

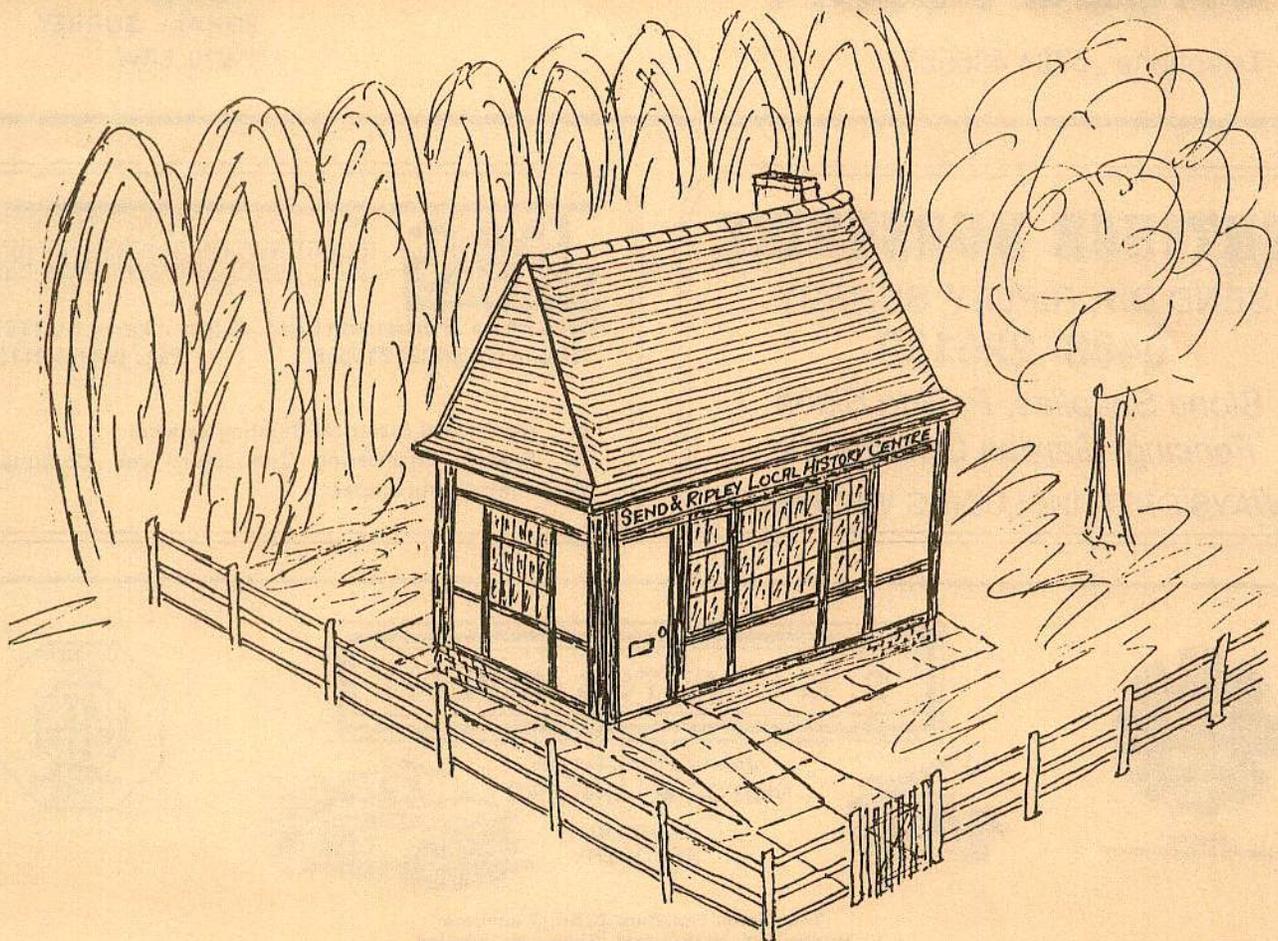
# Send & Ripley History Society



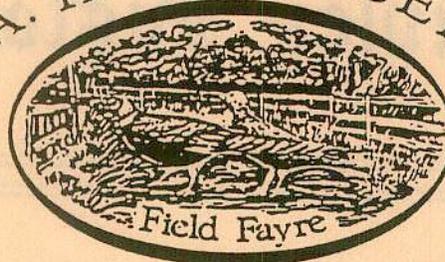
Newark Priory

Newsletter No.103

March/April 1992



A. H. CONISBEE

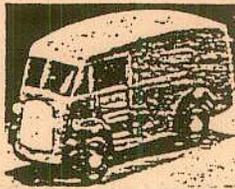


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# Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society

Registered Charity No 296324

**President: Mr L G Bowerman**

The Manor House, Send Marsh Green, Ripley, Woking GU23 6JL (Gfd 224876)

**Chairman: Mr J Slatford**

St George's Farmhouse, High Street, Ripley, Woking GU23 6AF (Gfd 222107)

**Secretary: Mrs A Sykes**

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**Treasurer: Mrs P Medlen**

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**Newsletter Editor: Mr K H Bourne**

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March/April 1992

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**Cover Illustration:** This is a drawing, produced by John Slatford, showing the new Local History Centre as visualised by John in its new position near the Ripley Village Hall.

