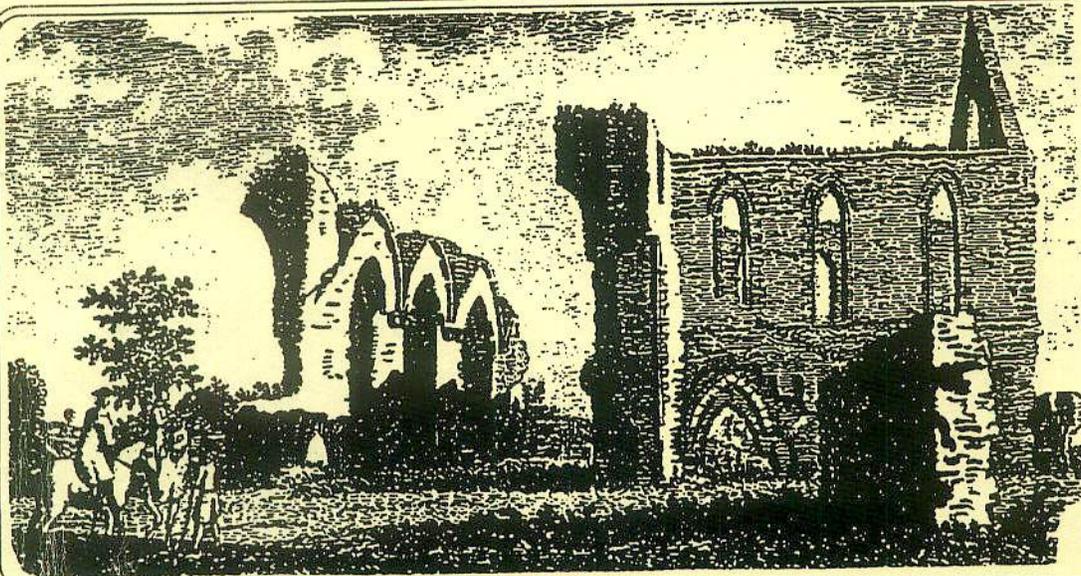


# Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 296324

*16558484*

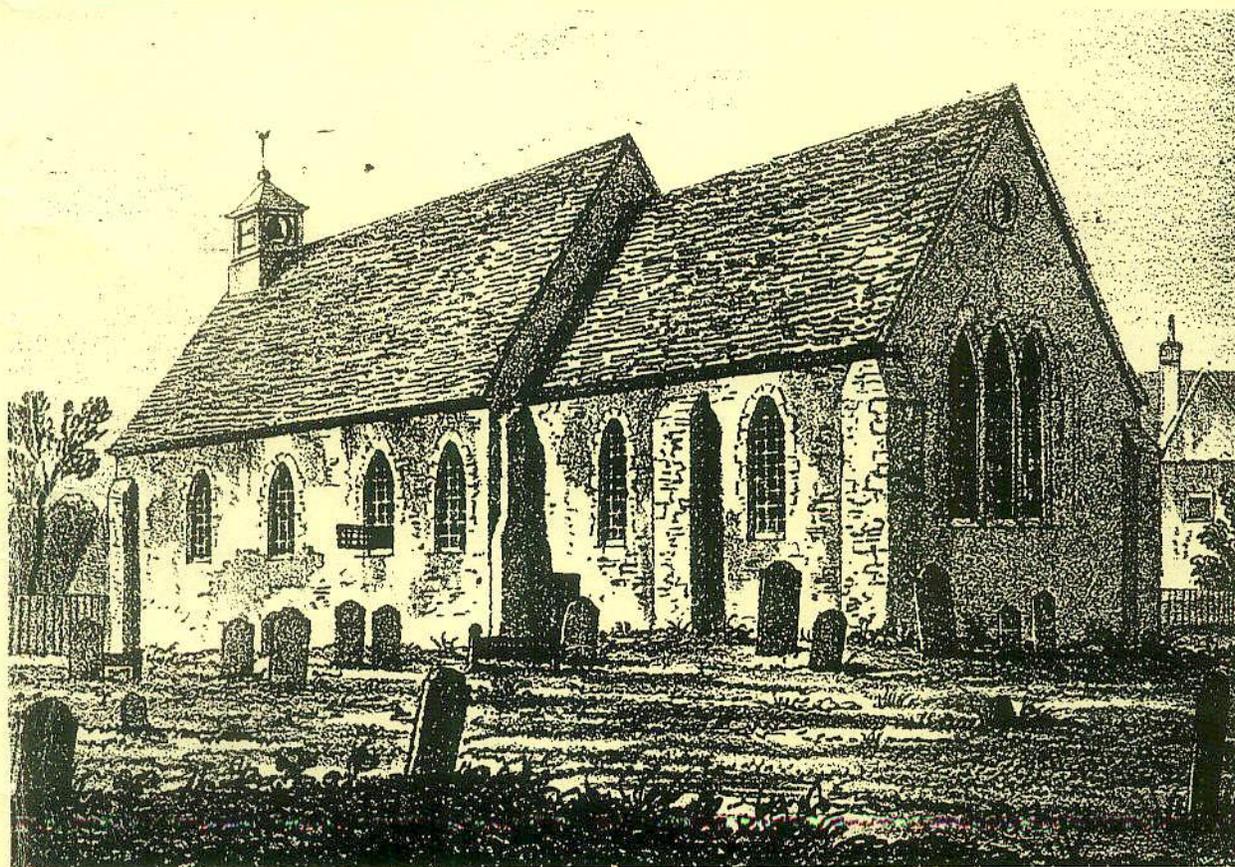


NEWARK PRIORY

Journal Volume 5 No. 153

July/Aug 2000

*25th Anniversary 1975 - 2000*



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# Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society  
Registered Charity No 296324

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Journal Volume 5 No 153

*Frenchman  
Fambles*

July/august 2000

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Cover illustration Ripley Chapel c1823, by C T Cracklow - see R C Hussey, FSA, page 7.

*Desmond  
Claire McCance*

*Edgerton*

*W. G. G. G. G.*

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This edition of the Journal corresponds with the usual summer holidays and, consequently, is a little thinner than at other times. My plea, therefore, is for more articles and/or snippets of news relating to past events in our two villages, please, which are required for the next edition by August 11.

We have just received news that Surrey Local History Council is to hold a special meeting this autumn in memory of Kenneth Gravett. Ken, who was Chairman of the SLHC, died on 21 November 1999 (see Journal No 150, page 4) - details to follow in the next issue of the Journal.

### THE DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT: 1998 UPDATE

Following our reports in Newsletters Nos 148 and 149 last year, and the public announcement at our AGM, we provide herewith a summary of this piece of legislation.

