

Memories of Bob Morris



I worked in what is now BT, and while based at Cambridge my wife and I bought a plot of land from the Church and called the bungalow we had built *The Duchy Barn*, which has now been extended.

My wife and I joined Hadstock St. Botolph's PCC, and I formed a small Church Choir. A more



onerous job I was given was to convert the oil lamps in the Church to electric - I installed electricity to the Church, including the facility of an electric blower for the organ. The first use of the electric lights, I think, was for the Midnight Service on Christmas Eve, 1964, when I ran a temporary cable under the carpet on the altar step before the authorities had issued a completion certificate, so my heart was in my mouth while the communicants knelt to receive the bread and wine.

Around 1965 we had a live broadcast from Hadstock Church which was Anglia TV's equivalent of *Sunday Half Hour*, in which my little Choir excelled itself. In 1967 I arranged a concert in Hadstock Church, for Church Funds. As I was then

Treasurer of the Cambridge Philharmonic Society, I managed to get the King's College Choral Scholars to sing on the last evening of summer term, accompanied by their Senior Organ Scholar, Andrew Davies (now Sir Andrew Davies, of Promenade Concert fame). They came only on the condition that we booked the Village Hall for a second Concert to follow the one in Church and sang there some student songs in close harmony. Afterwards they revealed that when they graduated in 1968, they planned to keep singing as *The Kings Singers*, so ours was their very first concert for payment.

In 1968 I was promoted to the Telephone Regional Headquarters at Colchester, so *The Duchy Barn* had to be sold, and sadly we had to leave your lovely village.