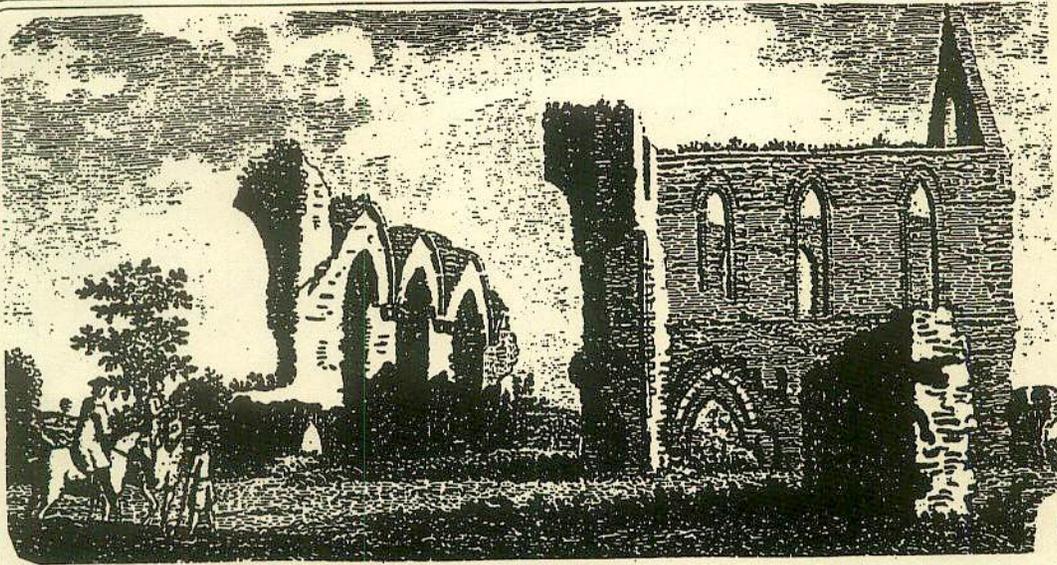


Send & Ripley History Society

20th ANNIVERSARY 1975-1995



Newark Priory

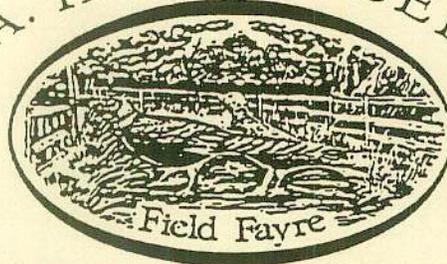
Newsletter No.120

January/February 1995



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Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society

Registered Charity No 296324

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Typed by Mrs. Chris Parker.

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Newsletter No 120

January/February 1995

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EDITOR'S COMMENT

I am happy to report as this first issue is prepared for typing that the response by our advertisers has been very good indeed and we are particularly pleased to welcome Hartley Antiques, who have taken advertising space for the first time.

This is, once again, a bumper issue of the Newsletter, not altogether unexpected, since it is our 20th anniversary issue, and it is hoped that this and subsequent issues will provide a variety of topics of local interest. In this respect, my thanks are due to all of the contributors who continue to support this Newsletter.

Last but not least, it must be particularly satisfying for Chris and Geoff Parker, as indeed it is to me, that they have produced the Newsletter practically for the whole 20 year period. As our members will know, Chris is totally blind and yet is able to produce a very high quality typed document, utilising state-of-the-art word processing equipment which allows me, apart from the process of dictation onto tape, to arrange the articles and photographs, etc, without limitations of any kind. The Society is very fortunate to have their support in this way.

REFLECTIONS OF THE SOCIETY'S FIRST 20 YEARS

by The President

I suppose I took a bit of a gamble 20 years ago when I mooted the idea of a society to record the history of the locality of Send and agreed to be its Secretary and Newsletter Editor. What fired me was the valuable work that the Mayford History Society (as it then was) was doing, the pleasure I had gained from belonging to it, and the feeling that we needed something similar in Send before the local knowledge of the many older people, who had lived here most or all of their lives and seen radical changes in their way of life, was lost for ever. There were planning applications in the pipeline to increase the already very extensive mineral extraction which had long been going on, and it was worrying to think that archaeological evidence of earlier life here might disappear for ever.

It was in that context that I instigated the leap into the unknown. Had I faintheartedly thought in January 1975 that I would be editing 66 and a half Newsletters (the half was No 67, which was joint with Bob Gale), that I would, as Secretary, be writing about 70 sets of minutes over 14 years, that something like eight speakers a year would have to be found year in, year out, and that when I gave up others would be required to do likewise ad infinitum, I would probably have thought it too much of a gamble.

But it has paid off. Here we are one-fifth of a century further on, with over 300 members still; with 120 fully indexed Newsletters under our belt (six a year without one missed or seriously late, and the quality continually improves); with the recollections of most of our older early members, alas no longer with us, safely recorded (builder and historian, Jim French, blacksmith and wrought iron artist, Ron Sex, "Sixty Years of Sex in Send!", by Marjorie Sex, and last herdsman of the Broadmeads, Joe Baigent, spring most notably to mind); with Manorial Court records from 1424 to 1924 transcribed and indexed; with census returns (1851, 61, 71, 81 and 91), Tithe Apportionments (1843), inclosure documents (1803-14) and parish registers (1633 onwards) readily available to members and mostly indexed; with most of the old buildings in Send and Ripley surveyed and their stages of development worked out and recorded; with an archive of over 1000 photographs copied and indexed; with six books on the history of Send and Ripley published; and most spectacularly of all now, with our own museum in an interesting local building. Those are the most notable achievements that occur to me.

Any disappointments? Yes, three really. One is that we've never made our mark

in any substantial way with local archaeology, due perhaps to the fact that there has been so much else for us to do. The second is that Jim Oliver, our President from 1976 to 1983, with his farming background and profound interest in history, chose to part from us. And the third is that we still know nothing at all about the history of the moated site behind Boughton Hall. We should be able to do something about the third if not the first.

Our main milestones are few in number and are as follows:

1. 28 January 1975: **Send History Society formed.**
2. 25 February 1982: **name changed to Send & Ripley History Society.**
3. Mid 1987: **Society registered as a charity.**
4. 25 September 1993: **official opening by Lord Forte of Ripley of the Send & Ripley Local History Museum.**

It would be easy to reminisce about other notable achievements, personalities, meetings and outings, but Ken Bourne (our long-serving first Chairman, who has now, as Editor, brought the Newsletter to a standard undreamt of 20 years ago) has restricted me to one page only. What of the future? Well, all the time John Slatford is Chairman of the Museum Subcommittee, I feel the museum will become more and more prominent in our activities, and all the time Ken is Editor, there is nothing to fear for the Newsletter. We have always had a good programme of evening meetings and day outings, but attendance, particularly in recent years, has been disappointing. All organisations have to evolve and adapt, so if there is less demand, perhaps we should change tack. Maybe we should look for fewer meetings and better speakers. Maybe we should stick with just one evening outdoor visit and one all day outing a year. There are still a few more books to be written, documents and photographs to be copied, people's reminiscences to be recorded, etc, etc. Above all, we need local people, whether members or not, to find and donate objects to the museum. And don't forget the Boughton Hall moated site!

Les Bowerman

SILENT AUCTION

November 24 1994 was the date of our silent auction, held at Ripley Village Hall. The magnificent sum of £125 profit was made, in spite of a disappointing attendance. There were over sixty articles to bid for, including a musical box, dinner service, a set of woods for the bowling enthusiast, complete with brand new shoes, a large chocolate cake and various china ornaments, books, etc.

Bette and John Slatford ran a "guess who they are" competition of members when they were young. Several photographs of members of the Committee and other members of the Society were on display, and it was not at all easy to link these photographs with their owners. However, Rita Goldup exhibited a rare talent for seeing through the disguises and emerged a clear winner.

