

# **Woodlark Road, Sherlock Road, Hoadley Road and Eachard Road, Cambridge**

Have you ever walked, cycled or driven down Huntingdon Road in Cambridge and noticed the street sign for Sherlock, Hoadley, Woodlark and Eachard Roads? Have you ever wondered what the link is between St. Catharine's and these roads, for they are named for our founder, two notable Masters and a College Tutor?



The land upon which these roads were built never belonged to St. Catharine's College, in fact it was owned by Clare College. However, the developers who built Woodlark Road were Harold and Frank Ridgeon, who had both attended St. Catharine's College in the 1920s. Their company later became Sindall's.

Harold Ridgeon came up to St. Catharine's in 1922. He was quite different to many of the students to be found at Cambridge in the 1920s, having left school at 14 with few formal qualifications. However, he worked hard at St. Catharine's, studying Economics and Law and gained his BA in 1925. His affection for the College was deep and he was elected an Honorary Fellow Commoner in 1979. His brother Frank came up to St. Catharine's in 1925 to study Natural Sciences. He gained his degree in 1928. A keen sportsman, he gained a Blue for Football in 1927 and went on to play cricket for Cambridgeshire before joining his brother in the building firm.



For those first houses built on Woodlark Road, the asking price in the 1930s was £850; today houses often go for over £400,000. £850 in 1930 would be the equivalent of £28,400 today so they have proved a good investment. Little has changed on the roads since they were built and they provide a doorway to a quieter time.



## Resources

The National Archives' currency converter, find out how much old money would be worth today: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/currency/default0.asp#mid>

Report on Huntingdon Road Housing by Cambridgeshire City Council:  
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/sites/www.cambridge.gov.uk/files/docs/suburbs-and-approaches-huntingdon-road.pdf>

The Cricket Archive, providing information on matches and players:  
<http://cricketarchive.com/>

Further information about Thomas Sherlock:  
<http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/assets/uploadedfiles/downloads/ThomasSherlockJuly2010.pdf>

The Archivist is always pleased to answer questions about former members of the College. Enquiries should be directed to [archivist@caths.cam.ac.uk](mailto:archivist@caths.cam.ac.uk), or call 01223 338343. The Archivist only works for the College on Thursdays and Fridays so there is sometimes a delay in being able to answer queries.