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

Readers will notice that this Newsletter has a slightly different appearance, due to the need to "tidy up" the advertising to incorporate new material in a more interesting way. We are grateful for the continued support of our advertisers and hope that Newsletter readers will take the opportunity of referring to this publication whenever they are in touch with them.

I have also taken the opportunity of simplifying the front page slightly by using a larger image of Newark Priory as the Society's Logo. This was chosen for two reasons: this building, being probably the oldest in the area, also represents an administration that was responsible for both Send and Ripley and is therefore appropriate to the Society, which also covers the two parishes. The second reason is that this building also forms the Society's Logo on its letterheads.

As many of our members are aware, at the AGM we acquired a new President. We are all delighted that Les Bowerman has agreed to take up this office, which seems entirely appropriate since he was the founder of the Society and has been an indefatigable member as its Secretary until very recently, and at all times a keen supporter of the Society's many activities. Since Les has written his own comment in the Newsletter, it only remains for us to wish Les every success in his new role as President.

The Newsletter is also distinguished by the fact that our Chairman, John Slatford, is able to report on the Society's acquisition of a new Local History Centre. Although situated in Ripley, it is, of course, for the benefit of the members of the Society from both Send and Ripley parishes, and it is hoped that the Centre will be used for exhibits and other functions which will portray not only features which are common to both parishes, but matters which are unique to each.

The acquisition of a Local History Centre is undoubtedly an important milestone in the development of your History Society. Please support it in any way you can, either with help and assistance in the decoration of the building, or in providing a donation of money towards its initial refurbishment and subsequent maintenance.

## SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY CENTRE

By John Slatford

In our last Newsletter, we gave a background account of our plans for this project. Since then, much has happened. The Natwest building has been handed over, and arrangements are in hand to move it to the new site on 26 April 1992. The drawing on the front cover is an impression of how it will appear eventually.

Planning approval has been given to relocate to the Ripley Village Hall car park, and the agreement between the bank and the Village Hall has been completed. At the Society's AGM on 26 February, there was a lively debate on your Committee's proposal for the project and many questions were asked. Eventually, the vote was heavily in favour of going ahead. The Committee greatly appreciates the support being given by the membership.

Much of the AGM debate was about how it would be possible to pay for the project. For the benefit of those not able to be present, we feel that a further explanation is needed.

The cost of the work to be done has been carefully considered, and we estimate that between £5000 and £6000 will be needed just to establish the building on its new site. Of this amount, about £3000 will be spent on the actual moving operation by a contractor. The rest is necessary to prepare the new foundation, provide an electricity supply and to fence off and secure the present bank site. A number of fund raising activities are being planned, including an invitation (with this Newsletter) to all of our members to subscribe towards the cost. We hope you will be able to help, however small or large contributions might be.

In various ways, we are optimistic about raising the money needed to cover the initial expenditure and, subsequently, the cost of refurbishing and of provision of equipment for the building. The latter could amount to a further £5000. It is important to remember,

however, that the Society is, at present, in quite a strong financial position and that it would be possible to use up to £3000 of our reserve towards the project. Also, the Village Hall Committee has offered to help with a short term loan if needed. Your Committee believes that, having established the building on its new site, further work should, within reason, only be undertaken as and when funds are available. Hopefully, this will not be a problem, so that it will be possible to open our new Centre "for business" in the not too distant future.

We are anxious to gain as much publicity as possible before, during and after the move. To this end Alistair MacMillan has agreed to act as our Public Relations Officer. We are most grateful to him for helping us in this way. Similarly, Derek Bromley is undertaking the supervision of the preparatory work before the move and, hopefully, the refurbishing programme to follow.

There is a great deal of work to be done before the moving day, but, all being well, everything will be ready in time. The day itself should be one to remember.

## THE SITE OF THE NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK IN RIPLEY

By Bette Slatford

An indenture, dated 23 February 1804, states "William Heady of Ripley, butcher, stands lawfully possessed of a certain piece of land lying on the side of Ripley Green, in front of the High Road, measuring 22 feet east to west and 41 feet 6 inches north to south; upon which piece of ground William Heady hath erected and built a messuage in which he now dwells. And the said William Heady having occasion for the sum of £130 hath requested Richard Greenwood, pawnbroker of Marylebone to lend him and advance him the same, with the premises in way of mortgage".

This is the first reference we have found to what is now the bank site. Before then, the land was probably part of Ripley Green.

Twenty-four years later, another indenture (9 May 1828) explains "Alexander Holderness of Colnbrook, Berkshire, carpenter, the surviving executor of the last will and testament of Hannah Greenwood, deceased, who was the sole executrix of the last will and testament of Richard Greenwood, her late husband, deceased, of the one part and William Heady of Ripley, labourer, the eldest son and heir of William Heady, butcher on the other part. Whereas by an Indenture of Mortgage dated 1804, William Heady doth sell unto Richard Greenwood 'All that messuage etc.' and whereas default was made in the payment and whereas Richard Greenwood has died, his will dated 15 October 1811, bequeathed to Hannah Greenwood, his wife, interest and principal money due and owing upon the security of the above mentioned Indenture, 26 April 1823. William Heady, butcher, died March 1814, intestate, leaving eldest son William Heady, labourer. Hannah Greenwood died July last.

This Indenture witnesseth, etc, and Alexander Holderness does surrender unto William Heady all that messuage as above".

