

SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman: Mr K H Bourne

Heath Farm, Tannery Lane, Send, Woking (Guildford 223028)

Secretary: Mr L G Bowerman

The Manor House, Send Marsh, Ripley (Guildford 224876)

Treasurer: Mrs P Medlen

Muir House, Brooklyn Road, Woking (Woking 60021)

Newsletter Editor: Dr R L Gale

Tudor House, High Street, Ripley (Guildford 225337)

Typed by Mrs Chris Parker.

Copyright Send & Ripley History Society 1986

Newsletter No 70

September/October 1986

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
Dunsborough House, Ripley - Part 2: Documentary History by Bette and John Slatford	2
Roman Villas in South-East England - an illustrated talk by Dr John Gower - notes by Bob Gale	3
A Bicyclists' Haunt - Ripley, Surrey - by C W Nairn an extract from "The Pictorial World" of 21 May 1881	5
The Old Cottage (Alias Milland), Potters Lane, Send by John Molyneux-Child	7
Notes on Fred Dixon's "The Straight Furrow", by Bob Gale	8
Henry Petrie, FSA - life and works of a Surrey artist by Ken Bourne	9
Photography - request for local photographs - by Mavis Lake	9
Ripley Summer Event - report by Ken Bourne	10
Hampton Court - a comment on the fire damage- by Desmond FitzPatrick	10
Christmas Social - notification - by Bob Gale	11
Send and Ripley Churchyard Maintenance - by Ken Bourne	12
Documentary Group Progress - by John Slatford	12
Secretary's Report	12
Forthcoming Events	13

Next Open Event: Open evening, commencing at 8 pm, on Thursday, 16 October, in Ripley Village Hall, when Groups will report on recent local research. Members are invited to find out more about the Society's activities and participate in the ensuing informal discussions.

DUNSBOROUGH HOUSE, RIPLEY

Part 2: Documentary History

by Bette and John Slatford

Mention was made in Part 1 (Newsletter No 69) of the first recorded reference to Dunsborough in the Court Baron of 1535. Then Joan Boughton, a widow, surrendered land called Little Dunsborrowe for the use of Edward Lydgarde. Ten years later this Edward and his wife, Agnes, surrendered the same for the use of William Stanton. At this time there is no mention of a house at Dunsborough.

The land remained in the Stanton family, through four generations, for nearly a century (see figure 1). The last member to hold it was William's great grandson, John Stanton, who was admitted in 1621. At this point there was a development which confuses the issue somewhat: in 1624 it is recorded that John Stanton was granted a piece of land called Le Bowling Alley, being 24 yards long by 44 feet wide, lying to the East of his tenement and lands in Ripley. In 1629 he sought a licence to let out this land, which had been "lately enclosed and on which was lately built a dwelling house". Whether this was the house that became Dunsborough is not clear, but in 1639 he surrendered "his messuage called Dunsburie and three acres of land adjacent" to Toby Githuns, described as clerk.

Little is known of Toby, or Tobias Gethings, as he is later known, but he appears to have held Dunsborough until 1665, when he surrendered it to John and Frances Sturt. John is described variously as mealman and leather seller, but also as citizen of London and gentleman. His death was recorded in 1683 and his wife's in 1701, after which his younger son, Nathaniel, became tenant of Dunsborough. Nathaniel Sturt, who was an "attorney at law", and his family are well documented in the Send & Ripley parish registers, except, that is, for his first wife, born Mary Parkhurst and buried in Hascombe Church in 1703 (1). His second marriage in 1705 was to Anne, daughter of George Duncomb of Albury. There were eight children born between 1706 and 1715, of whom four were dead by 1729. Nathaniel died in 1730, aged 64, and his wife, Anne, in 1748, aged 71. A Sturt pedigree is shown in figure 2.

Dunsborough then passed to the Sturts' only surviving son, George, who promptly sold it to Thomas Broderick, a Vice-Admiral of His Majesty's Blue Squadron. Thomas Broderick, who entered the Navy around 1723, would have bought Dunsborough after returning from the Leeward Islands where he served for four years. He was a rear-admiral in the Mediterranean in 1756 and, three years later, vice-admiral at blockades of Cadiz and Toulon (2). He died in 1769, having sold Dunsborough in 1761 to Thomas Taylor, Esq, of Spital Fields.

In 1773 Thomas Taylor obtained a mortgage on Dunsborough for £1300 (then a considerable sum) from Fych Coppinger of Lincoln's Inn and shortly afterwards they sold it to Thomas Lord King. Peter Lord King inherited Dunsborough on his father's death in 1778 and, seven years later, obtained enfranchisement (or the freehold) from the Lord of the Manor of Send & Ripley. Thus references to Dunsborough in the Court Rolls came to an end after nearly 250 years. Lord King's next action, in the same year, was to sell to Lt-Col George Onslow and documentation of Dunsborough continued in other ways.

Col Onslow was a cousin of the 1st Earl of Onslow. After his military career, he became MP for Guildford in 1716. He retired to live at Dunsborough in 1785. Described as "a red, rolling, preposterous fiery little creature" (3), he was an outspoken politician and was involved in many controversial issues. During disturbances resulting from one of these, his effigy was hanged. His passion for the "sport" of cock-fighting earned him the nickname "Little Cocking George".

