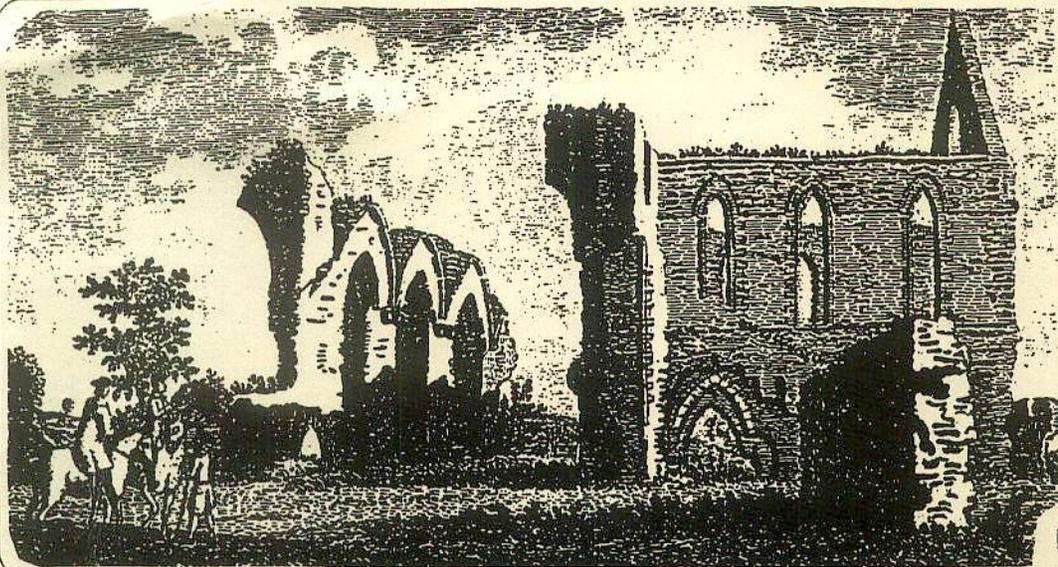


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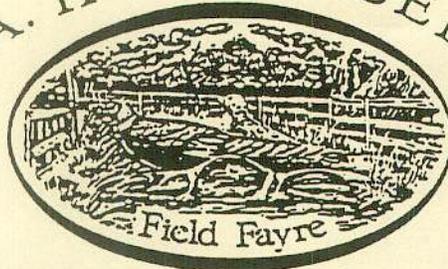
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July/August 1994



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President: Mr. L.G. Bowerman

The Manor House, Send Marsh Green, Ripley, Woking GU23 6JL. Tel: 0483 224876

Chairman: Mr. L.G. Bowerman

The Manor House, Send Marsh Green, Ripley, Woking GU23 6JL. Tel: 0483 224876

Secretary: Mrs. A. Sykes

Kevan Cottage, Clandon Road, Send, Woking GU23 7LA. Tel 0483 222060

Treasurer: Mrs. P. Medlen

Muir House, Brooklyn Road, Woking GU22 7TJ. Tel: 0483 760021

Newsletter Editor: Mr. K. H. Bourne

Maybankes, Tannery Lane, Send, Woking GU23 7EF. Tel: 0483 211364

Typed by Mrs. Chris Parker.

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July/August 1994

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Cover Illustration: Guildford High Street c 1900 - see Forthcoming Event for 29 September 1994

EDITOR'S COMMENT

When this Newsletter arrives on your doorstep, it will be well and truly the holiday season. It's always nice, of course, to get away and enjoy doing something different, and likewise, of course, it is always pleasant to return and be in familiar surroundings. Why not visit our museum and see the latest displays, and join one of the History Society's visits? Bob Gale is waiting to hear from you, should you wish to visit Preston Manor on Sunday, 18 September. Our members go to a lot of trouble to arrange such meetings and talks, and it is so much nicer if they are well attended, as, indeed, the visit to Salisbury and the family history open day at the museum were, but regrettably there were only five members who visited Haslemere Museum. The programme is pretty varied, but if there is anything there that you would like to see, please let the Editor know and I'm sure we can arrange it.

A SEND BOY'S WORKING LIFE - PART ONE, 1920-33

In 1920 I was living at No 3 Sedgleys Cottages, Potters Lane, Send. It was a shocking place really: small rooms, thin walls, cold in winter and hot in summer. We had little choice then; we had the river at the foot of the garden and we lived in it in the hot summer of 1921, which seemed to go on for ever. We had a dugout tent in the garden and slept out for weeks. I think the rent was very cheap, about 4s (20p) a week when we moved in, rising to 8s (40p) when we left it some years later. The rent was collected by local builder, Bill Harding, for Mr Sedgley.

When I was about 11 years old, I did odd jobs for the boatman at the lock, and used to earn 2s (10p) at times, plus a few tips from boating people, who used to be properly dressed for the occasion: whites (*trousers*), blazers and straw hats, etc.

Mother was a war widow with four of us children to bring up, and she did this very well - how I shall never know, except that she seemed to work all the hours there were.

I started to work while still at Sedgleys as a garden boy at Poundfields House, Old Woking. My father was gardener there when he went off to the war 15 years before. I stuck this job for one year, failed to get a rise, so I left. I then started work for George Holt, a builder at Send Marsh, mostly doing odd jobs, but helping the joiner. However, after 12 months, they ran out of work and I was sacked. I went back to work for Holt some time later.

In July 1926, I was out of work after losing my job with Holt (by the way, George Holt could neither read nor write), and as I was fairly bright at both, he often asked me to read out measurements from the plans to him, etc. He never forgot them, it seemed, and could hold his own with an architect, and would repeat measurements I had told him weeks before.

A Mr Shirer, who lived at Heath House and had a small farm (he was a lawyer in the City), asked my mother if I was still out of work. If so, I could have six weeks' hay making and harvesting. This I was pleased to take, and one of the first jobs I got, to my amusement, was to take a little heifer to the bull. The great bull, Brute, knocked my little heifer over and a fence down to boot. I did not think much of that!

