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Newsletter No. 39

July/August 1981

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS (Continued from Page 12)

Thursday, 12th November ... Open evening at the Church Room at 8 p.m., when
Les Bowerman will give a talk on the "Arrival of the Bicycle in Surrey".

Wednesday, 9th December ... Annual Social Evening in the Red Cross Hall,
Sandy Lane.

Working Groups. All members are welcome to participate in the activities
of any working group.

ACCIDENT AT BROADMEAD BRIDGE, OLD WOKING

Further to the Editorial Note in N/L 37, page 5, referring to photographs possessed by the Society, a number of details of this incident have been obtained.

This accident occurred on 15th January 1873, and is recorded in Edward Ryde's Diary (entry for Friday, 17th January), and in the 4th Earl of Onslow's "Clandon Estate History 1870-1883" (page 16 dealing with events in 1873). The extract from the latter reads as follows:-

"On the 15th. January a traction engine belonging to a Mr. Miskin was crossing the bridge on the River Wey adjoining Woking village when it broke down the bridge. The engine and threshing machine following it falling in through the centre of the bridge. It remained fixed in the shape of the letter V.

"Three men, Keene, Bird and Darling were killed. The Jury returned a verdict that the deceased met their deaths from the breaking of Broadmead bridge while in charge of a traction engine, and after hearing the evidence of Mr. Smallpiece, they are of the opinion that the bridge was not safe even for ordinary traffic.

"During the temporary interruption caused by the breaking of the bridge, a pontoon was erected by Engineers from Aldershot, and after this event notices, in accordance with the Locomotive Act, were affixed to all Manorial Bridges. £120 was spent in repairing Broadmead Bridge, and £142 on Rickford Bridge." (On A322 between Fox Corner and Worplesdon).

The traction engine was one of three owned by Thomas Miskin, threshing contractor of Oatlands, Walton on Thames, and built by Clayton & Shuttleworth, Stamp End Works, Lincoln; Works No. either 8263 or 8678, both of which were new to Mr. Miskin in 1868. The threshing machine was also built by the same firm.

It is interesting to note that in 1873 this timber bridge had probably been in existence for some 50 years, and after it was repaired, it continued in use for another 42 years until replaced by the present concrete bridge in 1915.

My thanks are due to Mrs. Shirley Corke at Guildford Muniment Room, and Mr. Alan Duke, Records Officer of the Road Locomotive Society, for their assistance with this research.

C. G. Mileham

NATURAL HISTORY GROUP - WILD FLOWER PROJECT

A minor setback was experienced in May when the National Trust began dredging part of the River Wey between Cartbridge and Papercourt Lock. Large sections of the towpath were covered with two feet or more of black mud, completely obliterating all plant life. Attention, therefore, has been diverted to the footpath running alongside the stream between Goodgrove and Frews Farm. Generally the hedgerows and the areas around the landscaped worked-out gravel pits have proved to be the most fruitful areas for the observation of wild flowers.

After the rather wet month of May, June began with much warmer and sunnier weather, and on the whole the month has been altogether drier. There has, therefore, been plenty of opportunity for photographing, and now considerable numbers of colour transparencies have been obtained.

Derek and Jill Bromley have now joined the Group and have sighted a number of orchids, including the Bee Orchid (*Ophrys Apifera*), and Mavis Lake has found an area, near Papercourt, where the Common Spotted Orchid is growing quite profusely. The Group has not, as yet, found any rare specimens, but we have been asked by Dr. Alan Leslie of the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley to look out for Gingerbread Sedge (*Carex Elongata*), which apparently is quite rare but has been found in the water meadows near the River Wey at Newark Lane. An illustration of this Sedge is on plate 92 of *The Concise British Flora in Colour* by W. Keble Martin.

