

UPLODERS HOUSE

1600-1977

A FRAGMENT OF
DORSET HISTORY
BY NIGEL WYKES.



• UPLODERS HOUSE C.1750

SAECULA PRAETEREUNT; LANGUET MUTABILIS AETAS;
GENS HUMANA PERIT; TERRA LAPISQUE MANET.

(CENTURIES PASS BY, CHANGEABLE AGE FADES AWAY.
HUMAN LIFE PERISHES, EARTH AND STONE STAND FIRM.)

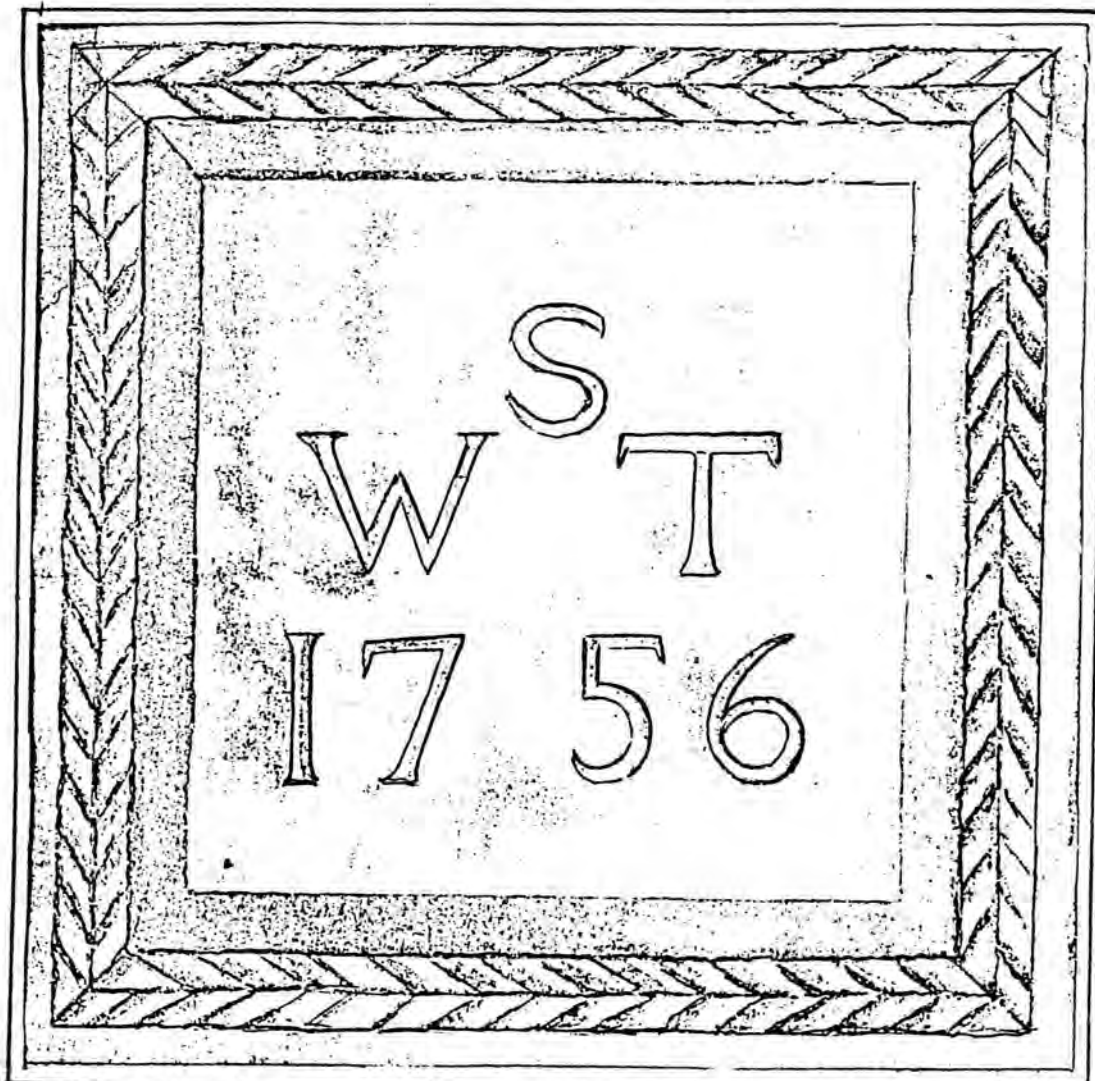
Uploders house was never, as far as one can discover, 'important' either architecturally or socially; but it must always have been beautiful, even after its purity was sullied by the addition of the alien Regency Wing. In 1600 Dorset folk built primarily for solidity of structure, but at the same time they had an instinctive and unselfconscious eye for aesthetic quality, as so many farmhouses and cottages in the Bridport area can still prove.

My researches into the history of this particular house have led to far from complete results, since all the early deeds, such as they may have been, are lost; but by diligent study, combined with most ready and constructive assistance from Miss Margaret Holmes and her helpers at the County Records Office at Dorchester; from the staff of the Bridport Library; and from many of the older inhabitants of Uploders village (in particular my near neighbour Mr. Henry Tucker, who has known the house for well over fifty years), to all of whom I am deeply indebted, I have managed to put together a more or less convincing patchwork which, with a few so far unfilled gaps, may serve to reconstruct the story of the mixed fortunes of a house which has seen so much chequered history. There is always hope that new pieces of information may come to light, which perhaps may help to complete the picture; and, if this should come about, the relevant corrections or addenda will be made in the spirit of reverence and humility in which this story is written.

NIGEL WYKES.
UPLODERS HOUSE.
BRIDPORT.
DORSET.

APRIL 1977.

COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE OF SARAH AND WILLIAM TRAVERS



THE TRAVERS FAMILY AND UPLODERS HOUSE. 2nd. Edition by Nigel Wykes.
ORIGINS.

A certain Sir John Mautravers le Fitz (clearly of French origin) is said to have gained possession of land at what was later called Loders Matravers - (a small group of houses lying half a mile East of Uploders) in 1366, but there is no record of his having settled there.

In the documents available at the County Records Office at Dorchester the first mention which I have been able to find of the name Travers (variously spelt Traverse, Travis, Treves, etc) is of a William Travers who married Margaret Dowcah (?) at Powerstock in 1610. In the Parish Register from Loders Church between 1643 and 1648 six Travers appear (Henry, William, John, Charles, Thomas and Agnes) with no indication of their provenance or relationship.

In Loders Churchyard is an imposing rectangular tombstone of a type normally indicative of some social prestige, with four panels, on one of which is inscribed the name of Robert Travers who died in 1663. Also on this tomb we find the names of his sons Matthew (died 1709) and Robert (d. probably 1726 - the figures are much worn and have been clumsily restored), and of their descendants, of whom details will be given later.

Other early records include Wills of George Travers of Powerstock (1660), Robert Travers of Loders (1688), and Jane Travers of Matravers, Loders (1698). But it was not until the 18th century that the great expansion of the family took place, resulting in some fifty entries in various records of baptisms, deaths, and marriages. I have not been able to trace the genealogy of the various branches of the family with any exactness; but the following conclusions may perhaps be drawn :

1. The family fortunes seem to have originated from the Hooke - Powerstock area, and their success enabled them to acquire land in a southerly direction, so that by 1750 they were firmly established as farmers between Uploders and Askerswell, which no doubt then as now provided good prospects for cattle and sheep rearing.

It would appear that the family settled in three adjacent domains - Askerswell (furthest East at Hembury Farm), Matravers, Loders (centrally at Upton and the Matravers Farms, and Uploders (furthest West at Uploders House).

The Uploders House Farm must at its' peak have been a substantial holding in terms of land and buildings. A M.S. document (unsigned and undated, but, to judge by the handwriting, probably the work of Richard Travers, who was a very successful farmer there from about 1791 to 1813) has come to my notice in the form of a photo-copy in which the Buildings are listed as a Barn 60 ft. x 30 ft. a Malthouse 60 ft x 10 ft. high, a Calves' House 60ft x 6ft. high, and Waggon House 60 ft. x 15 ft. x 8 Ft. The Barn is still standing and in reasonably good repair, but the other buildings do not appear to have survived, at any rate in their original form.

In this review we are principally concerned with the last of the three, since the older part of Uploders House, probably built about 1600 on the site of an earlier dwelling, has been my home since 1972.

2. THE TRAVERS OF UPLODERS.

The history of individual Houses, unless of exceptional size and distinction, is notoriously difficult to unravel, but the starting point in these inquiries came with the lucky finding of an inscribed stone plaque in one of the Outhouses of Uploders in 1972. This reads "S. W.T. 1756". Within weeks I had established, by inspecting the tombstones in Loders Churchyard, that this referred to Sarah and William Travers, who were married at Powerstock Church in 1741, and made their home in Uploders.

This plaque until recently was part of the gable wall of an adjacent cottage belonging to the House, and was taken down when the thatched roof was removed. This branch of the family worked the hills and fields within a radius of half a mile from the house, while the other branches farmed at Matravers and Askerswell, thus comprising an area of about 500 acres.

William Travers, denoted "Gent." in the records, was born in 1713 and between 1741 and 1750 became the father of three sons (possibly a fourth who died in infancy). But he was the victim of a malignant fate, since in 1767 he lost his wife at the age of 42 (born Sarah Burt, whose father (? the Rev. George Burt owned much land between Mappercombe and Askerswell), and in 1768 and 1770, ^{his two elder sons died} both of whom promised well, one as a Surgeon, the other as an Attorney-at-Law.

