

Information on the COOPER & COLE families.

(Not all names are highlighted.)

From "The Leverstock Green Chronicle" & other sources, compiled by Barbara Chapman

NB The reader should ascertain for themselves whether or not the persons mentioned are related by checking birth/marriage certificates, census returns etc, as my search was undertaken purely on name.

SELECTION OF CENSUS REFERENCES FOR LEVERSTOCK GREEN (NOT NECESSARILY COMPLETE). Transcripts undertaken by Barbara Chapman

1851 – Hemel Hempstead

FRANKLIN	John	39	Tile Kiln	Head	Mar	56	M	Brickmakers Labourer	Herts	Hemel Hempstead
FRANKLIN	Sarah	39	Tile Kiln	Wife	Mar	56	F		Herts	Weston
FRANKLIN	William	39	Tile Kiln	Son	Unm	18	M	At Home	Herts	Hemel Hempstead
COLE	Elizabeth	39	Tile Kiln	Dau	Mar	20	F	Needlewoman	Herts	Hemel Hempstead
COLE	George	39	Tile Kiln	Son-in-Law	Mar	25	M	Agric Lab	Herts	Hemel Hempstead

1851 Chapelry Leverstock Green

Cooper	Thomas	2	Westwick Row	Head	Mar	58	M	Ag Lab	Herts	Redbourn
Cooper	Mary	2	Westwick Row	Wife	Mar	54	F		Herts	Hemel Hempstead
Cooper	Rose Anna	2	Westwick Row	Dau	Unm	27	F	Straw Plaiter	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Hannah	2	Westwick Row	Dau	Unm	20	F	Straw Plaiter	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Sarah M.	2	Westwick Row	Dau	Unm	18	F	Straw Plaiter	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	George	2	Westwick Row	Son	Unm	16	M	Ag Lab	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Samuel	2	Westwick Row	Son		12	M	Ag Lab	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Maria	2	Westwick Row	Grandau		4	F		Herts	St.Michaels

Cooper	Thomas	32	Hempstead Road	Head	Mar	31	M	Ag Lab	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Matilda	32	Hempstead Road	Wife	Mar	23	F		Bucks	Thornborough
Cooper	Ann	32	Hempstead Road	Dau		3	F		Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	George	32	Hempstead Road	Son		1	M		Herts	St.Michaels

Cooper	Thomas	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Head	Mar	40	M	Corn Salesman	Herts	Hemel Hempstead
Cooper	Maria	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Wife	Mar	38	F		Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Mary A.	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Dau	Unm	14	F		Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	William	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Son		11	M	Scholar	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Charlotte	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Dau		9	F	Scholar	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Joseph	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Son		7	M	Scholar	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Emily	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Dau		5	F	Scholar	Herts	St.Michaels
Cooper	Elizabeth	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Dau		2	F	Scholar	Herts	St.Michaels
Wilson	David	59	Three Horseshoes Beer Shop	Nephew	Unm	16	M	Servant	Herts	St.Michaels

1851 Abbots Langley section:

Cooper	James	98	Leverstock Green	Head	Mar	44	M	Agric Lab	Herts	Redbourn
Cooper	Ann	98	Leverstock Green	Wife	Mar	36	F		Herts	Redbourn
Cooper	Thomas	98	Leverstock Green	Son		12	M		Herts	Redbourn
Cooper	Ann	98	Leverstock Green	Daur		8	F		Herts	Redbourn
Cooper	Samuel	98	Leverstock Green	Son		1	M		Herts	Redbourn

Cooper	Charlotte	114	Leverstock Green	Head	Widow	64	F	Straw Plait	Herts	Hemel Hempstead
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1881 Census returns for Leverstock Green**Hemel Hempstead Section**