There was a raffle and the main prize was a large basket of fruit, which was provided by Patricia Medlen.

Refreshments were in the form of cider, fruit juice and a variety of cheeses and crusty bread, making this altogether a fun evening. Thanks are due to everyone who assisted in setting up the exhibition, and not forgetting Irene Bleach, who managed the refreshments.

Audrey Sykes

FROM LE ANGELL TO THE ANTIQUE SHOP, PART TWO

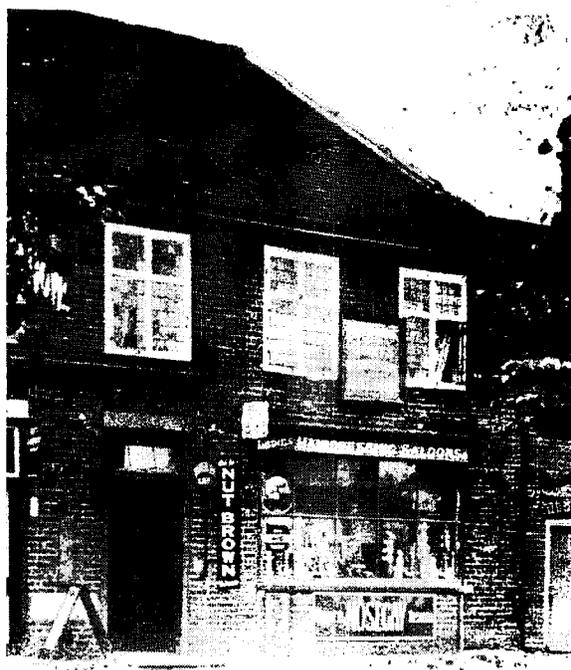
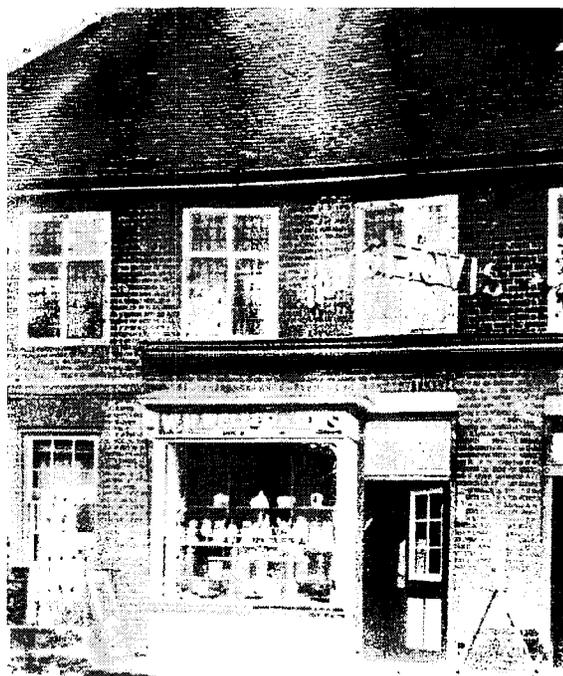
The Butchers and the Bakers

Mrs Lesley Powell well remembers her grandfather's bread shop, W H Weller & Sons, in the central part of the Angel. In fact she was born there. Wellers never ran the tearooms at the Guildford end, as did the previous baker, Stevenson. In her day there was Walter Bassett, the hairdresser, and then Horace Meech, the estate agent. She remembers the coal ovens being converted to gas, and the flour loft at the back. There were usually three men in the bakehouse: her grandfather, her father and Uncle Tom, as well as the confectioner and the women in the shop. They had five delivery vans on the road, three wheeler Reliants (her father was a car enthusiast and had a Jowett). Her aunt, who managed the shop, tells me that they had 800 regular customers, many of them in East Horsley, in the 1960s, apart from passing trade.

At one time there was a dentist practising in one of the back rooms next to the flour loft, known to some locals as "Butcher Harris".

Lesley has not lost all connections with the Angel, as she and her husband, Ivor, live in Rustall Cottage, No 2 Poplar Cottages, which they bought from Freddie Rust, the butcher, when he retired.

Both Fred and Arthur Milton, who worked for Freddie Rust, the butcher, told me that there were four men working in the London end of the Angel. They used to visit the



farms to select the animals they wanted, then bring them to the slaughter yard behind the shop, either by lorry, or, in the case of local farms, such as Bridgefoot Farm, or Homewood Farm, they would drive them. When Rust started in 1930, he only had a three-wheeled Morgan, and Fred Milton on occasions had to sit in the passenger seat with a pig they had collected in his lap. The farmer would later come to inspect the carcasses for a price to be agreed on. All this, of course, was in addition to serving in the shop and delivering orders.

Not everything went smoothly. The lane, now called Ryde Close, was too narrow to allow the lorries to back into the side access to the yard, and some animals were "a little bit lively", and one bullock tossed Rust into the air and others disappeared back up the road.

They used quartern (4 lb) loaves from Wellers, the bakers, next door in the sausages (crumbs for the pork sausages and soaked crusts for the beef), for which they were famous. They hand chopped the herbs for these and they used their own skins (pig intestines for sausages, sheep's for chipolatas). During the war, the men made flaky pastry pasties filled with corned beef from the tins in the shop. These they baked in Collins' oven in Rose Lane when the bread had been taken out. The margarine came from Pinnock's Tearooms.

It is interesting the way that people used to help each other in this way. Fred Milton said he learnt his trade from an older man, Turner. He believes that Freddie Rust, new to the butcher's trade, was helped by Frank Conisbee of East Horsley. When Arthur came to the shop straight from school, he was taught by his brother.

Since Freddie Rust's retirement in 1965, the old butcher's shop has seen a number of different uses. Bernard Titcombe ran a small engineering works, BHBT Ltd, followed by Williams' Estate Agents, then came a building society, followed by Cellnet, and now in 1994 it is once more an estate agent's, Seymours.

The Miltons continued with their trade, and, for a short time, took over another of Ripley's butcher's shops, Grimditch & Webb, renamed Milton Brothers. Arthur then worked until two years ago for Conisbees, Ripley's remaining butcher's shop.

Jane Bartlett

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Mr J Buckingham, Meadow View, Westwood Ho, Abbotswood, Guildford.

Mr & Mrs D Champion, 52 Balmoral Drive, Maybury, Woking.

Carol and Ian Fiddamen, 8 Newark Lane, Ripley.

Jeff Sechiari, Manor Side East, Mill Lane, Byfleet.

Mrs Sheila Smith, 62 Linden Way, Ripley.

Mr Sidney Tickner, 2 Heath Farm Cottages, Tannery Lane, Send.

The total membership is now 316, consisting of 113 doubles and 90 singles.