These tragic circumstances left him with his third son Richard, who was one of the original Volunteers for the Dorset Yeomanry Cavalry, raised in "the memorable year 1793" (so his tombstone tells us) to combat the threat of French Imperialism, and ^{he} held the rank of Major.

On his father's death in 1792 he inherited a substantial property in the area, which, according to Hutchins and Boswell, "devolved to him from his ancestors". He does not seem to have married, and certainly left no Travers heir, since, when he died in 1813, aged 64, he left his entire Estate (in value over £14,000 = perhaps a quarter of a million in modern terms) to some 25 friends and relations, none of whom bore the name of Travers.

So the Domain, laboriously built up over 100 years, was dissolved and passed to unrecorded people from West Dorset and further afield (even parts of London). I can nowhere find it expressly stated that the Travers family lived in Uploders House, but the circumstantial evidence is so strong as to amount to proof.

In the Hearth Tax return for 1662-1664, three Travers "payed" the tax in Uploders Tithing - Robert (shown as "deceased"), Matthew and Frances. Robert is mentioned on the family tomb in Lodors Churchyard as having died in 1663 (i.e. when the tax was being levied) and Matthew was his eldest son, who must have paid the tax after his father's death. Of this Frances (= Francis) I have no clear record, though a number of Travers of this name appear during the 18th. century.

In 1662 there were only two houses of any size in Uploders - the Farmhouse known as Upton (built in 1655) and what is now called Uploders House, reputed to be of early 17th. century origin and built on the site of an even earlier house. Both had farms attached to them, and it is reasonable to conclude that Frances lived at Upton, and Robert and Matthew at Uploders. Matthew died in 1709 and was succeeded by his son (another Matthew) who died in 1731 aged 42. He was the father of William, who came into the property at the age of 18.

The next convincing piece of evidence is the fact that the Travers tomb is in Lodors. There was never a Church at Uploders (apart from a Wesleyan Chapel built in 1827), therefore the family would naturally be buried in the nearest churchyard, and, as we know that until very much later no member of the Travers family lived in Lodors (then called Lower Lodors), we must conclude that they came from elsewhere and Uploders is the obvious choice.

Thirdly the tablet from the wall of Uploders House, mentioned above, is convincing evidence that Sarah and William Travers lived there, since it is barely credible that anyone would have put up a self-commemorative tablet on someone else's house. It is a block of local stone 22" square with the lettering and date surrounded by a simple decorated border, all of an only moderate standard of workmanship, and probably made by an amateur craftsman. It now stands in the disused fireplace of my dining-room.

The known facts show that William Travers and his family must have been educated and cultivated people. Of him we can form no personal picture, but his wife was a Burt, probably the daughter of a Clergyman, but, if not, certainly related to him; and his two elder sons chose professions, which even at that time demanded considerable talents and intelligence; and there is evidence that the youngest son was a good farmer, and a competent man of business, appreciably enlarging his property as far as Burton Bradstock and Netherbury.

Joining the Dorset Yeomanry when it was first raised in 1793, he then, at the age of 44, became second-in-Command of the West Dorset Troop, with the rank of Major, a tribute to the length of his purse, if not necessarily to his military ability. One is left with the impression that all William Travers' Sons might well have distinguished themselves, if Matthew and William had not died in their early twenties, and Richard had lived in a part of the country where there were more opportunities for advancement.

However traditional opinion often refers to "sleepy Dorset", and it was doubtless difficult for young men there to make their mark further afield without exceptional gifts backed by powerful influence. Every now and then enterprising lads would leave home to try their luck elsewhere, but Thomas Hardy has shown us in "Jude the Obscure" how such ambitions could end in tragedy; and he himself found from his personal experiences in London that Dorset folk were usually better off living in comparative obscurity than chancing their arm with the more sophisticated society of 18th and 19th. century cities.

When Richard died in 1813, there must have been many cousins and more distant relations scattered over West Dorset, but it is difficult, if indeed possible, to find out much about them. In Uploders in the 1850s one Travers kept the Crown Inn, and another kept the Village Shop, but I can find no evidence of any of them having reached a substantial degree of prosperity or social status.

Researches into other branches of the family have produced little but scraps of information, mostly births, deaths and marriages, as recorded in the Parish Registers available at the County Records Office. But it would seem that one branch had land in Askerswell (2m. East of Uploders) starting with John, who died in 1643.

After an unrecorded gap, another John (b. 1680) added greatly to his patrimony by marrying Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. George Burt, who owned Mappercombe and Hembury Farms (both close to Askerswell), and probably left at any rate some of his property to his Daughter. Also farming in the Askerswell area at the same time was Robert, who died in 1663, and was the great-grandfather of William of Uploders; he married Martha in 1696 and died in 1726, leaving a daughter Jane, who lived at Matravers and died a widow in 1747, and a son Robert, who married Mary and had two daughters, (Mary and Elizabeth who died in 1748 and 1779 respectively).

He died in 1776 and seems to have left no son. I am inclined to think that this branch all lived at Matravers farm, which is next door to Upton Manor, with lands on the Eastern side towards Askerswell, whereas the Upton lands stretched to the North towards Powerstock.

Then there was another branch, cousins of the Travers at Uploders House, possibly starting with the Frances who "payed" Hearth Tax in 1662-4, and probably lived at Upton Manor (about a quarter of a mile East of Uploders House) in a substantial House (built in 1655 and still in use). Another Frances, perhaps a grandson, was married at Loders Church in 1763, and yet another (spelt Francis) died at Powerstock in 1780, but perhaps he was only a distant relation.

From such scanty facts one may conclude that these three families of Travers in the 18th. century between them owned most, if not all, of the land lying in a triangle formed by Uploders, Powerstock and Askerswell - an area comprising about 1,000 acres.

There are also Travers recorded as farmers at Netherbury, perhaps by marrying into the Symes family; George married Betty Symes in 1797, and two years later William and David married Sarah and Hester, probably sisters, all at Loders Church.

Numerous other Travers' names appear in this Parish Register, but it seems impossible to discover where they all came from, since their provenance is rarely mentioned. I have not consulted the Registers after 1813; doubtless Travers' continued to be baptised, married and buried there, but my general impression is that the clan had its origins in the county in the 17th. century, rose to the apex of its' prosperity in the 18th. and declined to relative obscurity in the 19th.

By the 20th. century most of them must have died out or moved away, since I can find only one of their tombstones in Loders Churchyard - one Oscar Travers, who died in 1928. The telephone Directory shows that there are still many of them living in West Dorset, but it would be a gargantuan and probably unprofitable task to attempt to trace their origin and relationship.

As to the fate of Uploders House after 1813, I am virtually sure that the handsome but entirely incongruous Regency wing was added just before Richard Travers' death, perhaps about 1810, when the Regency style of architecture began to blossom in Weymouth, after George the Third made it famous and fashionable.

Experts may regard this as a somewhat early date, but I think it unlikely that after Richard's death any other member of the family (if indeed any of them inherited it) would have been able to afford such an imposing addition.

But it is possible that the Regency wing was not added until about 1820, when Samuel Bowden Gundry came to live at Uploders House. The exact date of his arrival is uncertain, but we know that he was living there in 1826, when his second son, Charles Bowden Gundry, was born. A recent article by Doris Gundry in the magazine "Dorset" (No. 57. 1976) shows that Charles Gundry sailed for India as an Infantry Cadet in 1844, and died there in 1851. His family must have left Uploders House some years earlier since in 1846, when the one and only Tithe Appointment Map was produced, one Thomas North, designated as Esquire, was the Owner of the House and Garden, and surrounding land totalling about 50 acres.

It is also likely that the great Wistaria, which now covers the whole South front of the two houses, was planted by Samuel Gundry. This remarkably beautiful climbing plant was introduced from China in 1816, and ten years later had become a most desirable acquisition with those who wished to make their houses more attractive in May. In this particular case the advantage is nicely balanced, since the curtain of violet blossom and subsequently delicate pinnate leaves completely obscure the glory of the Ham-stone fabric for nine months of the year.

The rest of the Estate, stretching to Lodors Matravers and perhaps beyond, must have been sold by the various inheritors, and appears to have come into the possession of Sir Molyneux Nepean Bt., the grandson or great-nephew of Sir Evan Nepean, a distinguished Diplomat, who rebuilt Lodors Court in 1799 and died in 1822.

Sir Molyneux died in 1895, but of what happened to his Uploders Estate I have found no record. Thomas North certainly owned Uploders House in 1846 and was still there in 1867, but I am unable to say when he first came or finally left, or what, if anything, he did while he lived there.

Subsequently a Major Charles Blagrove was in occupation 1871 - 5; William Henry Allchin M.B. 1880-5; and the Rev John Williams B.D. (evidently a theologian of some weight) in 1895.

After 1900 we find Hugh Ker Colville Esq. as the Owner in 1903, though his son was the actual occupant as H.K.Colville lived at Lodors Court and extended that to the East making it double the original size, in 1906.

By 1911 the Owner was a Doctor T.W.Wilson, who is still remembered by my late neighbour, Henry Tucker (Gardener at Uploders House for almost fifty years) as keeping a carriage and horses for his daily rounds. A Capt. Colville owned and occupied the House and kept Gardeners and Grooms in the 1920's, and leased it to a Capt. Craven who made the water garden in Japanese style below the waterfall.

In 1926 Thomas Paddison, retired Headmaster of Blundells School, Tiverton, found refuge from his labours and died here, much lamented and respected in 1944. It was then bought by a well-to-do, but somewhat eccentric lady, who had the good sense to restore the old reception rooms to their rightful status, and also installed a very handsome wrought-iron gate at the entrance to the front garden.