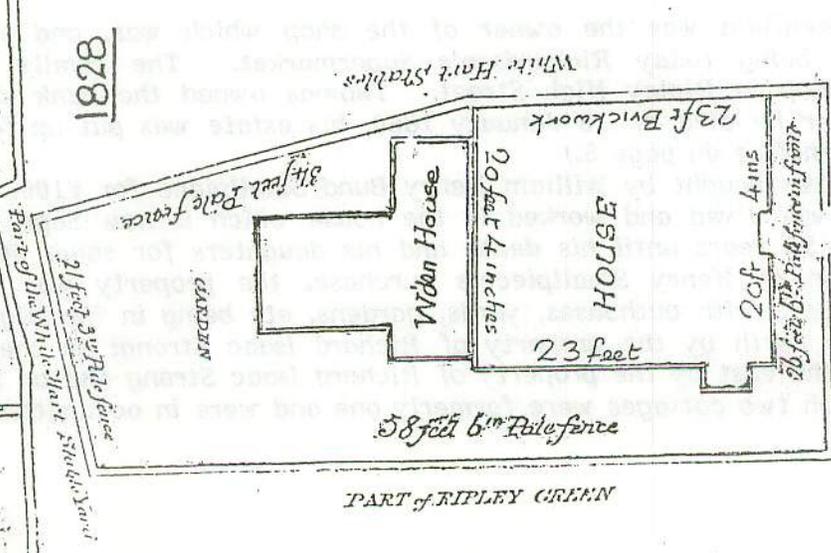
A deed, also May 1828, tells us that Charlotte Heady, widow of the late William Heady, butcher, was still living there and that her son, William Heady, labourer, sold the property to Thomas Greenfield, grocer, for £140; thus he was able to pay off the debt.

Thomas Greenfield was the owner of the shop which was, and still is, the village grocery store; being today Richardson's Supermarket. The family were also drapers with another shop in Ripley High Street. Thomas owned the bank site house for over 30 years. After he died on 18 January 1860, his estate was put up for sale by auction. (See "For Sale" notice on page 5.)

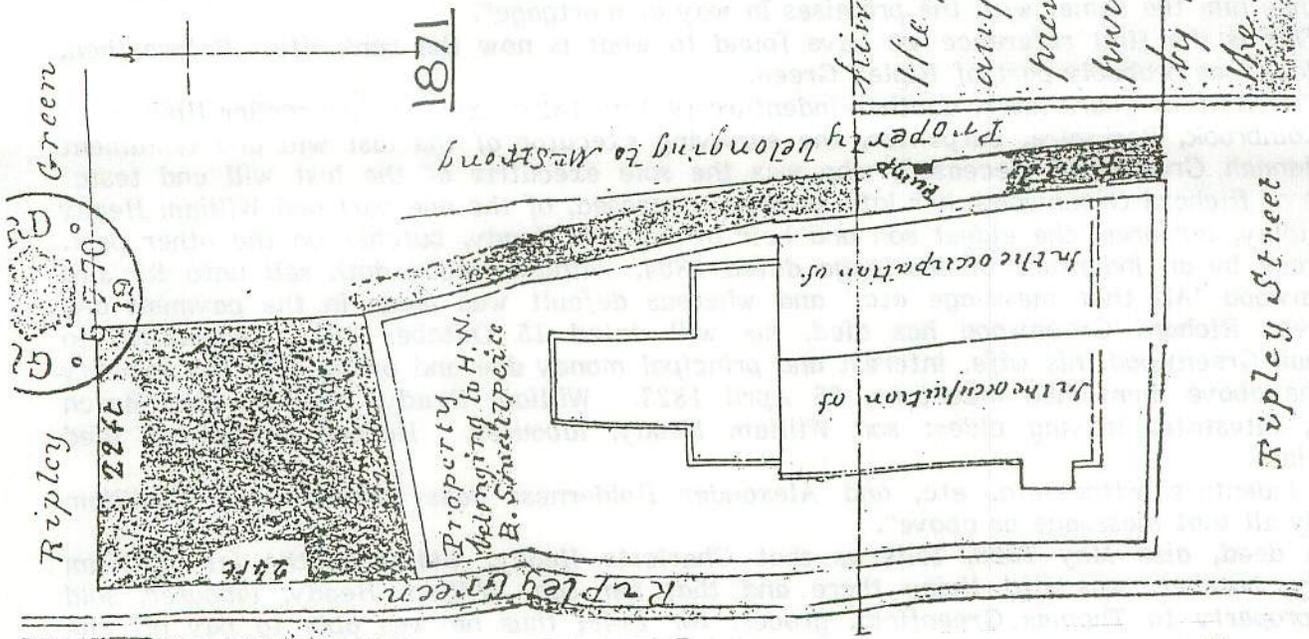
The house was bought by William Henry Bund Smallpiece for £100. Henry Smallpiece was a saddler who lived and worked in the house which is now Sage Antiques. He was there for over 50 years until his death and his daughters for some 30 years afterwards.

