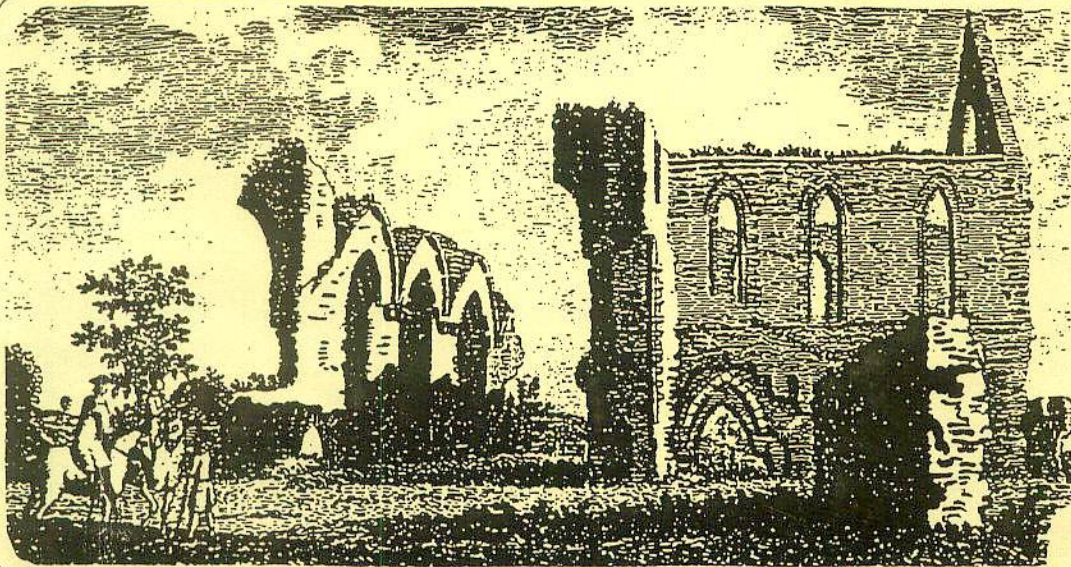


Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 296324



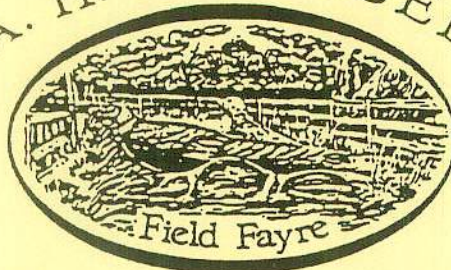
NEWARK PRIORY

Newsletter No.135

July/August 1997



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Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society
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President: Mr K H Bourne MSc

34 Upper Whatcombe, Frome, Somerset BA11 3SE Tel: 01373 461485

Chairman: Mr L G Bowerman

The Manor House, Send Marsh Green, Ripley, Woking GU23 6JL. Tel: 01483 224876

Secretary: Mrs A Sykes

Kevan Cottage, Clandon Road, Send, Woking GU23 7LA. Tel: 01483 222060

Treasurer: Mrs G M Scrace BA

10 Birnam Close, Send Marsh, Ripley Woking GU23 6JH. Tel: 01483 224025

Newsletter Editor: Mr K H Bourne MSc

34 Upper Whatcombe, Frome, Somerset BA11 3SE Tel: 01373 461485

Newsletter Distribution: Mr G Bleach

2 Church Row, High Street, Ripley, Woking GU23 6BG. Tel: 01483 222233

Typed by Mrs Chris Parker

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Newsletter No 135

July/August 1997

Contents	Page Number
Editor's Comment	2
1896 Water Colour Painting of Ripley, by John Slatford	2
Even More Changes in Ripley, by John Slatford	4
"A Trio of Fodens", by David Porter	4
Miss C R Ayre - Further Notes by David Porter	5
Ryde House School, by Jane Bartlett	6
Tour of Chilworth Gunpowder Mills, Sunday, 8 June	9
Notes by Les Bowerman	
Guildford Ghosts, Sunday, 22 June, Notes by Audrey Sykes	10
The Papercourt Railway Carriage, by David Porter	11
Little Owl Play Group - Further Notes by Sheila Brown	11
The French Family and Their Landlords, by Ken French	11
Treasurer Vacancy	13
Forthcoming Events	13

Cover Illustration: A water colour by Charles E Shaw, dated 1896, reproduced by kind permission of John Speed at the Cedar House Gallery - see article on page 2.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

I am pleased to say that once again, the Newsletter contains a wide variety of articles relating to the areas of Send and Ripley. Not only are events from the past referred to in this Newsletter, but also changes in occupancy or use of buildings. We are grateful to John Slatford for his comments and notes recording such changes as occur in Ripley, and also to Jane Bartlett for her timely article on Ryde House School, coinciding with the sale of Lutidine House in Newark Lane, originally built as the girls' section of Ryde House School.

As will also be noted, my own address has changed to Frome, Somerset, which sadly for Phyllis and me, ends a period of 32 years living in this area, three years in Ripley and 29 years in Tannery Lane, initially at Heath Farm and subsequently at Maybankes. Naturally, it is with mixed feelings that we are leaving the area, but we are also looking forward to being closer to our two daughters and their young families.