In September 1926 I got a job on the River Wey Navigation, where we did lots of jobs repairing bridges, locks and new gates. I even helped on this with instructions from Frank and

Alec Grove. Every job was done by hand. Even the old sawpit was still in use. The Groves all seemed to hate machines, except Vernon, the youngest, who went into the garage business. Ewart, the boatman, hated motor boats. As a boy, I worked at the boathouse

most of my spare time and became quite expert at the whole business.

I was also employed on the maintenance of the boats, which were kept in immaculate condition. I next had a job labouring to Broncho Bill Strudwick, a local character, and a fast, excellent bricklayer. I had the job of carrying bricks to him and I was kept on the run when Bill was in full swing. I had never worked so hard before. At the time there was nothing else in this area, so I had to stick it. I next worked for Tribe & Robinson of Guildford, which meant biking to Chilworth and Hook Heath. My next job was back with George Holt at Manor Road, Send Marsh and our main job was building the Send Co-op shop. I remember we were first fixing the corrugated iron fence round it on Christmas Eve and I missed and knocked a lump off my finger and spoilt my Christmas, as I had a very bad finger for a fortnight. We next built a Co-op shop at Tolworth, off the Kingston Bypass, behind the Ace of Spades - what a bike ride that was - did it for about three months. Also worked at Southwick-on-Sea for the same builder, where we built a pair of houses, and lodged next door with the people we were building for. Brother, Harold, was also involved. I remember travelling down there on the back of a motor cycle several times, otherwise I've forgotten much of the journey. I have told a tale re the night Toby Cobourn came down to make and fix the stairs, but more of that later.

My next job was working on the River Wey Navigation again. The main job was building a new road bridge near Bowers Mill, Burpham. We had three work barges there. I had to make sure the fires were going and kettles boiling when work stopped at 8 am for breakfast. We started at six o'clock. It was a lovely job, like a holiday to me, although we worked hard through lovely weather for the whole month of May. We had 28 days to build the bridge and opened it on the 26th day to let the milk van driver over, who had been making a detour of two miles beforehand.

I next worked for Bill Strudwick for the second time and we were building a pair of houses in Leas Road, Guildford for the A Grove family. I was supposed to keep Bill supplied with bricks. I used to get there early so I could get a flying start. Bill always used a Yankee trowel, which held about a shovelful of mortar. He could make bricks disappear like magic. He was known as Broncho owing to the fact that he had worked in Canada. On a wet day, Broncho would get drunk and incapable and I had a rest! His labourer, Walter Charman, who lived near the Post Office in Send, used to look after Broncho when he drank too much. Walter was a big, tough guy, not all that bright. Several times when I had fallen behind with bricks, Walter would say "I'll come and help you, young Reg" and he would bring up 100 bricks and then go back to his mortar mixing and carrying. I remember that Bill fell in the drain trench when drunk and went to sleep, it started to rain and Walter carefully covered him with sheets of tin, then woke him up at going home time.

It was hilarious getting Broncho on his bike and facing in the direction of Send with a push start from Walter that often ended in disaster, with Broncho on the floor again and the bike berated for not standing still. It had to be seen to be believed. Walter and Broncho travelled the A3 to work for many years, cursing all motor traffic that dared to pass near them. They finally met with an accident at the junction of the A3 with Vicarage Lane, Send. I know Walter received a broken leg, not sure what happened to Broncho. This ended Walter's working days and, I believe, Broncho's, as they were a fair age by then.

My next job was working for A Groves, builder, Guildford. Most of the work was in Guildford town. We built a house at Shalford and Harvey Road, Guildford, but that was later. A good man to work for was Alf Grove, a relation of the family at Send Worsfold Gates. We used to push 60 rung ladders around the town on a handcart. I was there when Tom Wall's horse, Blenheim Orange, won the Derby. Mr Grove went and I told him to back Blenheim, which he did, and was highly delighted when it won.

The preceding article is taken from memoirs by Reg Giles, a well known local builder, who lives in Potters Lane, is a member, and has been retired for some years. We are very grateful to Reg for sharing his memories. The article will be continued in the next Newsletter, starting at 1933.

Editor

VISIT TO OLD SARUM

Among several very warm and sunny days, 19 members of the History Society, including friends, managed to choose a fairly cloudy day, which, however, became quite sunny later in the afternoon, for their visit to Old Sarum and then Salisbury.

We were met by our guide, Huw Thomas, a Blue Badge Guide from WesseXplore, a guide service recommended by the Salisbury Tourist Office. Huw was a splendid speaker, and subsequently the Editor has learnt that he was a guide on a television programme for the BBC, where he accompanied Michael Hordon, the eminent actor, around Wessex, particularly Dorset and the countryside of Thomas Hardy. We were, therefore, in eminent company and the day proved to be a great success under the very expert guidance of Huw.

Old Sarum derives its name from an error in interpretation of early documents which abbreviated the word "Salisbury". The name, however, became in common use, and Salisbury, or Sarum, is the name of the old hilltop town just North of New Salisbury.

During the Roman epoch, the place must have been of some importance, since four certain Roman roads converge upon it, but the actual evidence of Roman occupation is very scanty. It is, however, certain that Old Sarum is to be identified with the Roman station of Sorbiodunum, which must have stood either on the hill or in its immediate vicinity.

Searisbyrig, the Saxon successor of Sorbiodunum, was undoubtedly a town of importance, but only one object of Saxon date has so far been discovered. It is recorded that King Alfred ordered its fortifications to be repaired, and that in 960 King Edgar held Parliament here. In 1002. Sweyn sacked and burned the town. There was a mint here from the reign of Aethelred II until early in that of Henry II. The Norman Conquest did nothing to lessen the prosperity of Sarisberie, as the Domesday Survey calls it. The Conqueror assembled his victorious army here in 1070 and, after rewarding the troops, disbanded them. Not only was a castle constructed here, but also between 1075 and 1078, the Bishopric of Sherborne was transferred to Salisbury. It was at this time that the outer fortifications were increased to very much their present scale, and a circular earthwork was constructed in the middle of the town to serve as the citadel of the new castle. The area within the outer earthworks was also divided into two practically equal sections by transverse banks and ditches running North and South, but stopping short of the ditch of the inner enclosure, where a portion of level ground was left to ensure easy access from one section to the other. The Eastern section was the outer bailey of the castle and the Western, at any rate as to its Northern part, formed the Bishop's Precinct. This contained the Cathedral Church, which was finished by Bishop St Osmund (1078-99), the consecration taking place in 1092. The church was considerably altered and enlarged by Bishop Roger (1107-39).