While May can be identified with may blossom, it is difficult to single out any particular species that represents June. Practically every wild and garden flower is doing its best to compete for prominence in its own particular area. Competition is extremely fierce to achieve further propagation of the species. The early part of the month was dominated by field and creeping buttercups and not far behind were the white and red champions to be seen on waste ground along the approach road to the A3 to Guildford at Burnt Common. Those members of the Pea family, the vetches, and trefoils, grow in abundance, and during the second half of June the common mallows are increasing in number, some specimens reaching a height of two or three feet. Along the banks of the stream and around the pump-house are yellow irises and meadow sweet, and here and there a few declining clumps of water forget-me-nots. From about the middle of June the thistles begin to shoot up and are now prominent on cultivated ground and where undisturbed grow into large plants, three feet or more in height, displaying their red, purple or light blue heads which, in the case of the wetted thistle, also has very fine white threads supported by the spines, completely encircling the thistle head.

The umbellifers, hedge and cow parsley, have almost disappeared and their place has been taken by larger species such as hog weed, wild angelica and hemlock. This latter plant is extremely poisonous and the best advice is to leave all umbellifers well alone. Bob Claydon reported the growth of a giant hog weed near his house at Dedswell. This specimen, *Heracleum Mantegazzianum*, is now over 12 ft tall and has a stem between 3" and 4" diameter near the base. At the other end of the scale are the ground elders which have a similar leaf to the elderberry tree, but unlike its larger namesake, does not produce berries and is not related.

In many areas wild poppies grow in great profusion. These once used to be seen among the cereals, but now rarely due to chemical crop spraying. The barley in the fields on either side of Tannery Lane has grown in June from over 12" to over 2' 6" high and is now beginning to turn from green to brown. As far as competition for growth is concerned, undoubtedly the grasses win outright with a staggering rate of growth from a few inches to over 36" high in just over six weeks. Full advantage is taken of this by the farmer as evidenced by hay making this month.

For the benefit of our members, and by kind permission of Dorothy Challen, we publish her list of wild flowers which were observed in July/August 1925. Why not try to identify as many as you can from this list in your area in 1981?

Anyone wishing to take part in our field studies or to join one of our fortnightly walks (identity parades), please contact Ken Bourne on Guildford 223028.

As a postscript to this report, mention must be made of the discovery of the large flowered evening primrose (*Oenothera Erythrosepala*) at the end

of June. This most attractive and interesting plant produces yellow rose-like flowers which open at 6 p.m. and close 12 hours later. Towards evening of the following day the flower reopens, when it is receptive to pollination by moths. The leaves contain tannin.

Recommended Reading:- The Wild Flower Key Brit. Isles - NW Europe, Francis Rose, Warne. The Concise British Flora in Colour, W. Keble Martin, Ebury Press. The Wild Flowers of Britain & N Europe, R. & A. Fitter & M. Blamey, Collins.

Ken Bourne

COLLECTION OF WILD FLOWERS

Dolly Challen

July/August 1925

COLLECTED BETWEEN TRIGGS AND PAPER COURT LOCKS

1 Lesser Spearwort	Ranunculus Flammula
2 Marsh Marigold	Caltha Palustris
3 Water Buttercup	Ranunculus Aquatilis
4 Water Crowfoot	" "
5 Lesser Water Crowfoot	Ranunculus Hederaceus
6 Meadow Rue	Thalictrum Flavum
7 Water Lily	Nuphar Lutea
8 Common Watercress	Nasturtium Officinale
9 Ragged Robin	Lychnis Flos-Cuculi
10 Greater Chickweed	Myosoton Aquaticum
11 Marsh St. John's Wort	Hypericum Quadrangulum
12 Balsam	Impatiens Noli-Tangere
13 Meadowsweet	Spiraea Ulmaria
14 Purple Loosestrife	Lythrum Salicaria
15 Great Willowherb (Codlins & Cream)	Epilobium Hirsutum
16 Small Flowered Hairy Willowherb	Epilobium Parviflorum
17 Marsh Willowherb	Epilobium Palustre
18 Narrow Leaved Water Parsnip	Sium Erectum
19 Procumbent Marshwort	Apium Nodiflorum
20 Common Hemp Agrimony	Eupatorium Cannabinum
21 Nodding Bur Marigold	Bidens Cernua
22 Trifid Bur Marigold	Bidens Tripartita
23 Tansy	Tanacetum Vulgare
24 Marsh Ragwort	Senecio Aquaticus
25 Marsh Thistle	Carduus Palustre
26 Meadow Plume Thistle	Carduus Pratensis
27 Common Comfrey	Symphytum Officinale
28 Water Forgetmenot	Mysotis Palustris
29 Water Figwort	Scrophularia Aquatica
30 Mimulus Yellow Monkey Flower	Mimulus Luteus
31 Brooklime	Veronica Beccabunga
32 Water Speedwell	Veronica Anagallis-Aquatica
33 Gipsywort (Water Horehound)	Lycopus Europaeus
34 Water Mint	Mentah Aquatica
35 Marsh Woundwort	Stachys Palustris
36 Greater Skullcap	Scetellaria Galericulata
37 Lesser Skullcap	Scetellaria Galericulata
38 Water Violet (Water Milfoil)	Hottonia Palustris
39 Yellow Loosestrife	Lysimachia Vulgaris
40 Great Water Dock	Rumex Hydrolapathum
41 Spotted Persicaria	Polygonum Persicaria
42 Amphibious Persicaria	Polygonum Amphibium
43 Water-Pepper	Polygonum Hydropiper

