

Send & Ripley History Society

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Newark Priory
West View

Journal Volume 6 No. 213

July/Aug 2010



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Cover photo: Footbridge House, Ripley High Street.

With kind permission of Hamptons International, Guildford

Editorial

Members will find adjacent to this editorial a facsimile of the flyer for the photographic competition being promoted by Robert Wilson in aid of the 'New Hall for Ripley' appeal.

It may be asked what this has to do with the Society's aim of spreading knowledge about the history of Send and Ripley. The answer so far as a new hall is concerned is 1) that it would benefit the Society to have the use of modern premises with better kitchen facilities and a choice of rooms, and 2) that it can only be in the Society's interest to create goodwill in the two villages; if we develop a reputation for helping where we can with local projects, such as the new hall for Ripley and the BEST week for Send, and there may be others, we become better known, leading to new members and to people coming forward with historic information, documents, photos, artefacts, etc., for the museum, our archives and the Journal.

The categories for the photographic competition are all of a kind that might appeal to members and it is hoped many will take part in the competition. Entry forms and the conditions of entry are obtainable as stated aside on the flier.

To switch from helping other organisations to helping ourselves, you are urged to consider

seriously whether you can respond to the three letters on the correspondence page of this issue of the Journal. David Porter is keen that something interesting is made of the bomb crater in the 'Sandies' near May's Corner. Andrew Jones has already put work into the idea of creating a History Society float for the Bonfire Procession but needs help both in putting the float together and for people to appear on it. Clare McCann, who has put so much thought and effort into exhibitions at the museum and has other projects in mind, is understandably anxious that the Society should have a publicity officer to bring these activities to the attention of the public. And your Chairman needs people to organise the museum and Farmers' Market rotas as well as



The 2010 Ripley Photography Competition

Kindly supported by The London Camera Exchange

Senior and Junior categories:

- LOCAL LANDSCAPE
- LOCAL WILDLIFE
- ARTISTIC/CREATIVE
- HUMOUR

An exhibition and presentation of prizes will take place at Ripley Village Hall on Sunday 26th September. Winning photographs will also be displayed at the Ellwood Gallery, Ripley and feature in the 2011 Ripley Calendar

Entry forms available at Ripley Farmers Market, Ripley Florists, Ellwood Gallery, Ripley Nurseries, Ripley Post Office or contact Robert Wilson 01483 222576 rawone@uwclub.net for details

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES WEDNESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

***** All proceeds to the 'New Hall for Ripley' appeal*****

more volunteers to act as stewards on the monthly Sunday museum openings and to man the monthly Farmers' Market stall.

It is pleasing to find that, although most Committee members have other commitments on the day of the Ripley Event, there was a very encouraging response from other members to help with the Society's stall there.

The 400 Year History of Footbridge House, High Street, Ripley Part One - 1611 to 1794

John & Bette Slatford

This history has been compiled from research carried out by my late wife, Bette, in which she used extracts from the Court records of the Manor of Send & Ripley, from a collection of title documents in the possession of the present owners, from the 19th Century Census records and from Kelly's Directories. Footbridge House lies at the London end of Ripley High Street adjacent to the stream which forms the parish boundary with Ockham. It used to be named Bridgefoot House, first noted in a tenancy agreement in 1880, but this was changed in the 1960s by the then owner to avoid confusion with Bridgefoot Farm which lies just over the parish boundary on the eastern side of the stream. However, as will be shown, the property had other names in its early history and it is the continuation of these names through the manorial records and the later title documents that has enabled a reliable account of the house to be produced.

The house is a mixture of builds of various dates, but is essentially a timber framed building dating from around 1600. Almost from the earliest known date, it seems that additional adjacent land was acquired and another house was built. The two properties were, until the late 1700s, under a single ownership. The first record that has been found, in the year 1611, shows the land and buildings to be under copyhold tenancy from the Lord of the Manor of Ripley & Send and this situation continued through to the 1870s. It is important to bear in mind that copyhold tenants frequently did not live in their properties but usually sub-let to under-tenants.

The ancient copyhold system required that the tenancy was dependent upon the custom and will of the Lord of the Manor and when any property was transferred, it had first to be surrendered to him (or her) to obtain agreement for the transaction to proceed. It was normal for a copyhold property to remain in one family and be handed down to the next generation *ad infinitum*. However, the tenant was also able to sell to another or to borrow money in the form of a mortgage but it was always necessary to first surrender the property for any such deal to proceed. All these dealings were recorded in the proceedings of the Manorial Court or Court Baron.

The 1600s

The Court Baron of the Manor of Send and Ripley held on 9th April 1611 recorded that Ralph Maybanke, who "held by copy for the term of his life a house called Waterhouse in Ripley", had died since the last Court. It also recorded that Ralph had previously surrendered the premises to the Lord of the Manor with the intention that they should be re-granted for the benefit of his wife Joan and his son Francis. Joan was soon re-married to Thomas Bates. The Court Baron held on 14th May 1614 recorded that Thomas Bates "came and took from the Lord a parcel of land on which was built a house called Waterhouse near Stratford Bridge" (*this is the bridge carrying the present day High Street over the stream at the parish boundary*) and a parcel of land adjacent 189 feet by 42 feet.