As time progressed, the castle, cathedral and city became very constricted and overcrowded, which led, eventually, to the abandonment of the town. In 1217 Pope Honorius III requested the Papal Legate to enquire and report on a petition of the Dean and Chapter of Sarum. The substance of the complaint was that the cathedral, being within the defences, was subject to so many inconveniences that the Canons could not live there in safety. The military constantly interfered with the comings and goings of the faithful and

many of the clerks had no dwellings and were forced to hire from the soldiers at exorbitant rents. Moreover the place was very exposed, uncomfortable and unhealthy, and the church itself was so buffeted by the wind as to need constant repair.

The outcome of this was that the foundation of the present Cathedral Church of Salisbury was laid on April 28 1220, and in 1227 the old church was abandoned and the new used in its stead.

With the departure of the clergy, the old town appears to have declined very much in importance and eventually became a quarry for building materials. In 1331 Edward III licensed the Dean and Chapter to remove the stones and mortar from the walls of the old church and the houses of the Bishop and Canons at Old Sarum for the repair of the church of New Sarum. Many of these Norman work stones may be seen in the precinct wall of Salisbury Cathedral.

Part of the old cathedral, the Chapel of Our Lady, had been kept continuously in use, and was still standing when Leland visited Old Sarum in 1535. The castle appears to have been in use, at any rate until the latter part of the 14th century, as in 1360, Edward III, in consequence of an incursion by the French, instructed the Sheriff of Wilts to cause it to be garrisoned. Owing, however, to introduction of artillery and changed conditions, it eventually became useless as a defensive work, and in 1447 it was described as "now fallen into decay". It seems, therefore, that the latter part of the 15th century saw the final abandonment of the town, and for many years it can have had scarcely a house or inhabitant, though as a Parliamentary Borough, it continued to be represented by two Members until the Reform Act of 1832.

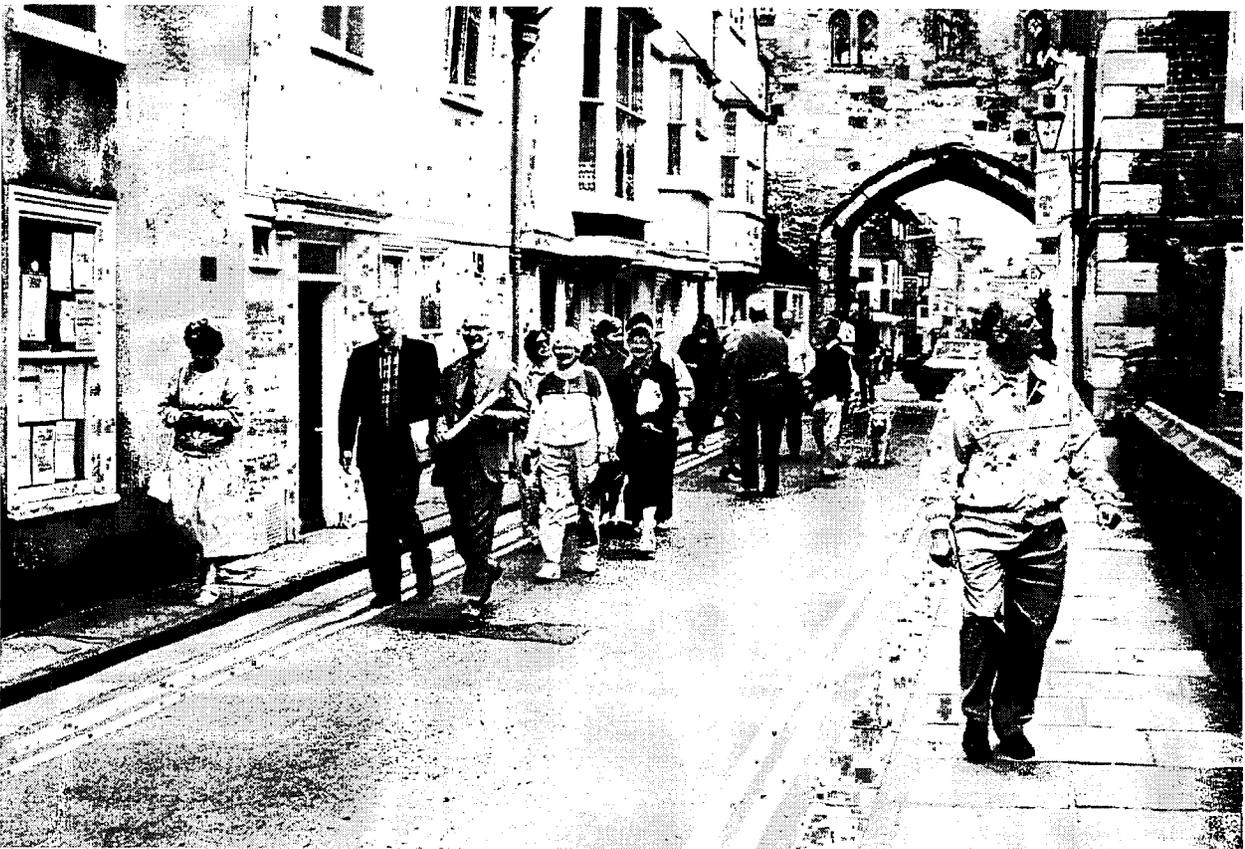
All this was expertly related by Huw Thomas, and the group had the opportunity of exploring the ruins, albeit just outlines or foundations, of the cathedral and the castle. After much healthy rambling, the group felt in need of refreshment, and it was agreed to move on to our next venue, which was the Military Museum of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, based in a building within the Cathedral Precincts. The building, incidentally, was originally the Bishop's Wardrobe and was used for stores and documents of the Bishops of Salisbury. Here was had a very pleasant lunch in the restaurant, partly alfresco, for those who could find seats in the garden, and all too quickly the time came to assemble for the tour of Salisbury. Once again, Huw Thomas was a mine of information. Huw explained that Salisbury was, of course, a planned town, crisscrossed with an efficient irrigation system - open canals fed from the Rivers Avon and Nadder - which would have been a great attraction, since water had been very scarce in Old Sarum. The Bishops of Winchester looked upon Salisbury as a new town development. The land was owned by them and it was planned so that it would become a profitable enterprise for the church. The first market was held in 1219 and there have been markets every Tuesday and Saturday since 1361. The new cathedral was built between 1220 and 1258, and it is all of one style, Early English. The tower and spire, cloisters and Chapter House were finished within the next 70 years or so and are in the more decorated manner. Unusually for a cathedral, you can see along its entire length, 449 feet.