He immediately set about enlarging and modernising Dunsborough, the extension to the South being completed in 1786. This is commemorated with the initials of his family inscribed on the brickwork (see figure 3), namely himself, his wife, Jane, his daughter, Pooley, and sons, George Walton and Arthur.

George Onslow served as a JP in his retirement and died in 1792 after an accident when he was returning from the bench in Guildford. In the same year, his son, George Walton Onslow, became vicar of Send & Ripley and inherited Dunsborough. Arthur Onslow became rector of Merrow. Pooley Onslow married Sir Francis Drake of Send Grove, albeit briefly, for he died shortly afterwards. Thus Send Grove came into the Onslow family and Pooley regained the Onslow name by marrying a distant relative from Shropshire, Serjeant Arthur Onslow.

George Walton Onslow continued to live at Dunsborough for the whole of his 51 years as vicar until his death in 1844 aged 78. He was granted special permission by the Church to live in his own house rather than Send Vicarage. This was, no doubt, because of his large family of seven sons and five daughters. The tragic deaths of four of his sons are recorded on memorials in Send Church.

After his widow, Elizabeth, died in 1846, Dunsborough passed to her son, Pitcairn Onslow. Although initially he did not live there, he was in residence at least from 1861 until his death in 1894. His widow, Adelaide, died a year later and the house was sold, thus ending the Onslow regime, which had lasted for 110 years. An Onslow pedigree is shown in figure 4.

George Maitland-King, JP, is shown in Kelly's Directories as resident in Dunsborough between 1899 and 1903. In 1905 Charles Cleverley, also a JP, was living there. He died in 1921 in France; there is, however, a memorial to him in Ripley Church. Thereafter Mrs Cleverley continued living at Dunsborough until her death in 1936.

Sir Oliver Simmonds, MP, subsequently owned Dunsborough for some 12 years until after the Second World War. He was a prominent industrialist and will be remembered in the aircraft industry, in particular, for the range of patent lock-nuts which bore his name. Since 1948, Dunsborough has been the home of Mr and Mrs Charles Hughesdon, to whom we are again grateful for permission to publish this report.

Having traced the continuous ownership of Dunsborough over 450 years, it is interesting to note that for nearly 300 years during that time, there were only three families associated with the property.

References

- (1) History of Surrey, Vol 4, John Aubrey.
- (2) Dictionary of National Biography, OUP.
- (3) The Onslow Family 1528-1874, C E Vulliamy.

ROMAN VILLAS IN SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND

An Illustrated Talk by Dr. John Gower - Notes by Bob Gale

Dr John Gower is, jointly with his wife, Secretary of the Surrey Archaeological Society, as well as Chairman of its Roman Villa Study Group and has also published the authoritative report on the excavations at the Chiddingfold Roman Villa. In the relatively limited time available for such a widely based topic, John Gower reviewed first of all some of the better known Roman Villas located in South-East England which can be visited by the public. He then drew attention to the less well-known sites discovered in Surrey itself, which, though

comparatively few in number and unfortunately unavailable for viewing, testify to what was probably a considerable level of Roman occupation.

Villas, for the purpose of his presentation, were regarded by John Gower as substantial masonry buildings with significant evidence of Romanisation, such as mosaics, coloured wall plaster, under-floor hypocaust heating systems, pottery finds and gold objects. However, he was at pains to point out that villas were primarily working farms. Most villas were excavated in the last century when archaeologists confined their interest to stone buildings, so that remains of wooden buildings were neglected. Hence barns, outbuildings, farm labourers' houses, etc, were ignored. Fortunately current work in progress at, for example, Beddington, near Croydon, has unearthed an extensive villa with many outbuildings of various kinds.

John Gower illustrated his talk with many interesting slides, a number of which featured mosaics. The very large (27 ft x 17 ft) 4th century Hinton St Mary (Dorset) Christ mosaic (see illustration after page 18) housed at the British Museum, is a splendid example of the very fine craftsmanship achieved by Romano-British mosaists. In general, the quality of the latter's work compares favourably with that of their counterparts on the Continent, including Italy and Sicily. The British mosaics are noted for their fresh, flowing designs and realistic depiction of human figures, perhaps assisted by the use of smaller tesserae. Mosaics were usually waxed (with oil) or moistened with water to show them off to best effect.

John Gower showed and recommended visits to, Littlecote Villa in Berkshire, Bignor in Sussex with its extensive mosaic floor, Lullingstone in Kent and, not least, the palatial villa at Fishbourne, near Chichester, where there is evidence of the practice of laying mosaics on top of earlier ones. The latter tended to be black on white, while the later ones were polychromic. Much speculation still surrounds the questions of who owned the villas, their culture and economic structure, architectural details, such as whether the villas were one or two storeys. Experiments currently in progress at Fishbourne are aimed at trying to determine the type of livestock bred in the Roman era; soil research and analysis have helped attempts to reproduce the original gardens; ditch silting is being investigated.

