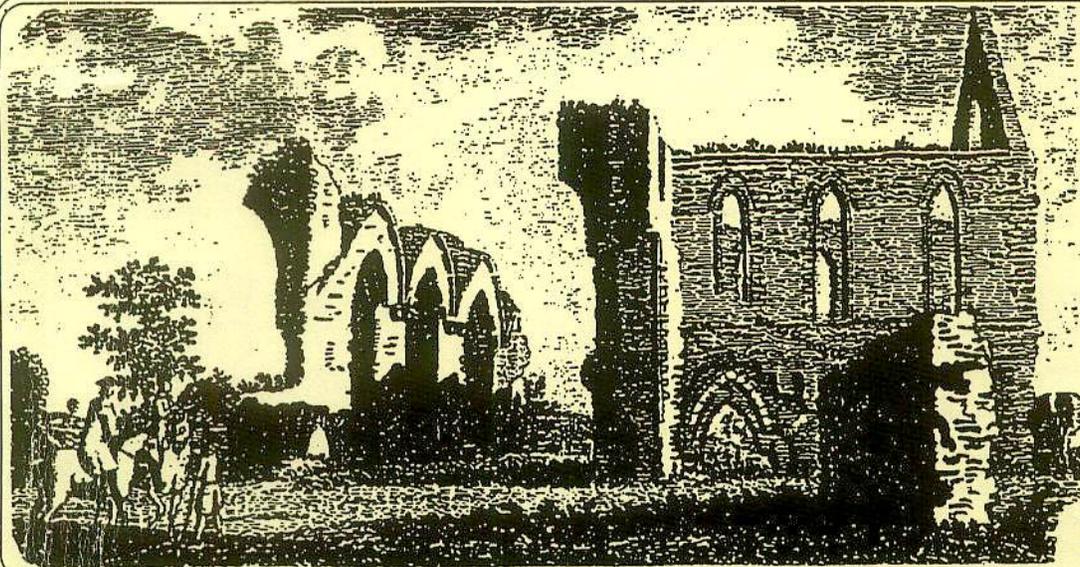


Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 296324

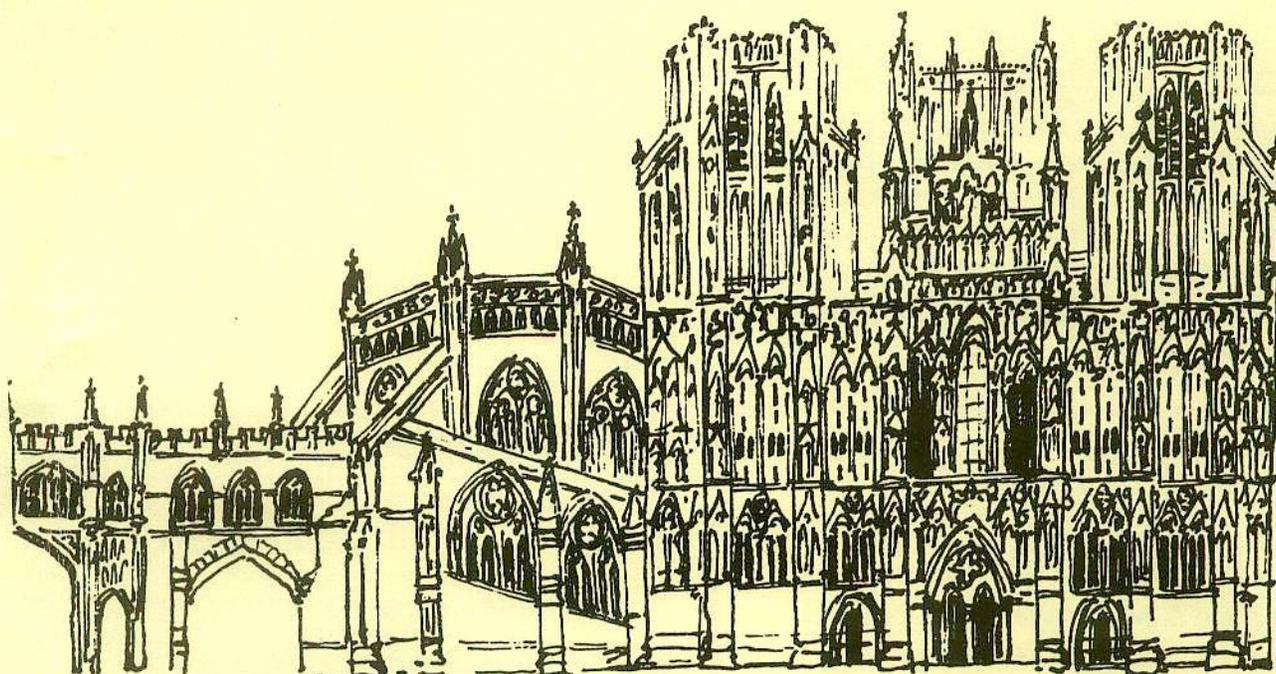


NEWARK PRIORY

Journal Volume 5 No. 152

May/June 2000

25th Anniversary 1975 - 2000



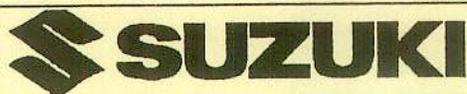
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Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society

