsons & Miss Thomas have returned to Barking. Mr. G Tibbenham & Mrs. Sidewellk remain at Lower Stratton & Miss Ward and Miss Hixman at Upper Stratton. *North Wilts Herald 14-11-1941*.

Fire Watch, based at Jacob's Ladder, there are five sections each with a leader, including several lady volunteers. *North Wilts Herald 26-12-1941.* 

Forces Christmas Parcels – led by Mrs J J Deane-Willis and her committee, parcels have been dispatched for Xmas and New Year. *North Wilts Herald 26-12-1941*.

The children of Barking Westbury Junior & Infants schools were given a Christmas party on Thursday. The vicar played the part of Santa. London Co-operative Society sent sweets for the children. *North Wilts Herald 26-12-1941*.

Sid Casson was the Chief Warden and T. P. Jones was the Home Guard Captain, they had an Ak-Ak site on the recreation ground by Kingsdown.

A series of Nissen huts down the side of the railway station houses a Rocket Battery.

The Old Powder works were used as a base for the Pioneer Corps.

A Ministry of Aircraft Production (M.A.P.) estate was built at Kingsdown to house personnel brought from all over the country to work in the new Short Aircraft Factory, later to become Vickers. These prefabricated building were made at aircraft factories as a method of supplying quick easy build accommodation, they had two bedrooms and an inside toilet, unheard of at the time.

### **POST WAR**

The M.A.P. housing estate was used to house Polish Military personnel who wanted to settle in U.K. with their families. Streets in estate – East Close, Eastdown Drive, Northdown Avenue, West Lane, Westdown Drive.

1944 Neutralization lists included - Beltrami, Maria Louisa; Italy; Of no occupation; u, Eastdown Drive, Kingsdown Road, Upper Stratton, Swindon, Wiltshire. 27 September 1944

And from London Gazette 8/11/1955 - HARRIS, Arthur Leopold, 40, Eastdown Drive, Upper Stratton, Swindon, in the county of Wilts, and lately carrying on business at 2, Meadowcroft, Upper Stratton, Swindon, and lately residing at 93, Kingsdown Road, Upper Stratton, Swindon, both in the county of Wilts. Building Contractor. Court—Swindon (by transfer from High Court of Justice). No. of Matter—11 of 1955. Date of First Meeting—Nov. 16, 1955. 11 a.m. Place—The Official Receiver's Office, 26, Baldwin Street, Bristol, 1. Date of Public Examination —Dec. 14, 1955. 11 a.m. Place—The County Court Buildings, Clarence Street, Swindon.

November 1945 saw the death of 6 Italian prisoners of war working on the construction of the MAP estate, they were travelling back to Kingsdown when the bus they were on crashed and fell on its side.

In 1946/7 after a long planning debate there was a Speedway Motorcycle track at Stratton Park and in the same year a Greyhound track at Marshgate Work's site.

18/03/1950 - Wiltshire CC. Cricklade Rd., Stratton St. Margaret. Compulsory Purchase Order, Cricklade Rd., Stratton St. Margaret. <sup>1</sup>

In 1951 Swindon Corporation acquired 250 acres for a housing estate by the purchase of PENHILL Farm, fields which lay in Stratton St. Margaret just outside the borough boundary. They had also applied to rake Upper Stratton, but the County Council opposed this on the basis that Highworth RDC were giving a good service and the loss of revenue to Highworth would considerably damage its ability to fund its services. *Wiltshire Times 03-02-1951*. After a draft bill was put through parliament the following year the boundary was extended northwards to bring all the land acquired within the borough leaving Cricklade as the boundary.

It was agreed to build Police Houses in Stratton, £4,145 15s 6d for a pair and £2,334 9s for a single. *Wiltshire Times* 23-06-1951.

1952: The end of a geological controversy occurred when a three-ton stone was lifted by crane to surmount a cairn of stones on a grass island at Greywether's Avenue, Swindon. It was the completion of a geological monument of considerable importance, and a tribute to the Swindon man whose interest in geology ended a 100-year controversy. Mr J B Jones of St Margaret's Road was convinced that the Greywether stones were 40m years older than the downland sarsen stones. When the Greywether stones were unearthed in their natural sand he was proved right. *From Evening Advertiser 3/2/1952*.

1956, Stratton was allocated £193 to provide a telephone kiosk. *Wiltshire Times 16-06-1956*. In 1957 The Swindon Round Table were to provide transport to take visitors to St Margaret's Hospital, Stratton St Margaret, if the bus strike was still on. There would be between 10 and 12 cars and a 32-seater coach leaving Gaumont Cinema between 2pm and 2.30pm. The transport was to be free.

1960 to 1966 saw the building of the Meadowcroft Estate. In 1962 the residents threatened a rent strike as no proper roads or paths had been built for Witham Way, Media Way or Derwent Drive. The County Council threatened developer with court action and the work was quickly completed.

In 1961 Swindon Corporation was authorized to develop farmland to the east in the parish of Stratton St. Margaret. About 90 acres of this were allotted for industrial development and the rest was to be used for housing.

