

THE WEATHER



PROLONGED HEAT & DRY SPELL EXPECTED.

The Meteorological Office reports a heavy, stationary high-pressure system advancing across the southern counties, settling squarely over the Cotswold Vale for the coming week. Skies will remain largely cloudless, with temperatures rising well above seasonal averages throughout the valley.



Saturday Morning Edition — 18 July 1914

A SINGULAR APPARITION ON HIGH STREET

Preposterous Claims of "Scarlet Cabinets" and
Melodious Shadows Near the Churchyard

By Our Correspondent

HEARTHCOMBE — Late last Tuesday eve, a scene of a most peculiar nature allegedly unfolded near the gates of St. Brigid's churchyard. Mr. Arthur Pendelton, a resident of the parish, was making his steady way home from the Lower Taps —having, by his own admission, sampled a measure of local draft—when he encountered a highly singular pair lingering by the lane.

According to Mr. Pendelton, he was approached by a remarkably tall gentleman wearing a wide-brimmed hat and an absurdly long, woolen scarf. This eccentric traveler offered Mr. Pendelton a confection known as a "Jelly Baby" before inquiring, in a highly animated fashion, for the "coordinates of the twentieth century." Before Arthur could offer a sensible reply, the gentleman's spirited female companion swiftly scolded him for "historical inaccuracy," hurrying him toward a humming shadow near the hedge.

Mr. Pendelton maintains he was entirely lucid, even when the mysterious pair vanished alongside a strange sound resembling a "distressed cello."

....Con't Pg3



THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY Restoration of Direct London Service via Oxford Line

LONDON IS NOW TWO HOURS AND THIRTY MINUTES FROM HEARTHCOMBE STATION.

The Directors beg to inform the public that the engineering works upon the Cotswold Line being now entirely completed, **HEARTHCOMBE STATION** has been officially designated an **ALL SERVICES DEPOT & PRIMARY INTERCHANGE.**

Accelerated express steam trains, local valley parliamentaries, and heavy industrial freights will make mandatory halts at the **Hearthcombe platforms** daily.

STATION CALLS	Exp. 42	Parl. 11	Exp. 46	Coley Fr. 9
Paddington Dep	07:45 am	09:15 am	04:20 pm	--
Oxford	09:02 am	11:04 am	05:37 pm	09:10 pm
Kingham	09:58 am	12:20 pm	06:31 pm	10:42 pm
HEARTHCOMBE	10:15 am	12:42 pm	06:50 pm	11:15 pm
Moreton-in-Marsh	10:28 am	01:05 pm	07:03 pm	11:40 pm
Worcester Arr	11:05 am	02:15 pm	07:40 pm	01:05 am

THE LONDON EXPRESS — Departs **Hearthcombe** Daily 7:45 a.m. Arrives **Paddington** 10:15 a.m. First and Third Class Lavatory Carriages fitted throughout.

THE VALLEY PARLIAMENTARY — Local stopping service westward from **Hearthcombe**, calling at **Thornwick** and all valley stations. Departs thrice daily: 9:15 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 7:10 p.m.

THE COLEY COMMODITY FREIGHT — Heavy agricultural and industrial haulage.



THORNWICK & HEARTHCOMBE LIVERY OMNIBUS

**HEARTHCOMBE TO THORNWICK AND ALL POINTS WEST.
WE KNOW EVERY LANE.**

With the Great Western Railway now routing **ALL SERVICES** directly into the **Hearthcombe Mainline Depot**, our Livery stands ready at the forecourt. Comfortable enclosed horse-drawn carriages and modern luggage drays depart **Hearthcombe Station** punctually to meet all incoming mainline arrivals, conveying passengers continuing westward into the rural valley where the steam tracks do not go. Commercial travelers, weekend visitors, and valley residents conveyed directly to **High Street** lodgings, farm gates, and all addresses the railway does not reach.

*The lanes between **Hearthcombe** and **Thornwick** are no obstacle to a valley horse. They never have been.*

MODERATE FARES. Return bookings discounted for regular valley passengers. Luggage handling included. Safe transit guaranteed or the driver answers for it personally.

