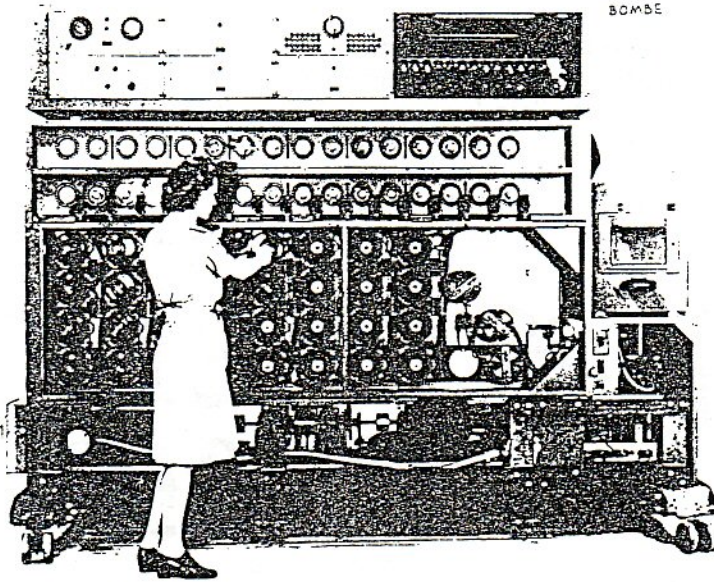


WARTIME ADSTOCK

During the second world war the stables at what is now the Delahooke Stud Adstock were part of the Bletchley Park complex, the headquarters of the ULTRA secret, the organisation which throughout the war cracked and deciphered enemy codes. During 1943 and 1944 I was a Wren who worked at Adstock on the crypto-analytical machines (known as bombes) which were instrumental in providing the keys to enemy codes.

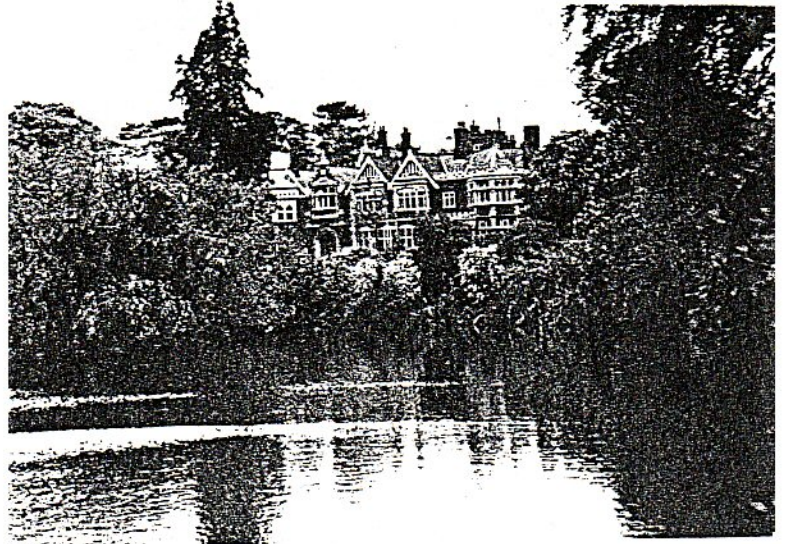


An American version of "The Bombe" first used at Bletchley Park for processing the German Enigma cipher

Twelve wrens would arrive at the stables by shooting brake from our billets at Steeple Claydon just before 8 am, 4pm, or midnight, relieving twelve Wrens whose duty was completed. During the eight hours we stayed in the village we were working in close co-operation with Bletchley Park. We were able to obtain milk, and we used to produce a scrappy meal prepared with supplies brought from our billets. I seem to remember that occasionally someone was able to slip out and buy some buns from a local baker, but we saw little of the outside world, such was the nature of our work.

CENSUS 1991

Would you like a job as a Census Enumerator?
The Census Office are looking for people to take on a temporary part - time job in April. You must be reasonably fit and able to communicate easily. You will cover up to 250 households and can earn at least £235. For more information contact:
Mr. M Baker
34c Temple St
Brill
AYLESBURY
Bucks
HP18 9SX Tel. 0844 237575



Bletchley Park today

We were told that the stables in which we worked were owned by the Misses Travis related to a Commander E. Travis R.N. who was one of the very senior officers at Bletchley. Presumably they lived in the large house near the stables, but we never met them. Establishments like Outstation Adstock were sited in the depths of the country in case some disaster should befall Bletchley Park. Other Wrens were serving in similar outstations at Gayhurst, Wavendon and Crawley. All were small units of which we were the smallest; but then small is beautiful, and we liked what we were doing and where we were situated. Once for a spell of two weeks we were bussed to Bletchly to work, as "something" was being done to the stables. We were not told what when we returned, but it was whispered that the premises had been mined in case it was necessary to evacuate our operation at Adstock - probably only rumour - but in the absence of fact, fantasy abounded. We who worked at Outstation Adstock knew very little about the day to day outcome of our work, however we were always assured that what we did was vital. In recent years much has been written about ULTRA* and we are proud to have been a part of that page of history.

A former Wren.

If you would like to know more about the Bletchley operation and "ULTRA" here are two of the books that will give you more information :

DECOY by Dudley Pope, The Alison Press Book, Seker and Warburg
ULTRA GOES TO WAR by Ronald Lewin, published by Hutchinson of London.

*

We have been asked by the P.C.C. to include the enclosed leaflets about the discussion on the proposed ordination of women. The Churchwardens are Mrs McCaffrey, 7 West St, and Chris Smith, Fig Tree Cottage, Main St. The Deanery Synod representative is Jim Vyse, 11 Greenfields.