At the time of Henry Smallpiece's purchase, the property was described as "all those two cottages with outhouses, yards, gardens, etc being in the High Street in Ripley, bounded on the north by the property of Richard Isaac Strong; on the south side by the High road; on the east by the property of Richard Isaac Strong and on the west by Ripley Green; and which two cottages were formerly one and were in occupation of William Heady,

Path bargain  
 objects located  
 from east to west  
 1875



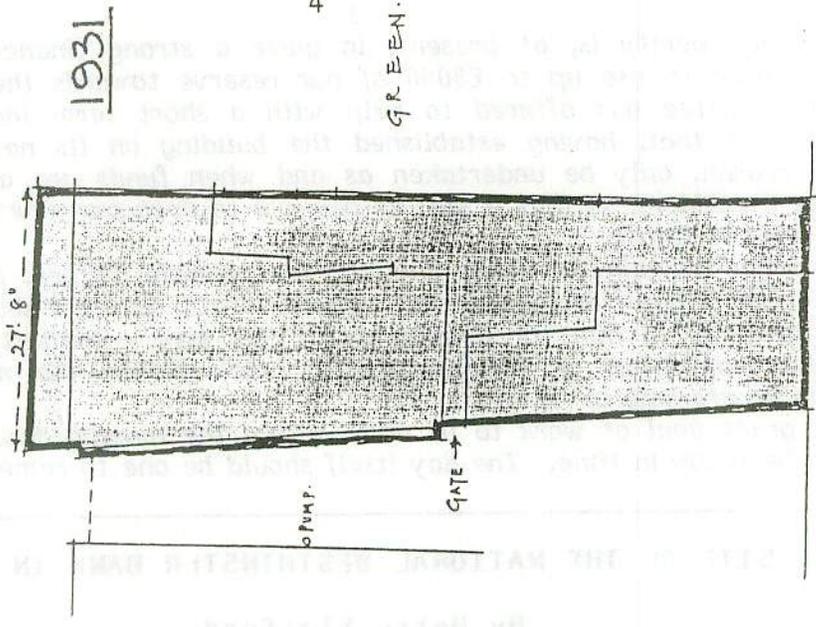
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EXTRACT FROM THE AUCTION CATALOGUE, 1862.

afterwards of the said Thomas Greenfield and are now in several occupations of William Heady and John Faggoter". This William Heady was the son of the original William Heady. He and John Faggoter had lived in the two cottages as tenants for many years prior to the purchase by Henry Smallpiece. They both died in 1870.

In 1871, Henry Smallpiece bought the piece of land on the north of the property from Richard Strong for £5. He died on 10 November 1876, aged 83, and left his estate to his two spinster daughters, Mary Ann and Rose Smallpiece.

Mary Ann died in 1892 leaving her share to her sister Rose. In 1908, Rose sold the houses to James and Owen Hugh Tedder, who were the village grocers. They were the sons of William Tedder, who had acquired the village grocery after the death of Thomas Greenfield. The Tedders' business continued until the end of the First World War when it became the International Stores.

James Tedder died in 1928, leaving his share to his brother. A year later, on 11 June 1929, Owen Hugh Tedder sold "all those two Bungalow cottages, stable and other outbuildings and land" to the Westminster Bank Ltd for £400. The two cottages were eventually demolished and the present bank building was erected on the site. It remained as a focal point of the village, latterly as the National Westminster Bank, until 1991 when, after being under threat for some time, it closed on 30 September.

It was realised that the bank intended to sell the site for redevelopment and the Village Hall Committee Chairman made an approach to the bank with the idea of saving the building. As a result, the bank has donated the building to Ripley Village Hall on condition that it is removed from its present site by the end of April 1992.

Our thanks are due to Natwest Estate Management & Development Ltd, in Crawley, for allowing access to their files in order to study the title deeds.

### 17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY FEBRUARY 26 1992

The meeting was well attended, 40 members being present. Our Chairman, John Slatford, gave his report on the past year, with particular mention of a very successful visit to Brooklands Museum, and our break with tradition by having the Christmas social at the Cart Lodge Restaurant. This proved popular with those who attended and may point the way to future socials, taking the burden of organisation from the few who run them year after year at the Village Halls.

John spoke of our latest publication, "Newark Mill", and said we had others planned for future years. He then expressed his warmest thanks to Chris and Geoff Parker,

who continue their invaluable help with the production of the Newsletter, and to the members of the Committee for their support.

Patricia Medlen, Treasurer, presented the annual accounts, showing a satisfactory situation of surplus of income over expenditure (a set of accounts are included with the Newsletter). Patricia thanked Peter Spinder for his auditing of the accounts.

Audrey Sykes, Secretary, spoke briefly on the activities of the various groups within the Society, and the Society's participation in the Surrey Local History Council Symposium, Send Scouts Fete and Dog Show and the Flower Festival at St Mary's Church, Ripley.

There was then a proposal by John Slatford that in recognition of all his work for the Society, in fact founding it in the first place, Les Bowerman be elected President. This was seconded by Doris Bradley, and agreed by all present.

The main part of this year's AGM was to put to the meeting the proposal that we have a Local History Centre, a longstanding ambition and now a possibility, thanks to the donation to Ripley Village Hall by the Natwest Bank of their now redundant building in the High Street.

John outlined the negotiations that had been going on over the past few weeks and produced estimates regarding its removal to a new foundation at the rear of the Village Hall car park. Graham Jowett, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, said he was sure we would regret the loss of opportunity, unless action were taken now, especially in view of the fact that we have, for many years, been seeking, unsuccessfully, just such a building.

