# Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY
Registered Charity No. 296324

The Ruins of Newark Priory West View

Journal Volume 7 No. 221 Nov/Dec 2011

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# Send & Ripley History Society

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**Cover photo: Both cricket teams at the Cricket Day (see page 4)**
**Photo © Ripley Cricket Club**

## Editorial

This month's Journal is packed with a variety of articles and information which I hope will keep you entertained and informed as the long dark winter nights are upon us.

I am sure that you all know who to thank for the high quality of the journal contents over the past year. Our dedicated band of regular contributors never cease to amaze me with the steady stream of material that they provide. We are lucky to have so many members who are fascinated by local history and keep on researching new topics to research and write up. At the risk of offending anyone that I don't mention can I offer my thanks to Clare McCann, John Slatford, our chairman Les Bowerman, Pat Clack, Andy Jones, Peter Spooner, Sheila Brown,and John Bartlett for the support they have given me this year. Thanks also to members and non-members alike who have been inspired to write in following the publication of a particular article. In addition thanks are due to the dedicated team of distributors who spring into action to get your copy of the journal to you soon after it is printed; thanks to Norman Carpenter and his team. Last but not least my thanks go to the ever patient Angela Blaydon, who typesets and organises the printing of the journal.

Do please look at the new museum exhibition on the local post offices. It is far more interesting than the name suggests, and is exceptionally good, even by Clare McCann's high standards.

The committee hope that as many of you as possible will attend the Christmas Social on the 15 December and look forward to seeing you there.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Get searching!

*Cate Davey*

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## Yet More on the Green Family of Ripley

*John Slatford*

Our member Rosemary Wallis has corrected me and told me some more about the 1969 fire at Green's hardware shop. She says that she worked there at the time but it was her day off when the fire started. She told me that that the shop did reopen within a short time but she was not certain how long this lasted. On checking with Gerald Chandler, also our member, he confirmed what Rosemary had told me but was certain that this was in the house next door. Gerald also not could remember how long this lasted but both said that Jack Richardson quickly took advantage of the situation and started his hardware business which is continued today by his son Geoff.

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## Ripley's Victorian Stench Pole

*Andrew Jones*

A while ago I noticed what I first thought was a chimney from a steam engine on Ripley Green. On closer inspection and investigation I discovered that it is a Victorian sewage gas outlet pipe or stench pole. These were common in Victorian times as no one wanted to smell rotting eggs, and they were vital in flat areas where sewage flow was slow as gas could build up and could cause explosions, etc., and the gas could also eat into concrete pipes and the sewage could leak out.

The one I have found is almost as tall as a telegraph pole so any escaping gas would blow away on the wind. It is made of iron and has been protected from the elements by growth of some

ivy, some of which once removed, revealed the pipe. Most of these pipes were very plain in appearance but some like the one I have found were decorated. This one has finials at the top and there are two horizontal lines going around the top as well, making the top look like a crown. No more detail can be seen due to ivy growths. This pipe was probably specially made or was a more expensive model. It is still standing and its location seems a bit strange as it is not where you would expect to find a sewage outlet or pipe.

Do any other people know of this pole and when it was first installed or of any other locations in the two villages where these poles would have been placed?

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## A Year in the Life of Send Church

*Bill Pyne*

**The making of a DVD**

Parishioners from Send Parish Church have produced a DVD showing a selection of events that have taken place over the past year and have some connection with the church. The project was the brainchild of Sylvia Pyne, who was also responsible for editing, and her husband Bill was chief cameraman and technician.

The project started when Sylvia looked back at some old copies of the Parish Magazine and noticed how many different events took place over the year, and suggested to Bill that he take a camcorder with him when working in the churchyard on Tuesdays. So the opening scenes include the completion of a shed, which is mainly used to store flower arranging requisites. Shortly after that, the restoration of the lychgate took place and Bill returned on a daily basis to record progress. The workers themselves were asked to speak directly to the camera and describe their contributions to the work, and after a little cajoling, they did so. In addition, all sorts of fascinating topics are featured including special services throughout the year, an upgrade to the organ, Send Songs of Praise on the recreation ground, Comic Relief fundraising, a Fairtrade breakfast, flower arrangers in action, views from the tower during an open tower day, and the 2010 Walkfest. It is surprising to note the variety of activities covered and the DVD runs for an hour and a half.

**Technical details**

The video footage was captured using a five-year-old Panasonic camcorder, which, unlike today's models, records onto re-usable mini tape cassettes. After shooting, the footage was downloaded onto Sylvia's home computer and edited using Pinnacle Studio software. This enables scenes to be trimmed and re-arranged into the desired order. Whenever a change of topic takes place, transitions are inserted – typically a 'dissolve' is used, where one scene fades out as another scene fades in. A library of different transitions is built into the software and novelty transitions, such as a heart shape that expands outward from the centre, is useful for wedding scenes.

Titles and captions can easily be added and placed in any position over the picture, and a variety of typestyles can be used in a range of different colours. However, to maintain a consistent style, gold writing edged in black was used for most titles.

Although the camcorder records a synchronised sound track, when the pictures are edited, any speech gets broken up, so it was necessary to record some voiceovers. Additional words were also needed to explain scenes in which there was no suitable speech. To do this, a 'notetaker' was used. This is a hand-held electronic recording machine about the size of a small mobile phone. The recordings can then be transferred to the computer and simply dropped into the scenes as required. Some organ music was added by a similar process, after ensuring that all the music was out of copyright!

