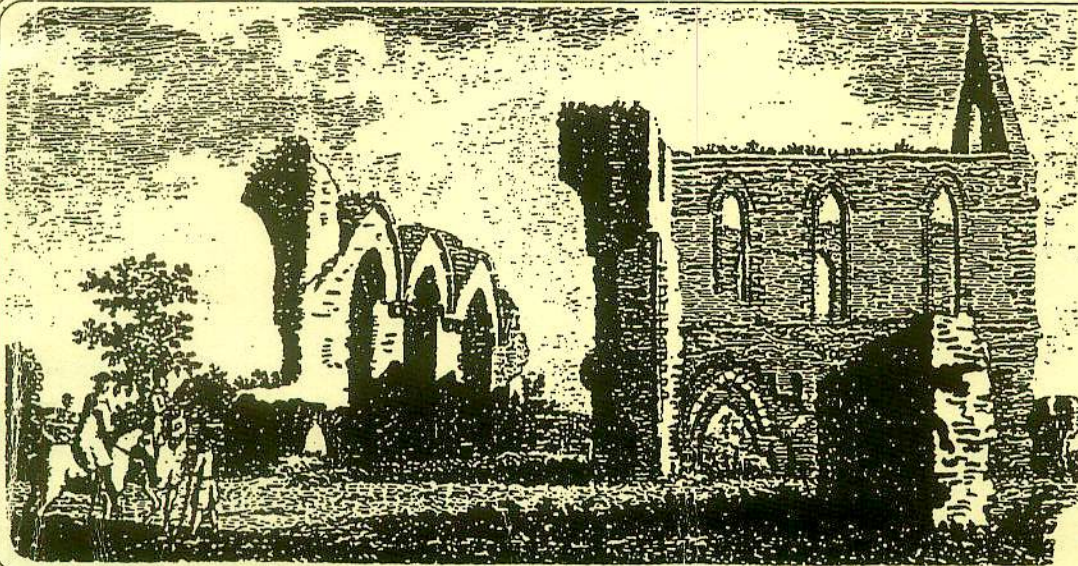


Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 296324



NEWARK PRIORY

Newsletter No.145

March/April 1999



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Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society

Registered Charity No 296324

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Newsletter No 145

March/April 1999

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Cover illustration Members gather outside the Manor House ready to embark on the visit to Cobham Bus Museum (see page 11).

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

As recorded elsewhere in the Newsletter, the Society has held its 24th AGM with now less than 12 months to go to the Millennium and, of course, our 25th anniversary. The work of the Society is, in the main, recorded by its Newsletter and the many publications that have been produced over the years. Several were produced last year and it is hoped that this year will see further publications being produced. It is hoped that there will also be some form of celebration on our 25th anniversary, and information will be forthcoming in the very near future.

Once again, the Committee has remained pretty well the same as in the previous year, except that David Porter has stepped down, but still remains a member, and at last we have been fortunate to have a volunteer for the position of Treasurer, replacing Marilyn Scrace, who has provided an excellent service in keeping our accounts and finances in order for the last four years. Not only has Marilyn looked after the books, but she has been active also in organising outdoor visits, notably to Richmond Palace and, more recently, to Roehampton in conjunction with Terry Hewitt. Marilyn remains a Committee member. We welcome Christina Sheard as our new Treasurer and trust that she will have many happy years with the Society.

I would like once again to thank Chris Parker and her husband, Geoff, Chris for typing the Newsletter to such a high standard, and Geoff for his liaison and assistance with queries, etc. I should also like to thank the contributors of articles for the Newsletter, principally Les Bowerman, John and Bette Slatford, Ken French, Jane Bartlett, Alan Baker, Pat Clack, David Porter, other members of Committee and many others who have helped to maintain the Newsletter to the high standard to which we have become accustomed. Finally, a word of thanks to George Bleach, who not only arranges the distribution of the Newsletter at the end of each two-month period, assists our Treasurer in collecting subscriptions and maintains the membership list, but also encourages our advertisers to support the Newsletter each year. Thanks to George and also to all our advertisers for their continuing support.

Last but not least, may I thank our Chairman, Les Bowerman, for standing in for me at the AGM, due to my unavoidable absence, which prevented me performing the very pleasant task of confirming to all our members what they already knew, namely, that he does so much for the Society that it certainly would not be the same without him. Once again, thanks, Les, and I hope I will be at the next AGM personally to record, on behalf of the Society, our appreciation.

CHALLEN'S GARAGE

We have learned that Send Service Garage, at the corner of Tannery Lane, has recently been sold, due to the retirement of Ray Challen. The business was founded in 1929 by Bill Challen, Ray's father, and since his death in 1974, Ray has developed the business, carrying out repairs and selling petrol as a Shell garage. We understand that Ray will continue to live locally and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

Ken Bourne

IAN KARTEN, MBE

It is a pleasure to record the award in the New Years Honours of the MBE to our member, Ian Karten, of The Millhouse, Newark Lane. Ian and his wife, Mildred, have been members since they came to Ripley some ten years ago.

The award is for generosity and commitment to charities in our area. His charitable trust makes donations to numerous charities, provides post-graduate scholarships and, more recently, has created a number of Assisted Computer Centres to allow people with disabilities to be trained in Information Technology.

John Slatford

24th AGM OF THE SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY HELD ON FEBRUARY 17 1999

There were 33 members present at the AGM, held at Ripley Village Hall Annex.

Unfortunately, due to over-enthusiastic gardening, our President, Ken Bourne, was unable to be present, so the meeting commenced with the Chairman, Les Bowerman, welcoming those present, and saying we had had another good and productive year, notably the successful reprint of "Then and Now" and the new "Pubs" book, for which Clare McCann and Jane Bartlett were thanked for all their hard work. Another highlight was the Schools Exhibition at the Museum, which brought many visitors and former pupils; this was researched and presented by David Porter, Clare McCann and Sheila Brown. Les continued with thanks to Ken for the continuing high standard of the Newsletter, in spite of his move to Frome earlier in the year; also to Audrey Sykes, Secretary, for her efficiency and for arranging most of the year's programme. Tribute was paid to Marilyn Scrace, our Treasurer, still wishing to retire, but coping with the help of George Bleach. John and Bette Slatford were recognised for their close interest in the Museum, documentary research and all the book sales; Tony and Patricia Medlen for running our stall at the Send Scouts' fête and Patricia the raffles during the winter months' meetings.

Marilyn Scrace presented and explained the accounts, saying we were in a sound financial position. She paid particular attention to the contribution by George Bleach, whose persuasion of various advertisers means that the Newsletter virtually pays for itself. Mr Finn was thanked for preparing our accounts. It was stated that it would not be necessary to raise the subscriptions this year.

