



BRIZE NORTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

APPENDIX 06 DOCUMENT C

Version 5 - November 2022

CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

*“our village
our community
our future”*

DOCUMENT C

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Section 1

Population

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POPULATION GROWTH OF THE VILLAGE

HISTORIC POPULATION GROWTH

In 1086, 48 people belonged to Brize Norton and Astrop, of whom 30 tenants, 8 servi, and a knight were associated with the former. In 1279 there were about 60 tenant households in the parish, of whom 44 held land associated with Brize Norton village and 1 held land there and elsewhere.

In 1306, 39 people paid tax in Brize Norton and Astrop, of whom 27 (excluding the abbot of Thame) were listed under Brize Norton. Taxpayers at Marsh Haddon were included in a list of 13 names covering both Marsh and Lower Haddon (in Bampton parish).

In 1316, 44 taxpayers were listed under Brize Norton and Astrop, of whom 33 were associated with the former, presumably including taxpayers in Marsh Haddon. Corresponding figures in 1327 were 38 and 31. In 1377, 106 men and women over 14 paid poll tax in Brize Norton, presumably including any resident at Astrop, and another 10 men and women were recorded separately for Marsh and Lower Haddon.

By the early 16th century population had fallen considerably, and only 14 taxpayers were recorded for Brize Norton parish in 1523–4 and 26 in 1544. In 1548, there were said to be 62 'housing people' (i.e. those old enough to receive communion).

In 1642, 62 male householders took the Protestation oath, together with 13 householders' sons and 7 male servants; another 4 men were listed as recusants, including at least 1 householder. In 1662 and 1665, respectively 46 and 43 householders were assessed for hearth tax.

Between 1738 and 1768, clergy estimated the number of houses at 70–89, but at only 50 (excluding outlying farmhouses) in 1771 and down to just 30 in 1774.

Baptisms per decade from 1670 to 1759 fluctuated between 91 and 104. It rose to 174 in the period 1770 to 1779 and 181 in the period 1780 to 1789. However, it fell back to 148 in the period 1790 to 1799. Throughout that period, baptisms per decade nevertheless outnumbered burials, though to varying degrees. Until 1769 the surplus ranged from 22 to 43, except in the periods 1720 to 1729 and again 1750 to 1759 when it was only 9.

Between 1770 and 1799 it rose considerably, up to 75 in the period 1770 to 1779, 109 in the period 1780 to 1789, and 69 in the period 1790 to 1799.

The growth of the village population during this early historic period was no doubt affected by the onset of the Black Plague in England around 1348. The Plague then re-appeared again in 1498 and 1636 [3].

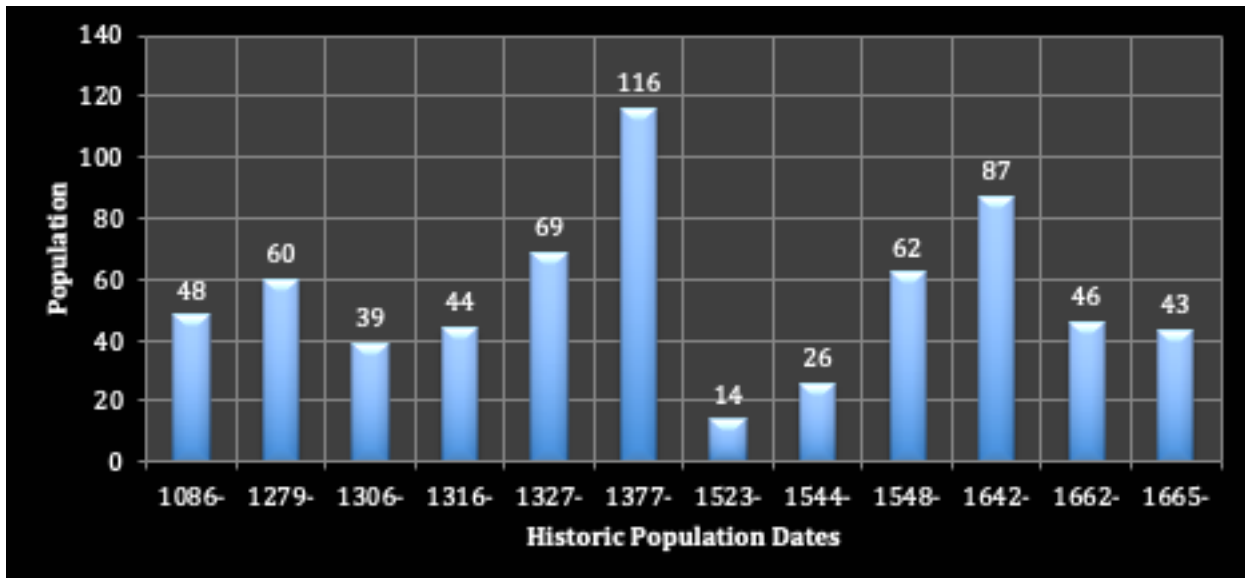
The Great Famine in the period 1315 to 1317, which was caused by the continual heavy rainfall destroying the crops, may also have had some effect on the growth of the village population around this period. The Great Famine also re-occurred in 1321, 1351 and 1369 [4].



