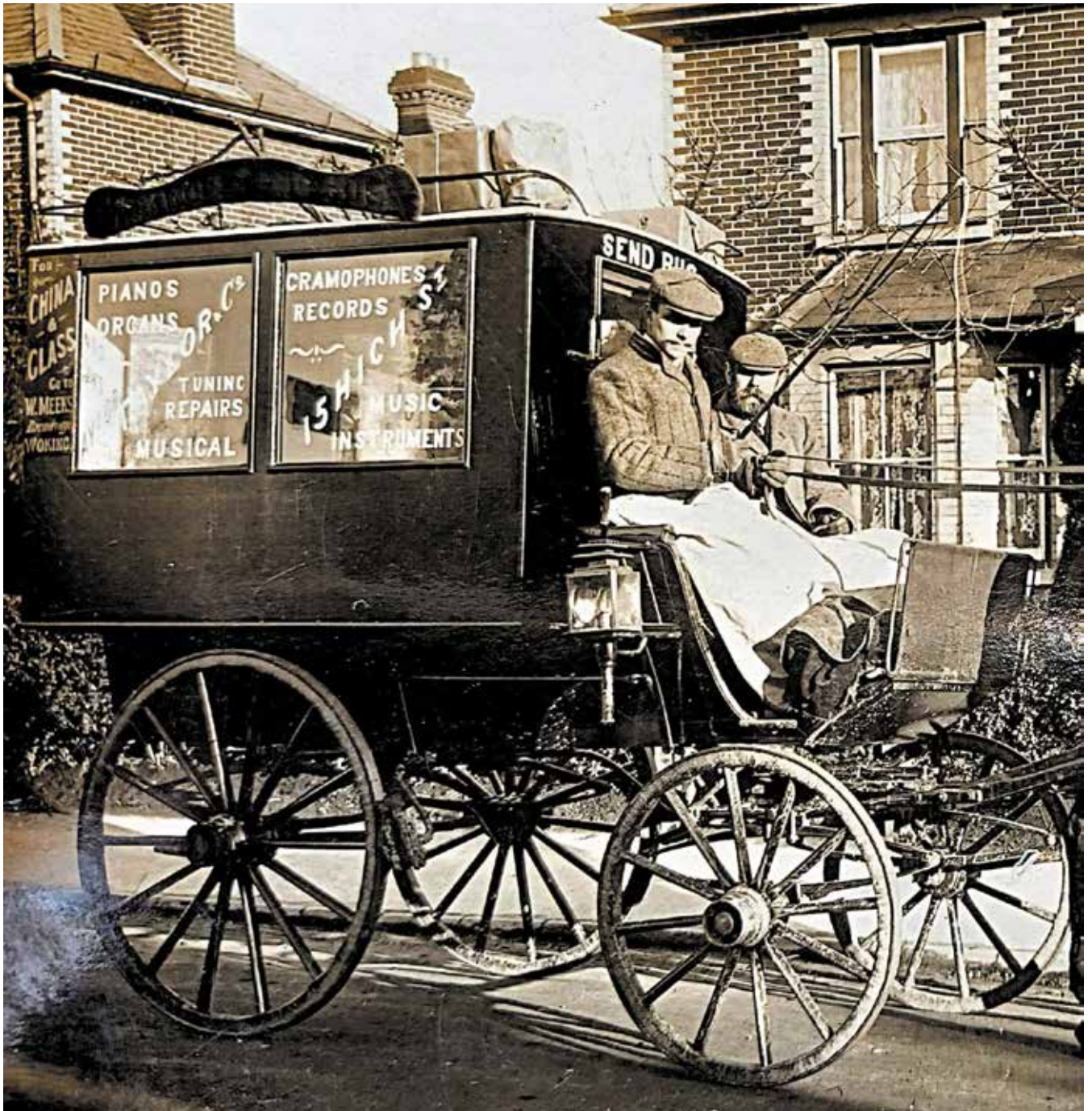


Send & Ripley History Society



REVEREND MORGAN
EVAN THOMAS

Page

6

GUILESHILL
BROOK

Page

16

THE SEND
HORSE BUS

Page

20

MEMORIES OF A
FARMER'S DAUGHTER

Page

22

thomasfordandsons

beautiful kitchens and furniture for other rooms

high street, ripley, surrey, gu23 6af
t: 01483 211337

OPEN ALL DAY, EVERY DAY FOR GREAT FOOD



THE
JOVIAL SAILOR

Portsmouth Rd, Ripley, Surrey GU23 6EZ
www.baronspubs.com | 01483 224360 | jovialsailor@baronspubs.com

follow us or download the BaronsApp from your app store

Kid's
Play area
& Menu

P. PESTLE & SONS LTD ROOFING & BUILDING CONTRACTORS

A well established family run business with a wealth of experience and knowledge. Covering all roofing, building and hard landscape works.

Find us on
Facebook

Based in Guildford, Surrey

To get a FREE quote call:
07800 644028
info@pestleandsons.co.uk



C. F. Hall & Co. Ltd.

We are your local Euronics electrical retailer,
established for more than 60 years.



EURONICS

Sony, Panasonic, Bosch, Samsung, Miele, Roberts, Sebo,
Toshiba, Dyson, Pure, Zanussi, Blomberg & many more top brands

2 Station Approach | East Horsley | 01483 282945
www.cfhall.com

Seymours

WE'RE NOT JUST YOUR ESTATE AGENT BUT ALSO YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Seymours Guildford is an independent local business, owned and run by the partners in the office. As local residents ourselves we're truly passionate about supporting our community and providing a highly personal service when it's your time to move.

Valuing In Your Area - Back Soon

We're just round the corner, so if you would like to understand the value of your home and current buyer demand, please call us to book a free market appraisal.



Ben Conquer
Director



Joe Leonard
Director

Ripley
01483 211644 sales@seymours-ripley.co.uk
seymours-estates.co.uk



CONTACTS

Send & Ripley History Society
Established 1975 as
Send History Society
Registered Charity
No. 1174161

President: John Slatford

Chairman: Cameron Brown
Church Farm House,
Wisley GU23 6QL
T: 07811 276386
E: cmb@aappl.com

Vice Chairman and Museum
Curator: Clare McCann
T: 01483 728546
E: cricketshill@hotmail.com

Hon Secretary:
Post vacant

Treasurer, Membership
Secretary and Journal
Distribution: Christina Sheard
Old Manor Cottage,
Send Marsh Green, Ripley,
Woking GU23 6JP
T: 01483 224600
E: christina.sheard@btinternet.com

Journal Editor:
Cameron Brown
T: 07811 276386
E: cmb@aappl.com

Art director and copy editor:
Ditz Brown

Archaeology Specialist:
Andrew Jones
106 Georgelands, Ripley,
GU23 6DQ
T: 01483 479647
E: andrew738jones@bt.com

Book sales: Angie Richardson
T: 07792 198363
E: srhistorysociety@gmail.com

Museum Archivist:
Phil Davie
T: 01483 223955
E: phil.davie@jpsd.plus.com

Journal Advertising:
Jez Haines
T: 07747 145946
E: srhistorysocietyadvertising@gmail.com

Cover image:

Detail of the Send horse bus
- see article *The Send Horse
Bus* on page 20

CONTENTS | No. 305

Editorial <i>Cameron Brown</i>	2
40 Years Ago <i>Cameron Brown</i>	3
Reverend Morgan Evan Thomas <i>Alan Cooper</i>	6
The History of Osteopathy <i>Niki Tottenham</i>	15
Guileshill Brook <i>Anne Cornell</i>	16
The Send Horse Bus <i>Alan Cooper</i>	20
The Lovelace Cottages in Ockham <i>Gillian Lachelin</i>	21
Memories of a Farmer's Daughter <i>Anne Ireland</i>	22
A Walk About Ripley Village <i>Cameron Brown</i>	26
Our New Website <i>Cameron Brown</i>	27
Where Is It? <i>Alan Cooper</i>	28
What Is It? <i>Alan Cooper</i>	29
Museum News and Forthcoming Events <i>Clare McCann</i>	30
SRHS Publications List	31



Seymours
Your Property Partner For Life

We are grateful to Seymours Estate Agents in
Ripley for their generous contribution towards
the production costs of the 2025 Journals

© Send & Ripley History Society and Contributors 2025

All rights reserved. No parts of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means or stored in any retrieval system of any nature without prior written permission except for permitted fair dealing under the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988 or in accordance with the terms of a licence issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency in respect of photocopying or/and reprographic reproduction. Applications for permission for other use of copyright material including permission to reproduce extracts in other published works should be made to the Editor. Full acknowledgement of author, publisher and source must be given.



sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk

EDITORIAL

CAMERON BROWN

As always in the final journal of the year I'd like to welcome members who joined us during 2025: Kevin & Wendy Arthur, Joshua Chapman, Jane Davies, Tony Dollin, Colin Durbridge, Anita Fairbairn, Anthony Garrod, Joe & Katharine Gervasio, Caroline Gohler, Emma Goodwin, Bernard & Norma Hales, Peter & Nicola Hookins, Steven Hutson, Sylvia Jackson, June & Andy Moth, Roger & Kate Mutton, Christina Powles and Graham Renadell.

Apologies to all members for the last-minute cancellation of the talk on Guildford High Street in the 1900s which was scheduled for 8th October, due to the speaker having been taken ill. We hope to re-schedule this talk for next year.

I am sure we are all thoroughly fed up with the seemingly constant road closures associated with the junction 10 works. The recent closing of Old Lane, Ockham for three days did, unusually, bring a smile to some local faces though as the reason was that three toad tunnels were being installed beneath the road.

This conservation project, initiated by members of the Surrey Amphibian and Reptile Group in 2019, is designed to mitigate the effects of increased roadworks traffic on the amphibian population of Ockham Common. We featured an article about this in J290 of May 2023, explaining that toads leave their site of hibernation to return to spawn at

the place of their own birth, which involves crossing Old Lane. Toads, frogs and newts will now be guided by over 500 metres of purpose-built barriers into the safety of three new tunnels under Old Lane.

Even closer to home, in the early hours of Tuesday, 21st October, just four days before the Ripley Bonfire which is by far our biggest local annual event, someone set fire to the four-metre-high pile so carefully assembled by the Ripley Bonfire Association over the previous few weeks. The fire brigade were out on The Green for two hours and confirmed the organiser's assumption that it was probably started deliberately. The police are still investigating. Miraculously, chair of the association Steve Hill and his team of volunteers managed to build a new bonfire in just three days and the event was its usual roaring success.

Finally, I am sorry to have to report the deaths of our members Hilary Cowen, Sheila Hookins and Ted Strange.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT JOURNAL

Contributors are asked to send articles and letters to Cameron Brown at cmb@aappl.com by 15th December 2025.

cmb@aappl.com



**Free valuations Monday-Friday:
9.30am-5pm**



Ewbank's 
Surrey's Premier Antique and Specialist Auctioneers

Valuations for sale, probate and insurance Regular Antique, Collectables, Fine & Specialist Auctions

Specialists in Asian Art, Jewellery, Silver, Antique Furniture, Clocks, Memorabilia, 20th Century, Contemporary & Fine Art, Fine Wine, Toys & Collectables, Vintage Cars

01483 223 101

www.ewbankauctions.co.uk

antiques@ewbankauctions.co.uk

40 YEARS AGO

CAMERON BROWN

John and Bette Slatford wrote an article in J64 of October 1985 entitled *The Vicarage, High Street, Ripley* and followed up by a shorter one in October 2008, when the house was sold and ceased to be used as a vicarage. They are combined here and the photos are, of course, later.

The land on which Ripley Vicarage stands originally formed part of the yard of the George Inn (now Cedar House and Tudor House). The Onslow estate map of 1777 shows the George Inn with John Lloyd as tenant and land equal to that occupied now by the vicarage, Cedar House and Tudor House but with no sign of the vicarage itself. Shortly after the map was drawn, the George Inn was sold by John Williams Onslow for £1215 to John Whitburn, a brewer with other property in Ripley.

John Whitburn died in 1802. He made his will in 1794 when he named his wife Sarah Frances Whitburn and Anthony Sterry, his friend, as trustees of his estate, for the benefit of Sarah and their five children. It was after his death that part of the George Inn yard, then in the tenure of William Halliday, was sold separately at auction at the Talbot. The highest bidder at £120 was John Thompson. It would appear that it was at this time, or soon after, that the George ceased to be an inn.