44	Yellow Flag (Water Sedge)	Iris Pseudacarus
45	Great Water-Plantain	Alisma Plantago
46	Common Water Arrowhead	Sagittaria Sagittifolia
47	Flowering Rush	Butomus Umbellatus
48	Bog Asphodel	Narthecium Ossifragum
49	Unbranched Bur-Reed	Sparganium Simplex

BUILDINGS GROUP VISIT TO BATH, SATURDAY, 16/5/81

Those of us in time for the rendezvous made our way to Bradford-on-Avon to view the Saxon church with its "Stone roof, narrow arched porches and two sculptured angels", whilst those of us who missed the rendezvous explored the fine 14th century Tithe Barn, built by the Abbess of Shaftesbury, with its great timber joists supporting a stone tiled roof over its floor space of more than 500 square feet.

Road works at Batheaston prevented most of us from reaching the Pump Room by 12.30, but once we were assembled, the tour of the Roman Baths proceeded over and between the excavations still in progress, past the springs that produce six gallons of water every second at a temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit; around the Great Roman Bath, rediscovered in 1880, with its lead floor and conduit nearly two thousand years old; then through the Pump Room itself where "three glasses a day" of the pure mineral water were drunk by "Society" when the Grand Pump Room was built in 1798. This room contains a magnificent chandelier.

A cursory glance at the Abbey, founded in 1499, was enhanced by guests at a wedding there being met by a couple of 19th century carriages, which some of us were to inspect later in the day at the Carriage Museum.

With a distant glimpse of the Pulteney Bridge, designed in 1770 by Robert Adam, we repaired to our picnic lunches before reassembling at the Circus - three tiers of continuous frieze on Doric, Ionic and Corinthian columns, the building of which was started in 1754, designed by John Wood the Elder, who died at the age of 50 in the same year whilst living at Queen Square, which he had also designed 26 years earlier. His son, John Wood the Younger, devised the Royal Crescent in 1767 with 114 Ionic columns supporting a continuous cornice.

The end house of this impressive edifice is open to the public and the Bath Preservation Society have furnished four rooms as they would probably have appeared at the end of the 18th century. Between showers of rain we next visited the Bath Carriage Museum and sampled a leisurely carriage ride along the Royal Crescent. Anyone who travelled by train before the war would have no difficulty in operating the door and window mechanisms of these carriages, which seem to have been directly copied into the railway rolling-stock.

Sadly, no time was left to view the works of John Eveleigh or John Palmer, who attempted to continue the developments started by John Wood, but there's always another time.

Bernard Watts

VISIT TO STEYNING, SOMPTING AND LANCING

27 members congregated in the 17th century Grammar School at Steyning on Saturday, 6th June, to hear Mrs Joyce Sleight, the School Librarian, summarise the history of the town from its legendary beginning, when the Saxon saint, Cuthman, founded a church there.