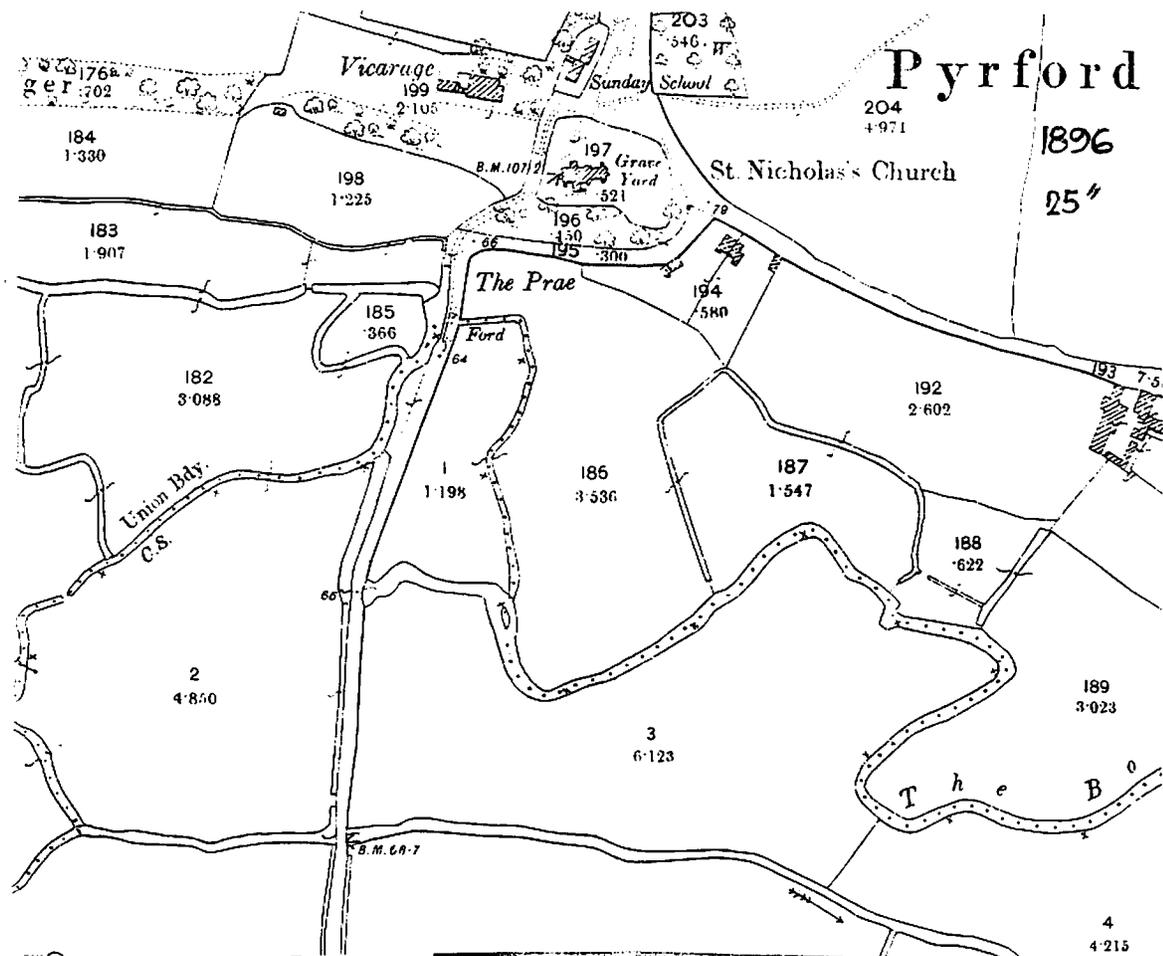
There has been a splendid response to the request for renewal of subscriptions, and for those who have not paid yet, please do so as soon as possible. The current subscription is £4 for single membership and £6 for double. Please add £2 if you need your Newsletter to be posted, eg outside the immediate districts of Send and Ripley. Please send your subscription to Mrs Patricia Medlen, Hon Treasurer, Muir House, Brooklyn Road, Woking, Surrey GU22 7TJ - cheques made payable to Send & Ripley History Society.

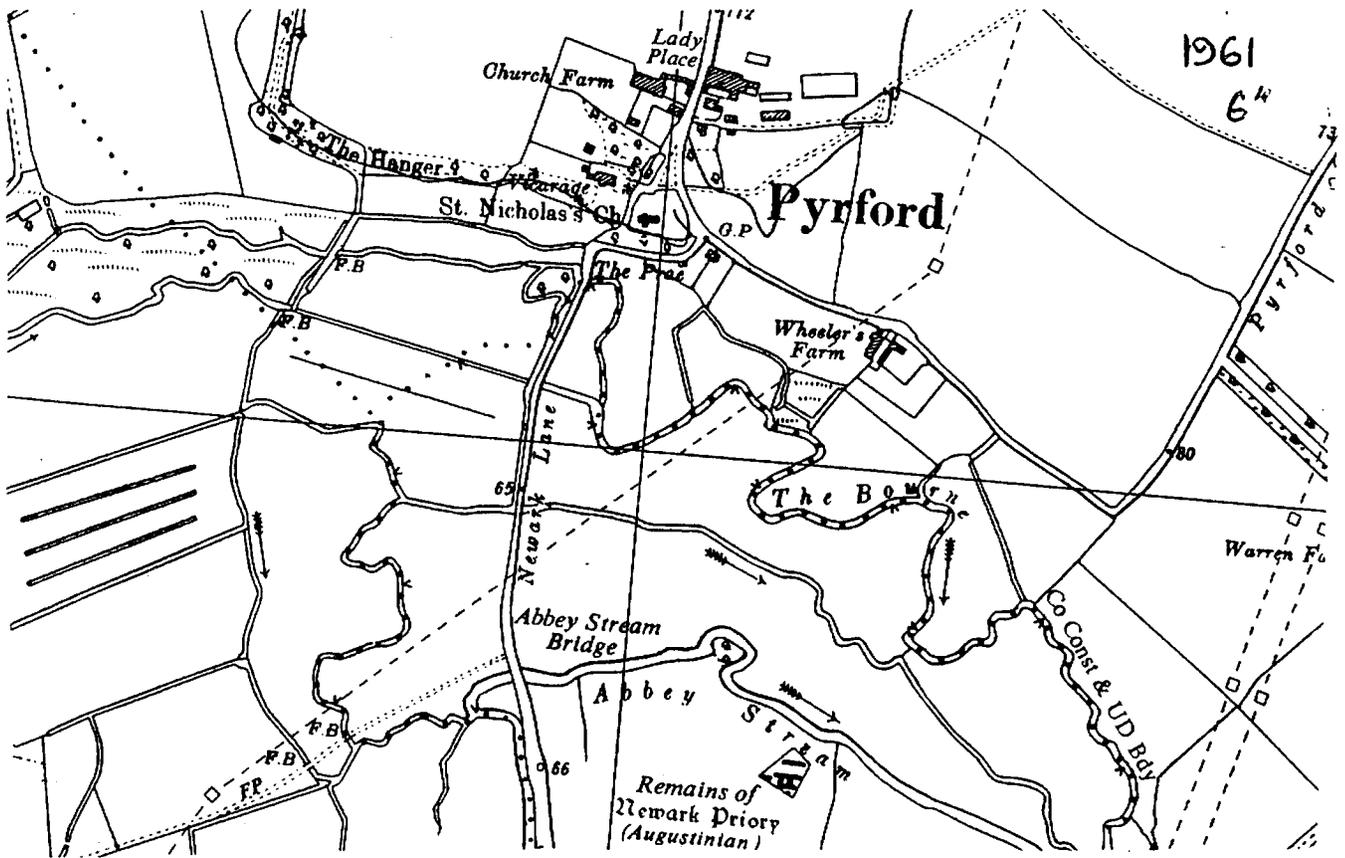
Bill Sykes

NEW BRIDGE OVER BOURNE STREAM

The proposal to rebuild Cartbridge (see Newsletter 108, Jan/Feb 1993), and now apparently imminent, was an opportunity to investigate the origin of earlier bridges in the area. The existing Cartbridge is of reinforced concrete construction, incorporating earlier brick-built abutments. The bridge was built in 1914. One of our members, Lyn Mileham, who worked for Mouchel & Partners, the civil engineering firm based in Byfleet and responsible for the reinforced concrete design for the Brooklands race track, built in 1907, is of the opinion that several reinforced concrete bridges in the area were built by Mouchels and possibly those at Cartbridge and Newark Lane, being similar in design, are also examples of their work. Unfortunately records have not been uncovered which prove this one way or the other, but it is a reasonable assumption.

