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Send & Ripley History Society



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Cover image:

Remains of the 13th
century vaulted refectory
at Waverley Abbey
© Ditz

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EDITORIAL

CAMERON BROWN

I have said before that our Society does not take a political stance on national or local events but I do feel that recent events at Guildford Borough Council (GBC) really should not pass without comment as they will, unless they can be successfully challenged, have a severe detrimental effect on our villages and others in this part of Surrey.

On April 25th GBC broke with the convention of observing 'purdah' which requires councils not to vote on significant matters within five weeks of local council elections, in case there is a change of control. Only days before the election, which saw the conservatives lose control of GBC, they adopted their highly contentious Local Plan despite objections from tens of thousands of local residents.

At a stroke fifteen villages are to be removed from the Green Belt, including Chilworth, East Horsley, Effingham, Fairlands, Flexford, Jacobs Well, Normandy, Peasmarsh, Ripley, Send, Send Marsh, Burnt Common, Shalford, West Horsley and Wood Street. In addition Three Farms Meadows, the former Wisley airfield, will also be removed to allow for a proposed development of a new town for over 5,000 inhabitants.

Green Belts were introduced after WWII to stop cities from sprawling and countryside from being spoilt or lost. There are tight controls on building in these areas. Instead of

respecting this and working within the constraints imposed, GBC decided to avoid complications by simply removing swathes of the countryside from the protection supposedly afforded by legislation.

When conceding defeat the former GBC leader, Paul Spooner, astonishingly said: "the Green Belt and housing remained key concerns. From a local perspective the Local Plan, housing - many people are very unhappy."

Congratulations to two of our members, Colin Cross (Residents for Guildford and Villages) who was re-elected councillor in Lovelace Ward (Ripley, Ockham and Wisley) and Patrick Sheard, entering politics for the first time as one of two Guildford Greenbelt Group councillors for Send.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT JOURNAL

Contributors are asked to send articles and letters to Cameron Brown at cmb@aappl.com by 15th June 2019.

Authors of illustrated articles should submit high resolution (300 DPI or higher) jpegs to the editor by email to ensure best reproduction in the journal, but no more than 10MB in any one email

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SEND AND RIPLEY 100 YEARS AGO MARCH – APRIL 1919

JAN AND PHIL DAVIE

Early May saw the publication of the WWI peace treaty. It included an article requiring Germany to accept responsibility for all loss and damage suffered by the Allied powers (later termed ‘the guilt clause’). Also included was payment to the Allied powers of some five billion pounds plus the costs of replacing infrastructure destroyed during the conflict (equivalent to approximately £250 billion in 2019). The treaty was signed at Versailles on 28th June 1919. (Many historians believe the enormous compensation payments led directly to the German economic collapse, the rise to power of Adolf Hitler and WWII).

Back at home food was still rationed but this did not stop a dinner being given to 140 returned soldiers and their guests in a large marquee erected outside Send drill hall, where it was followed by entertainment and dancing.

Ownership of two Ripley public houses changed. Miss Alice Chambers was granted a licence for the White Hart. It was said this was not a house a woman could manage but as Miss Chambers was shortly to be married there would be no objections. RSM Edgar Marsh, formerly of the army gymnastics staff, was granted a licence for the Ship.

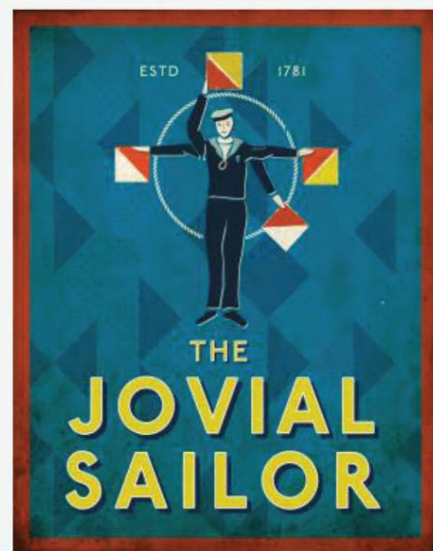
In May the body of a male baby was found floating in the river Wey at Newark by some German prisoners of war. An inquest held a few days later at the Anchor Inn, Ripley, heard evidence from Dr Pearce. He had found a piece of dirty rag pushed far back in to the baby’s mouth and that death by suffocation had occurred before the baby entered the water. He did not think the baby had lived more than 24 hours before death. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder.

A general order to muzzle dogs was in operation following a few outbreaks of rabies in the county. The importance of complying with it was stressed at Woking Sessions when Hannah Norris and William Barker, both of Send Road, Send, were fined 5/- each (25p) for allowing un-muzzled dogs to be at large.

A successful jumble sale was held at Ripley schools, raising £30. The largest proportion of the money was

allotted to the Ripley fire brigade fund for a new hose. The remainder went to the library, a nursing fund, and church purposes. A whist drive raised £4 15s (£4.75) at Send Institute in aid of the Send girls’ club.

Finally, Mr AH Lancaster announced that, to celebrate the peace, he had decided to transfer ownership of Send rifle range and drill hall to three trustees, so that the inhabitants of Send may have the permanent advantage and complete control of the facility. He included an endowment of £400, invested in war loan, believing the income from this would be quite ample to meet the expenses of upkeep and rates. In 2019 we know the drill hall as the Lancaster Hall.



