

Do You Know the Young/Gomm Family?

From a letter received recently by Doreen Barnes

I suppose the main reason for my interest in the Wychwoods stems back to my father's side - the Young family. I never knew anything about his relations and I never, as is usually the case, asked him about it while he was alive. He died in 1971. About five years ago I embarked on a journey to try and piece it all together. All I had to go on was my Dad's family bible with hand-written entries of my great-grandfather Thomas (1797-1855) and his wife Ann Young, (née Gomm) and their ten children, one of whom was Richard Young, my grandfather. All I knew was that they were from the Shipton/Ascott area. In these five years I have found out about all of the ten children and their lives through censuses and other sources. I have traced the Youngs back to the late 1600s, all farmers of Shipton. Thomas and Ann lived and farmed at Coldstone farm and then Lane House farm was given to Thomas in his aunt's will. The family lived there from

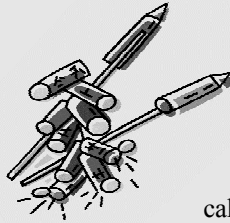
the 1830s to 1890s. My great-aunt (another one of the ten) was Ann Gomm Young who for much of her life ran the Shaven Crown. The sad thing is I have no pictures at all of the family of that time and have so far not found anyone living who could be connected in some way to the family and might have some old photographs. I hope *The Wychwood* might put me in contact with that elusive person who has a box full of old photos in his or her attic with my ancestors on them!

It is a long shot I know, but with me living in Leicestershire the magazine at least is a 'connection'. I have now completed a book about the family going back to 1650s and am sending a copy to the Wychwood Local History Society. There is an old bible in the church with hand-written entries of two generations of the Young family. I visited Shipton for the first time about a month ago.

Richard Young

Wychwood Fireworks

After our great success last year Wychwood Primary School and Shipton Cricket Club are holding their annual Fireworks evening this year on **Saturday 2nd November**. The Cricket ground at Shipton is a fabulous enclosed location providing a natural theatre for the Fireworks and a central location for the villages. Gates open at the Cricket Club at **5:30pm**. The Bonfire will be lit shortly afterwards and the firework display will start just after 7:00pm. The fireworks will again be supplied by Shellscape Pyrotechnics. There will be a



fully-licensed bar operated by the Cricket Club and the School will run a BBQ cooking top quality local butcher's hot dogs, burgers and pork rolls. Glow bands, cakes, sweets and toffee apples will also be on sale. Advance family tickets will be on sale at the same price - just £10 for 2 adults and up to 3 children and are available from the School Office and Milton Post Office.

All proceeds will go to children in the Wychwoods via the School and Cricket Club.

Paul Finch