When the editing was complete, a Scene Selection menu was added to the front of the movie, and a 'master' copy was then produced in DVD format. A quick search on the internet revealed a DVD duplication service with a Christian fish symbol displayed and excellent credentials and we were happy to entrust the duplication of the discs to them.

A label was designed using a facility on their website, and after placing the order, the master disc was sent to their Essex workshop. The completed discs with the label printed directly onto the DVD surface and packed in slimline 'jewel cases' were returned a few days later.

To complete the project, a trailer was created and uploaded to YouTube, with a link from the church website - sendparishchurch.co.uk/dvd.html. The DVD is now selling well, copies cost £5 each plus £1 for UK postage if required. Please phone Bill or Sylvia on 01483 224420 or e-mail editor@sendparishchurch.co.uk if you would like one.

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## Cricket Day Sunday 19 June 2011

*Clare McCann*

The History Society, together with Ripley Cricket Club, put together a one day celebration of cricket on Ripley Village Green on Sunday 19th June. Three generations of cricketers were involved as, following a morning colts match, thirty aspiring cricketers were given free Kwik cricket coaching in the lunch interval. After lunch Ripley and Send (now Horsley and Send) took to the field as they must have done many times in the last 250 years. The Mayor of Guildford, Terence Patrick, was on hand to bowl the first ball at the regulation two stumps (1774 Regulations). Both teams, dressed in 18th Century garb, entered into the spirit of the event and managed some huge blows despite batting with heavy curved bats. Ripley squeaked home by one run.

The match was one of the first in a series of sporting re-

enactments planned to celebrate Surrey's sporting heritage in the run up to 2012. This game celebrated Lumpy Stevens, who was born in the parish of Send (which then included Ripley) in 1734 and was the greatest bowler of his day. So accurate was he that he frequently bowled between the two stumps without dislodging the bail and this led to the introduction of the third stump. Ted Strange kindly made a trophy, appropriately fashioned from a stump, for the event and this was presented to the winning captain by Guy Pullen, the President of Ripley Cricket Club. Other events in the Sporting Life Project coming up include a 19th century regatta and a Victorian Derby and a full list is available on the Exploring Surrey's Past website **www.exploringsurreyspast.org.uk**

Thanks for supporting the day go to committee members who were there but also to other members, such as Chris Lee, who with his helpers did a fantastic job on the BBQ, as well as getting other stallholders along. Margaret Field was immensely helpful in making the costumes with me and, with Bowls Club members, running a coconut shy, bowling game and selling delicious strawberries and cream. Les added a period touch to the day selling ice creams from his period delivery bike. John Creasey raised much needed advertising funds and Christine Lavender slaved away at producing the programmes for just the cost of the materials. If I have left anyone out …sorry!

*All photos © Ripley Cricket Club* ■

## The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

*Clare McCann*

As most of you will know next year marks the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and we would welcome ideas of how the Society should celebrate the occasion. I hope to have an exhibition at the Museum but as to what form that takes, I am open to suggestions. Also should we hold a party, or some other event?

Some of you may have photos or artefacts of how you celebrated various key moments in the Queen's reign and I would welcome hearing from you – please don't actually bring things to the museum at present. You can contact me by phone 01483 728546 or by e-mail **cricketshill@hotmail.com**. Many Thanks, Clare.■

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## West Surrey Family History Society Open Day 5 November 2011

The Society always has a stand at the Open Day of the West Surrey Family History Society which this year was held on Saturday 5th November at the Leisure Centre in Woking Park.

This is an opportunity to display and sell our publications to a wider audience and to offer help with family history search.

John Slatford valiantly transported all our transcribed Parish Registers for Send and Ripley, the census returns for both villages and for Ockham and Wisley, our parish magazines and in fact all the records that we offer in our Museum, and displayed them to catch the eye of passing visitors and encourage them to stop and browse

Members of the Society man the stand taking one or two hour slots to cover the day. They are generally kept busy with enquiries and help is given to those visitors who have ancestors in Send and Ripley. It is very rewarding when someone discovers a link with their past, and this often results in a new member.

It is a two-way thing as people often tell us about their connection with the villages and new knowledge for the Society is thus gained. One lady who had lived in Ripley as a child remembers Florence Desmond and her mother giving dancing lessons for children in the old village hall. The cost was one penny!

Names of children missing from our publication Two Village Schools are often given and added to our list for inclusion in a later edition or addendum of names.

Offers to help on the day are always welcome and the next Open Day for the West Surrey Family History Society next year is 3 November 2012. Thanks are due to John Slatford and members of the Society for continuing to be a presence at this prestigious annual event.

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## The London to Portsmouth Road – Part 1

*Les Bowerman*

This article, based on the talk I gave to SRHS on 21st September, is about the early history of the road from London to Portsmouth and its physical development. There will be a later article on naval people with Ripley connections who used or, in one case, might have used it. Over the years various paragraphs about the London or Portsmouth Road have appeared in the SRHS newsletters/Journals and can be accessed via the indexes.