In 1959 the whole property was bought by a building speculator, who divided the house into two halves of more or less equal size, and so it remains to this day. The Stables, Coach-house and Grooms' quarters were turned into one dwelling now "Bridgeacre" with the orchard and field to the North.

The original half of Uploders House, until I bought it in 1972, was let furnished to a succession of short-term tenants, some of them distinguished Soldiers, Sailors, Diplomats, and the like, and naturally suffered somewhat from neglect in the process. But it is now, I hope restored to a semblance of its' original dignity and beauty, and with reasonable love and maintenance should stand for another 400 years.

According to the authoritative work on the Historical Monuments of Dorset, Uploders House, during its' long history, has been much added to and altered. The additions seem to consist almost entirely of the Regency wing, and of a small room built out into what was the original farmyard, which is flanked on the West side by a large and magnificent Tithe Barn, with a fine timbered roof,

now slated, but originally thatched, and on the North side by the old Carriage-House and stables, now a separate private House, owned by a descendant of the great Archdeacon Sanctuary, who lived at Powerstock in the 18th. century and is said to have been equally distinguished as a theologian and a pugilist - an interesting example of the Church Militant at its most pugnacious.

Otherwise, apart from shallow bow-windows built out on both floors of the South front, the external structure does not seem to have suffered much change since it became a Travers property. On the other hand, the internal layout has seen extensive alterations, and there is hardly a room which has not been affected in one way or another.

The transformation began with the building of the Regency wing (c.1810) when the original front door at the S.E. corner of the house, which opened on to a narrow passage with the kitchen on the right, and two large inter-connecting rooms on the left (until this time the main reception rooms), gave place to a more imposing entrance approached from the road by a covered way.

At the same time reception rooms were made in the new extension, together with a handsome staircase and fine bedrooms, evidently considered better suited to the taste of the Gentry than the simpler, but just as comfortable bedrooms in the older part.

In fact, public opinion, today might well prefer the latter, since at any rate they are in keeping with the original character and purpose of the house. The effect of these alterations was virtually to reduce the old part of the house to the status of living quarters for the considerable staff required in the early 19th. century, to maintain a country house of even modest proportions; and this arrangement stood until the division of the house in 1959, when the original front door was replaced by a window (thus creating possibly the smallest room in Dorset), and a new one was opened up almost in the middle of the South front, leading to a small and very dark Entrance Hall, with a new and unimpressive staircase.

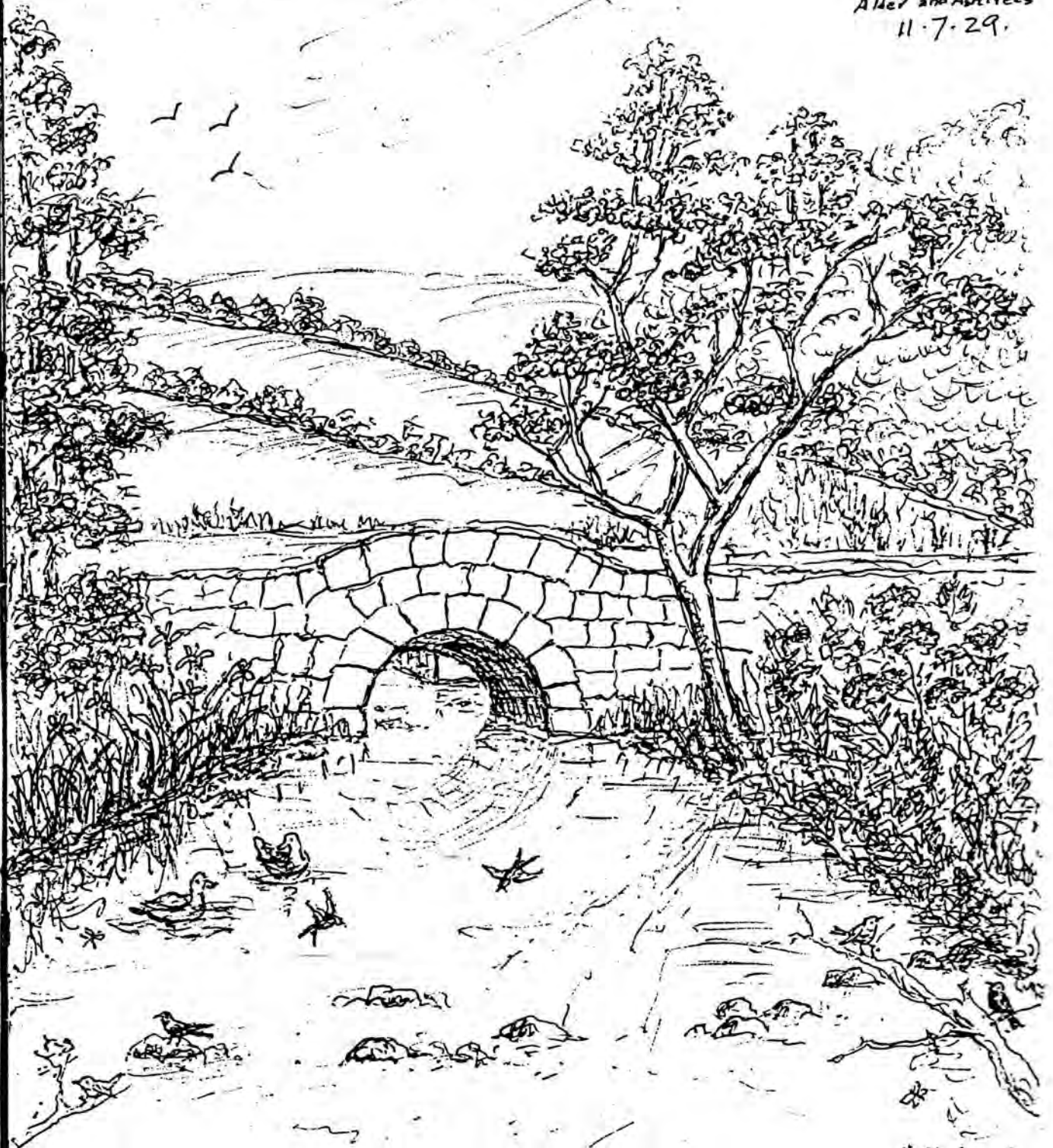
This took away part of the existing Kitchen, which now became the Dining-room, while the old Dairy became the Kitchen. This ingenious piece of reconstruction did not necessarily enhance the aesthetic quality of the internal structure, but it certainly improved its amenities, and above all, it left unimpaired the great beauty of the principal living rooms (now knocked into one) and the perhaps unique quality of the first floor Gallery running along almost the whole length of the North side, with its marvellous timbered ceiling and three windows looking out over the garden, the Asker valley, and the hillside beyond - surely a prospect calling out for poetic and reflective expression.

Most people who pass through Uploders today notice the conspicuous and typical covered approach to the Regency wing; but, if they are interested in the basic history of West Dorset, as opposed to the parvenu encroachment of ephemeral fashion, they would do better to observe the simple and indigenous facade of the original building, hung with Wistaria, Passion Flower, and Magnolia in the Spring and Summer, and beautiful at all times, not least in Winter, when the golden Hamstone is allowed to show its quality.

The House is said to have been built in the early 17th. century, but I would say that it was old when the Civil War of the 1640's left its bloodstains on Bridport's main street, and the Great Plague of London sent its message of terror and death to the Travers of Uploders.

So the torch has passed, amid prosperity and adversity, from one generation to another, and it still gives out a lively flame.

Sheepwash
 Bridge: Upton
 The way to
 Eggardon.
 & River Asker
 with Yellow Iris,
 Meadowsweet
 Great Willowherb
 Hemp Agrimony,
 Alder and Ash Trees
 11.7.29.



S. H. Brown

River Asker: Haunt of Farm Ducks. Wildlife of all kinds, especially
 Birds. Robins Wrens Swallows. Martins. Dippers. Wagtails. Kingfishers. & Moorhens
 Blackbird, Song & Mistle Thrush, Skylark. Blue, Great, Marsh, Willow & Longtail Tits. Kestrels

Notes by S.H.Brown.

Local Government in Loders as in all Britain nowadays covers a wide field of activities and interests of human concern, as well as hard business facts and problems.

This was evident when summarizing details of general activities in Loders, the concern of the Parish Council, when I retired as Clerk after nearly 55 years in June 1981. A list of those Services in Loders is made by the following Summary, in alphabetical order, *which I hope will be found useful and informative.*

APPEALS. Assistance given when possible, or arranged with local Organizations.

ACCOUNTS. Budget in Dec. or Jan. each year for Rate for Precept for W.D.D.C, High West St. Dorchester 5211. Usually require notification of proposed Capital Expenditure and General Rate requirements for Village.

Items to include are for Burial Board, Cemetery, Caretaker, Petrol and Oil, Tools, Mower Maintenance, Hut Maintenance and Insurances (Fire, Theft, Public and Employers' Liability), Gates and Fencing and Hedges, Maintenance, Turntable surface and Access.

For Playing Field similar Insurances and any Maintenance, Grass, Hedge or Tree Cutting. Drainage. Maintenance of equipment, 2 Seats, See-Saw, Gate, Fences, Paths.

General Items. Rights of Way, Hire of Hall. Printing, Books, Stationery, Postages and Telephones. Clerk Salary.. Churchyard contribution for Maintenance, Audit Fee.

The Audit is Annual by Government Dept. of the Environment, when all Registers (5) and Cash Accounts (3) with Vouchers and paid Cheques, Postage Books, Tools List, Bank Books, Deeds, Insurance Policies, V.A.T. Claims, Cemetery Map and Fees List must be taken for Auditors inspection.