A sub-committee, comprising Ken Bourne, Anne Bowerman and Alan Baker, was set up to investigate the implications of this Act upon the Society. The first meeting was held on Wednesday, 3 November, and an apology for non-attendance was received from Alan Baker.

The Museums & Galleries Commission have produced a Facts Sheet, which outlines the duties incumbent on museums in particular, and History Societies in general, with regard to, wittingly or unwittingly, discriminating against the disabled.

It is clear from the Act that from October 1999, "service providers", including all museums, will be acting unlawfully if they do not make **reasonable adjustments** to the way they provide their services, and if this failure makes it impossible or unreasonably difficult for a disabled person to use their goods, facilities and services.

A copy of this Facts Sheet, which is, as one would expect, fairly lengthy, is available for inspection in the museum.

The Sub-Committee's function, therefore, is to interpret the Act, consult with other organisations and produce a programme containing recommendations for consideration by the main Committee. With this objective in view, the Sub-Committee has prepared a summary of the main topics from this Facts Sheet, bearing in mind that "reasonable adjustments" will vary according to

- The type of goods, facilities and services provided;
- the nature, size and resources of the museum;
- the effect of a disability on an individual disabled person.

The Sub-Committee produced the following provisional list, applicable to museums, to form the basis of future discussion and subsequent detailed action.

#### **External access**

- There to be a designated area for disabled parking.
- Plan to widen the current entrance.
- Check that the handrails adequate.
- Provide ramps for wheelchairs.

