

Send & Ripley History Society



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History Society

Cover image:

Boats on the Wey Navigation
heading North towards Triggs
Lock June 2013

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EDITORIAL

CAMERON BROWN, CHAIRMAN

It falls to me to write the introductory notes to the first Journal of 2016. Happy New Year! I will be dwelling on the events and achievements of 2015 at the forthcoming AGM but I cannot let the New Year begin without another round of thanks to outgoing chairman Les Bowerman. Founder member and very much a man who helped shape the society, he leaves a legacy: everything changes but we will certainly respect the past as we take our society on to its future.

Thanks also to all of you who helped out at the recent Christmas social by bringing food, helping with the washing up and the setting up and tidying away afterwards. Almost fifty people attended and I think we all had a good time.

We have an interesting year ahead of us with a good range of talks and outings. The Journal in its new format is looking good; please let us have your contributions for future editions and any photos or articles you may have for the website. You may not be in the habit of looking at the website but it is a habit worth developing.

The future of Ripley Village Hall and the museum itself are still uncertain and this is also an interesting and challenging time for all of us as Guildford Borough Council, under a

new leader, issues the final draft of the Local Plan (we are still at least a year away from adoption) and our various villages and parishes become involved in the neighbourhood planning process. I wrote about this in the last Journal and would like to encourage you to involve yourselves in the consultations. It is non-political but the results will influence the politicians and it is our future at stake.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT JOURNAL

Contributions for the next journal should be sent to the editor by 15 February 2016 for the March 2016 edition.

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.

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WWI RESEARCH PROJECT PROGRESS

ANGELA BLAYDON AND JANET TICE

The original team has reduced to three, namely Terry Hewitt who instigated the project, Janet Tice and Angela Blaydon. We have been holding meetings roughly every two months, to keep each other apprised of our progress, and have also conducted oral interviews with a few local people, who had memories, photos, stories and memorabilia to contribute to the project.

We have uncovered a large amount of information pertaining to the villages of Send and Ripley concerning both the involvement of locals in almost all theatres of the war and also on the home front. We are now in the process of analysing all this material and drawing it together into a cohesive form for a publication. Each chapter will have a short introduction placing its subject matter in context and will then include details of all local residents and events pertaining to that specific chapter. We have approximately half of this written up to date. Our progress has been slowed somewhat over recent months as Terry has not been able to participate to the same level as when the project commenced. We are trying to ensure that the general information is kept to a minimum but is enough to put the individual chapters in context for the reader, whilst including all details pertaining to the local people involved in war-related support activities, for whom we have discovered data.

We plan to cover:

- The army
- Mons: the race to the sea, Loos and Ypres
- The British war beyond the Western Front
- The Somme
- The Western Front 1916-1918 and the Kaiser's war
- Food, glorious food: the importance of food to those on the front line
- The navy and Send and Ripley men
- The Ripley Pals
- The Rifle Brigade
- The Home Front to include:
 - the war in Send and Ripley
 - recruiting
 - Belgian refugees
 - work parties
 - collections
 - churches and vicars
 - local hospitals
 - German POWs
 - military balloons and aircraft
 - women
 - rationing, food production and lack of labour
 - rats and rabid dogs
 - armistice, homecoming, peace celebrations
 - memorials
 - smallholdings, allotments for ex-servicemen
- Interviews, artefacts and details of every local war memorial with Send and Ripley deceased soldiers.

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DETECTING - MY RECREATION

ANDREW JONES

ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALIST, SEND AND RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

I was asked recently how metal detecting had become my recreational activity and had to admit that it happened by accident. My son had started detecting in a small way several years ago and I supported him as he has special needs. He, unlike me, has now given up the hobby.

To be a detectorist you need the basic tools of the activity. If you are going to take it at all seriously you will need a good entry-level machine along with headphones and gloves for protection (as there are a lot of harmful chemicals and such like in soil), good walking boots or shoes, a spade and a hand-held detector called a detecting probe, as items can be hard to find. You will also need a bag or pouch for keeping your finds (and rubbish) in until you are home. This would all cost you about £250 pounds as a start. It would be a good idea to have insurance as well. My fellow club members and I belong to the National Council of Metal Detecting that gives the individual good insurance cover.

I joined a small club based in Addlestone called North West Surrey Searchers. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month to discuss the latest dig and show any new finds. We also do a “finds of the month” competition, have a raffle and tea and make a date for the next dig.