As a result, life expectancy in England was badly affected during these early historic times. In the year 1276, life expectancy was 35 years and between 1301 and 1325 it had dropped to 29 years.

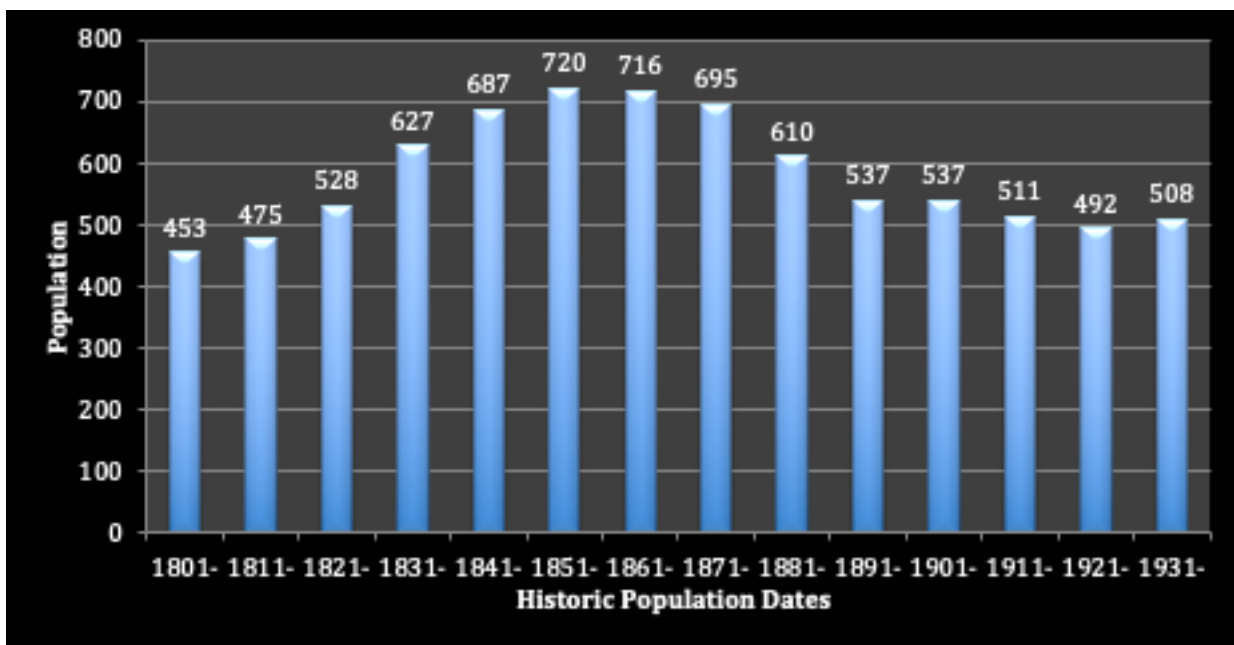
It became even more disconcerting around the periods of the Black Plague and the Great Famine. In 1348 to 1375 life expectancy had dropped to just a mere 17 years [1].