Registered Charity No 296324

President: Mr K H Bourne MSc

Brunel House, 30 Brunel Way, Frome, BA11 2XU. Tel: 01373 455641

Chairman: Mr L G Bowerman

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

Secretary: Mrs A Sykes

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

Treasurer: Mrs C Sheard

Willow Cottage, 20 Papercourt Lane, Ripley, Woking, GU23 6DS. Tel: 01483 224165

Newsletter Editor: Mr K H Bourne MSc

Brunel House, 30 Brunel Way, Frome, BA11 2XU. Tel: 01373 455641

Newsletter Distribution: Mr G Bleach

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

Typed by Mrs Chris Parker

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Journal Volume 5 No 152

May/June 2000

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Cover illustration Wells Cathedral, Somerset.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This Journal (and it's very difficult not to use the word, "Newsletter", as this is its old title, which has been used for so many years now) contains, necessarily, reports on the AGM and the accounts, and in addition we have included the Membership List. In spite of the administrative content, it is hoped that the remaining articles and comments are found to be interesting.

Please note that we have arranged our summer day out this year to be in Wells, Somerset, the smallest city in England, and details will be found elsewhere in the Journal.

THE 25TH AGM OF SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

The AGM was held on February 24 at Send Church Room.

Ken Bourne, President, said he would be brief and opened the meeting by welcoming the 30 members present, and thanked an efficient Committee for the well-run Society.

Les Bowerman, Chairman, said the Society had had a good, steady year. The Museum was ably looked after by John Slatford and George Bleach. The one exhibition had been successful and well attended, thanks principally to Clare McCann, Mavis Lake and Jane Bartlett. Audrey Sykes was recognised for efficient secretaryship and Christina Sheard for her accounting. Patricia Medlen was congratulated on her organisation of the Millennium Dinner at the Hautboy, as was Ken Bourne for the Journal and George Bleach for obtaining advertisements for it.

Audrey Sykes, Secretary, gave her usual quick résumé of talks and outings, and made a plea for a new Secretary, as she wishes to retire.

Les Bowerman then invited questions on the accounts, which had been verified by Mr Finn (Honorary Auditor). We are in a sound financial position. Adoption was proposed by Alan Baker and seconded by Peter Spindler.

The meeting then considered a proposal by the Committee to raise the subscription to £8 for single membership and £10 for double membership, with effect from January 2001. This was seconded by Anne Bowerman. Peter Spindler queried the need for an increase, bearing in mind the amount in the bank. In reply, Les Bowerman said that whilst the printing charges for the Journal, which is done by the University, are cheaper than elsewhere, they can only go up. Also it is hoped, shortly, to publish two more books. Clare McCann then said that, assuming we obtain a grant for alterations to the Museum, we shall need all the spare cash we have. John Slatford proposed a subscription of £7 single and £9 double, seconded by Iris Watts. This was lost on a vote of 10 for and 13 against. Only 3 voted against the original proposal, which was duly passed.

Election of officers

President - Ken Bourne: proposed by Clare McCann, seconded by Tony Medlen.

Chairman - Les Bowerman: proposed by Alan Baker, seconded by Lyn Mileham.

Vice-Chairman - Tony Medlen: proposed by Jane Bartlett, seconded by Anne Bowerman.

Secretary - Audrey Sykes: proposed by Clare McCann, seconded by Lyn Mileham.

Treasurer - Christina Sheard: proposed by Anne Bowerman, seconded by Tony Medlen.

Committee - There were to be up to 12 elected. It was proposed by John Bartlett, and seconded by Jane Bartlett, that the existing seven Committee members be re-elected en bloc.

The Committee members re-elected were Anne Bowerman, Alan Baker, George Bleach, Irene Bleach, Clare McCann, Patricia Medlen and Marilyn Scrace. There were no further nominations for membership of the Committee. George Bleach continues as Membership

Secretary and Assistant Treasurer.

Any Other Business

Tony Medlen proposed a vote of thanks to Les and Anne Bowerman for their hospitality to the Committee during the year.

It was suggested that a summer outing should be arranged and a proposal was put forward that this could be to Wells, in Somerset.

John Slatford then said that he was against alterations to the Museum, which, anyway, could not be carried out without consulting the membership, possibly with an Extraordinary Meeting. It was explained that what was being considered was making access easier for wheelchairs, the possible installation of toilet facilities and, conceivably, extra storage space.

The President then closed the meeting and members adjourned for refreshments, after which we were treated to an illustrated talk by Ken Bourne on his discoveries made whilst carrying out research for the new Ripley Church Guide, which is in the course of preparation. This was most enjoyable.

Audrey Sykes (Secretary)

FOUNDER MEMBERS

As there may have been some slight confusion with the list of members and others also mentioned at the 25th Anniversary Dinner who had made a considerable contribution to the Society's growth over the years, we include here the definitive list of members who were still members on 24 January 2000, and who became members, either at the Inaugural Meeting on 28 January 1975, or before Newsletter No 2.