However, the cathedral was not on the group's itinerary on this occasion, and attention was paid to the older buildings that would have been put up coeval with the building of the new town. Among the first, and prior to the cathedral, was St Thomas's Church, which was built for the use of the men building the cathedral, and thus predates it by a number of years.

The domestic area of the new city was laid out in blocks, called "Chequers". Tenements in these, approximately 35 metres by 15 metres, were rented off at about 5p a year.

Around the Cathedral Precinct are some of the oldest buildings built for the Bishop and senior ecclesiastics. The Wardrobe has already been mentioned, and another interesting building, the North Canonry, originally 13th century, but reconstructed in the 17th century, has a fine garden going down to the river. The Bishop's Palace is now the Cathedral School. Many of the houses are now leased from the Church as desirable private residences, one of which is occupied by Sir Edward Heath, a past Prime Minister. Just inside the Precinct, by the gate leading to the High Street is a house built in 1682 by Bishop Seth Ward for the widows and unmarried daughters of clergymen. He is said to have done this for an "old flame" whose clergyman husband had died. The photograph shows a group, led by Huw Thomas, just inside the High Street gate. Brian Jackson is a member of our party who is looking at the College of Matrons, which is just out of sight.

A written description such as this cannot in any way do justice to the experience that our members had on that fine day, in such good company and with such a good guide. Suffice it to say that by four o'clock, the majority of us were only too willing to find a tea shop and relax before coming home.



Salisbury, of course, should be visited many times, and for those who wish to do so, the Tourist Office provides an excellent guide to the buildings of interest in the city. We had hoped to climb the Cathedral Tower, from which there is an excellent view, but it was closed on this occasion, due to a presentation ceremony to choristers of the cathedral. However, it can be visited normally in the afternoon, before Matins, on Sundays.

Our thanks should be recorded to Don Cross of WesseXplore, who was unable himself to be our guide, but suggested Huw Thomas, for which we are most grateful. Our thanks also to Sheila Ridgers, who provided us with prompt service, good food, at reasonable prices, in very pleasant surroundings. Last, but not least, our thanks also to Roy Young, who lives in Ripley, and spent most of his life in the area, for suggesting that the restaurant and museum might be worth visiting, as indeed they were.

K H Bourne

SEND SCOUT FETE

On Monday, 2 May, the Scouts held their annual May Day Fete at the Recreation Ground in Send. It was a beautiful day, and, as usual, the Society had a stall, which was run by Tony and Patricia Medlen, selling mainly bric-a-brac and a few plants. From these sales they took around £78, and also sold a few of the Society's publications, amounting to about £20.

Thanks are due to Eric Ferris, who once again helped Tony to erect the tent, Audrey Sykes, who donated about 80% of the items we had for sale, John and Bette Slatford for donating plants and other goods, Les Bowerman, who, as usual, transported the tent to and from the Recreation Ground, and Tony and Patricia Medlen, who single-handedly set up and ran the stall on behalf of the Society.

VISIT TO HASLEMERE MUSEUM

On a fine afternoon, Saturday, 25 June, a disappointingly and embarrassingly low number of people (five) attended the afternoon visit to Haslemere. Robert Muir, a longstanding resident and a Committee member of the Surrey Local History Council, gave the small group a fascinating slide presentation, in the museum library, on the history and development of the town. This was followed by a guided walk, in which he pointed out spectacular views and many features and buildings of interest. The afternoon was concluded with a short visit to Haslemere's incredible museum, which took our breath away, as room after room revealed many unique and irreplaceable collections - well worth a visit.

Tony Medlen

Whether it was the meeting the previous week, the sunny weather or being a Saturday afternoon, the attendance was well below our usual level - a great pity really, as Haslemere Museum is such an interesting place to visit, with its typographical displays relating to the Weald and its unique collection of fauna, not often seen in modern museums. Our thanks to Tony for making this an enjoyable visit for the few that attended.

Editor

SURREY BRICKFIELDS

Articles have already appeared in Send & Ripley History Society Newsletters 55 and 69, giving the history of the brick kilns behind the junction of Portsmouth Road and Kiln

Lane, the earliest direct documentary evidence being in the late 18th century. Recently, looking into general brick making in the area, there appears in the Surrey Quarter Sessions (QS2/6/Easter, dated 1727) the following, on 13 April 1727: John Chitty of Send (with others) fined "for not turneing his earth for bricks and tyles before the first day of February last". Presumably this affected the quality of the bricks. Seasonal work could only be carried out while clay could be dug.