In 1804 John Thompson sold the land to John Dawes, yeoman of Ripley, for £136. In 1819 John Dawes junior, as devisee of his father's will, sold to Richard Harrison for

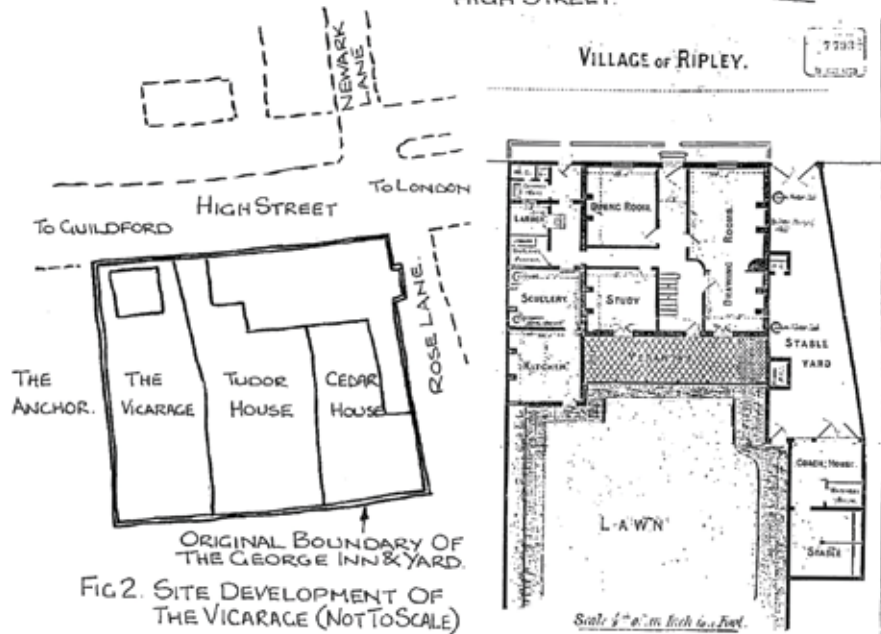
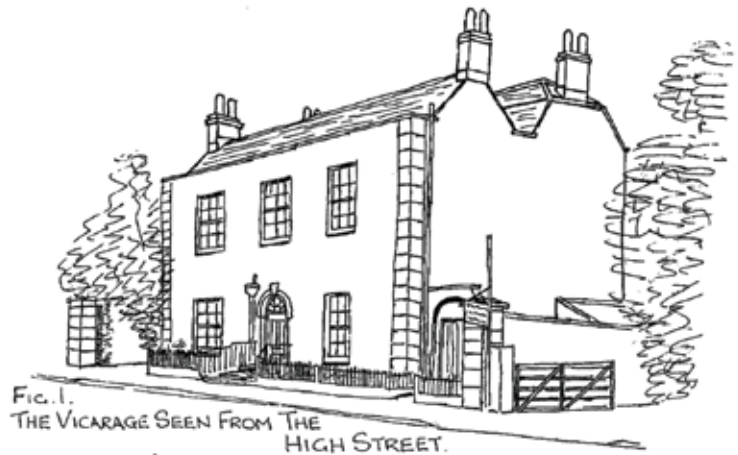


FIG. 3. PLAN OF THE VICARAGE FROM EDWARD RYDE'S SURVEY REPORT, MAY 1879.

RIPLEY VICARAGE, HIGH STREET, RIPLEY.

£750 'all that ground together with the messuage thereon erected.' Thus the present house was built some time after – probably shortly after John Dawes bought the land.

John Fielder was tenant of the house which, after Richard Harrison's death in 1823, went to his widow, Caroline, in trust for her lifetime. Richard Harrison's estate was not finally sold until 1835 when the house

was bought by James Symonds, a cattle dealer of Ripley, for £592 15s. He appears to have lived here himself at least until 1843 when his name appears as owner and occupier on the Tithe Apportionment.

The house was again sold after James Symond's death in 1852, to Elizabeth Ann Sydenham, a spinster, for £570. She named it Sydenham Lodge. The tenant at that time was Abraham Crisp Gall, a surgeon, who took a 14-year lease from James Symonds in 1850. Dr Gall is shown on the 1851 census as living here with his wife, four young children and two servants. The lease was apparently terminated not long after, because at the next census (1861), the Reverend Charles Tate, appointed vicar in 1852, lived here with his wife, five young children and five servants!

The Rev Tate left in 1864 to live in the newly-built vicarage in Vicarage Lane in Send (now – just to be confusing – also Cedar House). There is a record of an inventory taken before his departure. Miss Sydenham then let the house to John Walmesley on a 21-year lease at the rent of £31 10s per annum. Apparently he did not stay long either because by the 1871 census the Rev Henry Hooper, appointed curate of Send and Ripley in 1869, lived here with his mother and younger brother. He was appointed vicar of Ripley when Send and Ripley parishes were separated in 1878 and presumably stayed until his resignation as vicar of Ripley in 1895.

Miss Sydenham, in her will, left the house to Thomas Crawley Eager after the deaths of his two aunts, Lucy Cullen and Elizabeth Ann Sydenham, and of his mother, Alicia Catherine Eager. Thomas Eager's father was John King Eager, the doctor who lived for many years at what is now the Clocke House restaurant.

When Ripley became a separate parish in 1878, the acquisition by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of a permanent vicarage became necessary. In fact, the purchase of the house from Thomas Crawley Eager did not take place 1881. The cost, financed by the Earl of Onslow, was £1200.

Some time before the eventual purchase by the church, a survey was carried out by Edward Ryde, a renowned surveyor and valuer of the day, who lived at Poundfield House (now demolished) in Old Woking. He is now best known locally for his diaries in which he meticulously recorded his daily activities over a period of some 48 years. On 29th May 1879 he wrote 'Settle the particulars of the proposed vicarage at Ripley...' and on the next day 'Send him [Cattlin - one of his employees] also to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners re Ripley

vicarage.' The survey is still in the hands of the Church Commissioners, bearing the date stamp 31st May 1879. It describes the house in detail and includes a ground floor plan (figure 3). A sign of the times is that it then had two wells and three WCs but no bathroom.

The house itself is brick-built with 14 inch walls and is externally rendered. The kitchen, scullery and butler's pantry, etc, on the side nearest the Anchor, were demolished in the 1950s. Otherwise the house is much the same with its principal rooms on the ground floor, four bedrooms and a dressing room (now a bathroom) on the first floor and servants' quarters in the attic within the mansard rear half of the double piled tiled roof.

It would seem that in 1920 consideration was given to the construction of a new Ripley Vicarage. An item in the Lovelace papers states that 'The house at present used as a Parsonage House in the new parish of St Mary, Ripley, is not considered suitable for the purpose for which it was conveyed; as the Reverend Arnold Hope Wraith Headeach, vicar, doth admit a sale of such house is now in contemplation.' The Lovelace papers further state that Lady Lovelace offered to convey a piece of land for a new parsonage, which the Church Commissioners accepted. The land, about one acre, was near Rose Cottage in Rose Lane and was to revert to Lady Lovelace if not built upon. No record has yet been found explaining why it was not built and what happened to the land.

It should also be recorded that there is evidence of an earlier vicarage on the site of the old school (now Church Row). This is shown on the Tithe Apportionment of 1843 simply as Vicarage House and garden belonging to the Glebe, but with no indication of who was living there. Apparently pulled down to make way for the building of the school in 1847, no other evidence has yet been found about its history.

In J202 John Slatford added: After over 125 years Ripley vicarage is no longer the vicar's residence and the house is now being sold. The Rev Christopher Elson and his family have moved to a new house on the village outskirts so an opportunity has arisen for a more detailed inspection of the construction and the fixtures and fittings.

When comparing the present building, virtually unaltered, with the plan produced for the Edward Ryde survey, it became apparent that his plan was in some respects drawn from memory! A number of details are quite different, for example the alignment of the stable (now the garage) was shown as parallel with the side of the house whereas it is actually set at a sharp angle

towards the garden of the next door Tudor House.

The house is of brick construction with 14 inch solid walls and rendered all round the outside. The walls are extended above the roofline with a stone parapet. The roof is double piled with the front portion being a simple tiled ridge with chimneys at both ends. The rear portion, which is hipped at both ends, is of mansard construction, that is, with each side of the ridge having two angles. This was done to provide two attic rooms, which served as servants' quarters. These rooms originally had small dormer windows now replaced by Velux type windows. The chimney serving the southeast corner of the house is strangely cantilevered around a small oddly shaped window in the east attic room.

There were originally four main rooms on the ground floor and on the first floor but with no toilet or bath facilities. Three outside WCs were added at a later date but these have all been replaced with internal facilities. The kitchen, scullery and like facilities were built along the west side of the house. None of these now remain but we are told that they were not demolished until well after the end of the last war. There is now added a modern utility room. Each of the main rooms on each floor and the attic rooms had fireplaces on the end walls.

All of the windows at the front of the house are original as are most of those at the rear. The originals are of balanced sliding sash construction and all except one are double sliding. Each sash has six panels with extremely fine frames and glazing bars. From a repair or replacement point of view, these details would today be extremely difficult if not impossible to replicate. For ease of movement, the sashes are very finely balanced; so much so, that in recent years whenever any original glass has been replaced with modern heavier gauge glass, extra weight has had to be added to restore the balance.

Most of the original internal shutters are still in place and fully functional on the main windows and on the ground floor rear French doors. Some are full height and others are divided horizontally so that the bottom half can be used for privacy in the daytime. For closure there are large blacksmith-made latches provided with simple locking bars.

The front door surround has curved pilasters with square capitals supporting a curved arch with a central keystone. Within the arch is the original decorative fanlight. The coach house to the rear and east of the house had stabling which remains with the original fittings and a hayloft above.

Editor's note: today's readers might be interested to know that the house last changed hands in 2023 for around £1.6m.



The house still has its original sash windows



The decorative fanlight over the front door is also original

Swimming

Snorkelling

Scuba Diving



PADI 5* IDC Centre
Retail Shop
Escorted Holidays
Equipment Servicing
Friendly Advice

*"We don't run courses...
We teach you to dive!"*

67 High Street Ripley Surrey GU23 6AN
01483 22 56 99
www.surreydivecentre.co.uk

REVEREND MORGAN EVAN THOMAS

ALAN COOPER

In 1930 St Mary’s Church, Ripley, welcomed a new vicar, the Reverend Morgan Evan Thomas, replacing the Reverend Arnold Hope Wraith Headeach, who had served the community for the past 13 years.

Reverend Thomas would become infamous within the village community for his constant run-ins with the headmaster of Ripley Court School, Christopher Pearce who was, amongst other things, chairman of both the parish council and the Ripley school managers. [1]

We start by examining his family and background, the early and formative years, his war service and the career change that followed a proud Welshman who spoke his mind and feared no one!

At this point I suggest you look at the family tree, which is more than usually complicated as the surnames appear to be limited to Thomas, Jones and John and the Christian names do not always make it easier.

