

## Tradesmen, artisans and farmers

Whilst Deddington had a sizeable local community of tradesmen, artisans and farmers, only a few find mention in *Jackson's Oxford Journal* 1800-1819, whose readership largely comprised the gentry, clerics, landowners and the professional classes.

Apart from millinery (*post*), there were no retail advertisements by Deddington tradesmen or artisans, although there were two wholesale advertisements, one by James Aldridge in 1810 concerning his brick kiln on the Oxford road near the Toll house, and the other by J. Hill in 1816 regarding a leather warehouse.

Notices about tradesmen and artisans were essentially limited to probate notices, changes of proprietorship and bankruptcies. Notices concerning the local farming community generally related to the sale or auction of farm houses and agricultural land (which might be freehold or leasehold, or partly one and partly the other), livestock, farm equipment (implements in husbandry) etc.

8 bankruptcies were recorded 1800-1819, including 3 farmers, 3 victuallers and 1 artisan:

1808	George Whetton	Yeoman farmer
1810	Thomas Knibbs	Girth web weaver
1812	William Barnes the elder	Yeoman farmer, Hempton
1813	John Kilby	Farmer, Clifton
1814	John Rose	Maltster and dealer in corn
1814	William Malings	Landlord, the Horse Shoes
1816	Thomas Bennett	Victualler, Red Lion
1817	Thomas Jones	Insolvent debtor, Hempton

Apart from the extended Churchill family, the Hitchman's appear to have been the only other family to have had a significant impact on the commerce of the town.

Since at least 1777 [John Hitchman](#) had carried on business in Deddington as a linen and woollen draper, supplementing his principal business with various local agencies.

In 1800 John Hitchman transferred his linen and woollen drapery business to his son, Henry.<sup>1</sup> Instead of retiring, John Hitchman proceeded to set-up a new business venture with a grocery shop. Nor did he relinquish his agency with the Western Militia Society,<sup>2</sup> and he also became an agent for the Royal Exchange Assurance Office in 1802. John Hitchman's death was reported in 1803.

---

<sup>1</sup> A notice of the sale of the Crown and Cushion Inn in Chipping Norton in 1802 stated that further particulars could be obtained from Mr. James Hitchman of Chipping Norton or Mr. Henry Hitchman of Deddington. An auction notice in 1809 refers to a freehold house in Woodstock in the occupation of a Mr. John Hickman.

<sup>2</sup> The Society sought young men to serve as substitutes in county militia. Militiamen were chosen by ballot among the able-bodied men of each parish between the ages of 18 and 50. They could avoid service, however, by either providing a substitute or paying a fine of £10.

Henry Hitchman carried on his father's linen and woollen drapery business until 1809, when he retired, and the business was taken over by his apprentice, Joseph White, who also assumed his agencies with the County Fire Office and the Provident Life Office.

From 1807 onwards, twice-yearly advertisements by a Miss L.A. (Lucy Ann) Hitchman appear, inviting her friends to inspect the fashionable assortment of millinery and fancy dresses etc. which she has just brought back from London.

In 1815 it was reported that Miss L.A. Hitchman had married Joseph White at St. Antholin's Church, in the City of London, the advertisements continuing under the name of Mrs. White.

As mentioned elsewhere, in the City of London, mercers, grocers and drapers ranked first, second and third in order of precedence amongst the Great Twelve City Livery Companies.

Another Hitchman, William, recorded in 1808 as a vintner in Deddington, then moved to Bicester to become the landlord of the Crown Inn. William Hitchman was also involved in establishing the United Friends Post Coach in 1815, from the King's Arms, Deddington, via the Crown, Bicester, to the George Inn, Snow Hill, in the City of London.

For contemporaneous listings of tradesmen, artisans and farmers in Deddington, see the [Universal British Directory 1791](#) and [Piggott's Directory 1830](#).

**20 September 1800, page 3**

DEDDINGTON, SEPT. 19th, 1800.

