

Litton Cheney Friendly Society Celebrations

The Litton Cheney Friendly Society was in existence from 1844 until 1948. The anniversary was celebrated every Whit-Tuesday with a church service and, with banners flying and the band playing, a procession around the village stopping at various watering holes for refreshments. A sumptuous lunch and tea were provided for members of the Society followed by games and dancing into the evening. A regular account of the proceedings was published in the local newspapers, some of which are reproduced below.

21	5	1853	LITTON CHENEY The ninth anniversary of the Friendly Benefit Society established here was celebrated on Tuesday last. The morning was ushered in with a peal from the bells of our noble church tower, from the top of which flouted a beautiful scarlet Union Jack, belonging to the society. About 10 o'clock the members, with their friends from the neighbouring villages, came flocking in and assembled in the club room of the school house, where the usual business of the morning was transacted. The members then formed into a procession and, headed by Wellspring's brass band from Dorchester and a silk banner belonging to the society, walked through the village to the church, which was decorated with flowers. After reading the usual morning service of the day, an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. J. S. Cox, the rector, the president and treasurer of the society), from Isaiah, chap. 8, verses 12.13, and first clause of verse 14. The choir, who are mostly members of the society, performed their part of the sacred service with great credit to themselves. On leaving the church the members returned to the school house where, in a large tent erected for the purpose, they partook of an excellent dinner provided by their secretary, Mr. Henry Morgan, the rector taking the chair. After dinner the chairman read the report of the society's funds, from which it appeared that the funds of the society amount to the of £268 9s 5d, although, having been established nine years, there have been but three deaths of members and only £9 18s paid to the sick. The number of members is 73, nearly all of whom are young men of the working classes.
9	6	1855	LITTON CHENEY The anniversary of the Litton Cheney Friendly Society was celebrated on Tuesday, the 29th ult. The members mustered in great numbers at half-past ten o'clock and walked in procession to the parish church, headed by the Dorchester band. The service for the day was impressively read by the Rev. Jas. Cox, the much respected rector and a most eloquent and appropriate discourse was delivered by the Rev. Joseph Maskell, of Bridport, from Acts iv. 32. The musical part of the service was very ably conducted by Miss Eaton, of Littlebredy, voluntary organist for the occasion. After church the members had their usual dinner in the school room. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Cox, Rev. J. Maskell and others and the members separated in the most orderly manner before six o'clock. We have to congratulate this parish upon the possession of an excellently managed and most prosperous club, much of which is due to its most indefatigable president, the rector. The day was observed in the most orderly manner and many of the objections so often brought against these anniversaries could never apply here, for in the evening the village was as quiet as on an ordinary day.

17	5	1856	LITTON CHENEY THE ANNIVERSARY of the LITTON FRIENDLY SOCIETY was celebrated on Whit-Tuesday. The members of the society met at the school-house and, after their name had been called over, proceeded in procession to the parish church, where they attended service at 11. The prayers were read by the Rev. H. Rawlinson and the annual discourse was delivered by the Rev. J. Maskell, of West Lulworth, from Genesis iii. 17-19; subject, "The blessing and the curse of labour and the message of the church to labouring men". The preacher said that he chose this subject in preference to speaking more particularly upon the Christian constitution of benefit clubs, because he had appeared before them on former occasions, and did not wish to occupy the same ground. After the service, the members of the club dined together in the schoolroom, when addresses were delivered by several gentlemen and the proceedings terminated in the most satisfactory and orderly manner. We have to congratulate this parish upon its excellent and well managed club, which is mainly due, we believe, to the excellent direction of its president, the Rev. James Cox, rector of Litton.
11	6	1857	LITTON CHENEY The anniversary of the Litton Cheney Friendly Society was held on Whit-Tuesday last. Although the early part of the morning was anything but propitious, owing to heavy rains and mist, yet towards mid-day the fog cleared away and the club had a right royal day for their merry-making. After the names had been called over at the School-house, the members, to the number of ninety-one, marched in procession, headed by the Upway band, to the church, where an appropriate sermon, from Eccles. iv. 9 and 10, was preached by the Rev. Henry Rawlinson. Nothing could exceed the beauty of the floral devices in and around the church. Nor must we forget to notice the fine selection of sacred music so ably executed by Miss Cox, the daughter of the worthy rector, assisted by Miss Eaton and the village choir. At the conclusion of the service, the club returned through the village to the tent, where an excellent dinner was provided under the presidency of the treasurer, the Rev. J. S. Cox. The proceedings passed off without a drawback of any kind, proving the truth of a fact which some have felt disposed to question, that Englishmen can meet together to be merry and to be wise.
3	6	1858	Whitsuntide Festivities. The Litton Cheney Friendly Society celebrated its anniversary on Whit-Tuesday, on which occasion the members, numbering about 108, paraded the village, headed by a band of music and attended divine service at the parish church, where an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. A. Broadley, of Bradpole. They afterwards dined together in large marquee, being honoured with the company of the esteemed rector, the Rev. James Cox, who delivered a very appropriate address to the assemblage. Notwithstanding the somewhat boisterous state of the weather, a very pleasant day was spent. The school children were entertained with tea and cake on Wednesday and thus Whitsuntide has brought enjoyment for young and old.
23	6	1859	Whitsun Festivities. Our parish was very much enlivened on Whit Monday, by a treat of dinner and tea being given to the old people of the place, the funds for which were provided by subscription. About 20 sat down to the old English fare of beef and plum pudding, with a liberal supply of good ale. Dinner over, the band struck up and the afternoon was spent in dancing until five o'clock, when tea was announced and heartily partaken of. The remainder of the evening was occupied with various juvenile amusements, such as running for ribbon, jumping for cakes, &c. At nine o'clock the party sung God save the Queen and parted, every one well pleased with their day's enjoyment. The anniversary of the village club was held on Whit-Tuesday. The weather was most propitious and the place gaily decorated with garlands and festoons. At eleven o'clock the members, headed by the Powerstock band, proceeded to church, where the morning service was read by the Rev. H. Rawlinson and an appropriate sermon preached from Luke xvi. 8, by the Rev. T. Sanctuary, vicar

			of Powerstock. The members afterwards returned to a booth adjoining the schoolhouse, where a good and substantial dinner was provided for them by Mr. H. Morgan, secretary of the club. After dinner the accounts were read by the rector, the Rev. James Cox, and gave general satisfaction. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Sanctuary, for his kind and appropriate discourse at the church, to which he responded with a few words, expressing the great pleasure he felt in being amongst them on that occasion and wishing them every success. The Rev. H. Rawlinson also briefly addressed the club. At four o'clock the members again assembled, and walked through the parish, returning to the booth about half-past six, when dancing was kept up till a late hour. Several songs were sung, and toasts drunk by some gentlemen from Bridport and the neighbourhood, who wished the Litton Cheney Friendly Society success. Upon the whole, the day was passed in a manner which did great credit to the club in general.
21	6	1862	THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LITTON CHENEY FRIENDLY SOCIETY took place on Tuesday, 10th. The club attended Divine service in the morning and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. G. Penny, vicar of Abbotsbury. The dinner, of course, formed an important part of the day's proceedings and was much enjoyed. The Dorchester band was engaged for the occasion and discoursed, throughout the day, very excellent music. The society numbers 106 members, as appeared from the statement of accounts read after dinner by the rector, who is the president of the society which is in a very prosperous condition.
10	6	1865	ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDLY SOCIETY. LITTON CHENEY. The pretty village of Litton never looked more beautiful, perhaps, than on Tuesday last, being Whit Tuesday, the day on which the villagers celebrate the anniversary of their Friendly Society. A splendid morning ushered in the day and the Union-jack on the tower and the sound of the sweet bells proclaimed, early, the beginning of the ceremonies. About 10 o'clock, the band made their appearance and bent their way to a tent prepared in a field, kindly lent for the purpose by Benjamin Legg, Esq. After all the preliminary business had been settled, the members of the society, headed by the band, repaired to the church, which, early in the morning, through the great kindness of many in the village, in providing beautiful flowers, had been prettily decorated by fair fingers. Here they had an excellent sermon preached to them by the Rev. G. Penny, vicar of Abbotsbury, on the first four commandments, taking for his text the eighth verse of the first chapter of the first epistle of St Paul to Timothy "But we know that the law is good if a man use it lawfully". And, said the preacher, every one might learn if they would, what it is to love God with all their heart and mind and soul; what is due to His holy name and word and how His own sacred day should be kept holy. More than one of those present were heard to say that they hoped they should be better men for it. The musical services were ably conducted by Miss Cox and her sisters and the little choir acquitted themselves very favourably. The anthem was one by Dr Elvey, taken from the 33rd Psalm "Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous" and was well sung. At the conclusion of the service, Miss Cox gave them the Gloria in Excelsis, from Mozart's 12th Mass, in good style. After parading the village, the members betook themselves to the tent, where an excellent dinner was provided for them according to the rules of the society, by Host Wood. After the cloth had been removed, the Rector and President of the society rose to give them a statement of their affairs. He congratulated the members on the goodly company which was assembled before him in spite of many predictions to the contrary. It had been said that they would not have many members in the new club. He was happy to say that they could muster 85 and that was not a bad beginning. The statement put into his hands represented that they had total funds of £111 7s 0d and that sick pay for the year was £15 13s 0d, the highest ever paid out in one year. There were two deaths, 1 male and 1 female. At the end of the year they found themselves possessed of the sum of £111 7s. But now (said the rector) let us examine these accounts a little. The stock fund now stood at £70 5s as against the last division when it was at £63. The interest in the year would amount to about £1