Probably the most noteworthy Surrey villa, certainly the most carefully and intensively excavated site this century, is Beddington, where current research (in the middle of a sewage farm), which has, in fact, been carried out on and off over the past 150 years, reveals an extensive complex of buildings in addition to the villa itself. These include a bath house and three barns with flint foundations. A report on the excavations, including evidence of bronze and iron age settlements, will be published in 1987. Other sites include Titsey, excavated last century and now filled in for protection with only a tantalisingly small five-colour section of mosaic remaining, Bletchingley, for which only a sketch survives, and Ashted with barely visible remains and finds of patterned tiles, window grills and a gold chain recorded. Villas are also known to exist at Walton Heath, Walton-on-the-Hill, Abinger (associated with a drawing in Darwin's "Treatise on the Earthworm"), Cobham (a bath house only), the Hogs Back area, Chiddingfold, Ewhurst (Rapsley Villa, producing scalloped-shell glass pieces and unique pear-shaped tiles). A visit to Cologne Museum was recommended to see the unsurpassed collection of Roman glassware and other material. Old Woking, Lightwater in Surrey Heath, Dorking (St. Peter Street), Ewell and Southwark are also significant Roman sites; strangely there is no evidence to indicate Roman connections at Guildford. Farnham (Alice Holt Forest) contains a huge pottery site whose products were traded all over Britain. Farley Heath has a major Roman religious complex with shrine, outer ambulatory wall and large surrounding enclosure. John Gower believed new discoveries would depend upon chance finds of old tiles. He considered Surrey probably a highly populated Roman area - a Send villa should not be ruled out!

THE PICTORIAL WORLD - May 21 1881

A BICYCLISTS' HAUNT - RIPLEY, SURREY

"Where do all those bicyclists go to that one sees passing so regularly at the week's end?" is a question we can quite imagine being asked by any uninitiated denizen of a house situate on any of the high roads out of London.

Well, they go to many places: Windsor, Burnham Beeches, Sevenoaks, St Albans, Dunstable, Epping, Purfleet, and Gravesend, all of which are within an easy day's run out and home, but to no place in the whole island of Great Britain do more bicyclists wend their way than to the quiet and pretty Surrey village unknown to fame, except, perhaps, as the birthplace of one or two well-known cricketers, which is postally designated Ripley, by Woking, Surrey. Ripley stands on the main Portsmouth road, twenty-three miles from Westminster Bridge, and a somewhat shorter distance from Hyde Park Corner. It is a long straggling village, with one of the largest and prettiest village greens and commons in the kingdom. The Lords of Lovelace and Onslow own the soil between them, but all above it every seventh day is fairly taken possession of by bicyclists. When we say that the population is only a few hundreds, and that on Good Friday last 600 riders visited Ripley, it will be admitted that it is verily a bicyclists' haunt. Standing, as it does, six miles from the nearest railway - Guildford or Weybridge - it will be easily seen why what is so well known to bicyclists is a somewhat terra incognita to the ordinary Londoner, though, since the revival of coaching, Ripley has been regularly visited during the summer months by the well-appointed "four-in-hand", designated the "New Times", of Mr Walter Shoelbred and partners.

We will in fancy accompany a bicyclist on a run from fascinating though smoky London for a day of quiet change to Ripley and back. Say, after a good breakfast and matutinal pipe, he mounts his steed in the neighbourhood of Ladbroke or some other Notting Hill-ian square, and glides quietly down the incline which leads to Shepherd's Bush. Past suburban villas, old houses, and over level roads he soon reaches Kew Bridge. Here a driver would probably bait his horse; but the bicyclist is only warming to his work, and, with a first spurt, he dashes over the ascent of Kew Bridge, and rides rather bumpily along the road which skirts "the gardens", till the historical town of Richmond is reached. Probably everybody who first tramps Richmond streets is disappointed, and unless the cyclist climbs the hill to enjoy the matchless view from the Terrace, he will "prospect" nothing more enjoyable than the bricks and mortar. On, with a steady swing, as, gaining instead of losing strength, he pedals through Petersham, with its quaint old houses, and over the green expanse of Ham Common, with Richmond Park standing high on the left. With a never-failing stroke Kingston-on-Thames (10 miles) is fetched within the hour, and, without thought of rest, bite, or sup, the ordinary bicyclist steers steadily along the Parade towards Surbiton, with Father Thames gaily decked with boats on his right.

Still on, through Ditton, and over an improving road, the pace insensibly quickens as the long stretch across Ditton Marsh is cleared, and the steady rise of Esher Street is commenced. Of course on some exceptionally hot day a rider has visited "The Bear", at Esher, and inspected the wonderful jack-boots which stand in the hall as a memento of the postilion who brought Louis Philippe to Claremont, which noble park begins at Esher-street end; but our model rider pauses nowhere. Once the top of Esher-street is gained, a rider considers that he is fairly on the road to his beloved Ripley. With a fresh invigorated frame he throws his legs over his bicycle handles and flies down his first good descent. With rested muscles a spurt up the next incline is a mere nothing, and the performance of flying is again repeated, and yet once again as Horse Shoe Clump, a picturesque plantation on Esher Common, is passed. Moorland, with wooded back-ground, is the

