

# Harefield History Society

Affiliated to the Uxbridge Guild of Arts

Newsletter no. 48 Winter 2004

## Committee

T Hillier	Chairman
B Waterman	Secretary
A Batchelor	Treasurer
R Goodchild	Programme
M Marjoram	Newsletter
J Hillier	
M Dawson	
G Isaacs	



Saint Mary the Virgin, Great Brington

## Winter Programme 2004 - 5

2004

27 <sup>th</sup> September	Alan Batchelor	Glen Miller Story
25 <sup>th</sup> October	John Hale	Farms of Harefield
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	George Mist	Our Ancient Woodlands

2005

24 <sup>th</sup> January	Alan Batchelor	Great Mysteries of 20 <sup>th</sup> Century
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Gordon Isaacs	History of Chequers
21 <sup>st</sup> March (3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month due to Bank Holiday. This date may change due to clashing with other events)	Dr Brenda Harrold	History Written in the Flora
26 <sup>th</sup> April	Annual General Meeting followed by Local Studies	

The Harefield History Society winter meetings are held in park Lane Village Centre and start at 8 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

*To enable the society to continue offering outings of a historical nature, it is crucial our coaches are full. This will also enable us to reduce future costs. If you know of any individual or group who maybe interested in our coach trips, please pass on the details of the above days out.*



Tomb of John Spencer and Katherine Kitson

## VISIT TO CHARTWELL, WESTERHAM, KENT THE HOME OF SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2004 members and friends paid a most interesting visit to this world-renowned home of Winston Churchill, who said of it "I love the place." It is now a National Trust property.

He bought the house and the surrounding 80 acres in 1922 and it remained the family's home for the rest of his life. It was a gloomy mid-Victorian mansion and Churchill set about modernising it immediately, adding a three storey garden wing, which contains the dining room, the drawing room and Lady Churchill's bedroom one above the other. The elevations were also considerably altered, with the entrance porch being replaced with an elegantly carved 18<sup>th</sup> century wooden door surround, which had been found in a London antique shop.

Clementine Churchill soon turned the house into a family home a state in which it recognisably exists today. It also contains comfortably a fascinating and vast collection of family treasures and a dazzling display of memorabilia - items from every stage of Churchill's varied, eventful and colourful life - photographs, cartoons, portraits, objects, uniforms and honours galore - all evoking the career and wide-ranging interests of a great statesman.

His study, the heart of Chartwell, which he used constantly for 40 years, except during World War II, as it was thought that the enemy might discover that he was based there, was a revelation. He did all his writing there on his feet as "he found it easiest to think standing up" and dictating directly to a secretary as he strode up and down - he kept two of them busy full time. The reference books that he used for his historical works were laid out on a lectern so that he could consult them while on his feet.

The estate and house are set high in a wooded landscape, with superb views to the south over the Weald of Kent. There are formal lawns and well-planted terraces immediately around the house; the planting throughout having been planned by Clementine. The stones commemorating Churchill's favourite poodles and his cat Jock, near the croquet lawn are a lovely family touch. Churchill was passionate about his wonderful garden with its secluded pools, one of which he heated for swimming - something he enjoyed a great deal. Other pools were stocked with Golden Orfe, the fish that fascinated him so and in his old age he spent much time there sitting quietly and feeding them from a box, which is still there today.

Winnie's brick laying was there for all to see in the summerhouse "Marycot" that he built for his daughters, and numerous garden walls in the former kitchen garden. His Studio nearby, where he spent a lot of time, is crammed with serried ranks of his paintings, many done in exotic places around the world.

The main feature of this part of the garden is the Golden Rose Avenue planted in 1958. These golden and yellow roses are recorded in the splendid Golden Rose Book, kept in the Dining Room, illustrated with watercolours by many fine British artists of the day and commissioned by the Churchills' children in celebration of their parents' golden wedding.

It was surprising to learn how Churchill, seemingly successful and a prolific author - he won a Nobel Prize for Literature, had existed precariously at various stages of his life. Good friends often had to come to his rescue financially enabling him to stay on at Chartwell. Finally, in 1947 a group bought the estate so that he could continue to live there and so that it should be preserved for the nation after his death. This is commemorated by a magnificent plaque, which lists the names of those who contributed. For his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday another wealthy friend installed a lift to connect the three floors to facilitate his movement around the house.