Audrey Sykes, Secretary, gave a brief report on talks and outings held during 1998, making particular mention of the dinner and cruise on the River Wey.

Election of officers was as follows:

President, Ken Bourne

Chairman, Les Bowerman

Vice-Chairman, Tony Medlen

Secretary, Audrey Sykes

Treasurer, Christina Sheard

Assistant Treasurer and Membership Secretary, George Bleach

Committee members, Alan Baker, Anne Bowerman, Irene Bleach, Patricia Medlen, Clare McCann and Marilyn Scrace.

Les Bowerman welcomed Christina Sheard as our new Treasurer and thanked David Porter, who is retiring, for all his hard work in the past.

On conclusion of the business part of the meeting, refreshments were enjoyed, and these were followed by an illustrated talk by Jane Bartlett, entitled "Send and Ripley, the Villages As They Were", which described life in "the big house" and existence in the poorer dwellings. One can only wonder at Jane's encyclopaedic knowledge of local families and how they lived in years gone by - an enthralling presentation much appreciated by the audience.

Audrey Sykes

SRHS MUSEUM AND ARCHIVE ACQUISITIONS

The new Inventory of Antiquities was produced for display at the AGM and copies have been given to those with most use for them. A further copy is tucked inside the Acquisitions Book in the Museum and is available for all members to consult. Among acquisitions not previously noted in the Newsletter are various 1st Ripley Scout Group papers, formerly belonging to the Group Scout Leader, Stuart Paice, and minute books and photograph albums of the Send Afternoon Women's Institute, from its date of foundation in 1933 to its demise in 1993.

Les Bowerman (Archivist)

SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

(Established in 1975 as Send History Society)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 31 DECEMBER 1998

	1998 £	1997 £
Income		
Subscriptions	1,525	1,476
Publication Sales (Net Profit)	1,024	640
Sundry Income	29	20
Donations & Funds Raised for Museum	302	323
Income from Investments	176	139
	<u>3,056</u>	<u>2,598</u>
Expenditure		
Museum Expenditure	-	68
Newsletter (Net Cost)	756	786
Exhibitions Expenses	587	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	946	546
	<u>2,289</u>	<u>1,400</u>
Excess of Income over Expenditure	767	1,198
Reserves Brought Forward	8,632	7,434
Reserves Carried Forward	<u>9,399</u>	<u>8,632</u>

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1998

	Note		
Fixed Assets	2	1	1
Current Assets	3	9,861	9,532
Current Liabilities	4	(463)	(901)
		<u>9,399</u>	<u>8,632</u>

Approved by the Committee on 16 February 1999 and signed on their behalf by:

Ben Bow Chairman

M J Scrace Treasurer

SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

(Established in 1975 as Send History Society)

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1998

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are stated on an accrual basis and include income & expenditure as they are earned and incurred.

2 Fixed Assets	£
Cost	
At 1/1/98 & 31/12/98	487
Depreciation	
At 1/1/98 & 31/12/98	(486)
Net Book Value at 31/12/98	<u>1</u>

Since its formation the Society has had in its possession various items, most of which have been donated, on which it is not possible to put a value. These are held in trust and are not included in the Assets. A list is available for inspection by members.

	1998 £	1997 £
3 Current Assets		
Stock of Publications (Note 6)	3,741	1,250
Cash at Bank	2,267	4,478
Cash at Building Society	3,844	3,769
Cash in Hand	9	35
	<u>9,861</u>	<u>9,532</u>
4 Current Liabilities		
Subscriptions prepaid	<u>463</u>	<u>901</u>

5 Ripley Museum

The ownership of the building is vested in the Ripley Hall Management Committee. The Society has the exclusive right to use the building free of rent in perpetuity. The costs of refurbishing and equipment are charged to Income & Expenditure in the year of expenditure.

6 Stocks of Publications

The stocks are valued at cost, less due allowance for slow moving items.

CHANGES IN RIPLEY

By John Slatford

THE CHEMIST SHOP

After over 100 years, we have to record that the present-day Ripley Pharmacy is moving. Fortunately, the business is not lost to the village since it is reopening at London House on the corner of Rose Lane, until recently the RACO mobile phone shop.

There are records of a chemist shop in the village from around 1845, but from then until about 1890, the shop seems to have been where the Curry Garden Restaurant is today. The chemist from about 1845 till about 1880 was Thomas Garlike. After he left, Joseph Sclater Jones took over and stayed until some time after 1891. However, by 1891 it seems he had moved to the present shop, the former White Horse Inn. Kelly's Directory for 1895 records that Henry Edmond Allenby had become the village chemist. He remained for almost 50 years and is well remembered by older residents.

Kenneth White acquired the business after Henry Allenby died in 1943, and he was joined soon after by Jack Ellard, and by John Hutson as a school leaver. Even after Ken White retired, the shop remained as Kenneth E White until Jack Ellard finally retired, when the present company took over and renamed it Ripley Pharmacy.

THE COFFEE SHOP

It is also sad to record that the café next to Clifford James has closed after many years, due to retirement of the owner of the business. At this time, we have no information on the future of the premises.

BRIWELL MOTORS

There is yet another change at the Methold site on Portsmouth Road. Briwell Motors have established a prestigious car sales base on the forecourt now that the petrol sales business has gone. Briwell have recently been on a site at Burnt Common and were previously in Ripley High Street. ACK Services, who took over the Methold service workshop, continue as before.