The origins of the road are lost in the mists of antiquity. David Bird in Roman Surrey speculates that the London to Guildford section was possibly the first part of a Roman road to Winchester, which was, until some time after the Norman Conquest, the joint capital with London. Dennis Turner in SAC 96 speculates about its use between London and Guildford by pilgrims travelling to and from Compostela in Spain from the 11th century, and later to or from Winchester to Canterbury via London after the death of Thomas à Beckett in 1170 .

2. In 1827 a handsome stone bridge replaced the flimsy wooden structure that had made Kingston a strategic point for at least 700 years. The old bridge, once the scene of some of England's most dramatic happenings, remained awhile beside its superior successor, and was sketched by a local resident before it disappeared for ever.

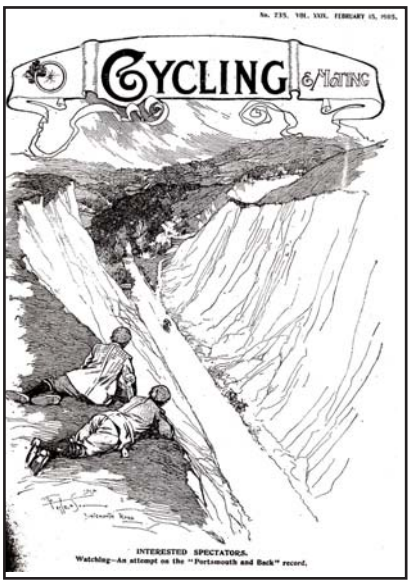
The first documentary evidence is Gough's map of *ca*1360, on which one of the few roads shown passes from London through Kingston to Guildford, and thence on down to Winchester, Exeter and beyond. It may be relevant to note here that Send and Ripley were in the diocese of Winchester until as recently as 1927.

THE PORTSMOUTH ROAD TOLL-GATE IN THE 1860s. In 1749 the London to Portsmouth road was 'turnpiked' from Kingston to Sheetbridge near Petersfield. This meant that a private trust could collect a toll from users of the road, most of the money in theory going on the upkeep of the improved road itself. Four gates were set up, at Cobham, Ripley, Farncombe and Liphook, though travellers passing through all four had only to pay twice. The Farncombe gate was moved to Guildford, probably in 1767. The coming of the railways hit turnpike receipts heavily, however, tolls dropping by a third between 1837 and 1850. From 1862 onwards local Highway Boards gradually took over responsibility for the roads from the turnpike trusts. This photograph was taken looking south down the Portsmouth Road, with the turning into Guildown Road visible beyond the gate. The gatekeeper, John Turner, was a cripple and walked with a crutch. He acted as rate collector for St. Nicholas' parish until his death in 1885. He seems also to have sold ginger beer from his toll-house. The road was taken over from the turnpike trust, and the gate taken off its hinges at midnight, 30th June, 1870.

At Kingston there used to be a wooden Saxon bridge over the Thames in a constant state of disrepair. Some have suggested that travellers from London to Guildford would have needed to cross it. But that bridge would have severely restricted traffic as it could not take wheeled vehicles, and meant that the Thames would have had to be re-crossed at Hampton Court to reach Esher. There was in fact no bridge at Hampton Court at all until a flimsy wooden one was built in 1753. In truth, travellers from earliest times would no doubt cross the river at London Bridge and then skirt the Thames through Kingston, as shown on Ogilby's strip road map of 1675

The Epsom road from London to Guildford, which will be mentioned in Part 2, is not shown by Gough.

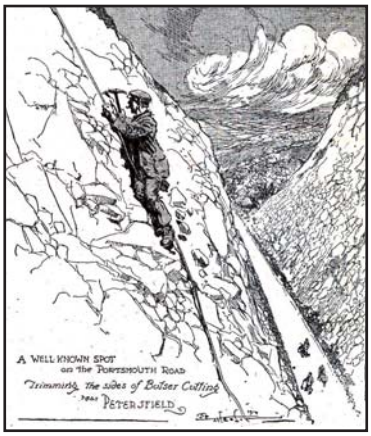
Until Henrys VII & VIII in the 16th century began building up the naval dockyard there was no definitive road from Guildford to Portsmouth. Prior to the turnpike/stage coach age, heavy road waggons would take a whole day for the journey from Guildford to London (including two stops for meals) according to Manning & Bray's *History & Antiquities of the County of Surrey* (1809-14).




INTERESTED SPECTATORS.
Watching—An attempt on the "Portsmouth and Back" record.

Samuel Pepys, as Secretary to the Admiralty for fifteen years, often travelled to Portsmouth. On 6 August 1688 (his last year as Secretary) he went with his wife in own coach to Portsmouth. His diary reads: "Over the water to Fox Hall…….and we away to Gilford, losing our way for 3 or 4 miles about Cobham." After spending the night at the former Red Lyon in Guildford High Street just below the junction with Market Street, he continues "…..So to coach again, and got to Lippook, late over

Hindhead, having an old man, a guide, in the coach with us; but got thither with great fear of being out of our way, it being 10 o'clock". It seems that he would stay both in Guildford, and at Liphook or Petersfield, meaning three days on the road.



