

# Cutting from Evening Echo 12<sup>th</sup> October 1978

## Andover Diary

by 'Anton'

### *When Wherwell came under fire*

**WHEN Vic and Mary Pyke leave the White Lion, Wherwell, next week they will take with them two relics.**

One is an old ledger book in which Vic's

father, Fred, kept the accounts of the "fishing gents" who used the house when spending weekends on the River Test.

In it are some fascinating comparisons with today's prices — whisky 5s. 6d. a bottle, bedroom 2s. 6d., breakfast 1s 6d., bath and attendance 1s. 6d. and luncheon 1s.

One of the most expensive entries in the book is "Oar to station" at 7s. 6." A pony trap to the same station — Andover Junction — was only 1s. 6d.

Vic is also taking an old cannon ball which is reputed to have been fired at Wherwell Priory by Cromwell's soldiery during the Civil War.

It missed the Priory but fell down the chimney of the White Lion, where it was once used as a stop for the front door. Originally, there were two cannon balls, but one disappeared during the war. Vic believes it was taken by an American sildier as a souvenir.

The Pyke family has had a 70-year association with the White Lion.