John Ross

## THE SPENCER FAMILY — A POET IN THE FAMILY

The second Sir John (d.1586) and Dame Katherine produced eleven children: five sons and six daughters. Of the sons, four headed their own dynasties — their father's great business acumen resulting in three lesser landed estates, Claverdon, Yarnton and Offley, which were given to the younger Sons. The Althorp and Wormleighton patrimony went to their eldest son, inevitably called John.

For the Spencer daughters. Not the eldest, Margaret, who married Giles Allington, from whom the Barons Allington were descended; nor Katherine, the wife of Sir Thomas Leigh, of Stoneleigh in Warwickshire; and not Mary, whose marriage to Sir Edward Aston, of Tixhall, Staffordshire, was the only event of note recorded about her life. It is the other three — Elizabeth, Anne and Alice — who are of greater significance, bringing unwittingly to light the Spencer link to Edmund Spenser, the Elizabethan poet.

It is not possible to establish at this distance exactly how Edmund Spenser was connected to the Spencers of Wormleighton and Althorp. Certainly, the fact that the surname was spelt differently is of no real significance: spelling had yet to be standardized, and the use of 'c' or 's' in the middle of the name was an understandable variable. Indeed, the sixteenth-century stained glass windows from Wormleighton, now in the chapel at Althorp, spell the family name as 'Spenser'. Interestingly, the claim of kinship came not from the Spencers, but from Edmund Spenser himself. The poet Spenser boasted that he belonged to this house.

Edmund Spenser will be for ever remembered as the author of the poem *The Faerie Queene*. Born in London in 1552, he described the city in his 'Prothalamion' as:

*My most kindly nurse*

*That to me gave this life's first native source.*

Educated at Merchant Taylors' School, and Pembroke College, Cambridge, he matriculated in 1569, leaving the university as a Master of Arts in 1576. Two years later he became a member of the Earl of Leicester's household, working from Leicester House in the Strand. For a man who has since become such a celebrated man of letters — the Prince of Poets in his Time — there is a measure of absurdity in the humble task he performed as deliverer of dispatches to Leicester's overseas correspondents

In 1580 Spenser became secretary to Arthur, fourteenth Lord Grey de Wilton, who was then going to Ireland as Lord Deputy. Spenser stayed in Ireland — apart from a couple of visits to England — until the close of 1598. At various stages he was Clerk of the Munster Council — where he made, and enjoyed, the acquaintance of Sir Walter Raleigh — and Sheriff of Cork, an appointment that resulted in Spenser's house, Kilcolman Castle, being plundered by a discontented Irish mob. He fled with his family to London, died a month later in January 1599, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

An interesting footnote to his time in Ireland lies in the identity of the man who shared his rooms in Chancery in 1593: Maurice, Lord Roche of Fermoy. Three hundred and sixty-one years later, Maurice Roche, Lord Fermoy, witnessed the union of his daughter Frances to Johnnie Spencer, Viscount Althorp — my parents' marriage — in the same abbey where Edmund Spenser was buried.

The question of kinship to the Spencer family was one that preoccupied Spenser throughout his working life. In one of his greatest works, '*Cohn Clouts come Home againe*', Spenser referred to Elizabeth, Alice and Anne as the 'sisters three':

*The honour of the noble family — Of which I meanest boast myself to be.*

Certainly, the kinship cannot have been over-close: in '*Muiotpotmos*', a poem dedicated to Elizabeth Spencer — by then Lady Carey — Spenser expresses his gratitude that his claim is recognized by her, in the line '... for name or kindred's sake by you vouchsafed'.

Similarly, Spenser writes to Alice Spencer, in his dedication to her of '*The Teares of the Muses*':

*Most brave and beautiful ladie; the things, that make ye so much honored of the world as ye bee, are such, as (without my simple lines testimonie) are thoroughlie knownen to all men; namely, your excellent beautie, your*

vertuous behabour, and your noble match with that most honourable Lord, the very Paterne of right Nobilitie: but the causes, for which ye have thus deserved of me to be honored, (if honor it be at all,) are both your particular bounties, and also some private bands of affinitie, which it hath pleased your Ladyship to acknowledge.

