

# Hopping at New House Farm, Hever



Kevin Agate remembers...

*"I think Dad stopped growing hops in about 1960, I was only 6 years old then so can't remember much of it. I do remember Dad spending the night sometimes along at the oast tending to the kilns and changing the hops over on the drying floor. I remember helping to shovel the hops into the pokes suspended below the loft floor and then winding the press down, those bags were solid when properly filled. My brother and his older friends put me in a poke once and threatened to wind the press down, I think my screaming stopped them."*



Hop-pickers around the hop bin at New House Farm, Hever with a lady recording the quantity picked, c.1900.

Image: P2002.355



Neville Agate loading hop pokes onto a cart at New House Farm, Hever, to take to the oast, c.1945-1950.

Image: P2002.356



Mr and Mrs Baldwin hop-picking at New House Farm, Hever, c.1950.

Image: P2002.362



Youngsters busy hop-picking at New House Farm, Hever, c.1920.

Image: P2002.334



Harold Agate and young son Neville measuring the hops picked at New House Farm, Hever, c.1920.

Image: P2002.357



Mrs and Mrs Dennis hop-picking at New House Farm, Hever, c.1950.

Image: P2002.359



Party at the end of the picking season at New House Farm, Hever, c.1950.

Image: P2002.353



Mrs Gwen Agate and her mother Mrs Winifred Meads in the hop garden at New House Farm, Hever, c.1950. Image: P2002.354



Hoppers picnicking by the hop bin at New House Farm, Hever, c.1950. In the picture are Mrs Heyes, Pat Kensey, Mrs Brooks and Mr and Mrs Dennis. Image: P2002.361