OVERVIEW OF REV THOMAS’S FAMILY

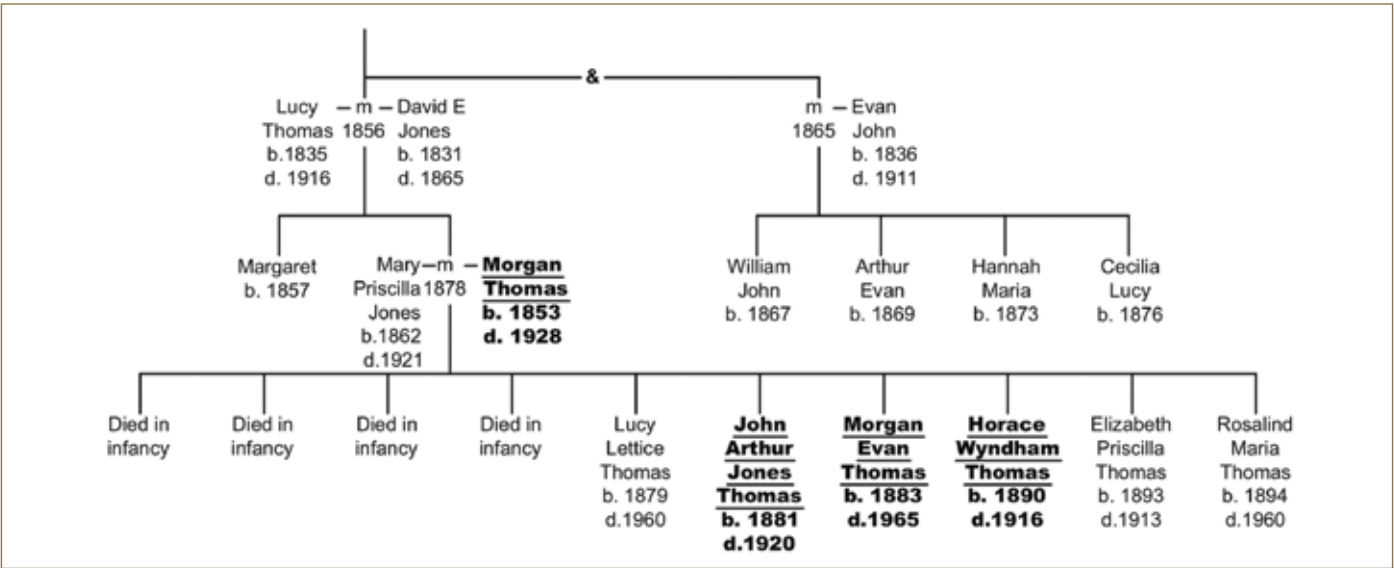
HIS FATHER

Morgan Thomas was born in 1853, the son of a lime works labourer in Llandybie, Carmarthenshire,

where he attended Llandybie National (primary) school. On 5th February 1866 he began a career in teaching there as a 13-year-old assistant and by 1871 had risen to pupil teacher. He moved to Pentyrch and married Mary Priscilla Jones in 1878, making their home at the schoolhouse where he is recorded as being a certified school master. By the late 1880s a change of career direction occurred and Morgan relinquished his position at the school but remained in the village as a clerk in holy orders. He eventually became a Church of England lay preacher some 10 years later in Llantrisant and finally moved to Bettws, Bridgend, Glamorganshire, in 1908 to take up the position of Church of England clergyman, becoming rector by 1920. His wife Mary died in 1921 and Morgan on 14th October 1928.



His father, Morgan Thomas, Schoolmaster of Pentyrch, Glamorganshire



Detail from Thomas family tree

It was whilst living in Pentyrch that he made a name for himself – formalising in the 1880s the introduction of both cricket and rugby to the village. The descriptions of both which follow have been provided by Pentyrch & District Local History Society to whom we extend our grateful thanks.

When schoolmaster Morgan Thomas formalised cricket in Pentyrch in the 1880s, it was difficult to find a suitable playing field for his team. Eventually permission was obtained to stage matches on the Forlan Fields. Although it was by no means flat ground, at least the grass had been cattle-cropped and then sheep-grazed to a smoothness which would not have looked out of place on the playing fields of Eton. Not much could be done however about the limestone outcrops which were to crack many a kneecap in the ensuing years! The puckish humour of the locals as they ran amongst the cowpats or searched the brambles for lost balls brought an extra dimension to the game... ^[2]

Formation of Pentyrch Rugby Football Club: Due credit must be given to the local schoolmaster Morgan Thomas for his vision and his organising ability which led to the setting up of the club in those far-off days when the sport was just beginning to take hold of the minds of men in South Wales. With the fading summer of 1882 the sight of young men throwing and kicking a rugby ball was quite common in Pentyrch. The Forlan Fields at Cefn Bychan became the most favoured venue.

In September a team consisting mainly of players supplied by Col Henry Lewis and augmented by a few men from Pentyrch was gathered together for a match against a team of soldiers from the garrison at Cardiff. The result of the game, played on a field adjoining the Ynys House is, unfortunately, not recorded but there is no doubt that the occasion gave a taste of organised rugby to local lads who knew it would be only a matter of time before they would establish their own club.

The early spring of 1883 was splendid and once again young men were to be seen 'playing the leather'. Morgan Thomas called a meeting at the school house and in no time at all a football club was formed. Mr Thomas gave the gathering the news that Mr Wingfield, the major local landowner, had given his blessing for the use of any suitable piece of land for the purpose of playing rugby football. Finding a suitable plot was no easy matter in this hillside village and certainly the Forlan with its hillocks was far from perfect; besides which, the best area was being coaxed into becoming a cricket pitch (again with Morgan Thomas at the helm). They

settled for the field which lay between where now stand the old council houses at Bronllwyn and the present Cefn Penuel section of Pare St Catwg. It is known that the first match was against a team from Whitchurch.

Tom Jenkins, who was born in 1872, told us on a tape recording about an incident which occurred when he was twelve (which would have been in the first or second year of the club's existence): "I was setting a couple of snares down below the old mill by there when I heard the buggers coming. About half a dozen it was. I thought it was the keepers after me, so I hid in a clump till they were gone by. Recognised the first horse I did mun! Ned Powell's black cob - he had a streak down by there, see? Ned and the others were on their way back from playing down by Cowbridge. I was nearly kilt with fright! Our uncle Eli told us that the team were known as William Matthews's Donkeys!" Tom said that of the twenty or so rugby men he could recall from his childhood, only four had any English at all. "The others had not a single word of it". He could also remember two men coming from Rudry to play with the Pentyrch team for a spell and thought the name of one was Jarvis. They both had good Welsh and English and one of them was an excellent singer... ^[3]

HIS MOTHER

Mary Priscilla Jones was born in 1862 and married Rev Thomas's father in 1878.

HIS BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Rev Thomas's parents, Morgan and Mary, had ten children, four of whom died in infancy. The others comprised three daughters, Lucy Lettice (1879-1960), Elizabeth Priscilla (1893-1913) and Rosalind Maria (1894-1960).

The three male children of the family were clearly strong personalities and pursued very different careers.

JOHN ARTHUR JONES THOMAS (1881-1920)

He was born in Pentyrch, Glamorganshire. Deciding to escape the mining community he grew up in he became a career soldier. He enlisted at Bristol on 25th March 1901 in the Plymouth division of the Royal Marine Light Infantry for an unknown period, giving his trade as an engine-fitter. After spending the first ten months at the receiving depot at Deal, he was transferred to Plymouth on 22nd January 1902, serving at HMS Vivid (the Royal Navy designation for the barracks at Devonport) until his

desertion on 17th August 1912, whereupon he forfeited nine years and 165 days of service plus a further 58 days, being the time he served as an underage recruit, towards a Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Where exactly the 'good conduct' element came into it remains to be seen, as his character and ability records range from good and very good at the start of his service down to indifferent and moderate by its end. He was finally discharged from the service on 1st September 1912 with the somewhat tersely-put reason being 'shore services no longer required'.

Following his discharge, he joined the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, attesting in February 1913 at Wrexham, serving as Private 11138. His involvement is sketchy as his service records were partially destroyed during the blitz in 1940 when the War Office warehouse in Arnside Street, London was bombed, leading to the destruction of around 80% of all records.^[5] However, surviving records suggest he yet again stretched the truth to sign up, this time being over-age and stating his date of birth as being some 10 years later and with the trade of coal miner. He served from the onset of WWI and as such was referred to as an *Old Contemptible*.

^[6] On 15th June 1916 he was honourably discharged from the army, the reason given being 'no longer fit for military service'. It transpires this was due to shrapnel wounds to the left lung. He returned home to Bettws, Bridgend, Glamorganshire, to live with his parents in the rectory and died there on 2nd November 1920 from complications resulting from his injuries. He was buried in his father's churchyard on 6th November 1920.

HORACE WYNDHAM THOMAS (1890-1916)

Horace was one of the many gifted and supremely talented young men who were to perish in WWI.

Born in Penttyrch, Glamorganshire, he was educated at Bridgend County School and it was here that he started playing rugby. In 1906 he won a scholarship to study at Monmouth School. There he played and excelled at rugby, cricket, hockey, gymnastics and athletics. Like many Welshmen, he was also endowed with an exceptional voice and in 1909 won a prestigious scholarship to study choral singing at King's College, Cambridge.

Also studying History, he played cricket for the Cambridge seconds, represented the athletics team and won a Blue at rugby. He continued to play rugby at fly-half during his three years at Cambridge, mainly for Blackheath, but also for London Welsh.



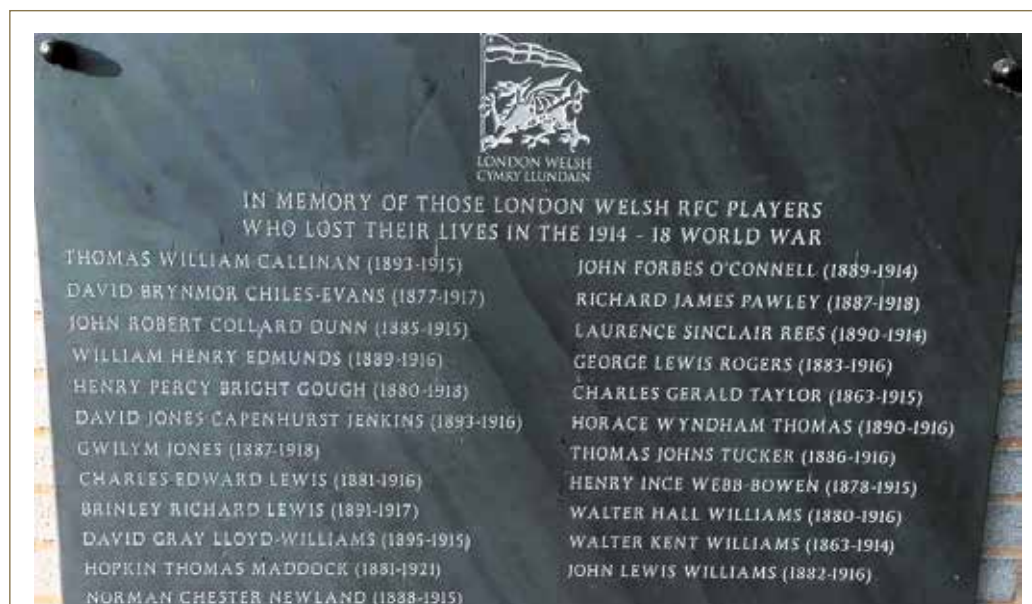
Horace Wyndham Thomas, pictured in army uniform

Horace played in the Barbarians' tour matches in Newport and Leicester and twice for Swansea, but it was whilst playing in the varsity match against Oxford in December 1912 that he caught the eye of the Welsh selectors. A few days later, he was selected to play for Wales against South Africa that year and against England in 1913, in the opening match of the Five Nations Championship.

His brief career ended in 1913 when he took up a management position with a shipping company and moved to India. There he continued to play rugby and cricket, joining the Calcutta Football [rugby football, as it used to be known] Club, where he became captain.

With the outbreak of WWI, Horace returned to Wales in 1915, eventually being commissioned into the Sixteenth Battalion Rifle Brigade and departed for France in March 1916. Many later accounts wrongly claim that Horace was killed during the Battle of Guillemont on 3rd September 1916. However, he actually died several miles to the north-west, whilst attempting to secure the high ground on the left bank of the river Ancre, north of Hamel. Suffering more than 400 casualties, his battalion was all but wiped out in this assault. Horace was one of just a handful who managed to reach the German line when he was caught by shellfire and killed instantly.

Second Lieutenant Horace Wyndham Thomas has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing, Pier and Face 16b and 16C. ^[7] He was one of thirteen Welsh internationals to die in conflict during WWI and is also commemorated on the Welsh Rugby Union Roll of Honour, Cardiff, South Glamorgan. We can but speculate what this prodigiously talented young man might have achieved had he survived the war. ^[8]



The Welsh Rugby Union Roll of Honour, Cardiff, South Glamorgan

These tragic events only served to exacerbate the pain following the death of his younger sister Elizabeth Priscilla in 1913 and when John died of his wounds in 1920, his mother Mary also died just a few months later – perhaps of a broken heart?

