

S E N D & R I P L E Y H I S T O R Y S O C I E T Y

Chairman

Mr K. H. Bourne
Heath Farm, Tannery Lane
Send, Woking
Phone: Guildford 223028

Secretary & Newsletter Editor

Mr L. G. Bowerman
The Manor House
Send Marsh, Ripley
Phone: Guildford 224876

Treasurer: Mrs Janet Hill, Asphodel, Milestone Close, Ripley - Gfd 224216

Typed by Chris Parker. Copyright Send & Ripley History Society 1983

Newsletter No. 53

November/December 1983

CONTENTS

Page No.

Local Fruit Farms by Mrs M. Sex	2
Tudor Palace, Old Woking and Romano-British Settlement, Visit to - Notes by Mrs D. Grogan	3
Buildings Group Reports: Coachman's Cottage & Pear Tree Cottage at Ripley House	4
Ripley Transformers Ltd., High Street, Ripley	5
Talbot Cottage & J. Hartley Antiques Ltd.	6
Ship Inn - Supplementary Notes	8
Richardson's Hardware Shop - Supplementary Notes	8
Chairman's Notes	9
Secretary's Report	9
Forthcoming Events	11
Chobham, History of - Talk by Mr R. Schueller 18/10/83	12
Open Meeting of 20/9/83 - Report of	13

LOCAL FRUIT FARMS

In 1908 much of the land at Send Marsh and Ripley, now covered with private houses and Council property, was used for fruit farming. The owner, Mr S. S. Boorman, and his wife and two daughters lived at Heath Farm, now owned by Mr K. Bourne and his family. Mr Boorman always rode around his fields on horseback, and his great hobby was the collection of British wild birds' eggs. This, of course, is illegal today, but it was a famous collection and was, I believe, left to the Haslemere Museum.

Most of the land was used for the cultivation of strawberries, although a smaller amount of gooseberries and raspberries was grown. A number of local people were employed to gather the fruit, but the main part of the work was done by gypsies who lived in tents, caravans and tin huts in one of the smaller fields. Life in these dwellings was very primitive. There was a standpipe for the provision of water, but no proper arrangements for sanitation. On more than one occasion a child was born in these conditions.

The strawberries were picked into 6 lb baskets, taken to a shed in a corner of the field, weighed by an overseer and then put into larger baskets ready for market.

The Crosse & Blackwell factory sent girls to Send for a working holiday in the fields and there was a large advertising board in one of the fields facing the main A3 road, in those days known as the Turnpike. The girls were lodged in the farm cottages. At the end of the day a very high-sided dray, drawn by two horses, was driven through the night taking the large baskets of fruit to the old Covent Garden Market. It came back in the morning, and drivers and horses rested during the day ready for the next night's journey. The pickers were paid with metal discs marked with the value of the work done, and these had to be saved up and changed into cash at the main shed at Send Marsh at dinnertime on Saturdays. (The Society possesses a number of these discs or tokens which can be inspected by arrangement with the Secretary - Editor.)

The workers were very dependent on the weather, as the fruit could not be picked when wet, and this meant no pay. There was a very old grocery shop at Send Marsh run by Mr & Mrs Collins. Mrs Collins was a very kindly old-fashioned lady, never seen without a hat, and always wearing an ankle-length skirt. If for any reason a gypsy family ran short of money during the week, Mrs Collins would accept the metal discs in lieu of cash and change them herself on Saturdays.

During the strawberry season St Mary's Church organised a Sunday evening service for field workers in a large barn at Send Marsh. A piano and seats were borrowed and the church members and choir attended. This barn has now been demolished.

As some of the gypsies came in May to pick gooseberries, and stayed on after the strawberries to pick raspberries and potatoes, this meant several months during which their children would not go to school. This was against the law and so they had to attend Send School, then under the headship of Mr Lance Rawes, a famous Surrey Headmaster. These children were made very welcome, but because of problems of hygiene, they could not be taught in the regular classrooms. Old desks were put in an open-fronted shed in the playground. There were no school dinners or coaches in those days, so the children walked, sometimes very long distances, and brought food with them. Naturally they were very backward in the three R's, but very well informed in all matters of country lore.

Marjorie Sex

AFTERNOON VISIT TO TUDOR PALACE, OLD WOKING

AND THE ROMANO-BRITISH SETTLEMENT

SUNDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 1983

Twenty members plus two offspring met at the crosslanes past the sewage farm down Carters Lane on a blustery, cloudy but dry afternoon. Mrs Nancy Hawkins of the Mayford & Woking District History Society was our guide. She showed us copies of old maps dated 1608 of the Tudor Palace and the extent of its Little Park and Great Park. The boundary ditches of the Great Park can still be discerned on Pырford Common. She also had part of a Tudor floor tile from the palace and small pieces of pottery, one with a green glaze, and other Roman bits and pieces from a Roman site of the first/fourth century a half a mile down river from the Palace, as well as a well-worn piece of Samianware.

Woking Park Farm: In passing, we had a quick look at this farmhouse, which has fallen into ruins since a fire five years ago. The original house was a timber-framed building with a very large brick chimney, which had been added outside. A cart shed near the entrance, with upright timbers and curved braces, was also becoming ruinous.