'BUS SERVICES and Transport, especially for Age Concern and other activities.

Recommendations to West Dorset District Council, High West St. Dorchester 5211.

CHARITY. Uploders. Rent from "Poor Lot" a field on Loders- Shipton Gorge border O.S. No 450 being 4.753 acres. The Parish Council-appoint two members to help with letting and control of the field, for which they organized a water supply from a nearby spring in 1957. The collection and distribution of the Charity is now controlled by the Vicar, with 2 Parochial Church Council Members and 2 Parish Council Members, who are appointed annually at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council between May 1 and 31 May.

The water supply from a Spring in the adjoining field was by Agreement with Mr. O. Newbery 1957.

Poor Lot was enclosed in 1821 and an Order 15 July 1902 made to give the proceeds from letting to the Poor of Uploders.

CELEBRATIONS of all kinds are given assistance or organized by the Parish Council who are usually responsible for any National Celebrations. (Jubilee, Coronation or other National event).

CEMETERY at Smishops Lane, Loders. Caretaker appointed. Salary paid for grass cutting and maintenance of graves, banks, etc. for year. Hedge cutting and weed killing as required on Access and Turntable.

Insurances include Public and Employers' Liability, also Fire and Theft Insurance on Store Hut and Contents. (Keys kept by Caretaker and Chairman).

Maintenance of Entrance Gate, Field gate to South access, and another to Gradlands fields required, also all Boundary fences and Hedges, Seat being in stone for Coronation of King George VI. 1937. (Memorials are responsibility of Grave Owners). Trees to be planted and maintained.

Grass keep on the unused portion is let, approx. three quarters of an acre. Whole area of Cemetery including Turntable is approx. 1 acre, of which one quarter acre is in use. The whole area (excepting triangle with seat and Hut) was consecrated 1939. There is no water supply to the area let, unless let to the Occupier of Gradlands fields where there is a water supply, hence the field gate access East end adjoining Gradlands. The Cemetery was purchased 1934.

DORSET ASSOCIATION OF PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS. THROUGH Community Council, 57, High West Street, Dorchester 2270, of which LODERS and most Parish and Town Councils are Members. They issue a quarterly Newsletter and Parish Review, also Reports on all subjects affecting Local Councils. They also supply forms, and advice and help COUNCILS on all subjects, and arrange Meetings on any relevant subjects.

DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL, give help and advice over local problems affecting. 57.

our 38 Rights of Way and Drainage, etc. The District Surveyor is at South Mill, Bridport 22099 and the County Surveyor, County Hall, Dorchester 3131.

DORSET COUNTY STRUCTURE PLAN 1980/81 for future development of the County is also dealt with by the Dorset County Council at County Hall, Dorchester 3131.

DRAINAGE PROBLEMS. Surface water and Sewers involve the Dorset County Council for Roads and Rights of Way, Dorchester 3131, also the West Dorset District Council, High West Street, Dorchester 5211, and also West Dorset Water Board, Avon and Dorset Division, 2, Nuffield Road, Poole, Dorset. Poole 7144 or at Dorchester, Mr. Miles, Area Representative, Dorchester 66811.

ELECTIONS and appointment of Members as directed for Parish Council and West Dorset District Council Member, as instructions from W.D.D.C. Dorchester 5211. Present Parish Council, 7 Members, appointed May, 1983.

EMERGENCIES. Floods, bank Slips, Roads and Rights of Way, Drainage. Organize help and relief and contact Authorities, POLICE, D.C.C. or W.D.D.C. particularly reference Rivers, Roads, Housing, Fire and Nuclear War Protection, etc. The Parish Council Officer is

ELECTRICITY supplies and Conservation areas affected. Contact South Western Electricity Board, Bournemouth, or Crewkerne 72244.

GAS BOARD reference supplies to Village. Southern Gas, Bournemouth 762821 or 762243.

GRANTS available for any project. Assistance given wherever possible, through D.C.C. or W.D.D.C. Advice from Dorset Community Council, Dorchester 2270.

HOUSING Problems and Development. Assistance given when possible. Reference to West Dorset District Council, High West Street, Dorchester 5211 or Mountfield, Bridport 22248. Total Houses in Lodgers 1981 is 230.

INSURANCES to cover Public Liabilities, Jubilee Seats (2 in Village) 2 at Playing Field and See-saw. General Village Activities, Employees, Council, Clerk, the Playing Field and Cemetery and Equipment in both with Cornhill Insurance Ltd. 32, Cornhill, London E.C. 3V. 3 L.J.

LITTER PROBLEMS and abandoned Vehicles. Contact W.D.D.C. High West St. Dorchester Dorset. Phone. Dorchester 5211.

LODERS PARISH. National and Local Treasures as listed, with protection as far as possible. List 1. Natural Treasures, Rivers, Streams, Woods, Hills and Downs, and Rights of Way. Dwellings or Buildings as listed Town & Country Planning Dept. (Includes Church and Chapel) Copies in Minute Books and Files. List 2. Monuments (Church). List 3. Local Customs and Events. also in 1979 Lodgers Village Appraisal.

MAPS to be kept and available reference Rights of Way, Sewers, Rivers and Woods.

MINUTES. of Meetings, Records and Accounts. 8 Minute Books to 1981 from 1894. Minutes of each Meeting typed for each Member and notified to Press.

MEETINGS. See Parish Council Meetings for details.

NOTICES and Information of Parish Council, West Dorset District Council and D.C.C. as directed to be posted on Notice Boards, etc. Church Porch which has the Rights of Way Map, Post Office, School, Lodgers. Village Hall, Yondover. Uploders Chapel and Crown Inn Notice Board. (The latter belongs to the Parish Council, approved Planning Authority 5.5.80. Erected Oct. 1980 (Given and made by Mr. Hampson, Uploders).

The three Inns will also put up Notices, Lodgers Arms Inn, LODERS. Crown Inn, UPLODERS, and the Travellers Rest Inn, Dorchester Road, LODERS.

PLAYING FIELD. Wellplot, Yondover, Lodgers, is provided by and belongs to the Parish Council and has to be maintained. Grass cutting of playing area is done by the Dorset County Council whose Caretaker has a key to the Gate access. Other areas are cut by the Parish Council with the Path to the Village Hall. Also to maintain 2 Jubilee Seats, See-saw, Fences and Hedges. Drainage. The surface water from the access road, field and housing Estate drains cross the Playing Field to empty into the River Asker (surface & spring water) Plan in Minute Book and Files.

The foul sewer crosses the Playing Field East to West, with an access Manhole near the West Boundary to which the foul Drains from Wellplot are taken. The Manhole covers must be kept accessible. To get the line of the Sewer there is a Manhole in Mr. Budden's field on the East.

Tree Planting is being done in the Playing Field to mark special events, "Plant a Tree 1973". 1 Lime and 1 Evergreen Oak were planted.

Jubilee 1977. 2 English Oaks were given by Mr. G. Hyde. 1 Copper Beech given by Mr. J. Ellis. 1 Pink Chestnut and 1 Red Hawthorn or May given by Mrs. Wells. 1 White Chestnut, 1 Mountain Ash and 1 Weeping Silver Birch given by Lodgers Brownies and Jubilee Funds.

The See-saw for the Jubilee was provided using a gift of £100. from Bridport Round Table. It was erected 1980 at total cost £127.25, balance from Jubilee Funds, also two Reconstructed stone Seats were provided and erected for the Jubilee 1977, one from Village Collections and one given by the Bridport Lions Club., with appropriate Lion supports.

The Concrete road and Access Gate as required by the Dorset County Council was provided by the Parish Council 1979 and Lease obtained for 21 years for lump sum £10. At the same time Barrier posts against Wellplot Estate and a New Fence to the Council House Gardens, provided, to form a path from the Playing Field to the Village Hall.

There are four keys to the Gate, 1 with D.C.C. Caretaker, 1 with Hall Entertainments Group, and 2 with Parish Council.

PLANS AND DEVELOPMENT. for new Dwellings and Alterations and Extensions to any Existing Buildings are sent to the Parish Council for comments to be made to the West Dorset District Planning Committee at Mountfield, Bridport 22248. Comments include access, drainage or flooding problems, conservation, etc.

Adjacent Owners are notified and shown the Plans by the Parish Council and a Plans Register kept. Comments to be returned to the A.P.O., West Area, Mountfield, Bridport 22248, within 14 days of receipt. Site Meetings are sometimes held and attended by Parish Council Members or others interested. Parish Council Members are contacted individually for comments if Plans are not received in time for a Meeting and final comments confirmed at Meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS. Usually monthly, require 3 clear days' Notice (excludes Sunday) 1 weeks' Notice usually given, Notice and Agenda sent to each Member and put on six Notice Boards, for Public, as Local Government Electors from LODERS may attend, but cannot join in or vote, except by arrangement.

Annual Parish Council Meeting for Annual Accounts, Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Uplogers Charity (2 members) Lodgers Village Hall (1 member) School Managers (2 members) also Annual Reports is held between May 1 and May 31 each year.

Annual Parish Assembly is an open Meeting held between 1 March to 1 June each year to receive Annual Reports from all Village Organizations. (1 Weeks' Notice required).

Parish Meetings are open to all for any Special purpose called when required. Meetings can be called by Parish Council, Chairman, or 2 Parish Councillors, or 6 Local Government Electors.

PARISH CUSTOMS. and Rights of Way to be maintained. See Rights of Way and the Parish Customs Lists.