28 January 1975

Ken and Phyllis Bourne
 Les Bowerman
 Sheila Brown
 Irene Bleach (then Carter)
 Jean Carpenter
 Brian and Daphne Jackson
 Mary Milner
 Chris and Geoff Parker
 Bette and John Slatford
 Trevor and Janet Tice

Before Newsletter No 2

Anne Bowerman
 Dorothy Challen
 Lorna Cave
 Mavis Lake
 Ian Millar
 Sheila Shelley

SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

(Established in 1975 as Send History Society)

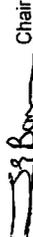
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 31 DECEMBER 1999

	1999 £	1998 £
Income		
Subscriptions	1,298	1,525
Publication Sales (Net Profit)	299	1,024
Sundry Income	174	29
Donations & Funds Raised for Museum	104	302
Income from Investments	190	176
	<u>2,065</u>	<u>3,056</u>
Expenditure		
Museum Expenditure	111	-
Newsletter (Net Cost)	772	756
Exhibitions Expenses	84	587
Miscellaneous Expenses	639	946
	<u>1,606</u>	<u>2,289</u>
Excess of Income over Expenditure	459	767
Reserves Brought Forward	9,399	8,632
Reserves Carried Forward	<u>£ 9,858</u>	<u>£ 9,399</u>

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1999

	Note	1999 £	1998 £
Fixed Assets	2	1	1
Current Assets	3	11,814	9,532
Current Liabilities	4	(1,957)	(901)
		<u>£ 9,858</u>	<u>£ 8,632</u>

Approved by the Committee on 16 February 2000 and signed on their behalf by:

 Chairman

 Treasurer

SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

(Established in 1975 as Send History Society)

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1999

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are stated on an accrual basis and include income & expenditure as they are earned and incurred.

2 Fixed Assets

Cost	£
At 1/1/99 & 31/12/99	487

Depreciation

At 1/1/99 & 31/12/99	(486)
----------------------	-------

Net Book Value at 31/12/99

	<u>£</u>
	<u>1</u>

Since its formation the Society has had in its possession various items, most of which have been donated, on which it is not possible to put a value. These are held in trust and are not included in the Assets. A list is available for inspection by members.

1999/01
£

3 Current Assets

Stock of Publications (Note 6)	2,484	3,741
Cash at Bank	5,103	2,267
Cash at Building Society	4,005	3,844
Cash in Hand	87	9
Debtors	<u>135</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>£ 11,814</u>	<u>£ 9,861</u>

4 Current Liabilities

Millennium Dinner	1,253	-
Subscriptions prepaid	704	463
	<u>£ 1,957</u>	<u>£ 463</u>

5 Ripley Museum

The ownership of the building is vested in the Ripley Hall Management Committee. The Society has the exclusive right to use the building free of rent in perpetuity. The costs of refurbishing and equipment are charged to Income & Expenditure in the year of expenditure.

6 Stocks of Publications

The stocks are valued at cost, less due allowance for slow moving items.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Our Chairman has received a photograph of Newark Mill, taken on 15 April 1948, which is reproduced here. Most members will recall that Newark Mill was burnt down in December 1966. Also included with the photograph are four negatives showing views of the River Wey and ploughing by horse-drawn plough. These have been given to the Society for its archives by Peter Alexander, of Broadstone, Dorset, a Member of the Veteran-Cycle Club.



AN E-MAIL FROM ROBIN RENDELL OF BEDFONT

Thank you for the copy of Send & Ripley History Society Journal No 151. Congratulations to your Society for an excellently interesting and well laid out Journal. I was very pleased to note that included in the Journal was the article on my uncle, Hubert H Rendell. When I decided to lend these diaries to you, I hoped that your Society might find them of interest. I now know that my decision was correct. Time has been spent, and in your Journal I can read some very interesting snippets. I am pleased that my decision to lend them was indeed fruitful.

I have since spoken, via e-mail, to Surrey History Centre, who will collect the diaries and place them in proper care for the benefit of all who may wish to view them in the future. Should I ever come across any other Surrey history, I would have no hesitation in lending it to your Society.

Kind regards and best wishes to your Society.

Robin Rendell

Editor's note: The above e-mail was sent to John Slatford and passed to Les Bowerman, who carried out the editing and presentation of the article in question, and to whom these thanks are rightly due.

THE RIPLEY PALS - AN UPDATE

By John Slatford

Following the article by Peter Spooner in Newsletter 148, we received from another Spooner descendant, David Shea, from Bristol, a group photograph including the seven Ripley pals killed in the First World War. It is apparent that this photo was used in compiling the montage shown with the previous article. There is, however, an eighth soldier in the picture who has not been identified, thus raising the question of whether he was also a local man and perhaps survived the War.

Since we know that the seven who died had consecutive service numbers, and very likely enlisted on the same day, it is reasonable to assume that No 8 was also from Ripley and in the same enlisting group. Who was he? If he survived, did he return to Ripley? It would be nice to know if he can be recognised by any of our older residents or relatives, and maybe complete the story of what happened to all the others.

Our thanks are due to David Shea for sending the photo and raising yet one more question.