REV MORGAN EVAN THOMAS (1883-1965)

We return to our subject, Rev Morgan Thomas, born like his brothers and sisters in Penttyrch. Little is known of his education until 1895 when he appears as a pupil at St Peter's County Voluntary Junior School for Boys in Blaenavon, Monmouthshire and in 1901 when, aged 17 and living with his parents in Llantrisant, Pontypridd, he is described as a pupil in mining [this might be an apprenticeship]. The years of 1908-9 saw him living at No.6, Cae Rowind Cwmburia, Swansea and by 1911 he had taken lodgings with the Bowen family at No.13, Station Road, Senghenydd, Glamorgan, where he worked as a colliery surveyor. In 1914 he moved to No.3, Canon Street, Barry, Glamorgan, before briefly attending Cambridge University. But then WWI intervened.

Was he influenced by the patriotic fervour of the day or just following in the footsteps of both his older and younger brother? We will never know, but by putting his experience as a mining engineer/surveyor to good use, he joined the Royal Engineers. Like his brother John's, his military service records were mostly destroyed during WWII but, importantly, four entries in the London Gazette help us form a picture of his wartime service. ^[9]



The Reverend Morgan Evan Thomas

London Gazette 20th July 1915 – Supplement 29238 - Page 7183:

...Cadet Morgan Evan Thomas, from the Cambridge University Contingent, Senior Division, Officers Training Corps, to be commissioned as Second Lieutenant, 2nd London Divisional Engineers. Royal Engineers 3rd Field Company. Territorial Force...,



The medals awarded to Morgan Evan Thomas - l-r:
Military Cross and bar, British War Medal, Victory Medal

London Gazette 7th March 1919 –
Supplement 31219 - Page 3233:

The citation for the award of the
bar to the Military Cross on 4th
October 1919.

...Lt Morgan Evan Thomas, MC,
465th (N. Mid.) Fld. Coy., R.E.,
T.F. For conspicuous gallantry
and leadership near Regnicourt
on 17th October 1918. When our
troops were held up and suffering
severe casualties, he gallantly led
forward his section of sappers
as reinforcements; he afterwards
organised several parties of
infantry and again reinforced the
line. Later he took command of
a company and took it forward
to the final objective, which he
consolidated. He did fine work...

And finally, *London Gazette* 10th
March 1922 – Supplement 32636
- Page 2131, informing us of his

London Gazette 15th June 1917 – Supplement 30135 -
Page 6000:

The citation for the award of the Military Cross on 18th
June 1917.

...2nd Lt. Morgan Evan Thomas, R.E. For conspicuous
gallantry and devotion to duty. He was in command of
a detachment accompanying the infantry and, though
wounded, he carried out his task in a most gallant and
efficient manner, returning only at the conclusion of the
operation...

Name	Unit	Rank	Regt. No.
(M.C.) THOMAS.	R.E. R.G.	Lt Capt	
Morgan, Evan			
Initials	Regt.	Page	Remarks
Various	x 44/144	623	ix. 6. 1330. 9/8/21 x
Enrolled			
Rank			
Composed of War Despatches to			
Date of entry 18/6/17			
x68/1/162			

The medal index card showing rank of both Lieutenant
and Captain

resignation of commission from the Royal Engineers
and transfer into the Army Chaplains' Department
(ACD):

...Lieutenant, the Rev. Morgan Evan Thomas MC, (late
Royal Engineers, Territorial Army) to be Chaplain 4th
Class, and relinquishes the rank of Lieutenant. 23rd
January 1922...

Over the years I have heard people in the village
questioning the rank that the reverend Thomas was
referred to by. Although his medals were awarded to
Lieutenant Thomas, he was known by most as Captain.
To confuse matters further, his medal index card calls
him both Lieutenant and Captain. However, there is a
rational explanation. Upon resigning his commission,
he came under the jurisdiction of the ACD, where the
equivalent rank in the British Army to Chaplain 4th
Class is Captain.

In common with the rest of the British army, the ACD
experienced a huge wartime expansion; whereas there
were only 117 commissioned chaplains representing
three denominations in August 1914, more than 5,000
temporary commissions had been granted to clergymen
of eleven denominations by November 1918. Of these,
some 60 per cent were Anglican, another 20 per cent
were Roman Catholic, 10 per cent Presbyterian and,

excepting a handful of Jews, the balance represented a mixture of English and Welsh Non-conformists. ^[10]

It is not clear how long Morgan served in the ACD but, by 1921, he was one of five assistant priests living together in the vicarage in Kidderminster and it was here, at St Mary's All Saints, that his career in the Church began. He moved on from Kidderminster in 1927 and in 1928 his father's probate record indicates that he was living at No.38, Howard Road, Dorking. ^[11]

His next, and final position began at St Mary's Church, Ripley in 1930, where the humbler surroundings must have been something of a comedown compared to the enormous church of St Mary's All Saints in Kidderminster. In 1933 he was instrumental in having electric lighting installed in the church, but financial constraints were always an issue and any progress was slow.

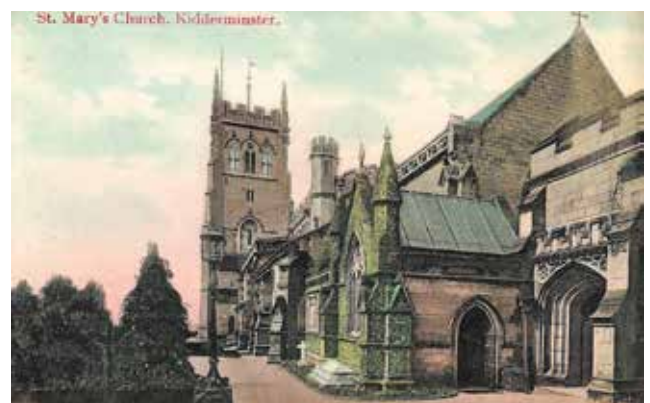
The vicarage was only a stone's-throw from the church and there was the added attraction of the Anchor public house in between, which he was known to frequent regularly once ecclesiastical affairs were concluded. ^[13] Did he visit the Anchor too much? One can but speculate after reading the following account in the national press!

The *Daily Herald* of 6th June 1950 ran the gleeful headline – 'Bride waited in porch for vicar. He forgot the wedding and was two hours late.' The *Herald* reporter continued: 'They had forced the vestry door and were just about to force the lock of the safe and find the licence, when the vicar, who forgot all about the wedding, turned up today. The Rev Morgan Evan Thomas was exactly two hours late.'

The service had been fixed for 2:30 p.m. at the parish church of St Mary. Seventy relatives, friends and villagers filed into the pews. The 29-year-old bridegroom, Mr Harry Beasley, of Kenilworth Avenue,



Morgan Evan Thomas, back row, 1st left, photographed with the 2nd year class during 1930, his first year as vicar of St Mary's, Ripley. Note: He always stood awkwardly due to wounds received during WWI ^[12]



Kidderminster Church St Mary's All Saints

Wimbledon, took his place before the altar with his best man. Then came the bride, Miss Doreen Chapman, 24, of Bridge End, Ripley. She joined her sister, her only bridesmaid, in the porch, and all was ready for the walk up the aisle.

But there was no sign of the vicar. At 3.00 pm inquiries were made at the vicarage and the police station. They hadn't a clue. At 3.30 pm a phone call was made to the Rev Harry Forder, curate of the neighbouring parish of Cobham. He put on his robes, hurried over, but could not find the wedding licence and was therefore unable

WHY VICAR WENT TOO FAST

EXPLANATIONS IN GUILDFORD SUMMONS

The Rev. Morgan Evan Thomas, vicar of Ripley, was fined £1 at Guildford Borough Police Court on Monday for exceeding the speed limit with a motor car on London-road, Guildford, on December 9th, and 5s. for failing to exhibit a Road Fund licence at the same time and place. Mr. R. D. Jenkins appeared on behalf of Mr. Thomas.

P.C. Kendall said that Mr Thomas overtook the police car at Cross-lanes, and for a distance of half a mile travelled at a speed of 45 miles per hour. He was not exhibiting a Road Fund licence.—P.C. Beagley corroborated..

Mr. Jenkins said that Mr. Thomas was bringing two children back from the hospital, where it had been impressed upon him that one of them had a temperature and must be taken from door to door. In that state of anxiety it was quite natural for him to increase his speed where the road widened at Cross-lanes. With regard to the summons for not showing his Road Fund licence the holder and licence had fallen off some weeks previously and the licence was lost Mr Thomas had since applied for a new one

Extract from The Surrey Advertiser detailing the vicar's driving offences

to conduct the ceremony. Somebody took a chair to the porch so that the bride could sit down. The bridegroom relaxed in a pew.

At 4:30 pm the bachelor vicar of Ripley arrived and carried out the ceremony.

Said the bride's father, Mr C F Chapman: "He apologised and said he had forgotten all about the service. We think that is a bit thick. We had forced the vestry door and were about to tackle the safe when he turned up. Mr Forder came over in such a rush that I had to lend him his bus fare back again. All the guests had to wait in the blazing hot sun."

Said the Rev Morgan Evan Thomas: "Why make such a fuss about one mistake? I prefer not to say anything more."

The vicar regularly put others before himself and was clearly no great respecter of the law, making the pages of the *Surrey Advertiser* of 8th January 1938 for speeding, overtaking a police car and having no road tax whilst collecting and returning two young children from Guildford hospital, for which he received a fine of £1.

Outside his ecclesiastical duties he was a keen cricketer and played for Ripley (no surprises there, considering his father's pioneering efforts with the game in Wales in earlier years). He also enjoyed playing cards of an evening but would not do so on a Sunday.



Ripley cricket team. The Reverend Thomas is standing, fourth from right

Except for his fiery relationship with Christopher Pearce, (both men being single and very used to getting their own way, they both endured and enjoyed what could only be described as a hate-hate relationship) it appears he was much liked and respected in the village.

LOCAL RESIDENTS' MEMORIES:

Basil Howard stated he held the vicar with the utmost respect. ^[14]

Michael Giles recalled the vicar was very fond of walking around the church swinging a thurible of incense and would frequently deliver his sermon with his eyes closed. ^{[15] [16]}

Phyllis Hale (née Moore) remembered: although the Reverend Thomas was a no-nonsense, diminutive man with a fearsome demeanour, he was liked by the pupils of the village school where he would spend a considerable amount of time teaching. However, he would not stand for any nonsense.

In around 1940 the vicar was giving a religious instruction lesson and caught me laughing mid-sentence. My punishment was to be ridiculed by being made to stand on a chair while the vicar circled around the class, pointing up at me, tapping the top of my head and repeating the words "not much up there"! ^[17]

Following his resignation in 1953, Morgan relocated to Guildford, living at No. 20, Boxgrove Road, taking his long-serving housekeeper, Winnie Blakeman, along with him. He died 6th May 1965.

His great friend and ally, Walter Daniel Cartwright lived at The Chestnuts, Burnt Common, Ripley. Born in Selborne, Hampshire, he came to Ripley around 1909 and worked as a horticultural clerk for the Royal Horticultural Society, Wisley. Initially he lodged, along with two horticultural students, at the home of Henry

RIPLEY

CHURCH FINANCES

"WORST SINCE 1929"

TREASURER ADVANCED £30

After hearing at the Ripley annual parochial meeting on Tuesday that the treasurer of the parochial church council, Mr. W. D. Cartwright, had advanced to the church general fund over £30 from his own pocket, Mr. P. Dallis-Smith said, "I think it is appalling that an officer of the council should have to finance the church. I suggest he be repaid to-night."

Mr. Cartwright had told the meeting that the financial position of the church was the worst he had known since taking office in 1929. "Last year was a difficult year for most parochial councils, and we were no exception," he said.

Regarding the loan, the Vicar (the Rev. Morgan Evan Thomas) pointed out that other church funds showed a credit which could be borrowed and lent to the general fund. "Mr. Cartwright did not want to do that until after this meeting," he said.

The Vicar said he was ashamed at the public response to the deanery mission last year, but missions did not seem to be as well received these days. "There does, however, seem more life in the church, although not spiritually," he added.

It was reported that the condition of the churchyard had caused the Parish Council to send a letter of protest to the parochial council. "Its present state," it read, "must cause distress to the relatives of the people buried here."

The Parish Council had been informed that the overgrown condition of the churchyard had been a matter of concern to the parochial council, but they were handicapped by the lack of funds. "The work of putting it in order and keeping it so is beyond the means of the church. Should it not be the responsibility of the village?" it read.