No 4 ISLAND COTTAGES, RIPLEY

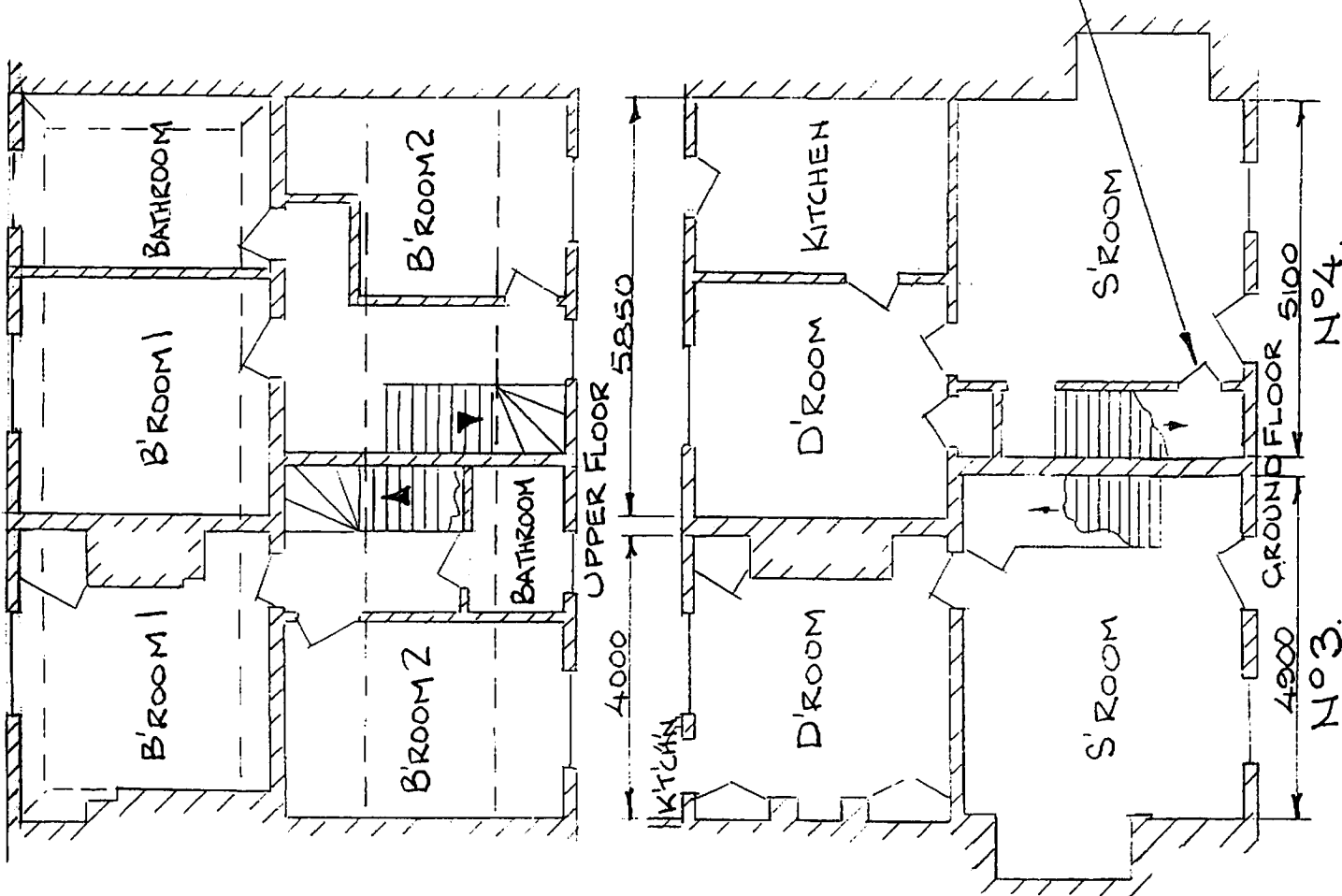
By Bette and John Slatford

In Newsletter 142, we reported on a survey carried out at No 3 Island Cottages. Since then, a further opportunity has occurred to study the other one of the original pair, No 4. Once again, thanks are due to Bill Heath at Goodrick-Meech for making this possible.

Although the houses were built as a pair, it was immediately apparent that No 4 is a bigger house than No 3. It has an extra room downstairs and larger rooms upstairs. Otherwise, the principal difference is in the staircase at No 4, which is enclosed and rises towards the front of the house.

Just inside the front door is an original pine door, opening into a cupboard under the stairs. This door has original blacksmiths' hinges and there are two holes approximately 35 mm (1½") in diameter, possibly for ventilation (see photo).

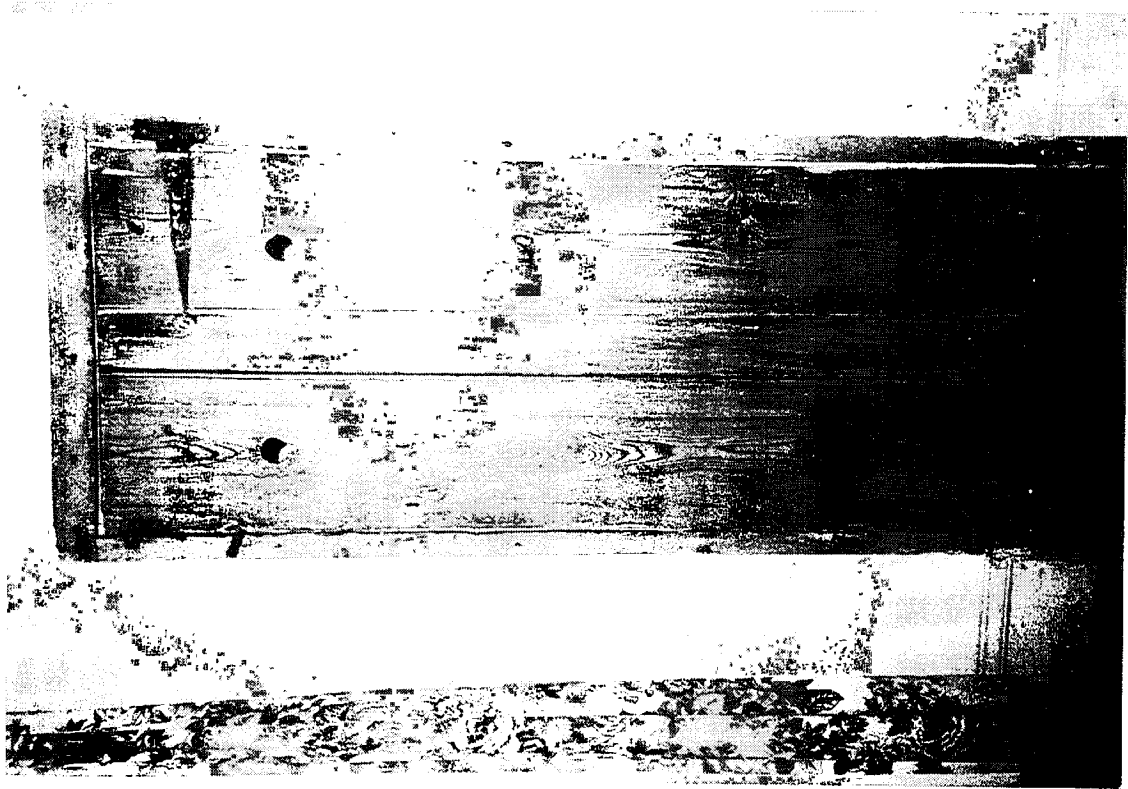
As in No 3, there is much exposed timber studding in the partition walls. All other details are generally the same. The plan drawing of the pair shows that the common chimney at the rear is offset into No 3 to make the floor area of No 4 that much larger.