AUDREY WILKINSON - OBITUARY

It is with sadness that the sudden death of member, Audrey Wilkinson, on 6 March, is reported. She was 82. Audrey was the daughter of J W Gardner, who had sold sweets, newspapers and tobacco in Send Road since 1928. On his retirement, Audrey and her sister, Sheila (Shelley), took over the business, which is now owned by S M & G S Patel. Audrey married Ron Wilkinson and in 1948 they bought one of the bungalows built by Alfred Munn in Send Hill. They lived there until 1991, when they moved to Midhope Close, Woking. Ron had been one of the first to join the Society on its formation 25 years ago and Audrey had always taken a close interest. On his death five years ago (obituary in Newsletter 126/7), she joined in her own name.

During World War II, Audrey worked for May & Hardy, who made screws for the aircraft industry at Burnt Common, behind what was then Fisher's Garage. She ran the firm's National Savings Scheme. When Hope Sanger, Maud Sex and Tom Graham formed the Old Time Dance Club after the War, Audrey and Ron became enthusiastic members, both for the practices held weekly at St Bedes School and for the monthly dances. Audrey had also been Treasurer of the Club.

A charming and gentle lady, Audrey was always appreciative of the smallest kindness. Although she never attended any of the Society's functions, she was keenly interested in local history. As a natural historian, she had a photographic memory for events and people, and was a meticulous keeper of ephemera. Sheila donated to the Society, in the past couple of years, several items, including papers concerning her employment at May & Hardy and her savings work there, her 1929 Ryde House School Reports, her 1930 Send School exercise books, containing pressed flowers, and the St Bedes School cap and tie of her son, Richard, who sadly pre-deceased both his parents.

Our sincere condolences go to Sheila, with whom she had always been very close.

Les Bowerman

Private James Woolgar Killed: Ypres 22-02-1916

Private Robert Spooner Killed: St Pietre 25-09-1915

Private Clarence Worsfold Killed: St Pietre 25-09-1915

Private Ernest New Killed: 05-09-1915

Private Frederick Parfitt Killed: 29-06-1916



Private Ernest Hyde Killed: Died of wounds 12-05-1918

Who was he?

Private Andrew Gadd Killed: Offoy Bridge 24-03-1918

RECOLLECTIONS BY JOHN DONOVAN

Editor's note: The following letter was received by our Secretary, Audrey Sykes, and has been passed to me for inclusion in the Journal, as it contains many local references.

"Dear Mrs Sykes

"Please find enclosed a photocopy of a postcard of Newark Mill, which I used to call Pyrford Mill. It is for your archives, if you don't already have it. The reason for the gift goes back to last summer when I was looking through my collection of colour slides and came across one of the Hut Hotel, Wisley (alas no longer standing: a victim of A3 widening). I realised that, by now, it had become an archive item (I took it in the 1950s) so I sent a copy of the slide to Surrey History Centre which had, by last summer, moved from Guildford to Woking. That was rather appropriate, since I'd once lived just outside Woking for eight years. Ruth Drysdale wrote and thanked me and, a few weeks later I found the postcard of Newark Mill and sent her a copy. I happened to mention that the picture brought back floods of happy memories for me, because I'd arrived to live in Sheerwater Estate (between Woking and West Byfleet) in 1951/2 and I used to cycle to Ripley, over a hump-backed bridge and stop on top to look at the old mill. It was rather dilapidated by then but I thought it looked very poetic. I'd also mentioned to Ruth D that I was impressed by the ruins of a priory, and I recalled some little ragamuffin on the estate telling his mates about Pyrford and the 'bombed church', which said more about his experience in post-war London (when very little of the bomb damage had been cleared away) than his knowledge of ancient monuments! She said I ought to tell you the story. I intended to do so at the time, but once one retires one finds so much to fill one's time. Anyway better late than never.

"My family and I were fortunate enough to be offered a wonderful semi-detached house on the estate (we'd been living in an inner-city slum - three rooms in the top of a four storey house), and it all seemed like Wonderland to me! I cycled here, there and everywhere, joined the local Youth Club (St Johns), formed a little dance band with friends (led by Tony Hoadley in a wheelchair), and worked in the laboratories of a local factory (Lion Works). I loved going down the lanes from West Byfleet to Ripley, through those wonderful water meadows, rivers and weirs. I used to buy my clothes at a lovely old-fashioned shop called Greens. I've been back on several pilgrimages and Greens is no longer in business, the mill has been demolished, the tiny pond just before the hump-backed bridge is all but dried up, I felt like the hero of George Orwell's *Coming up for Air*.

"I've been pecking away and writing my memoirs for years and I go back to my old haunts occasionally to take photos (so much easier with the M25!). On my last visit to West Byfleet I bought an excellent video called 'Our Three Villages' - West Byfleet, Old Byfleet and Pyrford.

"I suppose I should stop this rambling on, I hope you like the picture. Best wishes.

"John Donovan"

Editor's note: The postcard has been passed on to Jane Bartlett, and because of its similarity to others in our archives and the inclusion of the photograph of Newark Mill, we have not included it here.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

By David Porter

It had been a very warm summer's day back in 1965. I had left St Bedes School on 8 April that year and began working for the Haslemere Motor Co in Commercial Road, Woking on May 3. I still, however, kept in touch with my friends, still at St Bedes, who were a few months younger than myself and had to soldier on until the July of that year. All pupils were leaving at 15 years of age, except for the few who chose to stay on an extra year, subject to their ability (A Group only).