			17s 9d at 3 per cent. Instead of putting the £7 5s due to him into his own pocket, as he might have done, he left it in the club. Thus, the actual interest earned was £9 2s 9d. One thing he must remind them was that they were not a savings bank but were united together for the benefit of the sick and dying. In the evening the usual perambulation of the parish took place and, at 10 o' clock, they retired to their respective homes, nothing having occurred to disturb the peace and quietness of the village.
31	5	1866	LITTON CHENEY CLUB. The annual gathering in connection with this club took place on Whit-Tuesday under the most favourable auspices. The weather was delightfully fine and the village put on a holiday appearance, several flags being suspended at intervals throughout the streets. As a consequence of the untimely death of Mr. Fry, an old and respected inhabitant, the proceedings were shorn of a great deal of their usual gaiety. The members, who mustered in good strength, assembled at eleven o'clock and, having formed a procession, attended Divine service at the parish church, where an impressive sermon was preached by the rector, the Rev. J. S. Cox. At the conclusion of the service they returned to the field, where a large tent had been erected and a capital dinner was spread by Mr. Wood. It was stated that the financial position of the club was very satisfactory and that there had been an increase in the number of members during the past year. The band of the 3rd Dorset Rifle Corps was in attendance and .to their enlivening strains, dancing was kept up with great zest till half-past ten o'clock, when the National Anthem was played and the party gradually left the field.
6	6	1868	LITTON CHENEY FRIENDLY SOCIETY Last Tuesday, being Whit-Tuesday, the picturesque village of Litton Cheney, as is usual at this time of the year, assumed a festive appearance, it being the day on which was held the anniversary of the village club. This club has now been established for 24 years and is what is called "terminer" as it breaks up every ten years; this was the fourth anniversary in the third term of ten years. We were forcibly reminded, as we travelled onwards from Bridport, that "June, the merry, smiling June And blushing summer" had now commenced, for the hedgerows were clothed with numerous flowers to welcome the incoming month and, when we arrived at our destination, we found every one dressed in holiday attire and evidently making the best of their time in enjoying the great day of the year in the village, for there were young men and maidens and even the more advanced in years, "tripping it on the light fantastic" during the day. There was a beautiful triumphal arch at the entrance to the grounds of the rectory, in the centre of which was the national arms. There were also many pretty banners floating from the different cottage windows and on the old church tower, from which merry peals were rung at intervals during the day, a large flag floated in the breeze, as if to indicate to all around "A joyous time had come". The members of the club, as usual, met about ten o'clock in the school-room when, the customary preliminaries having been gone through, they proceeded, with two splendid banners, (given one by the ladies and the other by the gentlemen of the village), headed by the excellent band of the 3rd Dorset (Dorchester) Rifles, under the able conductor-ship of Bandmaster Wellspring, to church, where Divine service was celebrated and an eloquent and impressive discourse preached by the Rev G. Penny, of Abbotsbury, from Acts ii., in the course of which he desired the congregation to read and study the chapter at home to their great and eternal profit. Service being ended, the procession was re-formed and wended its way to the school-room, in field near which a spacious tent was erected under which dinner was provided by Host Bligdon, who catered with his usual ability, the beef being supplied by Mr Joseph Parker, of Hyde, Walditch and the pork was part of a very prime pig fed by Mr Bligdon himself. Ample justice having been done to the good things provided and the cloth being removed, the Chairman rose and said: "I will now, for a moment or two, engage your attention by reading a statement of your affairs, to show you how you stand as regards funds. The total amount in the club is £249 9s; the number of

		members is 81; the sick pay this year has been very heavy, amounting to £12 10s, against only about £7 last year. Nevertheless, supposing that your sick pay has been heavy, I must say that the society is in as fair a condition as it ever has been since it was established in 1844. For if you go on as you are going, at the of the eighth year, you will have nearly £600 in hand and then, when you divide the money, you will each have as much as when your club broke in 1864, when you divided £651 4s 7d. I have been asked to give something towards some amusements, which are to take place very shortly after you have been round the village and, if properly carried out, shall double the sum I have given and, probably, next year, I may double it again (cheers). I hope you will all remember what the gentleman said in his sermon this morning on temperance. "be merry and wise" is my motto and I hope and trust it will also be yours too this day. I must now leave you, hoping to meet together in the same way another year and also in the same happy condition (cheers). I now to return your sincere thanks to the Rev Mr Penny for his admirable discourse (cheers for the rector and Mr Penny)". Several gentlemen, viz, Mr Sprake, of Gorwell Farm, Mr Garland and Mr Fry, then came forward and gave very handsome donations towards the expenses of the day's amusements. The rector now left the tent. These interesting proceedings over, the club again formed in procession and, headed by the band playing some excellent selections, proceeded to perambulate the village, calling at the mansion of B. Legge, Esq, who received them very kindly and beer was dispensed to the gratification of those present. This gentleman and the Rev Eugene P. Legge, then gave a handsome donation each towards defraying the expenses of the day. Leaving this, they proceeded towards the rectory, the residence of the Rev Jas. Cox, where three cheers were given for their worthy rector, the Rev G. Penny, of Abbotsbury, the Rev W. Marshall and Miss H. Cox, the organist. The Rev W. Marshall, then came forward and, in a very humorous speech, thanked all present for their kind wishes, after which the procession wended its way to the residence of Mr Fry, the untiring secretary of the society, where ale was distributed and three cheers given for him. Passing on, they stopped at the residence of Mr Gladwyn, brewer, where three cheers were also given and ale again handed round and, having stayed there some little time, they made their way to the residence of Mr Garland, who also dispensed a large quantity of cider. The procession now made its way to the school room where "the cup that cheers but not inebriates" was provided by Mr and Mrs Bligdon. After tea various rural sports were engaged in, such as climbing a greasy pole for a leg of mutton, foot racing, wheel barrow racing blindfolded, jumping in sacks &c. &c. The band discoursed sweet strains to the great delight of the votaries of Terpsichore. Dancing and kiss-in-the-ring then became the order of the evening, which was kept up with great spirits.
6	6	1873 LITTON CHENEY CLUB Litton wore its most beautiful and attractive aspect on Whit-Tuesday, after the copious showers of the morning had revived the luxurious foliage with which the village is enveloped. The rain, so acceptable to the agriculturist and cottage gardener, naturally threw a damper on the holiday-keeper who, for some time past, had been anticipating the enjoyment of the annual festival. But eventually the utilitarian and the mere pleasure-seeker were both gratified, for about half-past twelve o'clock, the clouds breaking, the sun shone forth brilliantly throughout the remainder of the day and hedges, trees and meads smiled grateful responses for the "ethereal mildness", which "veiled in a shower" had on "the plains" descended. It is somewhat the fashion now-a-days to condemn the humble village club. We are glad, however, to find that the Littonians have lost none of their interest in the Whitsuntide anniversary and that both young and old entered with unflagging zeal into the simple enjoyments customary, from time immemorial, on the occasion. Although the usual routine was carried out on Tuesday, the countenances of all were at smiling, the greetings cordial, the laughs as hearty and the jokes as crisp as the first day on which the club feast was inaugurated.

		At an early hour of the morning the Union Jack floated from the church tower, and the bells, skilfully manipulated by the experienced ringers, sent forth merry peals at intervals throughout the day. The decorations in the village were but few, here and there a flag being hoisted, but the chaste little church was, as usual, profusely and tastefully decorated by the Misses Cox, of the rectory, with wild and other flowers kindly supplied by Mrs. Legge, of Court House, and other residents in the parish and by friends at Abbotsbury. The floral contributions consisted of laburnums, white and red roses, azaleas, rhododendrons, guelder roses, peonies, &c., which were arranged with great taste on the five chandeliers, the pulpit, reading desk and other lamps, whilst the window sills and communion posts were decorated with pink and white roses and beech leaves. Over the entrance gates of the church was placed the national arms, painted of ancient date, surmounting the inscription "Friendship and Brotherly love", formed of ivy leaves on a white ground. This adornment was very well executed by Mr. Marriott, the rector's gardener. The business proceedings of the day, in connection with the club, commenced at ten o'clock, at which time the members, club-stick in hand, assembled in the marquee, where, without single exception, the contributions were all paid and the roll called by Mr. K. Bligdon (one of the stewards). At eleven o'clock the men marched to the church, where an able and appropriate discourse was preached the Rev. G. Penny, vicar of Abbotsbury, who selected as his text, the tenth chapter the Acts. The sermon was listened to with marked attention the congregation present. Miss Cox presided at the organ with her customary skill and efficiency. The anthem was from Psalm lxxviii, 19, 20, "Praised be the Lord daily" &c. The hymns were from Carpenter's selection. Divine service concluded at half-past twelve, when the procession was re-formed and, having perambulated the village, proceeded to the tent, which had been erected in field kindly lent by Mr. Fry, Baglake, to partake of dinner, provided by Host Chappel of the White Horse Inn, which commenced at half-past one. The rector (the Rev. J. 8. Cox), who is the president of the society, occupied the chair and Mr. J. Pitfield (Bridport) the vice-chair. The president was supported by Mr. Fry (Baglake) and Mr. Beale (schoolmaster). We much regret that the other gentlemen and farmers of the neighbourhood were not present to countenance and assist in the proceedings, as such occasions afford opportunities for the promotion of that mutual good understanding and kindly understanding which (especially in the present day) should be fostered among employers and employed. The repast having been done ample justice to, the President rose and spoke of the warm interest which he had ever felt in the prosperity of the club and made a statement showing the financial state. It appeared that there were 71 members; cash in the savings bank £413 0s 5d; contribution*s, fines and donations received for the year, £47 9s 6d; the sick pay had been £25 13s 6d; balance in hand, £21 16s 0d. No deaths had occurred. The members again formed in order and proceeded to pay their respects to various supporters and well-wishers of the society. The first visit was to the rectory, followed by visits to Mr Fry, (Baglake), Mr Bradford, Mr Gale, Mr Gladwyn and Mr Baggs (The Mill). At each of these homes refreshments were freely dispensed and greeted by three hearty cheers. The procession then returned to the dinner field where, throughout the evening, a happy time was spent – under the canvas by some, in chatting over the social glass and in dancing on the greensward by others. There were a few stalls in the street which furnished the concomitants so indispensable to the completion of a village fete, whether it be club, feast or fair whilst Aunt Sally, all battered and torn, lugubriously but silently wooed the attention of her admirers.
6	6	1884 ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDLY SOCIETY. Another of the society's anniversaries was celebrated on Tuesday in rather unpropitious weather. However, the members were not daunted and met the excellent band of A Company D. R. V., under the able leadership of Bugle Major Foster, in the club field in the morning and then formed a procession, headed by the old flag, the band and the splendid new banner of the society, the members