Cole	George	Leverstock Green	m	Head	54	1827	m	Hemel Hempstead	Straw Dealer
Cole	Charley	Leverstock Green	u	son	20	1861	m	Hemel Hempstead	Handicapped - blind
Cole	Mary	Leverstock Green	u	dau	17	1864	f	Hemel Hempstead	Straw Plaiter
Cole	George	Belconey Leverstock Green	m	Head	23	1858	m	Leverstock Green	Brickmaker
Cole	Sarah	Belconey Leverstock Green	m	wife	22	1859	f	Luton, Bedfordshire	Straw Plaiter
Cole	Katie	Belconey Leverstock Green		dau	3	1878	f	High St Green	
Cole	Elizabeth	Belconey Leverstock Green		dau	10 mths	1880	f	Leverstock Green	

Abbots Langley Section:

Cole	James	The Swan, Pimlico	m	Head	36		m	Millbrook, Bedford	Agricultural Labourer
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Cole	Sophia	The Swan, Pimlico	m	wife	32		f	Cottonend, Bedford	Beerhouse keeper
Cole	Thomas	The Swan, Pimlico	u	son	11		m	Leverstock Green	
Cole	Helen	The Swan, Pimlico	U	daughter	6		F	Pimlico	

Cooper	Maria	Leverstock Green Road	w	Head	69		f	St. Michaels	
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St. Albans Section

Cooper	Samuel		m	head	42		m	Westwick Row	Cordwainer
Cooper	Sarah		m	wife	39		f	Leverstock Green	Hat sewer
Cooper	William		u	son	14		m	Leverstock Green	Agricultural Labourer

Cooper	William		m	head	41		m	St. Michaels	Hay dealer
Cooper	Jane		m	wife	41		f	Hemel Hempstead	
Cooper	Jane		u	daughter	17		f	St. Michaels	domestic servant
Cooper	William		u	son	14		m	Abbots Langley	domestic servant
Cooper	Thomas		u	son	12		m	Abbots Langley	scholar
Cooper	Joseph		u	son	11		m	St. Michaels	scholar
Cooper	Henry		u	son	8		m	St. Michaels	scholar
Cooper	Frederica		u	daughter	5		f	St. Michaels	
Cooper	Laura		u	daughter	2		f	St. Michaels	
Cooper	Emily		u	daughter	7m		f	St. Michaels	

1901 Census**Hemel Hempstead Section**

George	Cole	Head	m	62		Agricultural Engine Driver	worker		Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead
Sarah	Cole	wife	m		40				Bedfordshire	Sundon
Lilly	Cole	daughter	s		18	Mill Hand, book binder/sewer	worker		Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead
Fred	Cole	son	s	16		Iron Foundry hand, striker	worker		Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead
Nellie	Cole	daughter	s		15	Machinist, apron maker	worker		Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead
Ernest	Cole	son	s	12					Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead

Sarah	Cole	daughter	s		10					Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead
Polly	Cole	daughter	s		8					Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead
Sidney	Cole	son	s	3						Hertfordshire	Hemel Hempstead

St. Michael's section:

William	Cooper	head	m	34		Brickmaker	worker		Herts	Leverstock Green
Sarah	Cooper	wife	m		35	hat sewer	worker	at home	Herts	Leverstock Green
Edith	Cooper	daughter			9				Herts	Leverstock Green
May	Cooper	daughter			7				Herts	Leverstock Green
Beatrice	Cooper	daughter			4				Herts	Leverstock Green
Dorothy	Cooper	daughter			1				Herts	Leverstock Green

Samuel	Cooper	head	m	62		Card Winder (see note)/Boot Maker	own account	at home	Herts	Leverstock Green
Sarah	Cooper	wife	m		59	Hat sewer	own account	at home	Herts	Leverstock Green

Jane	Cooper	head	w	61					Herts	Hemel Hempstead
Thomas	Cooper	son	s	30		Gardener	worker		Herts	Leverstock Green
Laura	Cooper	daughter	s		22	Dressmaker	own account	at home	Herts	Leverstock Green
Leonard	Cooper	son		16		Blacksmith drummer(?)	worker		Herts	Leverstock Green

From Abbots Langley Section:

Bunkers Lane	1	Charlotte	Wilson	head	w		76	In receipt of parish relief			Herts	Bunkers Lane
		Maria	Cooper	sister	w		88	In receipt of parish relief			Herts	Bunkers Lane