*Linen and Woollen Drapery, Grocery, &c.*

JOHN HITCHMAN takes this Method of returning his moft grateful Thanks to his Friends and the Public for the many Favours he has received, and begs Leave to inform them that he has declined the Linen and Woollen Trade in Favour of his Son, whom he anxioufly recommends to their Patronage and Support.

J.H. alfo begs to inform his Friends that he has opened a Shop in the Grocery Line, next Door to his late Habitation, where they may depend on being fupplied with every Article of the beft Quality, and on the loweft Terms.

HENRY HITCHMAN begs to folicit a Continuance of the Support of his Father's Friends, which he affures them it fhall be his firft Study to merit. - H.H. is juft returned from the different Markets, where he has purchafed a regular Affortment of Linens, Calicoes, Difties, Muflins, &c. &c. which he is enabled to offer on fuch Terms as he flatters himfelf will infure him a Continuance of their Favours.

**16 April 1803, page 3**

WANTED, - A Journeyman JOINER. A sober steady Man, who understands his Business well, may meet with constant Employment and good Wages, by applying to Mr. Nathaniel Jarvis, Joiner, Deddington, Oxfordshire.

**7 May 1803, page 3**

WANTED immediately, - TWO JOURNEYMAN COOPERS and HOOP SHAVERS, who understand their Businesses. They may meet with constant Employment and good Wages by applying to Mr. Edmund French, Cooper, Deddington, Oxfordshire.

**10 September 1803, page 3**

THE Corporation of the Royal Exchange Assurance have constituted and appointed Mr. HENRY HITCHMAN, of Deddington, in the County of Oxford, Linen Draper, their AGENT and RECEIVER, for the said Place and Parts Adjacent, for the Assurance of Buildings, Goods, Merchandise, and Farming Stock, from Loss or Damage by Fire; and also for the Assurance of Lives.

**9 May 1807, page 3**

L.A.HITCHMAN,  
MILLINER, FANCY DRESS, and PELISSE MAKER,  
*DEDDINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE,*

MOST respectfully informs her Friends and the Public, she has commenced Business at Deddington, and humbly solicits their Patronage and Support, which she will ever study to merit by the strictest Attention to their Commands.

L.A.H. is just returned from London, where she has selected a sufficient Assortment of Millinery, Fancy Dresses, &c. which are ready for Inspection.

**18 June 1808, page 3**

***CROWN INN, BICESTER, OXON.***

WILLIAM PHILLIPS begs to return his most grateful thanks to his Friends and the Public for the liberal support he has experienced at the above Inn, and to inform them, he has declined the Public Business in favour of Mr. WILLIAM HITCHMAN, late of Deddington, whom he begs to recommend as his successor, and to whom he requests a continuance of their kind patronage.

WILLIAM HITCHMAN

HAVING entered upon the above Inn, which has recently undergone a complete repair, and is now fitted up in the moft comfortable fstyle, folicits a continuance of that fupport Mr. Phillips was favoured with during his refidence there; and affures the Friends of Mr. P. Commercial Gentlemen, his Friends, and the Public, it fhall be his firft ftudy to merit their favours by every attention to the comfort and accommodation of his quefts. W.H. trufts his experience and connexions in the Spirit Trade (which he will continue as uſual) will enable him to furnifh the Crown Inn with Wines and Spirits of the firft quality.

Bicefter, June 15, 1808.

**23 December 1809, page 3**

WOOLLEN and LINEN DRAPER, &c.

HENRY HITCHMAN

RETURNS his moft grateful thanks to his Friends for the kind and liberal fupport he has received during his refidence at Deddington, and repectfully informs them and the Public, he has given up his Trade there in favour of Mr. JOSEPH WHITE, his late apprentice, for whom he earneftly folicits a continuance of that patronage he has been fo highly favoured with.