The Tudor Palace

A royal manor on the site was recorded in Domesday Book. The day of our visit happened to be the 493rd anniversary of the signing by Henry VII in the Palace of the Triple Alliance between England, Spain and the Holy Roman Empire. Henry's mother, Margaret Beaufort, lived there for some time and had died there in 1509. Henry VIII had visited. James I gave the property to Edward Zouch, who put a gallery in Old Woking Church. Because the Palace was in disrepair, he used bricks and other materials from it to build himself a new house at Hoe Place. It was pillaged for other houses in the area, also.

The site was surrounded by a double moat, fed from and back to the River Wey. Our path followed the line of the outer moat and we passed over a bridge over the inner moat and could feel the brickwork beneath our feet. There had been a gatehouse adjacent to this. Stone walls were exposed when the weeds were cut away and dips in the ground indicated rooms.

A building with a barrel-vault roof, mentioned in an inventory of 1327, was entered by a door of the Tudor (sic) period. Originally built of chalk-stone, bricks had had to be inserted from ground level to restore it; also the roof was vaulted with bricks between five longitudinal ribs of clunch. There were about six unexplained square holes left in the walls. (Had this building been a chapel?)

Outside again, we were within three remaining walls of the Tudor brick building (one only about five feet high). The other two were higher than the joist holes for the upper storey, brick built about three feet thick, and had small areas of plaster on them. One had a doorway arch, the other archway had collapsed since last year. We went through this gap into the garden where possible descendants of the original apple and pear trees were growing round the edge. The River Wey was flowing by on our left.

Entering the undergrowth on our right, we found two fish or stew ponds and there was a parallel shallow depression, which had been a breeding pond for fish. There were the outlines of the double moat alongside the wood, one spur to the river up through trees goes into the broader moat.

There is a field with a raised causeway alongside the moat and a circular raised patch in the centre of the grass, which could have been the site of a pumping station or windmill to supply water to the moat.

We proceeded across a cultivated field towards another stretch of the River Wey. Mayford (as it then was) History Society first discovered the site when two pieces of Roman pottery were found in dredging heaps from the river. Mediaeval sherds had been found at one end, Roman at the other. We looked at a place where an outcrop of clay gravel made the river fordable. Adjacent to this was the "Fuzzies", a local name for a raised area growing furze. Mayford History Society had excavated here and found evidence of postholes, which formed a rectangular building 15 metres X 5 metres - a wooden building with enclosing ditch. A drainage ditch contained Roman pottery, a Roman key and part of a storage jar. There was a rubbish dump of the fourth century. The conclusion reached was that it had been a Romano-British farm of the first to fourth century.

Doris Grogan

Editorial Note: Returning to the vehicles, it was interesting to find beside the track ripe bullace, wild green plums somewhat larger than sloes.

COACHMAN'S COTTAGE AND PEAR TREE COTTAGE, RIPLEY HOUSE

Buildings Group Report

On 1 October four members visited Coachman's Cottage, Ripley, at the invitation of Mr & Mrs Newth. Ripley House is now divided into six with Coachman's Cottage and Pear Tree Cottage having been converted from the stables. It is hoped to establish the history of this house from at least the 15th century, when records commence.

The North part of Coachman's Cottage was built as a free-standing brick building with thick brick walls and measuring 20' X 23'. It had an upper floor and two hip-ended tiled roofs. It did not have a fireplace. Whilst the roof timbers of this part ^{are} of soft wood, they are supported on an oak beam spanning 20 feet. Below this at first floor level is another similar beam showing pegs for the morticed oak floor joists. The upper floor had, prior to 1946, been used as a hayloft. Excessive floor loads have caused both beams to deflect and the lower one is now strutted from the ground. At one period this part may have been used for stabling. Few of the original door and window openings can be traced, as the building has been converted at least twice since first built. It has a well and yard pump remaining on the North wall.

The South part, measuring 10' X 18', abuts the West wing of the main house, and is of substantial brickwork with soft wood roof framing, except for the Southernmost gable, which incorporates an oak truss. This part may originally have extended farther South. It has a yard pump on its West wall. An unusual feature of the North part, which is repeated on adjacent parts of the main house, is the setting of the guttering on top of the wall with a chamfered brick projection supporting it. The North part probably dates from the mid or early part of the 18th century. The South part could be a partial rebuild of an earlier building, and the centre part filled in by the early years of the 19th century. The Ordnance Survey Maps show it as one unit by 1869.

Pear Tree Cottage was visited at the invitation of Mr & Mrs Juon by the same group on 29 October. This cottage, lying to the West of Coachman's Cottage, abuts Yew Tree House. As with Coachman's Cottage, this has been

built in stages. The North part, being the earliest (possibly mid 18th century), has a half hip roof at the North end and, originally, a similar finish at its South end. This roof is constructed in oak, but with a soft wood ridgeboard, to which the spars are accurately cut. This would date it slightly earlier than the full soft wood roofs of the rest of the stable buildings. Behind this lies a two-storey cottage, constructed on the site of previous outbuildings, the Southernmost part of which remains. This cottage part was built some time between 1870 and 1914 on the evidence of Ordnance Survey Maps. The remaining outbuildings were used as the laundry for the main house, and for a time for Ripley Court School, whilst the old North building housed the carriage and later the car. A stable yard enclosed by a high brick wall and with blue paviers was between this building, Coachman's Cottage and the road. The eaves of this building have a bold dentil course out of character with the rest of Ripley House, and the remaining corner pier has odd features which suggest that it was not originally a corner. The flank wall between this pier and the building was added later.