As far as my association with the History Society is concerned, I would expect this to continue, at least for a year or two, and in particular I have made arrangements for continuing to edit the Newsletter, at least until someone else wishes to take on this role. The same applies to my photographic interests, which I hope may be further stimulated by my association with the Royal Photographic Society in Bath and its magnificent archive record of old photographs.

From the practical point of view, Les Bowerman will take any material for the Newsletter for anyone just wishing to pop them round to him. Alternatively, articles may be posted direct to my address in Frome, which is shown on page 1 of this Newsletter.

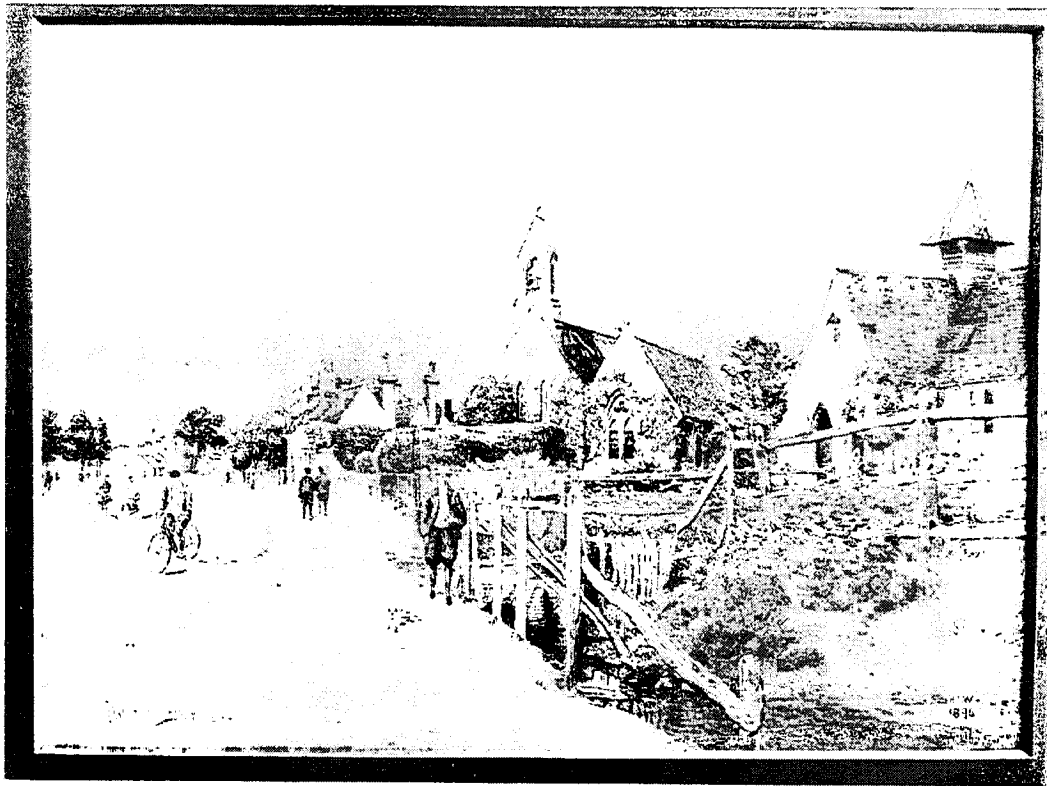
AN 1896 WATER COLOUR PAINTING OF RIPLEY

In a recent issue of the "Surrey Advertiser", the auction notices page carried an advertisement for a sale by John Nicholson at Fernhurst which showed a painting of Ripley by Charles E Shaw. This has now been acquired by John Speed at the Cedar House Gallery. We are grateful to him for bringing it to our attention and for his permission to reproduce the photograph of it taken by Ken Bourne. The painting, dated 1896, is a particularly fine water colour, with very precise detail of the Western End of the High Street.

The artist would have been sitting at the roadside opposite St George's Farmhouse, facing the village centre. Especially interesting is what appears to be a stream disappearing into a culvert in the foreground of the painting. The outlines of the church and the school are extremely accurate, and therefore it is reasonable to assume that the water and the fencing were a feature at that time. Needless to say, there is no evidence of this today.

Almost certainly, the water in the picture would have been associated with the ditches known to have existed along the Portsmouth Road from mediaeval times. The lie of the land would have brought drainage water towards the village. There are many references in the Send & Ripley Manor Rolls, to the cleaning, or lack of same, of ditches on the King's Highway: in particular adjacent to the present-day Manor House and the Anchor. There is evidence of these ditches still to be seen in the frontages of many of the houses between Colbornes and the junction with Grove Heath Road. It had previously been believed that drainage existed across and under the roadway somewhere near the Anchor, and the painting provides evidence that this probably was so.

Charles Shaw is known to have been from, and worked in, the North of England, so it must be assumed he was just visiting Ripley. Mr and Mrs Smith at Yew Tree House have another example of his work produced at the same time. This is a pen-&-ink drawing of the Anchor and beyond, looking towards Guildford, in the same style as the water colour, with various cycles and cyclists included. The drawing is inscribed "To R. B. Wells Esquire with the



RIPLEY, SURREY. Water Colour By CHARLES E SHAW, 1896.



HIGH STREET, RIPLEY, 1997 with CHURCH ROW COTTAGES in place of the NATIONAL SCHOOL

artist's compliments".

It would be interesting to know if there are in existence any other Ripley area paintings by Charles Shaw. I am sure he would be pleased to know that they still attract attention 100 years later.