THE THORNWICK & HEARTHCOMBE LIVERY OMNIBUS CO.
Find us directly at the GWR Station Forecourt. **WE WILL FIND YOU FIRST.**

COMMODORE WARD RETURNS TO THE VALE

Private GWR Consist Arrives Quietly via the
Western Lines

HEARTHCOMBE — We are delighted to report the safe return of **Commodore Burton Ward** and his distinguished traveling party to the valley following their historic journey to the Balkans. Bypassing the busier eastern ports, the **Commodore's** party landed at **Weymouth** on Sunday evening, where a private GWR train stood ready at the quayside to convey them directly home to the Cotswolds.

The private train, consisting of two passenger carriages and several freight wagons carrying estate provisions, arrived at the **Hearthcombe** siding under the cover of dusk. While the **Commodore** has retired to his estate to recuperate from his long travels, locals at the **Social House** have already raised a glass to the successful completion of his mission.

The Lead Dispatch: Rail Gauge Standardization

RAILWAY EXTENSION IN THE WESTERN VALE:

Work has commenced in earnest on the conversion of the old **Western Vale** narrow-gauge line to full standard-gauge specifications. The project is being actively supervised by **Mr. Virgil Stone**, whose technical oversight at the boiler house...Cont'd Pg3



THE HEARTHCOMBE GOLF, TENNIS & COUNTRY CLUB
THE VALE LINKS & ATHLETIC GROUNDS: OPEN TO ALL WHO PLAY.
 In proud execution of the progressive civic spirit that defines our valley, the Directors beg to announce the completion of our expanded athletic campus. Open to every citizen without distinction of class, trade, or gender.
THE INLAND LINKS: Eighteen holes upon the downs. Red championship balls mandatory on the turn due to the calcified Martian Marl roughs.
LAWN TENNIS COURTS: Four newly rolled grass courts for single, double, and mixed-gender play.
THE CRICKET CREASE: Open for parish tournaments and weekend matches.
THE JUVENILE BASEBALL DIAMOND
Introducing the Great American Pastime to the Valley
 The Committee announces the formation of the Hearthcombe Juvenile Baseball League under the exclusive instruction of Mr. Moses Walker, late of the American professional leagues — Head Coach and Master of Play. Boys



**THE HEARTHCOMBE
 STAG AND STANDARD**
 Est. MDCCCXXI — Hearthcombe, Cotswolds, England



ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, HEARTHCOMBE
Parish Notice — Sunday School
SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMENCES AT HALF PAST NINE.
 Father O'Sullivan begs to remind all families of the parish that Sunday School instruction commences promptly at half past nine of the clock each Sunday morning. All children of the valley are warmly welcomed without distinction of household or circumstance. Families are encouraged to arrive in good time. The morning's instruction will conclude in sufficient order to allow the congregation to attend to whatever wholesome arrangements they may have made for the remainder of the Sabbath forenoon.
Parents are reminded that punctual attendance reflects well upon the household and the parish alike. Father O'Sullivan thanks the community for its continued support in spiritual and its welfare.
 ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH, CHURCH LANE, HEARTHCOMBE. ALL ARE WELCOME. HALF PAST NINE. BIDDY

Saturday Morning Edition — 18 July 1914

Local Dispatch

The High Street Telegraph Office:

"INCREASED TELEGRAPH TRAFFIC: The Hearthcombe Post & Telegraph Office reports an unusual surge in incoming trunk line cables this past week, largely attributed to regional grain brokers and holiday arrangements along the quays."

Lower Taps Bridge Repairs:

"BRIDGE TIMBERS REPLACED: Council workmen completed the reinforcement of the timber decking at the Lower Taps stone bridge on Thursday. Drivers of heavy steam-tractors are reminded that the five-ton axle limit remains strictly enforced."

Parish Churchyard Clock:

"PARISH CHIMES RESTORED: Following a brief stoppage noted by several residents last Tuesday night, the clock tower mechanism at St. Brigid's has been cleaned and re-oiled. Horologist Mr. Cloutier assures the parish that the chimes are once again striking true."

The Hearthcombe Cattle Market:

"SATURDAY CATTLE MARKET: A brisk trade was recorded at the morning pens, with prime Cotswold mutton fetching top prices. Bidding was particularly lively among buyers representing regional hospitality houses and estate larders."