You can find some lovely items. I have found a medieval weight, a Georgian shoe buckle and old coinage, to name but a few.

When you find an item you must decide whether it needs recording or is treasure trove (i.e. belonging to the country), or is just a nice item to keep. If it is over 300 years old, or is very rare or unusual but younger than 300 years, it needs to be recorded onto the portable antiquities scheme (PAS). This is done by contacting the finds liaison officer (FLO) for the relevant county.

The FLO for Surrey and part of Berkshire is David Williams, who is based between the Surrey History Centre and Guildford museum. He will look at your items and if he needs to record them he will give you a receipt for them and he and his team will identify the find, weighing it, photographing it and writing a report if necessary. Once recorded, the find is placed on the website for public viewing and the item is returned to the finder.



Andy Jones at a recent dig
©Ditz

Certain finds will be classed as treasure trove. This would include precious metals or a “hoard”, which means a group of items buried together. With finds of this importance the county coroner needs to be informed along with the FLO and they then arrange for the items to be extracted properly. They are then sent to the Museum of London where a panel of experts value the item or hoard. A museum will then purchase the items, paying a tax-free sum to both the finder and the landowner, raising the money from donations or grants. Thus important finds can be saved for future generations.

To be able to metal detect a particular area of land you need to contact and get permission from the owner. If you do not do so, and get caught hawking (i.e. illegally detecting) you could have all your equipment confiscated

and car impounded and also be fined a hefty sum and even get a prison sentence, as this is considered going out with intent to steal. I am now the site officer for my club so each month it is my job to find a venue to detect and ensure that all members get the route-map and a meeting time at the venue.

The detector itself sends out a signal like radar, which penetrates the soil and bounces back to the coil (the busy end of the detector). When it hits a target the detector gives off a buzz or whistle or some other type of noise. If I decide to dig this target I start with a round or square hole, not forgetting to leave a flap in the divot so the grass can grow back without any stress. I then dig until I have retrieved the item, finally filling in the hole and securing the divot. If the item is recordable or should be classed as treasure trove a grid reference is taken and location and other relevant details recorded.

When you find a item you feel privileged as you are probably the first person to hold that object since it was

lost and you wonder how or why it got there, what its history is and what stories it might tell.

Detecting is also a good way of getting rid of junk metal in the soil, and can be used to find lost items such as keys. My club was recently involved with a project with Ripley Parish Council to recover lost items and remove as much rubbish as possible from the memorial garden site behind Church Row. This was a very enjoyable day and we thank Ripley Parish Council for this opportunity and look forward to helping with similar projects in the future. Other advantages include meeting like-minded people and keeping fit with all the walking and digging.

If this article has managed to whet your appetite you might enjoy the display of the finds that my club has found in the local area, in the museum from January. Send & Ripley History Society will also be joining with my club to have a detecting day for members on Sunday 3 April 2016 (further details on p16 & 18).

SEND AND RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY WEBSITE

CHRIS BROWN, WEBMASTER

I think we should all be proud of the new website and all the contributions everyone has made. I am so impressed with the fantastic energy within the Society and the amount of information the society has on our villages, I feel we should promote this asset in its own right.

We want to highlight what you can do on the Send & Ripley History Society Website. The front page of the site sets out information about its full functionality and our plans to build and add to it in the future. Currently you can:

- find out about forthcoming events and current and previous exhibitions
- buy all the Society's books online
- watch movie clips
- watch the film of how the museum was moved
- explore educational resources
- become a member and pay online.

We plan to start uploading the journals for the last 40 years (with a search engine so you can find information) in 2016. We may add a search engine for photos later.

We are sure you will enjoy exploring the site, which can be found at

<http://sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk> or just Google 'send and ripley history society'

The Society has both a Facebook page and a Twitter page where we can share details of events and exhibitions.

Editor's note: We owe Chris a huge thank you for all his hard work and dedication in setting the new site up. It has taken an enormous amount of time and energy.

LIVING HISTORY

THE LIFE OF TOM WALLIS - BORN 1932

INTERVIEWED BY ALAN COOPER



Tom Wallis - aged 83

I have recently been to meet and talk to Tom Wallis. Tom came to live in Ripley in 1941 as an evacuee from London. He returned to London when hostilities ceased but such was the friendliness bestowed upon him, his brother, sister and assorted cousins, who joined him later, that he has kept contact with a number of local residents over the years and still visits whenever he can. This is his story.