On 1st April 1635, the Court recorded that Thomas Bates “held by copy a parcel of land on which was built a house called Waterhouse lying near Stratford Bridge and another parcel 180 feet by 42 feet with a dwelling house lately built thereon”. He surrendered these to the “use of Anthony Ayleworth and Frances his wife” who sought admission to the properties and were admitted. The record then stated that Thomas Bates and Joan his wife, lately wife of Ralph Maybanke deceased, held the properties for her lifetime which then reverted to Frances Ayleworth, wife of Anthony Ayleworth and daughter of the said Ralph Maybanke and Joan Bates (*obviously the clerk of the Court had mixed up the gender of son Francis and daughter Frances! The documents seem to confirm that daughter Frances was correct*).

The Court held on 18th April 1672 recorded that Frances Bird (formerly Frances Ayleworth) who held a workshop in Ripley Street and a “messuage called Waterhouse” and a parcel of land “adjacent and from the waste” had died since the last Court and that Moses Ayleworth was her son and heir. A first proclamation was made for him to come to Court to be admitted but “no-one came”. A year later, the Court recorded that Moses Ayleworth had died long before the death of his mother. There then followed a mystery in the record in that a Ralph Clement claimed to be a kinsman and he was admitted to the properties. However, in the following year 1674, Edward Ayleworth, stated to be the son and heir of Frances Bird, came to the Court and he was admitted to the properties.

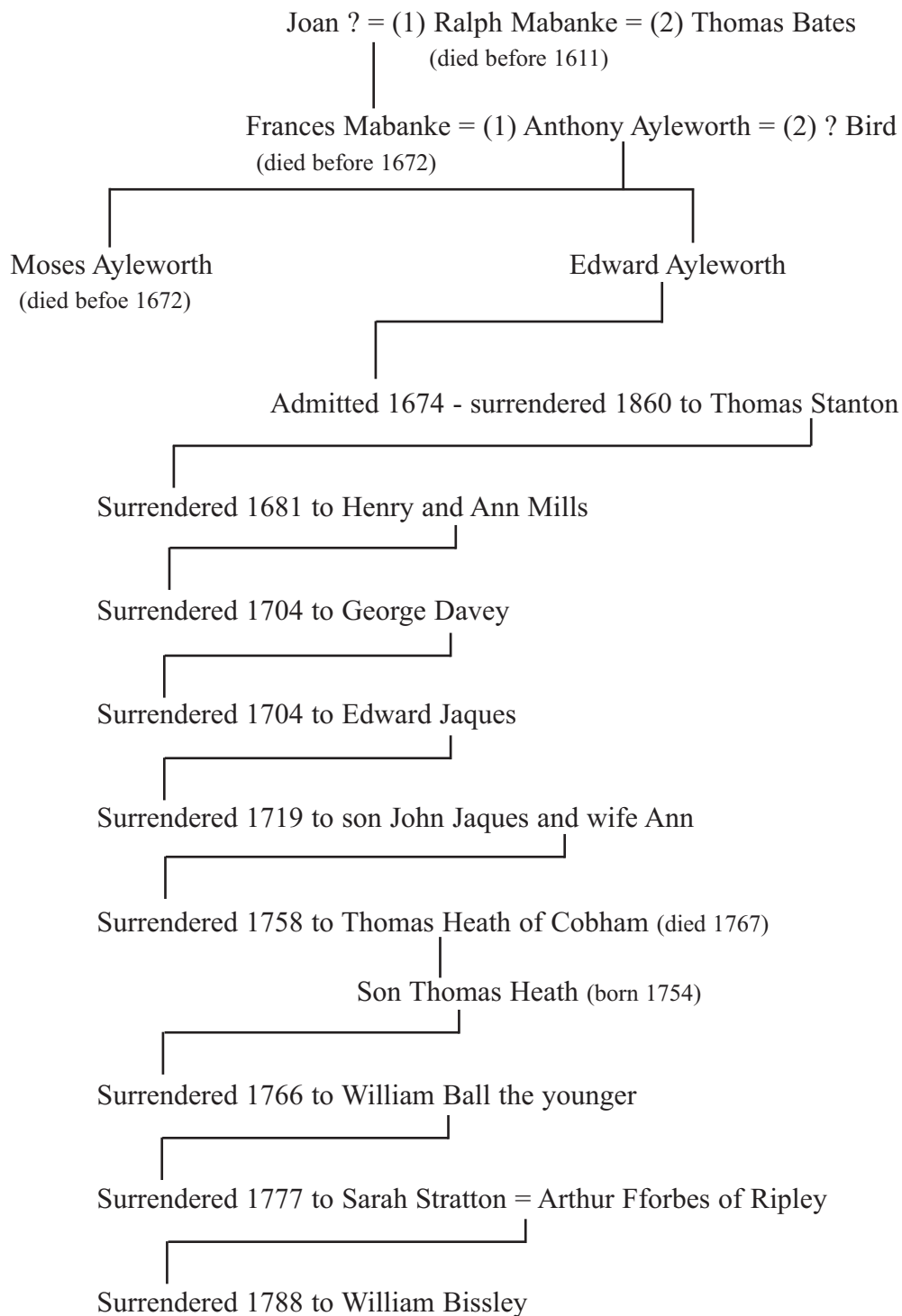
In 1680, another change came about when Thomas Stanton sought admission, as a result of a surrender by Moses Ayleworth (*this was surely another mistake by the clerk of the Court since he should have written Edward*). A year later, this Thomas made a surrender outside the Court to the “use of Henry Mills of Ripley, collar maker (*sic*), and Ann his wife”. There is no indication of any family relationship in either of these transactions nor was there in the following two transfers. The first of these was on 27th April 1704 when Henry and Ann Mills surrendered to the use of George Davey and a year later when he surrendered to the use of Edward Jaques of Ripley. On the latter occasion, the property was described as “all that messuage called by the name of the White Hart otherwise Waterhouse at the lower end of Ripley Street”. This was the first mention of the name White Hart and thereafter there were no mentions of the name Waterhouse.