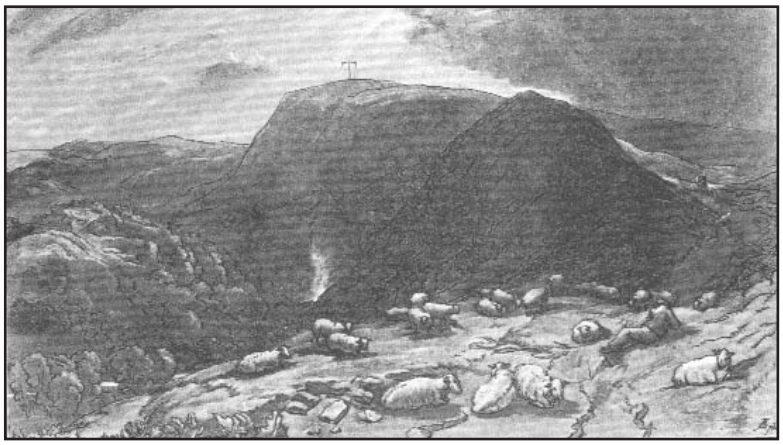

The aim of the 18th century Turnpike trusts was to raise money from main road traffic to enable roads to be repaired and improved, the old parish system having clearly failed. A turnpike was initially a wooden bar across the road in strategic places which would be turned or raised to allow vehicles to pass after payment of a toll. Later, the wooden bar was replaced with gates.

Among the earliest of the turnpike trusts was one from Petersfield to Portsmouth, the Act authorising it being passed in 1711. Butser Hill, the highest in Hampshire at 927ft, at that time posed enormous problems, with the road clinging high up to the steep east side of the valley, and following a circuitous and perilous course.

Maintenance was a constant problem with rainwater from even higher up constantly washing the surface material away. All of the expense previously fell on the tiny village of Buriton. The Trust made some early improvements, and then around 1826 bought land to straighten the road, thereby cutting off some 3 furlongs (220 yds) and making "a deep and precipitous cutting 60ft lower than before." It was then "…..the largest and most spectacular cutting in England" according to CG Harper in his 1895 book The Portsmouth Road. A couple of notice boards used to warn travellers ambiguously against "Chalk falling from the Sides by Order".

A Trust for the stretch from Southwark to Kingston quickly followed in 1718 but it was a further 31 years before the main part of the road from Kingston to Petersfield was turnpiked in 1749. With the whole road now improved, the "Rocket" coach eventually reduced the full journey time to 9 hours and the new "Rocket" to 7hrs 50 mins. Nearly 2 coaches an hour were then passing through – rich pickings for the many highwaymen as Harper relates with relish. The nearest actual tollgate to us here in Ripley was at the top of the slight rise just past the Jovial Sailor about 1 mile SW of Ripley. It was in use until the 1860s although the turnpike cottage, with its half doors facing the road, and the actual gate survived until around 1910 as recalled in Newsletter 19 by Jim French, aged 86, in 1978. Also in 1978 Mrs Frank Sadler recalled being taken as a child to visit an aged couple (presumably the

last turnpike keeper, George Mandeville, and his wife) who still lived in the cottage.



But even with the road turnpiked, for more than 70 years it still went right over the bleak and windswept top of Hindhead above the gloomy depths of the Devils Punch Bowl, 'certainly the most villainous spot that God ever made' as Richard Cobbett described it. Cobbett, writing in the early 19th century, would have been familiar with the grisly murder of an unknown sailor on 24th Sept 1786.

As Harper in his 1896 book on the Portsmouth Road tells it, the sailor met 3 men, Lonegan, Marshall & Casey, near Esher, all four on their way by foot to Portsmouth to look for employment. The sailor bought them drinks and fatefully said he would pay for their accommodation en route, thus disclosing he had money on him.

A little later, at the Devils Punch Bowl, two labourers tramping the same route, saw something lying below them, which turned out to be the body of the sailor, stripped of clothing and with his throat cut. They reported what they had found, and the three were caught near Petersfield, in the act of selling the sailor's clothes. Tried at Kingston Assizes the following year, they were hanged and their bodies gibbeted at the highest point of Hindhead, the scene of their crime. JMW Turner painted the scene with the gibbet on the distant hilltop and a lonely coach in the middle distance laboriously climbing the slope.

A tombstone in nearby Thursley churchyard outlines the facts, depicts the murder and adds a religious homily. In 1796 a headstone was erected near the gibbet.

In 1826 the turnpike trustees created what was until four months ago the 'new road' 60ft below the summit. Curiously, this is the same year and reduction in height as for the Butser cutting. Although the Butser facts come from a contemporary local newspaper, the Hindhead ones are from Harper! In 1851 Sir Wm Erle, bothered by the fact that the gibbet and its cadavers had rotted away, had a Cornish granite obelisk in Celtic style erected on the same spot to perpetuate the memory of the gibbet. In 1889 the inscribed headstone was restored and placed down below beside the 'new road' somewhat scarily overlooking the Punch Bowl When increasing motor traffic made it too dangerous to stop to look at the stone, it was in 1932 taken back to more or less its original situation where it is still to be seen today near the traces of the old original road and the obelisk.