If the kinship had been intimate, then there would have been no need for the vouchsafing by Elizabeth, nor the acknowledging by Alice; indeed, if the blood link had been close, it would have appeared odd for Spenser to have harped on about it. However, similarly, the claim must have been logically sustainable, or else it would not have been presented by the poet, nor accepted by the Spencer ladies.

The reason behind dedicating poetry to influential ladies of breeding was flattery. Not content with fawning to their human charms, Spenser transformed the three Spencer girls into mythical muses — Phyllis (Elizabeth), Charillis (Anne) and sweet Amaryllis (Alice):

Phyllis the faire is the eldest of the three:  
The next to her is bountifull Charillis;  
But th'youngest is the highest in degree,  
Phyllis, the floure of rare perfection,  
Faire spreading forth her leaves with fresh delight,  
That, with their beauties amorous reflexion,  
Bereave of sence each rash beholders sight.  
But sweet Charillis is the paragone  
Of peerless price, and ornament of praise,  
Admir'd of all, yet envied of none,  
Through the myld temperance of her goodly raies.

The Spencer daughters were the recipients of other dedications from contemporary writers. Milton wrote his 'Arcades' — a poem that could also be delivered as a masque — for Alice. It was first performed in 1602 for Elizabeth I, when she visited Alice and her husband at their home, Harefield Place; indeed, some of Alice's family were in the troupe at that debut performance.

Alice's home was frequented by artists of all kinds. Her husband, Lord Strange, the grandson of Mary, Dowager Queen of France, a sister of England's Henry VIII, was a friend of poets, and even wrote some verse himself. He also was the patron of the company of actors who had previously been attached to the Earl of Leicester, 'Lord Strange's Company'. Spenser, keen to stay on the right side of such a benefactor of the arts, called Strange 'the very Paterne of right Nobilitie', and even praised the lord's amateur artistic efforts posthumously:

He, whilst he lived, was the noblest swain  
That ever piped upon an oaten quill,  
Both did he other, which could pipe maintain,  
And eke could pipe himself with passing skill.

Later generations of the Spencer family were to honour their blood link with Edmund Spenser. When George John, Second Earl Spencer, found his vast collection of books was spilling out from the library at Althorp in the early nineteenth century, his wife, Lavinia, named one of the sitting rooms 'The Spenser Library', filled it with volumes of poetry, and had a portrait of Edmund placed above the fireplace there.

## **BEATING THE BOUNDS BETWEEN HAREFIELD AND RUISLIP – 19 MAY 2004**

During Local History Month Ruislip, Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society once again held a joint meeting with Harefield History Society to beat a portion of our joint boundary. This year it was decided to brave the hazards of muddy and rutted fields, prickly hawthorn hedges and bared wire, to follow the boundary north from Warren Farm as far as Battlerswells at the top of Jackets Lane. Farmers, Robert Horton of Warren Farm, Dick Wylde of Bourne Farm, Mr Paefitt of Youngwood Farm, Mr Cooke of Ducks Hill Farm and Steve Denny of Holland and Holland Shooting Grounds of which Ashby Farm is part, having kindly given their permission, a group of about 30 people met in Bayhurst Wood car park.

### **Rogation**

It was the day before the feast of the Ascension and the end of Rogation, the period when parishioners processed around the fields in medieval times asking God (rogare = to ask) for a fruitful harvest. After the Reformation the processions were transformed into perambulations of the parish boundaries led by the parson and church wardens who literally beat the bounds with willow wands at intervals usually marked by a significant tree or sometimes crosses or boundary stones. Small boys were traditionally beaten at the same time to ensure that they would remember the place in later years and be able to settle future boundary disputes. Sometimes they were given sweets and cakes as well!

### **Gospel Oak and Crouch Cross**

Clearly there has been boundary markers around Harefield, one of the questions put to a Court of Survey held for Richard Newdigate, Lord of the Manor of Harefield, on 26 April 1692, was about Land Marks:

“Whether has any tenant...plowed up or cast down Removed or taken away any Meer Stone, Baulk Hedgerow or Land Share”

The document goes on to mention a cross called ‘Crouch Cross alias French Cross’, where Ruislip, Harefield and Rickmansworth parishes met. In fact this was where we finished our walk. The wood on the north side of Jackets Lane in Ruislip Parish is called French Grove on this day. The cross marked the country boundary between Middlesex and Hertfordshire as well as the meeting of three parishes. The nineteenth century Coal Tax marker in the county boundary at the top of Shrubs Road is only a few yards away from Crouch Cross.