In Saxon times, the estuary of the Adur, which now flows into the sea at Shoreham, extended up to Steyning, which became a very prosperous port with docks, ship-building yards and a market. The Domesday Survey of 1086 shows that it was one of the four largest towns in Southern England. Severe storms in the 13th century led to the silting up of the estuary and a decline in its importance, accelerated by the Black Death.

The Norman church, at the end of Church Street, which has changed little throughout the centuries, is in Pevsner's view the best in Sussex, and one of the best in the country. The town's lack of growth since the middle ages has left many 14th and 15th century timber-framed buildings structurally intact, as can be seen even by a cursory view along the delightful High Street.

After a packed lunch atop the South Downs overlooking Shoreham-by-Sea, the unique Saxon church of St Mary, Sompting, was visited. Its "Rhenish Helm" spire with a gabled pyramidal cap similar to many still to be seen in the Rhineland, is the only surviving one of its kind in this country. It is believed to have been constructed between 950 and 1050, and in spite of its age and position on a hillside above the coastal plain, it appears to be still in good condition.

Lancing College, on a promontory above the estuary of the Adur, was founded in 1848 by Nathaniel Woodard when still a curate at New Shoreham. His ambition was no less than "the union of classes by a common system of education" - a forerunner of comprehensive education. By the time he died, he had set up 15 schools and there are now 20. In order to have a mother church large enough for his schools, Woodard conceived the idea of a Gothic church on a scale larger than any other since the building of St Paul's Cathedral, and in order to ensure that his plans were not thwarted, he rushed ahead, pushing the apse up to its full height of 150 ft before he died. Before building had begun, it had not been foreseen that the foundations would need to go down to a depth of 60 ft to reach bedrock. Work on the chapel has continued ever since, and the result is a cathedral church in purest Gothic style.

There could not be a greater contrast between Lancing College Chapel and the nearby early Norman Church of Coombes. Untouched by the Victorians, the remote rural setting in a farmyard gives the impression that the 19th and 20th centuries have simply passed it by. Its extensive wall paintings, discovered in 1949, date from about 1100.

The final point of call for the Society as such was the late Saxon church of St Botolph's in a tiny depopulated hamlet in the parish of Bramber. It was formerly known as St Peter de Vetere Ponte (of the Old Bridge) when the Adur Estuary was adjacent, but with the silting up of the estuary, it lost its prosperity in Tudor times. The chancel is Saxon; there are wall paintings not unlike those at Coombes.

A further involuntary stop with some historic interest was made by one party of members on the way home, when a controversial "short cut" near Alfold brought them to a dead end at Sidney Farm, literally miles from anywhere. With two retired farmers in the party, one of whom was greeted as a long lost

friend, a satisfactory rapport was soon established with the owners, who had taken over this 15th/16th century timber-framed house in a derelict condition with pigs downstairs and turkeys upstairs. After removing twenty trailer loads of dung and litter, the present owners restored the house to a condition more fitting to its history as the ancestral home of the Sidney family, farmers and ironmasters, who subsequently progressed to Penshurst Place and acquired various titles including those of Lord Lisle and Earl of Leicester in the Tudor and Stuart period.

THE CHURCH OF St MARTHA, CHILWORTH

This rearranged meeting on June 25th was well attended in spite of the evening being overcast and cold. As soon as the busy outskirts of Guildford had been left behind, a feeling of remoteness and mystery was very tangible, and this remained the prevalent feeling at St Martha. Set on its high greensand promontory in the Surrey hills, the profile of St Martha from a distance must be known to a multitude of travellers over the ages.

The church, the parish church of Chilworth, is well documented, and is mentioned in the Domesday Survey as one of the three churches in the large manor of Bramley in possession of Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, a kinsman of Duke William. Charters and references still remain at Winchester in Bishop de Lucy's Register (1189-1204) and detailed accounts also appear in "The History and Antiquities of Surrey", Manning & Bray, 1804; "The Topographical History of Surrey", Brayley 1850; "The Victoria County History of Surrey", Malden 1902; "A Pilgrimage in Surrey", Ogilvy 1914 and "Buildings of Surrey", Pevsner 1962/1971, together with numerous minor histories of the county, a rash of local guides, and the extensive Collections of the Surrey Archaeological Society from 1858.

