

# Historic Towns & Villages

## New Bradwell

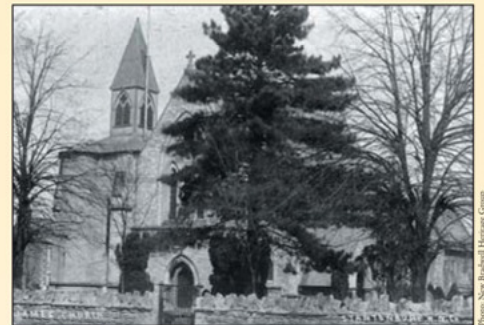
### 1900 – A moment in time captured



*Darktown Parade*

By 1900, the village of New Bradwell had expanded considerably. When war broke out in South Africa local lads were recruited for service. In Stantonbury a group of people got together to form 'The Darktown Charity Organisation'. The aim was to organise a grand parade to raise money – one of several charities set up for the troops and their dependants. The parade consisted of a minstrel troupe, decorated carts, clowns, a tin kettle band, giants and dancing bears! The photograph depicts the crowds gathered outside the Stantonbury Post office at the start of the parade on the corner of Glyn Street and School Street.

Superintendent of the school in 1900 was Mr. Thomas Arkwright (5th from left, second row, bearded). He appears to have been an active member of the local community including being instrumental in forming a Literary and Debating Society and being the lay Director of a church guild



*St James Church*



*Church School*

for young men called the St. Andrews Brotherhood. The three panels behind the organ in St James Church are in his memory for service to the Sunday School.

Bradwell Silver Band formed on 15th January 1901. Gilbert Locke, cornet player, was appointed the first bandmaster. One of his tasks was to teach the youngsters. Gilbert, under the impression that there would be some remuneration only to discover nothing forthcoming, complained to the committee in June 1901, threatening to resign. The committee accepted his resignation!



*Gilbert Locke*

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