There were many queries regarding the removal, cost of maintenance, security, insurance, Community Charge, etc, and the proposal was thoroughly aired. Audrey Sykes then proposed that the project should go ahead. This was seconded by Elizabeth Nunn and Bette Slatford. The floor voted 35 for, none against. The remainder, abstentions, were Bob Gale and Peter Spinder, who voiced doubts about the project.

The meeting then continued with the election of officers for the coming year.

Those elected were John Slatford, Chairman, proposed by Ken Bourne, seconded by Lyn Mileham; Tony Medlen, Vice-Chairman, proposed by John Slatford, seconded by George Bleach; Patricia Medlen, Treasurer, proposed by John Slatford, seconded by Mavis Lake; Audrey Sykes, Secretary, proposed by John Slatford, seconded by Joyce Mills. The Committee was re-elected en bloc, with the exception of Terry Hewitt, who did not wish to stand again this year. The Committee comprises Ken Bourne, Anne Bowerman, Bob Gale, Bette Slatford and Ted Goldup. These were proposed by Lyn Mileham and seconded by Jane Bartlett. Ken Bourne proposed, and Bette Slatford seconded, George and Irene Bleach as additional members to the Committee.

After a short interval for refreshments, the meeting heard an interesting talk by Geoff Paine on the setting up and running of a museum.

Audrey Sykes, Hon Secretary

### A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

When the Society was founded in January 1975, we had no President. The first constitution, which was adopted the following year, made provision for such a post and Jim Oliver was elected to fill it. He was ideal, as his family had been farming in Send since 1934 and he had a wealth of local knowledge, as well as being a historian who had specialised in vernacular buildings and farming history. In spite of a local reputation for being "cantankerous", he was to the fledgeling Society an invaluable mentor in setting us on the right lines, an inspiring teacher to the rest of us, who were mostly novices in the field of local history, and a delightful guide on our outings to places of historic interest. After leading us for seven years, Jim parted company with the Society. Since then there has been nobody of anything like his stature who could have filled the position.

As more years have now passed without a President than we previously had with one, memory of how Jim dominated the Society with his experience, knowledge and force of personality has faded, and we now have a stimulating new challenge with the museum. The Committee therefore felt it was time to fill the position again. Thus it was that at the recent AGM, which will doubtless be reported elsewhere in this issue, I was elected to the post. Newer members may not be aware that I was responsible for forming the Society, edited the Newsletter for 11 years and was Secretary for 15.

I would be the first to agree that I do not have anything like the knowledge and experience that our first President had, although I have lived in the area of Woking and Guildford for all of my (nearly) 60 years (four at Prey Heath, Mayford, 20 at Kingfield Green, 10 at Jacobs Well, 11 at Send Hill and now 14 at Send Marsh). My ancestral connection with the area goes back to at least the 18th century, Richard Stevens having married Martha Sudsbury in Pirbright Parish Church in 1812, "both of this parish", and therefore born in the parish before 1800. I suppose I always had a faint interest in local history, but my real enthusiasm for it dates from the time I joined Mayford History Society (as it was then) in 1973, inspired, it has to be confessed, by their book "And So to Mainford", a "diary" which turned out to be a hoax.

There is no way I could fill the shoes of Jim Oliver and I do not intend to try. The lead I hope I shall provide is to encourage our officers and members to work together as never before, to endeavour to bring out the enthusiasm without which you would not have joined, to get you to delve into and record our local heritage, and, above all, to help see our exciting museum/Local History Centre project come to fruition. That means some small commitment from all of you according to your circumstances, even if only to keep your eyes peeled and your ears unfurled for possible items to add to our existing collection, to offer a couple of hours now and again to help staff the museum when we are open, or to assist in some way with the initial fund-raising which is required for moving the building and setting it up.

Exciting times, indeed!

Les Bowerman

### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following members:

Mr & Mrs David and Anne Methold, Gable Lodge, Dormer Cottage, Portsmouth Road, Ripley.

Mrs Jean Turner, (rejoined), 89 Send Road, Send.

Mrs Karina Rowland, Woodhill Farm Cottage, Woodhill, Send.

Mr & Mrs S Rubin (rejoined), Mill House, Newark Mill, Ripley.

With a number of subscriptions still not renewed, it would be pointless giving totals at this stage. It would be appreciated if those yet to renew would please do so as a matter of priority, as the Society needs all that can be rustled together, to pay for removal and setting up of the old Natwest Bank building as a museum. Vigorous recruiting is also required, to ensure that we remain fully viable in the months and years ahead, so please see if you can enroll friends, neighbours and anyone else interested in local history or in seeing the museum project succeed. A sum of £4 for an individual or £6 for a couple is not a great deal for most these days - if potential members do not wish to be too involved in the Society, regard it as a donation for the museum, with six copies of the Newsletter a year in return.

Les Bowerman

### 100 YEARS AGO

#### Extracts from "Cycling" 1892

(provided by Les Bowerman)

**March 26.** "There was a wild sprint into Ripley Village on Sunday, and as the road fliers turned their wheels into the stable yard of the 'Anchor', the local constable rushed in after them, determined to capture some of the lawbreakers. He was however baffled. The inhabitants of the quiet Surrey village are, however, getting very tired of this Sabbath Day scorching, and it is probable something more serious will happen shortly, as the police mean to put a check on it."

