

Gladys Hoddinott

The snippet of handwriting above was found by one of the Wiltshire OPC members Keith Woods, in the Combe Down Monthly Magazine for June 1905. The publication has since been donated to the OPC Collection of paraphernalia held by the Project Administrator.

In the publication a young Gladys is seen to practicing her handwriting and number formation on a few of the pages.

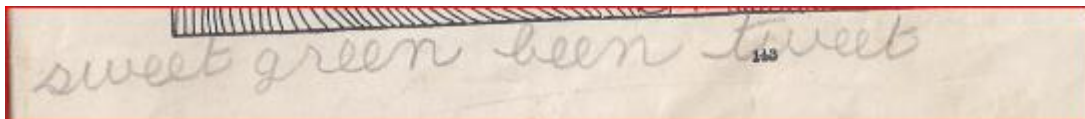
The snippet above reads:

*Gladys Hoddinott age 9
Compton Chamberlayne
Salisbury
Wilts*

Gladys in recording her name and possibly her address was, it would suggest, well enough educated at age 9 to use capital letters in the correct places and was using "joined up writing".

At the bottom of the same page Gladys has written the words:

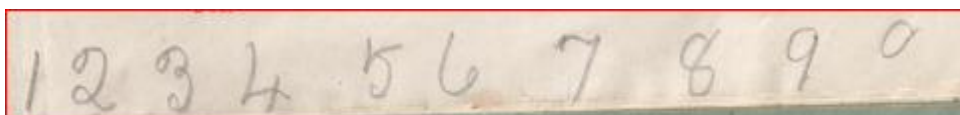
sweet green been tweet



Obviously Gladys was practicing words with double e within them.

Elsewhere in the magazine she has written the numbers

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0



As you can see they are well formed and proportioned and clear apart from the 0 which is smaller and out of proportion to the other numbers.

Overall Gladys seemed to have very neat and legible handwriting.

We have attempted to do a little research on Gladys and although the booklet the snippets were found in was dated 1905 and Gladys tells us she is 9 years of age, this doesn't mean that Gladys was 9 in 1905 and therefore we cannot determine a birthdate for her. Also since the booklet was for a Somerset Parish and Gladys has written a Wiltshire parish name against her name we cannot assume that she was living in either Somerset or Wiltshire at the time of her jottings in the booklet.

Until we can find someone who may be related to Gladys who can confirm the connections to these places we will have to leave her background and what became of her as a mystery.

If anyone can shed any light on Gladys then please get in touch with the administrator of the website.