It was decided that the matter should be left until the next Vestry meeting.

Messrs. I. Amis and G. Onslow were re-appointed churchwardens.

Extract from the *Surrey Advertiser* of 8th March 1952 detailing the financial problems being experienced by St Mary's and the lengths that Walter Cartwright went to in helping his friend, the vicar

and Tryphena Daws in Ripley High Street. He married Edith Annie Higgs of Byfleet in 1915 and subsequently moved to Burnt Common where they lived until Edith's death in 1964.

As treasurer of the parochial church council since 1929, he was well aware of the precarious financial state St Mary's often found itself in and frequently helped in times of hardship from his own pocket.

The vicar rewarded him for his kindness and generosity by making him the sole beneficiary in his will.

Following his wife's death, Walter moved to No. 24, Daryngton Drive, Merrow, where he died in 1975.

NB: An unabridged version of this article will soon be available in the RESEARCH area of the Society's website

^[1] See also the article in J292, regarding Ripley school air-raid shelters

^[2] *The Garth Domain* - December 2000 – Pentyrch & District Local History Society – compiled by Arthur & Don Llewellyn

^[3] Welsh continued to be the language of everyday life for the vast majority. The 1891 census reveals that out of the 750 persons living in upper Pentyrch alone, there were nearly 700 Welsh speakers, of which 400 had no English

^[4] Pentyrch and District Local History Society

^[5] Today, these are known to researchers as *The Burnt Records*

^[6] 'The Old Contemptibles' was the title adopted by all men of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) who saw service before 22nd November 1914. These soldiers were highly trained and motivated and their accuracy with rifles was often mistaken for machine gun fire. To qualify as an Old Contemptible, a British Army soldier needed to have seen active service in France and Flanders between 5th August and 22nd November 1914 and would receive the 1914 Star medal with bar stating service between those dates

^[7] *Fields of Praise*: The official history of the Welsh rugby union

^[8] *Rugby Historian*

^[9] *London Gazette*, one of the official journals of record of the Government of the United Kingdom in which statutory notices are required to be published. In this instance, the award of honours and medals

^[10] Howson, P. *Deaths among army chaplains, 1914–20*, *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research* lxxxiii (2005), 63–77

^[11] Probate record as published in the *Glamorgan Advertiser* 16th November 1928

^[12] *Local Memories* – Edward Cooper

^[13] *Local memories* – Vernon Wood

^[14] *Local memories* – Basil Howard

^[15] This and other such high church customs can almost certainly be attributed to his time spent at St Mary's All Saints, Kidderminster early in his career

^[16] *Local memories* – Michael Giles

^[17] *Local memories* – Phyllis Hale (née Moore)

Grateful thanks to Pentyrch and District Local History Society for permission to quote from their publications

Picture of Morgan Thomas c/o Pentyrch and District Local History Society

Picture of Horace Wyndham Thomas c/o www.flickr.com

Photo of London Welsh memorial c/o www.londonremembers.com

Ripley Cricket team photo c/o Michael Giles collection

Photo of Walter Daniel Cartwright c/o SRHS archives

All other photos c/o Alan Cooper collection



THE HISTORY OF OSTEOPATHY

NIKI TOTTENHAM

On 10th September Niki Tottenham, who founded Ripley Osteopaths in 2022, gave an entertaining and informative talk to our members on the history of osteopathy.

Osteopathy (from the Greek *osteon* meaning bone and *pathos* – pain or disease) is a form of healthcare that emphasises the inter-relationship between the structure and function of the body and its capacity for self-healing. Although there is evidence that the ancient Egyptians used some form of manipulative therapy it is usually agreed that what we recognise today as osteopathy was founded in the United States in the late 19th century by Dr Andrew Taylor Still, a physician who sought a more holistic and effective approach to medicine. Disillusioned with the limitations and often harmful practices of conventional medicine at the time – such as bloodletting and the overuse of toxic medications – Still developed osteopathy as a system that prioritised the body's natural ability to heal itself. At this time in the United States 'quacks' and purveyors of 'tonics and potions' outnumbered conventional doctors three to one. People would call themselves doctors without having had any formal training and only the large cities had hospitals.

During the American civil war Dr Still, himself the son of a physician, had worked as a hospital porter and the experience caused him to lose faith in conventional medical treatments. Only a few years after the end of the war he developed the principles of osteopathy, and by 1892 had established the first osteopathic medical school, the American School of Osteopathy, in Kirksville, Missouri. His approach focused on the musculoskeletal system as a key to overall health, using manual techniques to diagnose and treat dysfunctions. This method, known as osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT), became a defining feature of the practice. Osteopathy evolved differently across the Atlantic. In the United States, osteopaths gained a full medical license, allowing them to practice medicine and surgery alongside MDs. In contrast, in many other countries, including the UK, osteopathy developed as a complementary or alternative form of care, focused more on manual therapy. Its first influential practitioner here was a Dr Littlejohn who had

studied medicine in Glasgow, subsequently establishing the Chicago College of Osteopathy in 1900.

Thirteen years later he returned to the UK where he helped found the British School of Osteopathy, whose first students graduated in the 1930s. He also

founded the *Journal of Osteopathy*. Nevertheless osteopathy remained a fringe medical

activity for some decades to come. In 1935, the British Medical Association campaigned for a new parliamentary bill, which saw osteopathy being refused any official recognition. This finally came in 1993 with degrees in the subject being recognised from 1997 onwards. In 2017 osteopaths were given 'allied health profession' status by the NHS and now co-operate closely with GPs and hospitals. There are currently over 5500 registered osteopaths practising in Britain.

Over time, osteopathy has expanded and integrated with modern medical science, while retaining its original emphasis on treating the whole person, not just symptoms. Today, osteopaths work in a range of healthcare settings, providing care for musculoskeletal issues, supporting rehabilitation and promoting wellness. The history of osteopathy reflects a broader movement toward patient-centred care, prevention and the integration of body, mind and environment into the healing process. Dr Irvin M Korr (1909–2004), a prominent American physiologist and researcher known for his influential work in osteopathic medicine said in an address to the British osteopathic community in 1996: "You do not treat symptoms, you do not treat pain, you do not treat diseases, you do not treat parts of the body, you do not treat the musculo-skeletal system; you treat persons, you treat human beings. It is they who get well or not."



Dr Still in front of the American School of Osteopathy in Kirksville, Missouri

GUILESHILL BROOK

ANNE CORNELL

WHERE IS THE BROOK?

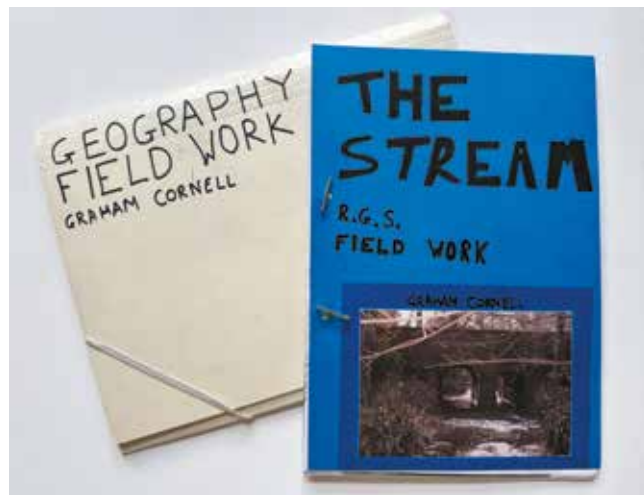
How many of our members know where Guileshill Brook is and why it is important? You will not be alone amongst locals if you know it as Ripley Stream. The brook forms a boundary between East Clandon and West Horsley, before reaching Ripley and joining the Wey and Wey Navigation at Ockham Mill, where its importance increases because it comprises part of a strategic flood defence for London downstream and Guildford upstream. The Wey and Wey Navigation make up one of the two main river catchments in Surrey, the Mole being the second. Both flow into the Thames.

Guileshill Brook rises just to the east of Ripley Lane as it reaches the turning for Jury Farm, then flows almost alongside Ripley Lane, turning northwards and passing under the A3 close to Ripley Bowling Club. It continues north, under the bridge on the High Street, beyond Ripley Court School field and then onto the edge of The Green past Dunsborough House to the Navigation.

Living where we do at Bridge End (the very last house on the left, leaving the village towards London) we have direct access to the woods, an area of Surrey County Council's (SCC) managed woodland. Guileshill Brook runs through them and when we first moved here we just called it 'the stream'. Its last section here in Ripley actually marks Ripley's boundary with Ockham. A detailed map can be seen on the gov.uk website^[1].

In 1997, when the stream was in full flood, our youngest son, Graham, needed to complete a project for school and, as it developed, it became known as 'Mum's stream project' although I wasn't in the habit of helping with homework. Today his final fieldwork project is still my starting reference point and his completed presentation with photos is a great record of a lovely time spent together.

Locating the source of the brook requires reliable maps which were not easily available at the time and it is also difficult to access private land to follow its course on foot; locating where this tributary of the Wey ends is much easier. Graham and I started with our copy of the *Surrey Street Atlas* and we thought then that the stream rose around



My son Graham's school project



The stream, swollen after recent rain and in dryer times
(© Graham Cornell)

Silkmore Lane in East Clandon, but I realised that the pond there was a draining pond which is where Silkmore got its name (old Saxon *selac mere* – silver lake). Research using Pam Bowley's books and maps ^[2] led me to West Horsley where Tunmore Pond feeds the watercourse. 'Tunmore' could mean village pond and this one served the ancient village of Stroud. Stroud is another Saxon name, meaning a marshy place. It became more important after William the Conqueror burnt the original centre of West Horsley. It was/is a complicated little pond with water running in from possibly five different springs. Rain falling on the North Downs gradually spreads through clay until it reaches softer sand where a number of ponds form along a 'spring line'. I believe that I have now located Tunmore pond just down a road marked 'private' to the left as Ripley Road joins The Street in East Clandon, on one of these 'spring lines'.

Tunmore Pond features in *Walking Around The Horsleys with Historical Observations on the Way, Old West Horsley The Story of a Surrey Village* and *East and West Horsley The First Thousand Years* by Pam Bowley.

The power for Ockham Mill, a water-powered corn mill, originally, but unreliably, came from Guileshill Brook and another nearby small stream, running closer to East Horsley. This can also be seen on the official map referred to previously. A bigger mill stream was later built which was fed from the Wey. The mill ceased grinding flour in 1900 and milling animal feed in 1950. The building is still well worth a walk from Ripley to see.

WHERE DOES THE NAME COME FROM?

Whilst helping my son, we discovered that 'the stream' was called Guileshill Brook, but the reason for the name was a mystery. Of course Ripley and Ockham folks will be familiar with the name Guileshill, there being Guileshill Lane – the back road to Ockham – with Guileshill Farm, through whose land the brook runs.

The Place-Names of Surrey indicates that the origin of Guileshill is likely to be broken into two parts: 'hill' is clearly a reference to the topographical element; the less obviously 'Guiles' is likely to be a variation of a name – such as Giles.

In 1536 a William Redford, who owned property at Tunmore, died and left his estate to a son-in-law called John Gyles – this could possibly be the link to the name Guileshill Brook. However, a map of 1793 shown in *A History of Ockham to 1900* names the Ockham farm as Goils Hill Farm but that could easily be an alternative spelling of Gyles or Guiles.

The name Giles is Greek in origin, linked to a 7th century hermit often represented as a shepherd. Perhaps this rural area was used for raising sheep with a shepherd's hut situated thereabouts. Certainly Shere became a wealthy wool village in the mid-1300s.

WHAT IS ITS ECOLOGICAL / WILDLIFE SIGNIFICANCE?

Many of our members might ask – is our stream healthy and teeming with wildlife?

The brook was listed as having 'moderate' ecological status in a 2015 - 2025 report from Water Rangers, a Canadian-registered non-profit organisation. On Sunday March 19th in 2023 Linda Moreby, when trying to test water quality recorded 'Unable to find the brook as unable to gain access to any waterways around the mill'. A 'moderate' ecological status in the context of surface water refers to a situation where the overall status of a water body is determined by the lowest scoring of several tests. For example, if one biological quality element is at 'moderate' status while others are at 'good' status, the water body as a whole would be considered to have 'moderate' ecological status. Under the *Water Framework Directive* ^[3] a river's ecological health can be classed as high, good, moderate, poor or bad. In 2023 Guileshill Brook was therefore middle of the road for health.