After 21 years of campaigning, most notably and effectively by former SW Surrey MP and Secretary of State for the Natural Environment, Virginia Bottomley, and after more than four years of construction, the southbound side of the new Hindhead road tunnel finally & formally

opened to the public on Wednesday 27 July this year and the northbound side a couple of days later. The 'new road' of 1826 is now closed, is being torn up and will be earthed over with spoil from the tunnel, to leave the spectacular National Trust-owned Devils Punchbowl much as it was in the time of Pepys and Cobbett. Although this is extremely recent history it is worth noting that the £371 million tunnel, at 1.25 miles, is the longest non-estuarial road tunnel in the UK. It was completed on time and within budget. The pre-opening walk-through by more than 7,000 people raised £11,626 for local community groups.

But let us turn back to the earlier history of the road.

In Dickens' novel, Nicholas Nickleby, published in 1838/9, there is a brief account of Nicholas and Smike walking from London to Portsmouth to look for work on a ship. Although they would have hiked around 25 miles a day, Dickens makes very little of the actual journey, so perhaps that distance was not unusual at the time. He does mention the rim of the Devils Punch Bowl and refers to Butser as "shooting up almost perpendicularly into the sky….at a height so steep as to be hardly accessible but to sheep and goats."

Undoubtedly sailors did walk the road - as the three maritime public house names here in Ripley indicate. We have the Anchor (1st reference 1677), the Ship (1st refce 1732) and the Jovial Sailor (1st refce 1745). All are post Henry VIII but pre-turnpike. It can be noted that Ripley is about twenty-five miles from London, i.e. a day's walk. And why would the Talbot (1st ref 1580) be so named? A Talbot was a white hunting dog (long since extinct, if it ever existed) – the emblem of the Earls of Shrewsbury whose family name was Talbot. Could it have been because the Earl, a minister in Henry VIII's government, had stayed here, or at least passed this way?

The railway reached Woking in 1838 and the direct line to Portsmouth was opened in 1859. This spelled the end of the coaching era. To quote Harper again in 1895 'A few years ago the Talbot was closed and is now given over to solitude & mice.' – a contrast with its tastefully restored and enlarged state today.

As regards the state of the road, early cyclists in the 1870s-1890s found the turnpike, at least as far as Ripley, 'of the smoothness of an eggshell' (in fine weather!). But after frost it turned to a pease-pudding consistency. It was regarded as a fine white surface, as this Frank Patterson sketch of R Shirley about to break the London the Portsmouth & back cycle Road Record in 1906 shows.

Some 130 roadmenders worked on the road between Richmond & Guildford in the late 19th century, breaking stones with a hammer and filling them into potholes. Members of the Bath Road Club, who were regular users of what they knew as the Ripley Road when the road was at its most popular with cyclists, organised

annual dinners for them, providing entertainment before sending them home with an ounce of 'baccy' and a packet of tea for the 'missus'.

Early motor cars from the mid-1890s trailed clouds of dust behind them when it was dry, & created potholes when it was wet far worse than anything we know. The first tar was put down around 1905 to lay the dust. Cobham was ahead of the game with this. Then in Cycling magazine in June 1916 it was reported that "Today the Ripley Road is tar-covered and dustless, covered with a coating of tarmac," which indicates that it was first given a hard surface around the start of WW1.

In 1927 the Kingston Bypass opened – claimed to be the first in Britain, followed by Guildford in 1934. 41 years and a World War later the Ripley By-Pass was built together with a new Guildford By-pass to bypass the by-pass. In 1984 Junction 10 of the M25 was opened. Later by-passes were made for Liphook, Petersfield, etc.

**Illustrations**

1. Kingston Wood Bridge. *Story of Kgstn* 1972. June Sampson.
2. Tollgate Guildford. *Guildford as it Was*. 1978. M Alexander
3. Butser Patterson 1905. *Cycling Magazine*. 1905
4. Butser Pat 1914. *Cycling Magazine*. 1914
5. New Times Esher Ripley 1880s. *Guildford as it was*. 1978. M Alex
6. Red Rover Kingston Gfd 1850. Christmas Card
7. Hhead Turner Painting. *The Portsmouth Road*. 1895. CG Harper
8. Sailors Stone. *The Portsmouth Road*. 1895. CG Harper
9. Obelisk 2010. Photo by L Bowerman
10. Sailors Stone. Photo by L Bowerman
11. R Shirley at Ripley 1906. *Cycing Magazine*. 1906.
12. Ripley Bypass under construction. Photo by Bernard Titcombe, decd, in album donated by him to SRHS

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## Notes from the Chairman

*Les Bowerman*

**Preliminary Appreciation** for a stupendous year. Without wishing to pre-empt anything that may be said or written in connection with the Annual General meeting, I feel that thanks and congratulations are due at this stage to a number of people:

Firstly, there is Gary Griffiths, who, two years ago, kindly agreed to become our **Hon. Secretary**, a post he has now unfortunately had to relinquish for personal reasons, but for which it is possible that he may be able offer himself again at a later stage. Gary came in with very little knowledge of Send or Ripley but rapidly managed to pick up details of the persons, places and issues involved and thereby produce immaculately written minutes from the word go. At present the work is being done by a number of people. It consists mainly in attending our six-weekly (approx.) Committee meetings at Send Manor and writing the resulting minutes, likewise with the AGM. A replacement is very urgently required, even if only temporarily. If you feel you could help the Society in this way, please contact me as soon as possibly either by ringing 01483 224876 or by email to **les@sendmanor.com**. As Gary has shown, it is a post that can be filled equally by a new member as by a longer-standing one. Whilst on the subject of vacancies, it would help me very much to spend more time on actual local history if somebody could take on the non-arduous task of organising the rotas for museum stewarding and organising the rota for manning our stall at the

monthly Ripley Farmers Market – not necessarily the same person for both. Experience is not essential, but some acquaintance with existing members would be useful.

