



Cleeve Prior Chroniclers

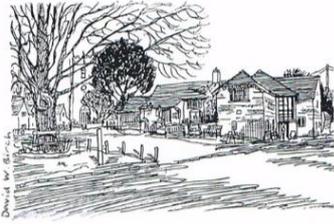
Recollections of Doreen Yapp



Mrs Yapp moved in to No 5, The Green in 1962. Known as Manor Cottages hers was the first to be taken by an outsider coming from Bickmarsh, and living next to her father-in-law rented the house next door. All the other residents worked at the Manor including Mr Downing at No 3 who was the butler.

In those days Doreen's husband had a motor bike only and one of her first purchases was a second hand twin tub washing machine! They were married at Cleeve Prior Church and the wedding photographs were taken in the front garden of Fir Tree Corner. With a small black & white television, a well-kept garden and periodic visits to Devon- they were happy, although the necessity to light fires in the bedrooms indicated how rare central heating was then. Mr David Yapp her husband worked all his life for the firm that eventually became Espley Tyas Building Services





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On the main road was the barn where the 3 C's transport firm sent their fruit & veg for distribution to shops & markets.. At this time market gardening was still a staple occupation. Mill lane Nurseries were at this time run by Mr Norden



There were two shops in the village in the 1960's. One was the old post office with directly opposite a second, both general stores in direct competition Also at this time the Tea Shop, next to Mill House, was open with many of the customers being those convalescing at the home at the bottom of Mill Lane. Apart from the Tea shop was providing food & drink, for three years the Manor itself opened a restaurant which hosted the football clubs annual dinner for at least two years.

The Cleeve Prior Football Club was in action until the Late 70's, the ground was the field to the left of Alf Plummer's house, on the Bidford Road. Adjacent this was a plum orchard in which a barn provided meals after each match. David & George Cole & John Lyne's were all active members