The 1700s

On 13th October 1719, the Court recorded the surrender by Edward Jaques in favour of his son John Jaques and his wife Ann. The description of the property then began to record the names of sub-tenants quoting “all that messuage heretofore in the occupation of George Davey and now of Edward Goodchild and all that cottage, lately a barn pertaining to the White Hart and now in the occupation of Widow Flood”. At a Special Court Baron held on 12th July 1738, John Jaques of Ockham and Anne his wife surrendered both properties to the use of Thomas Mascall. There then seems to have been a dispute between Thomas Mascall and a George Page – a writ of entry – as a result of which John and Anne Jaques were re-admitted. Four years later, they made a conditional surrender (*a form of mortgage*) of the property to the use of Thomas Heath of Cobham, a carpenter, as security for a loan of £170 with the surrender to be void upon repayment. The record of 1758, referring to this loan, states that John and Anne Jaques had surrendered completely to Thomas Heath, that is, they had failed to repay.

On 11th April 1765, the Court recorded that Thomas Heath had made surrender for a mortgage (repaid in full on 14th October 1766) of “all that messuage formerly called the White Hart heretofore in the occupation of George Davey then of Edward Goodchild and now of William Heady and all that cottage thereto belonging before in the occupation of John Simpson then Elizabeth Simpson widow and now of George Faulkner”. This was the first use of the term

**THE FAMILIES AT THE WATERHOUSE AND THE WHITE HART
RIPLEY, SURREY
1611-1788**



“formerly” in the description. It may be that the later White Hart had by then been established at the later location in the High Street, more recently Sage Interiors.

Thomas Heath died in 1767 and three years later his son and heir came to the Court to be admitted to his father's property. However, the record stated that he was 16 years old and the estate was granted to his guardian, Sutton Porter, a brewer of Cobham. When he came of age in 1776, Thomas Heath junior surrendered the "messuage formerly called the White Hart now occupied by James Bonsey and the cottage formerly a barn now occupied by George Faulkner, to the use of William Ball the younger of Knaphill, gardener". In the following year, this William surrendered the properties to the use of Sarah Stratton of Ripley. James Bonsey was still in the "messuage formerly the White Hart" but, by then, William Ball the elder was living in the "cottage formerly a barn".

The next record in 1788 states that Arthur Fforbes of Ripley and Sarah his wife (*formerly the above Sarah Stratton, spinster*) surrendered the property "to the use of William Bissley forever" (*the use of the term 'forever' implies that that the deal was an outright sale*). On 8th April 1794, William Bissley, gardener of Ripley, surrendered his properties and it was at this point that the two were separated for the first time. The "messuage formerly part of the White Hart (*this was the first use of the term 'part of'*) in several occupations of Richard Crowder" was surrendered to William Baker, gardener of Ripley. The "cottage formerly a barn late in the occupation of William Bissley and then of William Peters" was surrendered to William Peters, glazier.

Part two will show how the two properties were separately recorded through the 1800s and how one of them was eventually demolished.

More Memories of Wartime - 1

The All-Clear that Wasn't

Gwen Puttock talks to Clare McCann

At the age of five Gwen King moved with her parents from Knaphill to 2 Acacia Villas, Ripley, and about two years later war broke out. Gwen was fortunate in one respect; her father did not go away to war. He worked for the GPO in a reserved occupation as he had to deal with emergency calls from hospitals.