Chambersbury Cottage	1	William	Steers	head	m	66		Agricultural machinist	worker		Bedfordshire	Luton
		Matilda	Steers	wife	m		70				Herts	Park Street
		William	Steers	son	s	36		Agricultural labourer	worker		Herts	High Street Green

		Elizabeth	Cole	granddaughter	s		20				Herts	Leverstock Green
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MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS: There are references to members of both families in the Monumental Inscriptions books for St Mary's Hemel Hempstead ; St Lawrence, abbots Langley & Holy Trinity Leverstock Green published by the Herts Family & Population History Society. They can be ordered online at <http://www.hertsfhs.org.uk/hfphs6.html>

FROM THE LEVERSTOCK GREEN CHRONICLE ENTRIES:

11th September 1789 - An auction was held at the Leather Bottle for the sale of two cottages near to the Leather Bottle. The pamphlet advertising the event stated:

*To be peremptorily Sold by Auction By Robert Nicholls
At the Leather Bottle, on Leverstock Green, near Hemel Hempstead & St. Albans Hertfordshire
On Friday 11th September 1789 at three o'clock in the afternoon*

Two Copyhold Messuages or Tenements

With two ovens, three Gardens & an Orchard well planted with fruit trees. Situate near the Leather Bottle, on Leverstock Green, aforesaid, in the Tenure of Mrs. Sarah Flint and Mr. John Cooper at £4 10/- per annum.

The premises may be viewed at any Time by applying to the Tenants; are held of the Manor of Gorham Bury, subject to a Quit Rent of 4d & the custom thereof.

For further particulars enquire of the Auctioneer, St. Albans - who begs leave to return his sincere thanks to his Friends & the Public in General for the favours conferred on his late Father deceased, & himself, during their Partnership; and as he succeeds him in the above Benefits, humbly solicits their Encouragement, and engages by his Conduct and Punctuality to merit their future Favours, which will be gratefully acknowledged by him.

Conditions of Sale

- 1. The highest Bidder shall be the Buyer, & if any Dispute arises between 2 or more Bidders the Estate shall be immediately put up again.*
- 2. That no person advance more than £1 when Bidding and that the Purchaser immediately pay into the hands of the Auctioneer 20% and sign an agreement for Payment of the Remainder of the Purchase Money, at the Next Court to be held for the Manor.*
- 3. That a good Title shall be made by the Proprietors to the Purchaser upon Payment of the Remainder of the said Purchase Money, and the Purchaser to pay for the Surrenders in Admittances.*

4. That all Taxes, & Incumbrances, shall be cleared to the Purchaser to Michaelmas Day next, all Rents and Profits arising from that Day to belong to and received by the Purchaser.

Herewith if the Purchaser shall refuse, or neglect to comply with the Conditions aforementioned, The Deposit Money be forfeited & the Proprietors shall be at Liberty to Re-Sell the said Estate by Public or Private Sale.

Attached to the above advertising leaflet is a hand-written receipt as follows:

September 11th 1789. I do acknowledge to have paid to Robert Nicholls the sum of Six Pounds Six Shillings as a Deposit for the above mentioned Estate this Day bought at Public Auction by me for the sum of Twenty-Nine Pounds According to the Above Conditions of Sale.

*Purchase 29 - 00
Deposit 6 - 6
Due £22 - 14*

In Kent (or possibly Kentish, the signature is somewhat scrawled.)

[S163]

Comparing the above information with the Tithe Record for 1840, it seems likely that the estate mentioned in the above advertisement comprised those Field Numbers 244,245 and possibly 246, which were listed as being owned by Joseph Finch and occupied by William Cooper and others at the time of the Tithe survey. They were noted as being a Beer Shop & Cottage, an Orchard and Home Field. The map shows plot 244 as being what later became known as the Three Horseshoes public House, pulled down in the redevelopment of the village centre in the early 1960's. If it didn't refer to this property, then it would certainly have referred to one of the sets of cottages built along the road near to the Leather Bottle, or just behind it. These too for the most part were demolished in the early 1960's. The only cottage to have survived along that stretch of road, and of the right age, is "Old Leverstock" which may well have been two cottages when built. This interestingly was put on the market in March 1994 for £160,000. A substantial increase from £29!