Tom was born in 1932 in Lambeth, where his parents rented rooms in a very large house. Surrounded by bricks and mortar, his first playground was the nearby Harmsworth Park (site of the Imperial War Museum) and a wood yard close by, which fascinated him with the whirring sound from its circular saw. When bombing started the family used an Anderson Shelter in the garden for protection, his sister, Sheila, being carried to it in a cradle. As the Luftwaffe became more predictable with the timing of their raids, the family sought out more solid protection in the crypt of a nearby church. When the wood yard was bombed the houses in the road were badly shaken and considered to be unsafe.

As the bombing threat grew, Tom and his family evacuated to Northampton in 1940 and, after a brief return to London, went back there. The family eventually went to Ripley in 1941, leaving Tom in Northampton with the same family. His father returned to collect him. Tom recalls: "I went to the cinema in Northampton one day and halfway through the picture the usher came in and asked if there was a Tommy Wallis in the audience? I went outside and there was my dad, a lorry and a driver. 'I'm taking you off', he said, and that's how I finally arrived in Ripley".



Tom Wallis senior and daughter Sheila outside No. 6 Perseverance Cottages

The change from living in the city to a rural landscape was challenging but Tom and family settled in right away. "We fitted in well and there was no nastiness afforded us and we got on well with the villagers".

The family lived in no. 6 Perseverance Cottages. "Our neighbours were, in no. 8 - Miss Hyde, no. 7 - Vera McCoy, no. 5 - an old lady who was deaf and dumb. I can't remember her name but she lived by taking in washing. In no. 4 - Joan Hyde, no. 3 - Francis Bushnell,

no. 2 - can't remember and no. 1 - Mr & Mrs Keniston, (both of whom were deaf and dumb) and their son Albert (Bertie)".

Tom remembers many people from Ripley: "I remember Mr Noakes who had the oil shop - the one that was burnt out. Every time there was an event on he would set up the microphone and shout 'testing, testing, testing, 123' - all that business. He had white hair and those little glasses and looked like an old professor. I remember Dr Crete in the nearby surgery, John Hutson in White's the chemist, John's sister Rene in the ARP, Mr Cooper in the greengrocers shop opposite the chemist and Freda Gunner in her girl guide uniform. My grandmother always joked with Mr Cooper the greengrocer and called him the bravest man in Ripley - I don't know what he had done to deserve that accolade! She also joked with Alice Charman - something about oranges becoming available in the shops again and I remember from the school her daughter Pat. Dad liked to go to the British Legion Club where Micky Marsh's dad was a steward. One of my aunts, who visited us at weekends, Jimmy Wallis's mum, could play the piano, which she did in some evenings at the club. One day my dad came home with a radio - a wireless! On Sunday evenings we would listen to ITMA (It's That Man Again) with Tommy Handley or Hi Gang with Bebe Daniels and Ben Lyon".

Many of Tom's close family came to Ripley as evacuees during the war. With Tom were brother Ron and sister Sheila, cousins Irene and Elaine Lygo, Jim Wallis and Tom Halliday. These seven and neighbour Will McCoy were very close, scrumping apples - bags and bags of them - from an abandoned orchard in Ockham, collecting conkers and chestnuts and blackberries. Blackberries, however, proved troublesome: "Not only were our hands stained but because of the prickles that got stuck in them we got whitlows, which were treated with a kaolin poltice (a mixture of clay and glycerine) smeared on gauze and then applied to the affected area, or by plunging the whitlow into very hot water! Later, we were joined by two more cousins, the Carringtons, Emmy and Jim, who came to Ripley after the death of their mother in Sutton, and stayed with Mrs Lygo for a little



Summer 1944 by the River Wey, near Ripley.
back row l - r. Tom Wallis, Irene Lygo (cousin), Jim Wallis (cousin).
front row l - r. Will McCoy (neighbour), Ron Wallis (brother),
Sheila Wallis (sister), Elaine Lygo (cousin), Tom Halliday (cousin).

while. Tom Halliday came from Clapham, his father was in the RAF and his mother remained in London. The Lygo family were first billeted with the Hookers. When Barbara Scott moved in with her mother, they occupied her house and remained in Ripley after the war, moving into the house in Georgelands previously occupied by 'Pencil' Brown. There's only me and sister Sheila left now. Ron, Jim, Irene and Elaine are all dead and I lost touch with Tom Halliday. I don't know what happened to Will McCoy. We came to Ripley just a few years back now for the funeral of Elaine Chandler (nee Lygo)".