Peter Croucher has done sterling work organising the Society stands at the Send May Day Fair and the Ripley Summer Event, as well as selling our publications at meetings, and being one of a handful of members who have done practical work on museum maintenance.

Cate Davey, in her initial issues of the Journal, has managed to encourage some members to write very interesting substantial contributions as well as inspiring smaller pieces from members with long memories, but at the time of writing this she does need more. Do please keep the material flowing in.

Above all, Clare McCann, in addition to a busy family, social and charitable life, has done an enormous amount of work for the Society, even by her standards. She has been primarily responsible for our museum displays on Dunsborough House and Gardens, the 'Our Sporting Life', Rose Lane Buildings and People, and now Ripley and Send Postal Services. She led the team that in July produced the popular new book, our thirteenth, entitled Send & Ripley Walks, and planned and organised the associated Guildford Walkfest walk, which started and finished at Send Marsh Green. But the event that occupied more of her time, initiative and ingenuity than any other was the Old-Time Cricket Match on Ripley Green in conjunction with Ripley Cricket Club. It is anticipated that a report on this game, part of our pre-Olympic activities, will appear elsewhere in this issue. On a less glamorous note Clare has also been beavering away at obtaining 'Accreditation' for the museum, which will hopefully lead to financial help with the eventual aim of enlarging the museum.

**Tourist Information Points**. On 13 October Anne and I attended a Tourist Information Point briefing session at Farnham Museum. It is anticipated by the Surrey Museums Consultative Committee that the Olympics next year will bring many visitors to the county, both from other parts of the country and from overseas. It is believed that many of the people coming to see or take part in the games (mostly in Essex of course) will want to see more of the southeast as tourists. Also, many of the overseas competitors and officials will be using Surrey facilities as training camps, not least in preparation for the cycling road races, which will take place mainly in Surrey, and that some of them will also be interested in seeing places of interest in the area. The Tourist Information Centre in Guildford High Street is the only fully-fledged one of its kind in Surrey. It is therefore felt that, in the absence of such places elsewhere, the museums (at which many people call for information about an area anyway) can become official Tourist Information Points. Those museums which are certain that they would like to become TIPs will be given a special notice to display to that effect on their premises, but it is suggested that, even if they do not wish to become formal TIPs, they should still be prepared to act as such in a more informal way. Our Committee will be considering this at their meeting on 8 November.

Whether our museum becomes an official TIP or not, we (and in particular our museum stewards) need to be prepared to deal with tourist type enquiries. We shall need to be aware of attractions and events taking place in our area and nearby areas. We (in the museum) should stock up on local maps, timetables and travel information, and be conscious of where local car parks and taxi ranks are and be prepared and willing to dispense this information. The objective is to interest visitors in the area, encouraging them to stay and spend money here. We shall need to familiarise ourselves on such matters as the basic whereabouts of the Olympic Park venues and how to find

them, hospitals, police, car hire, banks and building societies, bureaux de change, mobile phone repairs, car breakdown places, restaurants and pubs. We should ask such local businesses to let us have leaflets or business cards and make sure they are in the Surrey Guide, especially ones catering for special types of cuisines (Indian, Chinese, Italian, etc.) and special diets.

We also need to be aware of places to visit – the Surrey Hills Area of Natural Beauty, the North Downs Way, Leith Hill, the Surrey heathland. Cycling maps for the whole of Surrey are available in libraries. There are the nine Surrey National Trust properties, such as Clandon House (including the Maori house), Hatchlands and the Wey Navigation. Our own local churches, Loseley Park, Surrey Wildlife, Guildford Castle and Cathedral, Dapdune Wharf, Painshill, Farnham Castle, Lewis Carroll related places, Alice Holt Forest, the Guildford Book Festival, Eric Clapton's Ripley connection, Denbies Wine Estate, the Hogs Back Brewery, Ripley Farmers' Market, the Undercroft at Guildford, Guildford for big shops and Farnham for smaller specialist ones, sporting and royal connections, St Catherines and St Martha's, Brooklands (including Concorde, the Bus Museum and Mercedes Benz), Greyshott Pottery and the four Surrey racecourses – Epsom, Sandown, Kempton and Lingfield.

Most stewards and, indeed, members will be aware of the above places of interest but, as summer and the Games approach, it would be as well to start reminding oneself about the detail – even if only from the Web.