[Gazette - 18.3.94; S96.]

19th Century:

Using the information in the tithe survey it is possible to say who owned, and who lived in the various farms and principle dwellings in and around Leverstock Green **There were two other beer houses owned by Joseph Finch; one run by William Cooper. This hostelry, called the "White Horse"** was near to what was to become the old post office, in the group of houses/shops built in the village opposite the green, roughly where the car park is today. New premises were built for the White Horse when The Village Centre was built in 1966. [S52] The second hostelry owned by Joseph Finch was occupied by Joseph Elborn.

1855 - The Post Office Directory for this year (Kelly's) quotes

Individual Gentry & Traders listed in the Abbots Langley and Hemel Hempstead sections are as follows:

GENTRY: Rev Charles Thomas Framton, Leverstock Green;

TRADERS: Thomas Cooper, hay dealer, Leverstock Green;

1860 - Kelly's Directory of Hertfordshire for this year gives quite a lot of information about Leverstock Green. The entries are generally under the main entry for Abbots Langley, although one or two individual entries are made under various commercial headings, but not included in the Abbots Langley entry..... Thomas Cooper was listed as being a hay dealer.

1870 - The Kelly's Directory for Hertfordshire this year gives Leverstock Green its own entry:

James Cooper, hay dealer

March 1876 - The school log book listed the following 50 pupils at the school for their exam schedule: Cooper H., Cooper J., Cooper W (a), Cooper W (b),

10 January 1877 - The Hertfordshire Petty Sessions recorded: "Reuben Seabrook, James Dell and Joseph Cooper all of Leverstock Green pleaded guilty to destroying part of a fence and throwing down three gates the property of Mr Gabriel Ellingham on the 26th ult and were fined including costs 13s. - each." [S370]

1878 - Kelly's Directory for this year gives much the same information on Leverstock Green as it had in 1860, James Cooper was no longer listed as a hay dealer, but Joseph Cooper and William Cooper both were. It seems likely they were his sons and had taken over the family business.

1882 - Kelley's Directory with William Cooper and John George still dealing in hay as they did in 1878.

1886 - Kelley's

Hay dealing has declined slightly, with only William Cooper and Reuben Seabrook listed as dealers.

1890. - As with earlier entries. Leverstock Green had a substantial section in Kelley's Directory for this year. William Cooper,.... following the same occupations as before.

12th April 1890 The Herts Advertiser (p8) reported on the impending marriages of a) Frederick Harrowell & Louisa Maunders, b) Mary Anne Steers and George F Dell, and c) William Cooper and Sarah Woods. [HALS online services catalogue of Newspapers & Magazine articles which can be downloaded; (https://www.hertsdirect.org/ufs/ufsmain?esessionid=19353BC4582D103D35DC0C4A4D39185D_1) checked 8th June 2010]

July 23rd 1897 - Mr. Ford reported that the Harvest Holidays had officially begun and that:

"During the above closure Ernest Cole was taken to the Hemel Hempstead Isolation Hospital with Diphtheria", and that "Mr. David Sears' children at Crab Tree Cottages were also down with it." [S73]

November 16th 1897 - Mr. Ford received a note from Dr. Hubbard confirming that Ellen Cole had Diphtheria; he also received a notice from Dr. Gruggen to close the school. [S73]

January 10th 1898 - The village school reopened after a long closure due to an epidemic of Diphtheria. Two families, the Coles and the Sells, were still not allowed to return to school until receiving permission from the MOH. [S73]

1898

The entry in Kelly's Directory for this year was virtually unchanged,.....

There was now a third shoe maker in the village - William Cooper- who had presumably given up dealing in hay. In fact in this year there was no mention of anyone still dealing in hay.