Then, tragically, Tom's mother died in 1943 and his grandmother took over as the family matriarch: "When mother died she was laid out in the front room and many people came to pay their respects; she was buried in Tooting. I remember we always had lots of visitors, mostly relatives, from Morden and South London".

"We boys went to church and I remember the Rev. Thomas with his stentorian voice. Brother Ron and I and Jim and Tom were in the church choir and I became a server. After the morning service we would come home, get a sixpence and ration book and go to Pinnock's to see Scottie and to buy sweets. We also bought buns from

the shop run by the Misses Farr. A lady named Miss LM Spencer lived with the Misses Farr and, in a room above the shop, taught shorthand and typing. I had lessons with her. She also helped some of the local children who needed extra lessons for reading and writing". Tom met Mrs Methold when he started going to Sunday school. "Mr Green and his sister lived opposite the Methold house. He was the church organist, choirmaster and evacuee officer during the war and taught piano".

Tom attended both Ripley and Send schools: "I remember Miss Goldsmith at Ripley School - she always used to wear exactly the same clothes every day. One day she caned me. When my grandmother saw the marks on the backs of my legs - I only had short trousers on - she went straight over to see Fred Dixon (the Headmaster) and had it out with him. When we went into the air raid shelters, Mr Dixon would get us to sing songs from the time of the last war. When we went over to Saint Bede's school in Send there were no air raid shelters there, just trenches in the ground which we used because of the threat posed by the V1 flying bombs, generally known as doodle bugs, several of which fell around the village. It was here that I

got to know Vick and Alfreda (Freda) Charman from Burnt Common. Vick, Geoffrey Wilkinson and myself were excused from sports on health grounds. I just wasn't any good at games! I always remember Mrs Davies, the geography teacher. She had wonderful copperplate handwriting, as so many did in those days. When Vick died in 1976, I wrote to Freda - by now married and living up north in Wigan, to give my condolences. Another teacher I remember well was Mr Benjamin Gay, a little man who would act the clown now and then. He would sit on the stage kicking his legs. We performed a play, I wasn't in it, which was set in Holland and called Jan of Windmill Land (about the original Father Christmas). The staff and some of the children made all the costumes themselves, quite an achievement. Mr Large, the woodwork teacher, made all the swords and many other props and equipment. At school we would listen to the radio and get the latest news about the war. I remember the Normandy landings - it was wonderful to think that it was all coming to a close. We were given the day off school for VE day, and there was a service in the church followed by another on the green - and a bonfire upon which a red banner with a swastika and a golden eagle on it was burnt. I always thought what a shame it was to burn it because it was such a wonderful piece of work but up it went in flames. I don't know who made it".

Wartime rationing meant that living in the country had massive benefits. "We never went short of food. Dad had an allotment behind the Toby Cottage but he was no gardener and Mr King looked after it for him. We had lots of fruit: gooseberries, tomatoes and lettuce I remember, and we pickled onions and red cabbage and we made jam, lots of jam. The Kings lived on the back of the green and they had evacuees stay with them who happened to be relatives. Tom and Florence Mitchell, their daughter Anne, and paternal grandfather Wallis, who, after a spell in Devon all moved to Ripley, coming a bit closer to home. Tom Mitchell spent a lot of time in London where he did essential war work for the Gas, Light & Coal Company".

Then there was the farm (Saint George's) next-door, run by the Hill family. "I was friends with Buddy & Widgey but can't remember their real names - one might have been Tony? The youngest boy was Peter. I knew some of the sisters as well. I also remember Peggy and Patrick but they were too old to play with us. There were lots of them! There was a horse, which was used for ploughing, and I remember a big tub in which the carrots were washed. If we couldn't get sweets or cakes we made do with a raw carrot! The farm was pretty run down. I suppose with all those children there was no time left to

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look after it properly. One Christmas we had a chicken; what a treat that was for us. Another Christmas we had a goose, which had loads of fat that we used for cooking and some medicinal purposes”.

Despite living in a now 'safe' area, the threat of war was never far away and the V1 flying bombs posed a constant threat.