---

J. WHITE,

HAVING taken to the Trade lately carried on by Mr. HITCHMAN, humbly folicits the fupport of the Friends of Mr. H. and the Public in general, which he begs to affure them will be his firft ftudy to merit. *Deddington, Dec. 20, 1809.*

**17 February 1810, page 2**

NOTICE to DEBTORS and CREDITORS.

THOMAS KNIBBS, of Deddington, in the county of Oxford, girth web weaver, having, by indentures bearing date the Fifth and Sixth days of February, 1810, affigned and conveyed his Eftate and Effects to Edward Grimmett, of Sibford, in the faid county of Oxford, yarn manufacturer, and Edward Hatten, of Deddington aforefaid, innkeeper, in Truft for the benefit of themfelves, and others, the Creditors of the faid Thomas Knibbs, *Notice is hereby given, That the Deeds are left at the office of Meffrs. Churchill and Field, folicitors, Deddington, Oxon, for the fignature of fuch of the Creditors as will execute the fame within one month from the date thereof, and accept the amount*

of the Estate and Effects, in proportion to and discharge of their respective debts and such of the Creditors as shall neglect to execute the same Deeds, within the above time, will be excluded all benefit thereof.

All persons indebted to the said Thomas Knibbs are desired to pay their respective debts to one of the Trustees, or to Messrs. Churchill and Field, forthwith.

16th February, 1810.

**24 February 1810, page 3**

TO be SOLD by AUCTION by Messrs. CHURCHILL and TURNER, at the King's Arms Inn, Deddington, Oxfordshire, on Saturday the 10th day of March, 1810, at Four o'clock in the afternoon, under conditions of sale to be then produced, - A very desirable DWELLING HOUSE, with extensive out-buildings, pleasantly situated in the New-street, in Deddington, in the occupation of Mr. Thos. Knibbs, a cloth web weaver; consisting of a large kitchen and good parlour fronting the street; two bed rooms on the first floor, and two garrets; brew-house, and two large shops with rooms over them, and a good garden.

The premises are Freehold, and are well adapted for carrying on an extensive business, and immediate possession may be had.

Further particulars may be known, and the premises seen, on application to Mr. Edward Hatten, or at the office of Messrs. Churchill and Field, Deddington.

**30 June 1810, page 2**

*BRICKS, TILES, &c. to be SOLD.*

JAMES ALDRIDGE respectfully informs the Public, that they may be supplied with every sort of Brick and Tileing, for Building, Paving and other works, by applying to him at the Brick Kiln in Deddington [sic], adjoining the Turnpike Road leading to Oxford.

**27 June 1812, page 3**

DEDDINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

JOHN BUTCHER, PLUMBER and GLAZIER,

respectfully returns thanks to his friends and the public for the many favours conferred upon him, and begs to inform them, that having taken Mr. WILLIAM BYGRAVE, of Aynho, into Partnership with him, the PLUMBING and GLAZING BUSINESS, in all its branches, will be carried on by them, at Mr. Butcher's late residence in Deddington, where they solicit a continuance

of the favours of their friends and the public, which it will be their endeavour to merit by punctually executing their orders in the best manner, upon reasonable terms.

**28 May 1814, page 3**

THOMAS and ELIZABETH FARDON, of Deddington, in the county of Oxford, ironmongers, having declined business in favour of their relation, JOHN FARDON, take this opportunity of respectfully thanking their numerous Friends for the many favours they have received, and beg humbly to solicit a continuance of them to their relation John Fardon, who also solicits and hopes for a continuance of such favours and support, and which will be ever most gratefully acknowledged and remembered.

*Deddington, May 26, 1814.*

**1 April 1815, page 2**

**BICESTER, OXON.**

**The United Friends Post Coach.**

---

**The United Friends Post Coach**

FROM

*DEDDINGTON to LONDON.*

THE Public are respectfully informed, that the UNITED FRIENDS NEW POST COACH will in future start from the KING'S ARMS, DEDDINGTON, Oxon, every *Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings*, at Six o'clock, to the CROWN INN, in BICESTER, and from thence at Eight o'clock, through Aylesbury, Tring, Berkhamstead, and Watford, to the GEORGE INN, SNOW-HILL, LONDON; from which Inn it will return every *Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings*, at Eight o'clock.