JS Nov 98

UNDERSTAIRS CUPBOARD IN N° 4.

ISLAND COTTAGES, RIPLEY



RIPLEY TRANSFORMERS, HIGH STREET, RIPLEY

By Bette and John Slatford

An opportunity arose recently to study and record a collection of documents relating to this property adjacent to the Anchor. We are grateful to the owner, Mr Derek Taylor, and Mr Graham Luscombe, at Ripley Transformers Ltd. for making this possible. A copy of our transcribed scheduled documents covering ownerships during a period from 1814 up to the 1970s has been deposited at the Surrey History Centre.

An earlier study of the cottages on this site was reported in the Society's Newsletter Number 53, and there were further references given in Newsletter No 60 regarding early ownership. It was then concluded that there may at one time have been three cottages in the block, now Ripley Transformers. In the documentary records, there is a probable reference to a part of these in the year 1559, but otherwise the earliest positive date is 1669. Ownership had long been intricately involved with that of the Anchor. Details of copyhold admissions to these properties up to the early 1800s had previously been obtained from the Rolls of the Manor of Ripley & Send, which were transcribed in the Society's early days.

Before the last century, identification of property in title deeds and similar documents was usually done by defining boundaries and previous owners and occupiers. Our first President, Jim Oliver, called this the "memory of man". Maps or plans were rarely produced, except for the large estates. Also, in the Court Rolls, details of copyhold rental, etc, were recorded, and since these rarely, if ever, changed over the years, this is another way of identifying property and its succession of ownership.

In the case of Ripley Transformers' property, there were a number of such clues in the Court Rolls. Firstly, there are sequential entries to former occupation by Richard Richmond right up to 1908 (although he died in 1758)! He was a tailor and is recorded with his family in Ripley in the early 1700s. Secondly, the copyhold rental was always recorded from the 17th century as 6 shillings and 8 pence. Thirdly, there are sequential references to "the messuage adjoining the Chapel Yard being the corner house there", and "one other messuage ... adjoining ... to The Anchor". The Court Baron of 1559 recorded that Mary Kelsey was admitted to a tenement with garden next "le Chappel in Ripley" at a rental of 6s 8d, and that shortly after, she surrendered "to the benefit and use of Joan Cox". In 1580, what seems to be the same cottage passed to James Atlee. The trail then goes cold for nearly 100 years, when, in 1669, Alice Smart surrendered and was then readmitted with her daughter, also Alice, to "a messuage ... bearing the sign of an anchor" and "another messuage adjacent to the aforesaid messuage and the churchyard of the Chapel of Ripley ... rent 6s 8d". Subsequently, in 1679, James Champion was admitted as tenant. James afterwards figured prominently in the Court Rolls for almost 60 years until his death in 1736. His wife, Hannah, had died ten years earlier and, since he did not appear to have any surviving children, his Ripley property passed to his nephews, John and James Hole. James Champion's home was the house opposite the Anchor, today known as the Manor House. After this passed to the Hole brothers, it became known for well over 100 years as Hole's Cottages, although James Hole died in 1736, shortly after inheriting.

In 1794, John Hole died, leaving all the property to his wife, Judith, and, on her death, to his niece, Ann, the daughter of Francis Whitburn of Cobham. Judith lived until 1821, but in 1799, she passed her Anchor property on to Ann, who was by then married to William Turner, a sadler in Ripley. He in turn became the copyhold tenant of the "Ripley Transformers" block a year later.

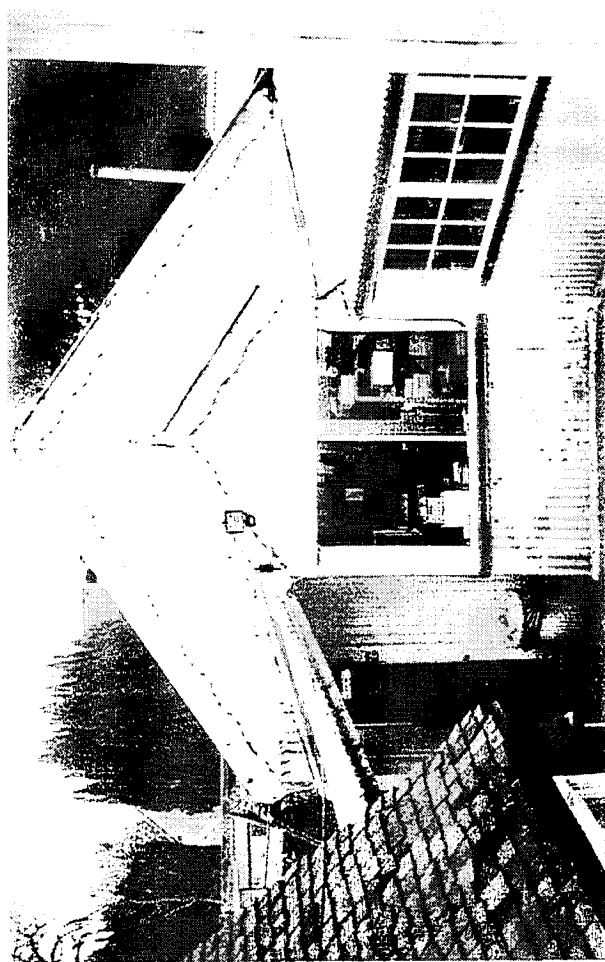
In 1813, William Turner was made bankrupt and his property was put up for sale by auction. At this time, ownership of the cottages appears to have split. The Anchor and the next door cottage were sold to Francis Whitburn, yeoman of Send, for £320, and the corner cottage went to George Harden for £190. Francis Whitburn surrendered the Anchor some five years later to his nephew, Robert Whitburn, brewer of Ripley.



JOHN VALENTINE SAVAGE'S PREMISES, C 1880.



RIPLEY TRANSFORMERS LTD., RIO HOUSE, 1997.



THE VICTORIAN CORRUGATED-IRON DINING HALL

It was at this time that a John Hyde comes into the picture. He was described as a mealman or cornchandler and lived in the house which is now Hartley Antiques, although the family may have been from Weybridge or Walton. He loaned £300 to George Harden as a conditional surrender and, when Harden failed to repay, obtained an absolute surrender in 1826, thus becoming the copyhold owner.

Meanwhile, Robert Whitburn was borrowing heavily to expand his brewing and innkeeping business, to the extent that he was declared bankrupt, and all his property was sold at auction on 1 October 1833 at the Talbot. Among his debts was £4730 to Anthony Sterry, an oilman of Southwark. At the auction, John Hyde paid £100 for the messuage next to the Anchor. Thus he became copyhold owner of the whole of the property now known as Ripley Transformers.