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FORTY YEARS AGO

CAMERON BROWN

In Newsletter 27 of July 1979 there is a report by Julia Jones of a visit to Waverley Abbey the previous month. At the time these impressive ruins were not open to the public and to this day do not seem to be well-known. As noted in the article the abbey was built in 1128. It was on the Wey floodplain and in 1201 the buildings were badly damaged by flooding and substantially rebuilt over the following years. It was a very prosperous community but in 1536, with the dissolution of the monasteries, the site passed to Sir William Fitzherbert, treasurer of the king's household. Much of the abbey was dismantled and some of the stone was reused to build Sir William More's house at Loseley, a few miles to the east.

'On the evening of June 28th about 25 members visited Waverley Abbey, whose ruins are situated on the River Wey between Farnham and Tilford. The abbey was founded by William Gifford, Bishop of Winchester, in 1128 when an Abbot and twelve monks came from Normandy in obedience to the rules of the Cistercian order, which bade them found communities in isolated and inhospitable places. Waverley Abbey was the first Cistercian house in England. It prospered, and later Cistercian abbeys (eg Fountains and Riveaulx) were to a large extent modelled on it.



Remains of the 13th century vaulted refectory



View of Waverley Abbey House from the ruins

We were provided with a ground plan of the abbey buildings, which were originally within a 60 acre walled site. The plan enabled us to identify those parts of the abbey and its apartments which remain today. The abbey church, with its five chapels at the east end and three in each transept, must have been a splendid structure, and the lay brothers' *frater* (refectory) still possesses part of its vaulted roof. The course of the main drain is very clear, as is that of Fountains Abbey.

As usual Jim Oliver made the place come to life with many extra snippets of information, such as that Waverley Abbey monks were responsible for the introduction of sheep-farming to England, and the beginnings of the wool industry on which the prosperity of mediaeval England depended. He also drew our attention to the fine 18th century mansion, Waverley Abbey House, which stands a few hundred yards from

the Abbey ruins, and is now a home for elderly people. It was initially built by Colen Campbell for Aislabie, the Chancellor of the Exchequer who was disgraced by the South Sea Bubble.

Sir Walter Scott stayed with his friend Ellis at Sunninghill around 1800 and visited Waverley. He subsequently wrote *The Waverley Novels*. Scotsmen may be surprised to learn that Edinburgh's Waverley station derived its name from this peaceful spot in Surrey's Wey valley via the novels!

The Department of the Environment is now tidying up the ruins with a view to admitting the public. It will probably come as a surprise to many to find that Waverley Abbey had such far-reaching influence on the development of life in England.'

Photos © Ditz



The monks' dormitory

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THE HANGMAN

CAMERON BROWN



The Lord of the Manor with his hangman and remembrancer

Another recent acquisition is something which my wife Ditz and I presented to the museum: the official evidence of our appointments in 2010 as remembrancer and hangman respectively of the manors of Dedswell and Papworth. These were in Send and West Clandon.

At the time the 27th Lord of the Manor was John Molyneux-Child who lived at Croxteth Hall in Kiln Lane. In medieval times the Lord of the Manor was an important title as the manor was the hub of local administration and comprised a defined area of land granted to the lord by the king, and those who lived and farmed the land were his tenants. The title has nothing to do with aristocracy: it signified ownership and certain rights and obligations. It is the only title in England which can be purchased and used by anyone.

John Molyneux-Child acquired the two titles in 1984. He wrote an interesting book *The Evolution of the English Manorial System* and we have copies in the museum.

The title these days affords no rights at all but John enjoyed the traditions associated with the lordship and resuscitated the ancient tradition of ale-tasting. He would arrange for a celebration to be held each November at the Talbot in Ripley to perform the ale-tasting and collect money for charity.

The ale-taster's job was to check the quality of ale sold locally, make sure it was sold at the appropriate price and to ensure that bread was sold at the correct weight. One of our members, Peter Skinner, who died earlier this year, was the last ale-taster. Forty years ago John Slatford and other members of our society began work



on translating (from Latin) and recording the court rolls of the manor of Send and Ripley. There is a short piece about this in Newsletter 27 p4, which mentions

‘The ale-taster was one of the officials appointed each time the court was held. Regular entries in the rolls record ‘the alehouse keeper being fined for making excessive profits’. One such offender was George Stanton, landlord of the Tabut (Talbot) in the 1570s.

Other appointments in the lord’s gift included that of remembrancer, who compiled memorandum rolls at the court and thus ‘reminded’ the lord of business pending. Another was that of hangman. I cannot understand why he chose me for this but I was also permitted to duck witches and put people in the stocks – which John still had in his garden. I do not know whether our appointments lapsed when John died in 2015 and the title passed to his son Patrick, but I still have the rope, just in case...

If anyone has any contact with Patrick Molyneux-Child it might be nice to see whether we can revive the annual ale-tasting.



The deeds appointing the Hangman and the Remembrancer © Ditz

THE DAILY MAIL TRANS-ATLANTIC AIR RACE – 1969

ALAN COOPER



(P) Lieutenant Commander Brian Davies RN and (O) Lieutenant Commander Peter Goddard RN in a Royal Navy McDonnell Douglas Phantom (callsign 'Royal Blue 3', serial XT858). Behind the plane is Bridge End Farm and behind the fence near the Land Rovers (right of picture) are known to be Ockham residents Tim Hewlett, Robert Frearson, Colin Mills, Michael Tickner and Paul Grimes

Just 10 years after the Wright brothers built and flew the world's first airplane in 1903, the London newspaper, the *Daily Mail* offered a prize of £10,000 to 'The aviator who shall first cross the Atlantic in an aeroplane in flight from any point in the United States of America, Canada or Newfoundland to any point in Great Britain or Ireland in 72 continuous hours.' The competition was suspended with the outbreak of WWI but reopened in 1918.

