

## The Parish Clerk's Sign

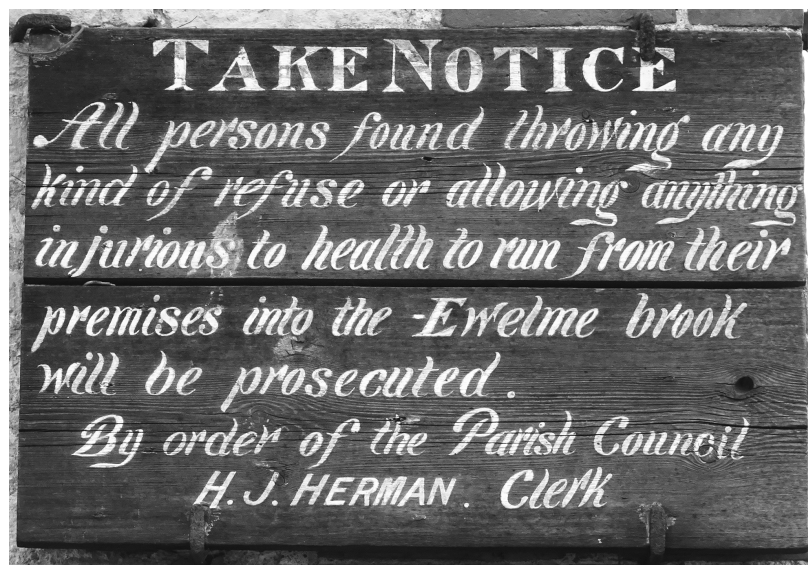
Ewelme News, Aug-Sep 2014

Roger and Jane Moore restored the sign affixed to their Days Cottage home in 2014 as it had become quite dilapidated in recent years. The Parish Council minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> March 1900 recommended that the Parish Clerk erect a sign to warn of prosecution for anyone dumping rubbish in the brook, which at that time ran along the other side of the road to drain into the pond.



The sign can be seen on the upper right corner of the middle house.

The Clerk was Mr William James Herman, the headmaster from 1889 to 1925, so his name is at the bottom. (H J Herman should be W J Herman). Mr Herman was active in the village in many roles and was Clerk until at least 1929.



Mr Herman retired to Caversham and revisited the school in November 1939, the 50th anniversary year of his taking up the headship, and again on May 30<sup>th</sup> 1949, the 60th anniversary - to the very day! He remarked then to his equally long-serving successor, Mr Quixley that he found the pupils well behaved and well fed! He died tragically in October 1953 at the age of 90, having stepped from behind a bus into the path of a car, and is buried in the new churchyard. In 1973, Cynthia Winfield requested the Parish Council repaint the sign and permission would be sought from Mr Edwards, the then owner of the cottage, to do so - but nobody can remember if it was done or not!

*Ewelme Village Archive*