characteristic scenery for the next few miles, and, after a long run downhill over the Fair Mile, the village of Cobham Street is reached, and the "White Lion", an old coaching house, demands attention. Every yard of the road now increases in beauty of scenery and perfection of surface, as the river Mole is crossed and Pain's Hill struggled. A mile of plantation, and then, as the summit of Red Hill is reached, every rider possessing a soul for the beautiful must pause to enjoy the view. Down below lies Wisley Common, with the Portsmouth road clearly defined across it; a clump of dark Scotch firs marks the boundary of Bolder Mere, as an exquisitely pretty miniature lake of 17 acres is geographically described, though locally known as "Wisley Hut Pond;" and far beyond are the Surrey Hills at Newlands Corner. Two miles across the Common a splendid road now leads to Ripley, which village, however, is hidden by a hill, until the rider has surmounted which he sees nothing of the picturesque bridge, farm-house and park gates, which mark the entrance to the "Bicyclists' Haunt". On the left of the village street stands a perfect model of an old English coaching house, "The Talbot", which has been mentioned in print times out of number, notably in "Gilbert Gurney", and which, could the old courtyard, the old rafters, or the belongings of antiquity speak but half as glibly as the young ladies who now haunt its thresholds, might serve as a medium for the transmission of no end of ghost stories. Here the coach changes horses, and here rest all sober-minded cyclists who have fairly worked off in their ride from town the natural exuberance of spirits attaching to a man in good physical condition.

At the other end of the village stands the "Anchor", nautical signs being paramount all along the Portsmouth road, and at this latter hostelry, which also forms one of the subjects of our engraving, the toil-stained cyclist meets a hearty welcome. Here assemble those youths of great vitality who have still any amount of "go" left in them, even after a ride of twenty-three miles and are quite prepared to make things lively until it is time to start back for home. A bathe in the river Wey, which runs within half a mile of Ripley, usually forms a feature in a summer day's run to the "haunt", and the two classes of riders at the respective bicycling hostelries usually exchange calls, either before or after dinner, just "to show there is no ill-feeling".

The "Hautboy and Fiddle", which is also included in our picture, is a bicycling hostelry, and one which from its isolated position a mile or so off the high road and at the end of the village of Ockham, which consists of some half dozen houses only, is a wonder as regards size and accommodation, when its rural situation is considered. Seventeen riders have slept under its hospitable roof, and quite 150 could be accommodated at a meal in the large baronial hall which forms part of the structure. It is generally supposed that Lord Lovelace when he built the house and hall had rent-dinners in his eye; but, be that as it may, the hall has on many occasion been the scene of rare merry-making amongst cyclists, who, with no neighbours to annoy, have passed round the jovial song therein till the small hours of the morning. Bicycling to Ripley is not, of course, always plain sailing - that is, we should say, returning is not; for with the sudden rising of a head wind, and probably the advent of rain, a bicyclist's lot is not "a happy one". But, despite occasional dampers, so great is the love of riding and of enjoying the fresh country air and scenery, that such trials are soon forgotten, and week end after week end and the number of cyclists visiting Ripley increases, and so will be the case as long as athletic travel fills the minds and inspirations of young Englishmen.

C W N

NB: The author of the above was C W Nairn, bugler in the London Bicycle Club, and London correspondent of "The Cyclist". He was a founder member of the Ripley Road Club in 1886, and its first Captain. The Ripley R.C. lasted only a few years.

The above eulogy for the Ripley Road and Ripley, summarising their appeal for

the rider of the old high Ordinary bicycle, was the original accompaniment to the illustrations which appeared in the last issue of the Newsletter. From 1953 to 1963 this writer travelled daily to work by much the same route and in much the same way (albeit on a modern cycle and without throwing legs over handles). He was then unaware of the bicycling history attaching to the road except in the most general terms, and confesses that the joys of athletic travel did not always fill his mind.

Les Bowerman

THE OLD COTTAGE (ALIAS MILLAND), POTTERS LANE, SEND

by

John Molyneux-Child

Following on from the Building Group's survey of the cottage, it would be apposite to record a little more of the history of this building, which is well documented in the Court Rolls of the Manor of Dedswell. I shall refer to this charming cottage as "Milland", as this is how it is described in the Court Rolls and, of course, it was not until relatively recent times that buildings were named: previously, they were referred to as the "house of so-and-so" or, more usually, by the ancient name of the land on which they stood.

The first record we have of Milland is a deed dated 1588 from Sir Henry Weston of Sutton Place, Lord of the Manor of Dedswell, when the land was granted to John at Ryde of Sende, husbandman, who lived at Send Court Farm.

"All that parcel of my land, 2 acres, in Send between the stream running from Guildford towards Woking on the west and Le Threforde Lane leading from my land called Myllande on the north to hold of me, Henry Weston, as part of my 'manor of Dedeswell' alias 'Dydeswell', annual rent 62 8d and a relief on the death of each tenant 6s 8d, and services and suit of court as demanded."