The Daws family, who later owned the brickfields in Ripley, came originally from East Horsley, and records of the births, marriages and deaths of the family appear in the Parish Registers for East Horsley from 1638 and, from 1732, in the Parish Registers of Ockham and East Horsley. In 1786, Mary Daws, from Grove Heath, was buried at Ockham. John Daws/brickmaker was given permission by George Bray, of Shere, in 1800 (Gfd Muniment Room 85/13/691) to cut wood and kindling in Great Kingswood (Grid ref 087491). The various censuses show several brickmakers in the district, eg Send & Ripley 1841: William Collyer, aged 48, of Send Hill. Ockham Census 1851: James Daws, aged 39, brickmaker, born at West Horsley, living at The Slade, Ockham, and James Daws, aged 59, brickmaker, born Ockham. Also in Ockham Census of 1851, there is George Gadd, a brickmaker's labourer, aged 46, born at Ockham, living at Ockham Common.

From a Settlement Certificate of 22 February 1889, Francis Simmonds, Sarah, his wife, and their children, James, aged 5, Sarah, aged 2, and John, aged six months, move from West Horsley to Send & Ripley to work for Richard Daws, who farmed in the Grove Heath area. There is also evidence that James and Thomas and their father, Francis, owned a cottage in Rose Lane, now called Appletrees, which, as they were bricklayers, they probably built. It also raises the question: were the bricks from Daws' brick kilns?

There were many more brickfields in a ten-mile radius of Ripley. Bricks were frequently made on site for a specific building. One of the earliest for which I have found records is the former brickfield at Peasmarsh. In 1556, a payment was made by Sir William Moore, of Loseley, to "Mabbanke the brykeleyere and Michaell the tyle maker", among others (Archaeologia Vol 38), and the following:

"The Chargis of makynge of a clampe of small brycke. Ffyrst payd to the bryckmaker for making syxe score thousand at xvij d. the thousand wt odde thowsands ix li lxs lxd.

"Item the making and showyng a wt wron of the mold lus vjd.

"A hundred lode of wood to burne the same x li

"Afterwards xi lodes more to burne the bryke ageyne because hit was not well burnt before.

"Item the straw for the same xis.

"The meat & drynke for the brycke makers during all the time of theyre worke viij ii.

"Sma xxxiiij li xijs llj d"

Other families connected with these brickfields were the Remnants, Derricks, Harts and Barnes. The depressions in the land are now the only remains at Brickfield Farm, Artington, Guildford.

In 1756, Admiral Boscawen and his wife, Fanny, were occupied in building a new house at Hatchlands, East Clandon, which replaced the original Tudor house. In a letter to her husband, she says that "My present scheme is to buy bricks", and she mentions the reuse of old materials (Guildford Muniment Room 14/10/1756). In a further letter, she writes: "I must muster the brick carts and I have with my own hands composed a table for their



regulation in my absence." Later (22/10/1756): "I hope he (Woodroffe) will be alert in getting in sand and brick with the broad wheeled waggon for the common is so torn up with brick carts that very soon it will be impassable with narrow wheels." Next year (21/9/1757): "I have agreed for 50,000 bricks brought in from Peasmarsh at 25 sh. pr. thousand which is a shilling cheaper than I expected to get them."

Another brickfield, nearer to Ripley, was the one in Long Reach, Ockham. There had been brickfields in this area for many years before Lord Lovelace had bricks made for the extensive building he was undertaking in connection with East Horsley Place in 1846 (now Horsley Towers), and cladding old building in the district, for example Old Greendene Cottage.

Further brickfields existed in Forest Road, East Horsley, and the Heather and Mabanke families were actively engaged there. Edward Heather lived in a house called Wheelers, which in 1729 was replaced by the present building, White's Hill Cottage.

The locations mentioned are by no means the only brickfields in the area. Others included Merrow, Bramley, Normandy and the building now standing called Smithbrook Kilns. In more recent times, the bricks for Guildford Cathedral were made just off Guildford Park Road, near the cathedral, and, therefore, made transport easy, thus carrying on the same principle as the connection with Loseley and Peasmarsh.

Betty E M Batten

From the 1891 census of Send & Ripley, there is, living in Newark Lane, a Fredrick Gadd, bricklayer, aged 32, born in Ockham. This Fredrick Gadd has scratched his name on the inside of the gable end above the two storey bay windows at Heath Farm. His name, plus the names of

J Farr and J Hyde, together with the date 1879, no doubt records the date when that part of Heath Farm was added to. Fredrick Gadd would have been about 20 at the time, and is possibly related to George Gadd, referred to in the above article, who was also born in Ockham.

We are also grateful to Betty Batten for photocopies of:

*Inventory, dated 11 October 1671, of Lawrence Mabanck
Will, dated 16 October 1674, of Richard Remnant of Compton, brickmaker
Agreement, dated 6 November 1801, between John Daws, brickmaker of Send,
and George Bray of Shere.*

Editor

THE TICKNER FAMILY OF GROVE HEATH

By Bette Slatford

The photograph (on opposite page) of Thomas and Emma Tickner and their seven children was, we believe, taken around 1905. They lived for many years in one of the cottages (still there) in the lane that used to lead from Grove Heath to Rose Lane in Ripley.

The group of children in the other photo are believed to be the children of one of the daughters of Thomas and Emma.

Does anyone know anything about this family? Any help here would be greatly appreciated by Mrs Jean Evendean of Horsham, who is researching them. Please let me know.

FAMILY HISTORY OPEN DAY

By John and Bette Slatford

This event, held at the museum and Ripley Village Hall on 23 July, was embarked upon with some trepidation. We had no idea what sort of response there would be. In the event, we had a very successful day with, perhaps, nearly 100 visitors. Some came considerable distances, such as from Glamorgan and Leicestershire. Several of the visitors had previously written to us for help with searches for local ancestors and it was nice to meet them. Others were new to us and we made some interesting contacts for future research.

We had very favourable comments on the extent of our archives and the way we were able to present them. The museum, also, was very much admired. Our Society's already high standing will surely be greatly enhanced by this event. We think most of our visitors will have achieved some positive results from their studies.

The success of the day, which was self financing, was largely due to the work of the many members who gave so much of their time to act as stewards. Our sincere thanks are due to everyone of them who helped.