			carrying the old established "wand". They marched round the rectory lawn and then proceeded to church, where divine service was conducted by the Rev. E. W. Fox, rector of Askerswell, in the absence, through the ill health of his wife, of the Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Colby. The lessons were selected from Job ii and Thessalonians xii. and a special anthem, "The Lord is great in Zion", was well tendered by the choir. Miss C. Gladwyn presided at the organ with her accustomed ability. The rev. gentleman took as his text Proverbs. x. 4th verse "The hand of the diligent maketh rich". The bells of the parish church sent out merry peals at intervals from early morning to the twilight. After the service the procession was re-formed and the village paraded, after which 'dinner took place in a marquee erected in the field by Host Trump, of the Cross Keys, Bridport and whose catering this occasion gave, as is almost needless to state, every satisfaction. The chair was taken the Rev. E. W. Fox, who was supported by Mr. R. Bligdon (secretary of the club), Mr. J. Bligdon (steward), Mr. Gladwyn, Mr. E. Bligdon and Mr. Pitcher. The good spread having been discussed and the cloths removed, "The Queen and Royal Family" was announced from the chair and was enthusiastically drunk with all honours. Mr. R. Bligdon, as secretary, then read the balance sheet of the society, which showed that, In the Bridport Savings Bank, they had the sum of £579 11s 7d. There was an item he could not give an account of and that was the interest due to the book, as it had not lately been taken to the bank. He believed it was about £7 10s and that would make altogether the sum of £587 1s 7d. The sick pay during the year had been £3 4s and during the whole term they had had a hard pull in this respect. He then showed that, in the term from 1844 to 1854, the number of members was 96, sick pay £10 3s and the amount divided £341 19s 5d. From 1854 to 1864 the number of members was 141, sick pay £163 16s. and the amount divided £651 4s 7d. From 1864 to 1874 the sick pay was £179 17s. The speaker, having staled that due notice would be given of the dividing night, went on to state that there had been some propositions made as to rules for the next term, and the first was "Can we afford to pay 7s a week for sick pay, leaving the subscriptions as they now are at 3d per week", and another "That every member will eligible for sick pay and, should any member like to pay 6d per week they should have Increased sick payment of 10s a week". These questions he mentioned for the members to think upon and they would be discussed on the dividing night. Mr. E Bligdon proposed a vote thanks to the secretary and, in so doing, quoted the following lines, which he thought very appropriate to the occasion: Now brethren members if ye all agree, We'll gie our secretary dree times dree. The procession was re-formed after dinner and the usual calls at subscribers residences made and cheers given for them. The company then repaired to the field to enjoy the amusements of the evening. The stormy weather did not deter the fair sex, in which Litton may be said to rival many other villages, from visiting the scene of action and taking a step in "ye mazes of ye merrie dance". The field was visited by large numbers of people from the villages surrounding and also by the villagers of Litton themselves, all being determined to enjoy themselves in spite of the rain.
18	6	1886	ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDLY SOCIETY. The unchanging roll of time has brought about another anniversary of the Litton Club and this year they have been blessed with glorious weather. The village was as usual very gay on account of club time and at the cross was a very neat festive arch. There was the usual assembly, the roll called and the procession, the Charmouth Volunteer Band leading it. The Litton people have splendid Flags and banners and have not discarded the old club staves with their gilded beads. Having perambulated the village, they proceeded to the parish church, the splendid bells sounding merrily under the management of certainly excellent ringers. The service was a cheerful one, the Psalms being chanted and suitable hymns sung. The Rev. Dr. Colby conducted the service and the Rev. H. Guille, curate of Rampisham, read the lessons, and preached a suitable and impressive sermon from Galatians vi, 2, "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law

		of Christ". Mr. Bligdon, jun. presided at the organ and the choir and organist are a credit to the parish. After the service the procession re-formed and a march was made to a convenient field, kindly lent by Major Groves, where Mr. Trump, of the Cross Keys, Bridport, had a fine marquee and provided a dinner which everyone classed as excellent. We found that Litton folks still retained good appetites and thoroughly appreciated the catering of the worthy host. The Rev. Dr. Colby presided and was supported by the Rev. H. Guille, Mr H. N. Cox, Mr. Miller and Mr R. Bligdon. Between 60 and 70 partook of dinner. One thing was remarkable in the Litton after dinner proceedings, there were scarcely any speeches and very few toasts. Dr. Colby proposed, in glowing language, the health of the Queen. We drink this toast, he said, with special interest this year, she has now reigned over us for half a century. He was old enough to remember the event of her accession; he walked beside his father in the procession of the Mayor and Corporation of the town where they resided when she was proclaimed Queen. Very proud he was and he believed he imagined he was a sort of Mayor too. Looking back over all these years, he was sure that only expressed the universal feeling when he said that the longer she has reigned over us the more thoroughly has won the affection and veneration of her subjects, both at home and in our distant possessions on the other side of the world. It was a happy thought choose this year for the magnificent of Indian and Colonial products now on view in London. No one could have seen that beautiful Exhibition but must have been struck with the vastness of our Empire; no one but must have wished that its various parts should, if possible, be drawn more together, welded into one mass. His friend Mr. Froude, who lately made an expedition to our distant colonies, tells us that a fervid loyalty to the Queen and to the home of their ancestors is felt by our distant fellow countrymen, a fervid loyalty not always to be met with nearer home. The Australians, in particular, chafe at the restrictions placed on their use of the flag. They are obliged to bear a distinctive mark. This they would wish removed. They would fain be Englishmen simply and bear the old flag without distinction. But, mind you, if that is to be, it must be the old flag, the old flag in all its glory, the unimpaired and untarnished flag of Great Britain and Ireland (applause). Mr. R. Bligdon thanked Dr Colby and said he had much pleasure in stating that their society though sunk in numerical strength was rich in the benefits it afforded. Their funds were gradually increasing as they now had £145 18s 3d less 15s paid for sickness and that showed what a remarkable healthy society this was to have only needed 15s during the year for sick pay. It was something indeed for them to glory over, but that was not all, as people of Litton they could glory in the fact that they had most splendid weather for their anniversary and they could glory still more in the splendid prospects which their valley afforded of abundance and he could but glory in the magnificence of their scenery and he knew that Litton was the envy of all who visited it. Certainly the glorious hills and valley, the beautiful foliage, the fine trees and hedgerows and the value of their fine and abundant springs made them consider Litton as certainly a glorious place. Even in the sacred volume he found the ancient people gloried in their scenery and he alluded particularly to Mount Lebanon which was beautifully described and, although Litton could not, of course, aspire to the magnificent grandeur there depicted, yet they, Litton people, were very proud of their village and thought their scenery was something in which they might indeed glory (applause). Then commenced the perambulation of the village and the visits to their patrons and friends. The Rev. Dr. Colby, of course, welcomed them and Mr. Gladwyn gave them proofs of his hospitality, nor were they less kindly treated by Mr. Fry, whilst Mr. Adams afforded creature comforts to the thirsty souls. Calls were also made on Mr. Saunders, the Misses Gale, Mr. Gale and at Court House. Refreshments were offered at all points and subscriptions given towards defraying the expenses of the fete. Everywhere they were well received and at last they returned to the field where gaily dressed lads and lasses were anxiously awaiting the band. When we left visitors were still pouring in, whilst the
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			strains of music soon sent scores of couples engaged in the mystic valse and, with a glorious setting sun and cloudless sky, all were thoroughly enjoying the scene so finely described by Mr. R. Bligdon.
3	6	1887	The LITTON CHENEY FRIENDLY SOCIETY held their ANNIVERSARY on Tuesday last. The club day, which in most of our good old fashioned villages is an event of considerable anticipation, was in every respect enjoyable. The early morning was a little cloudy but this wore off and, by about 10 or 11 o'clock, the weather was all that could be desired and the beautiful scenery surrounding the village, as well as the village itself, looked to their best advantage. The visitors were met at the entrance to the village with an arch of evergreens, tastefully erected with the significant words "Welcome to All" and, on the other side, "Success to the Club" painted on it. A little further up was another arch, equally well constructed and mounted with flags, bearing the inscription "Unity is Strength" on one side and "Long May It Last" on the other. The pretty little church, which has such a delightfully rural approach, was also decorated for the occasion. The members assembled at the church at 11 a.m. for divine service which was choral and conducted by the Rev. Dr. Colby. The hymn "All people that on earth do dwell" was sung to the fine old tune "The old hundred". The rector chose his text from Joel v. vii. and viii. Mr W Bligdon presided at the organ in his customary efficiency. After the service the members formed in procession and, after marching round the rectory lawn, the Secretary (Mr John Bligdon) and Mr John Tiddy bearing the "gentleman's flag" i.e. that given by the gentlemen of the parish, led the way to Baglake to do honour to Mr T. Fry. Following the leaders was the band of the Charmouth Artillery Corps who played selections of music during the day in good style. Then followed a silk banner with "Litton Cheney Friendly Society" on one side and the national coat of arms on the other. Some very good peals of bells were rung during the day under the captaincy of Mr George Northover. The company are, for the most part, young ringers, this being the first public occasion on which they have rung. The efficiency with which they performed their task is very creditable to them and their captain. At the dinner which followed, the Chairman said that the first toast proposed was to Her Majesty the Queen, which was drunk amid cheers and the playing of the National Anthem by the band. The Secretary then said he was very pleased to give such a great account of the position of the society. There was £163 14s 9d in the bank which, with the proceeds of the day's collections, would be increased to £186 14s 9d. There had been £1 12s given in sick pay during the year. Some of the members of the past year were not with them this day and had not paid their subscriptions for the ensuing term. This was, however, mainly due to the assembling of the militia, to which regiment some of them belonged. The results must bear out the fact that the society was a really good one and founded on the best principles that could be devised (applause). After dinner the members again formed in procession and proceeded around the village, visiting the residences of Mrs Legge, Mr Adams, Mr J Bligdon, Mr Fry and Mr Gladwyn, at each of which places they received subscriptions towards the funds of the society and refreshments of various kinds.
25	2	1888	ANNUAL CLUB DINNER The delightfully situated little village of Litton Cheney still supports one of the old-fashioned village clubs and Tuesday was the auspicious day on which they met for their annual festival. The village was decorated at various parts in honour of the occasion, conspicuous being an arch, made by Mr G Fry and Miss Godden, at the road near The Green. The members assembled at 9 o'clock in a field, kindly lent by Major Groves, and marched to the church, which was prettily decorated for the occasion, for divine service. The Rev. F Cox preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion and the service was conducted by the Rector. Suitable hymns were rendered by the choir, accompanied by Mr W. R. E. Bligdon at the organ. Afterwards, the band of the Charmouth Artillery headed a procession which marched around the village visiting the Manor House and other residences of