It is illuminating to note that in 1839 the rent was still only 6s 8d, 250 years later - evidently there was little inflation in the intervening period! The relief on death refers to the heriot, or best beast of the freehold tenant of Milland, to be seized by the Bailiff of Dedswell, when each tenant died. The mention of services in the deed refers to the tenant's obligation to the Lord of the Manor in providing unpaid labour on a number of days in the year in accordance with the customs of the manor. Suit of court is a requirement for each freehold and copyhold tenant to attend the Court Baron of the Manor of Dedswell, when summoned, and form part of the homage or manorial court jury.

At least four generations of the Farley family appear to have held Milland, Farley being quite a common Send name. In the case of the freehold tenant, William, the name is recorded in 1619, 1626, 1631 and 1634. The property passed to his son, Thomas, by 1642, when it is described in the Dedswell Court Roll as a freehold half tenement and 2 acres. The term half tenement is not clear and perhaps it refers to part of a semi-detached dwelling.

On the 1685 Court Roll, Thomas Farley gave evidence for the piscary on behalf of the homage that Sir Richard Weston, Lord of the Manor, "hath the sole right of fishing in the river (Wey) from Newbridge to Harmes Hatch" and that he "has a right to sett upp wares (weirs) if hee pleases ...". Incidentally, as current Lord of Dedswell, I am not certain how popular it would be if the rights to install weirs and tumbling bays in the Wey's original channel were implemented today! The manorial fishing rights, which Thomas Farley testified to, may have also gone by default.

Thomas's son, Edward, held Milland in 1701 and 1712, to be followed in 1758 by William, great grandson of the original William. Robert Harm(e) - Harme being another local surname - was at Milland in 1759 and by 1772 the cottage's ownership was exchanged for another tenement near Send Church, one of these buildings being used as the Poor House. The following year John Denyer is shown as tenant and by 1778 Lt-Gen William Evelyn of Send Grove is the owner and on his death in 1783, Milland passed to Sir Francis Samuel Drake, Bt and subsequently, by 1802, to Lady Drake.

The property passed to Sir F H Drake, who died in 1839, whereupon it was inherited by Sir Traylen Drake, Bt, but inhabited in 1843 by Thomas Pattick.

It is clear that much of the present building does not relate to the 17th century cottage on this site, but it was very common for several builds to occur on the same location over many centuries.

What is the origin of the name "Milland" or its earlier spelling "Myllande"? Is it land owned by someone called Mill or, perhaps, land held in conjunction with a water mill as part and parcel of the same tenancy? I believe it is possible that Milland may well represent the location of a water mill - the original bed and water flow on this stretch of the river would be suitable for this purpose. The fact that the Lord of Dedswell built weirs and tumbling bays just upstream from Milland, near the present drive to Sutton Place, might well be another significant clue. Domesday Book of 1086 mentions two mills in Send, Newark being the principal one and a lesser one belonging to Walter and Hubert (ref Newsletter No 69 - Bob Gale's notes on the PRO Domesday Exhibition): this latter, I conjecture, could well have been at Milland.

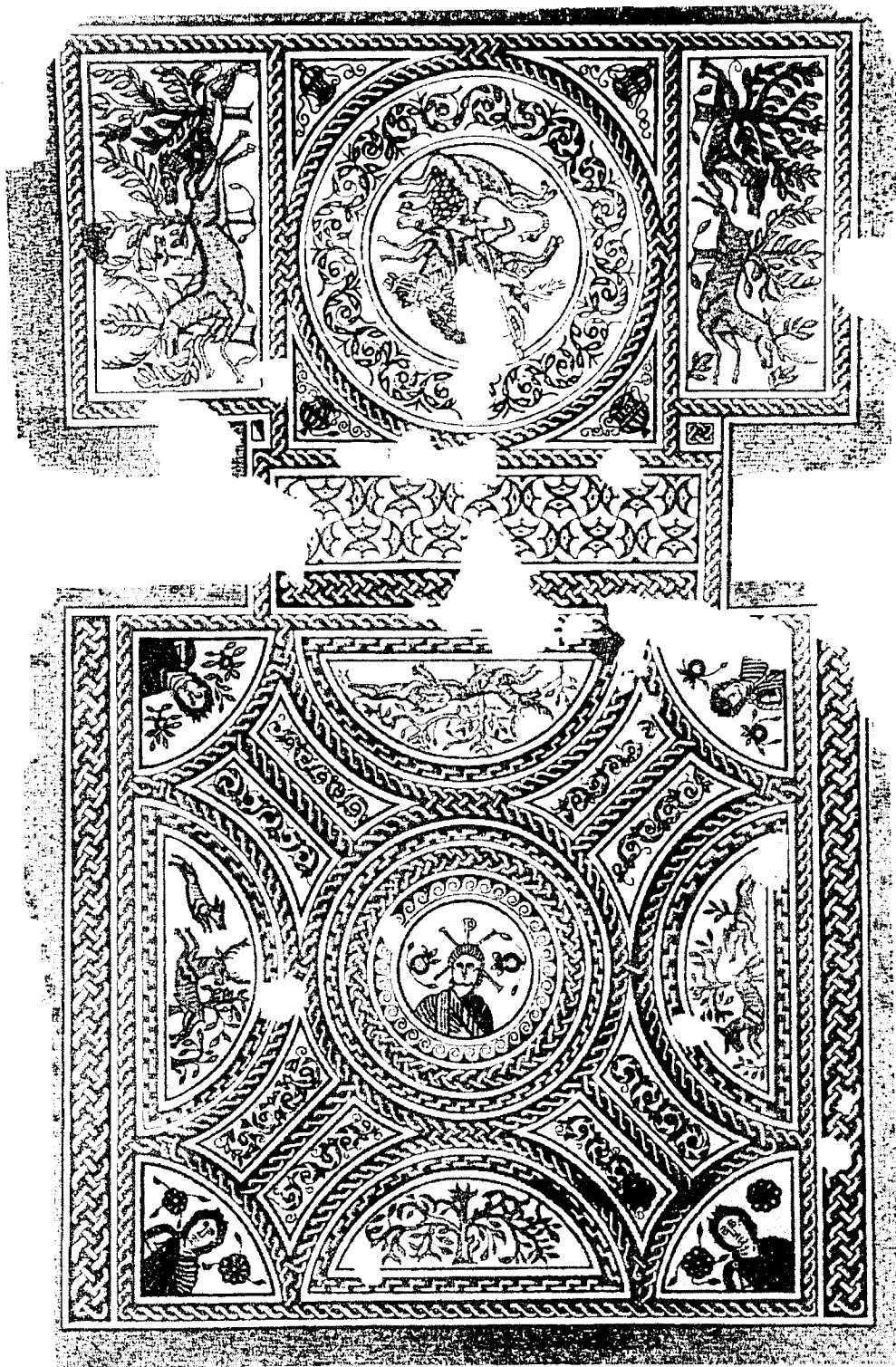
The association of the Old Cottage with the Manor of Dedswell has not been lost, since the new owner, Mr Peter Robinson, was appointed Bailiff of the Manor of Dedswell earlier this year to perpetuate this ancient local office. In the deeds of this cottage is an interesting requirement that the owners should maintain the tomb of General Evelyn in Send Churchyard, this obligation originating from the change of location of the Poor House and the exchange of property ownership.