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 FOR HEALTH. FOR FELLOWSHIP. FOR THE FUTURE. — BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



**STURDY COBS FOR THE STEEP HILLS.
 CARRIAGES BY THE HOUR OR THE LEAGUE.
 THE THORNWICK LIVERY & JOB-MASTERS**
 The Thornwick Livery has supplied the valley with reliable horse-drawn broughams, sound hunters for seasonal hire, and experienced coachwork for thirty years. We know these hills.
 We know hills. Our horses know them better. For those arriving by the newer conveyance, the Livery is pleased to offer secure covered storage and basic mechanical accommodation for the modern motor-carriage — a service offered, the spirit of progress and the full knowledge that the cobs are still faster on the upper lanes.
 Half-day hire rates reduced for valley residents through the winter quarter. Motor-carriage storage by weekly arrangement. New accounts for regular commercial drayage welcomed.
 The Thornwick Livery & Job-Masters, West End, Thornwick. Enquire at the stable gate. Someone will be there. They always are.



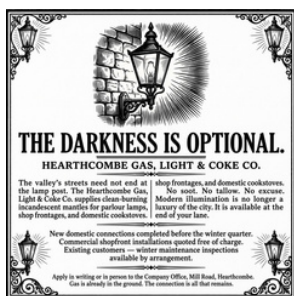
LATEST PARISIAN AND LONDON NOVELTIES FOR THE DISCERNING LADY.
MADAME CLERY — Court Modiste & Robes
 Madame Clery begs to announce a fresh arrival of exquisite silks, delicate lawns, and fine French trimmings direct from her London wholesaler. Specialising in tailored walking costumes for the modern lady — combining the highest elegance with the ease of country movement. Walking skirts, embroidered lace blouses, afternoon tea gowns, and structured linen motoring coats. Intricate millinery executed to order. Mourning commissions completed with the utmost dispatch and discretion.
 Summer consultation appointments now available. New clients welcomed by introduction. Existing clients — the autumn silhouette patterns have arrived and are available for viewing by appointment this week.
 Madame Clery, Court Modiste, High Street, Hearthcombe. Appointments by letter or personal call. Discretion in all commissions assured.

PARISH PROCLAMATION HEARTHCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notice of Annual Steam Infrastructure Inspection & Parish Rates

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act and local council bylaws, the annual safety inspection of the municipal steam-pumping equipment, boiler fittings, and pressure valves at the Lower Mill works will take place on Tuesday, the 21st day of July, 1914.

To facilitate necessary tests, steam pressure along the parish auxiliary lines will be temporarily lowered between the hours of Eight of the clock in the forenoon and Two of the clock in the afternoon. Factory overseers, mill masters, and property owners relying on municipal steam supply are instructed to adjust operational schedules accordingly...Cont'd Pg 3



THE DARKNESS IS OPTIONAL.
HEARTHCOMBE GAS, LIGHT & COKE CO.

The valley's streets need not end at shop fronts, and domestic coals, the lamp post. The Hearthcombe Gas, Light & Coke Co. supplies clean burning, incandescent mantles for paraffin lamps, and of your lane.

New domestic connections completed before the winter quarter. Commercial shopfront installations quoted free of charge. Existing customers - winter maintenance inspections available by arrangement.

Apply in writing or in person to the Company Office, Mill Road, Heathcombe. Gas is already in the ground. The connection is all that remains.



THE HEARTHCOMBE STAG AND STANDARD

Est. MDCCCXXI — Hearthcombe, Cotswolds, England



HONEST ASH, SEASONED OAK. NO FOREIGN FARC.
CRAL & SONS — Timber Merchants, Thornwick

Cral & Sons carries full stocks of locally felled and air-dried timber suited to the immediate structural needs of the parish. Specialized stocks of straight-grained ash for dry shafts, seasoned oak for barns, and heavy elm boarding for bridge repairs. We do not use imported continental softwood, nor do we compromise on the cure. If it grows in the valley, it belongs in the valley's buildings.

Free delivery by horse-cart to all farmsteads within the Thornwick parish bounds for orders exceeding two cords.