On 14th June 1919, Captain John Alcock and Lieutenant Arthur Whitten Brown, flying a modified Vickers Vimy IV, made the first non-stop aerial crossing of the Atlantic. They took off from Lester's Field, near St. Johns, Newfoundland and crash landed the following day in a bog near Clifden, County Galway in Ireland.

Both were wartime pilots and prisoners of war, Alcock being taken prisoner after the engines of his bomber failed over Turkey and Brown, after being shot down over Germany.

Instant fame marked their achievement with King George V knighting both men just a few days later. This was however to be short-lived for Alcock, being killed on 18th December 1919 flying to the Paris airshow. Brown died on 4th October 1948.¹

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of this achievement, The Daily Mail Trans-Atlantic Air Race took place between 4th and 11th May 1969. This was again organised by the *Daily Mail* newspaper and although not a race as such, was more a race of individuals, between the Post Office Tower, London and the Empire State Building, New York during which some form of aviation had to be employed.

¹ Wikipedia.org

The shortest overall time between London and New York was achieved by Squadron Leader Tom Lecky-Thompson flying a Royal Air Force Hawker Siddeley Harrier.

The Harrier, with its vertical take-off and landing capability departed from a coal yard next to St Pancras station and arrived at the quayside of the Bristol Basin in New York 6 hours 11 minutes later.

The shortest time between New York and London was recorded by Lieutenant Commander Peter Goddard, in a Royal Navy McDonnell Douglas Phantom in 5 hours 11 minutes. The Royal Navy entered three Phantoms which flew from the Floyd Bennet Naval Air Station to Wisley Aerodrome and were re-fueled en route 5 times by Handley Page Victor aerial tankers over the Atlantic. The final leg to the Post Office Tower was completed by Westland Wessex helicopter. The Harrier was refueled 4 times and there was no need for the helicopter as it landed in the coal yard. A motorbike was used for the final journey.²

Civilians also participated, the first to leave London being Anne Alcock, the niece of Sir John Alcock. She was

² 57-630sqnassoc.org

followed by a number of others including racing driver Stirling Moss, long jump olympic gold medalist Mary Rand and Sheila Scott, the renowned aviatrix, who used her own private aircraft, a Piper Comanche.³

On the final day, 11th May 1969 a Royal Navy Phantom of 892 Naval Air Squadron crewed by (P) Lieutenant Commander Brian Davies RN and (O) Lieutenant Commander Peter Goddard RN set a new world air speed record between New York and London in 4 hours, 46 minutes and 57 seconds.⁴

Tim Hewlett recalls: "I stood with some friends on the Bridge End Farm side of the runway and remember there being a viewing stand opposite. There was a commentator with a loudspeaker set-up and a helicopter buzzing around, this being the probable source of the photograph".

Grateful thanks to Tim Hewlett for his recollections and timely (100th anniversary of first crossing) assistance.

Photo c/o Tim Hewlett collection.

³ pprune.org

⁴ phantomf4k.org

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DEFENDING RIPLEY AGAINST NAZI INVASION

ALAN COOPER

During World War II, the defence of the country was pretty much in the hands of the Home Guard. For those who cannot remember those days, the television series *Dad's Army* gives a realistic idea of the primitive weapons available for this task. One such was the Blacker Bombard, also known as the 29mm spigot mortar. Ripley Home Guard were allocated two such devices. One was located on the village green to the rear of the recently demolished 'Westward Ho!' house on Newark Lane. It would have been used to defend against a tank or troops approaching the village from either the direction of Homewood Farm or the centre of the village. Today all that remains is the mounting spigot, painted red, presumably so that the greenkeeper can see it and avoid wrecking his mower.



The mounting spigot behind 'Westward Ho!' (bombardier's view looking towards the centre of the village)



The mounting spigot behind 'Westward Ho!'

The other was positioned on the green adjacent the public toilets. This has now totally disappeared but SRHS member Paula Giles (née Shoesmith) has vivid memories of playing in the pit as a child and recalls: "I met there regularly with my friends Betty Luck, Joan Phillips, Pat Jater, Doug Chennell and Nick Gadd. We would hold tea parties there."

SRHS member Michael Giles believes there were plans for a third Bombard to be located in Rose Lane. "The ideal location was at the bottom of Billy Bassett's garden and the Home Guard removed his shed to facilitate its installation. Billy was the local hairdresser and whenever I called in for a trim-up I was greeted with the same question. "When is your uncle going to replace my shed?"

Designed and developed by Colonel Stewart Blacker (1887 – 1964) as a short-range anti-tank weapon, it fired a 20lb high-explosive projectile up to 100 yards (or an anti-personnel variant weighing 14lb) but was universally disliked. It first appeared in late 1941 but by July 1942 it was declared obsolete. Used predominantly by the Home Guard the principle was sound, but it was unwieldy and its design rapidly morphed into the Hedgehog anti-submarine spigot mortar and the more successful PIAT anti-tank weapon.

Large numbers of the concrete pedestals were installed and a significant number survive today. In the late 1990s the Council for British Archaeology recorded 351 surviving during a field survey of 20th century military landscape features.



Stewart Blacker in flying gear



Top: The Bombard located upon a concrete pedestal
Bottom: The Bombard located upon a cruciform platform

Blacker was a British Army officer and inventor of weapons. After passing out from Royal Military College at Sandhurst in 1907 he was commissioned into the Indian Army, serving in Afghanistan, Turkestan and Russia. He had learned to fly in 1911 and following the outbreak of World War I was attached to the Royal Flying Corps.

After the war he became a private developer of weapons and funded his own research. With the start of World War II, his War Office contacts introduced him to Major Millis Jefferis who sent him to Coates Castle, West Sussex, where the Blacker Bombard was designed. The PIAT was further developed by Jefferis and for this he received £25,000.

