Trevor Millington’s oral history includes his memories of farming and village life. In this extract he remembers some aspects of farming and some of the tricks workers played on each other (not to be tried at home) and the number of farms in the village life. If you listen to the recording there are a few places when the tape skipped so new subjects suddenly appear.

“We used to be taking potatoes up by hand baskets. So, you’d have tractor running down rows and then you’d have two rows at each side taken up, so you’d have four women at one side, four women at other, somebody tipping the baskets into the trailer and somebody driving on. And then we’d fetch ‘em home and we got some high-tech trailers what went back, but we’d to throw so many off of the top to level it out. And then we’d – when they’d gone home at 4 o’clock it would change over and go take sugar beet up ‘til 8 o’clock at night. And then at weekend you’d be drilling wheat.

Oh, we had a couple of old pigs up the yard when I were little, I remember those, because you’d to have a license to move ‘em in those days, and I remember one got out and we didn’t know where it had gone. So, we asked Dixon’s, who lived next to the Wheat Sheaf, if they’d seen it. Anyway when they went to feed their boar at night they found our pig in with his with a smile on its face.

The farms in the village - there’d be Parkin’s at the far end. Then Alan Lister had one next to the Lion. Then there was Alan Lister’s at the – opposite the Wheat Sheaf, Bob Jagger at the far end, at Red Brick House, the big house at the far end of the village. Then coming back, Butler’s used to have like a small holding, but they’d packed up so their land went to Jagger’s and a few more farmers. And then there was Geoff Thompson’s, which is still there. Then there were Garth Farm, and then there was – when we first moved into village this belonged to – well, it didn’t belong to, they rented it, it were Sayner’s. And then there were Hayes up Chapel Street. Oh, and across road there, at Hillside, that were Jarvis, who had that.”