“One day we were all playing down by the river when we heard the sound of a flying bomb approaching. We watched it go over us but as it did so the engine cut out. Horrified, we all lay prone on the ground (we were told to do this to avoid any blast they might produce) till we heard the explosion in the distance”.

Fund raising for the war effort produced a number of memorable events. “Sometime about June or July 1944 it was 'National Savings Week'. A large flagpole was set up outside The Clockhouse and a marker, in the form of a Spitfire, was moved up it on a rope to indicate money raised. There was also a 'mile of pennies' laid on the road (High Street). I can't remember where it started but it ran from beyond The Anchor, way past both the school and the church. Then of course, there was the drag artist! “Who's that nurse over there?”, I heard someone say and there, resplendent in full nurse's uniform and hat, was Eli, the road-sweeper”. (Eli Chandler also raised money as 'Sir Tiffy-Cate' during 'Spitfire Week').

”When victory was declared and the war ended we went back home, travelling on the back of dad's firm's lorry, to a terraced house in Hercules Road, where the poet William Blake had lived in a close opposite (now a block of council flats). We noticed en route the flags at half-mast in memory of President Roosevelt, who had recently passed away. At the back of our house were railway arches and tracks to and from Waterloo station and, on the other side, a tall chimney bearing the name FIELDS, all that remained of an earlier factory and which could be clearly seen by passengers on the trains”.

“I had a cousin who lived in Vauxhall and who got married in a bombed-out church. The wedding photograph shows the group standing in front of a church, but with no roof on it! Once we settled down, Dad sent me to college in Brixton where my recently-learned shorthand and typing skills were honed. It closed and I transferred to the Southampton Row branch in central London and eventually I worked in an office near Baker Street. I remember the Queen's coronation in 1953 and being on duty at Canada Gate,

close to the Palace, while some of my family joined with relatives at Clapham to watch the occasion on television. Despite the damp weather it was a wonderful day and remains a treasured memory for me. In 1954, living in Lambeth, I remember my brother Ron was called up for National Service and served in Northern Ireland in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers”.



Ron Wallis 1954 in Lambeth

Tom spent all his life working in a clerical capacity in a variety of firms in the City and elsewhere. In addition to this, he joined the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, serving from 1951 to 1963 in the Lambeth (99 Division) Prince of Wales District. Tom has always lived in and around London, the first 10 years in Streatham, near the common, followed by 16 years in Clapham. He eventually moved from Clapham in 1993 (having been burgled three times) to his current address in Wimbledon where he enjoys a love of books and heraldry coupled with visiting National Trust properties – and, of course, visiting Ripley.

OBITUARIES

SHEILA BELL - 1918-2015



Sheila Bell - 1918-2015

Sheila Bell who died recently at the age of 97 lived in Potters Lane, Send, between 1956 and 1990. She was an early member of Send Gardening Society and although never a member of the History Society will be remembered by many members.

Sheila was born Sheila Maureen Boulger on 20 April 1918 in Bristol (then in Somerset) and died on 13 August 2015 in Cranleigh. Her father was Edward Boulger of County Wicklow who married her mother Mary Elizabeth Kendall on 9 April 1917 in Temple church, Bristol. Sheila's mother died some three weeks after she was born. Sheila always described herself as being brought up in an Irish household in Bristol by Victorians. Her father and her aunt Jane, who was her father's sister, brought her up. Her father died when she was 16 and after that she lived with aunt Jane and aunt Sally. She won a City scholarship for a place at Clifton High School in Bristol but had to leave school at the age of 16 to go to work to support the elderly aunts.

She spent a period of time working for Imperial Tobacco in the flavourings department and started her nursing training towards the start of the Second World War. She trained at St Mary's Paddington, which was where she met Robert Lindsay Bell (Rory) who she married on 21 February 1949 in Sutton Coldfield. She had taken the job of sister at the cottage Hospital in Sutton Coldfield but as was often the situation for women at that time, she had to stop work when she married!

Shortly after their marriage Rory was posted to Austria on national service with the RAMC. Sheila went with him and they spent two years out there before returning to Derby, where Rory joined the family GP practice with his parents; after 6 months he signed up for the regular RAMC.

The family moved to Potters Lane in Send in 1956 when Patrick was nearly five. He remembers going with his mother to introduce themselves to Reg and Albie Giles to be told that "the girls were in bed with measles". Sheila created the garden at The Haven (renamed The Belfry whilst the family lived there) from scratch; when they moved into the house it was a wilderness. She was a true plantswoman, and whenever at home in Send, a keen member of the Gardening Society and a regular winner of awards at the Annual Show for plants, vegetables and her baking and preserving skills.

