Send & Ripley History Society

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Journal Volume 7 No. 224 May/Jun 2012

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Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society
Registered Charity No 296324

President: John Slatford
St George's Farmhouse, High Street, Ripley, Woking GU23 6AF. Tel: 01483 222107
Email: *jmslatford@gmail.com*

Chairman: Les Bowerman
The Manor House, Send Marsh Green, Ripley, Woking GU23 6JS. Tel: 01483 224876
Email: *les@sendmanor.com*

Hon. Secretary: Cameron Brown
Church Farm House, Wisley, Surrey GU23 6QL. Tel: 01932 341206 / 07811 276386
Email: *cmb@aappl.com*

Treasurer: Christina Sheard
Old Manor Cottage, Send Marsh Green, Ripley, Woking GU23 6JP. Tel: 01483 224600
Email: *christina.sheard@btinternet.com*

Journal Editor: Cate Davey
Waters Edge, Potters Lane, GU23 7AJ. Tel: 01483 773452. Email: *catedavey1@gmail.com*

Journal Distribution: This position is currently vacant

Membership Secretary: Andrew Jones
106 Georgelands, Ripley, Woking GU23 6DQ. Tel: 01483 479647
Email: *ajones681@tiscali.co.uk*

Web site management: Chris Brown
Web site: *www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk*

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Cover photo: Members of Send Gardening Society visiting Wisley Gardens in 1991. Full details of members on page 9.

Editorial

The journal goes to print early this month at the beginning of an exciting period in the UK.

May marks the run up to 3 months of celebration with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee fast approaching, rapidly followed by the Olympics and Paralympics in July and August. Communities all over the country are planning to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee on 4 June. Both Send and Ripley are planning celebrations. I'm particularly excited by the Globe Theatre's Shakespeare's season in which Theatre companies from all over the world will be performing at the complete works of William Shakespeare in their own languages! I've been studying Shakespeare over the last two terms with Guildford Shakespeare's Company (GSC), which has given me a much greater appreciation of his genius and a far better understanding of the context in which he was writing. The course was great fun as much for the acting opportunity that it offered as being an a genuinely good introduction to Shakespeare. If only I'd been taught Shakespeare like that when I was at school! Earlier today I went on GSC's Sonnet Walk around Guildford. The route of the walk took us to a lot of unusual places.

Our regular contributors have been working hard over the last few months and have provided yet another crop of interesting articles. We have also heard from members and others who also see the journal. It is great to hear from so many of you. Sadly also we have to report the recent deaths of several villagers who have contributed much during their lifetimes.

The committee are interested to hear from you on another matter. We are still without a journal distributor and it would obviously help your committee if somebody reading this would like to volunteer for that job. Do e-mail Les Bowerman go to find out more about what the role involves.

I edit a law journal for the UK Environmental Law Association. It is dispatched six times a year to our members by e-mail. It occurred to me that some members of the society might be interested in receiving their journal by e-mail rather than as a printed copy. I would be very interested to hear from anyone who would like to receive the journal by e-mail in the future. I can see the huge advantage if storing journals on a disc rather than in boxes in the attic. I think I have every journal from the beginning and am wondering what to do with them all! If anyone would like a set of journals do let me know!

Lastly, another exciting piece of news. The Surrey Advertiser has said it would be very interested in taking articles from the journal to republish in the newspaper. I need to make detailed arrangements and hope to have an update for you in the next journal.

Keep those articles coming.

Cate Davey

The History of Send Lodge at Cartbridge, Part Two (Plus a bit about Tyler & Co. Wine & Spirit Merchants)

John Slatford

The first item in the Abstract of Title in the document collection details the sale in 1874 of Send Lodge by Richard Isaac Strong, a brewer from Redruth, to George Robert Tyler and Joseph Moore who were the trustees acting on behalf of William Tyler. The occupant at that time was Charles Thomas Tyler who was the son of William. The price paid was £700. Charles Tyler was living in Wandsworth in 1871, where he was a publisher, and so he came to Send soon after that time. He is recorded in Kelly's Directory for 1875 as being at Send Lodge. The first mention of him in the census is in 1881 at Send Lodge where he is described as a wine and spirit merchant. With his

wife Elizabeth at that time there also five daughters between the ages of four and ten and a son aged 5 months.

Elizabeth Tyler was born in Bath in 1845 the daughter of George Phillips and Elizabeth Manners. George Phillips Manners was an eminent architect in Bath in partnership with John Elkington Gill and he also served as architect and surveyor for the city of Bath between 1823 and 1862. He retired in that year and with his wife Elizabeth came to live at Send Lodge. There is no evidence but it is quite possible that he became interested in coming to live in Surrey through his partner John Gill who was born in Godalming and whose younger brother Charles Gill was an ostler and lived in Ripley. Manners died in 1866 and is buried in Send Churchyard (see figure 1). Elizabeth Manners continued living at Send Lodge and would have been there when the Tyler family bought the house. She died in 1889 and is also buried in Send.