Cral & Sons, The Semples, West Lane, Thornwick. Ask for old Jones. If he is dead, shoot.

Saturday Morning Edition — 18 July 1914

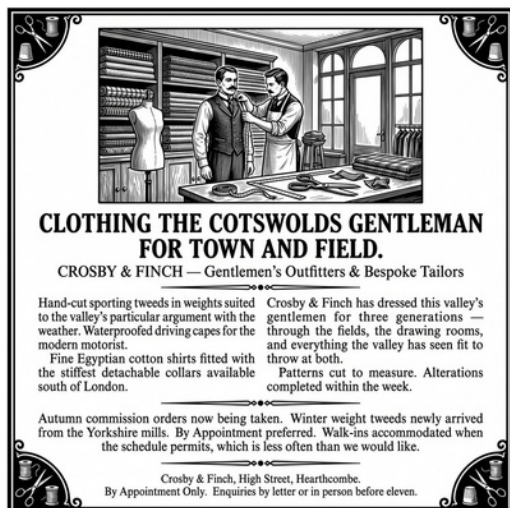
...Cont'd from Pg1

The Alleged Red Cabinet

Turning the corner shortly thereafter, Mr. Pendelton further alleges he spotted a tall, bright red cabinet labeled "Telephone" standing on the roadside. This is a preposterous claim, given that no such scarlet contraptions exist anywhere in the parish, nor has the National Telephone Company authorized such public fixtures.

Upon reaching his cottage, Arthur recited the sequence of events to Mrs. Agnes Pendelton. Deeply concerned for her husband's sanity, Mrs. Pendelton escorted Constable Higgins to the alleged sighting the following morning. They found absolutely nothing but a patch of peculiarly trampled grass.

While Constable Higgins has officially blamed the incident on "over-indulgence" at the taps, the landlord of the establishment maintains that Mr. Walker's Cream Ale produces nothing but absolute clarity of mind. We urge our readers to keep their eyes on the road and their umbrellas close at hand.



CLOTHING THE COTSWOLDS GENTLEMAN FOR TOWN AND FIELD.
CROSBY & FINCH — Gentlemen's Outfitters & Bespoke Tailors

Hand-cut sporting tweeds in weights suited to the valley's particular argument with the weather. Waterproof driving capes for the modern motorist.

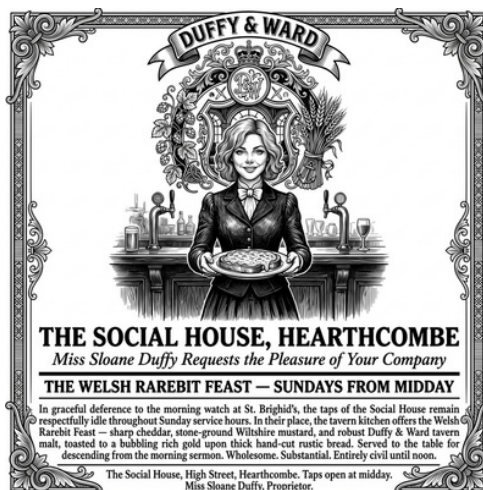
Fine Egyptian cotton shirts fitted with the stiffest detachable collars available south of London.

Crosby & Finch has dressed this valley's gentlemen for three generations — through the fields, the drawing rooms, and everything the valley has seen fit to throw at both.

Patterns cut to measure. Alterations completed within the week.

Autumn commission orders now being taken. Winter weight tweeds newly arrived from the Yorkshire mills. By Appointment preferred. Walk-ins accommodated when the schedule permits, which is less often than we would like.

Crosby & Finch, High Street, Heathcombe. By Appointment Only. Enquiries by letter or in person before eleven.