25th May 1901: *AN OLD INHABITANTS DEATH- In the death of Mrs Maria Cooper of Bunkers Cottages the village has lost one of its oldest and most respected inhabitants. Deceased, who was 88 years of age had had her full share of the troubles of life, having lost her husband and the majority of her large family, but her weight of care was totally buried beneath her genial and happy disposition, which had made many friends.* [Gazette 25th May 1901]

1902

Kelly's Directory

William Cooper, shoemaker

5th April 1902 - for the second year running, the Gazette published details of arguments taking place at the annual vestry meeting.

LEVERSTOCK GREEN BREEZY MEETING

To have been held on Monday in the Vestry room, but owing to an unusual number of parishioners congregating it was adjourned to the schoolroom. There were present Messrs. Jos. Bailey, J K Hart, W Davis, A Seabrook, (churchwardens) W C Child D Charge, W W Sears, W. Parkins, WS Cook, F Goodenough, W Cooper, A Spacey

Whit Monday, 12th June 1905 - The first major fete and sports to be held in Leverstock Green took place on the meadow behind the school. The intention was to raise money for the Parish Room (as well as having a great time.)

..... *The officials were H. Cooper*

.....

Skipping comp. (girls under 15) 1. S. Ford, plush case; 2. B. Cooper, book; 3. C. Pelpoe, plush case.

[Gazette 17th June 1905]

24th June 1902 - This was the day set aside for the King's coronation, however, unfortunately the King contracted appendicitis and by the day of the Coronation was only just recovering from an operation to rectify the problem which had developed into Peritonitis. Despite the specific request of the King that the various feasts and celebrations around the countryside should continue, most such arrangements were in fact cancelled. Unfortunately this in turn led to riots in Hemel Hempstead and Watford (and possibly elsewhere in the country) as special dinners had been laid on for the poor who were disappointed at the last moment. Leverstock Green residents, however, bucked the trend and continued with its celebrations despite the postponing of the Coronation itself. The following is the report of these activities which appeared in the Gazette:

CORONATION FESTIVITIES AT LEVERSTOCK GREEN

Unlike the large majority of towns and villages in West Herts. the inhabitants of Leverstock Green proceeded with the celebration of the Coronation in accordance with the official programme as arranged, and on Thursday the village was en fete from early morn till dawn. AZ right royal time was spent buy old and young and the day will ever be remembered by those who shared in festivities. At 9 am there was a celebration of Holy Communion in the church, the school children attending to sing the choral part to Morbecke's tunes. At 11 o'clock matins and an intercession service took place with special psalms and hymns. After this a procession was formed of school children, decorated arts, cycles etc. And some of these were evident proof of much taste and labour. The feeding arrangements were a very important part and these began at 12 noon when all men and boys were given a hearty dinner in the barn at North End Farm. Tickets for refreshments to the value of 4d and a ¼ oz packet of tobacco were distributed to each man. The school children were given a meat tea at 4 o'clock and the women and girls sat down to a similar meal afterwards. There was an abundance of estables and no one was allowed to go short in this respect during the day. In the afternoon a series of athletic sports took place and these created considerable interest. The results were: 100 yards race for boys under 15 1st J Seabrook, 2nd G Solesbury, 3rd B Wilson, 100 yards for girls & women over 15: 1st L Durrant, 2nd M Hart, 3rd E Sharp; 100 yards for girls under 15: 1st H Hart, 2nd P. Cox, 3rd S. Cole;

31st December 1904 - The Gazette featured the following report on a concert given at the village school:

The 2nd concert of the season took place at Leverstock Green School on New Year's Eve. The schoolroom was filled, every available seat being occupied, and many having to stand. An excellent program was gone through, Mrs... Durrant's violin selections being much appreciated, as also were Mr.. Hanfield's comic songs, Miss Horton's pianoforte playing and Mr.. Cripps and his son's cornet duet. The refreshments again sold very well and the concert resulted in a profit of £3. 5s. The program read as follows:

PART ONE

Pianoforte selection

Song: Miss Bailey

Song: Rev. A. Durrant

Song: Miss Cox

Cornet duet: Mr.. & Master Cripps

Comic song: Mr.. Barker

Mandolin solo: Miss Fenson

Song: Mr.. Rootham

Comic song: Mr.. C. Ingham

Song: Mrs... Ford

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**PART TWO**

Pianoforte selection

Song; Mr.. W. Seabrook

Song; Miss Barker

Recitation: Mr.. Wright

Comic song: Miss. M. Fenson

Cornet solo: Mr.. C. Cripps

Song: Miss Sears

Comic Song: Mr.. Barnfield

Song: Miss H. Dell

Song: Miss Cole

Duet: Miss Leno & Mr.. Dell

**week of 24<sup>th</sup> August 1905** – The Gazette reported the death of Leverstock Green born dwarf “Charles Cole” in the Hemel Hempstead Union Infirmary aged 44. Cole was 2 feet and 9 inches tall. A report read “He commenced travelling as a prodigy at the age of 22 and was for many years with Wombwell’s Menagerie.

After this he went on tour with Albert Brough, the celebrated tall man and the two were engaged by hotel proprietors in most of the big towns in England as “The Long and Short of It”.

Little Charles Cole also travelled over much of the world and was proud to say he had been in every town of importance in England. He began to get ill at the turn of the century, and it was said that he was taken advantage of, being robbed and swindled out of much of his earnings. Returning to Hemel Hempstead he was said to be bright and cheerful company during his final years.

He was a heavy smoker. I recent months he had been subject to fits and it was the effects of an attack that resulted in his death the previous Saturday. [Gazette, August 24<sup>th</sup> 1905]

**23rd December 1905** - The following advert appeared in the *Gazette*:

LEVERSTOCK GREEN  
SCHOOL

**A DANCE**

will be held in the above school

**ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 29TH 1905**

**FROM 8 TILL 12 O’CLOCK**

**In Aid of the Parish Room Fund**

MR. GOODMAN’S STRING BAND

Admission 1s

REFRESHMENTS

Tickets can be obtained from the following:  
Messrs W.Dell, C.A.Ingham, A.Seabrook, W.A. Sears, H. Cooper,  
A.Mears, W.W. Sears, & W.Wright Hon. Secretary

**Friday 23rd February 1906** - There was a concert in aid of the Parish Room trust at the Schoolhouse:

*CONCERT AT LEVERSTOCK GREEN*

.....  
*The second part comprised a performance by a Nigger Troupe, under the direction of Mr.. Moore; accompanied by Mr.. Jackson. The following comprised the troupe: Mr.. Moore, Mr.. Mears, Mr. Seabrook, Mr.. Sears, Mr.. B. Sears, Mr.. Ingham, Mr.. L.Cooper, Mr.. Cooper, Mr.. W. Seabrook, Mr.. Dell, Mr.. Wright.*

[Gazette 17th March 1906]

**Friday December 28th 1906** - The first of the new season's entertainments in aid of the parish room fund took place:

*LEVERSTOCK GREEN*

*ENTERTAINMENT: An interesting entertainment was given by the school children in the schoolroom on Friday evening in aid of the Parish Room Fund  
The programme was as follows:*

[Gazette 5th January 1907]

Information on Cole & Cooper families- last update

Opening address: S.Seabrook  
Violin solo: Miss B. Hart  
Glee: School children  
Dialogue: O.&.L.Seabrook  
Street cries: five children  
Song: Miss E.Durrant  
Dialogue: S.Leno & E.Wilkin  
Hornpipe: The Misses Umfreville  
Dialogue: H.&.W.Wright  
Wrong Envelopes: five girls  
Cello solo: Mr.A. Durrant  
Barber: five boys  
**Recitation: Mary Cooper**  
Scarf Drill: eight girls  
Mandolin solo: Miss D. Cox  
Musical sketch *The Persecuted Policeman*

**Whit Monday May 20th 1907** - Yet again Leverstock Green was a hive of activity. The Gazette reported the following Saturday:  
**WHIT MONDAY SPORTS AT LEVERSTOCK GREEN**