#### **Access to exhibits**

- Consideration should be given to accessibility to exhibits.
- Some exhibits should have tactile appeal.

No exhibits within reach should have dangerous parts or projections.  
Exhibits should be clearly labelled using a larger type face and worded in clear, simplified language.

### **Communications**

Provide a summary of the topic of the exhibits which could be read out to those who required this facility.

Possible provision of a descriptive audio tape.

Wall displays not to be too high or too low for comfortable vision.

### **General comfort**

Chairs to sit on when viewing exhibits.

Disabled toilet facilities.

A bowl of water placed outside for assistance dogs.

### **Auxiliary aids**

A bright torch.

A large magnifying glass.

Spare paper and black felt tip pen.

Possibility of an induction loop to assist those with a requirement for an enhanced hearing aid.

### **Museum staff**

A training scheme to be planned to enable volunteers to assist disabled people effectively, eg communication to disabled people in wheelchairs, those with hearing or communication difficulties.

### **Other suggestions**

A further point arose during the meeting concerning the need for a public address system at meetings of the Society generally, but most particularly when held at the Ripley Village Hall and Send Church Room. The managers of these premises will be approached to inquire whether public address system facilities are already available.

### **Conclusions**

It is obvious that this is a subject which will not be concluded, but will be ongoing, to bring about a greater awareness of the needs of the disabled and implement improvements at the earliest opportunity.

After the first Sub-Committee Meeting, it became evident that some of the recommendations had already been implemented when the Museum was built. At this stage, a ramp was provided for wheelchair access, but although it is possible for a wheelchair user to gain access to the Museum, this was not too easy, due to the restricted lobby entrance, which had formed a necessary part of the original bank's design. Arrangements were therefore put in hand to obtain estimates for the removal of the lobby partition and its re-siting to make access very much easier. This work has now been completed, at a cost of £220.

The Sub-Committee would particularly welcome any assistance and suggestions that will assist in implementing an improved public address or induction loop system in the Ripley Village Hall and Send Church Room.

## MUSEUM LIBRARY

A new departure for the Museum library is the acquisition by the Committee of the video, "Our Three Villages" dealing with Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford. This was produced by the local Residents' Association in 1999.

Members borrowing this video will find much of interest, dealing as it does with the changes which have taken place to transform the erstwhile rural area into a thriving modern community.

Among the many varied topics covered is that of the Hon Henry Locke King, and Brooklands. We are told much of the early history of Brooklands Race Track and the development of aviation there, right through the recent rescue from Loch Ness of the crashed Wellington Bomber, which is now being restored at Brooklands Museum.

There is an attractive section on the Basingstoke and Wey Navigation Canals, with many old views. A footbridge links the two canals.

All the local churches are mentioned. Of special interest to our Society is the old St Nicholas Church, Pyrford, where A J Munby is buried, close to his home at Wheelers Farm.

There have been many royal visitors to the area, spanning the years from James I's stay at Byfleet Manor, to the visit of Diana, Princess of Wales, to open the St Mary's Day Centre at Byfleet.

Although the video shows many of the villages' present-day activities, there is much of local history interest too. It is an interesting and enjoyable hour's watching time, and a credit to its makers' endeavour. Perhaps some video enthusiast in the Send & Ripley History Society could do the same for us.

Mavis Davies (Hon Librarian)

## MUSEUM EXHIBITION

Currently, there is a general exhibition of photographs and artefacts relating to the areas of Send and Ripley. It is, however, intended to mount a new exhibition concerning Scouting and Guiding. Anyone interested in providing artefacts or photographs, please contact Clare McCann on 01483 728546.

## MEMBERSHIP

Our Membership Secretary reports that there are 97 couples and 70 single members.

We have received a note from our esteemed member, Ken French, who has now moved from Swanage to Nottingham. His new address is 48 Crowtrees Drive, Oaklands Park, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 1LH.