John Hyde died in 1837 and according to his will, subject to a life interest from his wife, Sarah, his property was divided between his daughter, Mary, and son, John. By 1841, John was a baker at the Hartley Antiques house, with his mother living with him. John died in 1842 and Mary, who never married, and seems to have lived in Walton, died in 1874. By that time most of the beneficiaries in her will had also died and her "Ripley Transformers" property went to her nephew, Robert Hyde, the eldest son of her elder brother, also Robert and also deceased. The younger Robert seems to have used his inheritance to secure an annuity equal to £1 10s per week from George Jarvis, an ironmonger in Weybridge, the absolute surrender to Jarvis being recorded in the Court Baron of 1876. In 1879, Jarvis sold the block to John Valentine Savage for £350, possibly for the benefit of Robert Hyde. Savage may have been in possession earlier since he arrived in Ripley some time before 1871, first living next to the Talbot. He financed the purchase by obtaining a mortgage for the full amount from Thomas Woodbury, a butcher from Godalming.

During the period of ownership by the Hydies, the cottages were let to tenants. For much of this time, the cottage next to the Anchor was occupied by Arthur Williams, an agricultural labourer, and his wife, Sarah. Also resident next door in 1851 and 1861 was John Weight, described as a bookseller, stationer, tea dealer, National Schoolmaster and Parish Clerk - he must have been a busy man!

The arrival of John Valentine Savage was the start of a new era for this part of Ripley. He came from London and was a mineral water and ginger beer manufacturer. Being a contemporary of the Stansfield brothers, one would have expected that they were competitors in this business. This was apparently not always so, since at one stage there was some form of partnership. In our Museum we have, in our bottle collection, one that is embossed "Stansfield & Savage, Ripley". Beyond saying this bottle possibly dates from the 1870s, we have no other evidence of the association with Stansfields.

In the 1881 Census, Savage was resident with his wife, Emma, and son, also John Valentine. In 1887 he left Ripley and transferred his ginger beer business to Walton-on-Thames. He or his son continued there until around 1915. We also have some of his bottles from the later period. After leaving, Savage sold the cottages to William Skelton, who was resident there in 1891 as a tobacconist, but later described as a refreshment house keeper. There is a photograph of Skelton's shop front which says "Est'd 188?", the last digit being masked by ivy. The sale did not actually take place until 1895, when Skelton paid Savage £490. There was then a somewhat complicated series of transactions whereby Skelton paid off Savage's mortgage to Woodbury's executors by obtaining a new mortgage from Thomas Lucas, who was the entrepreneurial grocer at the shop which is now Town & Country Cars. This mortgage was for £350, to repay Savage's debt to the Woodburys and £200 for Skelton himself. The latter raises an interesting question. Was it to pay for the corrugated iron building at the rear? Although this has been thought to be of an earlier date, there is no hard evidence of when it was built. It is unlikely that Savage would have needed anything of that size for his ginger beer business. It was later described as a dining hall, which would tie in with Skelton's establishing a "refreshment house" here. He almost certainly added the present-day shop front, since there are earlier photographs showing just a stable-type door in this position.

In 1900, Skelton sold out to the Friary Holroyd & Healey Brewery, but it seems that he remained as a tenant, running his tearoom until 1908. Until this time, the property was still

copyhold, and it was in that year that it was enfranchised by the Earl of Onslow to the brewery, ie made freehold, and that William Skelton left. The brewery then sold the cottages to Bertha Gibbons, whose husband, Alfred, was landlord at the Anchor. She continued to own the tea and dining rooms (see the front cover of Newsletter No 136) until 1924, when the property was sold to Herbert George Miles, at that time a police officer in Bordon. By then, it was known as Rio Cottage and Rio Tearooms. In 1934, Herbert Miles and his wife, Florence, then living in Boughton Hall Avenue, and probably intending to retire, let the Rio Tearooms to Charles and Sarah Allwork for five years at £130 per annum.

The Allworks were a family of many and varied interests in Ripley. As well as the tearooms, they ran a school at Rio Cottage for a period before the war. They were also builders, undertakers, garage owners and coach and other transport operators. We have been told that they once featured as the Ripley family that did "all work" in the series called "Believe It or Not", by Ripley, that used to appear in the *Sunday Express*.

At the beginning of the Second World War, the Allworks moved to the London end of the village and the Miles returned to run the tearoom themselves. A year later, they leased the property to Horace and Sidney Ford, and there was a change of use for it to be a "leather grindery". We are told that the premises were used all through the war, mainly making leather soles for army boots. H & S Ford continued to lease the buildings until Miles died in 1963, and then from AST Investments, who had purchased from the son and daughter of Herbert Miles as his executors. Shortly after this, Fords sub-let part of the property to Ordish Taylor Ltd (J D Ordish & D R Taylor) for use as an electronics research laboratory. Ordish Taylor became Ripley Transformers Ltd in 1966, and eventually in 1975, the company acquired the freehold of the entire Rio House property. At the start of 1999, Derek Taylor retired and the business continues, under Graham Luscombe as Managing Director, producing speciality coil-wound devices for the electronics industry.

In Newsletter No 53, it was concluded that whilst there is evidence of earlier construction, most of what can be seen today is of early or mid 18th century build, except for the late 19th century corrugated iron building. Thus the present buildings would have been additions to, or rebuilds of, a house or houses on this site before 1559, as indicated by the documentary evidence of the Court Rolls.

We are grateful to Derek Taylor and Graham Luscombe for making the documents available to us and for their permission to produce this report.

SOCIETY VISIT TO THE COBHAM BUS MUSEUM

On Sunday, 25 October, 14 Society members, including myself, paid an afternoon visit to the Cobham Bus Museum. It had been decided to travel to and from the Museum as a private party upon a former Greenline Coach, the starting point of the trip being the Manor at Send Marsh.

I had negotiated, on behalf of the Society, the hire of the recently-restored Greenline Coach No RP90 (JPA 190K), formerly a Guildford-based vehicle, currently owned by a group of enthusiasts, including my good friend, Mr Mike Nash, from the Cobham Museum.

Mike and his team parked RP90, resplendent in its original green livery, outside the Manor for a prompt 2 pm departure. This vehicle is one of only four survivors of a fleet of 90, the final three being part of Guildford's allocation in 1972. These AEC Reliance Coaches were the last vehicles to operate the 715 service from Guildford to Hertford over the former London Transport Greenline network. RP90 also saw service on local bus routes, in particular the 463 to Walton-on-Thames and the 436 service to Staines (with myself driving on some occasions!). This vehicle was certainly no stranger to Send and Ripley. With our Society members on board, RP90 was once again back in Ripley High Street, after a very long absence, heading for Cobham.