The various markers have long since been removed, but there is a special tree known as the Gospel Oak still in existence in Swakeleys Road, marking the spot where Harefield and Hillingdon parishes met. Probably processions in earlier days had stopped beside it for a reading from the gospels. A stone plaque, set up in 1950, tells us that ‘Beneath this Holy Oak or Gospel Tree, came once a year the Curate and people, to invoke Divine Blessing, Upon their forthcoming crops.’ The present tree is a healthy young sapling.

### **Warren Farm**

The Horton family came out to see us off along the stream that marks the boundary near Warren Farm. The farmhouse (rebuilt in 1946 following a doodlebug explosion on 4 October 1944) straddles the parish boundary. A Ruislip Terrier (land survey) of 1837 refers to it as ‘part house’. At that time it was fairly new. The fields which seem to have been cleared from the North Riding portion of Mad Bess Wood are shown on Rocque’s Map of Middlesex 1754 and on the Ruislip Enclosure Map 1806, but there was no house at those dates. The small estate belonged to Peter Styles of Syppenham, Burnham, Bucks, in the late C18, but Joseph Spicer & Co owned it in 1837 and William Brill was then living there. A few years later it was bought by Joseph Ashby Partridge of Breakspears and was sold to Howard Stransom Button in 1922.

Mr Button lived at The Cedars at Hillingdon and was head of Howard Roberts, a grocery chain based in Uxbridge. He bought up much of the land between Breakspear Road and Ducks Hill in the 1920’s to create a sporting estate, most of it previously having been part of Breakspears.

### **Selsaws and Hodgett Hill**

We followed the stream up hill, noting parts of the hedgerow that seemed to have been allowed to widen and develop into a spring of woodland and at other places relics of what has probably been a double boundary hedge. We crawled through barbed wire into Selsaws, a group of fields, mentioned in Harefield records from the early sixteenth century. Richard Webbe sold them to William Heyden in 1512. They became part of Ashby Farm, which stands on the Ruislip side of the boundary, and were acquired by Mr Partridge about 1840. Here we were joined by seven or eight horses, all seemingly with a penchant for historical knowledge, as they poked their heads between us every time we stopped to look at maps and discuss the view. The parish boundary runs along the eastern edge of Selsaws. Old maps show it as a lane joining Jackets Lane with the Green Lane that runs through Mad Bess Wood and comes out by the Scout Camp, Breakspear Road North.

The northern edge of Selsaws was another old lane, now barely discernible called Clay Lane that ran down the hill from the site of Hodge at Hill to Breakspear Road North near Bourne Farm. Hodge at Hill was demolished sometime in C19 and the hollow where it stood is now in the shooting grounds of Holland and Holland. It belonged to Beatrix Collins in 1518 and became part of the Breakspears estate in 1774 a couple of years after John Joseph Partridge married Elizabeth Ashby. It was part of their marriage settlement.

### **Youngwood and Ashby Farms**

Through gaps and gateways in the hedge we had good views of Youngwood Farm in Ruislip, named after the Youngwood portion of Mad Bass Wood. It is a sixteenth century timber framed building with later additions and mainly modern outbuildings. It is just within the boundary of St. Catherine's Manor in Ruislip and is possibly the house that the Lady Paget permitted her woodward, Thomas Gold to build c1587. From 1873-83 it was part of Lawrence James Baker's Hayden Hall estate and was then owned by the Cox family of Harefield Place and Hillingdon House until the end of WW1. Howard Stransom Button bought it from the Cavendish Land Company in 1922 and it went to the MCC in 1936. Consequently it passed through the GLC 1964-84, to the Borough of Hillingdon. The Churchill family farmed there for much of C19.

Ashby Farm could also be seen and the tops of two cottages called Ashby cottages. The farmhouse appears to have been rebuilt in the early nineteenth century, perhaps when Peter Bonython owned and occupied the farmhouse according to the Ruislip rate books and 1937 Terrier. He sold it to Joseph Ashby Partridge. However, a house has stood on the site since at least the sixteenth century when John Living was given as the owner in a 1565 Terrier. The cottages have a plaque giving their date as 1911. They were part of Commander Tarleton's improvements to the Breakspear estate. The Ive family was resident at Ashby Farm during most of Queen Victoria's reign and the Golding family during the twentieth century.