## MEMBERSHIP CORRESPONDENCE

**Extract from a Letter from Pat and David Bowers, Dated 20/2/2000  
Sent to David Porter and Subsequently Passed to George Bleach**

"Dear David

... "Also I've written to Roland Doe hoping he can give me some info on his Bowers line. My sister thinks she may have been at school with you two; although you are older the name

rings a bell, she says.

"I had a phone call the other night from a Mr John Milton. He's 69 yrs, he lives out here 15 mins away in Grovedale, Geelong. He has been out here since 1970 with his family. His brother sent him the Jan/Feb 2000 Newsletter with my letter and photos in it and his brother wondered if we may have known of one another. So he rang and we had a long chat. He knew of all the older Bowers family.

"He is one of 8 children who were born in Ripley, he was born at Pinnocks Café and the family later moved down to Bridge-End to the Rio Café. He later owned the Papershop. He says his brother was involved with council affairs of the district. He went on for nearly an hour asking questions and telling me his life story so we're hoping to catch up later. He has a photo I'm going to copy and send you of the first Football team of ...?"

#### Letter from Tony and Liz Friend, Victoria, Australia, Dated 27/3/2000

"Dear Mr Bleach,

"Our names are Tony and Liz Friend who were mentioned in your last Newsletter of March/April by David and Pat Bowers. Percy Friend was Tony's grandfather; Percy had two sons, Raymond Edward (locally known as Jim), born 1922 and Anthony (otherwise known as Sam). Sam is now living in Burton-on-Trent and is in his seventies.

"Tony's parents were Raymond and Lydia Friend who lived at 3 Lower Sandfields Send until 1978. They had three sons, Raymond Anthony born 1945, Anthony John born 1946, and Roy Douglas born 1948. Roy is married with two children and now lives in Devon. Tony left St Bedes school in the sixties and went to work at Fishers garage Ripley where he worked until immigrating to Australia in 1976.

"Tony and I (Liz) met in 1971 through a friend at the Jovial Sailor. We were married at St Luke parish church Burpham in 1976 and two months later we arrived in Australia. We have a daughter Anne who turns 19 years old this year and has just started university, doing a Bachelor of Business - Commercial Law. Tony's brother Raymond now lives here in Lara and has been working in Melbourne since 1998. The boys mum Lydia was ill when we left for Australia and she died in 1977 and Jim (Raymond) died in 1978 just before we returned for a visit.

As for me I was born in Exeter Devon. My parents Frank and Dorothy Drodge had a bakery in Exeter not Burpham. We moved to Guildford in 1965 where Dad worked for the Army and Navy stores locally known as Harvey's. I worked for Guildford Bakeries, the shops were called La Boulangerie.

"We would like to receive the Newsletter, if you would send us an order form and the cost for the year we would be grateful.

"Yours sincerely

"Tony and Liz Friend"

#### NEWARK PRIORY

*The following account was sent by Mr Walter Thelwall to Mary Alexander, Assistant Curator of Guildford Museum. This letter has been passed to the Society because of its local interest, and is reproduced here with the permission of Mr Thelwall, who is now 80 years old and lives in Guildford. He last lived in Ripley when he was nine years old and recalls, with some apprehension, the changes that had taken place when he was taken on a visit to the area c1998.*  
Editor

Recently, my brother took me to Ripley and took some photographs of my old haunts.

I was appalled at changes over the years. What concerned me was that there used to be a block of granite within the Priory walls. It must have been 6 ft x 2 ft 6 in x 2 ft and had a cross carved upon it. Obviously the weight of it was why it was semi-submerged. The block could not be moved without the use of special tackle. The block has gone! and I wonder where it is now?

The fields surrounding the Priory are now mostly devoid of trees - some of the trees had woodpeckers. It's no wonder to me that when I mentioned to you (Matthew Alexander) the phenomenon of "the Floating Island", you had not heard of its existence, as it must have been bulldozed some time ago. There is now a notice by the River Wey Navigation that there have been improvements to stop flooding. The channel that went to the "eel trap" is now bone dry and I can hardly recognise the Abbey Stream as it seems to have been widened and is devoid of vegetation along the banks.

I feel that 700 years ago, the Priory wouldn't have been built if there was a danger of flooding!