More detailed reports are available from Tony Medlen, who keeps the Buildings Group reports.

John Bartlett

RIPLEY TRANSFORMERS LIMITED, HIGH STREET, RIPLEY

Buildings Group Report

The cottages known as the Rio Works next to the "Anchor" may in the past have been associated with the inn. Prior to the last war, one of them was for many years the Rio Cafe, and at one time this was one of the many Ripley establishments serving the cycling fraternity. One owner in the 1930's also started a private school there, but apparently this was very short lived. During the last war the buildings were turned over to industrial use as Fords Leather Works. Eventually the present company took over in the early '60's. John & Bette Slatford recently had an opportunity to study the buildings at the invitation of Mr Taylor, the owner of the business.

The site, sandwiched between the Anchor and the churchyard, opens out at the rear to reveal a collection of buildings. One of these is an interesting corrugated iron construction measuring approximately 50' X 20'. Little is known about this, but it is understood to have been built around the 1880's and may also have been associated with the Anchor during its cycling heyday. It is still in remarkably good condition and is claimed to have exceptional thermal insulation properties. Noteworthy features are the end porch and gables with their wavy barge boards and two pitched frame skylights on the apex of the roof.

The buildings fronting the road were two adjoining cottages. One still has a shop front and the other has ground floor bay windows on either side of the central front door. The exterior walls are all rough cast, so that one can only speculate on the original wall material. Internally there is no positive evidence of timber framing, but externally the absence of roof overhang at eaves level suggests that the front wall may be a brick skin.

Viewed from the outside, the roof has a gable at the churchyard end and blends at the other with the West crosswing of the Anchor. The whole of the roof has recently been retiled. Internally there is evidence that the whole roof was reconstructed, probably late in the 19th century. Except

at the Anchor end, all rafters are of sawn soft wood with a ridge board at the apex. At the Anchor end, however, the rafters which join the crosswing seem to represent an earlier build, being of hard wood and half lapped without a ridge board. At the churchyard end there are rough hard wood tie beams still in position beneath the later soft wood roof framing.

The interior of the cottages possesses no significant features apart from some exposed ceiling joists at one point on the ground floor. Today the rooms are used as offices and stores. One point of interest is a Victorian cast iron mantelpiece in one of the rooms. This has an attractive carved and coloured panel in the centre depicting a group of figures, three female and one nymph-like.

It is suggested that neither of the cottages dates from before the early 18th century, although they may contain remnants of earlier construction. Thanks are due to Mr Taylor for his time and kindness in making his premises available to us.

John Slatford

TALBOT COTTAGE AND J. HARTLEY ANTIQUES LTD., HIGH STREET, RIPLEY

Buildings Group Report

Members of the Buildings Group surveyed these adjoining properties on separate occasions. This report covers both because of a number of inter-related features. The deeds of Talbot Cottage, which at the time of writing are not available for inspection, indicate that at one time the two buildings constituted the former Angel Inn. Support for this comes from the roof interface between the two, which suggests that there was common ownership at one time.

The owner of Talbot Cottage, Mr R. J. G. McMicking, died during the summer and we are indebted to his daughter, Mrs Morrison, for making the house available for us to study. We are likewise indebted to Mr J. Hartley next door, who made us welcome at his premises. Until 1943 there was another house attached to Talbot Cottage, but this was then demolished to make way for the access to the Talbot Hotel car park. Parts of the present end wall of Talbot Cottage and of the chimney are remnants of the demolished house. Talbot Cottage today has a brick front which conceals a much earlier timber-framed house. Behind this in the centre of the present house the build is probably early 19th century, and behind this again is a modern extension. Examination of the front part showed that the original house had been substantially altered, probably around 1800. The eaves were raised by about two feet, the roof was blended with that of Hartley Antiques and the brick front was added. The ground floor ceiling was also raised, probably at the same time. All this work may have coincided with the construction of the centre part of the present house. The front door was then off the street into the front room, but this was bricked up when the side door was added with the modern extension. A long corridor now leads back from the front room, giving access first to the stairs, then to the centre rooms and finally to the present entrance and, via the rear extension, to the long narrow back garden. The floor tiles in this corridor are badly worn and broken at one point and this has been claimed to be the result of rolling barrels through the corridor when the house was part of the Angel.

The front room has a large brick inglenook fireplace. The brick thickness suggests mid 18th century or earlier construction. Inside the fireplace are two small brick alcoves, possibly for drying salt. Between the

the fireplace and the front wall is a recess, over which are three short joists approximately 9" square in section. They are lower than the rest of the ceiling and must have supported either part of the original first floor of Talbot Cottage or the house which has gone, or even be a remnant of an even earlier house on the site altogether. The remaining timber structure visible in the room is much lighter and with chamfers and chamfer stops on both girders and joists. It is clear that this is a ceiling which has been raised by approximately one foot as noted above.