In July 1993, almost, it seems, without prior warning, notices were set up by Surrey County Council, advising of the rebuilding of the bridge over the Bourne Stream in Newark Lane. The River Wey Navigation, the River Wey and its tributaries, including the Bourne Stream, cross the road at several points between Ripley and the parish boundary at the foot of Pyrford Church in Newark Lane. The 1896 25" Ordnance Survey shows the Bourne Stream passing under the road at the point where the new bridge is now situated and a small tributary crossed the road at a ford just below Pyrford Church. Old postcards produced around the turn of the century clearly show this ford. The present site of the ford is indicated by the position of drainage pipes passing beneath the road, and this also represents the junction of the parish boundaries between Pyrford and Ripley.

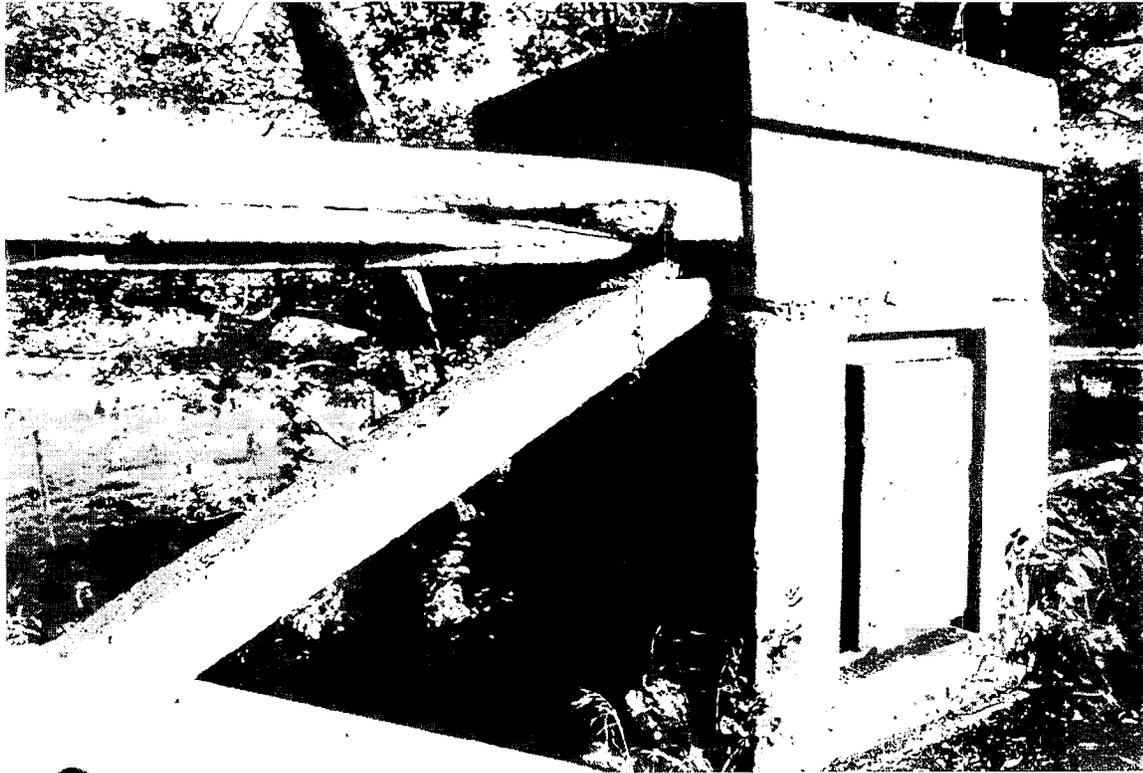




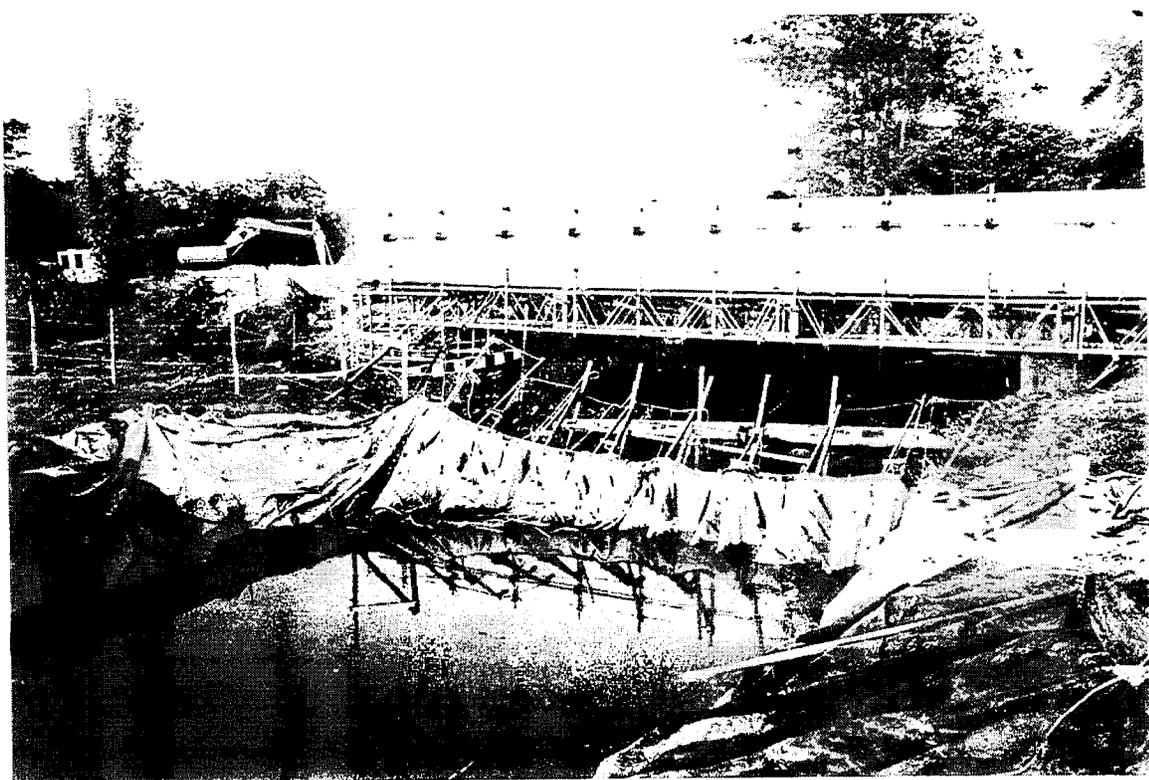
The 1961 6" Ordnance Survey Map shows that the main channel of the Bourne Stream now connects with a straight drainage cut, bypassing all the convoluted meanderings of the stream in that area. This is the site of the rebuilt bridge.