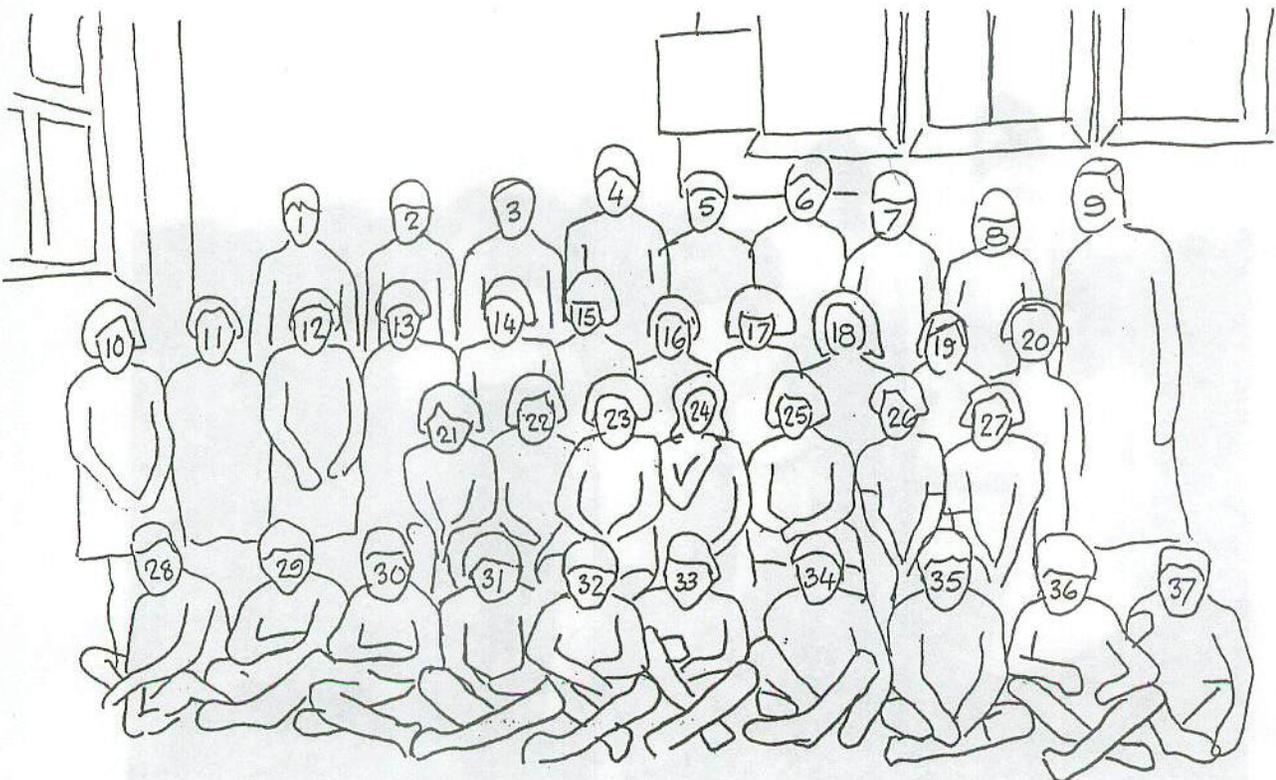


RIPLEY C of E SCHOOL, C1927. by John Slatford.

The society is always grateful for the many photographs that continue to be given or loaned for copying. Among the latest, given to us by Mrs Barbara Scott of 10 Georgelands, Ripley, is this photo of her class at Ripley School. What is remarkable is that she can remember the names of almost every child out of the 36 present. There are one or two about whom she is not entirely sure. Understandably, the girls names are those as she knew them then. She had named no. 35 as George Best but Mrs Best subsequently told us that it is not her George!

The names below relate to the numbers on the diagram.

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Stanley Wyatt. | 19) Doris Gooden. |
| 2) Bert Freeman. | 20) Ruth Gadd. |
| 3) Jack Richardson. | 21) Phyllis Pullen. |
| 4) Reg Tullit. | 22) Dorothy Sink. |
| 5) Fred Wilkins. | 23) Winnie Charman. |
| 6) 'Baggy' Wright. | 24) Alice Fenn. |
| 7) Leslie Samme. | 25) Eva Pullen. |
| 8) Alfred Hack. | 26) Millie Blakeman. |
| 9) Miss Cosson (teacher). | 27) Violet Foster. |
| 10) Barbara Gunner (Scott) | 28) Peter Giles (?). |
| 11) Yvonne Baker. | 29) John Charman. |
| 12) Irene Hutson. | 30) Victor (Micky) Weller. |
| 13) Hazel Plowman. | 31) John Fruin. |
| 14) Maudie Mills. | 32) (?) Muir. |
| 15) Elsie Milton. | 33) Arthur (?) Jelly. |
| 16) Joyce Foster. | 34) (?) Martin (?). |
| 17) Kathy Townsend. | 35) ? |
| 18) Rose Tickner. | 36) John Perrin. |
| | 37) Stan Perrin |



RIPLEY C OF E SCHOOL. C 1927.



A WALK AROUND WONERSH

By Audrey Sykes

The evening of May 25 was a forerunner of the present fine weather, and could not have been more pleasant for our walk round Wonersh village.

About 20 of our members met at the Grantley Arms public house, and were divided into groups in the capable hands of the guides of the Wonersh History Society, who gave us an all too brief history of the village.

Although not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, Wonersh must have been part of the large manor of Bramley, owned at that time by Alnod Cild. The first mention of the name as we know it occurred in 1334.

The main industry in the area in the 14th century was the weaving of a rough blue woollen cloth known as kersey, the wool being produced locally from flocks of sheep, and water obtained for the mills from the River Wey. This industry continued until about 1630 and there are two opinions as to its demise. John Aubrey stated that the trade was ruined by the dishonesty of the weavers, stretching the cloth from 18 yds to 22 yds before selling it abroad, which when discovered, was returned, and no market found for it. However, Mr Eric Parker strongly disagreed and blamed the demise on mismanagement by The Company of Merchant Adventurers & London Drapers, who took the trade into their own hands, along with that of Guildford and Farnham.

