



[Baptist Church](#)



[Fruit Picking in 1941](#)



BLUNTISHAM
HERITAGE
PROJECT
in partnership with
Bluntisham Parish Council

HERITAGE PROJECT



Welcome to the November newsletter. A quick thank you to all the people who attended the recent open morning that was held at the Village Hall. It was great to see you all there and thank you again for all the contributions that you brought with you.

This month's featured photo is another gem that has come to light in the last month, a big thank you to Norman Gill and Peter Searle for sharing this photograph with us. It shows the White Swan public house in the background and the Royal Oak pub in the foreground, The Royal Oak was demolished and is now where you will find Sayers Court. It does give you a different perspective on how East Street would have once looked. At one point there were 11 pubs in the village and we are working on a project to uncover as much history as we can about the village pubs. Perhaps if you live in one of the old pubs, and have some information on the history of your house you would be kind enough to get in touch and let us share it.



This is an aerial shot of the village taken in 1998, on it you can see a game of Cricket on a playing field that lacks a village hall. Also at the top of the photo on the left you can see the construction of Sumerling Way and Laxton Grange. More aerial photographs are now on the website in the location galleries.

Another new addition since the October newsletter is the article that Elaine Gebbie has researched and written on the history of the Old Day School. It tells the story of Mr Duggins' the headteacher and his struggles with absent children, his assistant teachers, monitors, the smoke filled classrooms and various characters who attended the school between 1899 and 1905. It's a really interesting read, and very moving too, as three of the characters in the article lost their lives during the First World War and are commemorated on our War memorial .

If you click on this link it will take you there :<https://www.bhp-pc.org.uk/school-pre-1900/>

We have also had over 90 photographs shared with us by Shirley Purvis who was a teacher at St Helens from 1975 to 1992 and was well known to everyone that attended the school. The photos cover all the years that she worked there and there are literally loads of names and faces that you will recognise. Please register on the site and let us have some of the missing names to some of the faces. <https://www.bhp-pc.org.uk/school-1950-onwards/>

Please let us know if you would like to contribute to the archive, please contact us via the website or by phone on 07895 476682, or in person at 9 Bramley Grove, Bluntisham.

Thank You