In an ideal world I'm sure everyone would like to see every river achieving at least 'good' status. Unfortunately an EA report from March 2025, based on 10-year-old data, reveals a serious issue under a heading of 'polybrominated diphenyl ethers' – a toxic chemical that is mainly created from domestic waste (cushions, mattresses, electrical appliances etc). All the time our ditch running alongside the road leaving Ripley towards London is full of fly tipped rubbish which is clearly polluting the stream. Chemical status recovery time is listed as 2063! Elsewhere in the document the 'moderate' status is confirmed with a note that remedial action may be 'disproportionately expensive' and 'technically unfeasible'.

It was and is still, a lovely walk along the bank all the way through to the back of The Green by the 'fuzzies', or peeling off to the right along Holly Bush Lane (mentioned

in Mumby's *Victorian Walk around Ripley* ^[4]) to reach Ockham Mill.

In years past (and again at the time of writing) we have sighted roe deer and managed to track them back to where they were getting to our side of the High Street from Ockham Park; they were using the bank sides under the bridge to come below the B2215 into the village.

I once glimpsed a kingfisher from the bridge when the stream was high with rushing water and in the same year heard the cuckoo shouting its spring arrival. Anyone who cares to listen can still hear bird life and see spotted and green woodpeckers, wagtails, tits, doves, wren and robin, crows, jackdaws and magpies and sometimes pheasant and redwing if the season is right. At night we hear owls (probably tawny) calling back and forth.

When going for a walk along the bankside watch out for brambles, ferns and 'stingers' as they rule in the summer. But enjoy celandine, bluebells, cow parsley, dandelion, germander speedwell, scarlet pimpernel and white dead nettles earlier in the year.

Minnows, bullheads and sticklebacks were easy catches in my son's time having fun, along 'the stream', with pond skaters on the surface and dragonfly, caddis, damselfly and butterfly above.

Foxes often visit, sometimes close to the house, along with far too many grey squirrels (personal opinion). Baby rabbits were once a regular sight (not seen for some time now). I've already mentioned the deer that appear to have come from Ockham Park. On the banks there was also evidence of holes – too low for kingfishers, although they like the sandy nature but more likely belonging to 'ratty' or, more properly, water voles. At dusk, near where the pathway on The Green enters the stretch heading for Holly Bush Lane, bats of some sort hunt for the little insects they feed on. Once we spotted a snake swimming in another small stream nearby.

WHAT IS ITS TOPOGRAPHICAL SIGNIFICANCE – FLOODING / CLIMATE CHANGE?

Guileshill Brook is of course a tiny trickle compared to the Wey. It is a mere 4-6 feet wide, averaging for most

of the time around 12 inches in depth, only rising to 30 inches or so in high rainfall periods. At no more than three or four miles in length it could surely not contribute much other than fun and games for local children and recreation for older walkers?

All small streams, ditches and brooks are officially called 'waterways' and are not the responsibility of the Environment Agency (EA). Under the Water Industry Act of 1991 they are the responsibility of the landowners 'living or located on the banks of a natural water course' who are called 'riparian owners' and are required to maintain the waterway and clear blockages, deal with pollution or other problems, all without making any alteration to the flow of water through their land.

Imagine our surprise in December 1997 when a letter from the EA to my son for his project identified the classification of said 'little stream' as a 'main river'. The EA is required to minimise flood risk on 'main rivers' and they have confirmed to me that Guileshill Brook still has this status, presumably relieving SCC and, perhaps more importantly, Ripley Parish Council, from any riparian responsibilities.

In June 2011 SCC published a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment, which was of particular interest to me, having myself submitted many reports online when the B2215 outside Footbridge House had been flooded right across the road, causing traffic hazards and damage to property. In Ripley, only Newark Lane, north of the junction with Papercourt Lane, as well as a short stretch just east of the boating lake by Homewood Farm, is listed as being at risk of flooding from the watercourses.

The EA also report that 'Surrey is a county at high risk of flooding with in excess of 30,000 properties at risk from fluvial and surface water sources' adding later 'the effective management of flood risk involves a two-way interaction between the authorities that manage flooding and the people that may suffer from its consequences'.

This status 'main river' arises from the fact that the stream can be used as part of the flood management

procedures at times of flood risk. An example of this is when water is made to flow back up these minor waterways in order to disperse water and thus reduce the flood risk elsewhere. This is explained in an article written by Ditz Brown in journal 264, describing how this affects the Broad Ditch at the end of her property in Wisley, when the water appears to flow in different directions when affected by flood defence activity. Guileshill Brook can also be used in this way, hence its importance.

LOCAL MEMORIES

Graham and I were not the first to be fascinated by the course of Guileshill Brook and remember one man relating how, as a boy, he tried to explore upstream and was denied access by an overzealous gamekeeper. I would love to hear of any other members who, as children, donned their wellies or went barefoot upstream and perhaps found just where Guileshill Brook rises.

Next time you have an hour or two to spare, start at the bridge and meander along the bank, downstream, as

quietly as possible. You may be lucky enough to spot a kingfisher, perhaps grey wagtails at the water's edge, or in springtime hear the cuckoo. Certainly some aspect of Ripley's beautiful flora and fauna will catch your attention.

^[1] Map: <https://environment.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=17cd53dfc524433980cc333726a56386> and enter Ripley Lane Surrey in the search box

^[2] Pam Bowley's books: *Walking Around The Horsleys with Historical Observations on the Way, Old West Horsley - The Story of a Surrey Village* and *East and West Horsley - The First Thousand Years* are all in the library of our museum - ref: 942-2HOR

^[3] Water Framework Directive: An EU law from 2000 to protect and improve the water environment, aiming for all water bodies to reach 'good ecological status' by establishing river basin management plans

^[4] Published by SRHS

Alan Greenwood & Sons

Independent Family Funeral Directors



We offer a Caring and Compassionate Service
24 hours a day 365 days a year
The latest Jaguar or Mercedes Funeral Vehicles
Golden Charter Pre-paid Funeral Plans
Home Visit Arrangements
We will not be beaten on price
Direct Cremation £950 (VAT & CEI APPLIED)
 Please Visit Our Website for Full Details of Our Branches and Services
 and also to View All Our Local Obituaries
www.alangreenwoodfunerals.com





66 Send Road
Send
GU23 7EU

01483 210 222

send@alangreenwoodfunerals.com

THE SEND HORSE BUS

ALAN COOPER

I recently purchased this stunning postcard produced just prior to the outbreak of WWI depicting the Send horse bus.

Horse-drawn buses were a common sight in France during the 1820s and in 1829, a stable-keeper and coachbuilder named George Shillibeer introduced them to London. Unlike stagecoaches, his buses ran to a strict timetable, did not need to be booked, could be hailed from anywhere along the route and passengers were assisted on and off by a conductor, who took the fares. These buses proved to be popular – so popular, that very soon numerous competitors drove Shillibeer to bankruptcy.

In 1856, the London General Omnibus Company (LGOC) was formed and quickly began purchasing its competitors, except for Thomas Tilling. These two companies would dominate the bus market in London and the suburbs until the introduction of the motor bus in 1899. LGOC ceased using horse buses in October 1911 and Tilling in August 1914.^[1]

However, in rural areas such as Send and Ripley, the horse bus remained in service until the late 1920s-early 1930s.

The bus pictured here originally belonged to the Ripley carrier Ernest Cox, who operated his business from his home in Rose Lane. He sold the bus to Sidney John Brown, a cab proprietor of Send, sometime after 1910. From then until at least 1929 Sidney ran a service under the name of Woking & Send Bus from Mays Corner, Send, to Woking station, utilising this horse bus. It was eventually replaced by a motor bus run on 'producer' gas, which was contained in a large balloon fastened to the roof.^[2]



The Send horse bus pictured outside the owner's home in Send Road circa 1914. The business name, Woking and Send Bus, is displayed on the curved wooden panel atop the roof above the window advertising

Sidney lived in a cottage named 'Waveney' in Send Road, close to Sale's laundry. Today the property still exists but is now simply No. 65, Send Road. Ernest Cox died in 1938 and Sydney John Brown in 1934.

^[1] www.ltmuseum.co.uk

^[2] Send & Ripley History Society publication *Looking Back*

Photo c/o Alan Cooper collection



The Old Saddlery
Ripley GU23 6AN
01483 222212
24 hour Emergencies 07714 295844

8 Marshall Parade
Pyrford GU22 8SW
01932 800575

As a family owned and run group we love looking after the local pet community. We offer primary, specialist and 24-hour emergency and hospital care services.

Our services include free 2nd opinions, free health checks, affordable healthcare plans, free advice on choosing a pet and headstart for puppies and kittens - everything you need up to six months old including free, unlimited consultations, for just £139.

Please see our website for more details
or pop in to meet our team. We'd love to see you!

www.welovevoo.com Facebook @voovetsripley @voovetspyrford
Instagram and Twitter @voovets

THE LOVELACE COTTAGES IN OCKHAM

GILLIAN LACHELIN

Having heard recently that one of the Lovelace Cottages in Ockham had become available for rent we asked Ockham resident and SRHS member Gillian Lachelin ^[1] to let us know something about them.

Mary, Countess of Lovelace, née Mary Caroline Stuart-Wortley (1848-1941), was responsible for building the two semi-detached homes known as Lovelace Cottages in Ockham Road North, Ockham. Her father was an MP and her mother a noted philanthropist. She was the second wife of Ralph, 2nd Earl of Lovelace and 13th Baron Wentworth, who was the younger son of William, the 1st Earl of Lovelace and his wife Ada, née Byron.

She trained as an artist at the Slade School of Art and was interested in buildings all her life. Mary worked for a year in the office of the architect CR Ashbee, to improve her architectural drawing skills and her knowledge of architecture, and met CFA Voysey there. She became one of the first female architects and worked on the Lovelace estates in Somerset and Surrey.

Her husband gave her responsibility for looking after the buildings in Ockham, with the indispensable assistance of the clerk of works JH Perkins. She became deeply involved in renovating crumbling, often vermin-infested cottages in Ockham and designing and building new ones with local materials. Mary wrote that she would never carry a single brick or tile into Somerset, nor an inch of stone or slate into Surrey.

The Lovelace Cottages Trust was created by her in 1931. Its principal aim was for the two cottages to provide accommodation for women of good repute, of not less than 60 years of age, being members of the Church of England and with a connection with the then Ockham Estate. These requirements were later varied by lowering the age limit to 50 years of age and subsequently to include men.

The cottages have continued to be occupied by tenants appointed by the Trustees of the Lovelace Cottages Trust.



The Lovelace Cottages in Ockham



Mary, Countess of Lovelace in 1880

Bibliography: *The Architects' Journal*, 14th November 1928 (copy of the article available from SRHS)

^[1] Gillian Lachelin is the author of *A History of Ockham to 1900* (available in the museum library)

MEMORIES OF A FARMER'S DAUGHTER

ANNE IRELAND

DITZ BROWN WRITES:

When Charles Hughesdon ^[1] owned the Dunsborough Estate in Ripley, his farm manager John Ireland and his family were tenants in the house in Wisley, which we now live in. In the past I'd encouraged John Ireland's widow to write down some memories about her life here, which resulted in 'Memories of a Farmers Wife' in Journals 254, 255, 256 and 257. Happily John's daughter Anne, who did most of her growing up here, has now found some time to put pen to paper and write down her memories as well.

In 1966, when I was six years old my dad John, mum Peggy, and elder brother Peter moved from a farm in Cheshire to Church Farm House in Wisley, with Dad being employed as the farm manager for the Dunsborough estate, owned by Charles Hughesdon.

Having been born in Lancashire and lived in Cheshire from a young age, the move to Surrey was quite daunting; my accent wasn't the same as the other children's, but I quickly managed to drop my northern twang so that my peers could understand me. I attended the old Ripley Primary School, which was replaced around 1967/8 with the newer primary school on Wentworth Close. Mr Reynolds, a lovely man, was our head teacher, as I recall. I also remember Miss Gawthorne; we felt she was quite strict but, looking back, I'm sure that she was just being an effective teacher. The school was keen to build a swimming pool in the grounds, and I remember Mum providing fairy cakes and hand-made crafts for various jumble sales and fetes that the school held in order to purchase the pool. It was an outdoor pool, and I vividly remember how, in my final year, I managed to complete my 25 yards and gain a certificate signed by Mr Reynolds.