The Bombard was affixed either to a large cruciform platform or to an immobile concrete pedestal. In either case it would usually be positioned within the range of other defensive positions such as road-blocks, and mounted in a pit with the ammunition stored in lockers nearby. Occasionally the weapon was deployed in a non-static role and in such cases the Royal Engineers were called upon to provide extra mountings.



Front cover of the 48-page Small Arms Training pamphlet issued to the Home Guard

Grateful thanks to SRHS members Michael & Paula Giles for sharing their memories, without which this article would never have been completed.

Photos and training pamphlet c/o Alan Cooper collection. Photo of Stewart Blacker c/o public domain.

THE LIFE OF WILLIAM OF OCKHAM

(c 1285-1347)

GILLIAN LACHELIN

The name William of Ockham is widely known today because his so-called ‘razor’ is often quoted on the radio and in the press. The term razor is used to indicate the shaving away of unnecessary assumptions which was something he was well known for. One form of the razor often invoked is *entia non sunt multiplicanda praeter necessitatem* (entities must not be multiplied beyond necessity), though this phrase apparently does not appear in his voluminous writings. It is said to have been introduced by John Punch, an Irish Franciscan theologian in the seventeenth century. Simpler renderings are ‘make as few assumptions as possible’ or ‘keep it simple’.

He was the third of the three most important European philosopher-theologians in the Middle Ages. He followed on from Thomas Aquinas (c 1225-74), who studied at the Benedictine Abbey of Monte Cassino, and John Duns Scotus (c 1266-1308) who may have taught him at Oxford. He was also influenced by Islamic philosophers such as Avicenna (c 980-1037) and Averroës (1126-1198).

It is not known for certain that he was born in Ockham but it is likely that he was a member of a family of important clerics which included Thomas of Ockham (a Benedictine monk, born c 1240) who became steward of Chertsey Abbey and who was named as the Abbot’s attorney in a range of legal cases; Nicholas of Ockham (a Franciscan theologian, born c 1240-50) who studied in Paris (1270-74) and taught at Oxford during William’s time there, and John of Ockham (a Franciscan contemporary of William, born c 1288) who became a royal clerk and later a baron of the exchequer. Earlier, in 1225, a man called Nicholas of Ockham had brought a suit of *novel disseisin* (an action to recover lands of which the plaintiff had been ‘disseised’, or dispossessed) against a wealthy freeholder with land in Ockham.

As a child in Ockham William would probably have been instructed by Ralph de Malling (c 1255-1315), who was rector of Ockham from 1290 to 1304 and from 1295 a canon of St Paul’s and a legal advisor to the archbishop of Canterbury. William may have had contact with the Austin canons at Newark Priory and been taught by the Dominican friars in Guildford. He also received training in logic and philosophy from the Franciscans at Greyfriars, which was the second Franciscan religious house to be founded in this country. As a boy he had joined the Friars Minor (founded by St Francis, this was the original order of ‘lesser friars’ who embraced poverty) and Latin quickly became his language of writing and communication. He was ordained subdeacon in Southwark in February 1306 by the archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Winchelsey. He went up to Oxford in 1307, staying in the house of the Friars Minor with some 80 other friars, studying logic, natural sciences, mathematics and theology. Throughout his career, his interest in logic never waned and in all his disputes he used logic as his chief weapon against his adversaries. He gained his bachelor’s degree in about 1317.

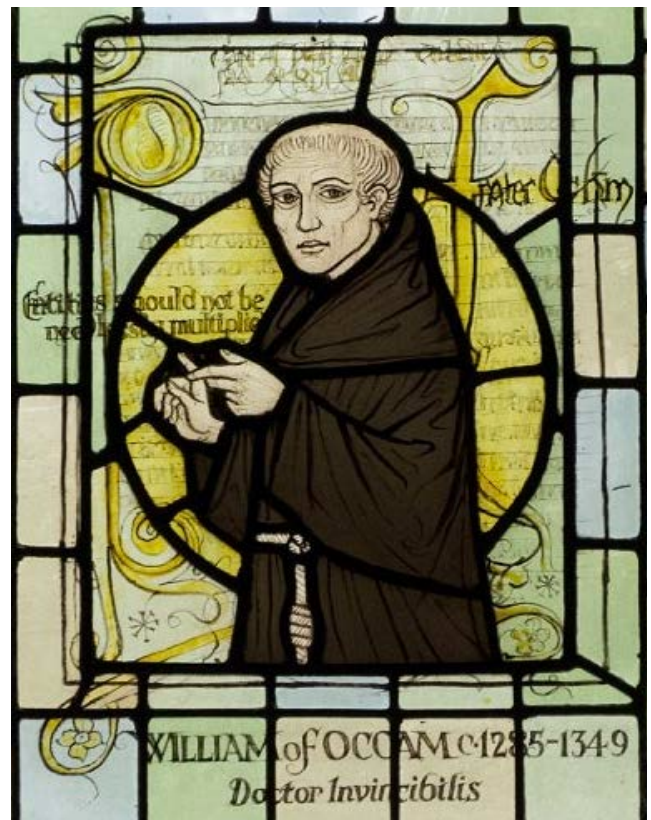
An in-depth study of the *Sentences of Peter Lombard* (a 12th century theologian whose work was the official textbook of theology in the universities until the 16th century) was a compulsory academic exercise at that time. The four books of the *Sentences* covered the mystery of the Trinity; creation; the incarnation of the Word and the doctrine of signs, and probably gave the word ‘sententious’ to the English language because several thousand commentaries were written on them. William would have studied the *Sentences* in about 1316 (at the normal age for undertaking this exercise) and he was lecturing on them from the autumn of 1317 for two years. His lectures were set down in written commentaries. His opinions aroused strong opposition from members of the theological faculty of Oxford and although he completed all the requirements for it, he was never awarded a master’s degree. Because of this, he was given the honorific title *venerabilis inceptor*, or ‘venerable beginner’, an *inceptor* being a student admitted to the rank of teacher by the university authorities, rather than a ‘regent master’ with a master’s degree and a right to teach.