Of an evening her father would sometimes cross the road for a drink at The Ship and on one occasion he was approached by Sid Green, the housing officer, who pointed out that the Kings had only one child and a relatively large house. The consequence was the arrival from Lambeth of the Mitchell family, who had been bombed out and were to stay from 1941 to 1945. At first there was Mr and Mrs Mitchell, their baby daughter Ann, and granddad. Mr Mitchell was still working in London but came down at weekends. The family occupied the top floor but had to share the kitchen, so it was fortunate that they all got on well. Later, Mrs Mitchell's brother and sister were also evacuated and joined the family. In fact, Gwen thinks another brother and his wife were bombed out but accommodated elsewhere in Ripley. At the end of the war Mr Mitchell, who worked for a Gas company, bought Gwen's family a new gas cooker as a thank you present and they kept in touch with the Mitchells for many years.

And so to the memorable night of the 'All Clear'... By 1940 the family had a shelter under an arch on the Green side of their house and it was large enough to accommodate several of the neighbours. A warning had caused everyone to go down into the shelter but eventually the ARP warden, 'Biz' Bashall, came round to say the 'All Clear' had been sounded and it was safe to leave. Luckily, the neighbours got home but Gwen and her mother were in the doorway, while her father, Eddie, was sitting on the wall having a cigarette, when a bomb exploded in the garden at the side of their house. Gwen was wrapped in a blanket, which she thinks saved her and her mother from being cut by the flying glass, but they were blown in through the door. Her father

said he was tossed in the air and the bomb also blew up the water main. The damage in the house reduced her mother, Elsie, to tears; the windows were blown out, the ceilings were all down and there was soot over everything. They did not actually have to leave the house while things were repaired as they had beds in the cellar where they could sleep.



Gwen outside her house on the Green

The next morning revealed that a bomb which had fallen during the previous night's raid (possibly the same raid that destroyed Rita Avery's house) had not detonated immediately, but had then exploded leaving a huge crater. Gwen's father could not get to work as his van was trapped by the debris and neighbours helped with the clean up, putting rubbish in the crater to fill it in.

Gwen shared a few other wartime memories, particularly of going to and from school for 'dinner'. On the day of the big raid on Vickers, Miss Pinnock from Pinnocks Café (currently Fashion Trapp) called out to Gwen, "Come on duck, I think you had better come in here" as she could hear the gunfire and see smoke in the sky. (Gwen felt some locals would also remember 'Scotty' who helped in the café.) She thinks the day she sheltered there was the day that the German pilot was brought into Dr Creet's (see Memories of War) and Gwen says they stood by the fence at school and were encouraged to 'boo' him. On other occasions at school, the siren would

sound and they would go down into the playground shelters. She remembers the anxiety and sometimes shaking, wondering what was going to happen. Even when playing out on the Green Gwen said she and her friends tended to play close to home.

Later in the war came the Doodlebugs and one landed on the Green. She says that because the danger came when the whine of the Doodlebug cut out, people would say "keep going, keep going" when they heard them. Of course they knew they would land somewhere but it was human nature to hope it would not be near you. Gwen was at St Bede's when the Doodlebug landed at Burnt Common, killing many of the Privett family, and remembers how terrible that was. When they heard the explosion the children were sheltering in the trenches round the school field as there were no proper shelters. One girl ran out of the school and ran home to make sure her family was safe.

Gwen, now Gwen Puttock, still lives in 2 Acacia Villas on Ripley Green and was kind enough to share her war memories. Sadly, she has no photographs of that time as she said few people had cameras and film of course was scarce.

N.B Gwen's mother, Elsie, was born Elsie Gunner and was one of seven. Her father was the school caretaker and is the man pictured on the front of the 'Pubs' book. She also told me that as well as being the Caretaker, he had an allotment on the land that is now occupied by the Village Hall. They were not then known as allotments, the area always being referred to as 'Garden Field'.

Members visit to the George Abbot Hospital, Guildford

Tuesday June 7th 2010

John Slatford

This visit took place 34 years after the Society's first visit shortly after our founding in 1975. After that occasion, our President at that time, Jim Oliver, wrote a personal appreciation of his thoughts about the Hospital. A transcript of Jim's article is attached to this report. Since that time there have been important changes, and much of our latest visit was taken up learning about these.

29 members were present for the tour and our guides, Marion Peters the Hospital's business manager, and Lucy Taylor a Hospital governor and a Society member, gave us a most interesting and instructive evening. One of the residents, Ian Henderson, also provided some anecdotal and amusing back-up.

Marion opened the evening with an introductory talk about how the Hospital has adapted to the needs and the problems of the present day. Between the years 2003 and 2007 over £500,000 was spent on the building itself which is Grade I listed and on refurbishing the residents' accommodation to bring everything up-to-date and in line with present day requirements. The money to achieve this was raised through various fund-raising activities and from a number of prominent charities. As with all buildings of this sort, there is a continuing programme of essential work for which fund-raising is also an ongoing need.

Much has been written about George Abbot but in brief he was born in Guildford in 1562 one of six sons of a cloth-worker and was educated at the Royal Grammar School. When aged 16 he went to Balliol College in Oxford, also entered the church and later became Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University. After James I became King, his career reached its zenith when, after being successively Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield and then of London, he became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1611. In the same year, the newly translated King James Bible was published in which Abbot had played a major part, perhaps largely due to his proficiency in the ancient languages in which the bible had originally been written.

