



**Esc exits
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A Little History of Cherington and Stourton

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page two>>



Welcome screen of the website of *A Little History of Cherington and Stourton*.



"The Lower House", referred to in Chapter VII of *A Little History of Cherington and Stourton*.



Two old Stourton houses.



The Lower House is now known as Dickins' Dairy.



This Stourton farmhouse belonged to the landowning Shaw family for generations.



Pressing cider apples on the Green at Sutton-under-Brailes, half a mile from Stourton.



Haymaking at Mr Harry Shaw's farm in Stourton, in the early twentieth century



Village of Cherington.



A winter view of Cherington.



Steel's Lane, Cherington.



"Ridge and furrow", vestiges of the old strip cultivation system used before the Enclosure.



Cherington and Stourton men volunteering to fight in the Great War. Sept 10 1914.



Sale of horses for the war.
The Green, Stourton, 1914.



Sale of horses for the war (2).



The War Memorial stands at the top of Featherbed Lane, where the villages of Cherington and Stourton meet.



All but one of the names on the War Memorial are of soldiers who lost their lives in the first of the two world wars.



Memorial in Cherington church to two local soldiers who died in the Second World War.



Date and name stones on some Cherington and Stourton houses.



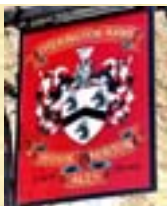
Stourton house bearing a 1695 date/name stone.



Tied cottage, built 1707.



Stourton house dated 1832 and possibly a converted barn.



A view of the Cherington Arms public house.



The River Stour.



Weston House near Cherington, which was demolished in 1934.



Interior view of Weston House.



Two lords of the manor of Weston. Weston is now in the parish of Long Compton.

**Colour photographs by jfs, sjb & hc.
1934 book illustrations, drawings, Dickins family autographs and photographs by kind permission of the Dickins family. Portraits of lords of Weston manor by kind permission of the Warriner family.**



This house was the residence of heiress Margaret Tymes, who in 1658 married Anthony Dickins of Broadway, Gent. It became known as the Lower House when part of the present Cherington House, the Upper House, was built on slightly higher ground nearby. Reproduced from the 1st edition of *A Little History of Cherington & Stourton*.





Opposite Cherington House is the former "Lower House", home of Margaret Tymes in 1658. She married Anthony, the first Dickins to settle in the village. The house later became known as Mr Dickins' Dairy; the "Mr" has now been dropped. The lane from the Stratford to Oxford road and north of the Weston estate enters the village here.





"Two old Stourton houses", an illustration in the 1934 edition. The one on the left, known as "The Manor", is now screened by trees; it is mentioned by Margaret Dickins as being the home of landowner John Rouse at the time of the Enclosure of the Open Fields in 1805. The fine farmhouse on the right still graces the east end of the village.





This farmhouse dates at least from the seventeenth century and belonged to the landowning Shaw family for generations, during which they provided employment for many local villagers (such as those in the haymakers' photograph in this collection).





The winter sun picks out the colours in the stone of these Cherington houses, in a scene reminiscent of better-known Cotswold villages just a few miles to the south.





Cherington cottages on a winter's morning





Steel's Lane, Cherington, looking north. This street is named after the Steel(e) family who resided here. Steel and its variants is a surname which crops up over the period 1332 to at least 1784 in Margaret Dickins' history of the village.





The Little History indexes several date or name stones under "Houses with date stones".
To see the 1695, 1707 and 1832 houses, click on their stones.





According to the author of *A Little History*, this Stourton house, with its 1695 stone bearing the initials I & S, may in its early days have belonged to the Steel(e) family.



Picture
Album



Date stones



Where the road from Shipston-on-Stour through Stourton joins the road between Cherington (off to the left) and Sutton-under-Brailes, stands this "tied" cottage bearing the date stone 1707. That it is "tied" means that the occupants are bound to work for the landowner, which in this case, means nearby Lane's End Farm.



Picture
Gallery



Date
stones



Picture
Gallery

Known for obvious reasons as "Long Walk", this Stourton house, marked "WJ 1832", and for many years the home of the Bailey family, may originally have been the property of William Jaques. There is some architectural evidence that it was once a barn, and sometime police house - the "lock-up" at the rear still has iron rings fitted in the walls.