Upon our arrival at Cobham, we were met by Mr Bill Cottrel, who conducted a very interesting guided tour of the Museum. The exhibits covered a wide range of London buses, early examples being powered by petrol engines. Currently under restoration was a double-decker utility vehicle dating from World War 2. These vehicles were built by Guy Motors and had to comply with wartime regulations. Another rare vehicle was RM3, one of the four prototype Routemasters, now well over 40 years old. Bill explained why RM3 was so important to the Museum, in many ways so different from the rest of the fleet, but to the man in the street - just another London bus! Bill knew the important details and answered many technical questions.

Our party left the Bus Museum around 4.30 pm on board RP90 and alighted from the vehicle at Send Marsh Green bus stop. October 25 was the last open day at the Cobham Bus Museum prior to the vehicles being stored for the winter.

I would like to thank Bill Cottrel for a most interesting tour of the Museum, and, of course, Mike Nash, whose co-operation in offering his Greenline Coach to our Society.

David Porter

THE NEW SURREY HISTORY CENTRE

By Alan Baker

Since 31 October last year, Surrey has had a properly integrated History Centre in a purpose-designed building at 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking GU21 1ND. This impressive facility replaces the Surrey Record Office and the Surrey Local Studies Library, which occupied various parts of five different buildings in Kingston and Guildford, "none of them satisfactory for visitors or collections", according to David Robinson, the County Archivist. Also housed in the new establishment are Surrey's Archaeological Unit and Museum Development Office.

The Centre, which cost about £6.5 million, funded jointly by the Surrey County Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund, is easily accessible, being near the station and on several local bus services, as well as having a sizeable car park, round the back in Kingsway. There is no doubt that it has plenty to offer to the public and societies such as ours. For a start, the archive collections date from the 12th century and include original records of churches, schools, hospitals, poor relief and charities, also business and local organisations, plus manors and private estates. Other collections include newspapers and directories, copies of Surrey census returns and wills.

These collections, kept in proper strong rooms where appropriate, are, of course, open to examination by interested people and bodies, there being a light and spacious study room with a good complement of computers (with Internet access and databases), as well as viewers and readers. Internet addicts will be pleased to know that a free Noticeboard section is included in the "Local History Magazine" website (www.local-history.co.uk), and can be used to publicise meetings, services, etc. or to seek help. Staff are able to assist visitors in various ways - eg by advising researchers on relevant sources of information, arranging guided tours of the Centre or giving talks to local organisations.

There are extensive workshops, where new acquisitions are examined, sorted, cleaned or repaired as necessary, before cataloguing and storing, and it is worth stressing that the Centre is keen to acquire or borrow original records, photographs, etc, relating to Surrey's history. Finally, on your way to the pleasant refreshment room, be sure to have a good look at the spectacular "Surrey Tapestry" that hangs in the foyer, telling the story of our county over 2000 years.

To learn more about the Centre and/or to visit it, contact the very helpful Mrs Sally Jenkinson on 01483 594602, fax 01483 594595, or use her E-mail address - sally.jenkinson@surreycc.gov.uk. Opening hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30 am-5 pm; Thursday, 5.30-7.30 pm; Saturday, 9.30 am-4 pm. Organised tours are most convenient on Mondays, when the Centre is closed to the general public.

NORMAN JENKINS 1914-98

An Appreciation by Valerie Harris (Née Clack)

Every week, the *Times Educational Supplement* carries a column called "My Best Teacher", in which a famous person describes the influence their favourite teacher has had on their lives. Almost invariably, they select a Secondary School teacher, a subject specialist who in some way has influenced the choice of career which has brought them fame. Now, while I cannot claim to be famous, I have ended up as a member of the teaching profession, and I am convinced that the Sixth Formers I teach - like me - were influenced a long time before they reached Secondary School.

Being a teacher, I feel I am qualified to define the word "best" rather more accurately than some of the TE's columnists. Mr (Norman) Jenkins fitted the word perfectly. He clearly enjoyed his job, an enjoyment which was obvious, even to us 11-year-olds. He taught me for the last two years of my Primary School life, and was keen that we should learn more than the facts or skills necessary to pass the 11-plus exam, which all of us then had to endure. I do not remember (and many apologies if this was not the case!) any of my teachers before Mr Jenkins using words like *Find out ... why? ... Look it up yourself*. But he inspired, encouraged, developed individualism - not easy in a class of up to 40! Every day, after registration, we would sit and chat, not in an undisciplined way, of course - still hands up and wait your turn - but it was amazing how much he managed to find out about each of us. And he would remember the facts he had gleaned, too - and was not above using them against us if we misbehaved! His highly developed sense of humour sometimes showed itself in sarcasm, but it certainly brought us to heel. I recall one example directed at Adrian Richardson, a fellow pupil, whose sister had a baby in 1966 or 1967. Whenever he wanted Adrian's attention after this, it was "Uncle Adrian!"

While it was possible to be on the receiving end of his sharp and witty tongue if we did not toe the line, all of us loved to be praised by Mr Jenkins. A correct answer, a surprising display of intelligence, a good try, even if wrong, an improvement in performance, all brought praise and comment. He had a way of making firm eye contact, which I do not remember in many of my teachers before or since, of looking at you, perhaps uncomfortably long, of caring how and why you had got that answer, and challenging you to confess if your neighbour had whispered it to you! This is a trick I have tried to carry into my own teaching, and noting the effect it has on my own students sometimes makes me squirm like the 11-year-old I once was.

In recent years, Mr Jenkins has been teaching one-to-one, as indeed he did throughout his teaching career, as a piano teacher of both children and adults. Much of what I have remembered - his sense of humour, the wry smile at an accidental error, the "You expect me to believe that?" expression at uncompleted homework or lack of practice - will, I suspect, ring as true with his recent pupils as with me. His love of music was always a powerful part of his classroom teaching; he would sing to himself while marking our books, then catch us sniggering at the next child in the queue and bark "Well, come on then, what was I humming?" Woe betide any of us who could not recognise Grieg's *Morning* or extracts from *The Messiah*. He taught music throughout the school, and, of course, played for assemblies. I always used to muse whether the wedding parties he later played for wondered why they got such a loud note before the start of each verse ... It was to wake up the sleepy children at the back of the hall, and I suspect was a habit he never lost!