ROADS, maintenance, Improvements and Reports of damage, etc. to be notified to Authorities concerned, i.e. Dorset County Council, Bridport 2099 or Dorchester 3131. W.D.D.C. Dorchester 5211 are concerned with Housing Estate roads.

RIGHTS OF WAY. Bridle Roads and Footpaths. Total 38. To be walked each year, and checked to be kept clear and open and maintained. This involves seeing or writing to Owners and Occupiers, and where necessary notifying Local Authorities, W.D.D.C. and D.C.C. (See Roads). Most duties are carried out by the Parish Council Liaison Officer, Mrs. J. Dunn, Hillview, Uplogers, Bridport. PHONE. Powerstock 365.

RIVERS. To be kept clear, improved for drainage and maintenance. Main River Asker runs through Village of Lodgers with Millstreams at Lodgers Court and the Old Mill, New Street Lane. There are tributaries from Peascombe, The Leazes, Blackhut, Pennywells and Jordan stream, Newhouse, etc. Contact the WEST DORSET WATER AUTHORITY, 2, Nuffield Rd. POOLE 71144 or Adjacent Owners.

RIVERS. The Mangerton River is the West Boundary, shared with Briddpole.

SEWERS. Reports of Blockages or damage to Foul or Surface Water Sewers and any suggested Improvements to be made to the appropriate Authority. either West Dorset Water Authority, 2, Nuffield Rd. POOLE 71144 or W.D.D.C. Dorchester 5211 or Dorset County Council. Dorchester 3131. *Loders Sewers were completed 1972.*
Maps of LODERS Sewers and Manholes are kept, 3 Plans with 3 Sections maps.

SIGNPOSTS and DIRECTION SIGNS. Maintenance of Existing and provision of New ones. Reports to be made to the Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester 3131. or West Dorset District Council, High West St., Dorchester 5211.

SCHOOL. Appoint 2 Managers. Deal with Reports. Managers appointed at Annual Meeting of Parish Council. Reports given at Annual Parish Assembly.

TREES. Maintenance and Planting where possible. Protection of Woods and Amenities. W.D.D.C. Planning Dept. Mr. Murgatroyd, High West Street, Dorchester 5211. There are Preservation Orders on Woods Bunkers Hill, Shipton Lane, and Loders Court Woods, Rookery Copse and Waddon Hill.

VILLAGE HALL. Reports annually at Annual Parish Assembly with detailed Accounts to previous 31st. March. Member for Parish Council is appointed at Annual Meeting of Parish Council to assist with Management and Events and Entertainments. The whole Council assists when necessary.

An Entertainments Group was formed with Members of the Village Hall Management Committee and others interested to run Bingos, Whist Drives, Play Groups, Dances, Entertainments and Shows and Exhibitions to cater for all ages of the Village members.

Present Chair person, Mrs. J. Howell, 2, Yondover, Loders. Bridport 23608.
Entertainments Group. Chairman, Mr. F. Good, 10, Wellplot, Loders, Bridport

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer Mr. N. Balfour, Farmers Arms, Loders. Bridport 24565.
Hire of Hall and Booking. Mrs. M. Crabb, Hr. Yondover Farm, Bridport 22937.

The Hall, formerly Ex-Service Mens' Club, built in 1926, was given to the Village in 1959. Sir E. Le Breton of Loders Court gave the land on which it stands, and improvements to modernize it costing £2,050. made 1972- 1974. This money obtained from the sale of the Uploders Parish Room was used to providern modern Toilets, water supply and Kitchen facilities. Drains to main Sewer through field owned by Mr. M. Crabb, Hr. Yondover Farm, Loders, with whom there is a Wayleave Agreement for Drain and Manholes. New Electricity and Heating was also installed and all Fire Precautions as required by The Fire Brigade, Headquarters, Weymouth.

WATER SUPPLY . Mains provided 1963. Report to the Authority concerned of any damage, Maintenance or Improvement needed, being West Dorset Water Board, 2, Nuffield Road, POOLE 71144.

WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL ASSIST whenever possible in connection with Planning, Development, Reports, Notices, etc. Refer to High West St. Offices, Phone, Dorchester 5211.

YOUTH GROUPS. Assistance given when possible for Functions at Village Hall, or the Playing Field, etc. Present Representatives. Miss A. Read, 29, Loders. Mr. J. Morris, Dulcie Domum, New Road, Uploders. Phone. Powerstock 302.

The present Parish Council, elected 1983 is as follows :

Mr. G.A. Hyde, Willow Cottage, Uploders (Chairman) Powerstock 259.

Mr. A. St.J. Lobb, South Mead Farmhouse,
Nettlecombe, Bridport (Vice Chairman) Powerstock 464.

Mr. N.R. Balfour, The Farmers' Arms, Loders Bridport 24565.

Mrs. J.M. Dunn, Hillview, Uploders Powerstock 365.

Mr. D.M. Smith, 1 Matravers, Uploders Powerstock 507.

Mrs. M.L. Spafford, The Post Office, Loders Bridport 22515

Mr. C.R. Upton, Lower Coombe, Litton Cheney, Long Bredy 265.

Dorchester.

Following is a History and notes from nine Minute Books of Loders Parish Council, from 1894 to 1981.

The first Meeting to elect Loders Parish Council under the Local Government Act 1894 was held in Loders School on 4 December 1894. Mr. Henry G. Fooks, the Schoolmaster was Chairman. Seven were to be elected from thirteen nominated, and on a show of hands the seven with highest number of votes were - Messrs. Walter Bishop, Arthur W.C. Budden, Herbert Hansford, John Hansford Henry J. Morris, George Samways and Frank White.

When put to the Electors, Richard Gill demanded a Poll. Walter Bishop and Arthur W.C. Budden withdrew their nominations, but even so a Poll consequent on the Meeting was taken 17 Dec. 1894 by Mr. A.W. Temple, Deputy Returning Officer who declared the following result :

That Messrs. George Samways, James Reader, Herbert Hansford, Henry J. Morris, George Robert Knight and Frank White were duly elected Parish Councillors.

Messrs. Eli. Russell and John Hansford having an equal number of votes, neither were elected. A Poll was also taken for the Rural District Councillor at the same time and place between Messrs. Walter Bishop and Levi Samways.

Walter Bishop was duly elected Rural District Councillor.

The first Meeting for acceptance of Office was duly convened by Notice to be held at the School, Loders, on 31st. December 1894. and to appoint a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk, and to transfer powers from the Overseers, Churchwardens, Vestry and any other Authority to the new Parish Council at the Meeting.

Mr. Levi Samways was appointed Chairman, Mr. George R. Knight, Vice Chairman and Mr. William Brown appointed Assistant Overseer and Clerk to the Parish Council. Mr. R. Lucas, Manager of Wilts and Dorset Bank was appointed Treasurer and Messrs. Edwin E. Randall and George R. Knight appointed Overseers.

Meetings of Loders Parish Council with Levi Samways as Chairman were held 14 Jan. 1895 reference Uploders Charity and distribution of Allotments was considered. Election of another P.C. Member was made to complete the required seven, being Rev. David Thomas.

The Mellor Charity given to the Hamlets of Uploders, Upton and Matravers, being £2.10.0. to the poor, with other Parishes was considered. This Charity was a Trust from Sir Robert Mellor, providing for the payment of £40. for the relief and succour of poor and needy persons, and the binding forth to people apprentice, of some of the children of the poor persons in the following Parishes, as reported to Parish Assembly 28 March 1939, from previous Minutes and Records.

1. Cerne Abbas and Up Cerne, Dorset.	£20.
2. Winterbourne Came and Winterbourne Farrington.	10.
3. Little Bredy and Long Bredy, Kingston Russell, Uploders, Upton and Matravers.	10.
Total.	£. 40.

Item 3. is divided. To Little Bredy, Long Bredy and Kingston Russell £7.10.0.
To Uploders, Upton and Matravers. 2.10.0.
£. 10. 0.0.

On 1. Feb. 1895, Mr. Levi Samways was Chairman at a Special Meeting held at Uploders Schoolroom to receive the books and documents relating to Uploders Charity and Allotment Rents (£12.0.5.). The Allotment field is on the South boundary next Shipton Gorge, and must have meant quite a journey from Uploders to cultivate allotments, and take the risk of vandalism or theft of crops, unless control was more efficient at that time. Maybe adjacent farmers kept an eye on them and possibly rented some.

At some time allotments use was discontinued and the field grassed down and let to a local Farmer. A Mr. Slade rented it till 1943, when the Parish Council were asked to deal with the re-letting, which was done by advertising. A Mr. Baggs Home Farm, Uploders rented it until 1957, when an adjoining Owner Mr. O. Newbery made a Deed of Grant for a Water Supply from a spring on his land to be piped to the field. This made it more valuable for reletting at a higher rent to a local Farmer. The Charity is now administered by the Vicar, 2 Members of the Parochial Church Council, and 2 Members of the Parish Council, appointed annually, who distribute the money to deserving persons.

Parish Council Meetings alternated between Uploders School (of the Glebe Lands) and Loders School, according to business required. The Annual Parish Assembly and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at the School, Loders, and Special Meetings either at Uploders Schoolroom or Loders School.

These averaged four or six a year, and included reports and action on the Accounts, Rights of Way, Elections and General Parish matters of Charities, Roads and Overseers' duties of routine items.

Going through the Minute Books special items had to be dealt with on occasions, and these are mentioned in these Notes.

The footbridge between Loders and Stepps Farm, Bradpole, caused quite a controversy from 1895, due to problems of cost of upkeep. Loders felt the cost should be shared by Bradpole and Loders Parish Councils. Others at Parish Meetings felt it was the concern of adjacent Owners and Occupiers, as it was used mainly as access to the Farm. The bridge was over the river Asker, the boundary there between Loders and Bradpole.