Places and Parcels booked at the George Inn, Snow-Hill, and Green Man and Still, Oxford-street.

PERFORMED BY

Mess. PHILLIPS, HITCHMAN, BUSBY, and Co. Bicester,  
And Messrs. SLANEY and Co. London.

N.B. The Proprietors will not be accountable for any parcel, &c. above 5*l* value, unless entered as such, and paid for accordingly.

N.B. The Coach from the Crown Inn, Bicester, to the Old Bell, London is discontinued.

**3 February 1816, page 3**

*Deddington, February 2, 1816.*

TO SHOE-MAKERS.

J. HILL has opened a WAREHOUSE for the SALE of LEATHER, in small quantities, of every description, for the accommodation of the Trade in the neighbourhood of this place, on the lowest Terms.

**30 November 1816, page 3**

**EDMUND CHILLINGWORTH,**

SLATER and STUCCO PLASTERER,

*Deddington, Oxon,*

RESPECTFULLY informs the friends of his late father, and the public, that in consequence of his father's decease, he has succeeded him in the above Business, which he intends carrying on in all its branches, and hopes, by strict attention and assiduity, to merit a continuance of that support and patronage which his father received for 40 years.

N.B. Water Colouring neatly executed, with the best genuine colours.

**3 May 1817, page 3**

**Mrs. WHITE**

BEGS respectfully to acquaint her friends and the public, she is just returned from London, where she has selected a fashionable assortment of MILLINERY, FANCY DRESSES, &c. &c. which will be prepared for inspection on Tuesday the 6th instant.

Mrs. W. embraces the opportunity to offer her grateful acknowledgements for the liberal encouragement hitherto afforded her, and assures her friends it will ever be her study to merit their future favours by an unremitting attention to their commands.

► An Apprentice wanted to the Millinery and Dress Business.

*Deddington, May 3, 1817.*

**18 October 1817, page 2**

*Eligible Situation for a Butcher,*

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

TO be SOLD by PRIVATE CONTRACT, - An eligible FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, consisting of a good Dwelling House, with Butcher's Shop, and other convenient out-offices for carrying on the Business, in excellent repair, together with a large garden adjoining, situate in the New-street, in Deddington, in the county of Oxford, in the possession of Mr. John Kilby, the proprietor.

Mr. Kilby will shew the premises; and for further particulars, and to treat for the purchase, apply to him, or to Messrs. Churchill and Field, solicitors, Deddington.

N.B. The Fixtures to be taken at a valuation.

**15 November 1817, page 3**

MRS. WHITE respectfully begs leave to inform her friends, that owing to the hurry of the General Mourning [*for Princess Charlotte Augusta of Wales*], she has not this season been able to appoint any particular day for shewing the Winter Fashions. She is just returned from London with a fashionable assortment, which she now begs to offer for their inspection, and assures them their commands will meet the earliest attention.

*Deddington, Nov. 15th.*

**9 May 1818, page 2**

*Deddington, May 8, 1818.*

MRS. WHITE begs respectfully to acquaint the Ladies of Deddington, and her friends in general, she is returned from London, where she has selected, from the first houses, an elegant assortment of the most fashionable Millinery, Fancy Dresses, Leghorn and Straw Bonnets, &c. which will be ready for inspection on Monday the 11th inst.

**6 March 1819, page 1**

THE Partnership between EDWARD PRICE and JOHN WILSON, of Deddington, Oxon, surgeons, is this day dissolved, Mr. Price having declined business in favour of J. WILSON, who humbly solicits a continuance of that professional confidence which he and his late Partner have enjoyed, and which on his part shall be met by diligent and anxious attention.

*Deddington, March 1, 1819.*