In the front bedroom part of the original roof truss (prior to raising the eaves) is visible on the wall adjoining Hartleys (London or East End). On the opposite wall (Guildford or West end) the remnants of two roof trusses are visible on either side of the chimney breast. These trusses are only twelve inches apart, the outer one, which is only about nine inches higher, forming part of the end wall (also visible from the outside) and the inner one being a partner to that at the Hartley end. Thus, although the evidence is to some extent contradictory, Talbot Cottage was probably a single-bay two-roomed unit. What remains of the corner uprights of this shows no evidence of jowls, whereas jowls are present in the outer truss on the end wall. This fact indicates an earlier build for the demolished house than for Talbot Cottage itself. Further evidence supporting the view that the aforementioned end wall belonged to the now demolished house is suggested by the chimney. Externally this would appear to contain four flues, but Talbot Cottage has only two fireplaces.

Examination of the roof space showed that the roof structure was built on top of the earlier frame, but to the same ridge. The alteration was of lower quality, although when viewed from outside, the roof is uniform in shape. All timbers are hard wood and there was originally no ridge board. The original frame was of through purlin construction with clasped purlins and queen struts. There is no soot encrustation. In the top room of the centre part of the house there are exposed and chamfered through purlins, supported by elegantly raked struts which give extra headroom.

By contrast, analysis of Hartleys proved to be more straightforward. The original three-bay building of two storeys and an attic has been greatly extended, at the rear in the 19th century and quite recently on to the London or East end. Pevsner describes it as "a small house of circa 1700" and as having "original casement windows without reveals". The practice of setting window frames back from the brick face came after the Great Fire of 1666. The London Building Acts passed after the fire prohibit in London the setting of window frames flush with the brick face in order to lessen the spread of fire. Many years passed before the effect of this legislation spread to the provinces. Thus the seven first floor windows of Hartleys are nearly flush with the brickwork, whereas those of Ryde House opposite (built about 75 years later) are set back. The form of Hartleys windows, with wooden rectangular cruciform construction and one opening casement, suggests a date of around 1700 before the introduction of sliding sash windows from the Low Countries. The original house was a brick structure, and apart from the modern shop windows and entrance, the front is unaltered. The internal layout, however, has changed completely. The staircase now leads towards the rear up to the landing, which is part of the 19th century extension. Access to the roof area is by means of a hatch in the ceiling of the upper floor adjacent to the large central chimney, which has been dismantled down to tie beam level. The hatch first gives access to a small room spanning the central roof space. It has lath and plaster walls and ceiling, but no windows or skylight. With the chimney in one corner, it appears to be part of the house as built, and was probably a garret for a servant. If this was so, apart from the chimney warmth in the winter, little comfort was provided! At each end of the room a doorway gives access to the roof space.

The roof was found to be complete and as originally built internally. It was hipped at both ends, the Guildford or West end having had the c. 1800 raised roof of Talbot Cottage built across to it. At the London end the modern roof extension has been built over the original hip. The timbers are generally rough hewn hard wood reused, the structure form being through side purlins, into the outer side of which the principal rafters are trenched. The common rafters are halved into the purlins and half-lapped and pegged at the apex without a ridge board.

Considering the age of the properties, the jowls on the principal uprights at the West end of Talbot Cottage are of a late form, suggesting that the now demolished house was built in the first half of the 17th century. Talbot Cottage itself, having no jowls, was probably built around 1650 to 1675. Hartleys, by virtue of its roof construction and the window arrangement, would have been built around 1700 or soon after.

John Slatford and Les Bowerman

THE SHIP INN, RIFLEY - Supplementary Notes

Further to the report on this property in Newsletter 51, recent building works in the passageway between the Ship and Richardson's shop have provided an opportunity to inspect the end wall and to see into the roof space. We are grateful to Mr J. Richardson, and to our member Ken French, his builder, for enabling this further inspection to be made.

What is revealed is that the Guildford or East end wall was built integrally with the chimney. Studding at first floor level in this wall enabled it to be carried round and made into the basic frame of the building, which ends at the inner face of the chimney.

The end truss of the basic frame was visible with the chimney butted against it. It is of clasped purlin construction, with the rafter diminishing above the collar and with queen struts from the collar pegged into the tie beam. It could be seen where the original walls had been heightened by approximately three feet, possibly about 1800. The new sawn soft wood wall plate, rafters and ridge board gave proof that the whole roof had been raised, as previously deduced. The raising of the ceiling in the top rooms had necessitated removal of the original purlins and common rafters; there were gaps in the truss abutting the chimney and in the studding rafter in the end wall to show where the purlin had originally been. The rafters of the original centre truss could be seen clearly in the roof space forming an inverted 'V' as they protruded from the upper face of the ceiling. It was also clear from the newly exposed end wall of the Ship, that there had been an early catslide extension at the rear prior to the creation of the double pile.

Les Bowerman

RICHARDSON'S HARDWARE SHOP, RIFLEY - Supplementary Notes
to Report in N/L 46

During the building work mentioned above in the additional notes on the Ship Inn, it was found that a free standing 4" brick wall, with elm studding and without any foundation, had been built in the passageway against the end wall of the Ship. This provided support for two floors, one above the carriage entrance and the other above that at eaves level. The wall had also supported a flue and chimney to give a rudimentary living room on the

first of these floors. Lath and plastering of the roof space showed that a garret bedroom, more Spartan even than that in Hartley Antiques (q.v.), had existed here, probably in Victorian times. Presumably, this was the living quarters of a carter, coachman or ostler. Early postcards show the the front window of the living room.