Fig 1. Manners & Tyler Grave, Send Churchyard

George Manners family had connections with the drinks trade in Bath where his father Henry was victualler and licensee of the Bunch of Grapes there. This pub is still there known simply as The Grapes. By 1881 Charles Tyler had become a wine and spirit merchant and living with him at Send Lodge was his brother-in-law Henry Manners also described as a wine and spirit merchant. So it would seem that the Tyler wine and spirit business had its origins in the Manners drinks trade in Bath

It is likely that George Manners was responsible for landscaping the garden of Send Lodge since this is shown in some detail of paths and trees on the Ordnance Survey map,1-2500 scale, of 1871 (See figure 2). Some of the paths are to be seen in the garden today. The map also shows a boathouse facing onto the Wey Navigation and there is a slipway and the remains of a boathouse still to be seen. By the time of the 1896 edition of the OS, it appears that the house had been enlarged to something like its present size.

Although it would seem that Charles Tyler never personally owned Send Lodge, he lived there until he died in 1905 and his widow thereafter until she died in 1917. The Tyler family trustees then sold the property to James Crombie Smith for £1250. He died less than a year later on 23rd June 1918 leaving all his estate to his wife Daisy Delville Smith. She in turn the following year sold Send Lodge to Joseph O'Connor, a doctor from Guildford, for £1650, a considerable increase in less than two years.

Kelly's Directory for Woking in 1899 records that C T Tyler & Co were wine and spirit merchants in Woking located at Bank Buildings by the station on the corner of Chertsey Street and Broadway (later Barclays Bank). The C T would have been the initials of Charles Thomas Tyler.

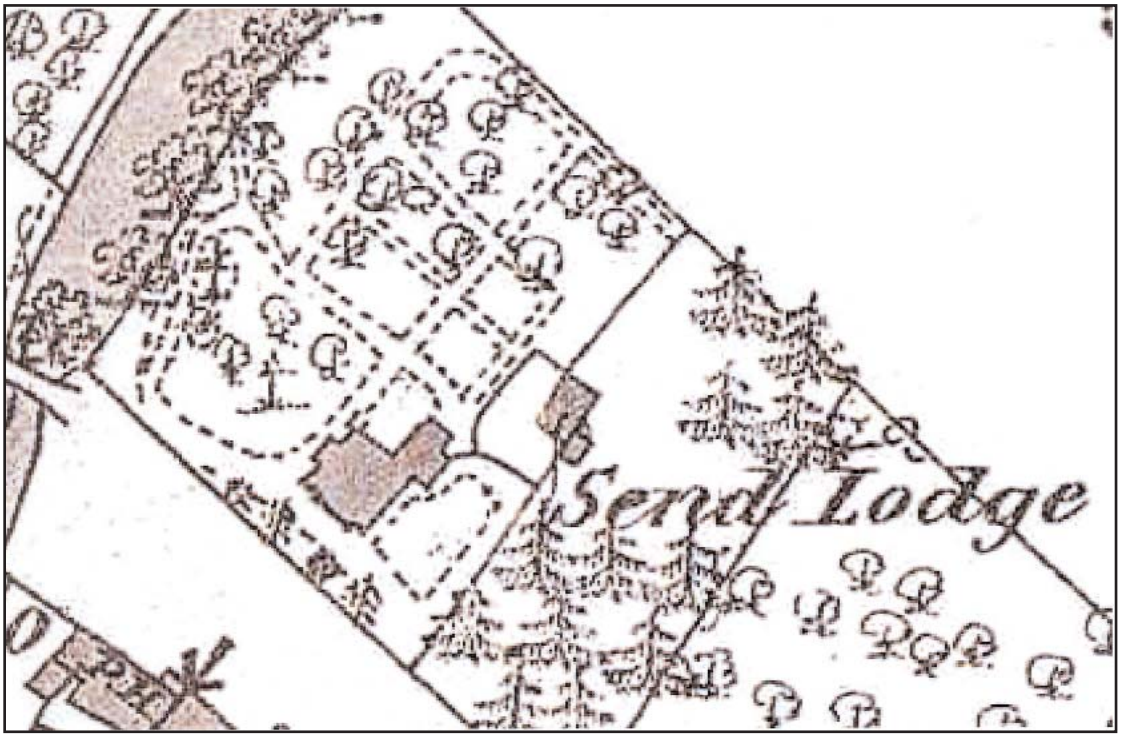


Fig. 2. Send Lodge Garden 1871

After his death, it would seem that the family sold the business which became re-established as Tyler & Co Ltd. From a later entry in Kelly's Directory, the company was still at Bank Buildings and the first Annual General Meeting was held there on July 1st 1908. The Chairman then was Charles Edward Hoskins Master of Vale Cottage, Epsom Road, Guildford. The company eventually became part of the Guildford brewery Friary Meux. The Tyler name was expanded considerably over many years establishing off-licence stores all over Surrey and the South East, including, as many will remember, at Mays Corner in Send. In 1965 Victoria Wine, part of Allied Breweries, acquired 183 Tyler wine stores from Friary Meux; eight years later the Tyler name disappeared and all the stores were rebranded as Victoria Wine.