William became embroiled in the disputes which divided the university and culminated in the removal of the chancellor, John Lutterell, in 1322. It is known that Lutterell was advised by a friend at the papal court, Stephen de Kettleberg, that were he 'to present two well prepared disputations on good theological points before the theologians of the curia he would in a short time derive more honour and profit than he had ever done from any of his previous scholarly activities'. It is believed that, following his humiliating dismissal, Lutterell decided to act on this advice and chose to accuse William of heresy. The choice seems to have been motivated by convenience rather than by any personal, institutional or indeed theological dispute. Unfortunately for William a fairly complete version of his commentaries on the *Sentences of Peter Lombard* was available.

Lutterell arrived in Avignon in August 1323 with his thesis *libellus contra doctrinam Guillelmi de Occam*. Pope John XXII appointed a commission of six, including Lutterell, to formulate specific charges and by the end of 1323 they had produced a list of 56 possible errors. The Pope then summoned William to Avignon and he arrived in 1324 where he appeared before an inquiry and provided a stout defence. The commission was forced to redraft the indictment, dropping a number of the charges and the inquiry dragged on inconclusively. During this time William became involved in a much more serious dispute between Pope John XXII and the minister general of the Franciscan order, Michael of Cesena. The ostensible issue was the division within the order between those who aspired to a life of poverty as enshrined in the *Rule of Life of St Francis* (the 'spirituals') and those who argued that the order's rapid expansion in size and roles required a more pragmatic attitude to property and possessions (the 'conventuals'). When Michael of Cesena, the leader of the spirituals, had been elected minister general in May 1316 he had set about trying to restore unity within the order on the basis of a compromise. When John had become pope a few months later he had also seen the problem as urgent, but concluded that the solution was to return dissident spirituals to obedience by firm action and he ordered 64 extreme spirituals from the rebellious friaries of Narbonne and Beziers to be brought to Avignon for questioning. After almost a year of investigations and examinations their refusal to accept papal authority was condemned as heresy. Michael's personal pleadings won over 39 and subsequently the inquisition prevailed on another 20 to recant but five friars remained obdurate. In May 1318 four were burned at the stake and one was imprisoned for life.

Pope John XXII, who wished to re-establish the papacy's power base in Italy (lost when his predecessor settled the papacy in France) was also in conflict with Louis of

Bavaria who was crowned Holy Roman Emperor in 1324. In January 1328 Louis entered Rome and in April he declared the pope deposed on grounds of heresy and installed the Franciscan Pietro Rainalducci, a spiritual, as 'antipope' Nicholas V.



The stained glass window in All Saints' church

Eventually in fear of Pope John XXII, William, Michael of Cesena and others made a dramatic escape from Avignon on the night of May 26th 1328. They stole horses and fled to Aigues Mortes from where they sailed in an imperial galley to Italy and stayed at Pisa under the protection of Louis. On June 6th William was excommunicated for his disobedience in leaving Avignon and in August Louis and Nicholas V were driven out of Rome by King Robert of Naples. Michael and William joined Louis at his court at the Alter Hof in Munich where William spent the rest of his life, producing his voluminous corpus of political works. He examined in particular the nature and limits of papal authority and argued the case against unlimited papal power, which in his opinion had no authentic theological roots.

Throughout his career Ockham maintained his belief in God, convinced that belief in God is a matter of faith not reason. He was one of the great champions of human liberty. He died on April 10th 1347 and was buried alongside Michael of Cesena, who had died in 1342, at the Franciscan friary of Barfüsserkirche in Munich.

Unfortunately his writings are not very accessible to the modern reader, not just because he wrote in Latin. Even when translated they contain many concepts and phrases which are not familiar today. His historical significance is in the part he played in the conflict between the church and the state and in his views on political and religious liberty which had a notable effect on the initiators of the Reformation, particularly John Huss, John Wycliffe and Martin Luther.



A cameo of Pope John XXII



Sketch of William of Ockham from a manuscript of his *Summa Logicae* of 1341

In 1985 (the 700th anniversary of the probable year of his birth) a stained glass window, designed by Lawrence Lee (the renowned artist who worked on some of the windows in Coventry Cathedral) was dedicated to William in All Saints' church Ockham. The service was attended by Lord Coggan (former archbishop of Canterbury), Cormack Murphy-O'Connor (then bishop of Arundel), Franciscan monks from New York, other clergy and academics, residents of Ockham and many others. Lord Coggan gave an address and 17 large volumes of William's work were presented by the Franciscan friars from the Franciscan Institute of St Bonaventure University in New York State. A medieval feast was served afterwards in the barn at Slade Farm by people wearing medieval dress.



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WHERE IS IT?