From this wealth of material L. G. Bowerman, the Honorary Secretary, chose "The History of St Martha's, by Guildford, in Surrey", by O. M. Heath, for his chief references in his introductory talk. (Miss O. M. Heath was a pillar of the Surrey Archaeological Society in the 1920's and 1930's and her history of 1933 is now a collector's item.) He traced the history of the site from its pagan past to the first Christian church; mentioning the celebrated dispute concerning the advowson from which the Prior of Newark emerged victorious in 1224 over Walter, the younger Utteworth. This period of control by Newark, much to their pecuniary gain from the sale of indulgences to pilgrims journeying from the shrine of St Swithun in Winchester to that of Becket at Canterbury, ended with the Dissolution in 1538, when the church passed to a new Lord of the Manor, Sir William Morgan. The remote inaccessibility of the church led to its restricted use by parishioners and consequently ruin took over, assisted by occasional concussions from explosions at the 18 gunpowder mills in the Tillingbourne Valley at the foot of the Hill ("History of Surrey", John Aubrey 1697). Prints of the ruinous condition were shown from "Three Surrey Churches", P. G. Palmer and others 1900, including those from Grosse's "Antiquities" 1763, "The Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet" 1808, "Excursion Through Surrey" 1820, "St Martha Before Restoration", Prosser 1840. He then spoke of the careful and sympathetic rebuilding by the architect Woodyer in 1848 with the Guildford builder, Swain, who charged £700, and of the subsequent care which has been bestowed on the building, and of the renewal of regular worship there which has continued to the present day.

The churchyard proved as interesting as the church. Flora uncommon in Send grew amongst the graves, two being those of people of fame. Yvonne Arnaud, founder of the Guildford theatre and a fine actress before

retirement, chose St Martha's, as did Major General Lord Freyberg, G.C.C. New Zealand Forces in the last War. An article on him recently in the Sunday Telegraph contains a paragraph which tersely states "Freyberg was a man of legendary courage. His trophies of war included the Victoria Cross, four D.S.O.'s, 27 wounds in the First World War and three in the Second."

A third grave in Art Nouveau terra-cotta, carrying symbols of Freemasonry and the Architect's instruments of profession with geometrical drawings from Pythagoras and Euclid, caused much interest. This is no doubt the grave of some minor architect - visionary.

An additional bonus came from the ability of some members to recognise and pick out familiar features and places in the extensive country visible from this splendid viewpoint, and with these thoughts the party descended the steep path with its crazy irregular steps, formed by the exposed roots of the ancient trees alongside, and made for home.

J. Oliver

ORNITHOLOGICAL REPORT, MAY/JUNE

On 3 May a cuckoo was present at Papercourt, sedge warblers were singing and house martins were present in some numbers. A common sandpiper flew over at about 9 a.m. By the 8th house martins were nesting and swifts were drifting North in small flocks. A blackcap sang in Send Cemetery on the 16th and green and great spotted woodpeckers were calling. Ring-necked parakeets were nesting in Send Churchyard together with stock doves, sparrow-hawks in the woods behind, and up to four pairs of mandarin ducks on the river.

In pouring rain on the 17th Guy Bowerman and I flushed three shelducks at Ripley Sewage Farm. Sadly, though present for some weeks, they did not stay to breed. On the 21st a spotted flycatcher arrived by the Wey. They were very late this year, but all the usual territories were filled by the end of the month.

On June 9 ^{mo}thatches were very vocal around Send and some were feeding young. A juvenile little owl was present at Sendholme until the 19th. In broad daylight on the 12th jays mobbed a tawny owl at Pembroke House.

On the 14th a teal joined the mallard at Papercourt, three little ringed plover were also present. Willow, sedge and garden warblers sang by the Wey with whitethroat, turtle dove and yellowhammers.

A ring-necked parakeet survey found birds at the Church, Fell Hill, Send Hill and Pembroke House.

