

EAST ANGLIAN TRADITIONAL MUSIC TRUST

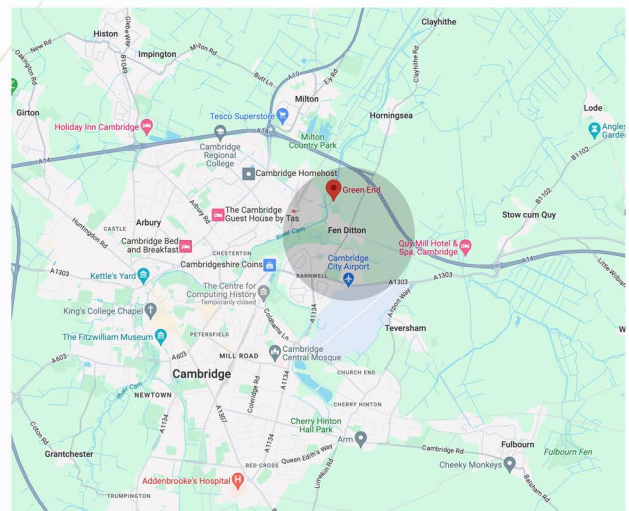
Vaughan Williams' Folk

John Barleycorn

This version of John Barley corn was collected by Vaughan Williams from singer Llewelyn Mallion in the village of Fen Ditton, Cambridgeshire on 22nd August 1906, one of 3 songs he sang on that day.

In the 1901 census Llewelyn was 52 years old and lived at 13 Green End in the village, next door to a pub called "The Harvest Home". At the time he was a labourer in the nearby cement works but had a variety of jobs throughout his life. In 1911 he was employed as a Labourer and by 1921, aged 73, was still working, as a farm labourer at Swage Farm in Milton, whilst living in the High St at Fen Ditton. He lived until the old age of 87, dying in 1936.

The map shows the location of Fen Ditton as it lies in the North East corner of Cambridge today.



Task:

The song follows the lifecycle of the planting, growing and harvesting & malting corn and barley through the eyes of a blade of corn.

Find out about the life cycle of crops in your county and compare the methods of growing and harvesting crops over the last 100 years.



Fen Ditton, Cambridgeshire