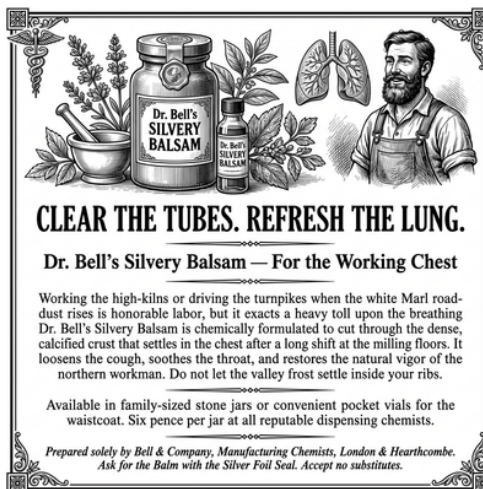


THE SOCIAL HOUSE, HEARTHCOMBE
Miss Sloane Duffy Requests the Pleasure of Your Company

THE WELSH RAREBIT FEAST — SUNDAYS FROM MIDDAY

In graceful deference to the morning watch at St. Brigid's, the taps of the Social House remain respectfully idle throughout Sunday service hours. In their place, the tavern kitchen offers the Welsh Rarebit Feast — sharp cheddar, stone-ground Wiltshire mustard, and robust Duffy & Ward tavern malt, toasted to a bubbling rich gold upon thick hand-cut rustic bread. Served to the table for descending from the morning sermon. Wholesome. Substantial. Entirely civil until noon.

The Social House, High Street, Heathcombe. Taps open at midday.
Miss Sloane Duffy, Proprietor.



CLEAR THE TUBES. REFRESH THE LUNG.
Dr. Bell's Silvery Balsam — For the Working Chest

Working the high-kilns or driving the turnpikes when the white Marl road-dust rises is honorable labor, but it exacts a heavy toll upon the breathing Dr. Bell's Silvery Balsam is chemically formulated to cut through the dense, calcified crust that settles in the chest after a long shift at the milling floors. It loosens the cough, soothes the throat, and restores the natural vigor of the northern workman. Do not let the valley frost settle inside your ribs.

Available in family-sized stone jars or convenient pocket vials for the waistcoat. Six pence per jar at all reputable dispensing chemists.

Prepared solely by Bell & Company, Manufacturing Chemists, London & Heathcombe. Ask for the Balm with the Silver Foil Seal. Accept no substitutes.

Cont'd From Pg 2

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL

Notice is further given that the general parish rate for the second half of the current year has been fixed at Two Pence in the Pound. Rate collections will commence on August 1st at the Parish Office.

By Order of the Board,
E. R. THORNTON, Esq.
Clerk to the Council, Heathcombe

Cont'd from Pg1

...house and local works has earned high regard. Once the iron is laid and the ballast set, the upgraded track will establish a direct, uninterrupted rail link connecting Thornwick and the Western Vale directly into Heathcombe and the broader GWR national network. Traders and timber merchants alike foresee a major boom in cross-vale transport before the autumn frost.

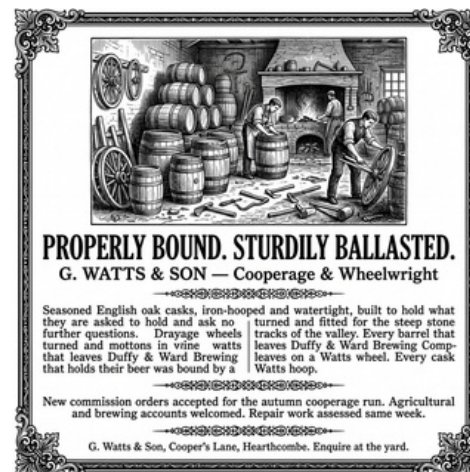


SERVICES OFFERED
ALFIE POTTS — Countryman's Services

Vermyn Swiftly Removed. Ferrets of Unrivalled Breeding available for the Clearing of Barns and the Discunfitting of Unwanted Guests of all Varieties. Discretion Guaranteed. Reasonable Rates. Rabbits also. No Gamekeepers Need Apply.

First removal free if the second job is booked same week. Ferrets returned after. Mostly.

Leave Word at the Taps. Ask for Alfie. Do not ask for Alfie by his other name.

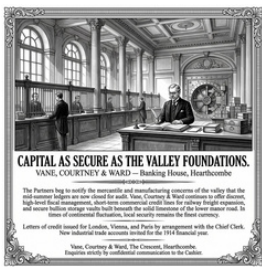


PROPERLY BOUND. STURDILY BALLASTED.
G. WATTS & SON — Cooperage & Wheelwright

Seasoned English oak casks, iron-hooped and watertight, built to hold what they are asked to hold and ask no further questions. Drayage wheels turned and fitted for the steep stone tracks of the valley. Every barrel that leaves Duffy & Ward Brewing Comp. leaves on a Watts wheel. Every cask that holds their beer was bound by a Watts hoop.