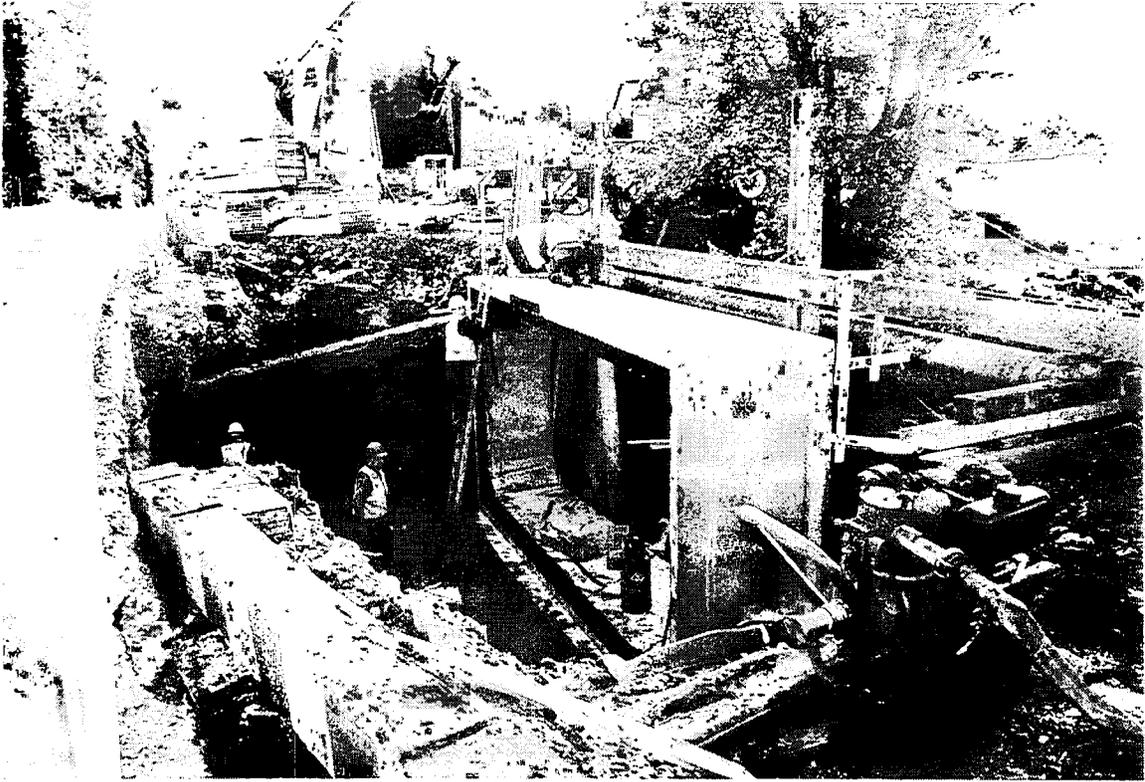


The above photograph shows the c 1914 bridge prior to work commencement and the following photograph shows the condition of the reinforced structure, due to corrosion, of the steel reinforcing rods expanding and cracking the concrete structure.

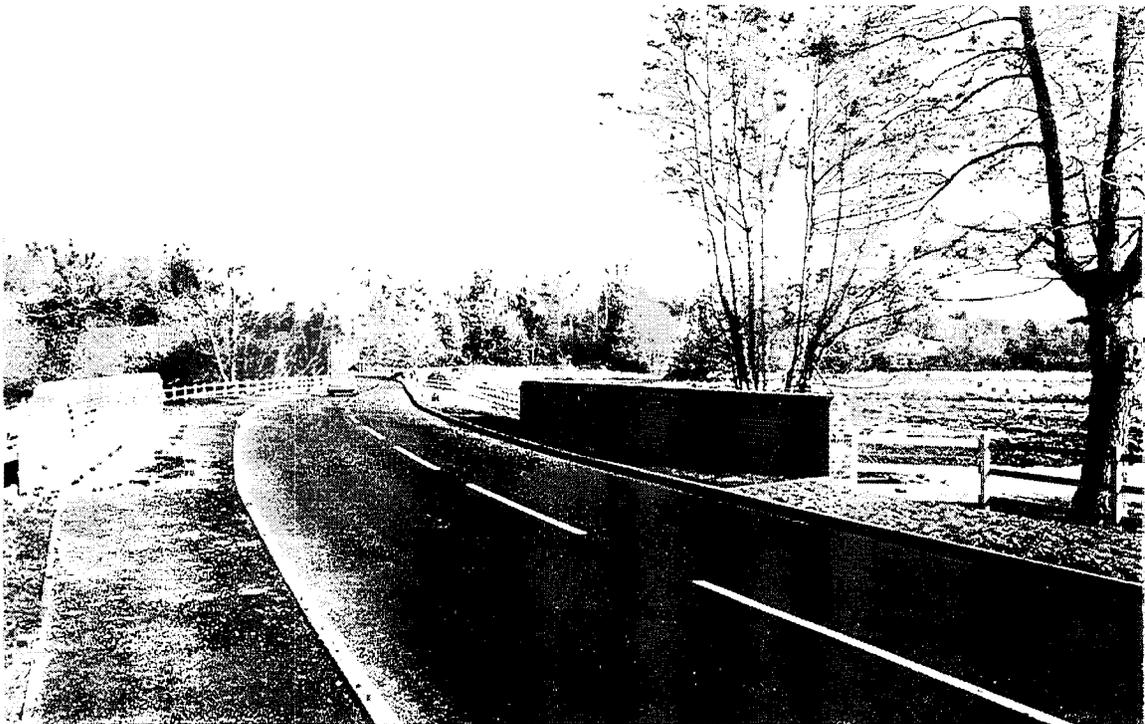


The new work took three months and was a major civil engineering project for the area, involving the damming of the stream either side of the bridge building works. The stream continued to flow with the aid of positive displacement pumps, and the damming was effectively and simply achieved by placing waterproof sheeting in the water and raising the sheeting to form ponds either side of the bridge. Half of the bridge was demolished, permitting only single line traffic to cross the existing structure, and a new bridge, based upon the insertion of pre-cast concrete ducts upon a concrete base, was built. The half of the newly constructed bridge was then topped with a temporary road surface and the rest of the old bridge was then demolished to permit the completion of the new bridge by the insertion of further pre-cast concrete ducts.





During the whole of the works, there remained undisturbed the existing main drainage pipe (see photo above), which crosses the river, suspended to one side of the bridge on the Newark Priory side and serves to indicate that the height of the road has not materially altered at this point, although the approaches either side of the bridge have been considerably built up.



The road has also been slightly straightened, which is an improvement upon the previous arrangement. The photograph taken of the completed bridge shows a landscape rather bereft of trees, but replanting has taken place and, no doubt, will in time soften the view of the area.

K H Bourne

Dr JOHN O'CONNER, "SURGEON"

(The following article contains some early memories of our member, Reg Giles, which continues his recollections of his early life in Send. - Editor)

My first faint memory of a doctor was when we lived at Old Woking in 1917 or 1918. I think that my father had just been killed in the war, my mother was ill in bed and aunts from Send had just descended on the house and taken us over. I remember this tall man in a dark suit coming into the room and being referred to as Dr Hall from Woking. My next recollection is being at my granny's house in Send when Dr Pearce from Ripley called on a visit, but I do not remember who was ill.

We had been living in Send two or three years when a brass plate appeared on the gate of Send Lodge (now No 1 Send Road). This was approximately 1921/3 and the plate stated that Dr John O'Conner, Surgeon, was in residence. My mother thought it was wonderful having a village doctor and living so close.

Dr O'Conner was a typical doctor of the day in his long black coat, astrakhan hat and collar, steel rim spectacles, which he continually looked over, and his slightly unruly grey hair. He used to be chauffeured around on his visits by his elegant wife in their two-seater Clyno car with its clover leaf badge on the bonnet. We used to stand and gaze at it, as it was about the first car we had seen in the village.

He chain smoked hand-rolled cigarettes and was well covered in ash and nicotine. We had to pay 3s 6d (17 1/2p) if he came on a visit, and 2s 6d (12 1/2p) if we went to him. He mixed all his medicines in a small department between his waiting room and surgery. It was complete with large coloured bottles and we enjoyed his cough mixture, which was always cherry flavoured.

He kept a gardener and a maid. The waiting room was a billiard room and we sat round the huge table. He taught two or three local lads to play billiards and knew most of us by our first names. We would wave to him in his car and we usually got one back.

He was fond of the bottle and I little thought that 30 years later I would be digging a foundation trench in his garden and, in the process, unearth about 200 whisky bottles (all empty) and have to dispose of them.

If you did not pay cash, a little hand-written account came at the end of the month, but we still thought a lot of him - he was a grand character.