John Slatford

EVEN MORE CHANGES IN RIPLEY

It is not long since I last wrote on this topic and already there is more to record. Unfortunately, some of it is not welcome news.

It is very sad to see that A H Conisbee's butchers shop has closed, yet another example of one of Ripley's businesses disappearing. The business was established here by David Conisbee's grandfather around the end of the First World War. It is easy to understand the problems that local shops have with competition from the supermarkets and the difficulties of coping with more and more stringent regulations. At least the closure notice says "until further notice", which does offer possible hope for the future, and we understand that other parts of the business are continuing.

In Newark Lane, we must also record that the Crown Gap Construction Company has gone from Lutidine House, which is now up for sale. The building was originally built as the girls' section of Ryde House School in the early 1900s.

On a more positive note, the former Bon Appetit Fish Shop next to the Post Office is soon to reopen as Pristine Dry Cleaners and, in White Horse Lane, the work on the former dwelling at the rear of Ripley Pharmacy has been completed as a very attractive house with Gothic style windows.

John Slatford

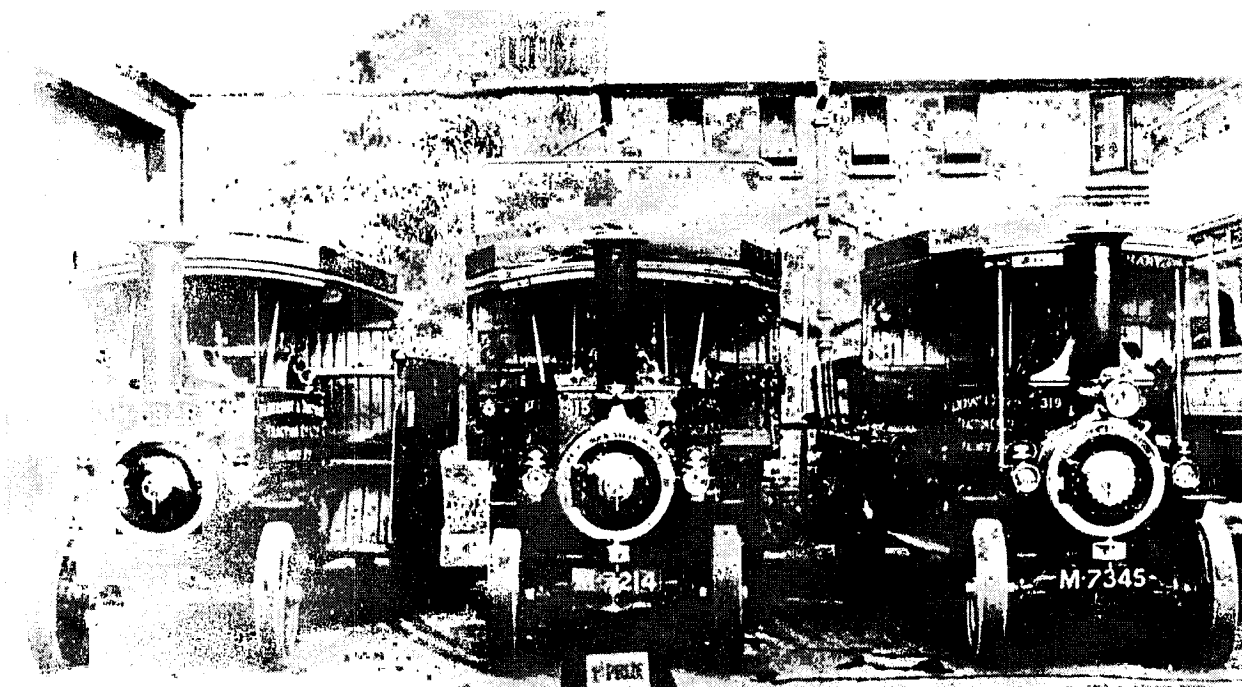
"A TRIO OF FODENS"

This delightful photograph was taken during World War I at the Aldershot Bus Garage, Head Office of the Aldershot & District Traction Company. On the extreme right, an early motor-bus can just be seen and the open windows in the building behind suggest the picture was taken on a very warm day. All vehicles are Foden overtypes steam waggons, for which the Foden company became famous, as they were built in large numbers, and many examples are preserved today. It appears that the "A&D" was engaged on a War Department contract for which these steam waggons were required, and I am told that the private road from Halimate Road into the company's premises was later called Foden Road!

Aldershot & District buses and coaches served the villages of Send and Ripley for a brief period between the two World Wars, before London Transport vehicles appeared on the scene. Nevertheless the "A&D" was never far away, serving well the villages of Mayford, Sutton Green and Jacobs Well on the opposite side of the River Wey.

Today a group of enthusiasts continue to preserve vintage buses and coaches once operated by the "A&D", and rides are made available to the general public on annual Running Days, free of charge. Furthermore, where certain routes were either shared or jointly operated with another company, owners of preserved vehicles, once seen operating on the same road as the "A&D", are invited to attend these events, in order to complete the scene. With Running Days held in Aldershot, Guildford and Woking, vehicles from the former Thames Valley and London Transport fleets can be seen at work.