			inhabitants. The banner of the club followed the band after which the members, to the number of about 50, walked with their old-fashioned staves. Mr Tedby carried the first flag, having done so for the past 44 years. The Union Jack flew from the church tower during the day and merry peals were rung on the bells whilst the procession perambulated the village. Dinner was held in a tent in the usual field. An excellent repast was furnished by Mr W. Trump of Bridport. The Chairman proposed "The Queen" and three cheers were given for Her Majesty. In proposing the toast of "The Army, Navy and Reserve Forces", the Chairman spoke of the late articles with regard to the defences of the country. In response, Major Groves condemned the short service system, saying that he hoped, in the forthcoming thorough look into home defences, it would be seen that they had to return to a system whereby men would be induced to spend the greater part of their lives in the services of their country. He trusted that England would not only become great country, but commercial nation. The Rev. E. W. Fox responded for the navy. The Chairman then rose to propose what he said, in some respects, was the toast of the day, "The Houses of Parliament", coupled with the name of Mr. H- K. Farquharson, their representative. Speaking of the House of Commons, he said the proceedings were not always as they should wish, but to their member, as far as position and were considered, they had a member for West Dorset with whom they might well proud (cheers). Mr H. K Farquharson thanked the company for drinking his health. Dr. Colby had referred to the language in the House of Commons, but he was glad to able to tell them that stringent regulations had been adopted to put a stop in a great measure to that violence of language which certainly disgraced the proceedings of the House of Commons last year. He then proposed the toast "Success to the Litton Cheney Friendly Society" coupled with the names of Mr. Fry, their honorary treasurer and Mr. Bligdon, their secretary. Mr Fry responded, as did Mr. Bligdon, the latter giving the following statistics of the position of the society. The amount in the Bridport Savings Bank, up to last February was £193 6s 7d; interest due to the 20th of May £2 10s. and due to the book that day £18 4s, making a total of £214 0s 7d. The sick pay during the year had been 15s. and they had one death, Mr W Gladwyn being one of the oldest members of the society; Their fete fund was a little behind, but he hoped that would be cleared off that day. A collection was made and a sufficient sum realised.
30	5	1890	FRIENDLY SOCIETY ANNIVERSARY. Picturesquely situated amid the most varied and romantic of Dorsetshire scenery, the hamlet of Litton Cheney was rendered doubly interesting and attractive on Whit-Tuesday, the anniversary of its Friendly Society. Superfluous as floral decorations may seem at Litton, many of the villagers had attempted some embellishment in this direction, while more pretentious attempts at adornment were to be witnessed in the arches erected in various parts of the village, notably at the residences of the indefatigable secretary (Mr. R. Bligdon), and at Mr. George Fry's. Flags also floated gaily in the breeze at various places, and the bells pealed merrily at intervals. The weather through the day was beautifully fine and, if the members of the society were numerically weak, they lacked nothing in enthusiasm. Mustering about 40, they met about 10 o'clock and, headed by the band of the Charmouth Artillery and the stewards and committee men with their wands of office and wearing blue sashes, they attended divine service at the parish church, the Rev. Mr. Guilde (officiating clergyman during the absence of the Rev. Dr. Colby) and the Kev. Canon Rooke (vicar of Rampisham) taking the service. The psalms were chanted and appropriate hymns song, Mr. W. Bligdon presiding at the organ, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Canon Rooke, from 12 Corinthians, verse 26, "For as the body is one and hath many members and all the members of that body are one, so also is Christ". On leaving the church, the members again formed in procession and marched to the rectory grounds, subsequently perambulating the village before returning to a field, kindly lent by Major Groves, where a sumptuous dinner was provided by

		Host Trump, of the Cross Keys, Bridport. After dinner, the Chairman proposed the usual loyal toasts and the band played "God save the Queen". Mr Bligdon then gave the following statistics. The club had invested in the Bridport Savings Bank the sum of £237 18s 1d, plus interest due on this amount since July last; contributions £9 15s; fines £1 4s 3d; donations £2 1s; in secretary's hands. £1 17s 1d; total, £252 15s 4d. They had paid in sick pay £11 13s since last year and had only one member on the sick list at present. The company then left the tent, and the members of the club again formed up and went round the village, visiting Mr. Legges (Court House), the Rectory and Mr. Gladwyns, at each of which places refreshments were handed round. Afterwards a variety of sports were carried out, under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Guilde, Lieut. Legge and various members of the committee. Other games were provided, the venerable features of old Aunt Sally being assiduously battered. The strains of the band were greatly admired, special arrangements being made for dancing and those who were anxious for a spin tripped "Away, like children delighted, all things forgotten beside, they gave themselves to the madding whirl of the dizzy dance, as it swept and swayed to the music, dreamlike, with beaming eyes and the rush of fluttering garments" The company spiritedly enjoying themselves till the shades of evening came on and ended the Litton Club festival of 1890.
22	5	1891 Old Friendly Society. The anniversary of this Society was held on Tuesday. The members assembled in the morning, and, headed by the Broadwinsor Brass Band, paraded the village, paying visits to Mr. Fry (Baglake) and Mrs. Legg (Manor House), after which they attended service in the Parish Church, where an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Colby. The sacred edifice was decorated for the occasion by Mrs. Colby, Misses Legge, and Miss Saunders. Mr. W. R. E. Bligdon efficiently presided at the organ. Dinner was afterwards provided in a marquee erected in a field lent by Major Groves, where Mr. W. Trump, of the Cross Keys Hotel, Bridport, catered in his usual satisfactory style. The chair was occupied by the Rector (Rev. Dr. Colby), and the attendance included Mr A T Adams (Bellair, Charmouth), Col. Williams (Bridehead), Mr. Fry (Baglake.), Messrs. R. Bligdon (secretary), S. Miller, J. Bligdon, J. M. Moores, L. Pitcher, G. Fry, H. Greening, E. Bligdon (Abbotsbury), &c The loyal, clerical and patriotic toasts having been drunk, the Secretary of the Club (Mr. R. Bligdon) read the annual statement, which showed the amount in the Bridport Bank to be £264 11s 9d; contributions and fines due to-day £18 10s 6d; donations, £2 11s. Total £275 14s 3d. The expense for sick pay was only £7 4s, this was for one man who was an inmate of the asylum and he doubted if the Club was liable for his relief. They had lost by death two members' wives, but he considered they should congratulate themselves that they had been, with the exception of the case he had mentioned, free of sickness amongst the members. The total number of members was now thirty-nine. Mr. A. T. Adams proposed "Success to the Litton Cheney Friendly Society" and called attention to the fact that the present Government was bringing forward a scheme for provision for the lives of the poorer classes, so that by paying a small sum yearly they should, at the age of 60 or 65 years, have an annuity and not be, as many were at the present time, absolutely dependent on charity or the Union. He himself would be willing to pay higher rates to prevent an increase of indoor relief. He had no doubt the scheme he had mentioned would be carried out by the Government but, in the absence of such scheme, it was well for men to join societies like theirs and thus make provision for the time of sickness. Mr. R. Bligdon, whose name was coupled with the toast, responded and urged the members to study thrift. Mr. J. Bligdon proposed "The health of the President, the Rev. Dr. Colby", which was heartily received. Cheers were given for Colonel Williams, the Treasurer and the Secretary. Heavy rain interfered considerably with the day's proceedings.