New commission orders accepted for the autumn cooperage run. Agricultural and brewing accounts welcomed. Repair work assessed same week.

G. Watts & Son, Cooper's Lane, Heathcombe. Enquire at the yard.



Saturday Morning Edition — 18 July 1914

THE PARISH SOCIAL RECORD & GENTRY DIRECTORY

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES AT THE SOCIAL HOUSE:

Miss Sloane Duffy notes a steady influx of commercial travelers and regional buyers arriving via the 10:15 a.m. London Express.

Visiting Engineers: A delegation from the Swindon Locomotive Works remains in residence for the Western Vale rail extension.

Estate Notices: Commodore Burton Ward's estate office confirms that public receiving hours at the Vale Manor remain suspended until further notice following his return.

Lost & Found: A silver pocket timepiece, engraved with the initials A.P., was dropped near the St. Brigid's gates on Tuesday night. Enquire at the Constable's station.

HEARTHCOMBE PETTY SESSIONS & MAGISTRATES' GAZETTE BEFORE THE BENCH (THURSDAY)

Bicycle & Lamp Infringement: A young clerk from the Oxford Line freight yard was fined 1s. 6d. for riding without a lit oil lamp after dusk along the High Street.

Drunkenness & Disorder: One offender, apprehended near the railway arches on Tuesday eve, was discharged with a stern caution upon payment of court costs (2s.).

Constable Higgins Reports: All licensed houses in the parish observed strict closing hours throughout the past fortnight.

THE AGRICULTURAL & GRAIN REPORT

JULY HARVEST PROSPECTS & MARKET RETURNS

CEREALS & MALTING BARLEY:

With the summer heat holding steady across the valley, harvesting across the lower meadows is expected to begin in earnest before the month's end. Early samples of two-row malting barley brought in from the eastern slopes show exceptional bushel weight and a remarkably clear husk. Mr. Edmund Hale, after inspecting the first trial sheaves near the parish boundary, reports that the grain promises superior starch conversion—a welcome assurance for local bakers and regional brewers preparing their autumn mashes. Wheat remains firm on the local exchange at 34s. 6d. per quarter, with millers bidding competitively for clean, dry parcels.

HOPS & COUNTRY PRODUCE:

Reports from neighboring yards indicate a healthy vine growth despite a dry fortnight, with minimal fly damage observed. Haymaking across the vale is now largely concluded; yields are slightly lighter than last season's bumper crop, but the crop has been stacked in prime condition without rain damage.

LIVESTOCK MARKETS:

At the Tuesday pens, fat sheep met with a brisk demand, prime Cotswold wethers realizing 48s. to 54s. per head. Grazing cattle showed steady value, though store beasts were somewhat slow to move owing to short pasture growth. Dairymen report butter holding at 1s. 2d. per lb. at the High Street stalls.



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HEAVY INDUSTRIAL FREIGHTS — Dedicated goods services for bulk transport, including coal and agricultural produce, available by arrangement. Enquire at Station Master's Office.



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FOR WHAT AILS YOU. FOR WHAT INTERESTS YOU.



MANSERGH & CO. — Dispensing Chemists & Photographic Dealers

Mansergh & Co. dispenses with equal expertise across two very different human needs. At the front counter, Mansergh's Celebrated Lung Tonic for the Cotswolds Chill — proven relief for the damp mornings and persistent coughs of valley life.

At the rear counter, fresh shipments of Eastman Kodak silver-gelatin plate film, film, developing chemicals of the highest pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical purity, and imported French lavender water for those whose ailments are of a more pleasant variety.

This fortnight: complimentary developing of one plate per roll purchased. Lung Tonic — three bottles for the price of two while the autumn stock lasts.

Mansergh & Co., High Street, Heathcombe. Dispensing and photographic enquiries welcome at separate counters, for the comfort of all concerned.