Gradually, due to his rigid refusal to compromise his principles and to divisions within the Church of England, he lost favour with the King although he continued to hold high office. It was in 1619, that he decided to found his hospital in Guildford to be a gift "out of my love to the place of my birth". It was his intention to provide help for the elderly and the unemployed. For the elderly his objective has been enduringly successful but for the unemployed it was not to be, but of that more later. The Hospital was to house a Master, twelve brothers and eight sisters. They were to be unmarried, over 60 years of age, of good character and have been born in Guildford or lived in the town for at least 20 years. It was not until 1985 that the regulations were changed to allow married couples to be admitted. After the foundation stone was laid by Abbot on 6th April 1619, the first residents were admitted on 29th October 1622. Later changes in 1985 enabled the number of residents to be increased to 25 and we were told that because of a recent change another two residents will be joining in a week's time.

Increasingly, George Abbot became less and less influential with King James and within the church and he became even more undermined following a tragic accident in which, whilst hunting, he accidentally shot and killed a gamekeeper. Although pardoned, he withdrew from public life to his palace at Croydon where he died in 1633. He was brought back to Guildford to be buried in Holy Trinity Church. His magnificent tomb survived the collapse of the church in 1740 and is still to be seen in the rebuilt church today.



Abbot's Hospital, Guildford ca 1890-1900

Source: <http://www.histografica.com/view.aspx?p=k4fmoizf>

Following the introductory talk, our group was split into two. My group with Marion Peters assembled in the quadrangle where she described the general layout and features of the original building. We then moved to the rear of the building where we were told about the new wing which was built in 1984 in a style to complement the original. When completed the residents moved from the old building into the new to enable the old accommodation to be completely modernised. We were told about the small building on the west side of the garden area. This used to be the Porter's house but since the Hospital no longer has a resident porter, it has been converted to provide the accommodation to enable the number of residents to be increased to 27.

Our guide then drew our attention to the building facing North Street known as The Old Cloth Hall. This was built in 1629 for Abbot's plan to help the unemployed. The once powerful wool trade on which Guildford's prosperity depended was in severe recession resulting in many of the wool weavers being unemployed. Abbot's Manufactory, as it was known, was a place for training the unemployed to produce linen fabric. The venture was a failure and was eventually closed in the 1650s. It became a poor house and between 1856 and 1933 was Archbishop Abbot's School.



*Tomb of George Abbot by John and Mathias Christmas, London wood carvers and sculptors, 1635
 Reproduced by kind permission of Holy Trinity Church, Guildford
 Photography Roger Howes*

At the same time, the building was acquired by the Hospital and the income contributes to the charity's finances. For some years now it has been The Edinburgh Woollen Mill shop.

We next moved to the Chapel where the various features were described to us, especially the stained and painted glass windows on the north and east sides. These are very large in proportion to the size of the chapel and it is possible that they may have been brought from another building. The pews, not very comfortable, were brought from the old Holy Trinity Church across the High Street following its collapse. Adjacent to the Chapel is the Common Room where much of the furnishing, the tables and bench forms, are original. Here all meals would be taken and it was the centre of the Hospital communal life.

Our final move was to the Monmouth Room high up in the Gate House block and accessed via a steep wooden spiral staircase. This was originally the Hospital's strong room where all the title deeds and other valuables were kept. It was here that the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth spent one of his last nights whilst en route to his destiny with his uncle James II. In Jim Oliver's article he gives a detailed description of the events leading up to Monmouth's execution. Today, the room contains various artefacts relating to the Hospital's history.

I am sure it is true to say that we all thoroughly enjoyed a most interesting evening and that we are extremely grateful to our guides Marion Peters and Lucy Taylor and to Ian Henderson.

Transcribed from Newsletter No 8. April/May 1976

FURTHER NOTES ON THE VISIT TO ABBOT'S HOSPITAL – 14th FEBRUARY

The highly original approach of our guide to his task, and the highly appetising smell of a good English Saturday-Mid-Day dinner, which we were not invited to view, may have done a little to blur the true atmosphere of Abbot's Hospital, so perhaps these remarks are not so superfluous as they may seem. For me, two factors over-ride everything else in this place – the Architecture and the association with the Duke of Monmouth. This second is perhaps due to my roots, and therefore bias, in being closely connected with Dorset and Somerset, where the Monmouth drama was principally enacted.