**April 16.** "Miss Annie Dibble, we are glad to say, is now quite well again, and the 'Anchor' is itself once more."

**April 30.** "There are few more enjoyable experiences than a ride along the famous

Ripley Road in the cool of such an evening as that of Saturday last. The road was at its best, and the ease with which the wheels spun over the smooth surface" (not yet tarred - LGB) "was surprising. The sweet smell of the fir-trees and the scented breeze borne across the commons exhilarated and seemed to lift one's thoughts above all things mundane, until back into town, when the very mundane process of steak-worrying occupied the attention of our man, who had contracted a surprising hunger from his evening' spin."

(A hundred years later, if our man above was alive to witness the event, he would see, alongside our members, the unique prospect of a Ripley building taking a turn along the famous Ripley Road. No doubt "steak-worrying" could be just as popular on that occasion when the building finally finds its new home - Editor.)

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## RIPLEY FAMILY

By Jane Bartlett

We have been able to put a name to the photograph from the "Parish Collection" entitled "Ripley Family". It is that of Mr and Mrs Robert Townsend, taken about 1900 with five of their nine children. The baby on her mother's lap is Rose Bird, now aged 92. They lived in the left of the two clapboard cottages in Rose Lane, where the entrance to White Hart Court now is. In the picture on page 39 in "Then and Now", we see not only the cottage, but also Rose and her bicycle, standing with her mother and younger sister against the old school wall (now the British Legion). Rose used this bike to teach the younger children in Rose Lane to ride, for which they paid her 2d. It was the school wall that they first used as a "balancer". During her own childhood (the infant school having closed in 1890 to become part of the new National School), the building was used by Doug White, the carrier, to store furniture, and he used the yard at the back as his coal yard.

Rose worked at Vickers (Weybridge) during both the First and Second World Wars making machinery, but as her mother was worried about the danger of bombing, Dr Ralli Creet got permission for her to leave essential war work for "health reasons". At this time Westminster Hospital was using Ripley Court as a maternity annexe, and three local girls were needed to help with the babies, do the mending, and look after the two nursing sisters who were in the cottage next door to her home. This work she loved. After the War, Rose cycled daily to Send Manor where she worked for the Stewarts for 15 years. She later married Mr Bird, the Stewarts' chauffeur, who was then a widower.

As a child, she used to do errands for Miss Dedman, the schoolteacher who lived next door. In return she got given rock hard fairy cakes, made by the children at school in their cookery class. Every morning, before school, she collected the skimmed milk from Dunsborough and a shilling's worth of "pieces" from the butcher. She remembers the Christmas party at school, where you had a bun, an orange and a mug of lemonade made with powder (you took your own mug). Her summer holidays were mainly spent on Wisley Common gathering "fern" for winter bedding for the pigs. The boys used the hook, the girls stuffed the sacks, and later Mrs Heath, the blacksmith's wife, came over with a pony and trap to help them bring it home.

Rose's mother told her about the Goose Fair which was held on the small green opposite the "Talbot". The day after the fair, the women of Ripley collected the feathers, then baked them in a cool oven to get rid of any parasites, before using them to make pillows.

The second picture shown here is that of the wedding of her brother, Robert Townsend, to Lilian Maud Worsfold of Merrow. Her elder sister, Bertha, was the bridesmaid. Her brother, Harry, on the extreme left of the picture, used to live in the cottage opposite the "White Hart" (see page 24 in "Then and Now"), later replaced by the bank building (now, in its turn, to be replaced). Two daughters of Robert and Lilian, Mrs Hack and Mrs Tressider, still live in Ripley.



## Mr COLENSO (LEN) SMALLBONE

Len Smallbone died at his daughter, Jean's, home in the early hours of February 4. He was 90 years old. A familiar figure in the village, in his younger days he was a member of Send Church choir, carrying the Processional Cross. He kept in touch with village life and was always ready to have a chat with anyone from his garden at 1 Tannery Lane, Send.

Len was born on 30 January 1902, in 2 Weyside Villas, which were situated between the two town bridges in Guildford. He was one of a large family of 11 children, the boys being named after the Crimean and Boer War battles: Ernest, Inkerman, Balaclava, Sebastepol and Colenso. He remembered walking to St Nicholas Church in Guildford to be baptised with his younger brother and sister. His parents moved to Shalford and the children then went to school at Chilworth. Len's mother was a Dallen who was niece to a Mayor of London, Sir Neville Grenville. One of Len's fellow pupils was later to become the grandfather of my son-in-law, Stephen. It's a small world. Len sang in the church choir and pumped the organ at Shalford Church, and although life was not always easy for them at times, they were very resilient, and all the family lived to a ripe old age except one brother, Balaclava, who was killed in the 1914 war.

The first job Len had was on the railway in the 1914-18 war. It was customary for new employees to pay forfeits, such as cigarettes for the men, and if you did not, you were left hanging by your feet, or bags of water were dropped down the chimney on to unsuspecting heads. He had to travel to Deepcut, and later his father got him apprenticed to a plumber and this started his career with water. While working at Dapdune Works in Guildford, they thought he had potential and sent him to Woking Water & Gas Company, where he became the first lorry driver. His vehicle was a Model T Ford lorry, complete with carbide lamps. He remained with the company for 47 years.