The Woking event held in 1996 saw vintage London Transport buses working a shuttle



service to Send (Burnt Common) on the 436 route via Send Barns Lane. This was the first time the village was included in an event of this kind. In 1997 Aldershot became the venue once again. In 1998 it will be Guildford's turn on the three year rota, and plans are already under way to include the village of Ripley. Due to the fast traffic on the A3, it was considered unsuitable to use such slow vehicles on the 1995 Running Day, the first to be held in that town. However, it is planned to recreate the 715 using a former "Green Line" capable of higher top speeds, in order to reach Ripley, next year.

The vehicles are often kept in barns and outbuildings on remote farms, as vandalism and arson are a constant worry to their owners. Many examples are unique today and further accommodation is eagerly sought.

The enthusiasts' group has a very large photographic archive, from which I acquired the photograph shown here.

David Porter

David very kindly made available to me a video of the Woking Running Day held on Sunday, April 21 1996. This video includes brief views of parts of Send. Copies of this video may be obtained direct from the Aldershot & District Bus Interest Group, 111 Park Barn Drive, Guildford GU2 6ER

Editor

MISS C R AYRE

Further Notes on Article in Newsletter 134, by David Porter

It has been brought to my notice that Miss C R Ayre was lodging at 26 Send Road at the time she was teaching at St Bede's C of E Secondary Modern School. The other two members of the household were Miss Frost and Miss Till, both members of the teaching profession.

RYDE HOUSE SCHOOL

Three recent occurrences linked with the old Ryde House School have jolted me to put down what I have learnt about it. An album of 312 postcards, sent to Elsie Phillips, a teacher at the school, by her brother, Jack Phillips, the wireless operator who went down in the Titanic in 1912, has recently fetched over £2500 at Christies. The site of the main school building in the High Street, which most of us have known as Gibbs Ltd, has just been acquired by Computers Cream Ltd. What for some years were the office premises of Crown Gap in Newark Lane are now up for sale. This building was once the Girls' School of Ryde House Commercial School.

We know the school was originally founded by Thomas Marriott Berridge in Ryde House, at the London end of the High Street, in 1862. By 1881, both the census and the Kelly's Directory describe him as the Principal of a Commercial Academy, a Boarding School with 62 pupils and employing two Assistant Masters. Only boys seemed to be resident in Ryde House itself and in the garden cottage, so perhaps he already owned the new building next door to the Manor House, where in 1881 there were eight girl scholars under the care of Mrs Bartlett, a schoolmaster's widow.

By 1891, Thomas S Goodman, Mr Berridge's nephew, had taken over as Principal of Ryde House Commercial School in its new position opposite the church, also the girls' house in Newark Lane, run by Mrs Evershed, wife of the Senior Master and partner. There was also the small boys' residence in Stamford House, which is now the hairdressers in Ripley High Street (both Mr Berridge and Mr Goodman came from Stamford, Lincolnshire). The sanatorium and laundry were in what is now Yew Tree House, opposite the original and present Ryde House.

Of Thomas Goodman, Mr Berridge, in his Testimonial, said: "A life-long acquaintance and friendship with Mr. Goodman enabled me with the greatest confidence to testify to his high moral character and great powers as a teacher. His patience, good temper, energy and invariably kind firm treatment together with a peculiarly nice and able manner of imparting knowledge to his pupils mark him as a most efficient teacher, while his untiring efforts to promote their happiness both in and out of school make him in every way well fitted to have their care and training. These were the qualities which distinguished him while he was the assistant in my



Thomas Marriott Berridge



MR. AND MRS. GOODMAN, FAMILY AND STAFF

school and which influenced me in handing it over to his safe care and control."