I remember, when paddling in the Bourne, stepping on a broken bottle and I had a poisoned heel. Dr O'Conner took a shiny lance to it and it was nasty for a few minutes. He then painted it with iodine, bandaged it and I literally danced out of the surgery. I had an exactly similar injury resulting from stepping on a brass pin in bare feet, and I again hopped out of the surgery door following similar treatment. I used to suffer from catarrh and his treatment was to dip a long thin brush in the iodine bottle and use it to paint the back of my throat. From past experience, I anticipated that this would cause some hopping, but it certainly cured the problem.

Suddenly it all came to an end. The doctor and his lady disappeared from the village, likewise the brass plate from the gate, and we learnt that Mrs O'Conner had taken him back to his beloved Ireland to retire.

A sale board appeared on the house and another one for the sale of the contents, to which my mother went, and bid for, and purchased, several items, including the revolving oak case of encyclopaedias (6s, 30p), which we kept for many years.

The billiard room was taken down in 1928 and re-erected in the grounds of Ashburton House, where part of it was consecrated and used as a church, before the one near Mays Corner was built. It has now been converted to a playroom, but still stands in the grounds and can be seen from the towpath.

Reg Giles

POSTCARD EXHIBITIONS

Almost since the History Society was formed, it has taken part in the **Annual Symposium** held by the **Surrey Local History Council**. In the early days the meetings were held at Dorking Halls and then moved to Surrey University, and this year, for the first time, the venue was changed to Chertsey Hall, Chertsey.

Initially the time taken for research and the production of material, such as photographs, and setting up artefacts, for participation at these events was considerable, particularly as each year there is a different theme upon which the exhibitors are encouraged to set up their displays. Fortunately, in subsequent years the increasing stock of photographic material in our archives has made it easier and tempting to call upon such material to form the basis of an exhibit. However, this year it was felt that a new approach was needed and it was high time to spend the money, if necessary, to have a fresh exhibit, and so when the theme for the 1994 symposium was declared as **"Surrey and the Picture Postcard"**, relating to the centenary of the introduction of the picture postcard in England, this seemed an ideal subject on which to create a new exhibition for the Society.

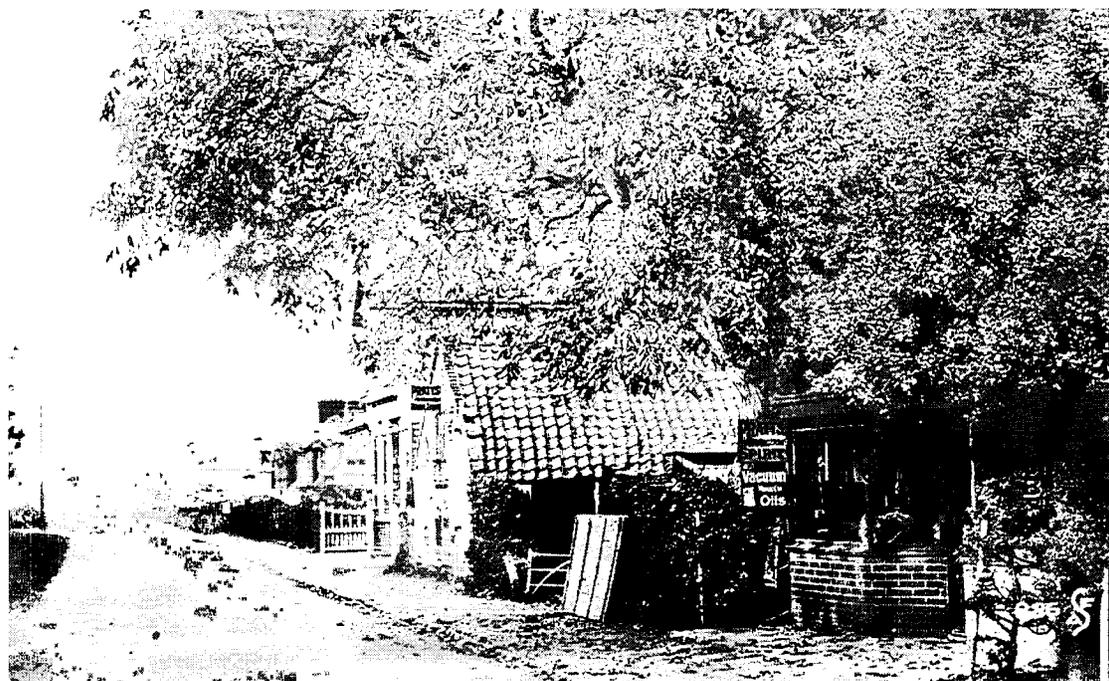
What seemed a simple idea and full of promise almost foundered, however, from the beginning, since it was soon discovered that the History Society's own collection is not extensive. However, both the writer and our President, Les Bowerman, have a reasonable collection of local views on postcards, and it was from these two collections that an exhibit was set up. In addition, in the photographic archives of the Society there were copies of photographs which turned out, in many cases, to be based on early postcards. These sources had one big advantage, in that the cost of the exhibition material was likely to be very modest, requiring only the addition of exhibition boards and title blocks, etc.

The request for new material via the loan of members' postcards, however, produced a nil response, and this, no doubt, was due to the fact that the origins of this material had already been fully utilised. However, after a few days' sweated labour, another exhibition evolved, and was duly transported to Chertsey for the History Society's stand on Saturday, 5 November 1994. This exhibition centre is ideal: although access is limited, the hall is large and has refreshment facilities and accommodated over thirty exhibitors, as well as providing adequate space for the lecturer and some 200 participants. The lectures were excellent, with presentations by Alan Jackson, on "Residential Surrey", and Professor Alan Crocker, who spoke, quite predictably, on "Industrial Surrey". The final talk was given by Derek Moore, Chairman of the Blechingley History Society, who used postcard views of Blechingley to illustrate the changing scenes of a Surrey village.

The History Society's stand was well attended, and thanks are due to Les and Anne Bowerman and Tony Medlen, in addition to the writer, all representing the Society. As well as being an interesting event in which to take part, it is always well worth visiting to see what other History Societies are doing.

The next exhibition attended was that arranged by the **Surrey Postcard Club**, who held their first ever Annual Fair at St Peter's Roman Catholic Comprehensive School, in Horseshoe Lane East, Merrow, on Saturday, November 12. The invitation to this event was very fortuitous. Whilst set up primarily in the interests of those collectors and dealers in postcards, and most dealers are also collectors, the half dozen or so History Societies who attended represented the application of the results of such collections. Only the writer, on this occasion, attended, representing the Society, but took full advantage of the opportunity of looking at the various dealers' postcard collections, which were, of course, for sale. Postcards, particularly topographical ones, are now becoming expensive, many costing £10 and more, and I saw at least one postcard for sale at £40, fortunately not in our area. Two postcards, however, were discovered, one for Ripley and one for Send, both of which had not been seen before, and the writer purchased these privately and has copied

them and made copies available to the History Society, which will become important additions to the archives. These postcards are shown below. The top photo is looking towards Guildford; the Toby Cottage is on the right, c 1900. The bottom photo is of the walnut tree and the blacksmith's workshop of C H Sec & Son c 1920, demolished to make way for Walnut Tree Garage.



After a short period of recovery from the two previous exhibitions, The Postcard Exhibition was set up in the History Society's museum for the Saturdays of 3 and 10 December.

There was a steady stream of visitors. On the first day there were approximately 25, of which 17 signed the visitors' book, and 3 became new members. The exhibition ran with good attendances the following weekend and was extended until 17 December.

There is no doubt that from this experience, a carefully planned exhibition can be seen by more people if there are opportunities to attend the appropriate venues. In this respect, the museum is a very valuable asset, enabling exhibitions to remain on display for longer periods of time.