D. Nurney

PLACE NAMES - GARLICK'S ARCH COPSE

Garlick's Arch, as members will be aware, is the bridge over the stream which marks the boundary between the present parishes of Send and Ripley on the London-Portsmouth Road at the North Eastern end of Burnt Common. Garlicke Bridge is mentioned in a conveyance (Deed 3663 in the Minet Library at Lambeth) as far back as 1640/1. As clearly shown on the 6" Ordnance Survey map of 1871, the strip of woodland which extends from the bridge to Kiln Lane on the South East side of the road is Garlick's Arch Copse. It has been noticed recently that a signboard giving it the name "Croxteth Hall Wood" has been erected.

EFFET - LOCAL USE OF AN OBSOLETE WORD

In a conversation which the writer had with Ron Sex recently about the disused public sand pit at the May's Corner end of Send Hill (called by children "The Sandies"), Ron referred to the water which used to lie in the lowest part as the "effet pond". Effet is a variant of "eft", which as crossword puzzle enthusiasts will be aware means a newt. Other forms of the same word are evet(e) and evett. All forms of the word appear to have the same origin, the earliest being Old English "efeta". "Newt", which is the form now most generally used, has acquired an initial "N" and the "f" has changed to "w". Ben Jonson (d 1637) used "neuft" and Edmund Spenser (d 1599) "ewft". (Shorter O.E.D.)

This word appears to have taken longer than most to settle down to a standard form, and it is interesting to find a variant still in use locally.

Mr Desmond Tice tells us incidentally that in the 1920's and 1930's water used to lie in the bottom of the pit during the winter months and dry up in the summer, until 1937 when the main sewer was put in Send Barns Lane at a depth of 9'.

Les Bowerman

VISIT TO NORTH HAMPSHIRE DOWNS

Approximately 30 members visited North Hampshire on Sunday, 5th July. Thanks to careful preparation beforehand by the President, and to his wealth of knowledge, a most interesting day was had.

The visit started about six miles from Newbury in that part of the North Hampshire Downs that inspired Richard Adams to write his best selling novel "Watership Down". From there we made our way on foot to the site of Ladle Hill Iron Age Fort, about a mile away. As we followed the ancient ridgeway over the North Downs, walking between acres and acres of ripening barley, many wild flowers were to be seen including several orchids.

The first stop was to examine a dew pond. These are ponds that were made specifically to supply farm animals with water where none was readily available. It was approximately 600 ft above sea level and you may wonder how a shepherd would water his sheep in the days when all had to be done by hand, and sheep farming dominated the North Hampshire Downs. The skills involved in the construction of dew ponds were known to the Ancients, and dew ponds have been used down the centuries with minor variations. Early dew ponds, usually associated with Celtic fields, are generally round in shape, whereas examples connected with the 18th and 19th century enclosures are usually square. Firstly an approximate site is chosen and an area about 15 to 20 yards each way is dug down to the bed rock. This is then sealed with a thick layer of clay followed by a layer of straw, which is sometimes plastered with quicklime to prevent worm damage. This is followed again by a layer of clay and finally a bed of flint or stone. Provided that the right site has been chosen and the pond properly made, one has a readily available source of water which will rarely fail.

The principles of the dew pond are the same principles that cause condensation to form on a motor car. The air at night is often heavily laden with water vapour, and when this air meets a really cold surface, for example the surface of the dew pond, it will cause the water vapour to condense and water will gradually build up in the pond. The process is

continual and so eventually the pond will become three or four feet deep. The pond must be properly constructed and no doubt the site is extremely important. It was necessary to provide a flint or stone surface to the dew pond as the stock would walk into the pond to drink from it. Dew ponds are mentioned in Gilbert White's Natural History of Selborne, and he refers to one on Selborne Hanger that contained water even through the severe drought of 1775.

We proceeded to Ladle Hill, stopping again to study a round Bronze Age tumulus, a burial chamber ^{for} Celtic chieftains. The site of Ladle Hill Fort itself can only be described as magnificent. It is roughly 700 ft above sea level and stands at the top of the Downs. There is a superb view of the neighbouring Beacon Hill Iron Age Camp, and far below is the busy A34 road (which runs from the South Coast to Oxford and the North), an extremely important highway over the centuries.