Because of some difficulty in getting across hedges we deviated from the parish boundary and went through two pieces of woodland with teasing names, Scarlet Spring and Deadmans Grove. We could see, on the hill behind us, some of the buildings of Ducks Hill Farm and the Horse House and the Guinness Trust Flats at the top of Jackets Lane. At the top of a long field we joined a public footpath running from Shepherds Hill to the corner of Jackets Lane, where we rejoined the parish boundary.

### **Battlerswells**

We completed the walk by walking up Jackets Lane which is on the boundary, with French Grove on our right, until we reached Battlerswells. The old Battlerswells was part of Breakspears from the seventeenth century and water from a well or spring was carried in pipes to Breakspears in Commander Tarleton's time. Battlerswells Farm was sold to Charles Hamilton Wickes in 1922 and he and his wife employed a fashionable architect, Philip Tilden, to design a new house. It was described in 'The Builder' in January 1926. When advertised for sale in January 1987 the estate included a country house, stud farm, two workers' cottages and 26 acres. Seven years later the house was bought by an Islamic community and was renamed Dar Al Tebllegh. A much more modern house at the top of the lane is now called Battlerswell Farm. However, the horses have done and some of the outbuildings appear to be falling down. A firm, 'Rebus' is using other outbuildings. We returned to Bayhurst Wood by mini coach.

**Eileen M. Bowlit**

### **THE FRIENDS OF HAREFIELD HOSPITAL**

Is a voluntary organization which came into being in 1953, when it was decided that additional amenities and comforts should be provided for the patients, visitors and staff of the hospital.

A working committee of local people was formed, helpers were organized and financial assistance in the form of annual and life membership subscriptions and donations was rapidly forthcoming in and around the village. From the modest beginning, the membership has grown to over 300, and necessary funds have been raised by means of dances, raffles and bingo and private donations.

The ward trolley-shop service, staffed by voluntary workers, was started in 1956. This provides an essential service to the patients, and gives opportunities for establishing those personal contacts which are such a vital part of our work and which we are most anxious to extend. The first Friend's Pavilion was opened in September 1962. This filled an essential need by providing refreshments and a place to rest in a well furnished lounge for the visitors to the hospital. It is also open to all patients and staff. After the closure of North Wards a second pavilion was built nearer the main hospital by Dr. Idris Jones on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1974. In the year 2003 the Friends of Harefield Hospital celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

### **BOWLING GREEN AT TAYLORS MEADOW**

On Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1953 a small but enthusiastic group of bowlers met for a short service of blessing on Harefield's new bowling green. It happened quite by chance that one year before to the very day the last bit of seed was sown in the green. With out doubt great credit is due to those who conceived and carried out the planting and the cultivating.

Of all the green spots in a place so richly supplied with them Taylour's Meadow is probably the greenest and most delectable. With a natural surround of sheltering trees the flat carpet of grass which always looks so well cut looks refreshing and inviting enough, and now, with bowling green completed, there could surely be no lovelier place for the residence of Harefield to take their walks or play their games. The bowling club will certainly put it to good use and it hoped that many more people will use this delightful place to watch the bowlers and the cricketers who gather there from Saturday to Saturday to play their games.

The Bowling Club has some keen members and with Mr Alex Marks as captain they have a good side. In their match with Middlesex Executives they lost, it is true, but only by a small margin. A full fixture list promises some sport for future Saturdays.

### **HAREFIELD ART SOCIETY**

The Society was formed in February 1975, when we held our first meetings at the old Community Centre, South Harefield as a band of 25 eager painters. By the following April our membership had increased to 35 and due to lack of space we had to keep a waiting list. We owed much to the enthusiasm and practical help shown us by Len Roffey of South Harefield, which carried us along in the early years.