When George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, decided to build his Hospital for his fellow creatures in his boyhood town, he did not build in the up-to-date style of the day, but looked backwards for a century or more, and a building grew which was obviously influenced by the great building adventures of his episcopal and archi-episcopal predecessors. Had he built in the style of the time, we should today see a building on more Classical lines, for Inigo Jones had already drawn up plans for The Queen's House at Greenwich for Anne of Denmark, Queen to James I, and as Abbot was active at James's Court, he must have known of these plans and other building revolutions that were afoot. Instead he preferred to build what is in effect a Court Yard House to the Tudor pattern, and to grace it with the last great Gate House to be built in England. This thing had been done before by Abbot's predecessors. Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, 1395-1486, built at Esher and Farnham, Archbishop Bouchier, 1404-1486, at Knole in Kent, Archbishop Warham, 1450-1532, at Malshanger in Hampshire and at Otford, Kent, Cardinal Wolsey at Hampton Court and Cardinal Morton, 1420-1500, at Hatfield. All these men had built houses of this pattern, and with the exception of Knole in Kentish ragstone, all were in brick. So

it is no surprise that for his new Hospital, Abbot chose the shallow bricks of the period, with a range of colours varying through all those of ripe plums to red roses, and capable of absorbing and reflecting the subtle changes of sunlight and shadow, and giving immense pleasure to the viewer who is prepared to look at them and really see them. They are also enhanced by the wide courses of slightly tinted mortar used to compensate for the irregularities in the firing and shape of the hand-made bricks and the total effect does nothing but give rich pleasure. All this is in the English Bond of brickwork, as the Flemish Bond was not yet introduced in England (at Kew Palace in 1631)..

However, Abbot decorated his Hospital in the accepted style of the time. The door cases and fireplaces have elaborate but correct Jacobean chamfer stops, the door furniture is contemporary, together with the trestle tables, benches and forms, and some original glazing remains, together with the fine chimneys together with their crow-step gabling, acting as a foil to the roof-line and the Gate House.

These features, and the fine scalloped round headed doors are admired by the 19th century authority, Ralph Nevill FSA, in his now rare book on the subject (*Old Cottage and Domestic Architecture in SW Surrey* 1889). He also admires the splendid staircase which we did not see and which gives access to the Master's Quarters and the Board room which are housed in the South Range and which contains the Gate House with its four octagonal corner towers.

The Facade facing the High Street presents an interesting example of good Architecture. The scale and symmetry of the most important range are achieved by bringing forward, by the width of a bay, the two end chambers to far right and far left of the Gate House and then raising the gables of these chambers above the roof line in the style called Shaped Gables and inserting windows into these gables. Thus a balance and sense of height are obtained and the Gate House prevented from completely overpowering the front of the building.

Shaped Gables of curved brickwork were first introduced into East Anglia via Kings Lynn from the Low Countries about 1600 and spread quickly. As a means of decoration they must not be confused with the Dutch Gable which followed about 1630 with the essential feature that it is crowned with a pediment. Abbot's Shaped Gables are thus a fairly early example of the fashion. Others exist locally at Brook Place, Chobham, and Ripley Manor House and a good Dutch Gable can be seen at Slyfield Manor, Fetcham.

The last features I wish to mention are in the south wall of the garden which opens from the North Range of the Hospital. These are arched recesses in the brickwork about the size of a Windsor chair and are Bee Bowls which housed small dome-shaped beehives of straw that helped the economy of the Hospital in two ways. Honey provided sweetening for culinary purposes before the advent of sugar from the Caribbean and the beeswax was used for the making of high quality candles for use in the Master's House and the Chapel. Bee Bowls must have been common at this time but now very few remain. Others in SE England can be seen at Fordwich and Kemsing in Kent and more at Gainsborough Old Hall in Lincolnshire.

The Jacobean staircase previously mentioned in the corner of the South Range leads to the Board Room on the first floor of the Gate House. Here James, Duke of Monmouth, spent the night of July 10th 1685 under heavy guard on his way to Whitehall to face his uncle James II after his

disastrous attempt to seize the English Crown which culminated in his execution five days later on July 15th.

James. Duke of Monmouth, was the first natural son of Charles II, then Prince of Wales, and was born to a girl named Lucy Walker in Rotterdam in 1649. Charles was kept in England by his father, Charles I, during the early stages of the Great Civil War and he was actually present with his father at the Battle of Edgehill in 1642 as a 12 year old. But when the Royalist cause took a turn for the worse in 1644, he was sent for safety first to the Scilly Isles and then to Jersey where the liaison with Lucy Walker was formed.

After the Restoration in 1660, Charles, now Charles II, soon brought back his son, married him to an heiress, Anne Duchess of Buccleuch, and gave him various appointments including that of Captain General in succession to General Monk. When Charles II died in 1685, his Catholic inclined brother succeeded him as James II and the protestant Duke became the willing or unwilling stooge of the astute statesman Anthony Ashley, Earl of Shaftsbury, who had used him in the Rye House plot in 1683 and convinced him of his claim to the Crown. After flight and a year in exile, he returned with a band of 80 followers to claim the Kingdom from his uncle. He landed on the Cob (still there) in Lyme Regis harbour in Dorset on June 11th 1685 and progressed through Dorset and Somerset collecting 2600 foot and 600 horse on the way. He was proclaimed King at Taunton and then sought out the force which James II had sent to take him. The armies clashed early on the morning of July 6th near Weston Zoyland on Sedgemoor. By 10 o'clock that morning Monmouth was in flight and the following day had reached Cranmore Chase making for a channel port and a ship to take him to safety. He obtained a shepherd's smock at Woodyates for a guinea and put on this disguise at the Woodyates Inn (which I remember being demolished as recently as 1971). But by now the hunt was properly on and by the time he had progressed less than three miles he was betrayed and word was passed to Sir William Portman, near Blandford, who dashed over with a troop of horse and took prisoner a whimpering young man hiding in a ditch under an ash tree in a pea field near Horton. The field is still called Monmouth's Ash and the old ash tree still carried a brass plate, suitably inscribed, until it fell some years ago. A young ash has been planted to replace it and the plaque refixed.