Growing up in Wisley was memorable for so many reasons. Our house seemed very grand, with an inglenook fireplace and large rooms to play hide and seek in. The garden was huge, and Dad grew all sorts of vegetables, which kept food expenses in check. Mum was a great cook and baker; she made jams from hedgerow berries and the orchard in the garden



Church Farm House, Wisley, when it was part of the Dunsborough estate

provided a mass of Victoria plums, along with apples, pears and greengages.

When Mum gave birth to my younger sister and brother – Louise and James – in September 1969, she found herself extremely busy. Peter and I tried to help out but I recall both Mum and Dad being very tired looking after four children, a big farmhouse, and Dad having a demanding and non-conventional role. Farmers certainly didn't work Monday to Friday, nine till five; the hours were whatever was required to manage a 1000-acre estate and its workforce.

Mum was confined to Woking maternity hospital prior to giving birth to the twins, so Peter and I were cared for at Dunsborough House by Mr and Mrs Hughesdon's (Florence Desmond ^[2]) housekeepers, Consuelo and Angelita, two Spanish ladies who were very kind to us. This allowed Dad to continue working and to visit Mum in the evenings. In 1969 children were not allowed to visit and we didn't see Mum until she came home after the twins were born.

Mr Hughesdon, perhaps to keep me distracted, took me in his E-Type Jaguar on a ride around Ripley and Wisley; as a nine-year-old girl I wasn't overly impressed, but realised later in life how lucky I had been.

Mr and Mrs Hughesdon were always very kind to us; we were given lovely presents at Christmas and Mr

Hughesdon would always press half a crown in our hands when he came to visit Dad at Church Farm. I vividly remember him landing his helicopter in the field behind Church Farm House and beckoning Dad to get in. Dad would oblige, as it was an efficient way for them to view the estate. However, Dad always came down looking a bit ‘green around the gills’, but he didn’t tell Mr Hughesdon that he often felt unwell, once he was back on the ground – poor Dad!

We didn’t have many holidays. Dad would have occasional time off and we’d pack up the Bedford van and have a day trip to Worthing. Mum would make up a picnic, but we’d always have fish and chips for tea. Our favourite game was skimming stones across the sea, if the waves allowed us. Dad always managed a decent number of skims. We did achieve a few days away in Swanage one year, but I’m pretty sure it was a trip which included a visit to a farm in the area, in order for Dad to review some new equipment that was being used there.

We were allowed to use the swimming pool at Dunsborough House whilst Mr and Mrs Hughesdon were on their annual holiday in the South of France. They had a yacht there, and Mrs Hughesdon would send Mum postcards pointing out which was their yacht. The pool was outdoors, but I don’t recall it being too cold and I knew I could swim at least 25 yards, having a certificate to prove it!

Every year we would attend the Surrey County Show at Stoke Park in Guildford. This and the Slyfield Cattle Market were the places Dad would network with all the other local farmers. I enjoyed the Surrey County Show and still remain drawn to agricultural shows. Fortunately I now live in a rural Lancashire town, where an agricultural show is held each May – not as grand as



One of Florence Desmond’s cards to the Irelands

the Surrey County Show, but it evokes happy memories of my childhood.

Growing up, the fields were our playground. Of course we were not allowed to roam around the farm, due to the amount of machinery and other dangers, such as slurry pits, but as children we spent hours wandering the fields and local woodland, building dens and hideouts. We always went home when our tummies started to rumble or if it started to pour down and we hadn’t taken our coats with us.

We kept hens on the farm, and collecting the eggs was a daily ritual. As we grew older, farm chores increased – feeding the hens and helping feed the calves. The Dunsborough estate covered parts of Wisley, Ripley and other local areas, so we spent a lot of time in Dad’s Bedford van, visiting other sites, checking on cattle and arable crops. Dad was always happy to take us with him and happy to impart knowledge. At one time I became very interested in plant pathology, with Dad showing me the types of disease that affected the crops. I vividly remember him showing me *rhynchosporium* on young barley and describing how damaging it could be.



Peggy Ireland at the Dunsborough pool when she was expecting twins Louise and James in 1969



Anne, her brother Peter and Trooper the spaniel, in the Bedford van



Anne inspecting some calves



Anne and her dad seeing to the chickens

I also enjoyed watching the vets at work and was fascinated to see a cow relieved of 'bloat' (a build-up of gas in the rumen) by the insertion of a large needle and syringe to release the gas.

Many an hour was spent with Dad helping calve heifers. We were sort of cow midwives I suppose, making sure the calves got the colostrum (the first milk from their mothers) which they needed to help them thrive. It certainly was a fascinating and enthralling experience for a teenage girl.

In 1971 I started secondary school at St Bede's in Send. However, in 1972 I moved to George Abbott Girl's School in Burpham, when St Bede's became a primary school. Burpham seemed a long way from Wisley but we were collected and dropped off by coach from the RHS gardens each day, a group of about 15 youngsters would walk to the village and I had the furthest to walk, with Church Farm House being right at the bottom of the

village, but often Dad would be driving back to Church Farm and I would hitch a lift. By now he had a smaller van, I believe it was a Vauxhall Viva and I do remember him letting me try to drive it up on Wisley Airfield whilst he was inspecting cattle in neighbouring fields. Obviously a little naughty, but with no other traffic and a giant airfield to navigate, I think we were pretty safe! Unfortunately, by the time I was able to learn to drive legally, Dad had passed away so I didn't have the benefit of him helping me to practice at that stage, but I still managed to pass first time.

During my teenage years, like most youngsters, I wanted my 'own' money. Dad was very friendly with Jack Richardson and managed to secure me a Saturday job at Mr and Mrs Richardson's greengrocers on Ripley High Street. I usually worked in the fruit and vegetable area, serving customers, but I also restocked the shelves and, as I got older, I was allowed to operate the till. As Saturday girls we earned around £3 a day, which I'm sure was spent on 45rpm records bought from Woolworths in West Byfleet.

I also worked at the village shop in Wisley, which was owned by Donald and Charmaine Armand and I would help after school or during school holidays. The shop was very small, and here I didn't have the benefit of a till, so

would have to use pen and paper to ensure I didn't over- or undercharge customers, as I didn't trust my mental arithmetic capabilities. It took me three attempts to gain 'O' level mathematics, a qualification required to be accepted into further education.

Another very vivid memory was helping to build stacks of straw in the summer. The bales back in the '70s were oblong shaped and held in place by baling twine which we would also use to pick them up and place them in a neat stack, which was then covered to keep it dry, as it was to be used as bedding for the cattle in winter. I most certainly remember the scratches on my legs from the straw and the blisters on my hands from the twine, until they had become callused and hardened as the summer wore on. We were rewarded with bottles of cream soda that Dad would buy directly from the Stansfield factory in Ripley. He would buy four or five wooden crates of bottles at a time, to keep the workforce hydrated and 'full of sugar' whilst undertaking straw baling under the hot summer sun.

The combine harvester always seemed such a huge machine, and moved from one field to another, working from dawn to dusk in order to get the harvest in whilst the weather was sunny, again indicating that there were no nine to five working hours or five-day weeks in farming. As a farmer it was certainly about 'making hay whilst the sun shines'.

Haymaking was also part of the annual routine, this being used as feed for cattle, along with silage when the cows were kept in during the winter months. I always remember the cows being turned out onto new grass each year; they seemed to jump with joy at being able to eat fresh tasty spring grass.

The Dunsborough estate also had an annual shoot. Mr Hughesdon employed a gamekeeper to ensure that the pheasants and partridges were looked after prior to the shooting season commencing. Dad did not take part in the shoots; he had no desire to have a gun. He did, however, enjoy the pheasants that Mr Hughesdon would bring him after the shoot. They would be left to hang in a cool area and Mum would make delicious pheasant casserole and, on more than one occasion, I would find myself biting down on a piece of shot!

The shoot also provided me with my beloved springer spaniel, Trooper, who was trained as a gun dog, supposedly retrieving the birds from the bush after they had been shot but, although he was happy to go and fetch the birds, he must have missed the lesson about dropping them at the gamekeepers' feet, preferring to run away with his 'find' and ignoring any instructions to "drop it". Therefore, because he was a useless retriever, he was given to me as

a pet, and he was a loyal friend and playmate for many years. He didn't ever obey the order to release his toys or balls, preferring to make me struggle to get anything off him – a mischievous game that he enjoyed.

Some years stick in my memory because of the extremes of weather. In autumn 1968 I recall us being almost marooned in Church Farm House because of horrendous flooding. The River Wey had burst its banks and the fields were flooded as far as the eye could see. Conversely in 1976 we had an incredibly warm summer and, consequently, drought-like conditions. I remember it well, as I was revising for my 'O' levels, and a lot of this was able to take place in the garden in glorious sunshine.

Although every season was busy on the farm, Christmas seemed to be exceptionally busy for Dad and Mum. Mr Hughesdon provided his friends, family and employees with turkeys each Christmas. Dad was tasked with the job of raising at least 30 or 40 turkeys, then slaughtering, plucking and dressing them ready for collection just before Christmas. Fortunately we had a very cool room adjoining the kitchen, where these birds would be hung,



The Wisley village shop



Anne, her brother Peter and Trooper, in front of the gate to Church Farm House



Teenager Anne with her dad and the twins, James and Louise

until he had the opportunity to pluck and dress them. I remember tugging away at turkey feathers until the birds were bare, and helping truss them to make them oven ready. Most of the turkeys were a reasonable size, but there always seemed to be one turkey which had grown to giant proportions, and this was always rejected as being too big for everyone else, and consequently was left for us, probably because we could fit it into the oven of our AGA. On Christmas Day Dad would be up around 5am as usual, but as well as checking on livestock, he had to start the cooking of the giant turkey, which took many hours to roast but nonetheless was delicious on the day and enjoyed for a number of days afterwards too. Christmas was still busy at the farm but we did enjoy family time as well – watching films, playing games and eating sweets and nuts, nestled around the fire. The New Year would always bring hope for a good year farming-wise, with the wish for good weather and high yields from the cows. Challenges didn't change but innovations and new inventions were always to be welcomed and explored. Dad was a forward thinker and he was one of the first farmers to grow maize as a feed crop. It introduced us to sweetcorn as a vegetable, one of my favourites to this day. Dad was less impressed with the

thought of the M25 being built towards the edge of the land at Wisley, informing me on more than one occasion that when it was complete, we would be able to hear cars rushing by, but he didn't experience that of course.

I left Wisley in 1977 to attend Seale Hayne Agricultural College in Devon and had expected to return to Wisley when my studies concluded in 1980. However, sadly Dad passed away suddenly at the age of 47 in December 1978. A tumultuous time for the family, and Mum relocated to Lancashire with the twins in 1979. My brother Peter remained farming in the local area for a while and later moved to the West Country.

I myself have visited Wisley many times since 1978 and notice many changes of course but I must admit that my formative years were very happy and I don't regret one minute of growing up as a farmer's daughter!

^[1] Charles Hughesdon's autobiography *Flying made it Happen* is available in our museum's library

^[2] Florence Desmond's autobiography *Florence Desmond by Herself* is available in our museum's library

All photographs © Anne Teal (née Ireland)

A WALK ABOUT RIPLEY VILLAGE

CAMERON BROWN

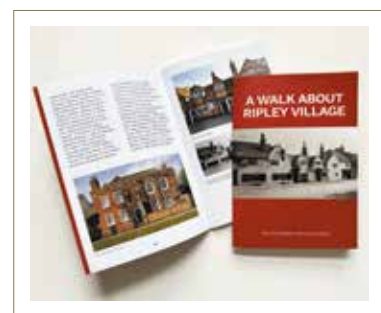
Another achievement of our anniversary year has been the completion of a thoroughly revised and 50% longer edition of our popular book *A Walk About Ripley Village in Surrey* (though we decided to drop 'in Surrey' from the title). It was first published 35 years ago, written and illustrated by Raymond Davies and, by the time of its first revision in 2005, it had sold an astonishing 2,000 copies. The 2005 edition was an update by John and Bette Slatford, with help from Les Bowerman. John wrote in the preface: Over the years various changes have taken place in our village... we have updated some of the property names that are covered by the walk... and included the 'new' museum.