K H Bourne

PHOTOGRAPHY REPORT

This has always been a keen interest of mine, even before the History Society began. Both my father and my brother were keen photographers, and having seen so much of their work, and even assisted with the processing, I did not initially have an overwhelming need to do more than take the usual family photos.

When the History Society was formed, it became obvious, though, that slides were needed to support the various talks that were being set up, and additionally, photographs were being offered to the Society for copying, some of which were included in our Newsletter, but most of which were used for exhibitions and for the production of slides. To my surprise, I found that black and white copying, facilities for either prints or slides, were not readily available through the local processing sources, such as Boots or Smiths, and so it became necessary to do much of the processing oneself. Looking back now, I am very pleased indeed that this situation made it necessary for me to take this course of action and the result is now a large number of images, either in print or slide form, which form a valuable asset to the Society's records.

Quite early on, it became necessary to start indexing this material and the Society is very fortunate indeed to have Jane Bartlett, who is experienced in this field and has, almost from the early days, compiled an accurate record of every photograph or slide that is handed to her.

The next stage is to make this material as accessible to our members as possible, and we are working on a system whereby it will be possible to visit the museum and check a reference book to look at any image that we have in our archives. This, of course, will take some time, but a lot has already been achieved along these lines with our present copying and indexing system.

K H Bourne

VACANCY FOR LOCAL SECRETARY FOR SEND TO SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The position of Local Secretary for Send has been held by our President, Les Bowerman, ever since the Society began, and he now wishes to relinquish this role.

In general, the function of a Local Secretary is, firstly, to supply information about the Society's activities to interested individuals and organisations locally, and, secondly, to report back to the Society on those matters which affect the archaeology of their areas. Since this area has not had very much to do with archaeology since its foundation, it has not been a very onerous task. Anyone interested in taking over this role, please contact Les Bowerman on 01483 224876, who will provide further information.

OPENING OF NEEDLEWORK GALLERY, GUILDFORD MUSEUM

By Irene Bleach

Send & Ripley History Society received an invitation to send a representative to attend the opening of the new Needlework Gallery at Guildford Museum on the evening of 22 November 1994. I was fortunate enough to be chosen, accompanied by George as my chauffeur. We were welcomed by Mary Alexander, the Assistant Curator, and were ushered towards wine and light refreshments. About sixty guests were assembled, mostly ladies, and some had travelled a fair way. I met ladies from Newbury and Petersfield, and many representing the various lace-making and needlework Guilds. The Mayor of Guildford, Councillor Douglas May, and his Lady, were guests of honour. Before the opening ceremony, Mary Alexander gave us an interesting background to the beginnings of the needlework collection, which was started in 1928 by Miss Joan Drew, who lived in Blackheath, near Albury, and also taught embroidery there. Some beautiful examples of her work are to be seen in the museum. I was surprised to learn that Guildford holds probably the largest collection of lace and needlework in the country, among the small museums. To perform the opening ritual, The Hon Alderman Elizabeth Cobbett was charmingly presented with a dainty pair of scissors by Elizabeth Alexander, Mary and Matthew's young daughter, with which the ribbon across the entrance was duly cut, and Alderman Cobbett was invited to keep the scissors and the suitably embroidered box containing them. The Ripley Quilt is the largest exhibit and fills the end wall on your left as you enter. It can be well seen and is arranged on a roller, so that it can be unrolled from time to time to present another area to view. It attracted quite a lot of interest, and a similar idea was spotted, eg a Parish Basket, containing a selection of baby clothes which were lent to new mothers. It is not feasible to describe in great detail here all that there is to be seen, but I would urge anyone interested to visit this delightful collection of lace and embroidery skills. Because the museum itself is a listed building, nothing can be done to structurally alter or enlarge rooms, so that this new gallery is very small, but with expert display and modern fibre optic lighting, the very best has been made of the meagre space available, and visitors are welcome to see the items which have to be kept in store, provided an appointment is made. A very informative little booklet is available at the museum, which shows the types of needlework in the museum, with a brief catalogue and descriptions of particularly interesting pieces.

I shall certainly go back again and again, and I thoroughly recommend our readers to visit too.

HISTORY SOCIETY TREASURER - VACANCY

Patricia Medlen was elected Treasurer at the AGM held in February 1986 and now feels it is time to relinquish this post at the next AGM in February this year. Patricia would like to hear from any member who would like to take on this very interesting job and would be pleased to explain what is required. Further details can be obtained from Patricia on 01483 760021.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ken

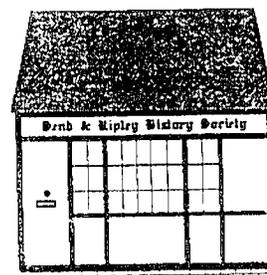
You made an excellent job of editing my story. It must have taken a long time to set it up and for Mrs Parker to type. Well done, hope the rest is as good, several people are waiting to read it. - Reg Giles

MUSEUM REPORT

A programme of exhibitions and events is in process of being planned and details will be forthcoming in the next Newsletter. As already outlined in the separate leaflet distributed with the last Newsletter, there are regular periods of opening every Saturday morning between October and April, 10-12.30 am, and from May to September additionally in the afternoon, between 2 pm and 4 pm.

In addition to the small library and various records available for reference, there are the following publications available for purchase:

1. "Looking Back" - £4.95.
2. "Newark Mill" - £2.95.
3. "Walk about Ripley" - £2.
4. "The Straight Furrow" - £1.50.
5. Send Church Guide - £1.25.
6. Back issues of Newsletters - 75p.
7. "Views of Surrey Churches" - £5.
8. "Old Surrey Receipts" - £3.95.
9. "Surrey Aeronautics" - £3.95
10. "Pastors, Parishes and People" - £2.95.
11. "Surrey History" (current) - £2.95.
12. Ripley postcards - 30p.
13. "Nature and Tradition" - £4.95.



DONATIONS TO MUSEUM

We have received the following articles from Reg Giles as donations to the archives and museum collections.

1. Stewarts & Lloyds wall chart for pipe fittings.
2. A Skeet & Jeffes Ltd hard back catalogue dated 1950. This catalogue contains many illustrations of plumbing, hardware and builders' tools, and also an illustration of the company's premises when it was based at No 12 Chobham Road, which, in fact, was a very large corner site in the centre of the town of Woking.
3. A forged steel "Timber Dog". This is used to join timber balks and was found in mud dredged from the Wey Navigation at Cartbridge.
4. Four hand-made nails, varying in length from 4" to 8".
5. Miscellaneous drawings of local building works.
6. One book of unused petrol coupons, 1101-1500 cc.

New Place - Newark

The account of Brother William Bramshalle Cellarer there of all Receipts and Expenses made by the same in the said office from the feast of St Michael and Expenses in the 19th regnal year of Richard II to the feast of the same St Michael in the 20th year of the aforesaid Richard for one entire year.

The same answers for 13s 10d of (fixed) rents for Rippele and Papeworth for the year as appears in the Rental. And for 6s 8d received for rent for la Hoke¹.

And for £9 received from profits of the mill outside the house. And for 5d received for oatmeal flour there. And for 12s 5d received for 64 hurtles² sold. And for 2s 8d received for woollen locks sold. And for 54s received for hay sold in the home meadow. And for 21s 4d received as tithes from Newark and Wathelesham³. And for 12d received for 2 broken-down wheels sold. And for 6s received for an old iron cart sold. And for 5s 10d received for 5 quarters of malt made from barley received for toll-corn charged for the same that is to say the value of the aforesaid toll which toll-corn was bought above the price per quarter of the said toll 3s 4d, the price per quarter of malt 4s 6d. And for 22s 6d received for 5 quarters of rye sold. And for 2s for honey from Horsull nothing because the Bailiff of Wocking there was charged with nothing.