Beacon Hill Camp has been extensively studied and much is known about its history; however, for many years the remains of Ladle Hill Fort puzzled leading archaeologists. Famous men such as O. G. S. Crawford and Prof Christopher Hawkes had worked on Ladle Hill, but it was not until 1928-30 that Stuart Piggott, Professor of Archaeology at Edinburgh University and a former Petersfield schoolboy, was able to make sense of the puzzle. Piggott showed that Ladle Hill Fort had never actually been completed. It would have been a very important camp, but for some reason it was never finished, and this explains the heaps of earth and spoil to be seen everywhere inside the perimeter of the fort.

The fort is slightly elliptical, about 200 yards in diameter, and covers an area of roughly 7 acres. It would have been surrounded by a bank over 20 ft in height and on top of this would have been wooden pallsades. At the foot of the bank would have been a ditch with a trench maybe $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft wide by 3 ft deep, sufficient for an enemy to break a leg or twist an ankle. In several places the sides of the bank had crumbled and the method of construction used was visible. Much of the bank is still there and with the knowledge of Jim Cliver, a picture of the camp was painted and parallels drawn with the famous Maiden Castle in Dorset. Attention then turned to the wonderful views all around, and the particular quality of the sunlight highlighted the outlines of ancient Celtic fields and strip lynchets.

The A34 trunk road mentioned above runs through a wind gap in the Downs and this pass was of great significance during the English Civil War. The two Battles of Newbury, at Wash Common in 1643 and Speen and Donnington in 1644, were fought nearby in an attempt to prevent Catholic supplies from Europe coming up this road from the South Coast to Charles's Court at Oxford.

Across the gap the outlines of Beacon Hill Camp were clearly visible. Within that camp are remains of Iron Age huts and storage pits, and the brick foundations of the Elizabethan Armada Beacon. Stout iron railings also guard the grave of the 5th Earl of Caernarvon, buried there in 1923. Lord Caernarvon was the man whose fortune and interests made it possible for Howard Carter to complete the excavation of the tomb of Tutankhamon. Carter and Lord Caernarvon died soon after the tomb was opened, and it was widely thought that they had received their just deserts for interfering with the dead King's tomb. Also close to Beacon Hill is the field from where Geoffrey De Havilland flew his first primitive aeroplane in 1910.

After lunch a few people walked across to Watership Down before we set off for the nearby village of Burghclere to view the world famous paintings of Sir Stanley Spencer, RA, at Sandham Memorial Chapel. The chapel was built

between 1923 and 1926 by J. L. Behrend and dedicated to the memory of his wife's brother, H. W. Sandham, a soldier who died in 1919 from an illness contracted while on service in Macedonia. Spencer had also served in the Great War and it had been his ambition to paint a great series of frescoes recording his experiences of the war. In 1922 he was commissioned by the Behrends and began the work. In 1927 he moved to Burghclere and worked in the chapel until completing the paintings in 1932. The paintings must be seen in the chapel to be appreciated. They are unique and Spencer is widely recognised as being the greatest English painter in the first half of the 20th century. He was born in Cookham, near Maidenhead, one of 11 children. His talent for painting was quickly recognised and he was sent to the Slade School of Art by a wealthy patron. All through his life he carried in his mind scenes from the Bible, which he related to everyday life in Cookham; most of his paintings reflect this theme, as indeed does the "Resurrection" at the Sandham Chapel. He was a prolific artist and many of his works hang in galleries in Europe and America. Mr and Mrs Behrend presented the chapel, together with an endowment, to the National Trust in 1947.

The last leg of the visit was to a field near to the village of Crux Easton a few miles away. Here a late Victorian wind turbine, which had once been used to pump water and grind corn, was studied. Unfortunately the engine is not in working order, but it was possible to understand how it would have operated, as most of the parts were there. These machines were once extremely popular with farmers. This one was made by the engineering company of Wallis Titt Ltd of Warminster. At one time their wind machines were sent all over the world. No doubt we will see their return if energy becomes even more expensive - the wind is for the moment tax free.