My husband, also a pupil at Send Primary School, remembers gardening "lessons" with Mr Jenkins, growing potatoes behind the bike sheds while the girls did homework! Being the only male teacher, he took all the boys for sports as well. Mr Jenkins also produced the school plays, all of them musicals, of course!, choosing the pupils for parts without audition, which showed how well he knew us all. The excitement of waiting for the announcement of cast lists remains with me; the surprise at some of his choices, which rarely turned out to be unjustified;

rehearsals and the backstage bustle of the final performances. Mrs (Joyce) Jenkins, who also taught me lower down the school, used to do the make-up for the productions, and provide the support and calming of nerves before each entrance; I think she also used to prompt.

Richard Jenkins was in my year at school, but never received any favouritism that I can remember. It only occurred to me years after leaving Send Primary School that both Mr and Mrs Jenkins had every reason to resent me if I beat Richard in a test, but they certainly never showed it. I do, however, remember Mr Jenkins occasionally teasing the boys to pull up their socks because the girls were outstripping them; in the light of today's educational problems, that seems ironically prophetic.

It is Mr Jenkins' fairness, his sense of humour, his gentle use of sarcasm instead of shouting at misdemeanours, his love of teaching and his desire to inspire all his pupils to see learning as an end in itself that have remained with me. I choose him as my best teacher and know that he will be sadly missed by many of his past and recent pupils.

One additional memory that has been given to me is of Mr Jenkins, seated on a chair on the playground, bowling to his pupils, in his own unique form of rounders!

Norman died on October 15 1998, the service subsequently being held at Woking Crematorium.



THE MANOR HOUSE, by John Baker

JOHN L BAKER - OBITUARY

Artist John Baker died, aged 76, on 5 January 1999. A close friend of Jim Oliver, our first President, John was a formative influence in the early days of the Society, although he was never a member. Together with Kenneth Gravett, the leading figure in the Surrey Local History Council, they formed a triumvirate of very large men, who together had an encyclopaedic knowledge of Surrey vernacular architecture and an uncanny ability to interpret the history and development of old houses. They did much to foster our interest in the subject and showed our Buildings Group how to set about understanding the buildings of Send and Ripley, especially the Mediaeval ones, of which we are privileged to have several.

Although mainly an equine artist, in 1966 John Baker began in the *Surrey Advertiser* his regular "Seeing Eye" feature, in which he selected an old Surrey building, drew a pen & ink sketch of it and, usually with advice from Jim Oliver, detailed in the paper its history and development. The series continued until 1983, when John moved to Wiltshire, and resumed briefly in 1989.

John's earliest reports in the series were numbered, but as those appeared before the formation of the Society in 1975, I unfortunately kept few of those. The following are of greatest interest to us. There may be other local ones from the 1966-74 period.

Date	Title	
13.05.67	Ripley Court	(17 in series)
? ? ?	Manor House, Ripley	(21 in series)
? ? ?	Old house at Send Grove (usually known to us as The Yeoman's House)	
? ? ?	Send Court Farm	
22.09.79	Dedswell Manor Farm	
26.10.74	High Street, Ripley	
25.01.75	Vintage Cottage and Dowells Store, Ripley	
29.03.75	Manor House, Send Marsh	
27.09.75	Tobycraft and Amberley Cottage, Ripley	
28.08.76	Piper's Cottage, Grove Heath	
26.02.77	Send Church	
12.11.77	All Saints Church, Ockham	
30.09.78	The Anchor, Ripley	
22.09.79	Newark Mill (not actually in the "Seeing Eye" series)	
15.03.80	April Cottage, Send Marsh Green	
31.01.81	Triggs Lock, the Wey Navigation, Send	

I was already an enthusiastic member of the Mayford History Society (now the Woking History Society), and it was largely the early "Seeing Eye" reports of Send buildings which encouraged me to start the then Send History Society. Our Society was just taking off when the report on the Manor House, Send Marsh, appeared, and it was that, coupled with the fact that it was then up for sale and looking neglected, that inspired Anne and me to buy it. We were later able to buy John Baker's original drawing, which, framed in oak, now occupies pride of place in the main reception room.

The Society mourns a good friend (albeit that we had seen nothing of him for many years), a superb artist, and a dedicated Surrey local historian. John Baker's obituary appeared in the *Surrey Advertiser* of 8 January 1999.

Les Bowerman

MEMORIES OF BILL CHALLEN

On hearing of Ray Challen's retirement as proprietor of Send Service Garage, memories came back of his father, Bill, who was a very great friend of my father's (Harold Gibbons). My father did not drive, and during the war Bill's eyesight was rapidly failing; these two facts combined with the black-out, made them a lethal combination on the road, but nevertheless they covered a good few miles. Whenever Bill had a collection or a delivery to be made, ie to Vickers at Weybridge or at Maidstone, he took my father along, mainly for his expertise geographically. They were even known to have travelled as far as Norfolk, staying the night, and I know both my mother and Mrs Challen had grave doubts and were always relieved to receive a telephone call and somewhat surprised to have them return unscathed.

As my father was a bookmaker, he was unable to visit major race meetings, so he liked to see the courses on the previous Sunday. I recall one occasion when he thought he would like to see the Derby course the previous weekend, and we accordingly set out. Bill appeared to be going a route my father did not know, but he didn't question it for a while, until he could stand it no longer and asked Bill which way he was going. It transpired that Bill thought we were going to the Ascot course, not Epsom.

On September 3 1939, we were having our six-monthly day out to Dorset; Bill really enjoyed going to the little village where my grandmother lived, and was always loath to charge Dad because he considered it a family outing for him too. I remember we arrived there at 10.50 am and all gathered round Grandma's little radio to hear Chamberlain speak.

Another of your correspondents, Ken French, spent many hours with Bill and Dad, standing outside the garage, putting the world to rights.

Yes, many happy memories!

Pat Clack

MEMBERS' INTERESTS - SURVEY

Nineteen members completed the survey, which was circulated some four months ago. It was disappointing that more did not take the opportunity to tell us which aspects of local history particularly interested them, but that is no doubt the way with this sort of thing. It must be assumed that those who did participate are those who feel most strongly, and that the remainder are broadly satisfied with the way things are. A summary of the replies is as follows.

Interested in Local Memories	12
Buildings Group	7
Photographic Group	7
Transport	6
Documentary Group	4
Museum exhibits	3
Industrial archaeology	3
Social matters	1
Historical geography	1
Agriculture	1
Pre-Domesday	1

Additionally, one wishes to visit the Old Cricketers and Seven Oaks, and another wishes to learn how to research.

Unfortunately, the results cannot be very representative, due to the paucity of replies, but nevertheless they do provide food for thought for the Committee.