Date
stones



The Cherington Arms lies in the north-eastern part of the village, near the boundary with Stourton. The only pub in the villages, it is one of the main centres of social life.





The River Stour is little more than a stream when it leaves Cherington and Stourton and winds its way down to meet Shakespeare's Avon. Nevertheless, its waters were sufficient in past centuries to turn the wheels of the local mills, and when they flood are still enough to inconvenience local inhabitants and road users.





The ridge and furrow in this old pasture near the River Stour recalls the strip cultivation that was the norm before the Enclosure of the Common Fields revolutionised agriculture in England. Chapter V of *A Little History of Cherington and Stourton* looks at how this was achieved in the village of Cherington at the turn of the nineteenth century.





Haymaking at Mr Harry Shaw's farm, Stourton, early in the twentieth century. Leftmost of the four haymakers is William Cornelius ("Bill") Bailey, next to his father John Bailey (1847-1918). The Bailey family of Stourton once put up a cricket eleven against a side from the rest of their village, and won the match.





Pressing cider apples on the Green at Sutton-under-Brailes, half a mile from Stourton.





The poster reads: "WAR. Men of Warwickshire, join your brothers. We are proud of you." Posing outside the Police House are: Back, left to right: Bert Jarrett, unidentified, unident., George Bailey, unidentified, --- Ivens. Front: George Bryan, --- Joyner, Fred Bailey, A. Woolliams, Riley Brewer, Harry Bailey, Jack Thornett, Frank Gillett. By the gate on the right: Fred Bailey, brother of George.





"Smile at us, pay us, pass us; but do not quite forget; for we are the people of England, that never have spoken yet." G.K. Chesterton, from *The Secret People*.

The Green, Stourton, 1914. Extreme rt. is Eleanor Dickins, by sister "Miss Lilian".



CLICK ON HORSE
for a second photograph



At the beginning of the Great War in 1914, when this photograph was taken, the British Army owned 25,000 horses and only eighty motor vehicles. The number of horses was considered too small and during the next two weeks (!) a further 165,000 were "recruited" from Britain. Most were used for transporting supplies, but the best were for the cavalry and when in action had to carry over 20 stone in weight (280 lbs or 127 kg.). The horses, sometimes fed only on sawdust cake, were always hungry, and often seen trying to eat wagon wheels. By 1917 the British Army were employing over 530,000 horses and 230,000 (mostly American) mules. Perhaps half a million of their horses were killed in the course of the war, but over *three* million men [Click on the fine farmhouse in the centre background to see a modern photograph of it.](#)





Cherington and Stourton War Memorial.
Stourton had been part of the neighbouring parish of Whichford until the two villages of Cherington and Stourton were united in 1910. They still retain their own identities, the War Memorial standing on the boundary between them, at the top of Featherbed Lane.





Cherington and Stourton War Memorial.

The inscription gives the list of those who were killed or who died of wounds:
"..." for the rank means "ditto", Rfln=Rifleman, Gnr= Gunner, Tpr=Trooper.





Second World War Memorial in the Church of St John the Baptist, Cherington.





A Little History of Cherington and Stourton devotes its last two pages to Weston, known at various times as Weston by Cherington and "Weston in ye Thistles" (!), and now part of Long Compton; one owner wrote an interesting book about its history (see Bibliography). This, the last Weston House, was demolished in 1934. Weston is perhaps best known for its connections with the famous Sheldon tapestries.



The Drawing Room at Weston House near Cherington. The house was rebuilt in 1827 in neogothic style by William IV & Queen Victoria's "special architect" Edward Blore, who completed John Nash's Buckingham Palace, and pulled down in 1934 after slowly rotting since its last owner, the 3rd Earl of Camperdown, left in 1918.





Sir George Philips, 1st Bt., and (rt.) the 3rd Earl of Camperdown were both lords of the manor of Weston. The story of this quiet spot made famous by William Sheldon is told in the book "A Prospect of Weston in Warwickshire", copies of which are still available (2003). Details are given in the bibliography section of "A Little History of Cherington and Stourton".