THE STRAIGHT FURROW
by Fred Dixon

It is expected that by the time this Newsletter appears, the Society's new publication, "The Straight Furrow", by Fred Dixon, will be in print. The pre-publication offer to members at a price of £2.25 will therefore no longer be available. These vivid and fascinating memoirs by Fred Dixon, who was Headmaster of Ripley C of E School from 1936 until 1961, will be obtainable in Ripley, Send, Guildford and Woking at £2.95.

We strongly urge all members to support the Society's publishing activities by purchasing for themselves, relatives and friends - an ideal Christmas present in particular for anyone who knows the area.

Bob Gale



THE ROMAN MOSAIC
FROM
HINTON ST. MARY



HENRY PETRIE F.S.A., 1768-1842.

HENRY PETRIE, FSA
by Ken Bourne

Some years ago, when searching for an early print of St Mary the Virgin Church, Send, to include in the Church Guide, the view by C T Cracklow circa 1819 was discovered in the Guildford Museum library. This artist, well known for accurate work and the subject of an excellent book by K Gravett, was considered to have produced the earliest reliable view of the church, and this was happily included.

A year or two after publication, the work of J & E Hassell became known through the excellent catalogue produced by J P Batley and E P Moss (SAS Volume 75 1984). The Hassells worked from sketches and produced fine accurate water colours approximately contemporary with Cracklow. The originals were inspected at the Minet Library, Lambeth, and permission obtained to copy those of Send and Ripley.

Whilst this was being done, work by another artist, Henry Petrie, was discovered in the Library and included in the copying programme. The work of this artist exhibited the architectural accuracy of Cracklow and pictorial excellence of Hassell, but was produced some 15-20 years earlier. However, only Ripley and Send Churches were represented and subsequent enquiries about this artist revealed nothing.

Until June of this year, nothing more had been discovered about Henry Petrie or the whereabouts of other works, if any. On 22 June the Society's visit to Alfriston and subsequent visit to Michelham Priory solved this minor mystery. Of the many interesting exhibits at Michelham, a considerable space was devoted to water colours and sketches from the Sharpe Collection. This collection was named after Clarissa Sharpe (nee Petrie), Henry Petrie's youngest sister. She collected nearly 400 of her brother's water colours, all relating to churches in Sussex, dated between 1802 and 1809.

Henry Petrie was born in Stockwell in 1768 in the ninth year of George III's reign. He was educated at St Paul's School, London, but little is known of his early career. In 1819, however, he was appointed Keeper of the Records in the Tower of London, a post held until his death in Stockwell in 1842. He never married.

Thanks to Sussex Archaeological Society and their excellent catalogue, a little more is now known about Henry Petrie, who worked prolifically on Sussex churches in the early part of the 19th century and may well have done the same for Kent and Surrey, although none is in the collection. The water colours so far discovered in the Minet Library are Ripley Chapel, Send Church and Newark Priory, all dated 1804.