Walking down the lane to the church at Crux Easton, we paused to look at the house where Oswald Mosley was interned during the Second World War. Entry into the well kept churchyard is through an attractive wrought iron gate, possibly contemporary with the church, which is small, of brick and built in 1775. It has a nave of three bays with arched windows. On the floor of the apse is a fine radial marble pavement, and around the altar high quality wooden panelling with pilasters and oval pateri. The pulpit and lectern with its wooden eagle are also of 1775. There is a memorial to Charles de Havilland, Rector from 1897-1920, and father of the aircraft designer mentioned earlier. The church itself is beautifully situated and in an excellent state of repair.

Tony Medlen

WHITE HATCH, POTTERS LANE, SEND - TQ 019 554

Further to the report under the above heading in N/L 38, the statement that "Wooden monuments, popularly known as 'leaping boards' or 'bedheads', were a common feature in many churchyards in the 18th and 19th centuries" is incomplete. These memorials attracted numerous nicknames in Surrey and the adjacent counties, among them "hurdles", "headers", "stretchers" and "bed-boards". The disappearance of these affectionate rural names reflects one of the changes in village life, the one term remaining in modern use being "bed-board". This is borne out in "Field Guide to Archaeology in Britain", page 226, Eric S. Wood, F.S.A., 1963, 1964, 1968, 1972 and 1980. The author of this invaluable book for local archaeologists and historians is now President of Surrey Archaeological Society. However, in mentioning these memorials in an academic context, it is better to refer to them as "wooden grave boards".

J. M. S. & J. O.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Mr & Mrs D. Greenman, "Davelton", Potters Lane, Send.
Mr & Mrs S. Larcher, "Glyndor", Send Marsh Road.
Mr & Mrs G. Bowler, 3 Papercourt Lane, Ripley.

Total paid up membership consists of 86 double and 57 single subscriptions.

We record with sadness the recent death of our member Peter Rusden, of Potters Lane, and offer our sympathy to Mrs Rusden.

Sir Martin Lindsay

When the Society published its booklet on the parish church of St Mary the Virgin, Send, last year, Sir Martin Lindsay of Dowhill, Bt., C.B.E., D.S.O., of the Old Vicarage, Church Lane, was kind enough to write a short appreciation which appears inside the front cover. Sadly it is noted that he died on 5th May last. The comprehensive obituary which appeared in "The Times" records that he became famous as an explorer in Africa and the Arctic. He commanded the 1st Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders in North-West Europe during the 2nd World War and was awarded the D.S.O. In the 1945 general election he defeated Roy Jenkins (standing then as a Labour candidate, and recently narrowly defeated as a Social Democrat in the by-election at Warrington) to become Conservative M.P. for Solihull, which seat he held for 19 years.

Greens of Ripley

Some months ago we were kindly lent an old card and a photograph of Green's of Ripley for copying. Regrettably the name of the lender has been forgotten and we are therefore unable to return them. Will the owner please be good enough to contact me.

Les Bowerman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 12th September ... Buildings Group second visit to Winchester. Leave Send Marsh Green 9.30 a.m. Meet West end of Cathedral 10.50 a.m. for 11 a.m. to visit those parts (the Lady Chapels, the South Ambulatory, the South Transept) not seen last time. Also the Crypt if not flooded. Then it is hoped those members doing active work for the Group will visit the roofs, while other members see the Library, prior to everyone assembling at the Bookstall at a prearranged time. The City Museum, the West Gate, the Great Hall of Henry III containing the Round Table will be seen in the afternoon, with the Gateway of Hyde Abbey (Burial Place of King Alfred) and the rare Saxon Road at Headbourne Worthy on the outskirts of the city if time permits.

Thursday, 17th September ... Open evening at the Church Room, Send Road, commencing at 8 p.m., when Ken Bourne will give a show of photographic slides on the subject of local wild flowers.

Saturday, 31st October ... Surrey Local History Symposium at Dorking Halls. The theme is "The Victorians at Home". The Society hopes to have a stand.

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