He lived in Woking after joining the company, and whilst out cycling with a mutual friend, he met my mother, Edith, nee Faithfull. They were subsequently married in 1927 and moved into Lucas Cottages (these were later renumbered as No 1, etc, Tannery Lane). Both my brother, Michael, and I were born there. Dad, with his father-in-law, Henry Faithfull, and brothers-in-law, were members of the handbell ringing team and travelled around the area ringing the bells at Christmastime, where, in some of the larger establishments, they were given refreshments - all very enjoyable, but with the coming of the Second World War, this stopped.

During the War, my father worked in the water industry, as a reserved occupation, and did a great deal of travelling in Southern England to give assistance to carry out repairs after heavy raids had destroyed services. He often invited in Servicemen who were on point duty and stationed in the village, many of whom became friends, and some still correspond with the family to this day. He was a keen gardener and had allotments where Sandfields now stands, where he grew his own vegetables. Although the war years were hard for everyone, there was also a great feeling of comradeship and friendliness in the village, and my father often recalled how, with a neighbour, they would be engaged in fire watching, which entailed walking along Tannery Lane, often seeing German planes going over on their way to London.

In 1948, after the death of my brother, Michael, he became a member of the church choir and served with four vicars and rarely missed attending the services, morning and evening, up to about two years ago. He recalled singing carols at Christmas, the collection over a two year period being used to purchase new robes for the choir.

Since my father's retirement in 1967, he was able to devote more time to his garden, particularly as he was presented with a new greenhouse by his employers. Being next to the Post Office, he got to know many people, and always had a friendly work for anyone willing to stop and have a chat. He enjoyed reading biographies and historical books and anything about gardening. He was particularly interested in the new developments in gardens shown on the television.

On 30 January he celebrated his 90th birthday with his friends and family and received over 100 cards, which he read very proudly on his special day.

He was buried in the cemetery on Send Hill after a lovely choral service, conducted by the Rev Tim King, with the address given by the previous vicar, John Wynburne. The ceremony, which included three of my fathers' favourite hymns, was a great tribute to a quiet and modest man, who will be greatly missed by his friends and family. From donations received so far, the sum of £506 has been donated to the church restoration fund.

Jean Turner

## SETTING UP A LOCAL HISTORY CENTRE IN RICKMANSWORTH

Following the AGM, a talk was given by Geoffrey Paine, Treasurer of the Three Rivers Museum Society. Geoff is also President of the Veteran Cycle Club and is a friend of our President, Les Bowerman, who is Vice-President of the Veteran Cycle Club.

The Three Rivers Museum Society began in 1986 as an offshoot of the Rickmansworth Historical Society. The RHS has existed for over 25 years and, like Send & Ripley, has collected various artefacts which they hoped eventually to display. This ideal was partly realised when in 1987 they were offered rooms in the old Council Chamber for a six-month trial period. The museum, opening in 1987, was an immediate success with over 3000 visitors. This was followed by another venue at Basing House, where another museum was set up from August 1988 until October 1990, when the house was closed for refurbishment.

A great deal was learnt during this period about presentation, and a number of successful exhibitions were set up. Notable were the exhibition relating to High Street Traders, where old posters and shop catalogues were displayed. There was also another exhibition featuring a photographic record of some of the old pubs of Rickmansworth. Another exhibition, "Rickmansworth at War", brought forth a tremendous amount of interest. Schools are encouraged to visit and a journal is produced three times a year. The museum is staffed entirely by unpaid volunteers working on a rota basis.

The newly-refurbished Basing House is due to reopen on March 21 1992, and the museum has now acquired various cabinets and materials, and the skill and advice to display its artefacts in a professional manner. During the learning period, the County Museum Officer has been a valuable source of expert advice on all sorts of matters, including introductions to other museums.

Fund raising has been through bring-and-buy sales and various other events, organised by the Society, and also by sponsorship and small grants from various councils. One big difference between Send & Ripley History Society and Rickmansworth is, of course, that Send & Ripley will have their own permanent centre, albeit somewhat smaller.

Tony Medlen

## SURREY RECORD OFFICE, KINGSTON

A note has been received from the Surrey Record Office that it will be closed for major building work during the summer of 1992. They plan to keep a skeleton postal and telephone service, but no personal visits will be possible. Anyone planning to use the Record Office between June and September should telephone 081-541 9065 to confirm availability. The Guildford Muniment Room will not be affected.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 26 April . . . Transporting the old Natwest building from its existing site to its new position adjacent to the Village Hall. Please check with our Chairman, John Slatford, nearer the day, as to timing, which is very much dependent on traffic conditions.

Thursday, 30 April . . . Ripley Village Hall, at 8 pm - a talk by Mary Alexander, entitled "Patchwork and Quilts". This talk will be concentrating on the collection of patchwork from Guildford Museum. In particular, Mary will bring along the Ripley Parish Lending Quilt, which was featured in this Newsletter in 1988. Those of you who may not be devotees of the needle and thread should come along and discover that old needlework is not a specialised subject for women only, but a class of historic objects as important as stone axes, timber-framed buildings or old documents. The Ripley Quilt is especially interesting as it has its own history sewn on to it. Other patchwork requires almost archaeological skills - examining the object for any clues to its history without knowing where it came from. It involves a knowledge of industrial processes, such as dyeing and fabric printing, as well as giving an insight into the lives of our ancestors. This should prove a most interesting talk and will be followed with a visit to the American Museum in July to examine, amongst other artefacts, their fine collection of American quilts.