Our garage in Commercial Road (now Argos, Morris House, Commercial Way) was poorly ventilated, which only added to the discomfort of wearing overalls and working on hot car, van and lorry engines, all for £1 17s 6d a week (£1.87½p)! Occasionally I would catch a bus in bad weather, but my usual everyday form of transport was my bicycle.

After clocking off at 5 pm, it was refreshing to be out in the fresh air, away from the fumes in the garage. My ride home in those days was via Commercial Road and Guildford Road. There was no one-way system to negotiate at all.

I had witnessed the arrival of Traylen's Amusements, earlier in the week, at Woking Park and contemplated an evening out with the lads at the fair. Woking had been our local venue for funfairs, as all fairs in Send, on the Recreation Ground, ceased around 1960.

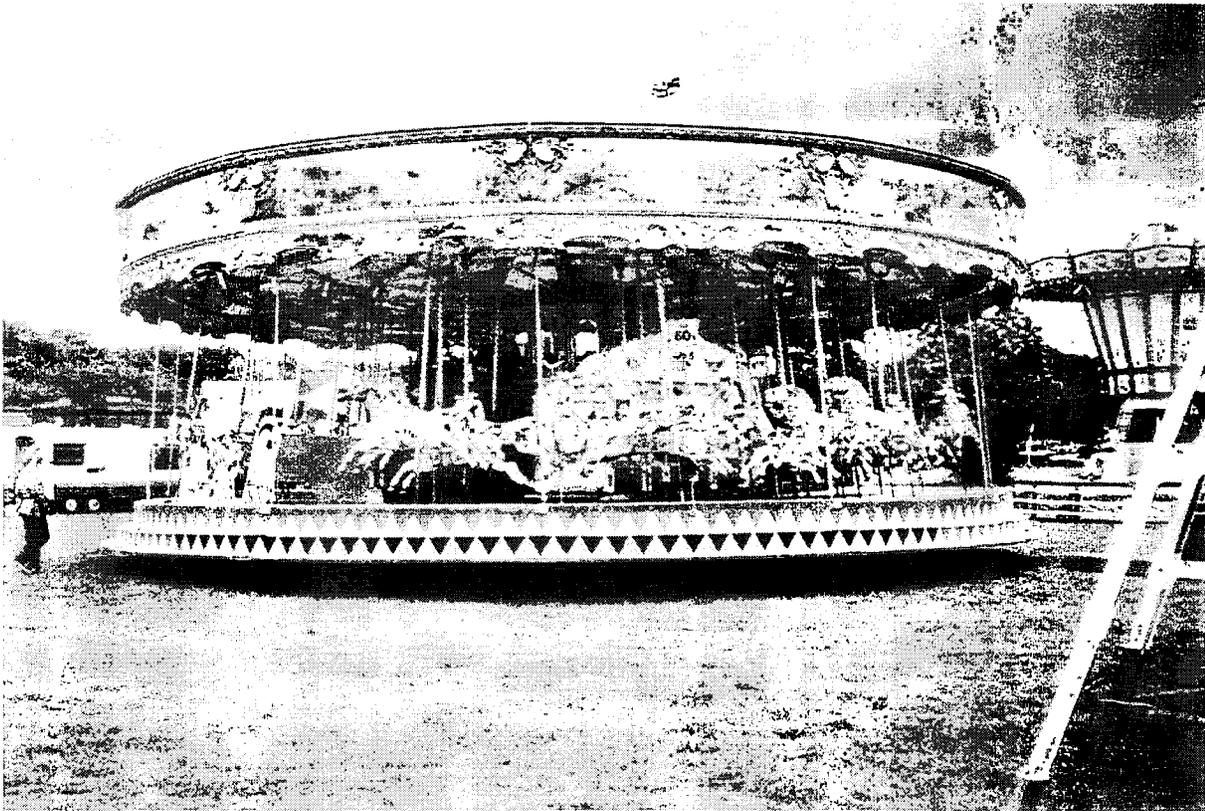
On this particular hot summer's evening, I cycled in to Woking Park to see what riding machines were being presented. It was a typical 1960s scene, with up-to-date amusements; however, at the back of the fair stood a machine I had not seen before. This was the Galloping Horses, owned at the time by James Noyce, of Farnborough.

It was clearly the oldest machine at the fair, so I took a closer look! I was 15 years of age. I was 3 when George Irvin presented his similar machine for the last time in 1952 at Send (my father recalled). Noyce's roundabout was totally immaculate and shone in the sunlight. All the rides had been unsheeted, ready for the opening of the fair at 6.30 pm.

In the centre was a large organ, which was silent, and I noticed a plaque over the bass drum and cymbal, which read "In memory of Joe Matthews who helped restore this machine".

