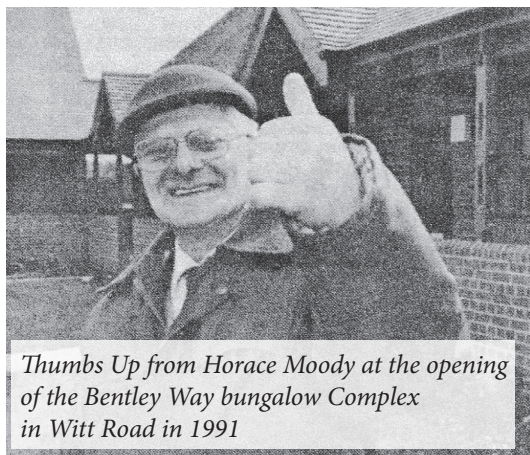


Personal Stories

from Our Parish



Thumbs Up from Horace Moody at the opening of the Bentley Way bungalow Complex in Witt Road in 1991

Horace Moody and the Poor folks Charity in Winterslow

The Poor Charity, which has existed for over 250 years, was established to help Winterslow parishioners. A thatched cottage was built in Witt Road in the 1760s on land bequeathed by the charity, but over the years the chalk cottage began to show its age and was eventually demolished. During the late 80s and early 90s the Charity engaged with the Charities Commission to rebuild on the site. Having gained permission from the Commission, secured financing and obtained planning permission the project was finally underway. Horace Moody, in his 80s, was the Chairman of the Winterslow Poor Folks Charity in Winterslow, which allowed him the opportunity to oversee two important projects of benefit to the community.

The first was the building of six bungalows for the elderly in Witt Road on land owned by the Charity, which were finished in 1991. Horace stated "It had been in the mind of the trustees for some years to have something like these". Moira Constable director of The Rural Trust officially opened the bungalows, which was instrumental in bringing the project to fruition. Moira was able to put the Charity in touch with the Rural Housing Association, who was able to obtain money to build the bungalows on the land leased to the association. The charity's secretary at the time Felicity Richard identified that part of the charities terms of association are to help those in need hardship or distress". The trustees also wanted to help local elderly people stay in the Winterslow, the trustees identified. Horace identified that there had been two old thatched cottages on charity land close to where the new bungalows were built. He stated "today, instead of the old cottages, we have six new homes". The first three bungalows were occupied by Mrs Ruby Sheppard, Mrs Lettie Davis and Tom & Mary Robinson.

The second project was the provision of a new bungalow in Witt Road, named Juniper, which became available for occupation in January 1995. The Rector, Cannon Clive Cohen, the Methodist Minister, the Reverend David Sylvanus and 72 trustees supported Horace at the completion ceremony. The keys to the property were handed to Mr & Mrs Charvill the new tenants before everyone went to St John's School Room for tea and cake.



Horace Moody planting a juniper tree outside the newly constructed bungalow, of the same name, in Witt Road in January 1995 on the day Mr & Mrs Charvill moved in.