It was eventually sorted out and settled by Bradpole Parish Council in 1896. Now it is of course the responsibility of the Dorset County Council.

Mr. E.E.Randall was Chairman in 1896 and at Elections a Poll was again Demanded and out of 10 nominated Messrs. W.Bishop, H.G.Fooks, R.Hannam, E. Russell, A.Budden, J. Reader and F. White were elected. The Chairman was usually co-opted at that time and Mr. George Samways was elected 1897.

The Indian Famine Fund was of prime importance 1897. The Clerk to Overseers and Parish Council was Mr. J.M.Hounsell in 1897, and in 1898 Mr. H.G. Fooks, the Schoolmaster was Chairman, and local Charities were a special consideration.

In 1899 Miss M.A.Samways was appointed Clerk to the Parish Council and the Overseers. 1900 was another Relief Fund year for the Transvaal War Relief Fund. A new footbridge was required then at Bridge Acre, Uploders, replaced by the Parish Council.

In 1902 Mrs. Castree was appointed Clerk to Overseers and Parish Council, and later resigned and Mr. H.G.Fooks was appointed. The Coronation celebrations for King Edward VII, were arranged 1902. In 1903 Major Beadnell was Chairman and in 1904. Walter Bishop. Power to close the Church Burial Ground was considered, or new Ground to be obtained.

1905, Mr. J.M.Hounsell was Chairman and the County Rate Basis and out Relief problems prevailed. 1906, Mr. Eli Russell was Chairman till 1907 when sale of the Glebe land took place. 1908 Mr. Hugh Ker Colville, Loders Court, was Chairman. and Small Holdings Acts were implemented and Census returns made.

1909 Mr. E.E.Randall, Chairman and 1910, Mr. Hugh Ker Colville. 1911 Mr. E.E. Randall Chairman again and proposals made for the celebrations for Coronation of King George V. 1912, Mr. Hugh Ker Colville, Chairman and Loders Cross Danger Warning Notice requested.

1913 Mr. E.E.Randall, Chairman and 1914. Danger Notices requested for Schools. 1915, Big road slips Watercleaves and Upton. Mr. E.E.Randall Chairman 1916, 1917. Scheme from Dorset County Council on National Service considered. So many men gone from Loders, few left for necessary work on agriculture etc. The Dorset War Agricultural Committee authorize the purchase of Potato Spraying Machine to be available for Loders Farms. 1918 Rev. A.B.Hutton Chairman, Mr. H. Richards, Clerk to P.C. and Overseers. Housing scheme considered, 10 cottages required.

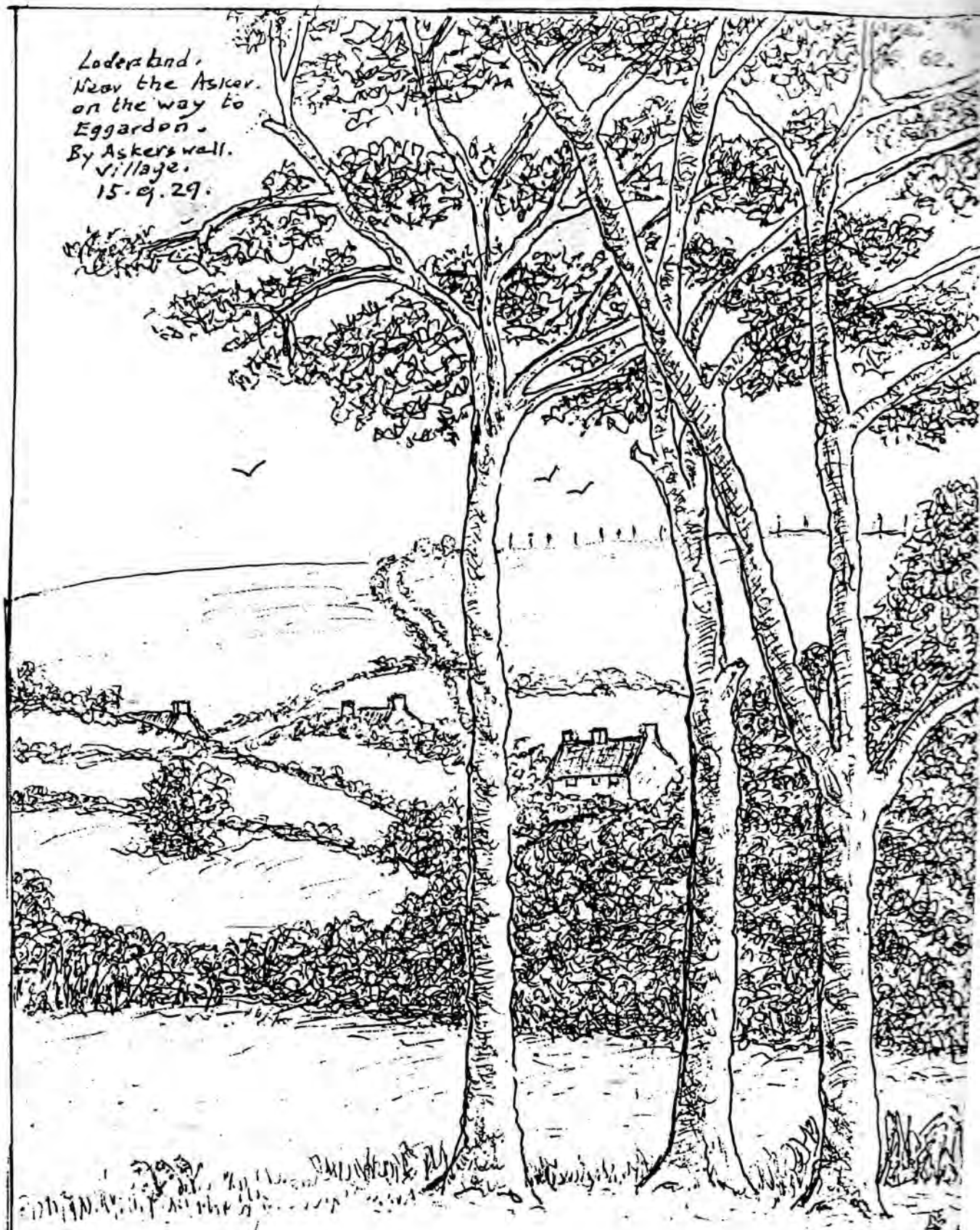
1919 Urgent road works required, Yellow Lane and Knowle Lane. 1919 to 1921 Rev. Hutton Chairman. Sale of Uploders Schoolroom as Village Hall.

1921 Complaints about heavy road traffic through village and D.C.C. take over upkeep. 1922. Bridges Vicarage Lane and Bridgeacre repaired. 1923 Lt.Col Le Breton Chairman, Mr. J. Eveleigh Clerk to P.C. and Overseers. 1924 Elections to Council Messrs. H.W.Bishop. A.J.Crabb, W.Knight, A.C.Lesser, E.E.Randall, and J. Wallbridge. Col. Le Breton was Co-opted Chairman.

1925 Stepps Bridge renewed, 1926 Mr. J. Eveleigh resigned, and Mr. S.H.Brown appointed Clerk to P.C. and Overseers, who were responsible for making the rate for the Village and the Assistant Overseer's duty to issue demands and collect it for them. Rates were then levied on all buildings and land, later reduced to a quarter on land, which was finally released from payment of rates, and levied on buildings only as for all property. *due to Great War problems*

due to illness R.Tolley

Loderland.
Near the Asker.
on the way to
Eggardon.
By Askerswall.
Village.
15. 9. 29.



Time of "Mellow Fruitfulness."
Mushrooms, Plums, Nuts
and Blackberries.

Hedges, Fields & Hills full of Birds. Buntings,
Finches, Warblers, Flycatchers, Stonechats,
Lapwings, Pheasant, Partridge, Hawks, Ravens, etc.

Sc
pine
Bee
orchid
S. 112

Wildlife, Animals, Birds and Insects, (Loders) as Dorset County Council Guide, 1 April 1974, FLORA and FAUNA, by R.F. Dalton M.A. (copyright reserved) with acknowledgments for permission to include in this Book, also DORSET BIRDS by F.R. Clifton, M.B.O.U., also from the Dorset County Council Guide, 1 April 1974.

Dependant on its geophysical character and varied geological structure, Dorset (of which Loders forms a small part) has a wide range of soils and ecological habitats within a comparatively small area. In consequence there is a rich flora which includes many rare and local species.

Of especial botanical interest are the estuarine areas around Poole harbour, the Chalklands yet unploughed, the heathlands, the bogs, and Portland and Chesil beach area.

The distribution of the Dorset Flora is most comprehensively covered in the Geographical Handbook of the Dorset Flora by Professor Ronald Good. In this work (as also in this brief summary) information regarding the restricted localities of the rarer species is, in the interests of both botanists and plants, omitted.

The agricultural nature of this County has enabled Badgers, Otters and nearly all the species of mammals existing in England to survive here. Exceptions include the Red Deer, Polecat and Pinemarten, recent records for which are unconfirmed, and introduced species (such as the Fat Dormouse, which has not yet been reported) American Mink, descendants of escaped commercial stock, have been reported in several Dorset rivers.

Three species of Deer, the Fallow, Roe and Sika, are to be found in the wild state or in parklands, Reeves' Muntjac, a species which is extending its range in England, was first reported in Dorset in 1962, in which year a young male was shot.