At first I thought the organ was only a cosmetic restoration. However, neatly stacked in the centre of the roundabout were many old books of perforated cardboard music. Written over the ends of the books were the titles of the tunes, in order that they could be identified when stacked in this way. Here were titles which I recognised from old gramophone records we still had at home which revolved at 78 rpm! The gramophone was clockwork and the record labels were included: Imperial, Rex, Regal, Zenophone (later Regal/Zenophone) and His Master's Voice - not forgetting the slightly smaller Crown records, which I was told could be purchased for 6d (2½p) before the War! (I believe these were sold in Woolworths.) On the front of the organ was an animated Band Master with two bell-ringers on either side. Along the top of the organ were the words, "Chiappa Limited, Makers, London". I cycled home thinking fair organs were British. I had not heard an organ live since 1952 and was eager to return later that evening. I had, however, heard mechanical organs on the radio during the mid 1950s, when on those numerous wet Bank Holidays, Dad would tune in to a foreign station on his Philco, a valve radio which had short, medium and long wave facilities. On the short waveband, we could pick up Hilversum quite easily. A nice change from the BBC Light Programme or Home Service, The music was pleasant in spite of not understanding the Dutch language! We had no TV at this time. With hindsight I now realise that this coincided with the formation of the Dutch Organ Society, known as "KRINE VAN DRAAIORGEL-VRIENDEN" (K.D.V.).

Upon my arrival home, I told my father what I'd seen. Our meal was quietly consumed



(leaving my unfortunate mother to wash the dishes!), whereupon both of us then rode our bicycles back to Woking Park, Dad on his 1936 BSA! The fair was in full swing and Dad and I enjoyed a long evening organ recital.

The following 25 years saw my father and I follow this interest, not only at steam rallies, but normal everyday commercial funfairs, where old roundabouts and organs could still earn the showman a living. I joined the Fair Organ Preservation Society many years ago and have witnessed many fine restorations in the fascinating world of mechanical music.

The photograph was taken by myself at the Cranleigh Show in the 1980s and shows the sole surviving four abreast Galloping Horses soon after restoration by Peter Webb. All other surviving machines of this type have just three rows of horses (or mounts, as they are known). Prior to restoration, the ride was used commercially at Chessington Zoo prior to its closure, becoming subsequently Chessington World of Adventures.

Before the War, the machine travelled extensively in London, in the ownership of Harry Gray, and was built by Savages of Kings Lynn in 1921, using steam centre engine No 899. It is believed to be the last roundabout of this type to be built by this firm. It remains doubtful if the ride ever came to Ripley. However, since its restoration, the machine is once again driven by steam, using Savage centre engine No 377, from Whittles' machine, which definitely came to our villages many years ago. At the time the photograph was taken, the ride included an organ of German origin, built by Adolf Ruth (pronounced "Root"), of Waldkirch, an instrument not normally associated with the English fair. The ride has been sold yet again in recent years, still using engine No 377, and now houses a more traditional Paris-built Gavioli organ - the original builder of James Noyce's instrument!

During the 1990s, Dad's health was failing and his mobility impaired, due to Emphysema. In spite of this, we still attended Ripley Bonfire Fair each October, usually on the Friday evening or the Saturday afternoon, when we were often joined by our old Send Barns Lane neighbour, Mr Jack Walker. In his youth, in his native Oxfordshire, Jack used to work for the well-known show lady, Mrs Bird. Her steam-driven roundabout and very fine 89-key Gavioli organ survives today in preservation.

The reason for this gathering was the roundabout owned by the Irvin family of Ashford, Middlesex. Benny Irvin would come down from the ride and have many a long chat with Jack and my father, talking of the "good old days", when steam engines and organs were in their heyday. "Go and look after the organ, David," Benny would say, and "Don't forget your old dad's signature tune!"

I climb on board and cross over to the organ truck in the centre of the ride. I am surrounded by the instruments' extensive repertoire, which equals over five hours without any repeats! I search for that special book. Often near, or at, the bottom of a pile of music, I gently line up the book in the keyframe. Down with the bridge and the first blank page for the book is drawn through. I trip the small lever inside the keyframe, thus releasing all 89 keys in this magnificent instrument, bought by the owner's father secondhand in 1911!

About 700 pipes, 2 glockenspiels playing in unison, snare drum, bass drum and cymbals are now brought into life on Ripley Green - a full "orchestra" playing "Oh Mr Porter!". The organ was built in Paris by Charles Marengi as an 89-key violin baritone instrument and has been kept by the Irvin family since the ride was sold.

Since my father's death, I have continued his membership of the Fairground Association of Great Britain, formed basically from the Fellowship Circle of Showground Fairs. With assistance from this source, I hope to trace the history of rides and organs that came to Ripley many years ago.

ALL DAY SUMMER OUTING TO WELLS, SOMERSET

A visit to the smallest Cathedral Town in Somerset, and indeed the country, has been arranged. As this is a fairly long journey, about two hours, there will be breaks for refreshment on the way, and arrangements can be made for members to share their cars wherever possible.