Monday, 4 May . . . Send Scouts Fete and Dog Show. The History Society will have a stall as part of its fund-raising campaign, selling cakes and home-made produce and small items of bric-a-brac, etc. Anyone wishing to make contributions towards this event, please contact Bette Slatford on Guildford 222107, or Audrey Sykes on Guildford 222060. Please come along and have a very enjoyable day out and support your local History Society.

Wednesday evening, 20 May . . . Visit to Farnham, meeting at 7.30 pm at the entrance of the Central Car Park off Union Road. This is a Farnham town walk which is put on by the Farnham Visitors' Council, and those attending will be met by Jill Whittingham. The walk will take approximately one and a half hours and there is a small charge of 50p per person. For further details and arrangements for meeting locally in Send, contact Audrey Sykes, Guildford 222060.

Saturday, 6 June . . . At Ripley Village Hall, 9.30 am to 1.30 pm, a **Summer Bazaar** in aid of funds for the Local History Centre. There will be stalls for books, cakes, white elephant, bric-a-brac, cycle parts and much much more. Refreshments will be available. Please support by providing items (not clothing) and come along to support your Society. Stall minders are also required, contact Tony Medlen on Woking 760021, or Bette Slatford on Guildford 222107.

Sunday, 14 June . . . A half-day visit to Hampton Court Palace to see the restored kitchens. Those of you who attended the Local History Symposium last November will have been enthralled by the talk given by Dr Simon Thurley on the subject of the restoration of the kitchens and will have been aware that the presentation of the kitchen areas is arranged in such a way as to allow the public to move around freely and even touch the objects on display. Full details of time and meeting place will follow in the next Newsletter. Also further information can be obtained from Tony Medlen on Woking 760021.

Commencing on 9 July . . . A Flower Festival at St Mary the Virgin, Send. The History Society will have a display of photographs relating to the history of the structure and various features of the church, including copies of documents from the church archives.

Sunday, 19 July . . . An all day visit to the American Museum and gardens at Claverton Manor, near Bath. This is a display of American furniture and furnishings covering a 200 year period, including a very large display of American quilts. There are also galleries devoted to the American Indians and the Pennsylvania Germans and the religious community of Shakers. Time permitting, it is hoped to also visit a 13th century monks' hostel dated 1223, and used by the Carthusian Monks whilst they were building their priory. It is today used as a public house. Further details in next Newsletter.

Sunday, 6 September . . . All day visit to Brighton to view the refurbished Pavilion. Details to follow in subsequent Newsletters.

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

Apologies to those contributors whose contributions were not included in this issue, which is somewhat longer than usual, due to the AGM and other matters. The closing date for material for the next Newsletter is Friday, 15 May. Please ensure that all copy is delivered to the Editor by this date.

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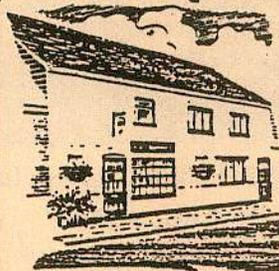
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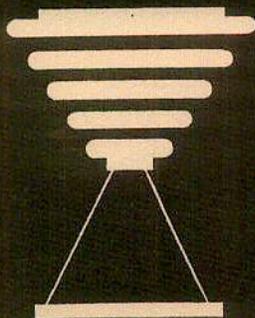
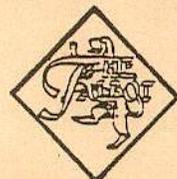
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## Tony Colmer

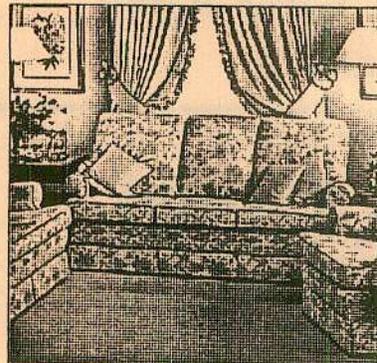
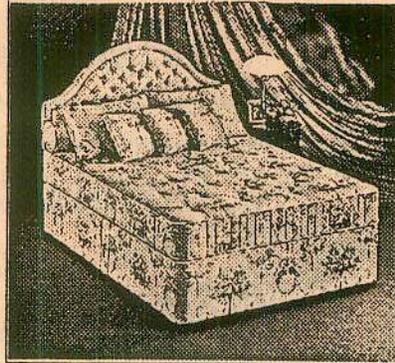
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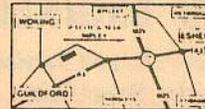
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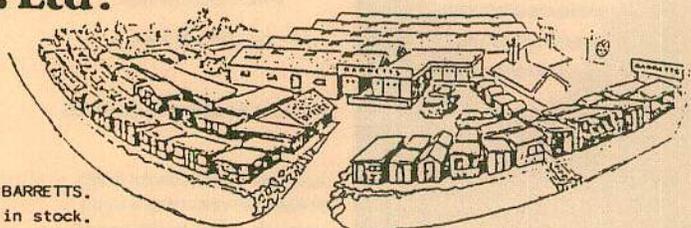
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