

Mr. Beche 17th June, 1986.

This is a piece that I wrote for the Parish Notes a number of years ago, a paragraph for each issue, then all joined together perhaps you would like a copy of it. It is however partly imaginative. Have you seen the bit about Queen Elizabeth I, this apparently used to be the main road to Oxford. I moved here nineteen years ago, there have been no alteration in the village since we have been here except Plowden Park which was built about ten years ago. They are just building where the nurseries were, at this present time. The mystery has never been solved as to why this is NO.19 the next one is 18 which is Aston Lodge. I do not know anything about the history of the house. Have you seen the old map of the church which hangs in the church.

I think the house next door where the two Miss. Tower's live is on the old map together with outer cottages down the lane further. I think Mrs. Bird lives in the last house of the three white houses further on past Home Farm on the Green. My wife and I came from Taplow to be near our daughter who lives at Henley. We haven't really altered the house at all. The cottage opposite to the church used to be the Wheatsheaf Inn. When we came to the village Aston Park had not long been built, it nearly put us off coming here.

I found a lot of my information about the church by going round it with a magnifying glass looking in all the places other people had not bothered with. That wonderful little staircase up to the rood loft and there is also a marvelous stair-case up to the tower.

Mr. Beche lent us a copy of a calendar for us to photo-copy. He also gave us a copy of his comic rhyme. He has written a history of the First World War and my auto-biography since, I have also kept a diary since 1945. My wife died last year she came from Wales so I am at present working on her family tree, my son and I are doing it together. He lives in London, he produces Opera, all over the world I also investigated all the Heraldry in the church. A copy of this I lodged in the Bodleian Library. Mr. Beche gave us permission to put his nonsense rhymes in the book.