10	6	1892	A combined fete was held in this pretty little village on Tuesday, in connection with the old Friendly Society and Court "Hearts of Oak" A. O. F. Lovely summer weather, the kind one dreams about when wintry storms are raging, helped to bring matters to a most pleasant and successful issue. The little place was decorated with bunting and several triumphal arches had been erected. At about 9 o'clock the members of the two societies, some of the Foresters being dressed in character and others mounted, assembled at Barwick, the residence of Mr B. Bryant. Refreshments were provided and afterwards a procession formed. Headed by the Broadway and Upway Brass Band, the members of the old society carrying their staves, they proceeded to Swyre where calls were made at the residences of Mr Symes and the Rev. R. W. H. Dalison (rector). Whilst in the village the horse ridden by Mr J Allen dropped down dead, probably from excitement. The procession then wended its way to Punccknowle and Look before returning to Litton, where a service was held in the parish church. Special Psalms were sung and a most excellent sermon preached by the Rev. L. B. Walden D.D., rector of Bridport. Mr W. Bligdon presided at the organ. After the service, the procession re-formed and, with flags and banners flying, perambulated the village. They afterwards repaired to a field in School House Lane, kindly lent by Mr R. Bligdon, where dinner was served by Host W. Trump, of the Cross Keys Hotel, Bridport, the catering giving every satisfaction. The chair was occupied by the Rev. F. T. Colby D.D. who gave the toast "The Queen" which was received with cheers. He next gave the toast "The Army, Navy and the Reserve Forces", which was responded to by Mr Legge. He said that he did not belong to the Volunteers at present but to the Militia, but he could say that, in both forces, the men tried to do their best. If more young fellows had their 28 days training in the Militia, with 1s a day and, at the end, a bounty of £1 or £2, they would find they had a jolly time and, when they came back again, be braced up more like men. Mr R Bligdon then briefly reported on the state of the Friendly Society. In the bank, on the 20th of April when the last subscriptions were paid, there were £302 0s 4d. Due to the book today was about £10 which would bring the total to £312 0s 4d. The sick pay for the year had been 15s (applause), which was much lower than it had been in the past few years. He hoped that this would continue for, at the end of the year, the pay-out would be good. The average amount per member was £7 15s which was nearly as good as at any time in the past. An adjournment was then made outside where there were a number of attractions in the shape of "galloping horses", a shooting salon, stalls &c. The time was most enjoyably spent by the villagers and visitors and the proceedings were enlivened with the presence of the band, who entered into a friendly contest with "grand military organ" of the round- a-bouts.
26	5	1893	FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' FETE AND DEMONSTRATION. The village of Litton Cheney put on its most cheerful and festive appearance on Tuesday in honour of the grand fete and demonstration held that day in connection with the old Friendly Society and the Foresters of the district. The bells of the parish church rang out right merrily announcing that an unusually important event was taking place and flags floated gaily the breeze, the decorations in the village being rather extensive triumphal arches which spanned the roads at various places. Members of both societies were evidently determined that the day's festivities should be in every way successful and we should certainly imagine that they were highly gratified with the results of their efforts. In the early morning rain fell and it was very doubtful whether the day would not turn out to unpleasantly damp but, just after mid-day a change for the better took place and the latter part of the day was beautifully fine. The members assembled in the morning at Berwick where a procession was formed, headed by the Beaminster brass band under Bandmaster Rogers. The members of both societies wore their regalia and some of the Foresters, in their peculiar dresses, were on horseback, while the members of the old club carried their old-fashioned staves. Three juvenile Foresters, viz., W. Palmer. A. Russell, and J. Northover, carrying beadle axes, occupied leading position in the procession. Starting from Berwick the gay processionists wended their way to

			Swyre and Puncknowle, where various visits were paid. They then marched on to Litton, a halt being made White Cross. The members were entertained with refreshments during the march and were the recipients of subscriptions towards the fete funds. The next part of the proceedings was to attend divine service at the parish church and thither they repaired. The interior of the edifice had been most effectively decorated and presented a very pleasing appearance. Special psalms an appropriately selected hymns were sung during the service, the choir acquitting themselves in a most creditable manner. Mr. W. R. E. Bligdon presided at the organ. The Rev. K. W. H. Dalison (rector of Swyre) delivered an excellent sermon from Gal. vi, 2 "Bear ye one another's burdens". Service over, the procession was re-formed and a second parade took place. This time the members made their way Mr. Fry's residence, at Baglake, to Mr. Saunders', and thence to Paddocks (Mrs. R. and Misses Gale). The last place of call was Court House and afterwards the procession wended its way up the lane the fete field near the school, where a numerous company partook of an excellent dinner, served up in capital style in a large marquee by Host W. Trump, Bridport. Mr. H. B. Legge occupied the chair and, hover, and, at the conclusion of a most enjoyable repast, he proposed "The Queen and the rest the Royal Family" The toast was received right loyally and, as in the case of those following, was accorded with musical honours by the band. Mr. R. Bligdon, in response, made a statement in regard to the funds of the Friendly Society. In the Dorsetshire Bank, at Bridport, were deposited £332 16s and they had a sum of £3 15 9d In hand, while £9 16s 3d was due to the book, making a total of £346 8s. The sick pay and incidental expenses for the past year had been £5 9s. He had to remind them that next year was the jubilee of the society. When it was established was eighth on the list of members and he bad since gone through the various offices so that he knew something about its working and if anything could be done for its benefit at the expiration of this term they would be ready to receive any suggestion for the future, so as to make it more profitable and better for everyone connected with it. During the speeches the marquee was well filled and the company included a number of ladies from Court House. By this time the fete field had assumed a most lively aspect and large numbers of people from the village and the neighbourhood were present. The band played a good selections of music and, during the intervals of their playing, the grand military hand organ of Heal's Steam Circus gave the people the benefit of such popular tunes as "Monte Carlo", &c. Then, besides the band and the roundabouts, the youths and maidens found great delight in the aerial park swings; others enjoyed the fun of "three shies a penny" at cocoa nuts, while for the juveniles there were stalls heavily laden with "stick jaw" and toys. The weather having cleared, there was nothing to mar the evening's enjoyment and everything passed off most successfully.
18	5	1894	FRIENDLY SOCIETY 50th ANNIVERSARY On Whit-Tuesday the Litton Cheney Friendly Society celebrated its silver jubilee and, as at the ordinary annual gatherings, it was made the occasion for much rejoicing. This club is one of the old kind, running ten years and then distributing its funds to the members and starting again. They were very good and beneficial in their way and, when first instituted, were a great step in the direction of thrift, as the contribution were not only paid in to accumulate with interest for distribution at the end of the given period but also provided relief In times sickness. Many of these old clubs only ran for three or five year's but most of them have given place to the larger and more modern societies, such as the Forester and Oddfellows. The time-honoured old club at Litton, however, has survived the storms for half-a century and has doubt conferred substantial benefits upon members because, but for it, many would not have been able to save a penny-piece. Mr Robert Bligdon, the secretary, has worked faithfully at his post for the last 20 years and is really the Grand Old Man of the society. Indeed, he has won that appellation among his brother members and much credit reflects upon him for the excellent way in which the club has been

managed. As in every other village in which similar institutions exist, the anniversary of the club is one of the great events of the year and is looked forward to by villagers and residents of the neighbourhood with no small amount of pleasure. For it is then that the dinner of the year, as far as the club is concerned, is held, the triumphal arches are erected, the streets are paraded, the band plays lively music, the bells ring joyously and Lady Bountiful seems to pour a special blessing, on that day at any rate.

Barnes has described this old festival in the vernacular tongue as it used to be in the olden days, but such excesses are not now indulged in, although the programme is very much the same. In place of the room "behind the public house" dinner is generally held in a marquee:-

An' after church they went to dine
'lthin the long-wall'd room behine
The public house, where you remember'
We had our dance back last December.
'An there were meade sich stunnen clatters
Wi knives an' forks an' pleates and platters;
An' waiters ran, an' beer did pass
Vrom tap to jug, vrom jug to glass;
An' when they took away the dishes,
They drink'd good healths an' wish'd good wishes,
To all the girt vo'k o' the land
An' all good things vo'k took in hand;
An' woon cried hip, hip, hip an' hollow'd'
An' tothers all struck in an' vollow'd;
An' grabbed their drink wi' eager clutches'
An' swigg'd it wi' sich hearty glutches
As vo'k , stark mad wi' pweison stuff,
That thought theirzelves not mad enough.

The festival at Litton is always particularly popular on account of the lovely country in which the village nestles and then there is another and more potent reason. The lasses of Litton and the neighbourhood have from time immemorial been renowned for their bonny beauty and this is no doubt the real secret of the numerous visitors flocking into the village on these occasions, for the hypocrisy of man is only too glad to make the lovely district a pretext to join in the country dances and feast his eyes on the fair daughters of the village. But, to quote Barnes again, beauty is not all the virtues of the country maiden:-

An' she can iorn up an vwold
A book o' clothes wi' young or wold,
An' zalt an' roll the butter;
An' make brown bread, an' elder win
An' zalt down meat in pans o' brine,
An' do what you can put her.

The festival on Tuesday was as successful as ever for, although the day opened dull and showery, the afternoon turned out fine and the day altogether was most enjoyable. A triumphal arch was fixed opposite Mr George Fry's house and Mr W and the Misses Trevett erected a similar one opposite their dwelling. Passing through these two arches in the main thoroughfare led to the church and, at various points, flags, flowers, greenery and other decorations brightened the way. The fete was held in a field belonging to Mr R Bligdon (secretary) where Mr W. Trump of the Cross Keys Inn, Bridport, had erected a large marquee in which to serve dinner. Here the members met at about half past ten o'clock and, headed by the Upwey Brass Band, paraded through the village to the vicarage and afterwards attended divine service. The interior of the church looked beautiful, as the decorations for Whit-Sunday had been allowed to remain. A very large congregation attended the service, which was conducted by the Rev. W. F. Crick (Vicar). A most appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. R. P. Stickland (Cattistock).