The Red Squirrel survives in fair numbers on Brownsea Island. Confirmed records establish the presence of thirteen of the species of Bats on the British List, including the Bechstein Bat, the Grey Long-eared Bat and the Mouse-eared Bat, the lattermost being the second authentic British record. A further species, Leislars Bat, may possibly have been seen at Woodsford.

Seals and Porpoises are to be seen occasionally, and the Bottle-nosed Dolphin not uncommonly off the Dorset Coast. All six species of British reptiles are found in the County, the Poole basin heathlands being the principal haunt of the rare Smooth snake and Sand Lizard.

The Dorset breeding grounds of all three species of newt continue to shrink, owing to the spread of urbanization, the Crested Newt being more particularly affected.

Of the insect species on the British List (now approaching 30,000, it is conservatively estimated that some 10,000 species have been recorded in the County. The Lulworth Skipper Butterfly can be considered as peculiarly a Dorset species, for, though it extends westwards, Dorset coastlands are its stronghold. It was first discovered at Lulworth in 1832 by J.C. Dale of Glanvilles Wootton.

County Lists have been compiled as follows: Lepidoptera by W. Parkinson Curtis. Coleoptera by the Rev. E.J. Pearce. Hymenoptera (incomplete) by Dr. F.H. Haines and G.M. Spooner. Orthoptera by Dr. F.H. Haines and R.F. Dalton. Dorset localities for Tachinid flies are given in British Tachinid Flies by Dr. C.D. Day.

Amongst the local species are the ants *Formica lemni*, and *Strongylognathus testaceus*, species confined to certain heathlands. The solitary wasp *Pseudepipona quadrifasciata* occurs at Portland. *Argiope Bruennichi* is particularly common in the Poole-Bournemouth area.

The only British maculate-winged Empid fly *Syneches muscarius*, was discovered in 1953 by Dr. C.D. Day at the Moors, Wool, this being its only known British locality.

The late Rev. O. Pickard, Cambridge of Bloxworth, father of British Arachnology has written exhaustively on the spiders of Dorset. The handsome silver-white, yellow and black Banded Spider, *Argiope bruennichi*, first observed in Britain in 1922 at Rye, is now found at sites between Ringstead and Portland. Its large nets catch and hold the grasshoppers and crane-flies on which it feeds.

The Dorset Marine Mollusca have been listed by J.C. Mansel-Pleydell and E.R. Sykes. The presence of *Petricola pholadiformis* was confirmed at Studland in 1948.

Other marine species deserving mention are the Feathered Star, *Antedon bifida* and two pelagic Coelenterates which from time to time are blown from the Atlantic on to Dorset shores. One of these species, the brilliantly coloured Portuguese Man-of-War, was stranded in considerable numbers on Dorset coasts in October, 1954. Invasions since that date have attracted disproportionate publicity in the newspapers.

Large numbers of *Velella*, another colonial jellyfish, recognisable by the horny skeleton of its crested float, are stranded from time to time on the Dorset coast.

Mercierella enigmatica, the tube-building polychaete worm, first reported at Weymouth in 1937, caused some trouble in 1953, by blocking up the sluice gates at Westham bridge, Weymouth. Aggregations of the calcareous tubes of the worms then formed coral-like masses in Radipole Lake.

Many of the rarities of the Dorset Flora and Fauna can only exist in a particular kind of habitat. Owing to the destruction of several such habitats, certain species which were not regarded as rare by Naturalists earlier in the century are threatened with extinction.

DORSET BIRDS. by F.R.Clafton, M.B.O.U.

A number of factors combine to make the bird-life of Dorset as rich as that of any comparable area in Britain today. The diversity of habitat in its heathlands, lakes, estuaries, downlands and sea-cliffs; coupled with the mild climate provide the visiting bird-watcher with an opportunity to enjoy a surprising number of different species.

A great deal of planning and forethought is necessary in order to ensure that a representative selection of natural habitat remains safe from disturbance through urban development, the insatiable demands for minerals, short-term afforestation and more sophisticated agricultural methods. The importance which is attached to Dorset in this respect is illustrated by the number of National and Local Nature Reserves already established in the County.

The Heathlands in the East of the County support probably two-thirds of the total British population of the Dartford Warbler, our only non-migratory warbler, and a visit to the Arne Reserve of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, (permits from R.S.P.B., The Lodge, Sandy, Beds.) is most likely to produce a glimpse of these diminutive birds.

Of the many reserves established by the Dorset Naturalists Trust the Brownsea Island Reserve at Poole is perhaps the most rewarding for the bird-watcher. Here the second largest Heronry in Britain has developed and a flourishing colony of Common Terns has become established on islands specifically made for them by teams of voluntary conservationists. This Reserve is open to the public from April to September and conducted tours are operated.

Waterfowl and waders may be seen easily and well at other points around Poole Harbour, particularly at Studland and Sandbanks and in Poole Park. There are equally rewarding areas at Christchurch Harbour and towards the west of the County around Weymouth, particularly Radipole Lake and Lodmoor, and the famous Abbotsbury Swannery.

On Portland the Portland Bird Observatory and Field Centre at the Old Lower Light affords excellent opportunities for field studies—both for individuals and organised parties (including schools). The Bill is an outstanding site for the study of bird migration and over 260 species have been recorded here since 1951.

Cliff nesting sea birds can also be seen, particularly Puffins, Fulmars and Kittiwakes and Gannets. Skuas and Shearwaters are often within binocular range in the region of the Race. Applications for accommodation at the centre should be addressed to the Resident Warden.

The Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society has a bird club which organises summer field meetings and winter lectures and films. Membership of the section costs a minimal fee and members receive, free of charge, a detailed report on Dorset birds published annually.

The Society also administers the County Museum at Dorchester where an excellent display of mounted specimens can be seen. Membership details may be obtained from the Secretary of the County Museum, Dorchester, Dorset.

Mammals, Birds, Insects and Fishes.

Owing to the varied geological structure of the landscape and many streams and rivers, also the presence of mixed woodland as well as orchards and coniferous plantations, Loders has ~~got~~ a varied wildlife too.

The Mangerton river, with in many places adjoining wetlands, and in others banks of Bridport sands and clay or oolite, attract a great variety of wildlife for feeding and nesting.

Similarly the Asker river rising in the chalk downs and pursuing its way through a varied type of farm lands with varied cultivation, and by woods and spinneys and orchards, forms a habitat for all kinds of wildlife, either living along its banks or coming for the essential water, insect and plant life for food.

The proximity of the sea means coastal birds also come inland for food at all times, especially to follow the ploughing activities when the soil is disturbed and grubs, worms, etc. made available.

As already mentioned in the Introduction and detailed in the Asker poem, certain species can always be found, and of course all the resident species that frequent houses, gardens, farm buildings and yards.

The proximity to Powerstock Common, a Nature Reserve, means frequent visits by deer, including the rare white ones.

A keen Naturalist living at the Vicarage from 1914 to 1935 was Rev. A.B. Hutton, who always was ready to give advice and identify specimens obtained by school children and Loders Scouts and Guides. He carried out the tests required for Naturalists, Bird Warden and other Badges for Natural History.

He had a wonderful collection of British Birds. Eggs and also mounted specimens of birds and mammals with backgrounds of their natural habitat, painted by himself. One special case of Pine Martens he left to the British Museum. The others were donated to the Bridport Museum by Mrs. Hutton, and used to be on display in their scientific orders.

There was also a comprehensive collection of British Mammals and Bats, many of which were obtained locally from specimens shot accidentally or unfortunately killed in some other way.

He always welcomed any casualties of wildlife, and if possible had them mounted and put in a case with suitable background and surroundings.

Chapter 8 mentions the Dorset Flora by R.F.Dalton, M.A. who refers to the Book by Professor Ronald Good. A copy is in the Bridport Library, and one in the South Street Museum, being the Geographical Handbook of the Dorset Flora, with many maps and details.

Again the varied geological structure of Loders with oolite, sandstone, clay, chalk and river silt from the Downland Hills, Valleys, woodland, rivers and streams with wetlands, provide a habitat for a great variety of species of flowers, grasses, rushes, shrubs and trees around the village, also many shrubs and trees in the hedgerows, variety of plants on the banks, and again a great variety in the woods and copses, which are varied coniferous woods, mixed woods and others entirely deciduous, with undergrowth of shrubs, plants and fungi, varied and special to the habitat, soil and dryness or moisture.

Three special areas in Lower Loders are Loders Court Park and woods and lanes, also the old Vicarage and lane with comfrey, and the fields by the river Asker and Mill race.

The Loders Court Park and Gardens are open on special occasions to the Public. The tunnel lanes, Yellow Lane, Bar Lane, Knowle Lane and Smishops Lane all have deep cuttings through Bridport sands and many woodlands on the Hills some with bluebells and primroses and a variety of trees next the public rights of way, also open country with cowslips, buttercups, parsley varieties, violets and primroses on the banks with champions, red, white and pink, celandines, daisies and flowering shrubs in the hedges, Hawthorn, Sallow, Guelder Rose, Wayfaring Tree, Hazel with catkins and nuts.

Smishops Lane has periwinkles, violets, white, blue and purple, primroses, bluebells, wild cherry and blackthorn or sloes, and towards Milton, Foxgloves, speedwell, stitchwort, champions and many more varieties with occasional copses and single trees Holly, Sycamore, Ash, Oak in variety and Beech, also Larch, Firs and Pines in small woods, and along ridges and lynchets.

The Old Mill, New Street Lane, is a lovely area with gardens laid out around the river and mill stream, of great variety laid out by Brigadier and Mrs. Hammond, and another nearby, Malories by Mr. McDowall and Raikes, Mrs. Edwards.

