A small seed is planted in Whixley

In Whixley It Grows

1920
Mr Johnson leaves the Army

1925
Producing fruit and vegetables gradually
selling into the catchment of town
and clients setting them at local markets
such as Knaresborough and Otley

Bought first automobile a Model T-Ford

1931
Mr Johnson celebrates 10 YEARS in business

1937
John Richardson is born

1945
Back to Work
After the War

1947
7 ACRES plus Brookfield Home
which is now the Whixley
site are bought

1949
Robert Richardson is born

1955
E. R. Johnson becomes
a Limited Company

1957
John Richardson starts
work on a sales rep for
Fisons in Scotland

1957-64

1963
Andrew Richardson
is born

1964
John Richardson
John Richardson takes over the business
from Mr Johnson

1965
Graham Richardson is born

Round gardens at
Myton Hall

1969
Iain Richardson is born

Johnsons buy : 7 ACRES
of land at Farnham

TURNOVER 1964 = £30,000
STAFF = 11

1970
Robert Richardson leaves

1971
Johnsons buy totally wholesale
50 ACRE site at Newlands

1972
E. R. Johnson (Nurseries) Ltd
becomes known as
Johnsons of Whixley Ltd

Sold Farnham site

TURNOVER 1979 = £77,000
STAFF = 18

1979
First computer introduced
at Johnsons

1982
Graham Richardson
joins the business
Trowgate Garden festival
Silver medal

TURNOVER 1980 = £541,000
STAFF = 26

1984
Graham Richardson
joins the business
Trowgate Garden festival
Silver medal

1986
Harrogate Garden Festival
Won silver medal

1988
Graham moves to Wilberfoss to run
newly against Enfield of Wilberfoss

Andrew takes over the sales department

Bought *Lyther* tree nursery- 72 ACRES

Bought *Enfield* 14 ACRES

1992
Johnsons are the first
company in the horticultural
sector to be awarded the
B.S.I. kite-mark

New corporate identity
is put in place

1994
Bought 18 ACRE Cattal Site

1996
Iain Richardson joins the business
to run Enfield of Wilberfoss

1997
Andrew and Graham Richardson
become Managing Directors
of Johnsons of Whixley

Iain Richardson becomes
a director of the company

1998
After 2 years working toward the
standard, Johnsons of Whixley are
awarded the 'Investors in People'
kite-mark for training and
development of staff

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

TURNOVER 2000 = £7,350,000
STAFF = 125

TURNOVER 2002 = £8,750,000
STAFF = 150

TURNOVER 2003 = £10,100,000
STAFF = 150

TURNOVER 2007 = £12,000,000
STAFF = 150
PLANTS SOLD - OVER 20 MILLION

1998
Growing for *75 Years*

Approximately 100 staff, customers and friends
of Johnsons take trip to Paris
to celebrate the 25th anniversary
of John Richardson buying the
business

2002
Alf Newcastle
first grower specimen plant unit - 90 ACRES

Contractors complete development
of Johnsons new head office in Whixley

2003
First external Cash & Carry opens
in Cheshunt-Surrey

2004
40 years since John Richardson
acquired Johnsons of Whixley

2005
Dorothy Richardson, John's wife and mother of
Andrew, Graham and Iain joins a colleague of the
business in the years. After the family acquired it
years away after a long illness

Johnsons Oak Trees planted at
Farnsborough near Dorchester to
commemorate the Dorn
Massacre in 1940

2005
November
John Richardson receives
Individual Excellence Award for
Lifetime Achievement in the
Horticulture Week Awards

2007
Commitment made to ISO
Environmental Audit System

Big expansion of Cheshunt as Xpress
outlets and Garden Centre Sales
Division continue to grow

Andrew Richardson elected IITA
President and awarded Pearson
Memorial Medal

"SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY - NOT A DESTINATION"
the story continues . . .