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## New Members 2011

*Andrew & Sally Jones (Joint Membership Secretaries)*

The following have joined the Society since the last list was published in March 2011 (Journal 217), and we welcome them to membership:

Ralph Cromwell of Manor Road, Send Marsh
Nick Freed of Wisley
Katie Lay of Rose Lane, Ripley
Andrew & Lucy Paulson of Rose Lane, Ripley
Hilary Percy of Wentworth Close, Ripley
Jean Follett of Old Woking
Dr Gillian Lachelin of Ockham
Mindi Mclean of Rose Lane, Ripley
John Pemberton of Rose Lane, Ripley
Vernon Wood of Georgelands, Ripley

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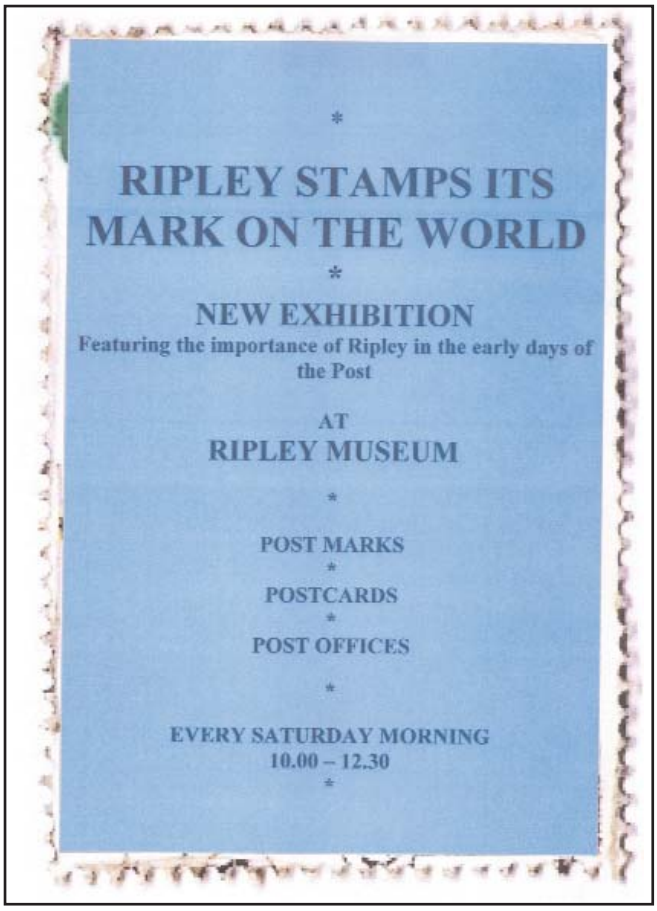
## Museum Exhibition

The new exhibition at the museum has opened. It is entitled RIPLEY STAMPS ITS MARK ON THE WORLD. It features important material supplied by Michael Lockton from Woking Philatelic Society showing the importance of Ripley as a postal hub in the 18th century and the first half of the 19th century. Do try and visit it!

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## Accessions to Inventory of Artefacts 2011

The following artefacts have been acquired by the Society since the last list was published in Journal 217

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A664 | Minute Books Send Red Cross Over-60s Club | 03.11 | Anon? |
| | a) 1950-52, b) 1955-63, c) 1963-69, d) 1974-79, e) 1979-83, f) 1984-89 | | |
| A665 | Avenue, Ripley Green, card of painting of | 03.11 | Andrew Jones AJ |
| A666 | Tapestry map c1588, S & Ripley shown, ph/copy | 03.11 | ClareMcCann |
| A667 | Cricket results 1909 E Lancs Regt v Send copy mag | 04.11 | Pat Clack |
| A668 | Blacksmith items ex Ripley smithy | 04.11 | Colin Jelley |

a) to za) Cross-cut saw, draw shave, large pincers (x3), file/rasp double sided (x2), ball hammer (x2, 1 of wh has wood-wormed handle), claw hammer, wedge hammer (x 2), small pincers, metal shears, scraper, double-ended box spanner, curl-ended knife, curl-handled knife, shaped punch, oil can, wooden narrow plane, wooden smoothing plane, lantern, trivet, width gauge.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A669 | Motor fuel ration book | 05.11 | Christine Lavender |
| A670 | School desk, wooden, folding ex Ripley school | 06.11 | Margaret Field |
| A671 | Onslow estate 1905 sale particulars | 07.11 | Tilford RL mus |
| A672 | Surrey Agr Soc 1974 Ploughing match prog | 07.11 | Tilford RL mus |
| A673 | Cricket Fun Day, Ripley, 2 progs & leaflet 06 11 | 07.11 | Clare McCann |
| A674 | Guildford Summer Festival 2011 prog | 08.11 | Clare McCann |
| A675 | Surrey's Sporting Life booklet 2011 | 08.11 | Clare McCann |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A676a) | Send Cricket Club tie | 08.11 | Bob Stonard |
| A676b) | Send Cricket Club Yearbooks 1959-75, 78-82 & 1984 | 08.11 | Bob Stonard |
| A677 | DVD A year in the Life of St Mary's Church, Send 2010 | 10.11 | Andy Jones |
| A678 | Pharmaceutical Journal cutting 1990 | 10.11 | Avril Davies |
| A679 | Ripley Event Prog 2011 | 10.11 | Peter Croucher |
| A680 | model of 5-piece roof joint for timber-framed house made by the donor | 10.11 | Derek Bromley |

Les Bowerman

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## Surrey History Centre Accessions 2010

*up to 1st July, 2011 Noted by Les Bowerman*

Details of accessions to the Surrey History Centre were listed as an addendum to the AGM papers for the Surrey Record Society. They are also to be found (surprise! surprise!) by googling Surrey History Centre Accessions 2010. I give below the new items relating to Send & Ripley, which researchers reading this Journal may find of use &/or of interest.