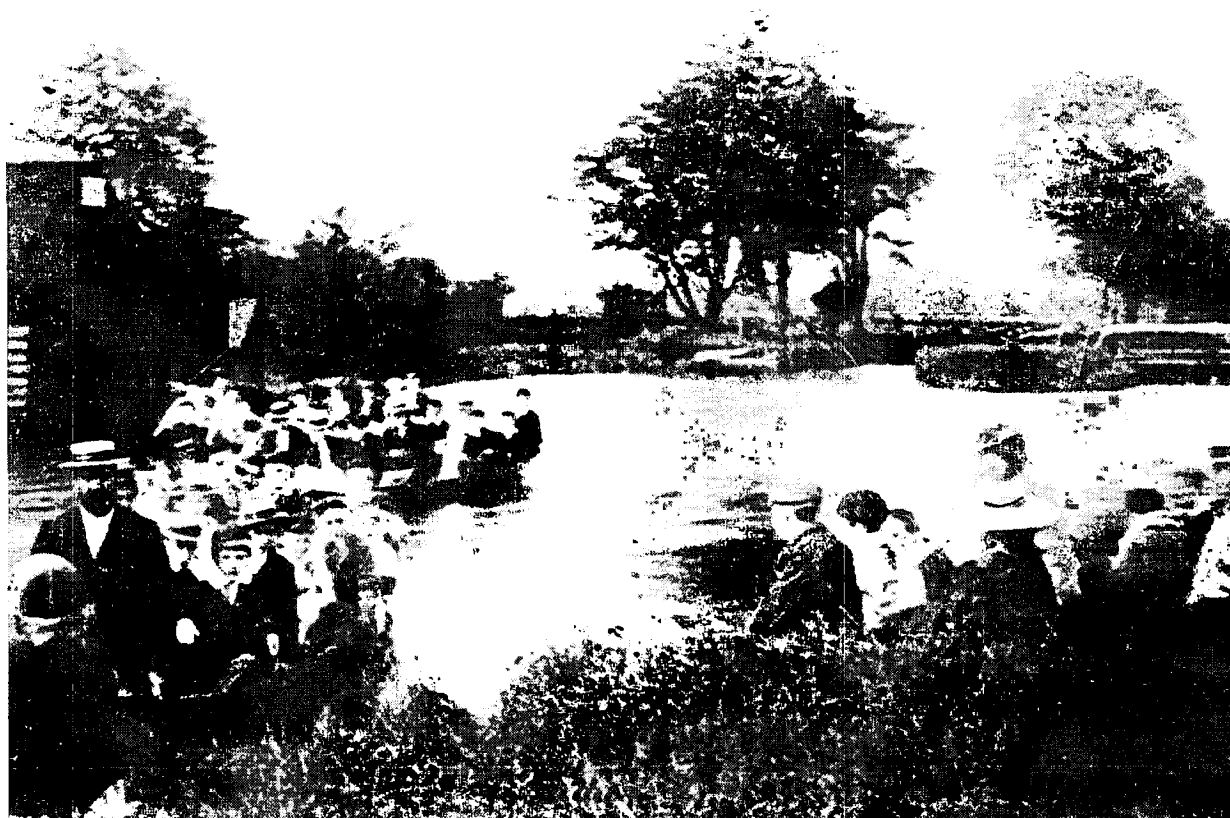
Mrs Connie Hayward (née Curtis), who was at the school from 1909-15, said that he was like the Pied Piper, always surrounded by children, and never needing to be cross with them. The only punishment she remembered was having a fine of one halfpenny docked off their threepence a week pocket money for untidiness. The staff were, she said, like one's own family and they all wept at the loss of Miss Phillips' brother. In 1913, a parent's letter, sent from the Kowloon Canton Railway, Hong Kong, tendered special thanks to their son's Form Mistress, Miss Phillips.

Obviously there were many changes over the years. Connie was met at Clandon Station by a hired landau, or, if alone, by the school buggy. In 1928, they would have been met by the "school motor", although the Prospectus points out "The L.G.O.C. bus number 115 and the Guildford Blue Saloon bus pass the door." The uniform for boys in 1905 included an Eton Coat and Vest and grey trousers, and a straw hat with school colours. The girls' list included six pinafores.

It was unusual in those days to have a mixed Boarding School, but although they had lessons together, the girls went back to Newark Lane for all their meals. They even spent their pocket money in different shops. The boys bought tuck at Gibbons, next to the Anchor, while the girls went to Farris (strips of licorice for one farthing and a 2 oz slab of Mackintosh Toffee for one penny).

The fees for Connie as a Boarder were 8 guineas a term, inclusive of all books, stationery, pocket money and church collections. The only extras were piano and violin lessons and hot milk after swimming. The girls learnt needlework from Mrs Evershed and French from Lily Goodman, Mr Goodman's sister. There were several French pupils and in both the 1908 and 1928 Prospectuses, there were Testimonials from French families. Music was always considered important and Connie learnt from a Miss Grigg, a dour woman, but a brilliant pianist. In the 1920s, they were taught by Mr Allen, the blind organist from Ockham. Obviously, however, as a commercial school, the syllabus contained subjects useful for future jobs. They had to transcribe difficult handwritten letters, but their own handwriting had to be of a legible even slope.

They did lots of sums, known as "long tots" and "short tots". They had to précis articles and take down extracts from the daily newspaper in shorthand. Connie was taught a form of shorthand known as "Slan Duployan", which she thought better and easier than Pitmans, but obviously Pitmans was taught at the school, as it is in the Prospectus. Mr Goodman himself had a Pitmans Shorthand Certificate as well as his Diploma from the College of Preceptors and his Master's Certificate from the Kensington Science & Art Department.



Right up to the 1930s, games were played on Wednesday and Saturday, and swimming was frequent in the summer. They swam in the River Wey, just above Walsham Gates, changing in wooden huts, and every year on July 1 they celebrated "old Goody's" birthday, by being taken out in boats on the river and having a picnic. In the early days, they collected for the Waifs & Strays' Home in Byfleet. Connie's area included Mrs Cleverley at Dunsborough House. They also had a "Pound Day", on which they sold pounds of rice, jam and other groceries from a stall outside Green's cycle shop, in aid of the Cottage Hospital at Woking. Mr Goodman encouraged pupils to be aware of local concerns: he was Clerk to the Send & Ripley Parish Council, and, after its division, to both Send and Ripley Councils for 40 years.

Many people, not only his pupils, have told me that Mr Goodman was too kind for his own good. He frequently kept on children whose parents had not sent the fees, even replacing outgrown clothes. He refused the money when one "old boy" offered to pay the fees his father owed. In the late '20s, five girls of one family, who had lost both parents, lived there all the year round until they had all gained satisfactory jobs. Many children whose parents were abroad stayed there throughout the holidays. It is rumoured that the school went bankrupt, but in fact Mr Goodman died from an infected wound in his leg in June 1934. His son, Tommy (Thomas

William), and two of his daughters had been running the school for the last few years.

