

# MILTON 2000

**A DAILY PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD**

## Foreword

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**I**N THE COLD of the early morning on the 1st January 2000, a couple ventured to the top of Milton Landfill Site to view the village and take a photograph of the dawn of the millennium. This was to become the start of a project much bigger than anyone had imagined, involving people from all around the village. It took nearly two years of effort, hard work and commitment from a small but dedicated team, led by Jane and John Coston.

On the 3rd January, Jane, editor of the Milton Village View, decided that as she had taken a photo of Milton every day of the year so far, this would make an interesting project for the year 2000. This was to be a daily historical record for the village magazine to be kept as a village archive with the possibility of publishing the photographs sometime in the future. Realising that she would have difficulty finding time to do this every day, she encouraged others to join her, resulting in the formation of a team of enthusiastic amateur photographers.

Once the team was operating, a rota was set up and lists were meticulously kept of any photos taken, and future events were noted for photographers to attend. The only rule was that a photograph should be taken every day of something different within the parish boundary of Milton. The work was more complicated and time consuming than expected. Firstly, there was the pressure of knowing that if you had the cameras you were expected to take a photo of something interesting that day. Secondly, it was important to attend events where we had been especially invited.

The films were developed as soon as they were finished; we were always concerned that a film might be damaged and as a result we would not have a photo for some days. We always tried to use at least two cameras and sometimes photographers used their own cameras. In fact, not all the photos shown in the book were taken by our team or even specifically for the purposes of the book. On two days we did not get the photo we expected and we decided to substitute another photo taken that day. Some individuals approached us with interesting photos, which have also been considered for the book, and in most cases included.

At the end of every month we met as a group and using the list, labelled all the photographs carefully with the date they were taken. We then chose the photo out of the few that were taken and donated for each day. Sometimes we decided to include more than one photograph for a certain day because the images were equally interesting and it was too difficult to select just one. Once the photographs were chosen they were stored in albums and the photographers composed captions. The photographs and captions are therefore presented as each individual photographer has chosen.

As the year went on, and following displays of the photographs, the interest from the residents of the village grew. It was suggested that we should produce the collection as a book to commemorate the year 2000 and that every household in Milton should be able to receive a free copy.

The photo group is very grateful for the enthusiastic response to this unique project by both those who were being photographed and those who supported us with sponsorship. We would also like to thank the Parish Council who agreed to support us by becoming the publishers in this non-profit making venture.

We hope that you will enjoy this book giving the story of village life at the turn of the millennium and that it will be valued in many years to come.



## The Team

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### **The production team from left to right:**

Michael Spooner, \*Barry Jefferson (Production Editor), Jim Daniels, \*Elizabeth Baker (Graphic Design), Philip Badley, Jo Sollars, Jane Coston (Editor), Tony Stubbings, Jane Daniels, Hazel Smith (Sponsorship and funding), Stephen Bennett, Ruth Henderson, John Coston, Roy Henderson

All the group are photographers who contributed to the book except those identified with an asterisk\*. In addition a list of occasional photographers appears in the appendix.

# Note from the Editors

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Due to the subject and size of the original photographs, and to get the best visual presentation it was not always possible to show these in the correct daily sequence for each week. Therefore to aid the reader all captions and pictures have been numbered on every page.

The code beneath each photo shows the date, time, (if applicable) and the initials of the relevant photographer. (An explanatory list is shown in the appendix).

All picture titles within the text suffixed by an asterisk\* have additional material within the appendix (see page 108).

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this book, and we apologise for any inadvertent errors.

Editors

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