Lack of light and ventilation in these garrets may seem surprising to us, but presumably at the time, with poor people working all the daylight hours, they were used purely for sleeping. Doubtless draughts would have given adequate ventilation.

Les Bowerman

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Summer Book Fair: The sale of books and other items held in the Church Room on August 2 was a great success. The total receipts from all the stalls produced £229.15, which helped to pay for the Society's latest publication, "Then and Now - a Victorian Walk Around Ripley". The Society extends thanks to all who helped, particularly John & Bette Slatford, Ken Bourne, Barbara Tinkler, Mavis Lake, Jean Jacob, Gloria & David Henson, all on the bookstall; Patricia & Tony Medlen on the white elephant; Les Bowerman and Iris Watts on plants and produce; Jill Bromley and Janet Hill on the cake stall and Phyllis Bourne on refreshments. The few books remaining after the sale were donated to the League of Friends of Milford Hospital.

Christmas Social: This is to remind members that the Social this year will be on Tuesday, 20 December, at 8 p.m., in the Red Cross Hall, Sandy Lane, Send. Tickets, priced at £2, as last year, including buffet, are available from Les Bowerman, the Secretary, or from Newsletter distributors. Contributions for the raffle will be welcomed by John Slatford before or on the evening, and it is hoped that the prizes will be of higher quality than usual. If you would like to offer cakes or pies, etc., please contact Phyllis Bourne as soon as possible. In addition to being a pleasant social evening, this will give to those who were unable to attend the recent Local History Symposium at Dorking an opportunity to see the Society's exhibit, which will be re-erected, and the booklet on the Ripley & Send National Schools will be available for purchase at 25p. The Photographic Group will also provide a display connected with the history of Send and Ripley.

Ken Bourne

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Annual General Meeting - 21/2/84

Notice is hereby given that the ninth Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, 21 February next, at the Red Cross Hall, Sandy Lane, Send. Items for inclusion on the agenda must be in writing and received by me no later than 24 January. Any proposal for the election of a President should similarly be in writing and received by me by 24 January. Written nominations are also invited for the Committee, which will consist of a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and 12 other members. This does not preclude nominations from the floor at the meeting.

After the formal business, there will be an illustrated talk by John Slatford on date bricks and plaques on local buildings.

Membership

The following new member is welcomed: Mrs M. Hannon, 12 Orchard Way, Send Hill, Send (rejoined).

Total membership consists of 102 double and 79 single subscriptions.

"Then and Now - a Victorian Walk Around Ripley:" The first printing of 500 copies of a reproduction with commentary of an account by the Victorian diarist, A. J. Munby, of a walk he undertook around Ripley in 1863 has been sold out completely. A second printing has now been made and is available at the original price of £1.25 from Tony Medlen, who was Chairman of the Subcommittee which produced the booklet, or from the Secretary. Intending purchasers would be well advised to buy quickly in case the second printing sells out.

Surrey Local History Council Symposium - Schools in Surrey

The Society's exhibit consisted of "notes, photographs and memorabilia on the two National Schools providing elementary education for the children of the poor in the parish of Send & Ripley from 1847". Among the items displayed were an early schoolteacher's table from Ripley School, marked out with squares, and capable of being used as a display board, blackboard or calculator. Also displayed was the original school bell from Ripley, in working order, on a stand made by the Industrial Group.

An illustrated booklet of notes on the history of the two schools was on sale at 25p. The subcommittee responsible for preparing the exhibit and the booklet consisted of Sheila Brown, Mavis Lake, Ken Bourne and Les Bowerman. Thanks are extended to all who loaned material.

Specialist Groups

Not all members may be aware of how the system of specialist working groups operates within the Society. These groups consist of members with common interests in particular aspects of local history, working together to further their interest and research. All of the groups are open to all members of the Society. They operate informally so far as officers and minutes are concerned, but for practical purposes one member will usually act as Chairman of the group and another as Secretary. A further member may hold any records of research carried out or material acquired. Groups operate as follows:

Buildings: Properties are inspected as to structure, development and interesting features by a small group of members as and when the opportunity arises. The working party will discuss its findings, write a detailed report for the record and a summary for the Newsletter. Meetings of the whole group are held monthly, at which the working parties outline their findings, and further visits are organised. Visits by the whole group to buildings of particular interest within or sometimes outside Send and Ripley are arranged occasionally. Derek Bromley (Guildford 222150), of 11B Kevan Drive, Send, is Chairman of the Group.

Folk Memories: This is a group formed only very recently with a view to recording the reminiscences of people who have lived in the area for a very long time and who would like their knowledge to be handed down. It is envisaged that a party of, say, two or three would do the recording as convenient for the speaker. Meetings of the group will be held to discuss progress and to make further arrangements. One of the members will hold

the records. Nobody has yet taken on a position within the Group, but anybody who would like to join the Group should for the time being contact Tony Medlen (Woking 60021), Muir House, Brooklyn Road, Woking.

Industrial History: Not a large Group, but interested in machinery, tools and all forms of industrial and agricultural processes. Contact Ted Goldup (Guildford 223081), Thatched Cottage, Burnt Common.

Documentary: A small but very active Group concerned with locating documents, transcribing or copying them for reference purposes, and carrying out research from them. Documents transcribed have varied from mediaeval Court Rolls in Latin to tombstones and maps. The Group also covers genealogy. Contact John or Bette Slatford (Guildford 222107), 15 Kevan Drive, Send.