In 1938 the building was sold to J Gibbs Ltd, the agents for farm machinery. The frontage building was pulled down to make a display area for farm machinery and they made use of the two long buildings at right angles to the road. The one on the Guildford side, once the gym, became the workshop, and the original parquet floor became useful fuel for the Tortoise Stove in the winters.

The Send & Ripley History Society was given a Prospectus, dated 1904, by Mr Dendy Evershed, son of the Senior Master, and I have been kindly lent a Prospectus of about 1928 by Mr Ivor Powell.

Jane Bartlett

TOUR OF CHILWORTH GUNPOWDER MILLS, SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Notes by Les Bowerman

On Sunday morning, 8 June, 18 members were treated to a fascinating tour of the Chilworth Gunpowder Mills by the foremost experts on the subject, Professor Alan Crocker, of Surrey University, and his wife, Glenys, who has written the Surrey Industrial History Group's official guide to the site, which is owned now by the Guildford Borough Council, and scheduled. Although I have had an interest in historic places in the area for over 50 years, this was the first time I had been here, so I was especially delighted to visit it.

Glenys's booklet is available for only 80p, so I will attempt only the briefest of summaries. The Chilworth Mills were established in 1626 by the East India Company. The next owners, in 1636, were appointed sole powder makers to the King. The Parliamentary side in the Civil War was supplied by Chilworth. Throughout the 18th century and much of the 19th, Chilworth declined to the extent that only the middle of three sections survived. The lower works, to the West of the site, became paper mills in 1704 and the upper or Eastern ones were abandoned until the 19th century, when they also became paper mills, producing the paper from which banknotes were made. In the 1860s, steam power was introduced. In 1885 the Chilworth Gunpowder Company was formed as a subsidiary to a German firm. A new type of brown powder (as opposed to the original black) was then introduced and the works extended Eastwards. Shortly after, cordite, or "smokeless powder", was introduced and manufactured East of the gunpowder works in the 1890s. A further area to the East was developed by the Admiralty during World War I for production of cordite. Chilworth closed in 1920.

There is still much to be seen. In the lower part, west of Blacksmith Lane, several buildings, now used for other purposes, were identified to us. In the middle section, the route of the works tramway (gauge 2' 7 1/2", or 800 mm) can be traced. There is still a small wooden viaduct section and the girders of a metal swing bridge to be seen where the tramway crossed the millstream. Punts were also used for transporting materials along the stream.

The most expensive items in the mills were the millstones. Many of these are to be seen, some left in situ where they fell when the wooden buildings around them collapsed. Others have been used by the Council to form a wall. A very substantial item, still standing, was the brown powder incorporating mills of 1885, substantially constructed of rendered brick to the back and sides, with the fronts and tops very light, to allow any explosive blast to escape without causing structural damage. Steel joists could still be seen to carry the German name, Burbach, and the date, 1884. Explosions were always a risk, with approximately one person a year being killed. The site was originally chosen for its supply of water power and also because there was little else nearby to be damaged. Other ways of absorbing blast was to space the buildings widely apart, to encourage tree growth, and to build protective mounds of earth and corrugated iron, known in

the explosives world as "Chilworth Mounds". several of which are still to be seen.

The main path through the site is the line of the main tramway. The trucks were pushed or pulled by hand and there was a branch line up to Chilworth Railway Station. The whole site today is one of woodland, tranquillity and birdsong. We are extremely grateful to our two guides for devoting their Sunday morning to us and for giving us the benefit of their deep knowledge of the site and its workings. They kindly waived our suggestion of paying them a fee, on the basis that it would be better for the money to remain in our bank account to be used in running our museum.

Editor's Note: We are pleased to record our thanks to Les Bowerman for arranging this trip, which was attended by a good number of members/friends of the Society. Professor Alan Crocker and his wife, Glenys, have kindly agreed to lead a walk around the old gunpowder works at Chilworth on Sunday, October 19, meeting at Chilworth Station at 10 am. This walk is arranged on behalf of members of the Surrey Archaeological Society and the cost is £2 per person. Please ring Rosemary Hunter on 01483 474777 if you wish to join the walk.

GUILDFORD GHOSTS, SUNDAY, 22 JUNE

A few stalwarts braved the appalling weather on the day of our Guildford Ghosts walk.

With thunder rolling and lightning flashing, we met our guide, Mrs Buist, in Tunsgate and stopped outside the Guild Hall for the tale of Christopher Slaughterford, said to have killed his future wife and, protesting his innocence, had been acquitted at his trial held in the Guild Hall. However, her family was not satisfied and Christopher was tried again, this time in London, where he was found guilty and hanged. His "shade" is said to have returned to Guildford and haunts the Guild Hall.

The Duke of Monmouth was held at Abbots Hospital on his way to be executed in the Tower, five strokes by Jack Ketch to sever his head, and a headless apparition has been seen there. The Three Pigeons had a poltergeist not so long ago, but it only threw objects at the staff! The mound of grass in Trinity Churchyard has always been a mystery and we learnt that it covers the bones heaped there when the graveyard was used to extend the church.

An interesting architectural feature was pointed out at "Oasis" in the High Street. The top of a sharply sloping roof can just be seen above the added square facade it now has, plus a window painted on the plaster, above the real window. Apparently there is a "presence" felt there and assistants do not relish going alone into the storeroom.

St Mary's Churchyard, where the bones found during the Friary excavation are interred, and coffin-shaped slabs were placed on the graves of newly buried bodies, to deter body-snatchers (£15 per corpse was the going rate!).