I have always been fascinated by the Priory ruins - I like to imagine what it was like transporting all the tons of flint, etc, by horse and cart along the "roads" of that time, only subsequently to be vandalised. ...

The old horse-drawn fire engine was still stored in Rose Lane in 1929, where the old fire station still stands.

Walter Thelwall

### A REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE

Reading through back issues of our Society Newsletters, I came across the article, "Bob Whapshott - an Appreciation", by Jane Bartlett, in Issue No 100. Bob was a local nurseryman who died in July 1991. To this I would like to add the following information.

I started at St Bedes School in September 1961, joining Class 1B in Room 6, Miss Jean Grant being the teacher of this class of about 30 pupils. By Christmas the class was disbanded for reasons unknown to me (teacher shortage?), and I became upgraded to Class 1A in January 1962. Some pupils from 1B were downgraded to 1C, which was known as 1R until the three-tier system was reinstated the following September.

1A and 1R were, therefore, large classes, Pat Dangerfield being in charge of the former and Mrs Bryson the latter. Already in Class 1A was Norman Whapshott, Bob's son. Norman and I became good friends.

September 1962 did not witness my joining the "B" grade, subsequently reinstated, and my good friend, Phillip Billington, and I, together with two girls, were to remain "A"-graded throughout our remaining years at the school.

The 1992 Reunion saw Phillip and me working as a team again after an lapse of 27 years. We had decided to restrict the attendance to former pupils of our own age group, bearing in mind this was our first attempt and we were stepping out into the unknown!

To find Norman again after so many years presented little problem, as he was still living locally. The big night duly arrived and among the former members of staff (our special guests!) was Miss Constance Ayre, the former Deputy Headmistress and teacher of 4A in Room 7.

She was the last teacher to teach Norman, Phillip and me together. It was therefore a very special occasion to be together again after such a long time, and in my presence Miss Ayre asked Norman how his father was. Norman replied that his father had died the previous year, 1991.

Miss Ayre, quite naturally, offered her sympathy to Norman and asked him to give a more specific date, to which she replied "How very strange."

Miss Ayre went on to explain that she had purchased a pink rose bush from Norman's father a long time ago and had seen it bloom every year in her garden in Hertfordshire until 1991, when for no apparent reason it did not flourish in the usual way. Despite all her efforts to revive the plant, it withered and died.

The date of Bob's death and that of the rose bush were remarkably close together.

David Porter

### RICHARD CHARLES HUSSEY, FSA (1806-87)

R N Bloxam refers in Volume 49 of Surrey Archaeological Collections, page 126, to "Surrey references in the Hussey bequest in the Bodleian Library, Oxford".

R C Hussey, FSA, was an architect based in Kent. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1852 and became Vice-President in 1859, until he resigned his membership in 1877. His practice was concerned primarily with the erecting of houses of moderate size, some new churches, and the restoration and enlargement of old ones. He retired from his practice in 1870 and resided at Harbledown, near Canterbury, until his death. He was renowned for his most painstaking examination of every old building which he came across. His studies had been in early life, mostly in the South East of England, and, to some extent, other parts of England and also France. His measured drawings show great care and antiquarian appreciation of old work; seldom did he design a detail without reference to his old sketchbooks. He was also an accomplished craftsman, being expert in the use of joiners' tools, and was proficient in the use of the trowel and the mason's chisel and the adze.

Mr Hussey contributed papers to the *Archaeological Journal* in 1848, 1850 and 1853, and to the *transactions of the Kent Archaeological Society* in 1858-63, 1868-74 and 1876, and to the Sussex Archaeological Society in 1873. He furnished illustrations and assistance to his brother, the Rev Arthur Hussey, in *The Churches of Kent, Sussex and Surrey*, published in 1852. He revised the proofs of Mr J H Parker's *Glossary of Architecture* in 1845, and had furnished illustrations to the early editions, and he was always ready to assist his friends with the stores of his information and the use of his library.

Perhaps Mr Hussey's best work was seen in his restoration of interesting ancient buildings, among which are: Barfrestone Church, between Canterbury and Dover, Frittenden Church, Kent, almost entirely rebuilt, and refitting of the choir of Chester Cathedral, at a time when funds were less easily obtained than at the later period at which Sir G G Scott executed so much work upon the fabric.