*The third athletic sports in aid of the Leverstock Green Parish Room Fund took place on Whit Monday when success again attended the efforts of the promoters. ....The whole of the arrangements were excellent, and were carried out by a hardworking committee comprising Messrs A. Seabrook, W. Dell WW Sears, A. Mears, B.Sears J Hallett and **J. Cooper***  
*Skipping comp. (girls under 15) 1. C.Plowman (2 books) 2. **B. Cooper (dolls house)** 3. E. Plowman (cycle carrier)*

*Obstacle Race 1. L.Tidy (dinner cruet) 2. R.Rogers (umbrella) 3. M. Latchford (pipe in case)*

*Egg & Spoon Race 1. E. Durrant (workbasket) 2. S. Seabrook (purse) 3. A. Hart (mincing machine)*

*Goal Kicking Competition. 1 A. Plowman (plated jam-jar) 2. E. Rance (military brushes) 3. L. Tidy (cigarette case)*

*Slow Cycle Race 1. A.E.Curtis (cup) 2. G.Spenser (lamp & bell) 3. L.Tidy (cycle pump)*

*One Mile Flat Race* 1. *W. East (plated tea pot)* 2. *B. Biggs (biscuit barrel)* 3. *W. Freestone (walking stick)*

*Relay Race (Ladies)*<sup>1</sup> 1. *I Plowman, (writing case)* 2. *Bertha Hart (case of scents)* 3. *S. Ford (postcard album)*

*120 Yards Hurdle Handicap:* 1. *R. Rogers (set of carvers)* 2. *L. Tidy (toast rack)* 3. *A.E. Curtis (bread knife and board)*

*One Mile Walking Handicap:* 1. *P. Wright (biscuit barrel)* 2. *J. Lovell (half dozen knives and forks)* 3. *E. Thomas (cigarette case).*

*TUG OF WAR* - . This event between the Sports Committee and Leverstock Green Football Club resulted in an early win for the committee; the footballers being unable to stand against them. Each member of the winning team was the recipient of a clay pipe.

*Greasy Pole.* - In this amusing competition Jimmy Fossey "the greasy pole chap" after a very hard struggle was successful in reaching the ham at the top of the pole. He has now won this event three years in succession.

*Football tournament - in three heats* The winners were E. Rance, B. Mayo, T. Perkins, G. Goodenough, each of whom received a walking stick.

The judges for the sports were Rev. A. Durrant, Mr. H. Durrant and Mr. J. Nelson. After the distribution of the prizes the Rev. A. Durrant with Mr. J. Bailey expressed the hope that they'd be able to extend a warm welcome to the organizers another year.

The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing, the Dickinson's Silver Band providing the music and the gathering broke up about 9.30.

The band and the committee were then invited to supper by Mr. J. Bailey who wished them prosperity.

Refreshments were provided in the field by Mr. E. Westell of Cheapside Bakery.

**Wednesday May 22nd 1907** - An auction took place in St. Albans, which included four freehold cottages in Leverstock Green. The following advert placed in the Hemel Hempstead Gazette for the three consecutive weeks prior to the auction stated that:

### *SALES BY AUCTION*

*MR. W. DORANT*

*ST. ALBANS & LEVERSTOCK GREEN*

*Mr. W. Dorant will sell by auction at the Peahen Hotel St. Albans on Wednesday May 22nd 1907 at 4 o'clock .....; also four valuable well built FREEHOLD cottages pleasantly situated on the common Leverstock Green, each with good garden. Let to Messrs Mayo, Harrowell, Cooper and another at total rents amounting to £47 4s 8d.*

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<sup>1</sup> Given that only one lady was awarded a prize for each position, I would imagine that rather than the present relay races where 4 runners each run a length acting as a team, in this case perhaps each length of the race was of a different nature, similar to some of the races used in Primary School games. e.g.. the first lap involving bouncing a ball, the second hopping, the third with a quoit on the head and the final lap a sprint

(a) It is highly likely that these cottages were the matching pair of semi-detached houses known as *Coronation Villas* and *Mafeking Villas* to be found to the right of the *Leather Bottle*. [Gazette April 27th, May 4th, May 18th 1907]