Our tour ended by the river, near Debenhams, where in days gone by there was a ducking stool, and we said goodbye to Mrs Buist. A fairly bedraggled group made its damp way back to their cars after a lighthearted afternoon, definitely not to be taken seriously.

Audrey Sykes

Editor's Note: Our thanks to Audrey for organising this trip. Although few in number and in spite of the weather, those who attended no doubt entered into the spirit of the occasion.

THE PAPER COURT RAILWAY CARRIAGE

In my article on Railway Relics (Newsletter 133), I drew attention to the vintage railway carriage which for many years has stood in a field in Papercourt Lane! Society member, Mr Peter Rixon, has very kindly submitted further information to me on this subject.

Prior to World War II, the farmer at Papercourt was Mr Keen. Due to lack of accommodation for his workers, he bought two railway carriages and joined them together for living quarters. These were erected in the small field on the Send side of Papercourt House.

Ripley resident, Kenneth Hudson, informed Peter that his uncle, together with his wife and three children, were the first family to take up residence in the carriages!

Peter suggests the carriage standing today in Papercourt Lane is the surviving one of the pair purchased by Mr Keen and moved to its present site many years ago. It is most likely the other carriage was in poor condition and finished its days as a chicken house standing on its original site.

Many thanks to Peter Rixon and Kenneth Hudson for this information.

David Porter

LITTLE OWL PLAY GROUP, SEND

Following on from my article in Newsletter No 134, there is subsequently an amendment which needs to be noted

I mentioned the Nursery Voucher Scheme, which was due to take effect in September 1997, where parents were to be given a voucher for their four-year-old children, to go towards the cost of their education. This voucher was to be used in nursery classes, play groups or private kindergartens, and was the subject of controversy when it was announced.

However, the new Labour government elected on May 1 1997 cancelled the Voucher Scheme straight away, so it will never actually happen!

Sheila Brown

THE FRENCH FAMILY AND THEIR LANDLORDS

The French family at Goodgrove, tenants of the Boughton Hall Estate from 1884 to 1979, always had close connections with the Hall. There was a very friendly relationship between my grandparents, George and Mary French, and the Paultons, but not such an easy one with the later owners, Robert Boughton-Smith and J H Gafford.

When the Hall was unoccupied, as it was from 1908 to 1913, and for a period at the end of the First World War, a member of the French family would check the building for intruders, open the windows in good weather, both to air the house and to make it look occupied. They replaced roof tiles after a gale. They had to attend the Woking court when a local couple were caught taking grapes from the conservatory after breaking the glass and Boughton-Smith insisted on a charge. His promise to the French family for acting as unpaid caretakers was that he would leave the cottage to the family, as he had no direct heir.

Not only did this never materialise, but he made it impossible for George to get a good living as a market gardener by selling off 24 1/2 acres of the holding originally leased to him without any reduction in rent. It was made even harder when Samuel Boorman, prior to his purchase of Heath Farm, noticed how well strawberries grew at Goodgrove and decided to plant them himself. George had sold his crop on a scheme of "pick and eat on site for a shilling", but

this could not compete with the tons which Boorman grew.

Although George French had been collecting the rents of the Estate cottages since 1913, the first he knew of Boughton-Smith's death in 1923, and the purchase of the Estate by Gafford, was when one of the tenants, Mrs Collins, of Corner Cottage, Send Marsh, came, very distressed, to inform him that a man had called, saying, "I'm your new landlord, buy your place or get out." He met a tougher resistance from my grandmother, Mary French, several days later. The conversation went like this:

"Morning, Missus, I'm your new landlord, buy or get out."

Mary, looking at this person with his Trilby hat at an angle on his head, pale spats over his shoes and a cigarette in the corner of his mouth, said "Is your father ostler at the stables opposite the White Horse in Guildford?" (It was where George used to leave his pony and trap when he went to market.) "For a start, it is a pity he hasn't taught you some manners. I am not your Missus, I'm Mrs French. We have a lease on this property."

When Gafford said he suspected she had no idea what a lease meant, she continued:

"Listen, you little ferret, if you want to discuss this property you write and make an appointment with our solicitor. Don't walk in here trying to frighten us out of our house, as you are doing to the other old people. Now get out!"

Mary, my grandmother, explained to me that a ferret pushes rabbits from their burrows.

At this time, my father, K J French, had moved into 2 Goodgrove, next to his mother. He had sold the house he built with its three acres of land bordering the Wey in Tannery Lane because Mother had been frightened by the gypsies who parked their caravans in the next field when they picked fruit on Boorman's land at Heath Farm (Uncle Robert had moved from 2 Goodgrove into his newly built house in Manor Road). My father was now in a difficult position because of his mother's tiff with the new landlord. He had set up his builder's business on land which went with 1 Goodgrove. He offered to buy the land, but the new landlord, seeing the difficulty he was in, asked an outrageous price, then had an alternative proposition - that he would help erect and convert ex-Army pay huts as bungalows in Send Barns Lane at a cut price, "Then things may carry on as before." Luckily for Father, the owner of Send Barns House bought the land to stop further development when only two were completed (one is still there). After that, Father only did one or two small jobs for him, although the French family continued to collect the rents for him until 1949.