His stock of sketchbooks was very great, and it is a number of these that were bequeathed to the Bodleian Library upon his death. These contain detailed sketches and descriptions of churches throughout England and some on the Continent. Among these, and of interest to our Society, are drawings of our two churches, St Mary's Church, Send, and St Mary Magdalen Church, Ripley.

Richard Hussey visited Send on 1 April 1841 and produced two excellent drawings of Send Church and a very full description of its interior and structure generally. Two days later, on 3 April 1841, he visited Ripley, and put down a description of the small chapel that he saw there, although in this case he did not produce a drawing.

As this was just four years before Benjamin Ferrey carried out his rebuild of the nave of Ripley Chapel, it is interesting to read what Hussey had to say about this building. Regrettably, it says very little about the old nave, but rather more about the chancel, which he clearly found of interest. His account reads as follows:

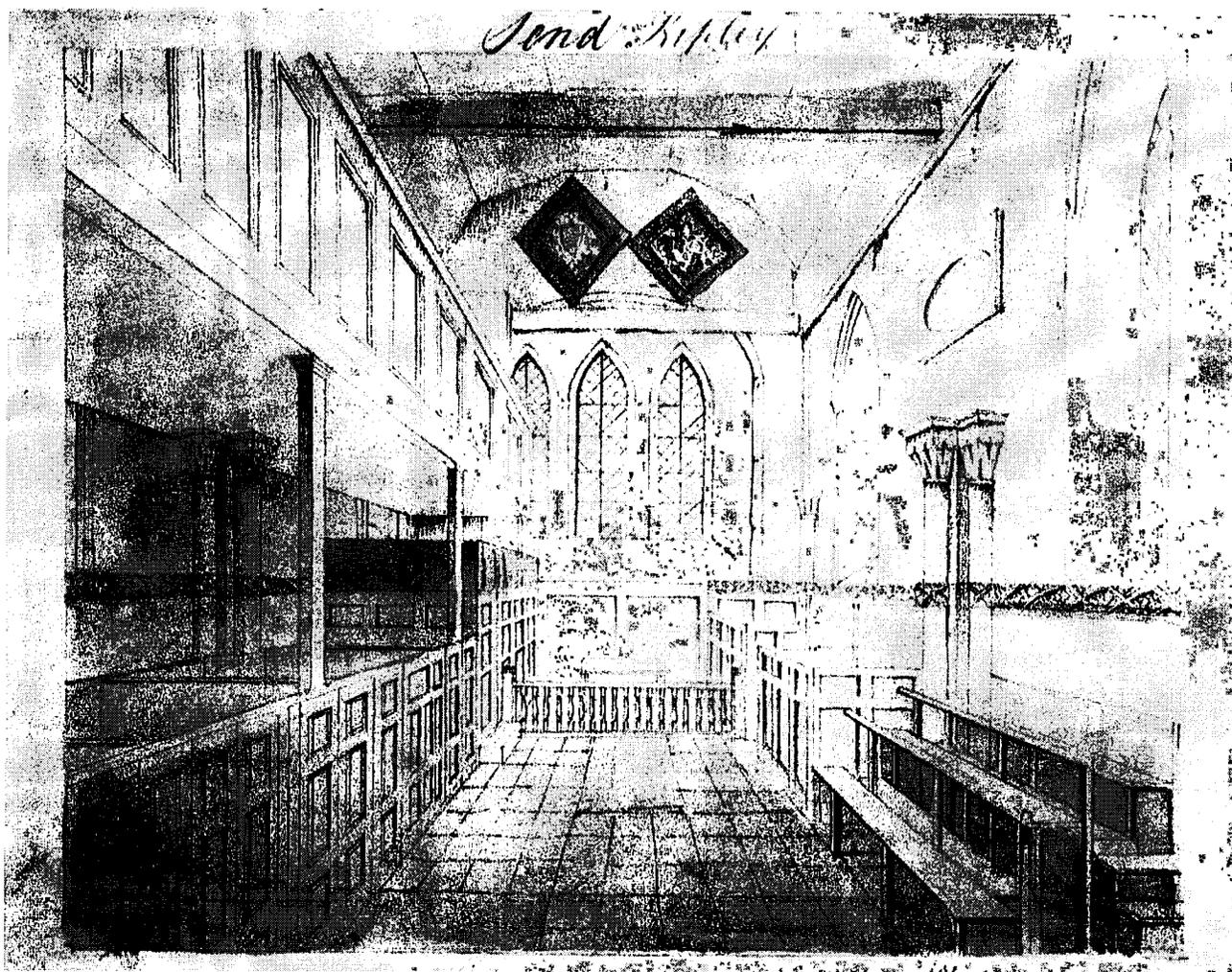
"A small chapel consisting of Nave and Chancel of very late Norman date - original features of Nave destroyed but the Chancel has a shaft and cap (capital) in each angle and a group