Photographic: A small hard-working Group concerned with photographing items which are or may in future be of local historic interest, and with copying older photographs, etc. Contact Ken Bourne (Guildford 223028), Heath Farm, Tannery Lane, Send.

Natural History: This is a Group which has varied over the years between very active and dormant. Local and distant outings have taken place. The principal interests have been wild flowers and birds, but the field is very wide and could include insects, mammals, butterflies, fungi, etc. At present dormant, but Ken Bourne (details as above) wishes to hear from anybody who would like to take an active interest.

Archaeology: In the early days of the Society there was some activity in this subject, but it has since been more of a potential Group than an actual one. Anybody interested should contact the writer (Guildford 224876). If there is little to be done locally, introduction can be made to activity elsewhere in the county.

Closing Date: The last date for submission of material for the next issue of the Newsletter will be Monday, 2 January.

Les Bowerman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, 7 December ... Buildings Group Meeting at 8 p.m. at Little Ripley House, High Street, Ripley.
- Tuesday, 20 December ... Annual Social Evening, starting at 8 p.m., at the Red Cross Hall, Sandy Lane, Send.
- Tuesday, 10 January ... Buildings Group Meeting at 8 p.m. at 15 Kevan Drive, Send.
- Thursday, 12 January ... Committee Meeting at 8 p.m. at Heath Farm, Tannery Lane, Send.
- Tuesday, 24 January ... Open meeting at 8 p.m. at Ripley Village Hall, when Mr Ian Wakeford will speak on "Woking's Pictorial Past", illustrated by slides taken from old postcards and photographs of the Woking and Old Woking area.
- Tuesday, 21 February ... Annual General Meeting at 8 p.m. at the Red Cross Hall, Sandy Lane, Send, followed by an illustrated talk by John Slatford on date bricks on local buildings.
- Thursday, 22 March ... Open evening at Ripley Village Hall, at 8 p.m., when Mr M. Leishman will give an illustrated talk on the village named The Bourne, near Farnham.

A TALK ON THE HISTORY OF CHOBHAM BY Mr R. SCHUELLER

Open Meeting - 18/10/82

The village of Chobham differs from many other Surrey villages in that it never possessed a resident Lord of the Manor. A Charter dated 675 exists which shows that Chobham (with a number of other villages) was given to the Abbots of Chertsey Monastery; Abbots, of course, varied in their interest in their possessions, but in the 13th century one of them built a manor house and in various ways improved his lands. Henry VIII purchased the manor house and a further 500 acres, thus creating a hunting lodge, which he visited several times: the Victoria History of Surrey mentions two visits and the Loseley Papers (now kept in the Guildford Muniment Room) contain details of two further visits. They show that several hundred men were employed to transport some kind of prefabricated houses from London to Oatlands and Chobham and to prepare them for the Court's use, and, at the end of the visit, 33 men of Chobham had to take the timber houses back to Oatlands. (The names of a number of these farmers can still be met in Chobham today!)

Queen Mary was not interested in keeping the lodge and sold it to Archbishop Heath. As a strict Roman Catholic, he refused the oath of allegiance to Queen Elizabeth and lost his see of York, but was allowed to stay in Chobham where he died and is buried in the church. The house itself went through various hands, but was demolished later and the ground split into farms.

We have some records from Queen Elizabeth's time which show that life in the village was tough and rough; a number of Chobhamers seem to have acted as highwaymen on the feared Bagshot Heath.

The Hearth Records of 1664 state that of 143 householders taxed at one shilling per hearth, sixty were exempted as being too poor to pay. This population of about 700 is quite large for that time and consisted only of farmers, agricultural labourers and the craftsmen needed in such a community. Only two gentry families lived in Chobham: the Thomas family from Queen Elizabeth's time until 1721 and one of the Brays from 1565 to 1656.

In 1730 the manor was sold again and the new Lord appointed a former Professor of Poetry at Oxford (who was also Rector of Godalming and Headmaster of the Grammar School there) as Vicar. His only action seems to have been to insist on the building of a proper vestry room; probably he also introduced regular accounts of the overseers of the poor. From all the documents it seems that from 1730 right to 1800 no Vicar was resident in Chobham; the Curate of Horsell maintained the Vicar's duties by holding services on alternate Sundays.

In 1700 the annual expenditure of the overseers of the poor was around £30; this had increased to some £200 by 1770, but still mainly covered old people and illegitimate children. In the year 1800 no less than £1708 was spent and 109 families were on relief out of a total of 229! The money was handed out by the overseer for the East End at the White Hart, for the West End at the Sun - at first they sat every two weeks, but later weekly sessions were necessary. Churchwardens and overseers had, of course, not only to deal with the poor, but dealt with cases of lunacy, questions of settlement, which could be complicated, and, during the Napoleonic Wars, with all kinds of military problems. It is also, of course, important to remember that farmers in these years did well for themselves: whereas non-residents owned 45% of the farmland in 1780, local men had made enough profit to reduce this to 32% by 1800 and 25% by 1851!

In 1800 the last of the non-resident Vicars died and his place was taken by a well-known preacher from London who appointed very capable curates, one of whom succeeded him in 1810. A school was started, cricket was introduced and in time the "better" farmers called themselves gentlemen. Only about a third of the labourers had annual engagements by 1851, no longer did the labourer live in the farm and share the table with the farmer. In 1849, after an outbreak of arson in the village, three "gentlemen" proposed that a constable be chosen and paid 52 guineas a year, and this was carried. Chobham began to develop into a typical Victorian society.

