

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Continuing our series looking at Stewkley past and present

North Side of Dunton Road

Dunton Road climbs into Stewkley from the south-west and after negotiating a sharp right-hand bend, enters a relatively straight section of road which continues to rise to High Street South. It's the narrowest and most enclosed part of Dunton Road, certainly not designed for the heavy vehicles which thunder by today.

Unlike the south side, the houses on the north side of the road do not form a strong building line, being of an informal arrangement.

Trinity House, No 26 Dunton Road, marks the first property in Stewkley Conservation Area. This was formerly Holy Trinity Chapel, converted from old cottages in 1866 by Reverend Charles Henry Travers, the mastermind behind the 1862 restoration of St Michael's Church. The restoration work to the church failed to achieve Travers' desire for extra seating space, so he built the Chapel of Ease for the convenience of elderly and infirm parishioners no longer able to walk the mile or so from Wing and Dunton Roads to the Parish Church. Happily, both images appear to indicate some continuity in the brick boundary wall of the former chapel.



Further east along the road, two 17th century Grade II Listed Buildings of vernacular character, Nos 14 and 18, can be discerned on both photographic images.

FROM THE GRAPEVINE 10 YEARS AGO...

From September 2011, along with other traffic calming measures, the PC Traffic Sub Committee proposed a 20mph village-wide speed limit to Bucks CC (sounds familiar?)...England cricket vice-captain at the time, Alistair Cook surprised local juniors by dropping in on their game at the Rec...Mursley agricultural contractor Robert Tuckwell complained to the police when his company was targeted by Stewkley residents over the perceived manner in which his vehicles were being driven through the village...Stewkley Local History Group had published a new booklet about the Building and Restoration of St Michael's Church... Nature Watch reported on harvest being hunting time for local birds of prey...Methodist Minister Rev. Jim Gorringe gave early notice of leaving his post in Stewkley at the end of the year...and Stewkley FC 1st team had a mixed start to the new soccer season.



FROM THE GRAPEVINE 20 YEARS AGO...

From September 2001, villager Dennis Stanesby was producing eleven feet tall sunflowers in his Dunton Road garden...even 20 years ago the PC was pressing ahead with proposed traffic calming measures, mainly village entrance gateways and mini-roundabouts...the Royal British Legion was appealing for some younger residents to join the Poppy Appeal collecting team...the PC was supporting Littlecote residents in their campaign to have the entrances to their hamlet furnished with village name signs...local historian Robert Dickens began the trail of the Romans marching along Ivy Lane...and Stewkley Football Club were to field four youth teams in the new season.