Perhaps more of his work relating to Surrey and Kent will come to light in due course. If anyone has seen a collection, or knows of the whereabouts of his work, other than at Michelham or in the Minet Library, I would be grateful to hear about it.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Many photographs of people and/or places connected with our two villages have been donated to the Society or loaned for copying (in which case every effort is made to return them as soon as possible), and we are indeed indebted to members and non-members for these. If this autumn you are tidying cupboards or attics and come across photographs you feel may be of interest to the Society, we would be most grateful to receive them for our archives. Please contact the Chairman, Secretary or a Committee member.

Mavis Lake

RIPLEY SUMMER EVENT

On July 19, a splendid sunny day, the History Society provided an exhibit in support of the Event theme, "Cycling". This theme was particularly appropriate, not only because of Ripley's reputation as a "Mecca" for all good cyclists (see L G Bowerman N/L 42, 43 and 69), but for two other reasons.

Firstly, exactly 100 years ago, in July 1886, the Southern Counties Cyclists arranged for the first time a summer camp in Guildford. Many of the participants in the cycling and social events on this occasion were well acquainted with Ripley and its popular inn, The Anchor, run by the Dibble family. In fact Harold Crooke of the Guildford Cycling Club was the winner of the "Anchor Shield", first presented at this event.

Secondly, the Ripley Section of the Southern Veteran-Cycle Club this year celebrated their tenth anniversary, and through their generosity arranged to exhibit the Anchor Shield at the History Society's stall.

In addition to the many photographs recalling Ripley's association with the cycling fraternity, there were four striking paintings by local artist Frank Brown, depicting cycling scenes from the 19th century in Ripley. Many fine examples of early cycles were also on display. Among these were a Michaux - type Boneshaker c 1868 and a Dursley Pedersen, an advanced design of safety bicycle invented by a Dane, Mikael Pedersen, and made in Gloucestershire. So practical and comfortable is this machine that replicas are still made today in Cheltenham.

A memorable day was made more so by the SVCC and a few of the History Society members who paraded (some in period dress) on veteran cycles around the green.

Thanks to the organisers of the Ripley Event and to all who supported us on the day. Special thanks to Frank Brown, who subsequently presented his paintings to the Society. The thanks of the Society also to Bob Claydon for the loan of the "Ripley Road Game", Les Bowerman for the loan of cycles, Ken Bourne for arranging the display and Patricia and Tony Medlen, Bob Gale, Duncan Jennings, and Gerald Hill, all of whom helped to make this day so enjoyable.

K H Bourne

HAMPTON COURT PALACE

A Comment on the Fire Damage by Desmond FitzPatrick

Desmond FitzPatrick, who gave an interesting and expert talk to the Society in 1985 on Hampton Court Palace (N/L 59), assesses here the damage caused by the fire at the Palace earlier this year:

The news last Easter of a fire at Hampton Court Palace had something of a nightmare quality: a devastating fire or explosion, fortuitous or intentional, in some great, well-loved and irreplaceable building is always a real and frightening possibility. My personal fears of such loss are centred on two particular buildings, namely St Paul's Cathedral and Hampton Court Palace. The greatest aspects of these two buildings are not, of their nature, capable of restoration. This is not so of all beautiful work; in the case of York Minster, terrible damage remains from the fire in the South Transept, but mediaeval stonework and oak vaulting can be restored. Stained glass can be put together into no worse a jigsaw than previously. But the work of the English Renaissance is a different matter: carving by Grinling Gibbons or decorative painting by Verrio, La Guerre or Thornhill is not capable of restoration if the damage has passed a serious stage. Perhaps this is because, from the Renaissance onwards, the hand of an

individual master displayed itself in his work to a greater extent than had previously been the case. By contrast, the best mediaeval work which, though full of character, is not personalised: one fine craftsman of today can do much to repair the work of another fine craftsman of seven centuries ago.

It was the work of the 17th century carvers and painters that I thought of when we were at first given the impression that the greater part of the state rooms were ablaze. My immediate thoughts were of the King's Bedroom and Dressing Room of the South, or Privy Garden Front, and of the Queen's Bedroom and the Queen's Drawing Room on the East or Park Front, all of which have wall or ceiling paintings of outstanding quality.

Then it became evident that the fire was confined to the Cartoon Gallery overlooking Fountain Court and the range on the Privy Garden Front, which includes the Presence Chamber, the Audience Chamber, the King's Drawing Room, the King's Bedroom and smaller private apartments. The Cartoon Gallery was so called because it was intended to display the Raphael Cartoons or designs for tapestries illustrating the lives of Saints Peter and Paul. These have been, for many years, displayed in the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Gallery is usually hung with the 17th century tapestries woven from the Cartoon designs.

By a fortunate chance, these tapestries were away for conservation work. The main damage of the fire appears to have been concentrated in the Cartoon Gallery, a fairly plain apartment, with minimal decorations. The apartments in which the fire is believed to have begun are immediately above it, and I understand that its ceiling has been completely destroyed. The Cartoon Gallery faces onto the Fountain Court. Backing onto it and facing outwards to the Privy Garden is the range of south-facing apartments which include the King's Audience Chamber, which suffered damage both from fire and from water. This room is remarkable more for furnishings and for paintings, all of which were fortunately removed, with little in the way of ornamental woodwork or carved panelling. I have been given to understand that the only considerable loss of ornamental woodwork on account of the fire was the loss of a carved panel above the door leading from the Second Presence Chamber into the Audience Chamber.