Some 14 years passed before Mary French and James Gafford had another confrontation. In 1937, Kings of Gomshall were building small semi-detached bungalows in Potters Lane. Gafford thought a similar development would be ideal on the land round Goodgrove. He called on my mother and asked her assistance to explain the plan to my grandmother. There was no need to explain as she had already overheard through the dividing door, and, as he came to her door, she came out, shaking her walking-stick, shouting

"You will not have that ground, you ferret!" He turned and ran towards his car, nearly knocking me over, saying

"Out of the way, Sonny, that old lady is going to hit me!".

The "old lady" was then 91 years of age.

I think the development might have gone ahead, despite Mary French, if the main sewer had been deeper in the road. That area and Goodgrove itself had serious flooding about every ten years. During the 1927 flooding, all the furniture had to be taken to the first floor and the "Ferret" himself came to assist. In 1936 there were six to seven inches of water in the house, after

it seeped through the emergency barricades, and in 1967 there were 18 inches of water and sludge, all the furniture and carpets were ruined and the road was closed.

Ken French

Editor's Note: On Tuesday, 8 July 1997, between two and four inches of rain fell in the area between Leatherhead and Woking in eight hours, causing local flooding and traffic holdups. The rain did not continue after this day, although it was extremely heavy at the time. Is this a foretaste of the ten year cycle referred to by Ken French?

TREASURER VACANCY

We continue to seek someone to take up the position of Treasurer whilst Marilyn Scrace, our present Treasurer, is in a position to assist with a smooth handover from September, and subsequently, subject to election, next year. This is now becoming an urgent matter. The Society must have a Treasurer, and although the task is not onerous, it is essential to the administration of our finances. As Marilyn will explain, it is a matter of keeping fairly simple records, occasionally visiting the bank, etc. The accounts are audited by Mr A H Finn, and the figures submitted by him to the AGM.

This is an urgent appeal for anyone who feels that they can help to contact Les Bowerman, our Chairman, or our Secretary, Audrey Sykes, as soon as possible.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, 11 September - Church Room, Send, 8 pm

An illustrated talk by John Jannaway, entitled "Surrey Murders".

Sunday, 28 September, 2 pm - Horsley Towers

A conducted tour, by Steven Tudsbury Turner, of Horsley Towers at East Horsley. Meet at the entrance, opposite the Duke of Wellington, at 1.45 pm. The charge for this visit is £2 per person - reservations required in advance. Contact Tony Medlen on 01483 760021.

Saturday, November 8 - Surrey Local History Council Symposium, Chertsey

The symposium this year has the theme, "Victorian Celebrations" - further details to be provided in the next Newsletter.

Thursday, November 27 - 8 pm, Ripley Annex

An illustrated talk by Mrs Hazeldine on "Queen Victoria and her Doctor".

Newsletter Contributions

The closing date for contributions for the next Newsletter is Friday, 26 September.



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ALSO: 3rd Sunday of each month, so as to coincide
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Other times for school groups and small parties
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*Please contact George or Irene Bleach on 01483 222233 if
you require information or wish to help in the museum.*

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

"Then and Now, Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life"	Out of print
"Guide to Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Send"	£1.25
"Then and Now, a Victorian Walk Around Ripley"	£1.50 (only 4 copies remain)
"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

Apart from the out-of-print publication, all the above are obtainable from the museum on
Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office.

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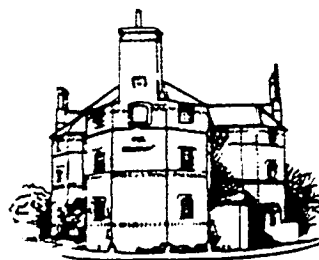
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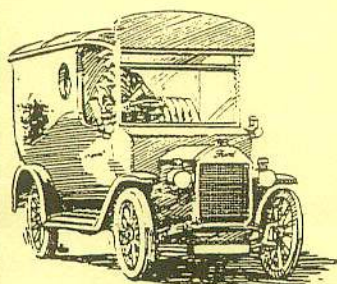
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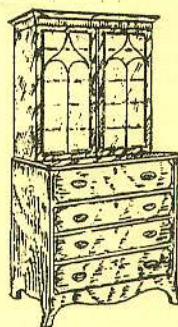
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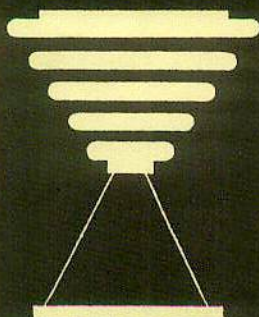
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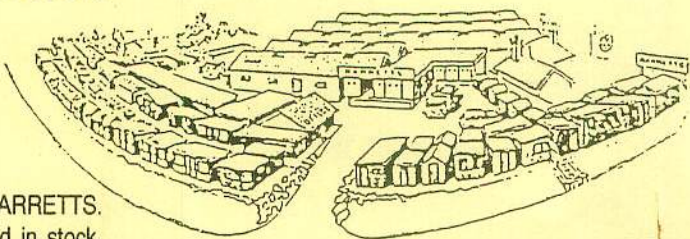
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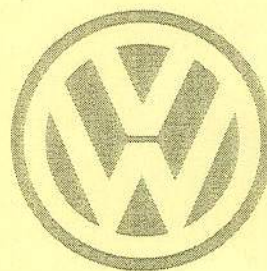
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