

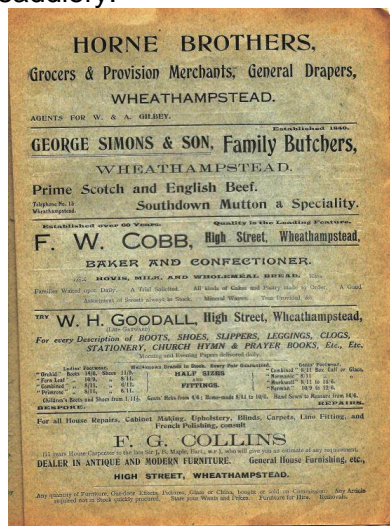


News and events

- There are many Hertfordshire-based events among the **Heritage Open Days** in the week 9 to 18 September, including at Piccotts End (Hemel Hempstead), Ayot St Peter Church and Codicote Village Museum. See www.heritageopendays.org.uk
- **Next meeting:** There will be no meeting in August so our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 21 September** when Elizabeth Eastwood will tell us about **'The Wicked Women of Hertfordshire'**.

Shopping in 1912

Wheathampstead Parish Magazine sold for one penny in January 1912. It is full of fascinating adverts for local businesses, showing how the village had a full range of shops catering for basic needs like bread and meat as well as clothing, cars and saddlery.



A page from the magazine

F.W. Cobb's business as baker and confectioner had already been established for over 60 years by that date. Cobb made *'All kinds of Cakes and Pastry'* to order and promised *'Families Waited upon Daily'*. **W.Trustram**, also a *'Baker & Confectioner'* was in the High Street. He was licensed to bake Spillers' *'Turog Bread'* and was particularly proud of his *'Whole-meal Bread'* and *'Sweets of the finest Quality'*.

George Simons & Son, established in 1840, was a family butchers selling *'Prime Scotch and English beef'* with *'Southdown Mutton a Speciality'*. His shop is now Charlie's café.

To care for your feet, **W.H.Goodall** (previously Gatward) offered *'every description of Boots, Shoes, Slippers, Leggings and Clogs'* and also *'Stationery, Church Hymn & Prayer Books'*. **Tom Westwood**, *'Builder and House Decorator'*, had

his premises in Station Road; he offered spring cleaning as a speciality and would make ladders to order.



Transport needs could be catered for by **T.Wren & Co.** *'Coachbuilders and General Smiths'* in the High Street. As well as repairing carriages and motors, Mr Wren built vehicles to order and had a sideline as an antique dealer. Competition came from a branch of **W.Waters & Sons** of Hatfield. They were *'Coach and Motor Body Builders and Automobile Engineers'*; their telephone number was Wheathampstead 1.

Many readers will remember Collins Antiques. In 1912, the business was owned by **F.G.Collins** ('Fred') who also advertised *'House Repairs, Cabinet Making, Upholstery, Blinds, Carpets, Lino Fitting and French Polishing'* as well as furniture for hire and a removals service.

Horse-owners would call on **A.Matthews**, *'Saddler and Harness Maker'*, who supplied *'whips, bits, brushes and stable requisites'* including horse rugs. Hand-made harness was a speciality and he offered *'Trunks & bags neatly repaired'*.

Horne Brothers were a mixed business, being both *'Grocers & Provision Merchants'* and *'General Drapers'*. **C. Latchford** was the village hairdresser and tobacconist. He also sold a wide variety of toiletries as well as walking sticks and umbrellas (which he could also repair and recover), birthday and Christmas cards, spectacles *'to suit all Sights'* and Hyde's Bird Seeds.

Ruth Jeavons and Patrick McNeill

Have a look also at:
www.wheathampsteadheritage.org.uk/highstreet/highstreethistory.asp