

1897 Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee



The local paper reported that the newly restored church bells were rung at intervals during the day. There was a dinner for all, except the children, at 1 p.m., when the tables were provided by Mr G. Russell of the Three Horseshoes. Mr Eagle (of the Bakehouse) baked all the joints. There were 130 present.

In the afternoon the rector, James Nance, and his wife, gave the children tea on the Rectory Lawn. There were sports in the adjoining field, lent by Mr Rowney. The children's sports were at 5 p.m. Every child received a Jubilee mug or a cup and saucer. The adult sports followed, organised by James Dulley, of the Hall. They included a tug-of-war, running races, sack races and a ladies' slow bicycle race.

At 7 p.m. there was a supper for all, including the children. Mr Nance gave a speech and Mr Gutteridge told of his recent visit to London as a representative of Harborough Volunteers. Then the National Anthem was sung and votes of thanks were proposed. Leftover food or produce was given away next day.

1902 Coronation of Edward VII



Villagers wearing their Sunday best for the 1902 coronation celebration. Note there are no pinnacles on the church tower.

When the day came for the planned coronation in 1902, the King was ill and it was postponed. However, Farndon's preparations were so far advanced that it was decided to stick to the original date.

A large tent was erected in the school yard. There was a service at 11 a.m. and dinner at 1 p.m., when 150 sat down to eat. At 3 p.m. the sports began and there 15 events. The newspaper reported, "The Misses Dulley had also arranged a programme of events for ladies, which caused much amusement." Maybe women's sports were still a novelty in 1902. At 4 p.m. Rev and Mrs Nance provided tea for the children on the rectory lawn and then for all who wanted to share it.

At 7 p.m. the prizes for the sports were presented and then there was a supper at the school (there was no village hall then). At 10 p.m. the National Anthem was sung and votes of thanks proposed.

1911 Coronation of George V

It was decided in May that the pinnacles of the church tower would be restored for the coronation.

The local paper had only a brief report on the actual celebrations. "At East Farndon, following a service in the church at 11 o'clock, there was a dinner in schoolroom for all over 16, a programme of sports was carried out, and a tea was provided in the schoolroom for all under 16."



Tower without pinnacles



Tower with pinnacles