Population Growth from 1086 to 1665



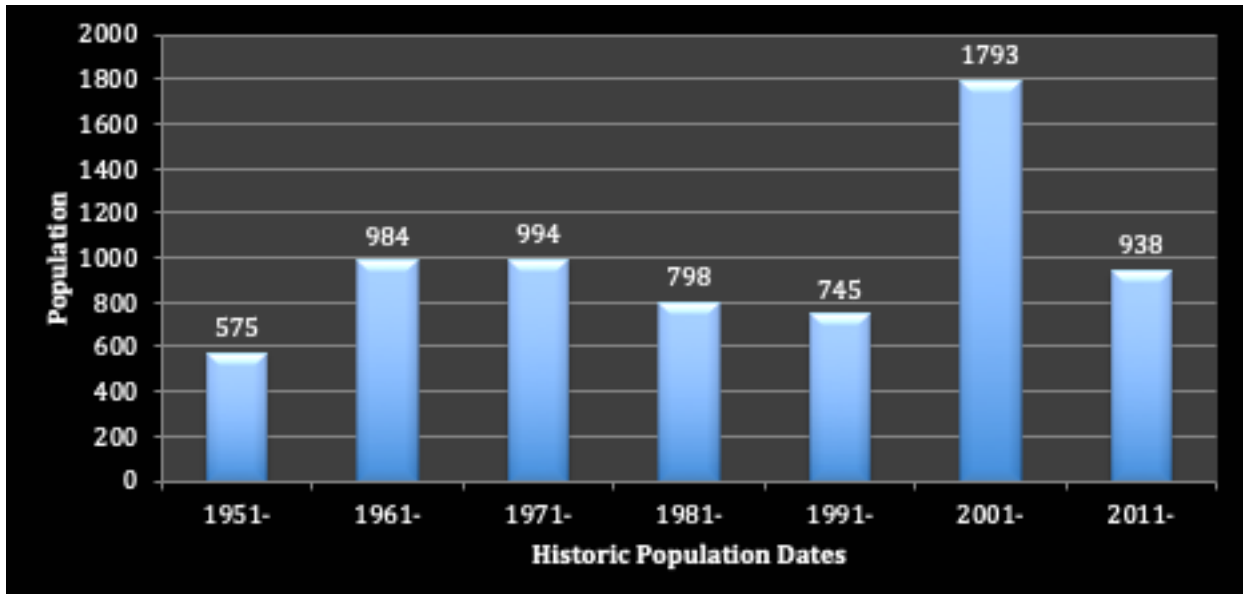
Unfortunately, no data is available for the period 1666 to 1800

Population Growth from 1801 to 1931



By 1801 there were 57 houses containing 56 families and a total population of 453. Population rose to 528 in 1821 (102 families), 627 in 1831, and 720 in 1851. It then declined to 695 in 1871 and to 639 in 1881, before falling steeply from 610 in 1891 to 537 in 1901 and to 421 in 1921. Thereafter it expanded again, reaching 508 in 1931.

Most Recent Population Growth from 1951 to 2011

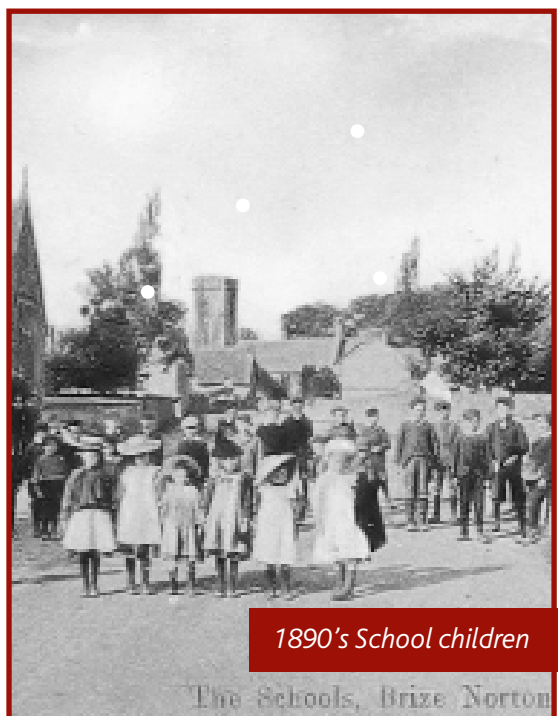


Due to the start of the Second World War there was no census taken in 1941. Nevertheless, by 1951 the population expanded further to 575 and rising to 984 by 1961, partly because of house-building but presumably also because of the air base's development. Between 1971 and 1981 population fell from 994 to 798, mainly because of the 1971 boundary change; it declined further to 745 by 1991.