I undertook the more comprehensive 2025 revision, basing my changes primarily on the feedback I have received over the past few years from those coming on my guided walks of the village. There is clearly an interest in the early buildings themselves as much as in the people associated with Ripley. I have therefore expanded the book with quite a lot of additional material about the

structure of timber-framed houses and how to date them, using the many interesting examples we have on offer here in Ripley. As well as expanding the book from 32 pages to 48 we have also introduced colour photography in place of the original drawings.

It is in many respects a new book which I hope members will buy even if they have the earlier edition. We cannot expect to sell 2,000 copies again, but 200 would be very pleasing and, at £5.00 it's cheaper than a cup of tea and a slice of cake...

Available from the museum or the new website (<https://www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk/product-page/a-walk-around-ripley-village>)



OUR NEW WEBSITE

CAMERON BROWN

I am pleased (and relieved) that, as our 50th anniversary year draws to its close, we have been able to launch our new website at www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk. Our former site was built for us many years ago free of charge by Chris Brown, son of founder members Sheila and Les Brown. We now need something which can be viewed on a phone and has the scope to grow to include as much as possible of the photographs, documents and artefacts we have assembled over the years.

Chris Carr, who knows more about websites than the rest of us on the committee, helped us to research the options available to us among website designers. We sought recommendations from other museums, the Surrey History Centre and so on and met with several website designers to discuss ideas. It was clear that what we were looking for was going to cost £10-£15,000 or even more, so at the same time we started looking for grants. This, I can tell you, is time-consuming ...

When chatting about it to committee member Alan Cooper he said "My picture framer builds websites". The gentleman concerned was Jon McRae, a picture framer, professional photographer and website designer

(this under the name 'forty40studio') from the converted school buildings at Mayford Green. His attractive website informed us that he had built some 40 sites, primarily for small, local businesses. Chris and I went to meet Jon and set out our plans. We discovered that his business model was highly unusual and extremely attractive for clients like us. Essentially he builds websites using pre-existing systems which he then tailors to meet the needs of his clients. He does not bring with him the expense of writing code and building a website from scratch – it's like building a prefabricated house which is a good solution for us as our costs have been a fraction of what we had expected. Jon put in a great deal of time to help us achieve our aims and we can thoroughly recommend his services.

At the moment you can find information about all forthcoming events – talks and outings – and buy tickets online. You can become a member and buy our publications; our Journals can be viewed or downloaded and be digitally searched – again all online. There is even a facility for you to tell us if you find a mistake in the index!

In time we will expand the research section to include more photos and digitised documents from our collections and we would like to have your suggestions for improvements.

Need a website for your small business?

We know that most small businesses don't need big websites, or want big website bills.

We build, manage, administer and update small websites for a fixed annual fee.

www.forty40.studio

SMALL BUSINESSES

ONE-MAN-BANDS

INDIVIDUALS

CLUBS

GROUPS



WHERE IS IT?

ALAN COOPER

ANOTHER POSTCARD VIEW. WHERE WAS THE PHOTO TAKEN AND CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE BUILDING TO THE RIGHT?



WE ASKED IN JOURNAL 304 WHERE THIS VIEW FROM AN EARLY POSTCARD WAS TAKEN AND WHAT THE BUILDING WAS CALLED.

This photograph depicted Papercourt Farm – aka Gribbles Farm, to those of a certain age...

This was correctly identified by:
June Moth and
Audrey Smithers

WHAT IS IT?

ALAN COOPER

FROM A HOUSE CLEARANCE FRIEND OF MINE IN CORNWALL COMES THIS VERY HEAVY WOODEN OBJECT, A LITTLE LARGER THAN A CRICKET BALL. WHAT WAS IT CALLED AND WHAT WAS ITS PURPOSE?



IN JOURNAL 304 WE ASKED WHAT THIS UNUSUAL OBJECT WAS WHICH PETER SMITHERS PROVIDED US WITH.

This item was a carpet stretcher as used by a carpet fitter.

Correctly identified by:
Audrey Smithers

Audrey also informs us that a smaller version with a shorter handle would have been used for laying carpet to a staircase – well done Audrey!

MUSEUM NEWS

CLARE McCANN

'WE PLOUGH THE FIELDS AND SCATTER' FARMING, FOOD AND FESTIVALS IN SEND AND RIPLEY



The exhibition has now been on some weeks and will run until the end of the year. I hope that those of you who have been to see it will agree that it has been a great opportunity to show off some of the magnificent farm tools we own but rarely have room to display – not to mention the great selection of squashes that chose to spring up round our garden.

The reason for featuring cornflowers in this month's news is to encourage you to visit and to find out their relevance to Send and Ripley. Of

course cornflower growing was not unique to the area but it was once important – especially to race-goers ...

Please note that I am not sure the museum will be open on December 27th so please check the website. In the New Year the plan is to feature Dunsborough House and, in particular, Florence Desmond. If you have any stories, photos, relevant artefacts or newspaper cuttings please let me know or, better still, come and help.

Clare 01483 728546 cricketshill@hotmail.com



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Ripley Village Hall. Doors open for all evening talks at 7.30pm for an 8.00 start. Tea/coffee and wine available. NB – payment by cash only.

2025 DATES	EVENTS
Wednesday 10th December	Christmas Party (members only)
2026 DATES	EVENTS
Wednesday 14th January	Moirá McQuade talk: Henry Peake – <i>Guildford's First Borough Surveyor</i>
Wednesday 11th February	Anna Cusack talk: <i>The Festive Year in Early Modern England</i>
Wednesday 12th March	AGM: Cameron Brown talk: <i>St Mary's and the Ripley Almshouses</i>
Wednesday 8th April	Andy Jones talk: <i>History of Metal Detecting</i> plus New Video by Chris Finden-Browne
May (TBC)	May Outing (TBC) Walking tour of Gomshall
June (TBC)	June Outing (TBC) Wey and Arun Canal Boat trip: £20-£25 per person (approx)
July/August	Society BBQ TBA

Further details can be obtained from Helena Finden-Browne helena_findenbrowne@compuserve.com

SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM PUBLICATIONS



**THE MUSEUM IS BEHIND VICTORY HOUSE
AND TO THE RIGHT OF THE NEW VILLAGE HALL**

OPEN: SATURDAY MORNINGS 10.00 – 12.00

We can arrange to open at other times by appointment

Please contact Clare McCann on 01483 728546 or
cricketshill@hotmail.com for further information or if
you wish to help in the museum

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Ghosts Along The Wey, a Rural Childhood in Send		£10.00
Bygone Days, Send and Ripley Remembered		£10.00
A Walk About Ripley Village	New, extended edition 2025	£5.00
Frank Brown, Ripley to Rothesay – Journeyman Painter		£4.00
History Colouring Book (price includes felt tips and a carrier bag)		£5.00
Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life	Reprinted 1998/2006	£5.00
Then and Now, A Victorian Walk Around Ripley	Reprinted 2004/07	£2.50
Ripley and Send – Looking Back	Reprinted 2007	£5.00
Newark Mill Ripley, Surrey	Reprinted 2012	£4.00
The Hamlet of Grove Heath Ripley, Surrey	Reprinted 2005	£4.00
Ripley and Send – An Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures	New Edition 2017	£5.00
Two Surrey Village Schools – The story of Send and Ripley Village Schools		£5.00
Memories of War		£5.00
Map of WW2 Bomb Sites in Send, Ripley and Pyrford		£2.50
Memories of War and Map of Bomb Sites		£6.50
Heroes All		£20.00
Guide to The Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Send		£1.00
The Parish Church of St Mary Magdalen Ripley, Surrey		£1.00
Newark Priory: Ripley's Romantic Ruin		£4.00
Newark Priory and St Mary's Ripley		£4.50

All the publications are available from the Society's website www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk, the museum on Saturday mornings or email srhistorysociety@gmail.com. A selection is available from Pinnock's Coffee House, Ripley



HEADS, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES (and everything in between)

At Ripley Osteopaths we treat everything from your head to your toes!

Your appointment will include:

- A thorough consultation
- An examination of your injury or area of concern
- Treatment tailored to your diagnosis
- An ongoing treatment plan and advice to help prevent pain going forward

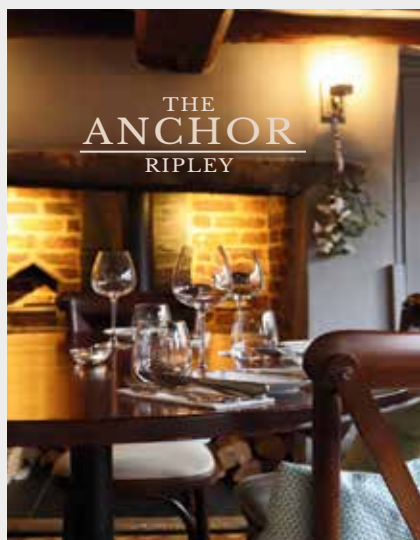
Based in Victory House at Ripley Village Hall

Quote Send & Ripley History Society for £20 off a new patient appointment

Or call or email to arrange a free consultation

www.ripleyosteopaths.co.uk

ph. 07586 702925



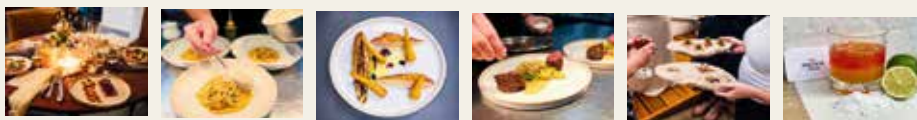
TWO AA ROSETTES | MICHELIN BIB GOURMAND | THE GOOD FOOD GUIDE 2024



Wednesdays to Saturdays
Lunch & Dinner

Award winning restaurant in the heart of
Ripley Village with a focus on fresh,
local & Seasonal produce.

We provide a relaxed environment to enjoy
casual family lunches, special occasion
dinners or a quick drink & nibble.



• SET LUNCH MENU THREE COURSES FOR £34 • A LA CARTE •
• FIVE COURSE TASTING • WINE PAIRINGS • 0% PAIRINGS • PRIVATE HIRE

www.ripleyanchor.co.uk | 01483 211 866 | info@ripleyanchor.co.uk

RIPLEY FARM SHOP

Fruit & Vegetables
Meat - Fish - Dairy - Eggs
and much more

Open 7 Days
a week

01483 225090

www.RIPLEYNURSERIES.co.uk



Retirement Villages is part of AXA IM Alts

RETIREMENT
VILLAGES



Cranleigh, Surrey

Feel at home in

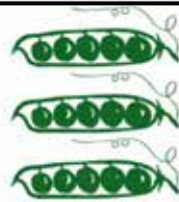
Elmbridge

Discover more Retirement Villages in Surrey with nearby Mayford Grange

For the fun takers, friendship makers and part-time bakers. Stay connected to what matters in our active and independent community at Elmbridge. Welcome Home.

01483 945 295

elmbridgevillage.co.uk



Ripley
Farmers'
Market

Visit us on Ripley Green
on the second Saturday of every month from 9am to 1pm



Buy a wide range of fresh produce and special treats for your weekend from small local traders.



@ripleyfarmersmarket



@ripleyfarmersmarket



@RipleyFarmersM

www.ripleyfarmersmarket.co.uk



Miss Bush Bridal Boutique

Luxury wedding dresses in Ripley since 1988. Visit our
unique Victorian chapel on Ripley High Street.

www.missbush.co.uk

OPEN ALL DAY, EVERY DAY FOR GREAT FOOD



Kid's
Play area
& Menu



THE
JOVIAL SAILOR

Portsmouth Rd, Ripley, Surrey GU23 6EZ
www.baronspubs.com | 01483 224360 | jovialsailor@baronspubs.com

follow us [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) or [B](#) download the BaronsApp from your app store



Pinnock's

COFFEE HOUSE

A CUP ABOVE THE REST

MON-SAT: 9AM-4PM SUNDAY: 10AM-4PM
WWW.PINNOCKSCOFFEEHOUSE.COM 01483 222419