		Afterwards the members again paraded the village, calling at Mr Fry's (Baglake), Mr H. Gladwyn's, Mr J. Saunders, Mrs Legge's (Court House) and Mr John Bligdon's (White Cross). From there they walked back to the field where Host and Hostess Trump had prepared a most sumptuous dinner. About 80 sat down under the presidency of the Rev. W. F. Crick. After dinner, which was served in style, several ladies graced the assembly to hear the speeches. The Chairman proposed "The Queen" which was loyally received with the playing of the National Anthem. The Chairman then said that he had to speak to them about the Litton Club. It was rather new to him, but he found it was a most excellent institution and one which deserved support. This was its jubilee and, when anything could exist for 50 years, there must be something good in it. During this period it had done good and useful work in distributing sick pay to members and returning the funds at the periodical distributions to such an extent that he understood that the cost of membership had been very small, he thought only eight and a half pence a year, (applause). He had pleasure in proposing "Success to the Litton Cheney Friendly Society" and would ask Mr Bligdon to respond. Mr R Bligdon, the secretary, said he would give them a statement as to what the society had done in the past year ending at Whitsuntide 1894. Deposited in the Dorsetshire Bank £341 17s; due to the book that day £15 7s 9d; sick pay for the year £18 14s; He presumed that the interest due amounted to about £4 16s, so that the total would be £362. During the last 40 years, he would only give that period because the 50 years were not up until 6 weeks' time, the society had paid £355 5s in sick pay and had distributed £1,999 18s 7d. He was not going to uphold this society any more than another, but there were plenty of other societies that had not distributed such an amount. His advice was to look after the money. Money is a slippery store Which flies from shore to shore; Like the tide that ebbs and flows, And that's the way the money goes. Mf H. Legge said it was rather a remarkable fact that last year he had spoken to them of the loss of their vicar and now be called upon to allude to the advent of a new one. Speaking of the Rev. F. W. Crick, he could tell them that they would not find a better all-round man. In response, the Chairman said this part of the world was new to him, but when he came down he found such a pleasant welcome and such pleasant people that he had not the slightest wish to go away again and should be glad to stay here as long as he lived (applause). He had been accustomed to country life and the county he left (Sussex) was similar to Dorset, being agricultural, but nearly so beautiful. The company then adjourned to the field where shooting saloons, cocoa-nut alleys, swing boats &c. were located. The Upwey Band played for dancing and the festivities were kept up long into the evening.
7	6	1895 CLUB ANNIVERSARY This pretty little village held high holiday on Tuesday work was put aside and the day was one of leisure and enjoyment for the people. The occasion was the combined festival of the local lodge of the Ancient Order of Foresters and of the Litton Friendly Society. The day was beautifully fine and many visitors found their way into this charming little village, which was rendered even brighter than usual by the display of flags, ornamental trees and a triumphal arch in the main thoroughfare. According to the time honoured custom, the members met at the upper part of the village at about ten o'clock and, after a call at the Rector, they went to church. The march through the village was an Inspiring affair, as the members, in regalia and carrying their banners, were headed by the band o! the 1st V.B.D.R. The Whlt-Sunday decorations remained and the flowers, etc. gave a rich and pretty appearance to the Interior. The service was bright and hearty and a most appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. F. W. Crick, the rector. After church, the village was paraded and a call was made at Court House. Subsequently a move was made to the fete field, situated a little way behind the

			church and kindly lent b/ Mr. Fry. Here a marquee had been erected and a very excellent dinner provided by Mr. Henry Greening, of the White Horse Inn. It speaks very highly for the resources of this establishment that so large a company could be so successfully catered for from the village inn without going outside for help. The Rev. F. W. Crick, presiding, proposed "The Queen and the Royal Family." He said the glorious reign of Queen Elizabeth and the illustrious reign of Queen Anne were a matter of history, but no reign was more glorious than that of Victoria. The toast was duly honoured, the band in the field playing "God save the Queen." The Chairman said that they all deeply regretted the absence of their worthy secretary, Mr. Bligdon, who had been so many years a member of their friendly society. He believed he was one of the original members and had been secretary all or nearly all the time since and had carried out his duties in a most efficient manner and in a way that had materially contributed to the great success of the society, a success they knew so well that at the time every member had his contributions returned to him in full and yet all sick pay was made as required. During the last year there had been a lapse, not so much life being shown in the society. They had attempted to amend their rules and had sent them up to the Government Department for approval, but there was good deal of red tape in that quarter and, after keeping the rules a very long time, they found fault about their not being a five yearly valuation and finally they said they would suspend the society. For a time he believed they were actually suspended, hung up by the neck (laughter). He wrote several times and now the rules were in the hands of Messrs. Frost, printer of Bridport and when they were printed they would be glad to receive names and go on with the society again. They all knew the state of the balance, the £100 reserve was still in the hands of Messrs. Williams at the bank and that had, of course, laid its egg of interest this year, so that there would be £2 or £3 more and with this they would be ready to start the club again when sufficient members had joined. The company then passed out into the field where a series of sports and other amusements were indulged in.
29	5	1896	FRIENDLY SOCIETY FETE. The anniversary in connection with this Society, which has successfully been resuscitated and which, we trust, will rise out of the ashes of the defunct organisation to wider dimensions and a greater prosperity than in the past, was celebrated on Whit Tuesday. The late Mr. Robert Bligdon worked heart and soul, as secretary, to keep together the old club, being secretary of it for half a century and, although the old fashioned breaking club may have gone out of date, to some extent, in the face of the newer and more widely reaching societies, still the old Litton Cheney society, in which the members saved up for ten years and divided their funds after providing for sickness, &c., has done a large amount of good in the parish by encouraging thrift amongst the labouring classes. Practically there has been no society for the past two years but, under the influence and guidance of the Rector (Rev. F. W. Crick), Mr. H.B. Legge and Mr. Fred Hounsell, it has been resuscitated. New rules have been drawn up and passed at headquarters, extending the operations of the club and, now that Mr. F. Hounsell has taken the Hon. Secretaryship, there is a promise of plain sailing. The funds are to be divided every five years, but Colonel Williams, M.P., who interests himself considerably in such institutions, strongly urges the principles of the Oddfellows and Foresters as regards investing the accumulated funds in preference to dividing, as greater advantages would accrue from such investment. On Tuesday the village presented quite a holiday appearance and it was a gala day for most of the inhabitants. The weather was beautifully fine and the members assembled in regalia at 11 o'clock in a field kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. T. Fry, from whence they marched to the church, carrying their banners etc. Divine service was conducted by the Rev. F. W. Crick and the Rev. St. John Methuen (Puncknowle) took the lessons. The Archdeacon of Dorset (Rev. F. W. Sowter) delivered an appropriate and powerful address. After church the members again paraded the village. Calling at various establishments for refreshments. They then returned to the field where dinner was provided and most excellently served in a large marquee by Mr. H. W. Watts.

			Greening of the White Horse Inn. The chair was taken by the Rev. F. W. Crick. Before proposing "The Queen", he made a statement to the society. He said they had reason to congratulate themselves on such a fine day and such a large gathering. He hoped that such a successful gathering would prove auspicious for a favourable future. He was sure that the success of the club had been due, in no small measure, to the energy and work of the late secretary Mr Robert Bligdon, who had died since the last meeting. They had, however, been fortunate in securing the services of Mr Fred Hounsell as Hon Secretary who had shown great zeal in getting members together and he felt sure they could rival in future what they had accomplished in the past. Mr T. Fry (treasurer) said he thought Col. Williams's advice regarding investments was very sound, but it was the wish of the members to divide every five years so they had no option to do otherwise. Mr Hounsell said they had started afresh this year; there had effectively been no club for the past two years. There had been great difficulty in re-starting but they had at last got a start under favourable circumstances and they now had 55 members. They had taken no contributions from members yet but they had a balance of £3 in addition to their reserve fund. After the meeting, dancing and various games were indulged in, swings and roundabouts receiving a good share of patronage. The Dorchester Volunteer Band (bandmaster Stevens) played selections for dancing.
26	5	1899	The members of the local Friendly Society celebrated their anniversary with the usual festival on Tuesday. They assembled at 10 o'clock in a field lent by Mr Saunders and, headed by the band of the 1st V D B R, under the conductorship of Bandmaster Stevens, marched to the church, where the Rev W Scott preached. Afterwards they paraded the village, calls being made at the residences of Mrs. Bevan, Mr H B Legge, Mr Fry, and Mr. Saunders. An adjournment was then made to the field, where a large marquee was erected for the dinner, which was provided in a highly satisfactory manner by Host and Hostess Greening (landlord of the White Horse). Colonel Williams, M.P., the esteemed member for West Dorset, presided and gave the toast "Success to The Litton Cheney Friendly Society". The toast was greeted with great enthusiasm, cheers being raised for Mr Hounsell (secretary) who thanked the company for their kind reception. He said that they had in the bank at the end of 1898 the sum of £246 15s 10d (applause). Afterwards they all adjourned to the open, where dancing &c. was enjoyed.
8	6	1900	FRIENDLY SOCIETY FETE The flourishing little club at this village has in years past been singularly unfortunate on their fete days in regard to the weather. The "club day" had almost been one synonymous with "bad weather," but a delightful break has been made in this respect this year, for Tuesday, the day on which this year's anniversary was held, was an ideal summer's day. The sun shone out resplendently, and Nature was looking her best in her fresh mantle of green. A flag floated over the church, and flags and bunting brightened the village in many places. About half - past ten o o'clock the admirable rifle band, 1st V. D B.R., of Dorchester (bandmaster J. Stevens) arrived and the members, having met in the fete field, a move was made for the church, where divine service was held at eleven o'clock, conducted by the Rev. F. W. Crick. A capital sermon was preached by the Kev. K. S. Buchanan (Bradpole). After church the band played selections during a parade of the village, and calls were made at Miss Gale's, Mr. T. Fry's, Mr. Saunders's, Mr. H. B. Legge's and Mrs. Bevan's. Subsequently they returned to the field where a splendid dinner was served by Mr and Mrs Greening of the White Horse Hotesl. Their catering gave the greatest satisfaction and they received from many present on the way it was prepared and served. About 60 people sat down to the table, the Rev. F. W. Chick, president of the club, occupying the chair. The Chairman proposed "The Queen and the Royal Family" and, in the course of his remarks, he fittingly described Her Majesty as the mother of her people. The toast was drunk with musical honours. Mr H. B. Legge proposed "The Army, Navy and Reserve Forces, saying he hardly liked to apply the latter term, because what were "reserve forces" had I been very active of late, and shown that the little