In early 1959 the family (now including a baby, Brigid) sailed to Pakistan where Rory had been posted as Instructor with the Pakistan army. Patrick recalls by the time they came back two years later they were all quite ill and his mother and the children stayed in Austria for a couple of months to recuperate in the clear air, before returning to England. The family came back to Send and Sheila was able to do battle with the garden again before setting off for Aden for a tour two years later. This time Sheila and Brigid flew to Aden leaving Patrick at school in England and spending his weekend exeat with the Giles and Borthwick families. After that Sheila's time abroad with Rory included spells in Cyprus and Germany (two postings). Sheila remained in Send but spent a lot of time in Yorkshire during Rory's final posting to York/Catterick.

Sheila's motto was 'pay, pack and follow'. She was an exceptional organiser, packer of tea chests for storage or transport abroad, and creator of a home wherever she was. She learnt as much as she could about the countries she visited and became proficient in different languages, including German and Greek.

Sheila was an accomplished needlewoman, a splendid cook, and when living in Merrow in the early 1990s she took up painting, attending a course at the Visual Arts Centre in Guildford with Dick Carter. Sheila actually took a City & Guilds course in tailoring while Patrick was a baby.

The Bell family left Send in 1990 and Rory and Sheila lived in a flat in Guildford before finally moving into the new house in Merrow a year later. After Rory's death in 1995 Sheila spent another 12 years living in Merrow Street enjoying the garden and the company of some good friends amongst her neighbours and continuing with her painting. However after a number of falls in 2006/7 she moved to Knowle Park at Cranleigh.

Contributed by the Bell and Giles families.

THE LOST LADY FOUND — THE LIFE AND WORK OF LUCY BROADWOOD

CAMERON BROWN

On 20 October 2015 Irene Shettle gave us one of our most unusual talks. Les Bowerman confirmed that she was the first speaker in 40 years to sing for us: not just one, but three songs! Lucy Broadwood (the 'Lost Lady Found' of the title) was the subject of the evening's lecture and Irene Shettle, no mean performer herself, was well qualified to tell us about her.

Lucy Broadwood (1858 –1929) was an English folksong collector and researcher and as one of the founder members of the Folk Song Society and editor of the *Folk Song Journal*, she had a significant influence on the English folk revival of that period. She was an accomplished singer, composer, pianist and amateur poet and was much sought after as a song and choral singing adjudicator at music festivals throughout England. She was a founder of the Leith Hill Music Festival in Surrey.

Irene Shettle is herself a folk singer and her interest in traditional music led her to become the foremost researcher into the life of Lucy Broadwood.



Lucy Broadwood photographed in 1901 (Surrey History Centre ref: 2185/LEB/9/111)

Lucy was born in Scotland into a musical family: the Broadwoods were renowned piano-makers. At the age of six she moved with her family to Capel in Surrey.

Her father John Broadwood had published a collection of Surrey and Sussex folk songs some years before Lucy's birth, so it is little wonder that she shared an interest in this style of music. She edited a second edition of her father's work,

adding some 16 new songs, in 1890, and her other principal publication was *English Traditional Carols and Songs* which was published in 1908. In addition to her work as a folksong collector and researcher, Lucy was also a performer who gave many recitals of both classical works and folksongs. She was an accomplished piano accompanist, working with both professional singers and amateurs and a composer in her own right, having had a number of works published in her early 20s, as well as acting as an editor for works by Purcell, and as a translator of works by Bach. Much of the material relating to her activities is held at the Surrey History Centre.



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JOHN SLATFORD

When writing about *The Eager Family of Ripley* in Journal No 234, Jan/Feb 2014, I mentioned the Send marriage in 1824 of Ann Eager to Arthur Lambert of Bridgefoot Farm, which is just outside Ripley Parish on the London Road. As a result of this I met David Berliand, one of our members and the present owner of Bridgefoot Farm. This led to contact with Janice Russell in Australia and an interesting tale followed.

Ann Eager was one of the daughters of Richard Eager, the miller at Newark in the early 1800s, and his wife, Honora. Arthur and Ann Lambert had eight children, the youngest of whom, William, was the great grandfather of Janice Russell.