Chobham presents an interesting study because its isolated position left it untouched directly by the industrial development - neither canals, roads or railways were near enough to make it attractive. At the same time it enables us to see how an agricultural community developed well into a time when records were ample and reliable. All this seems to point to the fact that the Chobham people managed their affairs in a responsible and common-sense way.

We are extremely grateful to Mr Schueller for reading through, correcting and improving these notes.

Tony Medlen

Open Meeting - Tuesday 20th September.

The autumn indoor session was opened with a light-hearted look at some of the Chairman's superb colour slides, taken on outings during the summer. This was followed by a series of slides taken of old photographs of the area. Among others there were shots showing various stages in the development of Ripley Court, a print of Ripley Church in the 1860's, and an early photograph of Ripley National School; these were from material kindly loaned by Rose Onslow. A photograph of the Send Horse 'Bus provoked lively discussion as to the location of the shot (it was taken on the drive of the "Manor House"), and as to why it was not on its usual route; this photograph had been loaned by Marjorie Sex who has subsequently provided the explanation that the driver would undertake shopping orders whilst in Woking and deliver the purchases after his regular journey terminated at May's Corner.

We are very grateful to Ken Bourne for preparing and delivering this talk.

The Secretary.

SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

INDEX TO NEWSLETTERS 43-48

The following is an index to the Society's Newsletters published in 1982-3, the Society's eighth year. The first figures represent the Newsletter number and the following figures the page number.

Amberley Cottage, Ripley	45/10
Anchor Inn, Ripley	43/4, 5, 6, 7; 45/12; 48/7
- Challenge Shield	43/6
- Cyclists' Visitors' Books	43/7
Augustinian Canons	45/9
Bardill, Mrs Daisy - death of aged 94	43/9, 10
Baptist Chapel, Newark Lane	45/11
Barn, The, Ripley	45/10
Bicycle - arrival of in Surrey,	43/4
Part 2 of talk by Bowerman, L.	
Boughton Hall Farm	48/3
Bread Oven at Send Grove Lodge -	44/2
notes by Oliver, J.	
British Legion, Rose Lane, Ripley	45/11
Broadmead - Onslow Connection with	44/10
Browne, Sir Anthony	46/8, 9; 47/9
Burnt Common	47/4
- Conjectured Roman Route	43/1
Bus - Blu Saloon	48/2
- Mr Brown's Horse, of Send	48/2
Calna, Ruaid de	45/9
Cedar House, Ripley	45/12; 46/3
Cedar House, Vicarage Lane, Send	48/9
Census Returns, 1851 and 1861	43/9; 45/7
Challen, Dorothy - Wild Flower	47/3
Survey 1925	
Church, Ripley	43/5
Church Room, Send	48/2
Churchwarden's Accounts - Send Church	46/4
Clandon Carriage Drive	43/1
Claydon, Bob - Farming Through the	43/13
Ages, talk on	
Clocke House, Ripley	45/10
Clova Cottage, Newark Lane	45/11
Coach House, Cedar House,	48/9
Vicarage Lane, Send	
Abham Cottages, Ripley	45/11
Cortis, Herbert Liddell - Memorial	43/5; 47/2
plaque and window in Ripley	
Church	
Court Rolls of Ripley & Send	43/10; 44/9; 45/7; 47/8
Cranford, High Street, Ripley	45/11
Cricket Hill Farm	43/11; 44/10
Cyclists' Connection with Ripley	43/4 et seq.; 45/9
Dedswell - Onslow Connection with	44/10
Dibble - Alf, The Anchor Inn, Ripley	43/4
- Annie	43/6, 7; 47/2
- George	43/4; 47/2
- Harriet, Miss	43/7; 47/2
- Harriet, Mrs	43/4, 6, 7; 47/2
- Joan	43/5
Drill Hall, Send	48/2

Dunsbrough Lodges, Newark Lane	45/11
Ebenezer Baptist Chapel, Newark Lane	45/11
Elwes, Captain Gerrard, RN	45/12
Evacuee Schools at Send ✓	48/3
Farming Through the Ages - Talk by Claydon, R.	43/13; 48/6
Fell Hill - Onslow Connection with	44/10
Filleary, Thomas, Former Licensee at White Hart, Ripley	45/11
Fire Engine House, Rose Lane	45/12
Fire Station, Newark Lane	45/11
Flowers, Wild, Survey of in Send	44/3
Footbridge House, Ripley	45/10
"Furzes", the, at Old Woking	43/1
Georgian House, The, Ripley	45/10
George Inn, Ripley	45/12; 46/5
Georgelands, Ripley	45/12
Girling, Canon	48/2, 9
Green Cottage, Ripley	45/10
Green, Stephen, Former Licensee of Ship Inn	45/11
Green, W. B. Ltd, Ripley	45/11
Guildford - Dominican Friary, talk by Alexander, Mary	44/4
- History of, talk by Alexander, Matthew	43/2
Harrison, Lucy Henrietta	45/11, 12
Hartley Antiques, Ripley	45/10
Haselhurst	47/4
High Street, Ripley	45/12
Hollies, The, Newark Lane	45/11
Holride Farm	47/5
Hooper, Rev. Henry, of Ripley	47/2
Hosking, J., of Send	43/7
Hurst Park Autos, Ripley	45/11
Lancaster, Miss Elsie, of Sendholme, Send ✓	48/2
Lewis, W. J., Former Licensee of White Hart, Ripley	43/5
Little Barn, Ripley	45/10
Little Court School, Rose Lane	45/11
Lloyd, John, Formerly of the George Inn	45/12
London Road	45/9
Lutyens, Edwin Landseer	44/11
Manor House, Ripley	45/10
"Mary Rose", Tudor Flagship, talk on Mayford History Society -	44/12
Romano-British Excavations at Old Woking	43/1
McLaughlam, Jack, Former Licensee of Saddlers Arms, Send	43/10
Meon Valley - Visit to	45/2; 46/7
Methodist Church, Ripley	45/10
Mileham, C. G. - notes re Clandon Carriage Drive	43/1
Mineral Extraction	43/11
Newark Priory	45/9