Accession No.
8658. "**Marguerite Howarth** of Woking, artist: paintings and drawings of Ewhurst, Farnham, Holmbury St Mary, Pyrford, Ripley, Shere, Woking, and of views in Yorkshire, 1955-1970s."
Since SRHS owns original Howarth pen & ink drawings of Goodgrove, Send Marsh Rd, and the Old Vicarage, Send, it would be interesting to see whether the other Ripley ones are known to us.

8669. This accession is mainly of papers of the still thriving **West Surrey Natural History Society**. This Society was formed in Send in 1979 as an early offshoot of the then Send History Society by members of its Natural History Group. It still has a strong input from Send and meets in Ripley Village Hall.

8706. "**Charles and Frederick Tice, builders**, decorators and contractors of Send: ledgers & related loose papers, 1910-1947". These papers, before they were deposited, were used by SRHS President, John Slatford, when researching the history of this firm for Journals 209 and 210.

8721. "Ripley Parish Council: minute books of meetings of Parish Council & annual meeting, 1933-1989; minute book of Coronation Committee, 1952-1953, and Playground Committee, 1955-1956". This is clearly a very useful source for any study of the moderately recent history of Ripley.

8722. "Send Parish Council: minute books of meetings of Parish Council and annual meeting, 1933-1996; minute book of annual parish meetings, 1934-1960." As with the previous item, clearly a mine of detail of fairly recent local history. Both sets of records clearly date from the time when Ripley was hived off as a separate civic parish from Send. Ecclesiastically they were separated as far back as 1878. Any member wishing to research these items might like also to look at A524 in the SRHS inventory of artefacts. A524 consists of various books and papers relating to Send PC 1894 to 1978. ■

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The current display in the SRHS Museum is devoted to the history of the postal services in Ripley and Send so do take the opportunity to see how they have developed over the years. The Museum is open every Saturday morning from 10.00 to 12.30pm and on the third Sunday in the month to coincide with the Antiques Fair. The indoor meetings take place in the Ripley Village Hall Annexe starting at 8 'o clock unless otherwise stated

**Wednesday, 21st December** - The Christmas Social. By popular request, member Cameron Brown will be entertaining us again with his guitar.

**Friday, 27th January** – The Mayor of Guildford, Terence Patrick, assisted by Matthew Alexander, will be giving a historical presentation on 'The Mayors of Guildford'.

**Wednesday, 15th February** - The AGM, followed by Cheese and Wine and talks by members.

**Wednesday, 28th March** - A presentation on 'Lovelace in Surrey' by Peter Hattersley.

**Wednesday, 18th April** - A talk by Dr. Gilbert Shama on 'The History of Penicillin'. This will touch on the work of Kenneth White the Ripley pharmacist who was the first to produce penicillin for non-Services treatment.

If you have any questions regarding the programme, please ring me, Anne Bowerman, on 01483 224876 for further information about the Society's talks and events.

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**Journal Contributions:** Closing date for the next issue is **Thursday 5 January 2012.**
Will authors of illustrated articles please submit **original photographic prints** if at all possible to ensure reasonably good reproduction in the Journal


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**Contact Les Bowerman on 01483-224876 if you require further information or wish to help in the museum.**

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## HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 'Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life' (Reprinted 1998 and 2006) | | £10.00 |
| 'Guide to The Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Send' | | £1.25 |
| 'Then and Now, A Victorian Walk Around Ripley' | (Reprinted 2004&7) | £4.00 |
| 'The Straight Furrow', by Fred Dixon | | £1.50 |
| 'Ripley and Send – Looking Back' | (Reprinted 2007) | £9.00 |
| 'A Walk About Ripley Village in Surrey' | (Reprinted 2005) | £2.00 |
| 'Newark Mill Ripley, Surrey | | £3.00 |
| 'The Hamlet of Grove Heath Ripley, Surrey' | (Reprinted 2005) | £4.00 |
| 'Ripley and Send – An Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures' | | £6.00 |
| 'Two Surrey Village Schools - The story of Send and Ripley Village Schools' | | £10.00 |
| 'The Parish Church of St Mary Magdalen Ripley, Surrey' | | £5.00 |
| 'Memories of War' | | £8.00 |
| 'Send and Ripley Walks' | | £5.00 |

**All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of 'Ripley & Send Then & Now', 'Two Surrey Village Schools' and 'Memories of War' can also be obtained from Send Post Office. All publications are available via the Society's website www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk**

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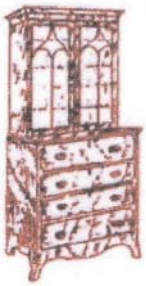

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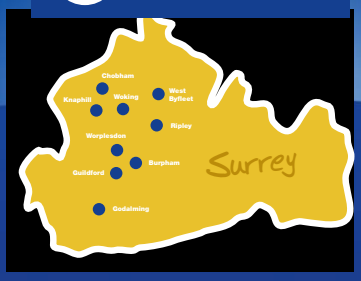


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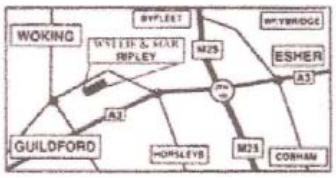


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