From the field on Cranbourne Chase, the unfortunate man was taken on horseback, with arms tied behind him, back to confront his uncle in Whitehall and passed that one night in the Gatehouse of George Abbot's Hospital in Guildford.

It is said that he grovelled before the King and offered to embrace the Catholic faith but to no avail. I think Thomas Babington Macaulay in Vol. I of his History of England says that the execution of Monmouth was not one of the more clean and tidy sort and that Monmouth did not show at the last much of that stubborn courage that was such a characteristic of the House of Stuart in spite of all their other failings.

Sedgemoor was the last battle fought on English soil. Dorset and Somerset were then scourged by a wave of judicial slaughter under Judge Jeffreys that is still spoken of with horror in that part of England and so the Realm entered the last 30 years of the Stuart era.

These are some of my thoughts at Abbot's Hospital on February 14th.

Jim Oliver

Correspondence

A Letter from David Porter re the Send Hill bomb crater:

In the wake of Clare McCann's recent book on World War 2 may I draw the Society's attention to the bomb crater still evident in the sand pits on Send Hill (in the triangle between Bush Lane, St Bede's school and the Send Hill road).

The sand pits, or 'Sandies' as they are known locally, have been the focus of media attention in recent months and have been the subject of controversy. Perhaps if the exact location of the crater were made known to more people it would generate more interest. Local schoolboys, such as I was, rode bicycles through this crater, which was known to us as 'Devil's Leap'. This was an apt name as it did claim a few victims. The site today is very overgrown and the hole is much smaller than it was.

Is it unreasonable to suggest the site be cleared? A school project, perhaps?