Wells is reputed to be the smallest city in England, having a wonderful Gothic cathedral, which began to be built c1180. The itinerary includes a conducted tour, by the cathedral's guides, through the cathedral, with subsequent options to take a High Level Tour, eg the roof, etc, of the cathedral and/or the famous Chained Library and view the exhibition of books and documents covering the last 1000 years of the cathedral's history. There should also be time to view Vicars' Close, which was built in the middle of the 14th century for the Vicars' Choral, and is the oldest inhabited street in Europe. There is, of course, the famous clock, c1390, which chimes every quarter of an hour, and many other architectural features of interest. Benjamin Ferrey, who was architect for Ripley Church nave, rebuilt 1845/6, was the Diocesan Architect at Wells between 1840 and 1880. It is not surprising that there may be some features in the Ripley nave which are similar to those to be found in Wells Cathedral.

The programme envisaged is to gather at Send Marsh Green, opposite the Manor House, at about 8.15 am on Saturday, 8 July, to share cars, where possible, and to depart at 8.30 am sharp. There will be a refreshment break stop at Stonehenge for about 30 minutes. We will then proceed on to a further stop in about an hour, at eleven o'clock, at the village of Doultling, to view the Mediaeval Glastonbury Barn, and possibly the local quarry, if it is open, where stone was mined for building the cathedral. Some of the stone may have also been used for the new nave at Ripley. It was certainly used for the First World War Memorial Cross. The next stop

is Wells, at approximately 12 noon, then members will be free to explore the town, visit its secondhand book shops, Antique Shops, cafés, etc, following which we will meet for the first tour of the cathedral at 2 pm. During the lunch break, there will be an opportunity to visit the local museum, which has displays covering the topography of the area, archaeological finds and artefacts, including topics relating to the cathedral and Wells town. There will also be, at this time, an exhibition entitled "Cycling in Somerset", an exhibition of bicycles, which may appeal to some of our members.

After the tour around the cathedral, the options are to take the High Level Tour, as it is called, which is fairly strenuous and takes about an hour. The maximum that can be accommodated on this tour is 15, so please let us know if you wish to go on it. Alternatively, you may wish to visit the exhibition in the library and view the Chained Library. There is no limitation on the numbers visiting the exhibition in the library, but those wishing to go to the Chained Library should let us know, as only ten people may visit at any one time. We anticipate that the tours will be over by about 4.30 to 5 pm, after which there will be an opportunity have tea, and then we will return to Send.

As we are anxious to let the cathedral staff know the numbers who will be attending, would you please contact Les Bowerman as soon as possible, indicating your desire to go on this tour.

Although there is no charge for the tour of the cathedral, it is recommended that a donation of £3 per member be given towards the cost of the upkeep of the cathedral. This can be paid on entering the building. There may be a small charge for viewing the exhibition in the library and also the Chained Library and High Level Tour, which is specially arranged for our Society. Details will be provided later. Anyone wishing to bring sandwiches may, weather permitting, eat them in the Bishop's Palace Park, or alternatively, there are many good little cafés selling snacks, or just a cup of tea, throughout the day.

THE RIPLEY MILLENNIUM SIGN

At 2 pm on Wednesday, 2 February, on the grass at the entrance to Ripley Green, a historic ceremony took place as the Mayor of Guildford, a Send Marsh resident, formally unveiled the new Millennium Sign.

The occasion took place on the only sunny day in an otherwise dreary week in front of some 50 or so people, including children from Ripley First School. Colin Cross, Chairman of the Parish Council, and a member of the Society, opened the proceedings by observing that horse transport was the most prominent feature of village life during the past 1000 years. The Council, therefore, decided to base the sign on a coach and horses, rather than the bicyclists for which Ripley was so famous, but really only for a short time in the latter part of the 19th century. It would be for the children present, in the fullness of time, to ensure that the sign was well looked after in the future.

The Mayor made a suitable reply before unveiling the commemorative plaque, but unfortunately heavy traffic as he did so made it difficult to hear what he said.

The 1 foot square wooden post is set 5 feet down in a base of concrete. The brass plaque reads "THIS MILLENNIUM SIGN WAS OFFICIALLY UNVEILED BY THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD, COUNCILLOR DOCTOR ROBERT BLUNDELL, ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL AND PEOPLE OF RIPLEY ON WEDNESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2000."

In addition to Colin Cross, John Bartlett, John Slatford and the writer were present, representing the History Society. There may have been others.