After a brief spell at the new Community Centre, in the autumn of 1977 we moved to the Art Room at John Penrose School, where we enjoyed many pleasant evenings painting together, and occasionally benefited from demonstrations by professional artists. Members also has the opportunity of exhibiting their pictures at Exhibitions held in the Borough, notably at the Great Barn and the Cow Byne in Ruislip, and especially at our own Annual Exhibition held in the Park Lane Library. Our membership grew in numbers.

We moved again with the opening of the Park Lane Village Centre in April 1991, taking part in the Open Days and continuing with our programme as before, meeting on most Thursday evenings, painting together in a friendly atmosphere. We took part in the Centre's Open Days and the Village Fairs.

However, with the passage of time, many of our Founder Members died, others moved away for various reasons, and, as with other Groups and Societies in the village, our membership and range of activities were reduced. With fewer members we could no longer take part in the Events in Ruislip, and the introduction of

Computers to our Library left little or no space to display pictures. We were unsuccessful in recruiting new members in spite of all efforts.

Eventually, in the summer of 2003, the remaining few had to recognize that the Society has become unviable, and reluctantly agreed to close down, which we did in the autumn of that year. The funds remaining in our Banks Accounts were donated to the Park Lane Village Centre., to be used towards the maintenance of the continuing activities, and in recognition of the kind co-operation we had always received from the Library Staff.

**Barbara Swain**

## **HAREFIELD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB      Founded 1868**

Founded in 1868 Harefield United Football Club is the oldest in Middlesex. The Club has had a number of names throughout its history, one of the earliest being Breakspear Institute FC, which played in the local Uxbridge leagues. The oldest copy of a document is the minutes of the AGM held in 1897. We also have early team photographs from 1903 showing some of the many honours won at the turn of the century. There is also a programme from 1922 when Breakspear and Harefield played against each other in front of 1922 people. The merger with Harefield FC was in 1934 when the team became Harefield United. However, they are one of those longstanding clubs who has had success on the football field but little at the senior level.

Harefield United originally played in local leagues, including Uxbridge and District League, before the team progressed to the Great Western combination in 1947. During the years spent in the U&DL Harefield United managed to win Division 3, the Uxbridge Junior Cup and Uxbridge Premier Cup. The Club spent nearly twenty years in the Great Western Combination league winning Division 2 in the first year along with the Chesham Cup. The club winning Division 1 in 1951 followed this. The Reserves had their success during the 1966's in the Great Western combination Reserve Divisions. Harefield's next bit of silverware came after a move to the Parthenon League in 1964, the Championship being won in the debut campaign. After two seasons the 'Hares' moved on to Middlesex League and it was in that competition that they had their most successful period to date. The league Championship was won on occasions between 1966 1971 and the League Cup was also taken twice in that period.

1975 saw Harefield accepted into the Athenian League where they remained for nine seasons. It was a period of slow consolidation for the 'Hares' who eventually claimed the Runners-spot in 1983/84, so earning themselves the right to a place in the newly expanded Isthmian League. United became founder members of the Division Two (North) in 1984/85 and played in that Division for two seasons before changing over to Division Two (South), the Club being caught up in the no-man's land where the boundaries of the regionalized divisions met.

Harefield struggled to make an impact in Division two (North), finishing 18<sup>th</sup> out of the twenty clubs in two campaigns in division two. However the change to South section led to better performances and in 1986/7 they finished 10<sup>th</sup> out of 21 clubs. In the final year of the regionalized leagues saw 7<sup>th</sup> place achieved. This meant that Harefield had made the cut off point for qualification to play in the first year of the newly formed Diadora (Isthmian) in 1990/91. The new division was a struggle and they just missed relegation in the first year, but the next season were demoted along with Southall to Division 3. Despite this setback, the achievements of the club in recent years have been quite remarkable considering that Harefield is a comparatively isolated location with a small population and consequently small crowds. The record attendance at Preston Park is 430, for a FA Vase tie against Bashley.

1995/6 proved to be last in the Icis (Isthmian) League. Due to the lack of funds to carry out ground improvements, the 'Hares' resigned in and were allocated to the Spartan League for season 1996/97.

After one season the Spartan League merges with the South Midlands League. In which they played in Division 1. 2002 saw the Hares gain promotion to the Premier League and missed the League Championship by one point. 2002/3 season they won the Challenge Trophy, beating Dunstable Town 4-1 over two legs. The Hares also reached the final of the Premier League Cup and finished fourth.