ALAN COOPER



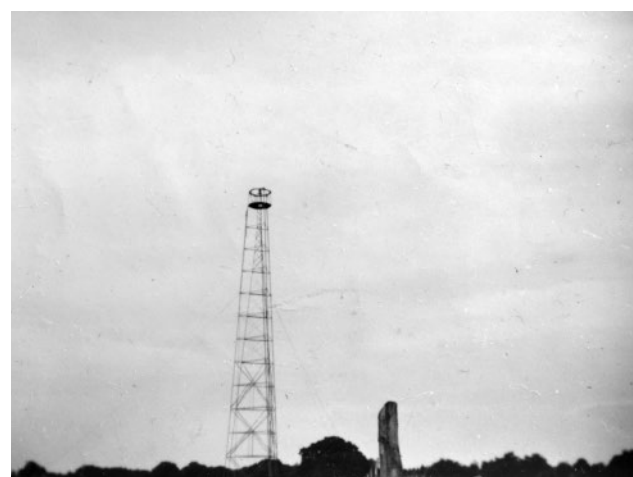
This photo was taken 50 years ago in 1969, but where? Also, does anyone know the route number of the bus often seen parked next to it?

ANSWER TO J265 WHERE IS IT?

The answer to the puzzle in J265 is – a Bilby Tower.

Designed in the USA by Jasper Bilby in 1926 and used until 1984 for conducting geodetic surveys, the Bilby Tower was actually two towers in one. The outer one allowed an observer and a recorder to triangulate without disturbing the survey instruments contained within the inner one. This particular example was briefly located in the field adjacent Cricketshill House in Potters Lane, Send.

Grateful thanks to Trevor and Janet Tice for providing the photographs.





Malcolm Isted's painting of Newark Mill by Denis Somerfield

The article in J265 / 26 about Send artist Denis Somerfield generated rather more comment than usual.

Pat Clack writes: 'Denis was married to Sybil, who was sister to the Send primary school headmistress when I was firstly a lollipop lady and later school secretary – she was Stella Perrin and lived in the old school-house with her mother. You will find a lot of this in the school book which Sheila Brown wrote [*Two Surrey Village Schools – The story of Send and Ripley Village Schools*, available from the museum]. There is a picture of Stella and Sybil on page 110 and more on subsequent pages, with an article on page 106. Denis and Sybil had two sons - Jimmy, who was disabled and Nicholas, and they lived in Woodhill Cottage, Fell Hill.

Nicky married Kyra Grace from Send Marsh and they moved to Wales, where Denis always spent his holidays. Denis was very talented.'

Malcolm Isted added: 'I read with interest your article on Denis. He was married to Stella Perrin's sister and I remember Mrs Somerfield coming in to Send Primary School as a relief teacher when needed. Denis and his wife lived in a cottage near the farm in Woodhill. I met Denis a couple of times and found him a friendly and convivial man. He told me that where he lived had been built by the farmer for his workers, "close enough to get to work but far away enough not to bother him". It seemed to me a memorable (well I've remembered it after all these years) and revealing insight; I regularly used it



Malcolm Isted's painting of St Nicholas' by Denis Somerfield



The porch at St Mary's, courtesy Pat Clack



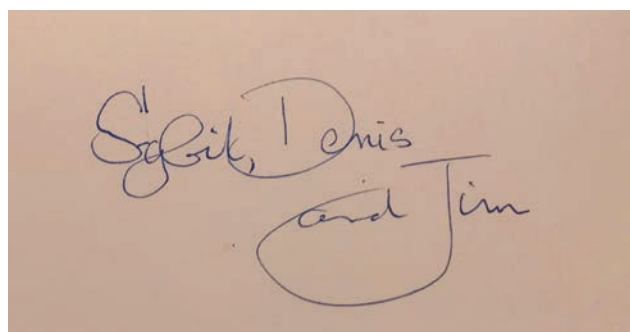
Card with Somerfield's drawing entitled 'Walsham Lock – Ripley', courtesy Peter Croucher



Card showing Somerfield's home, Woodhill Cottage, Send, courtesy Audrey Smithers



Denis Somerfield's drawing of St Mary's, Send, courtesy Audrey Smithers



Signatures on a Christmas card to the Crouchers in 1983

in teaching agricultural history. I have two paintings in different styles by Denis, one of Newark Mill and the other of St. Nicholas' Pyrford.'

Another member, Audrey Smithers, has one of his paintings and both she and Peter Croucher, a committee member, have several greeting cards, featuring Denis Somerfield's drawings. Each of our correspondents has kindly permitted us to add copies of all of their Somerfield memorabilia to the museum's collection.

THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS

OCTOBER 17TH 1891. THE WEY NEAR BYFLEET

CAMERON BROWN

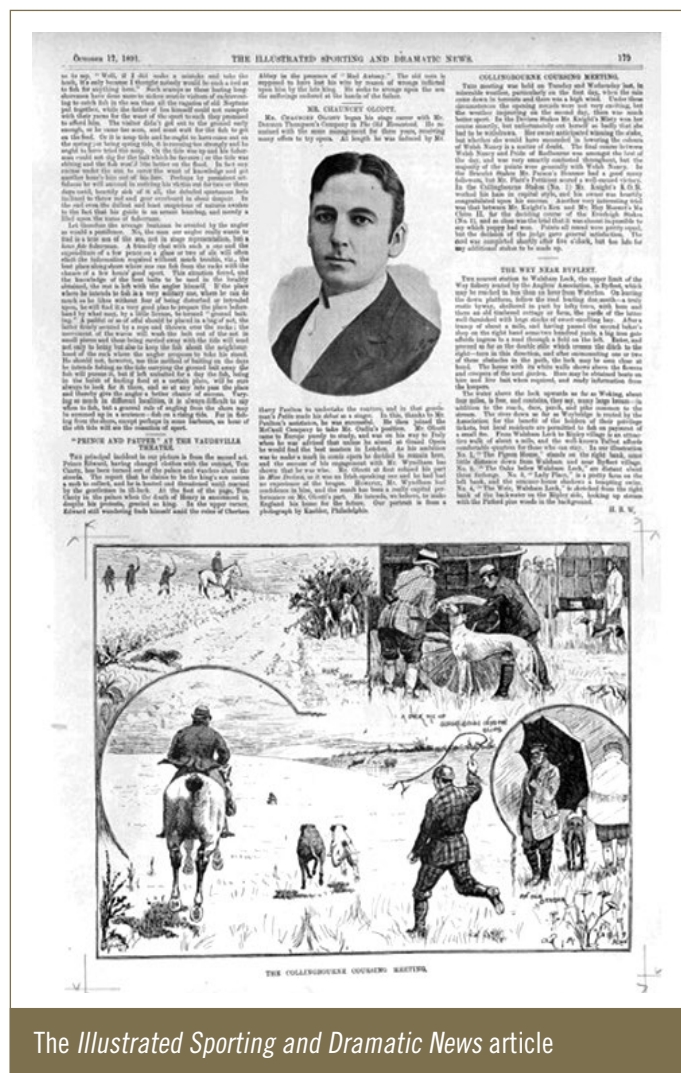
The article below was sent to us by Emma Goodwin, the Walsham Lengthsman. The River Wey is divided into 'lengths' such as St Catherine's length running from the once industrial hamlet of Broadford, round the bends under St Catherine's Hill, and on to Millmead Lock in the centre of Guildford. Triggs length follows the boundary of Sutton Place, where Sir Richard Weston, financier of the Wey Navigation first plotted the course of his 'flowing ryvver' in 1635.

Walsham length, for which Emma is responsible, runs from Send to Pyrford Lock. Although it's one of the shortest lengths, it's also one of the prettiest, and there is lots of interesting history associated with this stretch.

Traditionally, on this waterway, each lock-keeper maintained the water levels belonging to his length. Over time, the role of lock-keeper has evolved into that of lengthsman, since locks are no longer staffed. The lengthsman manage water levels and vegetation along their length.

THIS IS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE ARTICLE OF 1891:

The nearest station to Walsham lock, the upper limit of the Wey fishery rented by the Anglers' Association, is Byfleet, which may be reached in less than an hour from Waterloo. On leaving the down platform, follow the road leading due south – a truly rustic byway, sheltered in part by lofty trees, with here and there an old timbered cottage or farm, the yards of the latter well-furnished with huge stacks of sweet-smelling hay. After a tramp of about a mile, and having passed the second baker's shop on the right hand some two hundred yards, a big iron gate affords ingress to a road through a field on the left. Enter, and proceed as far as the double stile which crosses the ditch to the right-turn

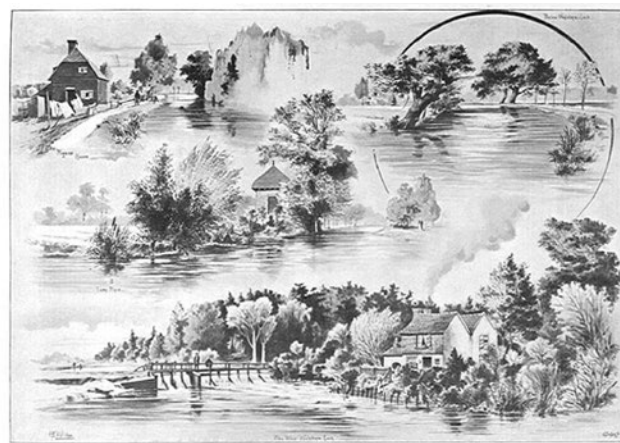


The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News article

in this direction, and after surmounting one or two of these obstacles in the path, the lock may be seen close at hand. The house with its white walls shows above the flowers and creepers of the neat garden. Here may be obtained boats on hire and live bait when required, and ready information from the keepers.

The water above the lock upwards as far as Woking, about four miles, is free, and contains, they say, many large bream – in addition to roach, dace, perch and

pike common to the stream. The river as far down as Weybridge is rented by the Association for the benefit of the holders of their privilege tickets, but local residents are permitted to fish on payment of a small fee. From Walsham Lock to Ripley Village is an attractive walk of about a mile, the well-known Talbot affords comfortable quarters for those who can stay. In our illustration No.1, "The Pigeon House" stands on the right bank, some little distance down from Walsham and near Byfleet village. No.2, "The Oaks below Walsham Lock" are distant about three furlongs. No.3, "Lady Place," is a pretty farm on the left bank and the summer-house shadows a tempting swim. No.4, "The Weir, Walsham Lock," is sketched from the right bank of the backwater on the Ripley side, looking up stream with the Pirford (sic) pine woods in the background.



The illustrations, explained in the final few lines of the article

MUSEUM: NEW ACQUISITIONS

CAMERON BROWN

Thanks to a tip-off from a contact at the Byfleet Heritage Society we were able to buy two bound sets of the Ripley Parish Magazine from Surrey History Centre for £5. They cover the years 1930 to 1953 and are now in the museum. The magazines were published monthly by the church of St Mary the Virgin, Ripley, and priced at 2d a copy and contain the church calendar for the forthcoming month, some thoughts from the vicar on current events or issues, parish notices, baptisms, marriages and burials, and quite a lot of advertising. Unfortunately the sets are not complete, with the odd month missing here and there, but they make interesting and nostalgic reading.

The opening comments in April 1939, 80 years ago, are: 'What is going to happen to Europe in these anxious days? What is going to be the outcome of this mutual suspicion - this race in armaments? We live on the edge of a volcano, a volcano that has already in the course of our own lifetime been in eruption. Will the peacemakers prevail or will Europe perish?... What of this England? Are we at ease about her? Surely not. This growing laxity in moral standards, the almost universal restlessness and seeking of pleasure. Unemployment, slums, the breaking up of family life. These things trouble - and should trouble - those who love this England.'