Of the church, parts date from 1180, and it contains two interesting brasses, one of Thomas Elliott, keeper of the Files for Surrey, who died in 1467, and his son, Henry, who died in 1503, proud father of 12 sons and 11 daughters.

The Parish Registers date from 1538, and are copies of the now lost early originals. The Communion Cup bears the date 1570, and the peal of five bells was presented in 1727. The pulpit at Wonersh Church is a three-decker. By 1792 the church was in a serious state of disrepair and it was not until 1795 that weddings were again held there. On our way through the village, we passed many ancient cottages, several being those of the weavers originally. One even retains the weaver's beam in the living room. There are many nooks and crannies to be found, never seen by the passing motorist, and it must be said that the motor car is one thing Wonersh could do without. In all we spent two most edifying hours being shown round, and the Wonersh History Society is to be congratulated on all the research they have undertaken so far.



THE CROSS ROADS, WONERSH

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Mr Chris Alderman, 5 London House, Rose Lane, Ripley.

Mrs Nicola Janes, 28 Send Barns Lane, Send.

Mrs Sancia Sell, 24 Blondell Drive, Aldwick, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 4BG.

Sylvia and Peter Barrett, who have for many years been Newsletter distributors, have now moved to 39 Chute Avenue, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex BN13 3DS (0903 267391). Both Sylvia and Peter have been staunch supporters of the Society since its early days, and although we are sorry to see them go, we wish them well at their new home.

Les Bowerman

WILLIAM JAMES BARTLETT TITCOMBE

We are sorry to announce the death of Bill Titcombe, who died at Milford Chest Hospital on Thursday, 23 June 1994, aged 89. Bill was a very longstanding member of the History Society, contributing information and articles, taking a great interest in its development, and attending meetings and taking part at various events. A full obituary will be written in a later issue of the Newsletter. Our condolences go to Bernard, his son.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Our founder Secretary and now President and Chairman, L G Bowerman, has, since the commencement of the Society, performed the office of Membership Secretary, together with his many and various other duties. In the early days, Les typed up the list of members and kept this up to date by adding or amending as required. As the membership grew, so did this task, and Duncan Jennings, a past member, came to the rescue with a computerised system, which was subsequently operated by Jack Wheeler, a friend of Les's. Although this has made the record keeping much easier, nevertheless there is still a fair bit of work maintaining the list up to date. When Jack Wheeler announced that he would be unable to continue, Les was faced with the problem of transferring the data to another computer, which looked as if this could be a problem.

Luckily, however, Bill Sykes, our Secretary's husband, has come to the rescue, since he is a computer buff, and is very happy to take on the role of Membership Secretary. So thank you, Les, from all of us for the splendid way in which you have carried out this essential task, and also welcome to Bill Sykes, our new Membership Secretary. Any information regarding changes of address, new members, etc, please contact Bill Sykes, c/o Audrey Sykes, our Secretary.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 18 September - A visit to Preston Manor, Brighton

A guided tour of Preston Manor has been arranged to start at 2.30 pm at Preston Manor on the outskirts of Brighton.

The manor dates from 1250, and was rebuilt in 1738 and further added to in 1905. The interior evokes a powerful atmosphere of the Edwardian gentry's world of upstairs and downstairs. There is also a delightful walled garden and a fine 13th century Parish Church with early frescoes. The charge per person is £3, which must be paid in advance (by 4 September) to Bob Gale, 44 Newark Lane, Ripley, GU23 6BZ (0483 211536). The minimum number in the group is 20.

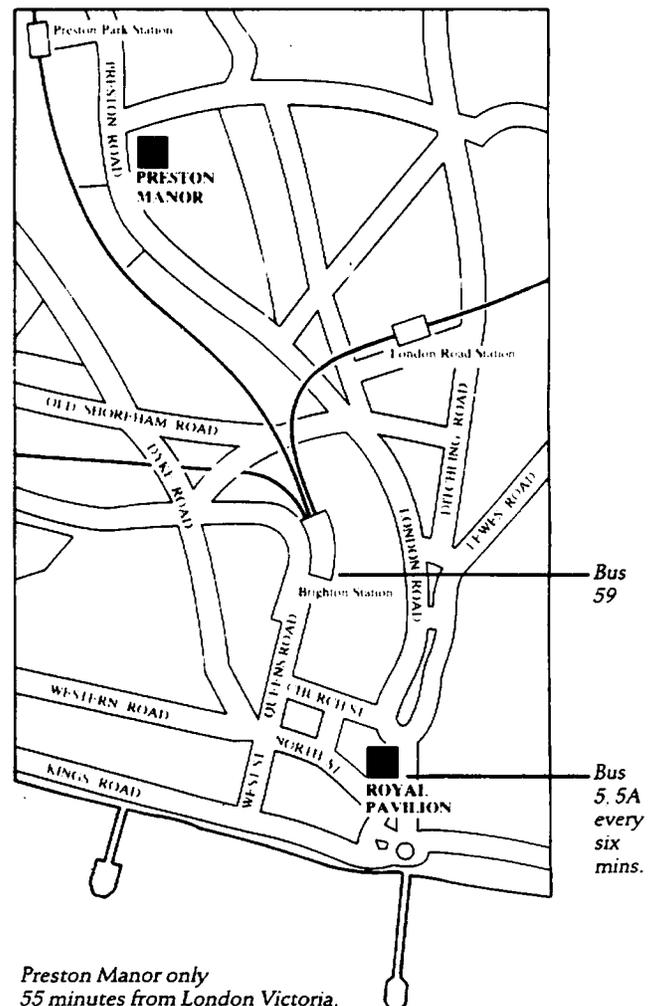
Members should make their own way to Preston Manor, which is located just off the A23 (see map above). Further details will be provided by Bob Gale, and should anyone require a lift, please let him know and we will try to arrange an earlier pickup at Send Manor, Send Marsh, at 12.30 pm.