Les Bowerman (Chairman)

NEW MEMBERS

And how welcome they always are! But I am in real trouble and liable to get the sack - because, in recent months, I have forgotten to include new names in successive Newsletters. I hope to get another job soon, but in the meantime, here is a list of some recent recruits, and welcome them we certainly do!

Ken Smart, with his red removal vans, of Newark Lane, Ripley.

Mr & Mrs J Chandler, of High Street, Ripley.

Mr & Mrs M Jennings, of Littlehampton, West Sussex.

Mr A Hollis, of Maybankes, Tannery Lane, Send.

Mrs I Whiting, of Send Road, Send.

Mr & Mrs G V Bloomer, of Send Hill, Send.

Mick Worsfold, who I think is a "rejoiner", now at Langney, Eastbourne.

Tim Toghill (previously a member?), now in North London, is back for more!

Jim & Betty Pamplin, of Maple Road, Send Marsh, admit to having been "absent without leave" and we are now looking up the right punishment!

For the moment, that's it, but if you have been "let in", but also "left out", please drop me a line or a phone call. and we'll soon put the matter right. Many thanks.

George Bleach

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 8 - 8 pm, Ripley Annex

"Graphology", by Sue Biddle: your character from your handwriting.

Monday, 3 May - Send May Day Fête

The Society will have its usual stand and hopes to have a number of items for sale: books, bric-à-brac, etc. Please contact Audrey Sykes, our Secretary, if you wish to contribute any items for sale on behalf of the Society.

Thursday, June 10 - 7 pm, The Manor House, Send Manor House, Send Marsh

It has been decided to repeat this very popular walk around Send Marsh Green, looking at a number of houses of historical interest in the area. Meet at the Manor House at 6.45 for a prompt start at 7 pm. Please let Les Bowerman know you wish to attend: 01483 224876.

Tuesday, July 27 - 7 pm, the Manor Hous, Send Marsh

Visit to Whiteley Village, created by William Whiteley in 1907.

Thursday, September 23 - 8 pm, Send Church Room

A talk on Guildford House, its history and current use, illustrated by Iris Hawkins, ex-Curator.

Wednesday, November 17 - 8 pm, Ripley Annex

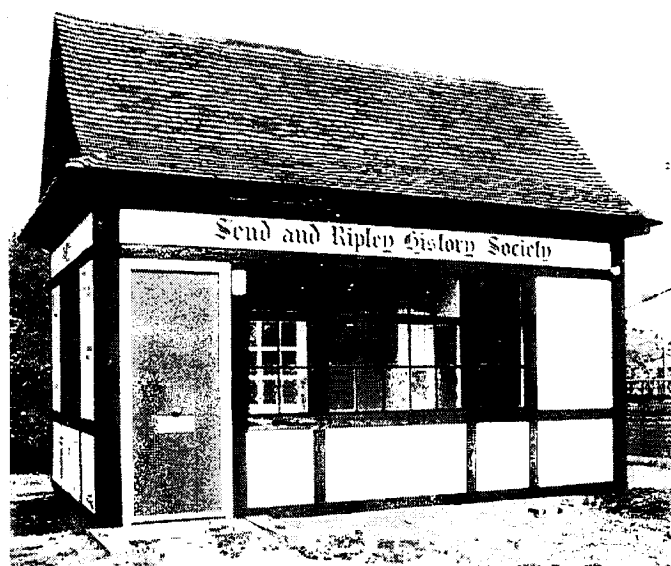
"Festive Food", a talk by Mrs Ann Jones of Farnham Museum.

Monday, January 24 2000 - the Hautboy Hotel, Ockham

Advance notice of the Society's Millennium and 25th anniversary dinner - details to follow in the next Newsletter. Please reserve this date in your diary.

Newsletter Contributions

The closing date for contributions to the next Newsletter is Friday, 7 May 1999.



SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM

OPEN: May-September, Saturdays 10-12.30 & 2-4.00.
October-April, Saturdays 10-12.30

ALSO: 3rd Sunday of each month, so as to coincide
with Ripley Antique Fair, in the Village Hall.

Other times for school groups and small parties
by arrangement.

*Please contact George or Irene Bleach on 01483 222233 if
you require information or wish to help in the museum.*

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

"Ripley & Send Then and Now, the Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life"	£10 Reprint 1998
"Guide to Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Send"	£1.25
"Then and Now, a Victorian Walk around Ripley"	Reference copy only
"The Straight Furrow", by Fred Dixon	£1.50
"Ripley and Send - Looking Back"	£4.95
"A Walk about Ripley Village in Surrey"	£2.00
"Newark Mill, Ripley, Surrey"	£2.85
"The Hamlet of Grove Heath, Ripley, Surrey"	£4.00
"Ripley and Send - an Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures"	£6.00

The reference copy is available at the Museum. All the others are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of "Ripley & Send Then and Now" is additionally available at Send Post Office.

GOODRICK-MEECH

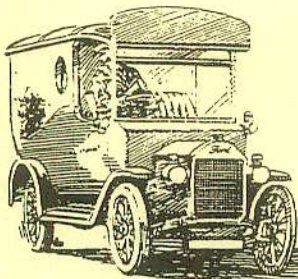
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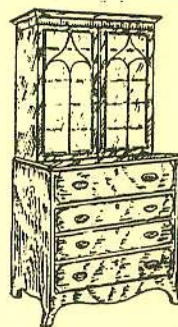
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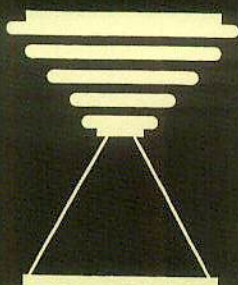
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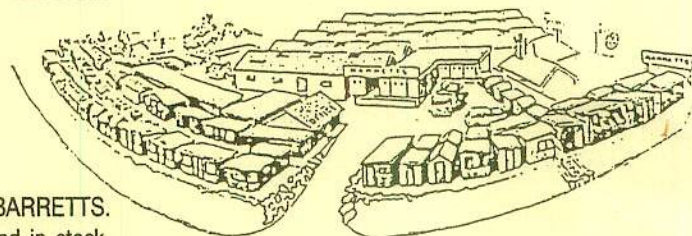
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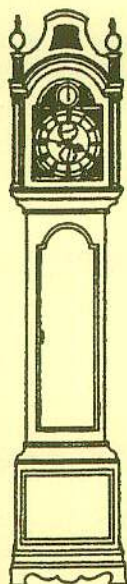
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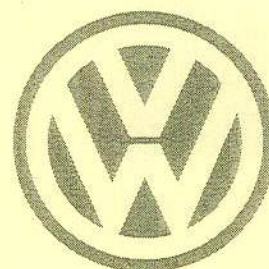
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