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A page of advertising from March 1939

WEY PHOTOGRAPHS COMPETITION

CLARE MCCANN & DITZ BROWN



Wildlife category prizewinner Zareena Linney-Waine

In the last journal we had a feature on the photography competition and exhibition at the museum - *The Wandering Wey, How Man and Nature Have Changed its Course*. The exhibition has now closed but many of the photographs submitted were featured in the one-day *Get Creative* event held on Saturday, May 11th at the Lancaster Hall in Send, where the prizegiving took place.

There were two classes in the competition – photos of the Wey and the Wey Navigation or of the wildlife that can be found there. The competition winner was judged by Ditz, herself an artist and former professional photographer. “After deciding which were the winning photographs I was curious to find out what my husband, Cameron, would

make of my choice as he was for many years a publisher of photography books, including the famous *Photographers’ Yearbook*. After he looked at the photos without conferring I found it very gratifying that he’d chosen the exact same images, agreed that the winner in both categories was Zareena Linney-Waine and that the runner-up was Oliver Mayersbeth. I was particularly delighted when I found out that Oliver was just 12 years old and had only recently taken up photography, using a camera that came from his uncle. He shows remarkable skill for his age and I hope that winning this prize will encourage him to keep on taking beautiful photographs. There was no separate prize for a runner up of the wildlife section as this too would have been won by Zareena.”

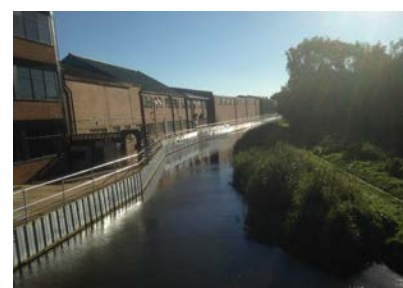


River and navigation category prizewinner Zareena Linney-Waine

Zareena commented: “I’ve lived with my husband and son in Send for just over five years. I love the local area and nature and wildlife. I enjoy photography as a hobby and have been taking photos for a few years. I have worked as a youth-worker and manager in Surrey for over 20 years and find seeing nature and landscapes and photographing them helps me relax from my work.”



Philip Richardson



Chris Brown

Clare added: “We were all very impressed by these two photographers but there were many other good pictures and all of them are now available in the museum’s digital collection. Thanks to everyone who took part.”

Former committee member Cate Davey’s picture is interesting in that it is the only one in the competition photographed on film. Cate recalls: “The original photo was shot in the 1980s and I processed and printed it myself. In those days we’d converted an x-ray machine into a colour-printer at the Visual Arts Centre where I was a very active member between 1974 and 1997”.



River and navigation category runner-up Oliver Mayersbeth



Cate Davey

SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM NEWS AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CLARE McCANN

The delightful *Wandering Wey* exhibition has now concluded and a big thank you goes to the lead curator Helena Finden-Browne. The new exhibition takes us out of the villages (just) and is entitled *The Kings of Ockham Park*. It aims to look at the King family and their connection with Ockham, and includes a section on the now much-acclaimed Ada Lovelace. The family owned a huge amount of property and much of it was in and around Ripley. Please come and learn more. This exhibition will run until the end of July.

Bound copies of the journals 1-216 (1975 - 2011): The late Ken Bourne's bound journals have been donated to the society by his daughter to dispose of as we please. I am happy to make a contribution of £20 to the society for them but if anyone wants to outbid me then please let us know.

I have mentioned before that we need an events organiser to take over from Margaret Field. If you think you might be able to help please do contact Margaret of me.

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Doors open for all evening talks at 7.30pm for an 8pm start at the Ripley Village Hall. Tea/coffee available.

DATES	EVENTS
Wednesday 5th June, 10.30am	Guided tour of Blackheath (Surrey) with Sara Sullivan
Friday 5th July, 6.30pm	Members' barbeque at Cricketshill House, Send
Tuesday 17th September	Nicholas Bale talk: <i>George Abbot - A Man of the World</i>
Friday 11th October 2.15pm	Trip to Abbot's Hospital and Guildford House Gallery, Guildford
Tuesday 15th October	Carole Browne talk: <i>Women's Suffrage</i>
Tuesday 19th November	Terry Patrick and Circle 8 Films: <i>Tunnel under Hindhead and Out of the Blue</i>
Tuesday 10th December	Christmas Social - members only

Further details can be obtained from Margaret Field 01483 223387.

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Contact Clare McCann on 01483 728546 if you require further information or wish to help in the museum

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Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life	Reprinted 1998/2006	£10.00
Guide to The Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Send		£1.25
Then and Now, A Victorian Walk Around Ripley	Reprinted 2004/07	£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	Reprinted 2012	£4.00
The Hamlet of Grove Heath Ripley, Surrey	Reprinted 2005	£4.00
Ripley and Send – An Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures	New Edition 2017	£8.00
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
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Newark Priory: Ripley's Romantic Ruin		£8.00
Special Offer: Purchase Newark Priory and St Mary's Ripley		£10.00

All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, from Pinnocks Coffee House, Ripley, or via the Society's website www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk



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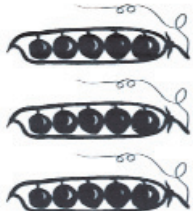
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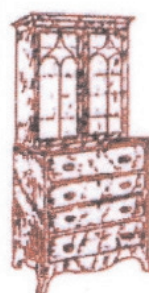
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