Janice had become interested in the eldest daughter of Arthur and Ann. Her name was Elizabeth Ann, and she was baptised in Ockham in 1829. As a result of research on ancestry.com Janice had found a record of an Elizabeth Ann Lambert who was convicted at Sussex Assizes at Lewes on 30th July 1849. She was a servant and was charged with theft from her employer. She was sentenced to seven years transportation and sailed on 5th

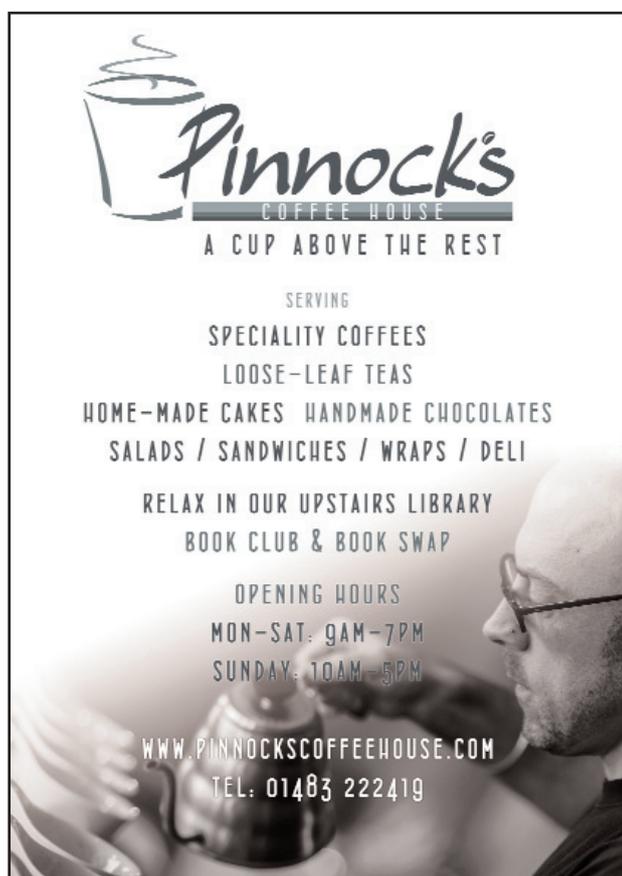
April 1850 with 189 other prisoners on the ship *Baretto Junior* for Van Diemen's Land, now, of course, Tasmania. The ship did not arrive until 5th December, over seven months after departure.

For some time, Janice believed she had found a convict in her family, but had been unable to find any more information about Elizabeth Ann. Janice came to England in the summer of 2014 and visited Bridgefoot Farm. David Berliand took her to Ockham Church where she met Gillian Lachelin. There she was able to see Lambert family graves and learn about the marriage of her great grandfather's elder sister Elizabeth Ann in 1865.

So the Elizabeth Ann sent to Tasmania was no relation. Janice's relative moved to the north with her husband and had six children after her marriage.

Janice's great grandfather, William Lambert, emigrated at some time in the mid 1860s but she has been unable to find any record of his arrival, which may have been in New Zealand or Australia.

My thanks to Janice Russell for all that she has told me.



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BRITAIN FROM ABOVE CATHERINE DAVEY

Whilst we are on the subject of online research you may want to look at the information on the Britain from Above website. It looks like a site with very addictive potential for those interested in local history.

<http://webmail.historicenglandservices.org.uk/q/1maf3qB4zTjGG8RMVgJ9/wv>

TRIGGS LOCK

CLARE MCCANN

I happened to be walking along the towpath on a beautiful mid-November afternoon when I saw a gantry over Triggs Lock. On getting closer I noticed that the lock had been drained. A barge with the old

gates on board was tied up and a set of new gates were in place. Fortunately I had my camera and thought readers might like to see a few photos.



Top left: Looking north along the River Wey from Triggs Lock - working barges

Top right: Empty lock showing the new gates

Bottom left: Lock keepers cottage and equipment by and over the empty lock and the run-off channel

Bottom right: Close up of barge with the old gates

©Clare McCann

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM CELIA MAPPES

Dear Cate,

Thank you for forwarding J245

I'm sorry it has taken so long to answer your October mail. It arrived a couple of days before I was due to leave for a short holiday in York. Shortly after we got back my husband collapsed and subsequently had to have a pacemaker, and another old friend was hospitalised with a heart attack, so my thoughts were elsewhere!