Some wetlands by the river Asker and Peascombe streams have Marsh Marigolds Ragged Robin, Yellow Iris and Water Forgetmenots with other varieties of riverside plants in profusion.

In Uploders the Rights of Way go through varied types of lanes and woods, with bluebells, orchids, anemones and primroses, and over downland with cowslips, also to the North, South and East, several crossing the River Asker and its tributaries, to continue over high downland to magnificent viewpoints with wild thyme, bee orchids Ladys tresses orchids, Knapweed, Scabious, Ladies Bedstraw, Thistles, Ragwort and Bracken, Mallows, Wild roses and brambles with blackberries in profusion.

In areas by the river Asker are many varieties of orchids, monkshood, Meadowsweet Willowherbs, great and small and in places Rosebay, also Hemp Agrimony, Mugwort, Purple Loosestripe and many Alder and willow trees of great variety.

At Uploders House there are many fine specimen trees and shrubs in open lawns or in woods, with varied underplanting. There are Catalpa, Tulip Tree, Wellingtonias Yew and Fir, also rhododendrons and Azaleas, Fritillaries, Solomons Seal, and by the river masses of snowdrops. Bridgeacre has an attractive garden, with orchard, copse and field by the River Asker.

There are also stone retaining walls against the woods and river banks by the road with many varieties and types of flowers, ferns and mosses. Wall Pennywort, Toadflax Corydalis and Asperula with Hartstongue and Male Ferns and Winter Heliotrope.

Uploders House, Gardens and Woods were opened frequently by Mr. Paddison, to the Public and are so well described by the present Owner, Mr. Wykes in his poems "The Asker" and "From a Dorset Window".

At Loders Court the Park and Gardens and Mill stream area was opened by Sir E. Le Breton, and now by Viscount Hood for Fêtes and Village functions. There is a great variety of special trees and shrubs, camellias and rhododendrons, Gunnera by the Millstream, and various kinds of riverside plants.

The walled fruit and vegetable gardens have many trained fruit trees and great variety of vegetables, and the various walled flower gardens round the House being some special for roses and other flowers in formal beds with box edges, also herbaceous borders. There is an Iris garden and water lily pond and fountains. Separate borders of lupins, delphiniums and lilies also tulips and all kinds of spring bulbs are a special feature.

Naturalised daffodils, snowdrops, cyclamen and chionodoxa are in the Park area. Monkshood by the Mill and special kinds of willow, alder, beech, oak, Scots Pine etc. by the original river Asker.

Capt. Welstead, The Croft, New Road and Mr. A.C.Lesser of Matravers House, Uploders, frequently opened their gardens and woods in aid of local Charities, the New Road garden running up a steep hillside with lynchets, and the Matravers garden with Blackhut woods, with pond and stream running through to a Scots Pine wood to cross the Village road, and form an attraction in the Rose garden and orchard till it joined the Asker river at Upton.

Now the Dorset County Council are trying to preserve and conserve the hedges and banks by the village roads, Green Lanes and other Rights of Way, and has done a special planting of the steep banks with trees, shrubs, wild flowers and furze along the new Trunk Road areas.

The village road hedges and lanes are full of honeysuckle and wild roses, over banks of celandines and daisies, dandelions, also primroses, violets, red champions white parsley and bluebells, periwinkles and later foxgloves, meadowsweet, Hemp Agrimony willowherb and Iris, also hedge shrubs of hazel, Field maple, Blackthorn, Elder, Sallow, Wayfaring tree and Guelder rose, Holly and wild Cherry or Gean.

There are also copses and spinneys with larch, Limes, Sycamore, Yews, Spruce and silver firs.

Notes by S.H. Brown and G.A. Hyde.

in 1920

The Loders Scouts and Cubs were started by a Mr. Arthur Garrard, who was training to be a Surveyor and Land Agent with Messrs. Sanctuary & Son, Bridport.

Capt. C.T. Sanctuary had already established a troop at Powerstock in 1920, and the two troops joined in sports activities and training at times, when possible.

Each had a cricket and football team for friendly contests, and Mr. Garrard or Capt. Sanctuary arranged for experts to train for, and others to take the numerous tests required for badges. Tenderfoot on entry, then second class, and finally first class Scout Badges.

These were followed later by specialist badges for various sports, trades, skills and studies of all kinds, which were very absorbing and of great benefit to all members.

We used to meet at the Uploders Parish Room, twice a week, and have great fun on trips to the hills, practising controlled fire lighting, cooking meals for picnics, studying wildlife and natural history, also engaging in sports and signalling in semaphore or morse.

Our first Annual Camp away from home was in 1920 at Cheddon Fitzpaine, near Taunton, where our Scoutmaster, Mr. Garrard's parents made us so welcome and comfortable.

During the camp studies on trips around the district with its' varied crafts, buildings, countryside and wildlife were much enjoyed.

Annual competitions with neighbouring troops took place each year for a banner or shield or cup for various sports or general Scouting knowledge.

In 1921 Col. Le Breton of Loders Court, ^(later Sir E. Le Breton) became our Scoutmaster, as Mr. Garrard left for London, and Miss Bishop was Cubmistress.

The Annual Camp that year was at Maidencombe, near Torquay, a lovely area for seaside activities, exploration and entertainment. First Aid and Swimming training had been a priority that year.

By now Loders had three patrols, the Seagull (the first) the Hawk and the Tiger. a total of 18 Scouts and some Rover Scouts.

1922 was a very special year for Loders Scouts, as Col. Le Breton, our Scoutmaster arranged a camp in Jersey, his family home for eleven centuries, and we had a wonderful time exploring the island, its' towns and villages, also trips to Guernsey and Sark.

Mr. R. Tolley, Waddon Farm, Loders then joined our troop being Cubmaster. At the same time Girl Guides and Brownies were started in Loders by Mrs. Lesser and Miss Bishop in Loders.

1923 our Camp was at Rugby, and the following year 1924, was also a very special one for all scouting as a World Jamboree was to be held at Wembley, London, at the British Empire Exhibition, with two weeks performances in the new Wembley Stadium by Scouts.

Great activity for competitions for the West Dorset Scouts' Banner took place among local Troops, and was held in Bridport. Loders Troop was lucky enough to win this, and went on to compete with North, South and East Dorset for the Dorset County Banner, which they also won that year.

When at Wembley one patrol had to join in the Grand Parade each day in the Wembley Stadium, with our own Loders Scout Banner, West Dorset Banner and Dorset County Banner. There was a wonderful camp near the Exhibition, and the Scottish Scouts were near us, always practising on their bagpipes, as there were several super Scottish bands in the Parades each day.

The Exhibition was spectacular and entertaining in every way, and all had the opportunity to visit it each day and explore the Pavilions of each Country, the Palaces of Art, Industry and Engineering, and the events at the Stadium. There was also an extensive entertainments and sport section.

An interesting feature for all was the first special issue of stamps for Britain.

Most of the Troop were Stamp collectors, (dare we say philatelists,) all being encouraged by Col. Le Breton, who frequently gave us stamps from letters he received, from abroad. 69.

for us
Whilst in London Col. Le Breton arranged a coach tour to see Londons' special buildings of historic and National importance, also the Parks and Gardens and Zoo. A time of great interest for Loders boys and excellent training for youth.

In 1925 our Camp was at Swanage, and we explored the region around Purbeck and Poole, where the first Scout camp of the movement was held by Sir Robert Baden Powell on Brownsea Island in 1907.

The Annual Camp 1926 was at Christchurch, and with the New Forest and Bournemouth nearby there was plenty of interest and activity for all.

Our 1927 Camp was in Wales and Wye Valley and Snowdonia fully explored and in 1928 the Lake District.

Then in 1929 another World Jamboree at Arrowe Park, Birkenhead with Col. Le Breton as Camp Commandant, and the Loders troop attached to Headquarters staff, who were responsible for the issue of food rations each day, also postal information and enquiries centre.

The Stadium and Camp was immense, and the Prince of Wales (Later King Edward 8) and Sir Robert Baden Powell resident visitors at the time. at Arrowe Park.

Every nation worldwide seemed to be represented, and it should have served as a great get together for the future understanding of the human race.

Liverpool Cathedral was partly built and a centre for some services. Many friends were made from Britain and overseas, and the daily exhibitions, arena displays, sports and competitions were entertaining, interesting and instructive.

Such a wonderful organization for the training, instruction and entertainment of youth to extend interests of all kinds, sports and skills, and to form an understanding of all types of human outlook and character, and we hope tolerance and appreciation of all aims for the benefit of the human race.

Now it is very evident that complete care and understanding must be exercised with natural resources, wildlife and environment, and tolerance over religions and outlook of all races considered.

So we must BE PREPARED to help and understand one another to make this life as happy and comfortable as is possible for all humans and animals and plants, and conserve and preserve our natural environment for the benefit of all.

Sadly the second World War occurred 1939 - 1945, but the Scout movement was kept alive and renewed and revived with enthusiastic supporters since the death of Sir Robert Baden-Powell.

Our local enthusiast Sir Edward Le Breton died 1961, a great loss to Loders Village, and the Scouts, but a Mr. Pope kept the Loders Scouts and Cubs going for some time, then with easier transport many joined the Bridport troop or West Bay Sea Scouts.

Later a Wolf Cubs Pack was run by a Miss Armitage, Uploders, and Brownies by Mrs. R. Price, 41, Loders, and this is a flourishing group today, doing all kinds of good works, and extensive studies and training of all types.

They join and assist with all local activities, and it is hoped that they will receive all support and encouragement to extend their number and activities.