

Dinton Cricket Club Dinner.

In the March edition of the Parish News I wrote about Dinton cricket in the earlier days. After that publication I was saddened to learn of the death of a Dinton man (Jack Tibbatts) and in his possessions was a photograph which is shown below.

Col. Rev. Major Henry
Watson Drury Landsbera Jeffrev

Eric
Gregory (2nd
from end)

John
Stratford



Reg. Ward

Bert Hughes

Tom Brandon

Gordon
Weedon

Frank Joe Albert Jack and Jack Keith
Rooney Giles Giles Tibbatts Jeffrey
Senior Junior

I believe that this photograph was taken in 1948 and is of the Dinton cricket club annual dinner. Many of these men sitting around the tables are now dead of course but I was certainly the youngest one there and Eric Gregory still lives in Stone. I have to say that I do not remember being there and this is the first time that I have seen this photograph but 61 years or so is a long time! Sir William Currie who was President of the club at the time is not in the picture but as he was the Chairman of the P. & O. shipping line he was most likely away on business! Another absentee is Alan Jeffrey (Henry's elder son) who was probably doing his National Service in the Royal Air Force. Horace Jeffrey who died last year is sitting close to Tom Brandon. (Tom and Horace ran a builder's business). With a German sounding name Major Landsberg kept a low profile during the war years although we all knew that he was a true patriot just as every other person in Dinton was. Joe Giles was the licensee of the White Horse public house. Frank Rooney worked on Sir William's estate and Albert Giles was Patrick Wise's property agent. The Reverend Drury lived in the rectory in Cuddington and was vicar of Dinton as well. He loved cricket and I am told that he later wrote a book on cricket. Young Jack Tibbatts who is sitting with his father played football for the village youth team and was very well liked amongst us. Keith Jeffrey (Henry's younger son) died fairly young and he was a good all round sportsman. Jack Gregory and Reg. Jones are also there and in those days I knew all of them well but the advancing years have taken a toll on the memory!

What puzzles me greatly is that pint beer pot next to me on the table and some of the contents have been consumed! In 1948 I was just 13 years old, both Jack Tibbatts and Keith Jeffrey were about 15 and underage drinking was almost unheard of and not encouraged by any adult and certainly not by my father. Perhaps it was a non-alcoholic beverage!! Note that on the curtain the initials DVH which is of course for Dinton Village Hall.