of shafts in the middle of each side wall and it has probably been vaulted in two bays. A good carved string (course) round the inside of Chancel continued as a band round the shafts. On North side two small round headed original windows remain, quite plain outside but with large bead with bases round inside: on South side two small EE (Early English) windows, the Western quite plain, the Eastern with bead with wide quirks round the inside. East window, 3 EE of equal height separated by little more than mullions. They are now under one arch in the inside with bead like Eastern South window in the jambs but I think they had separate arches and detached shafts between them. Over these windows has been a small circular window. Chancel has large flat Norman Buttresses. The walls have a considerable quantity of coarse dark pudding stone in them. The font is a modern abomination."

It is curious that Hussey, who was so meticulous in his survey work, did not describe the Early English windows in the South wall of the nave, or any other features. Perhaps he had been informed by the Vicar, George Walton Onslow, that the intention was to rebuild the nave, so this fact, coupled with the difficulty of access behind the interior furnishings of pews and gallery, may have been sufficient to dissuade him from commenting further on this part of the building.

He did, however, carry out a considerably more detailed survey of St Mary's Church, Send, and I hope to have the opportunity of visiting the Bodleian Library again to copy down his notes, which may give us a clue as to the reason for his brevity on Ripley Chapel.

Ken Bourne



## MAY DAY FÊTE AND DOG SHOW, MONDAY, MAY 1

The Society's tent at this show, with a number of books and Society publications, was very successful this year, £77 being taken for publications and £14 in membership fees. Thanks are due to Tony and Patricia Medlen and all those others who assisted.

The tent, which was acquired some years ago, needs to be replaced and the Committee is looking at alternative sources of supply.

Suggestions have been put forward to have a stall outside the Museum at certain times of the year (eg during the summer) and also at the Ripley Event in July.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### **Saturday, 8 July - Visit to Wells Cathedral, Somerset**

The party will leave Send Marsh Green, opposite the Manor House, at 8.30 am prompt (see page 12 of Journal No 152 for details). Contact Les Bowerman on 01483 224876. Transport may be available if necessary.

#### **Saturday, 12 August - 10 am to 3 pm**

A talk at the Surrey History Centre on "Antiquaries and Artists", in conjunction with the exhibition described in the above item. The guest speakers are Mavis Batey (President of the Garden History Society), Dr G Moss (Surrey Archaeological Society) and Julian Pooley (Archivist and Surrey History Centre Manager). Tickets for this talk are £10, which includes morning and afternoon tea or coffee. Applications for tickets should be made to the Centre on 01483 594 594.

#### **Tuesday, 6 June to Saturday, 2 September**

An exhibition at the Surrey History Centre, Goldsworth Road, Woking, entitled "Mapping the Past". An exhibition of Surrey's map-makers, historians and artists, 1620-1830. This will include a display of water colours by John Hassell (1767-1825), depicting Surrey houses and churches. In addition, there are landscape views of Surrey by the Rev William Giplin, a schoolmaster of Cheam, who toured the country in search of picturesque views.

#### **Thursday, 14 September - 8 pm, Ripley Village Hall Annex**

A talk by Joan Mant and friend on the Suffragette Movement.