**Saturday 31st May 1919** - There was a presentation in the village, reported the following week as follows:-

*“On Saturday 31st May a presentation was made to Mr.. W.C. Child as an appreciation of his good work in the parish of Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green, as Sunday School teacher, people’s warden, and organist for many years. The presentation took the form of a gold watch, with inscription, and an illuminated address, with list of subscribers as follows:*

*The Rev. & Mrs... Durrant, Mr.. & Mrs... Bailey, Miss Bailey, Mr.. J. Bailey, Mrs... de Beager, Mr.. & Mrs.. Bedford, Mr.. & Mrs.. Bessant, Mr.. & Mrs... Biggs, Mr.. & Mrs.. Biswell, Miss Bloxham, Mr.. & Mrs... W Brigginslaw, Mr.. & Mrs... C. Brigginslaw, Mrs... Briggs, Nurse Carter, Mr.. Charge, Mrs... Cooper,....* [Gazette June 7th 1919 p.8]

**8<sup>th</sup> July 1924** - The records of Horn & Co, Undertakers from Marlowes show the following entry:

Deceased: Cooper, Jane

DATE OF DEATH: 8.7.1924

NOTE: She was 84 years old and the funeral took place at Leverstock Green on 10.7.1924.

Husband (late): Cooper, William

ADDRESS: The Bungalow, St. Michaels, Leverstock Green

[DCHT Undertaker’s Records, Horn & Co]

**5th February 1920** - The Leverstock Green School Log books records the following brief inscription:-

**Special Entry. Memorial unveiled 7.30pm.**

I subsequently inaccurately interpreted this to mean that the village war memorial was unveiled at this time - only to find at a later date from an entry in the Hemel Hempstead Gazette that this in fact occurred on April 9th 1921. The memorial mentioned in the logbook must therefore have been referring to one put up in the school; but at that time there was no record to substantiate this.

Recently a photocopy of an undated and sourced newspaper article has come to hand which bears out this supposition and showing that a plaque was erected in the schoolhouse to those boys from the school who had lost their lives in the war. It would be interesting to know what happened to the plaque after the schoolroom was demolished to make way for private housing in the sixties.

As the article reproduced below did not appear in the Hemel Hempstead Gazette I assume it must have come from the Hertfordshire Advertiser in the week following February 5th 1920.

**MEMORIAL TO LEVERSTOCK  
GREEN OLD BOYS.**

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A beautiful memorial brass was dedicated on Thursday last to the boys of Leverstock Green School, who have fallen in the war. On Thursday evening many people assembled in the large school room. The Vicar (Rev. Arthur Durrant) entered in his robes, and took his place near the tablet, which was then unveiled, and the inscription, which was as follows, was read aloud by him:- "To the glorious memory of the boys of this school, who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918. The Righteous live for ever more and the care of them is with the Most High." The names of the fallen inscribed on the tablet are: Ben Briggs, Fred Cole, Fred Eames, Benj. Oakley, Harry Biswell, Jack Biswell, Fred Charge, Bernard Wright, Fred Harrowell, Victor Perkins, George Goodenough, Fred Taylor, William Parkins, Herbert Wombwell, James Hallett, George Timson, George Brown, Arthur West, Edwin Thirn, Harry Sears, Harry Woodward. A short memorial service followed,.....

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*The Rev. & Mrs.. Durrant, Mr.. & Mrs... Bailey, Miss Bailey, Mr.. J. Bailey, Mrs.. de Beager, Mr.. & Mrs.. Bedford, Mr.. & Mrs.. Bessant, Mr.. & Mrs... Biggs, Mr.. & Mrs.. Biswell, Miss Bloxham, Mr.. & Mrs.. W Briginshaw, Mr.. & Mrs.. C. Briginshaw, Mrs.. Briggs, Nurse Carter, Mr.. Charge, Mrs.. Cooper,.....*

**11th January 1933** - At St. Albans Crown Court before Judge William Moore, Messrs Geo. F. Dell and sons of Leverstock Green sued A. E. Cooper of 28 Trucklers Lane for £4 11s 6d in respect of goods supplied. No defence was given and the defendant was ordered to pay at 4s a month. [Herts. Advertiser & St. Albans Times January 14th 1933.]