			trust and consideration the Government had displayed towards them had not been misplaced, and it only led them to think that a little more would have been still more beneficial. The war was naturally the great topic of Interest with everybody and every village and town throughout the country had sent some member to the war. Litton had contributed her little in the shape of one of the most popular young men in the village, a young man who was exceptionally good-tempered and liked by them all, be referred to George Gale, who had joined the Imperial Yeomanry. Mr F. Hounsell, secretary, then gave details of the club's position. Contributions to the end of December 1899 amounted to "51 16s; fines 10s; Interest £5 18s 8d; donation £1. They had paid out in sick pay £5 15s and medical fees £3 18s. The worth of the club at the present time was £209 16s 6d, being a gain of £63 during the year. They had £300 in the bank and their numbers were 44. The company then adjourned to the field where the usual amusements were provided.
5	6	1909	The holding of this annual fete was somewhat marred on Tuesday by unpropitious weather, rain falling in the morning and continuing, with the exception of a break of a few hours, throughout the day. As customary, the members assembled in the field at 10 a.m. and, headed by the band of A Company 4th Batt. D.R. (bandmaster A Stone) marched in procession to the church. A call was first made, however, at Baglake where the president of the club, the Rev. F. W. Crick, was presented with a new flag by Mrs Fry and her sisters in memory of the late Rector of Litton Cheney who, 65 years ago, was instrumental in founding the club. A good congregation was present at the church and an excellent sermon, appropriate to the occasion, was preached by the Rev, C, O, Brutton, vicar of Abbotsbury. At the close of the service the procession was re-formed and a parade of the village made, calling at several residences. Subsequently they returned to the field where an excellent hot dinner was served, by Mr and Mrs Greening of the White Horse Hotel, in a tent supplied for the occasion by Mr Robert B. Brown, of Dorchester. The Rev. F. W. Crick presided and the usual loyal toasts were proposed. Mr A Whetham proposed "The Army, Navy and Territorial Forces". In regard to the navy, we was pleased to note that a special committee had been appointed by the Cabinet to enquire into the question of whether our navy was ready for emergencies. Many well-known admirals said that it was nothing like what it ought to be. With regard to the Territorial Forces, they were said to be better organised than the late Volunteers but he would like to see some form of military training for everyone. Mr Pope proposed "Success to the Litton Cheney Friendly Society", the Chairman, as President and Mr Miller (secretary) responding, the latter stating that the total funds in hand amounted to £218. The dancing and other amusements had to be suspended on account of the wretched weather and the band gave a few choice selections of music in the tent. Merry peals were rung on the church bells during the day and flags were flown in various parts of the village.
31	5	1912	VILLAGE CLUB FESTIVITIES - EFFECT OF THE INSURANCE ACT. This charming West Dorset village wore a gay appearance on Tuesday on occasion of the annual Club festival. Flags and bunting were freely displayed and in the main thoroughfare near Court House was erected an arch of evergreen. Favoured with beautifully fine weather the promoters could congratulate themselves upon adding another to a large number of successes. The proceedings commenced with an assembly of the members at 10.15 a.m. in the field adjoining the school where, after "roll call", a procession was formed of members and Boy Scouts which, headed by the Broadway Brass Band, preceded to the Parish Church for Divine service. This was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. W. Crick) and an address was given by the Rev. J. Pulliblack jun. (rector designate of Frome Vauchurch with Batcombe). After the service the procession was reformed and the village perambulated. Before adjourning to the field for luncheon calls were made at the Rectory, Mr. Fry's, Mr. Walden's, Mr. Bligdon's and the Court House (Mr. Legge's). Luncheon was served in a large tent. The company numbered about 60 and an excellent repast was put

			on by Host Greening, the White Horse Inn. The Chairman congratulated the members on having one of best days for many years and expressed regret at the inability of Colonel R Williams, M.P. and Mr. Legge to be present. Mr. Frank Pope said he was sorry that, since their last meeting, they had lost their good friend Mr. Fry, who had been treasurer of the Club for many years and who was highly-respected not only in that neighbourhood, but also throughout the county, and whose loss to them was great and irreparable. (Hear. hear.) He was pleased to see Mr. Fry's son stepping into his father's shoes. Hear hear). It was sad see young people leaving the villages and, if they could go back to the old days when families remained in villages for generation after generation, it would better for the community. (Hear, hear.) Clubs and Friendly Societies were having times of change and trouble, in fact they did not know where they were. With regard to the Litton Cheney Club, he hardly knew what to advise. He had not seen the rules of the proposed county society, but he thought it would sufficient if they became affiliated to it. Village Societies did much good in many ways an he hoped that this would continue and that they would all they could to induce young men to join. (Hear, hear.) He gave the toast of "Success to the Litton Cheney Club" and coupled with it the names of Mr. Fry and Mr. Brinkworth. Mr. Fry, in responding, said he hoped to be present at many more such gatherings and he trusted that, whatever happened, nothing would prevent the Club from going on. Mr. Brinkworth also replied. There was, he said, no reason why the Club should not go on for a considerable period. It had been in existence for 68 years, but "the old order changeth, giving place to new" and that was the last occasion when they would meet under the old conditions. He then explained the proposed contributions and benefits under the Insurance Act and the position of Post-office contributors, advising all those not already in a society to join one. Mr. Brinkworth stated that the total income of the Club during past year had been £76 7s 10d, while expenses amounted to £27 14s 3d. In June they divided the sum of £256 13s 9d, every full member receiving £6 1s 9d and at the end of the year they bad in hand £124 10s 9d.. During the afternoon and evening dancing was indulged in, the music being supplied by the Broadway Brass Band. Stalls, cocoanut shies, swings and shooting galleries were located in the field. At five o'clock a programme of sports including flat racing for boys, egg and-spoon races for ladies, sack and hurdle races and tug-of-war was begun and carried out successfully. The arrangements made for the day were made by a committee, with Mr. Brinkworth as Hon. Secretary.
3	4	1914	PROCEEDINGS AGAINST A FRIENDLY SOCIETY SECRETARY NEGLECT at LITTON CHENEY On-Saturday, at the County Police-court Dorchester, summonses, issued by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, were heard jointly against the Litton Cheney Friendly Society and Secretary Mr. E. J. Brinkworth, for two offences alleged to have been committed under the Friendly Society Act of 1996. -The first summons was for failing to send the Chief Registrar, not later than May 31st 1913, an annual return of the receipts and expenditure, funds and effects of the society, as audited, and the second was for failing to send to the Chief Registrar, during the five years ending December 31st 1912, a report on the condition of the society, the valuation of its assets and liabilities, and a return of the benefits assured, contributions receivable, funds and effects. Mr. Brinkworth appeared in person and also represented the Society W. J. Day prosecuted bon behalf of the Registrar of Friendly Societies, and the defendant admitted the offences both his own behalf and on the part the Society The Chairman: The Court wish me to say that they quite agree with Mr. Day when he says that there is no suggestion of dishonesty on the part the Secretary-to the Society. We think it is merely a case of neglect on the Secretary's part not to have made the returns under the Friendly Societies' Act. At the same time we consider it a-.very proper case to have been brought forward, and we quite appreciate what Mr. Day has said that the Act was passed for the protection of people who are members of these kind of societies and that

