

Hopping at Scords Farm, Toys Hill



Three generations of the Muddle family around the hop bin at Scords Farm, Toys Hill, c.1900. Image: P2018.3374

Hop Bins

Hop bins are like hammocks with two long handles that close up like scissors, making them easy to carry. In some hop-picking areas they were referred to as cribs.



The Muddle family at Scords Farm, Toys Hill, c.1917. Frank Muddle using a bushel basket to measure the hops into the poke. Image: P2018.3455



Hop-pickers at Muddles, Scords Farm, Toys Hill, c.1910-1917. Image: P2003.1098 & RC016



Hop pickers at Toys Hill, c.1900. Image: P2003.1107 & RC009



Sunday Service in the hop garden at Scords Farm, Toys Hill, c.1910-12. Service conducted by Rev. Townsend. Image: P2018.3377

Blessing the Hops

The local vicar would often visit the hop garden to minister to the hop-pickers or provide a Sunday Service. At the end of the picking season there would be a service to Bless the Hops.

Whilst someone, probably the photographer, has written Darby and Joan on the image above, this couple are thought to be Jimmy and Ladey Arnold, hop-picking at either Bough Beech or Toys Hill in the early part of the 20th century.