The extent of decoration of State Apartments at Hampton Court is uneven: since the Palace was never finished according to the planned scheme. Thus there are on each range relatively plain rooms interspersed with rooms displaying rich decoration both of woodwork and of decorative paintings on the walls and ceilings. It is fortunate that this fire occurred in rooms whose decorations are relatively plain and can be convincingly restored. There could have been irreparable damage had the fire occurred a few yards further East in the King's Drawing Room with its over-mantel wood carving by Grinling Gibbons, or at the corresponding point in the East Front apartments overlooking the fountain and canal, which might have destroyed the Queen's Bedroom with its incomparable ceiling painted by Thornhill.

The fact that the damage could have been far worse constitutes a salutary and timely warning. Custodians of this and other such places should now be more acutely aware of the more obvious risks. The days when Hampton Court Palace could be used as a National Museum with residences in its attics are surely over.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

With the days getting noticeably shorter, the Christmas Social is not far off. It is intended to have the same successful mixture as before - a running buffet, hot punch, a quiz, raffle and some form of entertainment. So, make a note in your diary: the Christmas Social will be held on Tuesday, 16 December, in Ripley Village Hall, commencing at 8 pm. Tickets will probably cost £3 and will be on sale well in advance.

Bob Gale

SEND AND RIPLEY CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

As the above heading indicates, some of our members have been so encouraged by the progress in Send Churchyard that they are continuing their work for the benefit of Ripley Churchyard also. Someone suggested that Brookwood Cemetery also required attention, but this was ignored. Initially Ripley maintenance visits are programmed for 13, 20 and 27 September, and afterwards as necessary. At Send two visits are scheduled - for October 4 and November 1. All dates are Saturday mornings, working between 9 am and 12 noon. Anyone wishing to participate please come along with a mower or "strimmer", if you have one, or whatever gardening tools you have available.

K H Bourne

DOCUMENTARY GROUP PROGRESS

Our small band of enthusiasts has continued with the tasks of copying, transcribing and indexing the various documentary sources relating to Send and Ripley.

On the parish registers, Muriel Millar has completed typing the index to the baptism registers from 1653 to 1837. Audrey Sykes and Janet Tice have finished copying and indexing the burial register for Send from 1875-1962.

More progress has been made with the 19th century census returns. Janet Tice has copied and indexed the 1841 census, Janet Hill has completed a typed index for the Ripley 1871 census.

Land tax returns for the period 1780-1831 are providing a valuable insight to property ownership during this period. Bette and John Slatford are working on the copying and indexing of these documents.

Number of copies of the Ripley Court School Magazine have been purchased for the Society's archives. There are 13 copies covering the years 1900-10.

Finally, although we continue to make progress, we are most anxious for other workers to join us. With the long winter evenings almost here, now is the time to think about indexing or typing to help towards completing our records. Please call me if you are interested - Guildford 222107.

John Slatford

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership

We welcome the following new members:

Mrs J Rawlinson, 41 Horseshoe Lane, Merrow, Guildford.

Mr & Mrs C Gibson, Corner Cottage, Send Marsh Road, Ripley.

Membership stands at 107 double subscriptions and 84 singles.

Changes in the Village

For the record, the following changes are noted:

Send Recreation Ground: A number of robust wooden items of exercise equipment have been erected by the Parish Council at a cost believed to be in the region of £7000.

High Street Ripley: A building is being erected by Clifford James, the shoe sellers, to replace the corrugated iron Church Hall.

The Society commenced restoration of Ripley Churchyard on 13 September.

Portsmouth Road, Ripley: A house has been built to replace the Sunnyside Tea Rooms opposite Rawridge.

Pond Cottage, Avery or Alberly Green (corner of Grove Heath Road) is being considerably enlarged for the second time in recent years.

Portsmouth Road, Send: The houses to replace the Triangle Cafe, Burnt Common, are nearing completion.

Les Bowerman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, 16 October ... Open evening, commencing at 8 pm, in Ripley Village Hall, when members will report on recent local research. All are invited to participate in the ensuing discussion.

Saturday, 18 October ... Photographic exhibition on the theme of "Past and Present", in the Methodist Church Hall, Ripley.

Saturday, 25 October ... As immediate item above, in the Lancaster Hall, Send Road, Send.

Tuesday, 28 October ... Local Memories Group meeting, commencing at 8 pm, at 15 Kevan Drive, Send.

Tuesday, 18 November ... Open evening, commencing at 8 pm, in the Red Cross Centre, Send, when ~~Dr~~ Derek Renn will give an illustrated talk on "Castles in Surrey". Please note new date.

Saturday, 15 November ... SLHC all-day symposium at Surrey University, on the theme of "Shops".

Tuesday, 16 December ... Christmas Social at Ripley Village Hall.

Closing Date: Contributions to the next Newsletter (November/December No 71) should be submitted to me by 14 November 1986.

Bob Gale