1962 sees Tony Benn open the Stratton St Margaret Labour Party spring fair.

By 1965 work on NYTHE and the GREENBRIDGE industrial estate had advanced commensurately, but since they all lie outside the borough boundary, any further account of them is reserved for treatment with the parish in which they are situated.

1963 to 1967 saw the development of the Coleview estate by Wilson's.

Between 1964 and 1978 saw the re-development of the former M.A.P. site into Queensfield estate by Wilson's.

21/04/1966 saw the official opening of Kingsdown Crematorium, built on site of the old Kingsdown Manor house. (last family were Broderstad's)

07/11/1967 saw opening of Beechcroft Public Library, this was taken over by the Parish Council in 2017 after Swindon Borough Council were due to close it down.

1971 – Highworth RDC arranged to install better baths in their houses throughout Stratton.

1974 and the parish along with Highworth and most of North East Wiltshire became part of Swindon under a Government re-organisation which saw the creation of the new Borough of Thamesdown.

In October 1977 the 3 mile, £4M, A419 bypass was opened in the October to remove the heavy traffic passing up the Old Ermin Street through the village and past its school's part of the White Hart allotments were lost to build access roads, also from Evening Advertiser 1977: 'Winning the title of "Miss Stratton" Carnival Queen was just a walkover for 17-year-old Pat Fisher for there were no other entries.' Swindon Council also issued its development proposals for Stratton for public debate the final proposals being passed by council in 1979.

In 1977 there was a Carnival to celebrate the Queens Jubilee; floats went from Upper to Lower Stratton finishing with a Fete on Grange Leisure Centre field.

1986 Stratone Village, first of the new houses offered for sale.

In 2000 the Parish issued their own 'Stratton Remembered' book with pictures, history and memories of the Parish.

15th March 2008 - a new community radio station was launched Swindon 105.5, which is one of the only stations in Swindon to broadcast local content all week. Based in the Bentley Centre, Swindon Road, formerly HQ for ISIS Construction Group, the station is run by volunteers and the Station Manager is paid part-time/part-time volunteer. It obtains its funding through seeking grants, donations, fundraising events, training courses and support-in-kind, but is not permitted any form of on-air sponsorship or advertising under the Communications Act 2003 by virtue of its location entirely within the coverage of an existing commercial broadcaster. The original project was founded by lan Rowe, Johnny Robinson, Richard Grace & Greg Stevens in 2004, who were all presenters at Swindon FM at the time, along with Shirley Ludford, former employee of both BBC Radio Wiltshire and GWR FM and who was subsequently appointed Station Manager. This moved to Liden Library in 2015.

2012 the Parish organised an 'It's a Royal Knockout' for Stratton St Margaret schools and presented all infants and juniors with a Jubilee mug. Photographs of the event can be <u>viewed by following this link</u>

2013 - 23rd June, Stratton has its own radio slot on Swindon 105.5, to be broadcast on the fourth Sunday of each month and again at 1 pm the following Tuesday. Slot to cover all aspects of life, events and history of the parish. This lasted for 2 years.

2013 the Parish re-introduced the St Margaret's 'Feast Day'. Spread over weekends in July, with events throughout the Parish, the first new Festival on the 20th July attracted around 5,000 visitors. Photographs of the event can be viewed by following this link

01/04/2015 – After Community Governance Review Borough Council decided to remove Nythe from Stratton control and set up separate parish with 7 councillors to be elected in May elections.

August 2014 – Parish have new Peace Memorial dedicated, Located at Eastern end of Grange Drive it is to the memory of all fallen.

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – New Parish boundaries come into operation, Business area around Sainsbury's becomes part of South Marston, Nythe Estate becomes its own Parish and all of Stratton wood is now in Stratton.

30/01/2018 Duchess of Cambridge visits Arkell's Brewery to celebrate 175 years of beer making.

## **WEATHER**

1860 Six weeks of heavy frost.

18/01/1881: Hit by possibly the worst snowstorm in its history. It lasted two days

25/04/1908 Major Snowstorm reported in local papers.

Spring 1938 Drought – only 2 small showers in 3 months.

February 1940 saw the great freeze which started with freezing rain which collected on telegraph wires and eventually brought the down.

1954: Temperatures reached -20°C, where there had also been heavy snowfalls.

26/12/1962 Snow started on Boxing Day and ended up lasting to Easter with temperatures dipping to -15C.

18/19 March 1965 saw some of the warmest temperatures ever recorded for this month.

08/12/1981 Snowstorm followed by temperatures down to -20C.

25/01/1990 Gales damage Grange Junior School, 1 child is killed. Locally a lot of damage is reported.

20/07/2007 Floods affect the whole area and all main roads are closed

Christmas 2012 - first white Christmas in area since 1952.

2018 June/July – extended period of dry weather and heatwave reaching 30 deg ends on 13<sup>th</sup> July with thunderstorms and reports of roads flooded over parish.

#### References:

<sup>1</sup> - From records at National Archives, Kew