Welcome to PRESTON MANOR BRIGHTON



Four generations of the Stanford family, c. 1890



Thursday, 29 September - 8 pm, Ripley Village Hall

Following the very interesting talk, albeit to a rather small audience, at Send on 19 April, Eric Hunter has agreed to give a further talk, with entirely "new" photographs depicting views of Victorian Guildford. The quality of the slides and the presentation was so interesting that it was felt that members would appreciate another opportunity to attend this talk (see photo on front page).

Thursday, 27 October - 8 pm, Send Red Cross Hall

A talk by Mrs Jean Parratt, entitled "Museum on a Shoestring".

Saturday, 29 October - 9.15 for 9.30 am, Surrey University

This is the date fixed to take in the autumn colours and view the very fine collection of trees, many of which are rare specimens, on the University campus. Members who came to the talk given by Gordon Hartman on 15 March will know how interesting and knowledgeable Gordon is on this subject. In fact, due to his outstanding contribution to the University, Gordon has been awarded, by the Duke of Kent, the University's Chancellor, an Honorary Degree of Master of the University, for his role in landscaping the University campus. He is also currently being sponsored by Guildford Borough Council to produce a tree guide to Guildford, which will be published later this year.

It was also mentioned in the last Newsletter that Gordon has planted, on behalf of the History Society, its very own tree, an Acer griseum (Paper-bark maple).

Intending visitors should meet in car park No 1, that is the first car park on the lefthand side as you enter the University campus from the large roundabout, which also serves the cathedral.

Saturday, 5 November - Chertsey Hall

Surrey Local History Council Annual Symposium - "Surrey in Picture Postcards". The Society hopes to have a display at this symposium and wishes to obtain, for copying, any views of Send or Ripley, particularly early postcard views. Please contact the Editor.

Thursday, 24 November - 8 pm, Ripley Village Hall

A silent auction is to be arranged and will be supported by refreshments in the form of cider and cheese - details in later Newsletters. Audrey Sykes, our Secretary, is now open for business and is looking for all good quality articles suitable for this event - telephone number 0483 223060.

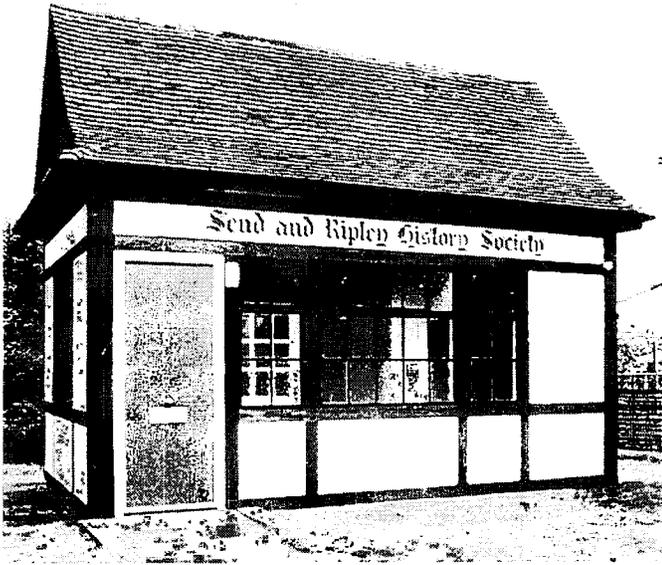
Send & Ripley History Society 20th Anniversary Celebration

Please make a note in your diary for Saturday, 28 January 1995, when members will be invited to attend a 20th anniversary dinner at the Hautboy Hotel. Details are being worked out, and more information will become available later in the year.

Newsletter Contributions

The closing date for material for the next edition of the Newsletter is Friday, 9 September. Please ensure that all copy is delivered to the Editor by this date.

MUSEUM OPENING TIMES



The museum is open every Saturday morning from 10 am until 4 pm.

Please contact George or Irene Bleach on Guildford 222233 if you would like to help in the museum.

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The Hautboy

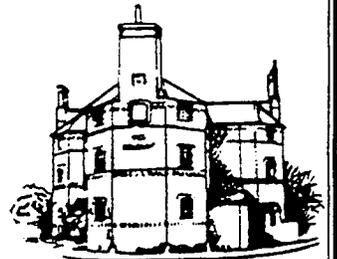
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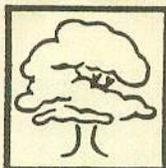
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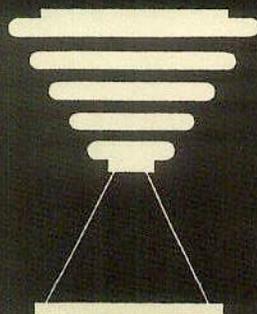
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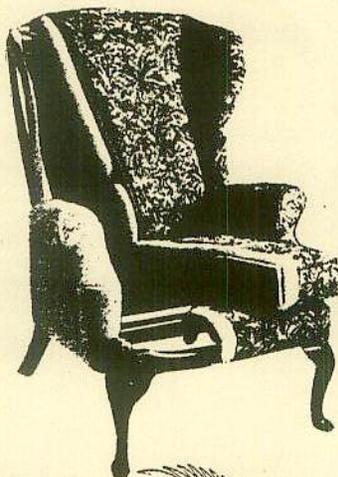
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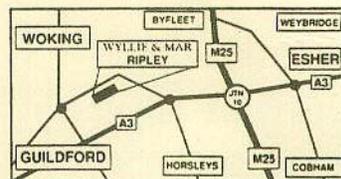
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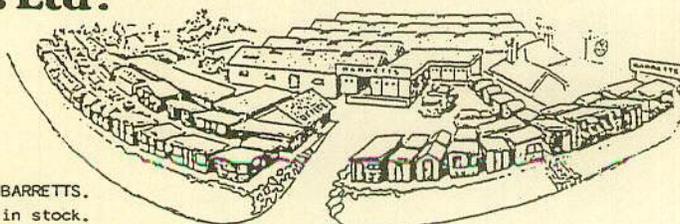
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