			it is necessary that the proper returns should be most carefully prepared. The Court decides to convict, and defendant will be fined £1 in each case, including costs. The costs of the Court in each case will be 7s, and the remainder will applied to the expenses of the prosecution.
4	6	1920	LITTON CHENEY - Friendly Society Fete. The annual "club-day" of the Litton Cheney Friendly Society was held last week, in a field kindly lent by Mrs. Richard Fry. After a service at the Church, which the Key. R. C. Bartelott, Rector of Fordington, Dorchester, was the preacher and a procession round the village, the company adjourned to a large marquee for luncheon, which had been arranged by Mrs. H. B. Legge and other ladies of the village. The chair was taken by the Rector (the Rev. F. W. Crick) and he was supported by the Rev. R. C. Bartelott, Capt. H. B. Legge, Messrs. Till, Austen, Whetham, Bailey, Grimsdell and Others. About 120 sat down to luncheon. After the loyal toast, Mr. Austen Whetham proposed the toast of "The Bishop, Clergy, and Ministers of all Denominations", which was responded to by the Rev. R. C. Bartelott. The Rev. R. C. Bartelott proposed "The Navy, Army, Air Force and Reserve Forces" in an interesting speech and Messrs. Greening and Darby suitably replied. Mr. Till gave the toast of "The Litton Cheney Friendly Society", to which Mr. Gladwyn (the secretary) replied and Captain P., Legge proposed "The Health of the Chairman". During the afternoon there were sports, which had been organised by Captain H. B. Legge, including a tug-of-war between teams from Longbredy and Litton Cheney which, after two good pulls, was won by Longbredy. The Bridport Artillery Band (Bandmaster Shepherd) was in attendance and played during the day and in the evening there was dancing the green. A very large company was present.
5	6	1925	LITTON CHENEY. FRIENDLY SOCIETY'S ANNUAL FESTIVAL. The village of Litton Cheney, situate amid some of the most picturesque scenery in Dorset, assumed a gala appearance on Tuesday, the occasion being the annual fete of the Friendly Society, which is now allied to the Dorset Rural Insurance Society. Beautiful weather favoured the event, which attracted large gathering people from the surrounding district. The day's proceedings commenced with Divine service at the Parish Church, when appropriate, address was delivered the Rector, the Rev, W. K. Cobb. Headed by the banners of the Society and the band of the Dorset. Battery, R.F.A. the members afterwards marched in procession through the village, calls being made at various residences en route. Luncheon was served In a marquee erected in a field kindly lent for the occasion Mr. G. Wakeley. The Rev. St. George Edwards proposed Success to the Litton Cheney Friendly Society." was, he said, one of the few Clubs ° It was, he said, one of the few clubs of its kind still in existence, and was gratifying to learn that, in spite of growing opposition, such as State Insurance, it continued to prosper. Mr. A. Gladwyn gave some interesting figures in regard to the Society. In the annual return for 1924 their membership at the beginning the year was 46 and this had been increased to 49. Fortunately, there had been no deaths and he amount of sick benefit paid out was £3. Their bank balance had materially increased, and the amount of money now to hand totalled 4s-4d. (Applause). With regard to the Dorset Rural Insurance Society, he was pleased say that additional had been sanctioned. They now proposed to pay, in place of the 15s allowed by the State, £1 a week, and disablement benefit would increase from 7s 6d to 10s.
28	5	1926	LITTON CHENEY. Friendly Society Fete. The annual fete was held on Whit-Tuesday. The members assembled in the field kindly lent Mr. G. Wakely. A procession was formed and, headed by the band of the 224th Battery. R.F A , the members marched to church where Divine service was held, the preacher being the Rev. W. H. W heeler, rector of Burton Bradstock. The village afterwards paraded, calls being made at the Rectory, Baglake, Court House and Charity Farm, where refreshments were liberally dispensed. At one o'clock the members sat down to an excellent repast, provided by Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox. The Rev. W. F. Cobb was in the chair, supported by Mr. P. Williams, Rev. D. Edwards, Rev. W. H. Wheeler, Dr. Rees, Mr. H. B. Legge and Mr. A. H. Edwards, Dorchester. Among others present

			were Messrs. H. Gladwyn (secretary), H. Fry, W. S. Miller, C. Fry, &c. The toast of "The King " was proposed by the Chairman, "The Litton Cheney Friendly Society" by Mr. Philip Williams and responded to by Dr. Rees (medical officer) and Mr. Gladwyn (secretary). "The Dorset Rural Society" was proposed by the Rev. R. D. Edwards, and Mr. A. H. Edwards (secretary) responded. Dr. Rees proposed "The Chairman", which was duly acknowledged. There were various amusements during the afternoon and evening. A boxing demonstration by: the Dorset Regiment Depot was greatly enjoyed. A football tournament for a cup was won by Puncknoll. A team skittling competition for a cheese was won by Mr. T. Cammell, of Burton Bradstock. A team skittling competition for a silver cup was won by Mr. W. J Lock's team (Bradpole). Dancing was indulged in during the evening and there were various side shows in addition.
29	5	1931	LITTON CHENEY CLUB WALK OLD FIXTURE AS POPULAR AS EVER FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD One of few club walks which are held in Dorset took place at Litton Cheney on Whit-Monday. All the features which have marked this event since 1844 were observed - with one exception. No longer do the Clubmen pay the usual calls at residences for refreshments. The Litton Cheney Friendly Society is one the oldest in the county. Though now in its 87th year, it continues to flourish and its annual fete proved to be as popular as ever as a rendezvous for holiday-makers in the Bride Valley. The day opened with a procession to the church where the Rector, who is president of the Society, preached a fitting sermon. Then, headed by the Bridport Artillery Band and with Committeemen wearing their sashes, the members paraded the village. The fete field (lent by Mr. George Wakely) was the centre of attraction for the rest of the day. At luncheon in the marquee, Sir David Milne Watson was the guest of honour. Proposing "Success to the Society", he said that he considered that such societies did most excellent work. A most successful year was reported by the Hon. Secretary, Mr A Gladwyn in response to the toast. The Society had put by a sum of £223 9s. Of that sum £100 was capital and could not be touched, but there would be available £123 and interest for the share-out in June. Only 50s had been disbursed in sick pay. At the fete adults and children were catered for. For the first time school-children from Longbredy, Puncknowle and Swyre, who now attend Litton Cheney School, joined the Litton pupils in their sports, for which the Friendly Society gave £4 in prizes. This will be an annual event at the fete. Two girls, M Yeates and C. Wood, tied for the championship prize so a second prize was given by Captain H. B. I. egge. The boys' champion, G. Stickley, was first in three events and second in another.
2	6	1933	NOTICE IS GIVEN that the USUAL WHITSUNTIDE FETE of the LITTON CHENEY FRIENDLY CLUB WILL NOT BE HELD THIS YEAR.
6	8	1948	The Passing Scene - Last Walk of a Dorset Club Memories Recalled at Litton Cheney Founded in 1844, the Litton Cheney Friendly Society, which annually held its annual club fete on Whit-Tuesday, has ended its activities. With the State health scheme in action membership had dropped to twenty and it was generally felt that the time had arrived for the Club's legal dissolution. Inspired by Lieut.-Col. C. R. Wordsworth, of Baglake, members and old established families, in whom traditions were firmly rooted, decided that, before dissolution, the Club should walk again with banners flying and band playing as in the good old days. Thus it came about that on Saturday afternoon the Litton Cheney Friendly Society held its Club Walk for the last time and villagers and visitors looked with deep regret upon a procession which it is extremely unlikely will ever again be seen in the streets of this lovely unspoilt village. Old established families decorated their houses with flags, the large standard floated from the church tower and merry touches were rung upon the ring of six in St. Mary's tower. Mr. C. Fry was responsible for displaying the cerise and blue silk banner of the Society by the church font and putting the blue and gold standards one each side of the

archway leading to the chancel.

END OF AN ENTERPRISE

The afternoon service at St. Mary's Church was conducted by the Rector (Rev. Canon E. S- Daniell), and the Lesson was read by Rev. C. W. Wright, rector of Longbredy. Miss Olive Gladwyn (hon. secretary of the Friendly Society). was the organist. The sermon was preached by Rev. R. D. St. G. Edwards, sometime rector of Longbredy and treasurer of the Society for the last 32 years, who had come from Berkshire to be present. Their Society, he said, was years ahead of its time in its ideals, many of which were now incorporated into the State scheme, which rendered the village organisation unnecessary and, therefore, it had now reached the end of its usefulness. After the service the splendid banner and the two blue and gold silk standards, dated 1844, were borne from the church, past the grave of the Rev. J. Cox, a founder and a procession was formed. Leading the procession, as of old, was Mr. Arthur Gladwyn, for 17 years hon. secretary of the Friendly Society, who had specially come from Wimborne for the final ceremony. He was wearing his blue official sash. His grandfather, the late Mr. James Gladwyn, was a founder member. The leading standard was borne aloft by Mr. Fred Dennett. The banner was carried by Mr. M. Thorner and Mr. W. Pile and the second standard by Mr. F. Burt. The Winterborne Whitchurch Brass Band was in attendance and a number of Club members and young and old inhabitants and old Littonians made up the procession. Among the members wearing regalia and carrying their Club Poles were Messrs. William Travers. William Pile, M. Thorner, G. Thorner, F. Burt and C Greening. Messrs. C. Fry and A. Trevett carried their late fathers' Club Poles.

JOURNEY'S END

"Zoo off they started, two an' two,
Wi' painted poles and knob o' blue,
an' girt silk flags".

With the band playing stirring tunes, the procession marched, as of old, along the church path, up Redway, by the old Cross Tree, on through Puddlehole to Baglake, the home of Lieut.-Col. C R. Wordsworth and where once lived that fine yeoman farmer, the late Mr. Thomas Fry, a staunch supporter of the Club in his time. Retracing their steps, the Club Walk continued down the main street. The thoughts of many, as they Passed the Green, were of the triumphal arch which, for many Whit-Tuesdays, spanned the road, erected by the late Mr. George Fry, the last man to be seen wearing a smock frock in the village. Down to the White Horse Inn and to the White Cross Bakery, where once upon a time the late Mr. Samuel Moores, originator of the knob biscuits famous the world over, made them by hand, 42 to the pound. Turning about, the last Club Walk, with band playing and colours flying, went up the street with its silver streams on either side, back to the church steps, journey's beginning and journey's end alike for generations of folk and for the Friendly Society's Club Walk too. The banner and standards were reverently placed, prior to laying up, on the Rectory lawn. A welcome tea was enjoyed in the Rectory Sunday Schoolroom, provided by Mrs. Fry, Mrs. A. Trevett, Mrs Honeybun, Mrs Hiscock. Mrs. Han and Miss Olive Gladwyn (Friendly Society hon. secretary). A general meeting followed attended by the trustees (Lieut. -Col. C. R- Wordsworth, Canon E. S. Daniell, (Canon Trotman was unavoidably absent) and members. Rev. R. D. Edwards (treasurer) was unanimously voted to the chair. The necessary steps were taken to procure the legal dissolution of the Society. It was unanimously decided that the Club regalia be kept in the village. Various suggestions were put forward for its safe keeping and a final decision will be made when the Club closes down and shares out its funds in October. All then went to the Court House where, by kind permission of Mr. C. H. A. Newman, the band played selections on the lawn, with dancing and time honoured skittling to occupy the evening. So ended Litton Cheney Friendly Society's last Club Walk, which now passes into history, along with its 13th century wake, with adjoining Puncknowle's September veast, Burton Bradstock's veast and perhaps Litton Cheney's famous mumming play "Crimea".