Noar Hill, Hants - Natural History Group Visit to	45/4	
Oakride, Tithe Barns Lane	47/4	
Old Woking - Conjectured Roman Route to	43/1	
Oliver, Fred - Death of	44/10	
Onslow, 3rd Earl	48/2	
- 7th Earl	48/2	
- Estate Map of, 1777	43/10;	45/7
- Family, Connections with Send and Ripley	44/10	
Papercourt - Onslow Connection with Papeworth Feild	44/10	
	48/7	
Pearce, Mr & Mrs R. M.	45/12	
Pear Tree Cottage, Ripley	45/10	
Perseverance Cottage, Ripley	45/10	
Poplars, Farm Lane, Send	48/2	
Portsmouth - Buildings Group Visit to Red Cross Hut, Send - use as school accommodation	47/5	
	48/4	
Registers, Parish, of Baptisms, etc.	45/7	
Rifle Range, Send	48/3	
Richardsons Hardware Shop	45/11;	46/6
Ripley - added to name of the Society	43/0	
- Bypass	45/9	
- Church Hall former	45/10	
- Crossroads at	45/9	
- Old School ✓	45/9 ✓	
- Demolition of ✓	46/3 ✓	
- Smithy, site of	45/10	
- Vicarage, site of former	45/9	
- Walk around by the Society	45/9-12	
Ripley Church	43/5, 7;	45/9
Ripley Court	45/11	
- Cottage	45/11	
Ripley Cycling Club	43/5	
Ripley House	45/10;	48/8
Ripley Road - cyclists, popular with	43/4, 7	
Ripley Road Club	43/5	
Roman Route Conjectured at Clandon	43/1	
Rose Cottage, Newark Lane	45/11;	36/6
Ryde House	45/10	
- 1	48/8	
- Site of	45/10	
Saddlers Arms	43/10	
St Bede's School, Send - Opening of ✓	48/4 ✓	
St Catherines, Artington, Guildford - Visit to	45/12	
St George's Farm, Ripley	45/9	
Sandes, Beatrice de	45/9	
School - Ripley, Old	45/9 ✓	
- Ripley, Infants', former	45/11 ✓	
- Send, Evacuee Schools at	48/3 ✓	
- Send, installation of Central Heating	48/3 ✓	
- Send, Milk Scheme	48/3 ✓	
- Send - Recollections of by Miss N. Palmer	48/2 ✓	
- Send, Sunday	48/2 ✓	
- Send - Wartime	48/4 ✓	

Send Barns - Onslow Connection with	44/10
Send Church - Elm Tree at	46/4
- Flagstaff	46/4
- Flower Festival	46/4
- Onslow Memorials in	44/10
Send Court Farm - Death of	44/10
Oliver, Fred	
- Fragments of Bread Oven	44/3
Send Grove - Lodge - Bread Oven at	44/2
- Onslow Connection with	44/10
Sendholme	43/11, 14
Ship Inn, Ripley	45/11
Spooner, Stephen - Nursery	43/11
Stansfield Brothers Ltd	45/11
"Stephan Langton" - Gift of to the	48/5
Society	
Stockbridge - Visit to Manor Court at	44/8, 9
Sweete Shoppe, Ye Olde, Ripley	45/11
Sussex Farm	47/5
Talbot Hotel	43/4; 45/10
- Cottage	45/10
Tate, Rev Charles R.	45/12
Telephone Exchange, Ripley -	45/7
Closure of	
Thorpe, Colonel, of Send	48/3
Thursley - Natural History Group	46/2
Visit to	
Tithe Barns - Onslow Connection with	44/10
Tudor House, Ripley	45/12; 46/5
Turnpike	45/9
Vicarage - Ripley	45/12
- Site of Former	45/9
Victorian Cottage Industries - Talk	46/10
by Grimm, Mrs D.	
Vine Cottages, Ripley	45/11
Vintage Cottage, Rose Lane	45/11
Wartime - Send School at	48/4
White Hart Inn, Ripley	43/5; 45/11
White Horse, the Former, Ripley	45/10
Wistaria Cottage, Newark Lane	45/11
Witley - Natural History Group	45/5
Visit to	
"Woking Palace" - Conjectured	43/1
Route to	
Workhouse, Newark Lane	45/11
Yew Tree House, Ripley	45/10; 48/7