£20 16s 8d

Sum of all the receipts.

Annual Excess of which in excess for the preceding year 13s 5 1/4d.

(The document then goes on to deal with expenditure, of which the following are extracts. - KHB)

And in stipend of John Hope servant of the Cellarer for a half year 3s 4d and no more because he was ill. And paid to Robert Duke custodian of the domestic office during the time of the illness of the said John for his stipend and for his clothing 6s 8d.

And in distribution to the poor on Maundy Thursday 5s. And in beer bought for the feasts of Christmas and St Thomas the Martyr and other solemn feasts per annum together with beer bought for direct guests and visitors per annum 55s 3/4d.

And in closing a hedge --- the field of Donesburgh 9d. And in flaying a horse dead from the plague 2d. And paid to John Haselwode for enclosing the hedge of la Whychyotes and paid to the Clerk of M--- for testing the measure at Rypele on Monday in the week of Pentecost 10d. And in making 1 key for the barn door 2d. And paid to the lights of St Mary on the Eve of Epiphany⁴ 1d. And in membranes and papyrus bought for writing accounts 8d.

And paid to the Lord Prior for his hay according to custom 6s 8d. And paid to the Sub Prior for his hay according to custom 6s 8d. And paid to the Cellarer for his hay according to custom 6s 8d.

¹The Hook - a name given to a field, tenement or topographical feature.

²Hurdles - Fences.

³According to "Place Names of Surrey", p133, 13th/14th C spelling of Walsham (meadow) in Pyrford.

⁴5 January.

The quoted extracts cover approximately half of the document and there are also entries of expenditure on the mill, expenditure for carts and horses, upkeep of the bakehouse, servants' stipends and upkeep of the cellar, as well as miscellaneous expenditure for items provided by or for services outside the Priory.

K H Bourne

GERTIE SYMES

In good faith, on information provided from what should have been a reliable source, I recorded (without thinking as I ought, I regret to say) in the last issue of the Newsletter, at page 19, the death of Gertie Bashall. The surname was, as most will have realised, incorrect. It should have read Symes.

Gertie was one of the 12 children of Alf Dibble, who was himself one of the children (the seventh?) of George and Harriet Dibble, who took over the Anchor Inn in Ripley in 1849.

George sadly died in 1866, leaving his widow to support the large family. From the early 1870s the new bicycle-riding customers came in increasing numbers until about the turn of the century, enabling the family to make a reasonable living. With their obliging disposition and willingness to go to great lengths to serve their customers, who would arrive at all hours, the family was held in the highest possible esteem, particularly Harriet and her daughters, Harriet and Annie. Mrs Harriet Dibble died in 1887, Annie in 1895, and her sister, Harriet, in 1896. There is a memorial window to the sisters, subscribed by their grateful and admiring cycling customers, in the South side of the South Aisle of the church.

A Mr and Mrs Gibbons from the Imperial Hotel, Guildford, took over the Anchor in 1897, but by 1909 Alf was reported in the cycling papers as being back. The Bath Road Club (founded in 1886, and one of the most famous of the cycling clubs) re-established their country headquarters at the Anchor, and Alf presided over some very jolly occasions with them. I have notes of the Bath Roaders taking Alf's daughters on bicycles to Newlands Corner and to the pictures at Guildford. Maybe Gertie was among them.

Now that Gertie has died (aged 94), her younger sister, Joan, to whom we offer very belated condolences, is the remaining member of the family living in Ripley.

It remains only to record that Gertie's husband, Mr Symes, had been a motor mechanic at Brooklands. The brothers, Harry and John (Bizzy) Bashall, whom sisters, Harriet and May, respectively married were also car enthusiasts. No doubt this is where the confusion arose.

Les Bowerman

FOUNDER MEMBERS

Looking through the first Newsletter, reporting the Society's inaugural meeting at Heath Farm, Tannery Lane, Send, on 28 January 1975, among the 28 attending who became members on that day and are still members in 1995 are, in alphabetical order, Ken and Phyllis Bourne, Les Bowerman, Sheila Brown, Jean Carpenter, Irene Bleach (Carter), Brian and Daphne Jackson, Mary Milner, Chris and Geoff Parker, Janet Parker, Bette and John Slatford, and Janet and Trevor Tice.

Editor

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Send & Ripley History Society 20th Anniversary Celebration

There will be a 20th anniversary dinner for members and friends on Saturday, 28 January 1995. The dinner will be held in the galleried room of the Hautboy Hotel at Ockham, known as the Brasserie, meeting for 7.30 pm at 8 pm. Applications for tickets, priced at £12.50 each, excluding wine, should now be made direct to the Treasurer, Patricia Medlen.

Wednesday, 22nd February 1995 - 8 pm at Ripley Village Hall

The History Society AGM. After the formal business of the meeting, there will be an illustrated talk by John Slatford, highlighting some of the major differences that have occurred to buildings and places in the parishes of Send and Ripley over the last 20 years.

Wednesday, 26 April - Annex to Ripley Village Hall

Speaker to be advised.

Newsletter Contributions

The closing date for material for the next edition of the Newsletter is Friday, March 10 1995.

COVER ILLUSTRATION

A copy of a postcard in the Les Bowerman collection, showing the ford in Newark Lane, just below Pyrford Church, c 1900. Compare with the view of the new bridge at the bottom of page 9. The ford was between this new bridge and the church.



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October-April, Saturdays 10-12.30

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Other times for school groups and small parties
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*Please contact George or Irene Bleach on 01483 222233 if
you require information or wish to help in the museum.*

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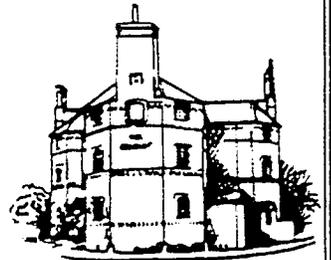
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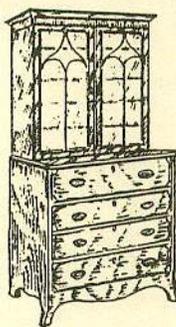
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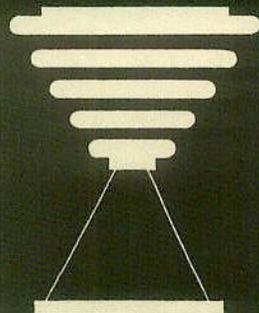


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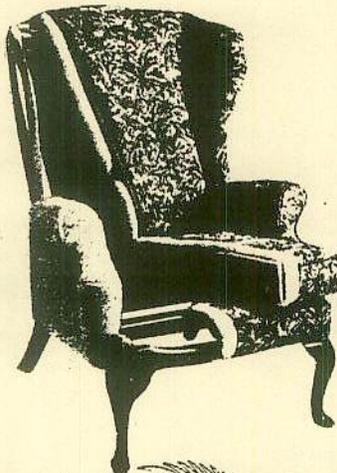
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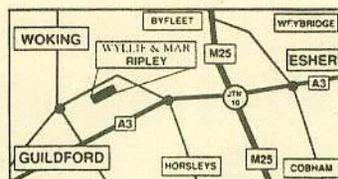
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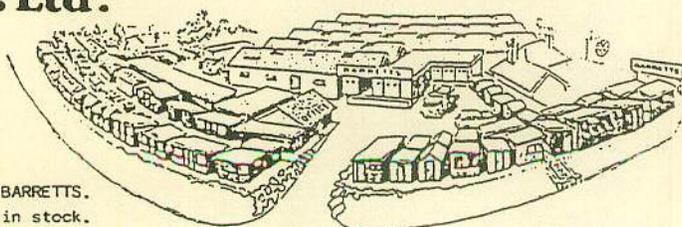
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