I would certainly be prepared to write something about the history of my family (incidentally the Grace family, my father was Baker): maybe it would stimulate other villagers to do the same! However, I couldn't manage it before 2016. My parents contributed a number of photos to *Looking Back* and my mother had the doubtful reputation of being one of the first Ripley women (or maybe THE first) to wear "rationals" (see page 12, figs 18 & 19). I have been

researching the Grace family for some time, so it could turn out to be a long article if I answer all your questions!

Margaret Field and I were school friends, so she can tell you all about our school days. While we are on this subject, I asked some while back if I could have a membership list of the Society, so that I could trace old friends still in Ripley. Maybe because of data protection, I never received one. The problem is that I don't know the women's married names, so I can't identify them.

Although it's a bit early, I wish you all a happy and peaceful Festive Season.

Best wishes, Celia

Editor's note- if anyone remembers Celia Baker and would like to get in touch with her let me know and I will pass on her contact details.



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MUSEUM NEWS

CLARE MCCANN – CURATOR



Newark Mill: from the exhibition at Ripley Museum

I hope that as many of you as possible got to the museum to enjoy the Newark Mill exhibition. Some of you will remember this amazing building, while to others its very existence will have been a surprise.

Our archaeology adviser, Andy Jones, together with some of his metal detectorist friends, are going to display some of their finds in the museum from mid-January until the

end of March. If you have found something unusual then be sure to get in touch.

I am hoping to put together a small exhibition about the local fire brigades. I was approached by someone at the farmers' market who said their parents had a Ripley fireman's helmet but I heard no more – if you know who they are please let me know. You can contact me at cricketshill@hotmail.com

DETECTING DAY - 3 APRIL 2016

Send & Ripley History Society are holding a metal detecting day for members only on Sunday 3 April.

There are 12 places. Please give your names to Andy Jones

andrew738jones@btinternet.com or leave a message on 01483 479647 if interested in attending.

More information will follow.

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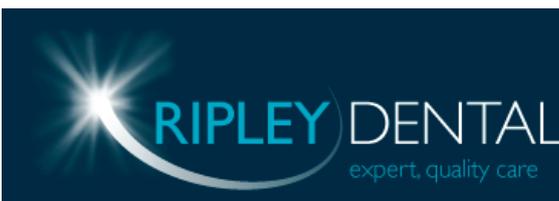
www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co

SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM NEWS AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All evening talks are at 7.30pm on Tuesdays at Ripley Village Hall, unless otherwise stated.

DATES	EVENTS
19 January	History of Ockham. Illustrated talk by Gillian Lachelin.
16 February AGM	Cheese and Wine. Local film excerpts.
22 March [3 rd Tuesday]	Circle Eight film The Life & Times of Lewis Carroll: Terence Patrick. Ice creams on sale in the interval.
3 April	Metal detecting day. Members only. There are 12 places. Please give your names to Andy Jones andrew738jones@btinternet.com or leave a message on 01483 479647 if interested in attending.
19 April	H.G. Wells and the War of the Worlds. Illustrated talk by Ian Wakeford.
17 May	A day visit to Compton - church and Watts Gallery.
Details of the topic and date for the June meeting will be announced a.s.a.p.	
Sunday 17 July	10am Guided walk to Holmbury hill fort. Followed by optional pub lunch.
Summer BBQ	Date and venue - to be confirmed.
20 September	100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme and the part played by the Queens Regiment an illustrated talk by Ian Chatfield.
18 October	Artists, Antiquaries and Collectors: Illustrations of Surrey collected by Robert Barclay of Bury Hill, Dorking, c.1800. Illustrated talk by Julian Pooley of SHC.
Saturday 12 November	Researching your House day. From 10 - 4. Speakers and assistance. Light lunch available.
13 December	The Christmas Social. Members only. In Ripley Village Hall.

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

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

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		£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
Map of WW2 Bomb Sites in Send, Ripley and Pyrford		£2.50
Memories of War and Map of Bomb Sites		£10.00
Send and Ripley Walks		£5.00
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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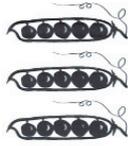


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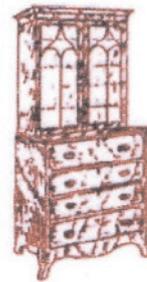
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