Communal establishment residents of RAF Brize Norton were counted in the Parish of Brize Norton in 2001 which led to large increase in population. However, as of 2011, they were counted in the Town of Carterton. This change mainly affected the population in the age group 18 to 45



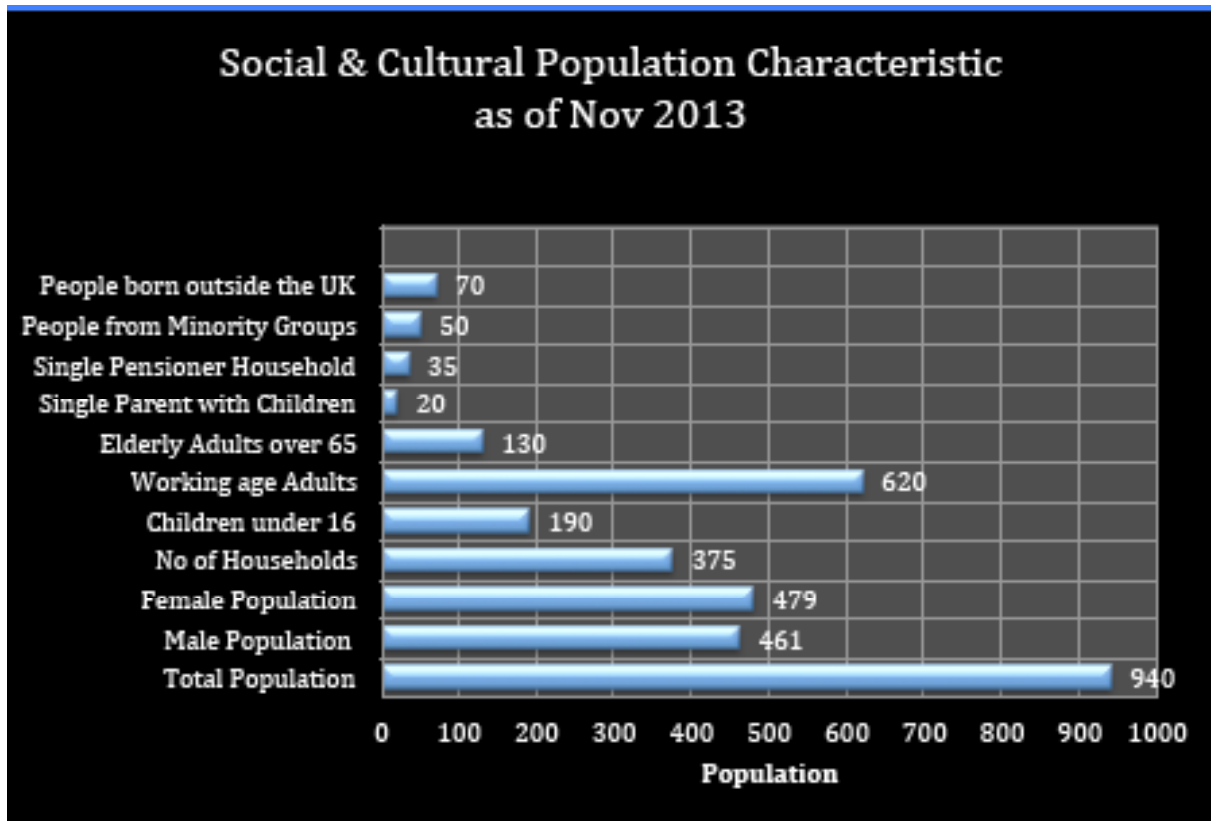
Millennium tea party



1890's School children

The Schools, Brize Norton

Social and cultural population characteristics



References:

- [1] British History On-Line: Victoria County History – Oxfordshire A History of the County of Oxford: Vol 15 Bampton Hundred (Part 3)
- [2] On-Line Historical Population Reports: (*histpop*)
- [3] Wikipedia: Black Death (Black Plague)
- [4] Wikipedia: Great Famine