Feedback through the Journal would be welcomed.

~~~~~

### **Your society needs you....**

The history society urgently needs a publicity officer. There is no necessity for the publicity officer to be a committee member unless they wish to be. However, they would need access to the internet to liaise with the Committee. The aim would be to build up a database of useful addresses eg. Surrey Ad., Woking News and Mail, local schools etc. To arrange for flyers or posters to be distributed and generally promote the Society's events or exhibitions. Once we have created a system then the role should hopefully not be too onerous. If you feel like volunteering, please ring Les Bowerman on 01483 224876 or me on 01483 728546.

*Clare McCann (SRHS Vice-Chairman)*

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Help urgently Wanted

Dear Member/s

I am asking for your help in organising a float for Ripley Bonfire Celebrations in October. We have been offered by a local company the use of a flat back lorry, which can be driven by anyone over 25 with a clean licence. The theme of the procession is Victorian professions and leisure activities. I will be dressing as a 'Robin', as Victorian postmen were then known because the uniform was red. Other volunteers in costume are required for our float.

I will need help with organising /design/ preparation/and any other thing which may crop up so I would like to form a committee/group of enthusiastic volunteers to ensure that the float is ready for the bonfire.

If you or anybody you know would like to be involved, please contact me on 01483 479647 (home), 07804897628 (mobile), or ajones681@tiscali.co.uk (email) .

Andrew Jones (SRHS Committee member)

Visit to Butser Ancient Farm Tuesday 11th May

Butser Ancient Farm is not in fact a prehistoric farm. The project dates from 1970 when the British archaeological world decided to adopt a programme of education and research by creating an experimental working “ancient farm”. The idea has been to use all available archaeological evidence from various sites to work out by informed trial and error how a prehistoric farm used to operate in Celtic and Roman times 2000 years ago.

The first site, at little Butser, opened in 1974. Work continued there for fifteen years although a second site, more accessible to the public, was started in 1976 at nearby Hillhampton Down. Finally, the project moved in its entirety to Bascomb Copse, off Chalton Lane, Chalton, in 1991. It is easily accessed, being around a mile from the A3 trunk road shortly after Butser Cutting.

On the approach to the farm can be seen a flock of Soay sheep. The name is from an island off the coast of Scotland. This breed is probably the only living example of the small, primitive sheep living in the British Isles before the coming of the Norsemen. They were widespread before the Roman occupation. The other sheep at Butser, the Manx Loaghtan, are rare and very distinctive with the double set of horns which many of them have.

Among the structures at the farm, too detailed to describe here, are several ‘round houses’, one of which can be seen in the accompanying photograph by John Creasey. With their thatched roofs, curved walls and convex floors, they are remarkably successful at retaining the heat from the central fire, resisting the wind and keeping out the damp. Also, on the site is a very fine experimental ‘Roman Villa’.



Our party is very grateful to our guide, Maureen Page, a director of the project, for her expert and stimulating commentary.



*S&RHS members at Butser
from left to right: John Slatford, Joy Carter, Barbara Tinkler, Hazel Creasey, Maureen Page (our professional guide and a director of the Butser Project), Janice Hurdle, Phil Carter, Les Bowerman, Michael Morris, Anne Bowerman, Irene Bleach, Bob Stonard, Eileen Fowler, Kate Burgess (New Zealand friend of the Bowermans) and John Butler*

Acquisition of Surrey Archaeological Collections

Phyllis Bourne has very kindly donated to the Society Ken's complete set of the Surrey Archaeological Collections from the first volume in 1858 up to 2004 (less two which seem to be missing, and which it may be possible to replace). Included are three volumes of indexes, and each volume has its own index, so it is easy to look up all the references, say to Newark Priory or to Send church.

The intention is that, for the foreseeable future, the collection will be kept on a long shelf in the storeroom at the Methodist church. For the information of members unfamiliar with the scope of the Surrey Archaeological Society's interests, there is a very great deal of local history in these books. For the time being anyone wishing to look at any of the books should contact me.

We are very grateful to Phyllis for this wonderful donation which makes our reference library very much more comprehensive than it was already.

Les Bowerman, Chairman



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The outings to the Butser Ancient Farm site at Chalton and The Abbot's Hospital in Guildford were well attended and, by the time the current Journal is delivered, we shall also have explored the older part of Midhurst and the ruins of Cowdray House on the 8th July.

Details of our autumn talks are given below but, meanwhile, do make sure you see the current exhibition, "Football – The Beautiful Game," on the history of football in Send & Ripley. The Museum is open from 10.00 to 12.30 on Saturdays and on the third Sunday of every month to coincide with the Antiques Fair in the Ripley Village Hall. The Museum also houses the Society's library and books from the lending library may be borrowed by members. A reminder that our indoor meetings are held in the Ripley Village Hall Annexe, starting at 8.00pm.

Saturday, 24th July – The Ripley Event. Look out for the Society's stall where our books and publications will be on sale from 12.00 onwards. There will also be a display on the history of Send and Ripley.

Saturday, 21st August – Conducted tour around Ripley High Street by our President, John Slatford. Meet at 2.00 for 2.30 at Ripley Village Hall. Entry fee for the tour £5.00 to include tea and biscuits after the walk. This is a fund-raising event in aid of the new Village Hall Building Fund. The tour is open to all. Children under 16 free.

Sat/Sun 11th/12th September – Guildford Heritage Weekend. As in previous years it will be Open Day at the museum on Saturday morning (no change there, then, except possibly a few balloons). On the Saturday afternoon, starting at 2 pm, John Slatford and Les Bowerman will give guided tours of Ripley.

Wednesday, 15th Sept. – "Romans in the South East", an illustrated talk by Judy English.

Wednesday, 20th October – "The Surrey Swing Riots", a talk by Judith Hill.

Saturday, 30th October – Surrey Local Symposium at Chertsey Hall, Chertsey. The theme is "Surrey - London's Playground 1850-1950". Our Chairman will be one of the speakers and the Society will have a display.

Saturday, 6th November – West Surrey Family History Day at Woking Leisure Centre. The Society will have a stall with Parish Register transcripts, census returns, etc., from our Reference Library available for research.

For further details of any of our events, please ring me, Anne Bowerman, Programme Secretary. Tel: 01483 224876.

Journal Contributions: Closing date for the next issue is Monday 16th August.

Will authors of illustrated articles please submit **original photographic prints** if at all possible to ensure reasonably good reproduction in the Journal



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**Contact Les Bowerman on 01483-224876
if you require further information or wish
to help in the museum.**

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

'Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life' (Reprinted 1998 and 2006)	£10.00
'Guide to The Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Send'	£1.25
'Then and Now, A Victorian Walk Around Ripley' (Reprinted 2004&7)	£4.00
'The Straight Furrow', by Fred Dixon	£1.50
'Ripley and Send – Looking Back' (Reprinted 2007)	£9.00
'A Walk About Ripley Village in Surrey' (Reprinted 2005)	£2.00
'Newark Mill Ripley, Surrey'	£3.00
'The Hamlet of Grove Heath Ripley, Surrey' (Reprinted 2005)	£4.00
'Ripley and Send – An Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures'	£6.00
'Two Surrey Village Schools - The story of Send and Ripley Village Schools'	£10.00
'The Parish Church of St Mary Magdalen Ripley, Surrey'	£5.00
'Memories of War'	£8.00

All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of 'Ripley & Send Then & Now', 'Two Surrey Village Schools' and 'Memories of War' can also be obtained from Send Post Office. All publications are available via the Society's website www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk



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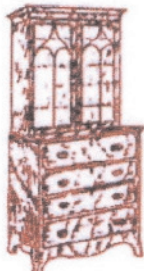
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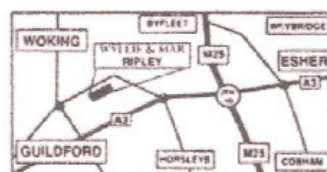
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