#### **Saturday, 29 October - 10 am, Chertsey Hall**

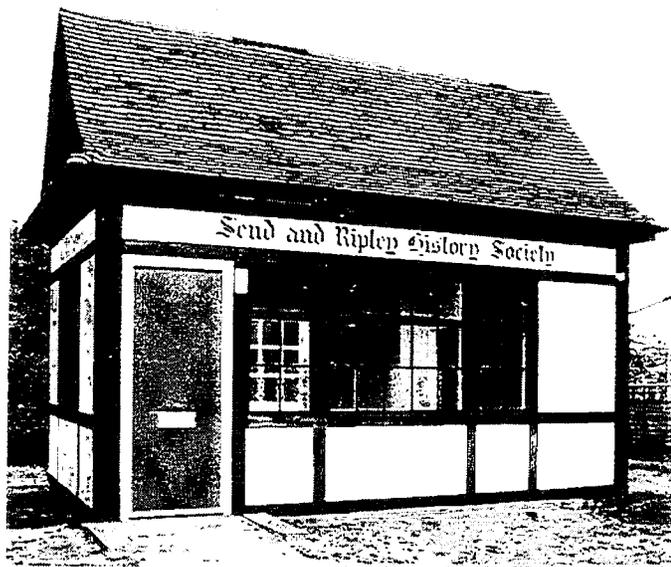
Surrey Local History Council Symposium. The theme is "Words and Music in Surrey". Further details will be provided in a later Journal.

#### **Thursday, 16 November - 8 pm, Send Church Room**

A talk by Linda Hall on English Vernacular Buildings.

#### **Journal Contributions**

The closing date for contributions to the next Journal is Friday, 11 August.



## SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM

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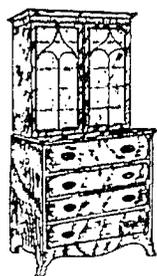
Other times for school groups and small parties  
by arrangement.

*Please contact George or Irene Bleach on 01483 222233 if  
you require information or wish to help in the museum.*

### HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

"Ripley & Send Then and Now, the Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life"	£10 Reprint 1998
"Guide to Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Send"	£1.25
"Then and Now, A Victorian Walk around Ripley"	Reference copy only
"The Straight Furrow", by Fred Dixon	£1.50
"Ripley and Send - Looking Back"	£4.95
"A Walk about Ripley Village in Surrey"	£2.00
"Newark Mill, Ripley, Surrey"	£2.95
"The Hamlet of Grove Heath, Ripley, Surrey"	£4.00
"Ripley and Send - an Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures"	£6.00

The reference copy is available at the Museum. All the others are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of "Ripley & Send Then and Now" is additionally available at Send Post Office.



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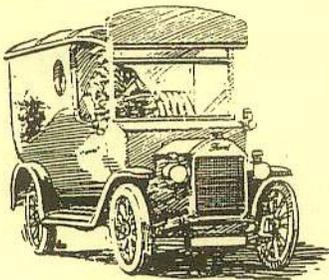
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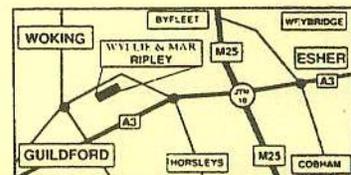
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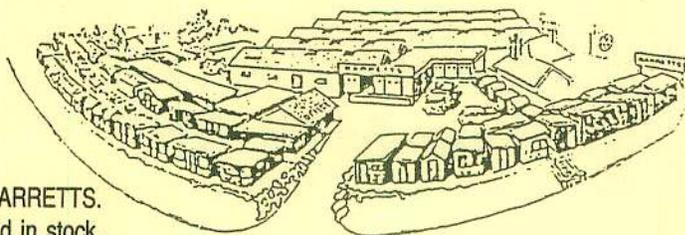
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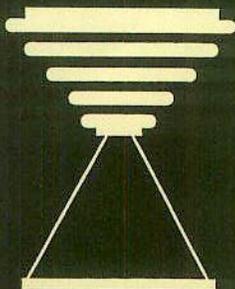
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