Les Bowerman



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- Mr & Mrs D Aldridge, Hempstead Park, Hailsham,
Sussex
- Mr & Mrs J Aldridge, Send Marsh Road, Send
- Mr & Mrs R M Amor, Clandon Road, West Clandon
- Mr & Mrs S Baker, Send Marsh Road, Send
- Mr A Baker, Rose Lane, Ripley
- Mrs S Barratt, High Salvington, Worthing, Sussex
- Mr & Mrs J Bartlett, High Street, Ripley
- Mrs M Bastable, Grove Heath, Ripley
- Mrs J Bastable, Grove Heath North, Ripley
- Miss B E M Batten, London Road, Guildford
- Mr & Mrs K Berry, Birnam Close, Send Marsh
- Mr & Mrs R Bickerton, Church Lane, Send
- Mr & Mrs G Bleach, High Street, Ripley
- Mr & Mrs G V Bloomer, Send Hill, Send
- Mr & Mrs A Bookless, Potters Lane, Send
- Mr & Mrs K Bourne, Brunel Way, Frome, Somerset
- Mr & Mrs L Bowerman, Send Marsh, Send
- Mrs P Bowley, Silkmore Lane, West Horsley
- Mrs D Bradley, Send Marsh Green, Send
- Mrs D Brain, Manor Road, Send Marsh, Send
- Mr D Britten & Ms J Simmons, High Street, Ripley
- Mr & Mrs D Bromley, Kevan Drive, Send
- Mr & Mrs N J Brook, Send Marsh Road, Send
- Mr & Mrs M Brown, The Green, Ripley
- Mr & Mrs N Brown, Send Marsh Road, Ripley
- Mr & Mrs L Brown, Winds Ridge, Send
- Mr I Bull, Kevan Drive, Send
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- Mr J Carter, White Hart Court, Ripley
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- Mr R Carter, Wharf Lane, Send
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- Mrs P Clack, Send Road, Send
- Mr C Claxton, Peperharrow Road, Godalming
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- Mr B Cobley, Newark Lane, Ripley
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- Mr & Mrs A Colmer, Send Barns Lane, Send
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- Mr & Mrs J Cornell, High Street, Ripley
- Mr & Mrs S Crane, Send Marsh Green, Send
- Mr & Mrs C Cross, The Green, Ripley

- Mr P Croucher, Orchard Way, Send
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 Mrs A Davies, Amberley Drive, Woodham,
 Addlestone
 Mr & Mrs L Davies, Send Road, Send
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 Miss J Dibble, White Hart Court, Ripley
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Mr P Wright, High Street, Ripley.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

June

Due to the high cost, it was not found economic to arrange the tour to Polesden Lacey. It was actually found that it is cheaper for individual members to visit during normal opening times than to arrange a specific group visit in the evening, for which a considerable charge is made.

Saturday, July 8

Visit to Wells Cathedral, Somerset. Leave Send Marsh Green, opposite the Manor House, 8.30 am prompt (see page 12 for further details).

The visit to Tilford rural Life Centre has now been postponed until a future occasion.

Thursday, 14 September - 8 pm, Ripley Village Hall Annex

A talk by Joan Mant and friend on the Suffragette Movement.

Thursday, 16 November - 8 pm, Send Church Room

A talk by Linda Hall on English Vernacular Buildings.

Journal Contributions

The closing date for contributions to the next Journal is Friday, 9 June.



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October-April, Saturdays 10-12.30

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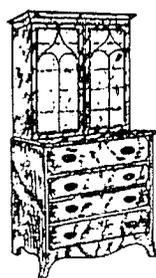
Other times for school groups and small parties
by arrangement.

*Please contact George or Irene Bleach on 01483 222233 if
you require information or wish to help in the museum.*

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

"Ripley & Send Then and Now, the Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life"	£10 Reprint 1998
"Guide to Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Send"	£1.25
"Then and Now, A Victorian Walk around Ripley"	Reference copy only
"The Straight Furrow", by Fred Dixon	£1.50
"Ripley and Send - Looking Back"	£4.95
"A Walk about Ripley Village in Surrey"	£2.00
"Newark Mill, Ripley, Surrey"	£2.95
"The Hamlet of Grove Heath, Ripley, Surrey"	£4.00
"Ripley and Send - an Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures"	£6.00

The reference copy is available at the Museum. All the others are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of "Ripley & Send Then and Now" is additionally available at Send Post Office.



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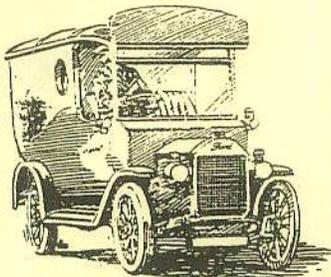
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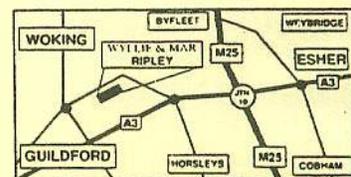
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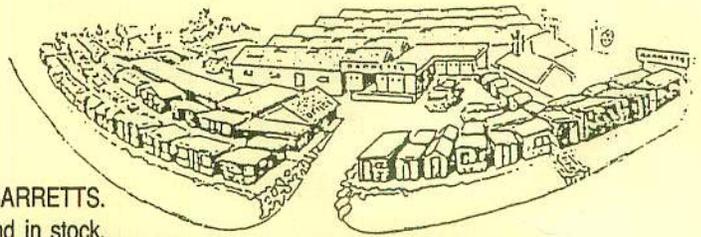
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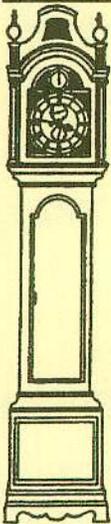


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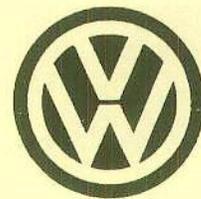
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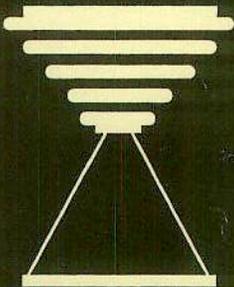
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