It was after the sale to Joseph O'Connor that a piece of land adjacent to Send Lodge (on the south side) again came into the picture. This was the piece numbered 945 in the original Inclosure Award, awarded to James Lingfield and having an area stated to be 1 rood 17 perches, equal to just over 1/3 of an acre. The documents record that it had, from at least 1878, been rented by Charles Tyler initially at a rental of £1 10 shillings later increased to £3. On 30th June 1919, Joseph O'Connor purchased this "plot or plantation" for £65. There was a deposition by James Giles of Lucas Cottage, Send who said that he had been employed as a gardener since 1878 by Charles Tyler and, since he and his wife died, by the family of James Crombie Smith. He confirmed that the land in question had been rented by Charles Tyler and the Smith family at, firstly, for £1 10 shillings and later at £3.

Joseph O'Connor died in 1934 and his widow Mary Russell O'Connor continued living at Send Lodge for another three years when she sold the property and the adjacent fir plantation (as it had become called) to David Goliath Bayliss of Knaphill for £900, a considerable drop. This was completed on 7th January 1937 but just six weeks later, on 22nd February, Bayliss sold it again to Albert Palser for £1125. Albert Palser was an architect and it seems that he saw the potential for dividing the property into two separate dwellings, No 1 and No 2 Send Lodge. In the following year he sold No 1 to Bernard Evelyn Minns for £1200 while he continued living in No 2 which still included the adjacent fir plantation.

Palser remained the owner of No 2 until he died in 1955. A year later his executors sold the property to Valentine Jesse Elmes, the owner of Gladdings Store on the corner opposite to Send Lodge. This was later Lemon's shop and the site is now redeveloped as Hamilton Mews. The price paid for No 2 Send Lodge was £3800. It is likely that Valentine Elmes very quickly recouped his investment by selling the adjacent plantation upon which the present day bungalows, Cartbridge Bungalow and Weyside, were built. There is no further record of No 2 until the Finn family purchased in the mid 1980s. The present owners are Jason Senwick and Samantha Incher.

Bernard Minns lived at No 1 Send Lodge until 1956 when he sold to John Victor Duff Borthwick for £4250. He in turn sold in 1961 to Shirley Fairhead for £8250 and she remained until the present owners Norman and Linda Picken arrived in 1986.

Fig. 3 Send Lodge today

I am grateful to the late owners of No 2 Send Lodge, for passing the document collection to the Society. The collection came to them in 1989 from a firm of solicitors, E Smith & Co in London, who dealt with the last recorded purchase by Valentine Elmes. Additional documents relating to No 1 Send Lodge have also been donated by the present owners. The documents are now deposited on long loan at the Surrey History Centre. I am also grateful to Denise Chantrey and Douglas Bernhardt in Bath for additional valuable information.

Additional sources: London Metropolitan Archives.
Surrey History Centre.

A short history of Send Gardening Society

Catherine Davey and Howard Stringer

Introduction

Catherine Davey-Chairman,Send Gardening Society

The Society began life as Send Horticultural Society. It was founded in 1960 to promote an interest in horticulture and to encourage gardening in Send and the surrounding district. I well remember an assembly at Send Primary School when I was about 9 years old ,when Miss Perrin announced that Mrs Kensett, the mother of two new girls who had just moved into the village was interested in starting a horticultural society in the village and for us to mention it to our parents.

The Mayor at the show of 2004

I am currently the chair of the Society having taken the role over from Howard Stringer who in turn took over from my mother Albie Giles, upon her death in 1987. I now have all the minutes of the society in my possession.

We hold speaker meetings on the first Wednesday of the month in February, April, June and October. In recent years we have introduced an August garden party at a members house. In December we hold our AGM and a Christmas party.

Our speaker meetings consist of illustrated lectures on various aspects of gardening, slides of visits to famous gardens at home and abroad and occasional practical demonstrations.

In past years we ran a flower show in September each year when members and non-members are invited to exhibit their flowers, fruit, vegetables, cookery, and photographs. Sadly, following a decline in entries and the increasing costs of running the show we have decided not to hold one this year.

The following article was contributed by Howard Stringer, our Chairman from 1987-2007, whose death in March we also report in this Journal.

HISTORY OF THE SEND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

by Howard Stringer

The Society was founded in 1961 with the aid of a grant of £10 given by the Send Social Council, which had previously organised shows in the village. Mrs Evelyn Capel of Boughton Hall Avenue, was the first Chairman. In the first year, 80 members joined.

The first committee meeting was held in January 1961 when it was agreed :

- To apply for affiliation to the RHS
- Subscription cost would be 2/6 for single and 4/- for Family membership!

Committee members were Evelyn Capel (Chairman), Mrs Lavender (Secretary), Messrs Kensett, Bloom, Warren and Fry.

The first outing was to Kew Gardens in June 1962. The Society arranged annual outings by coach to an interesting garden. This was a whole day event, starting in the village and returning at 8pm. There would be a stop on return, to enjoy a convivial drink in a pub recommended by the

30th Anniversary, Pam Windebank serves the tea

driver. No trouble was had to fill a coach at first, but in the early 2000's members suddenly wanted to be back by 6pm, which led to difficulties in selecting a satisfactory venue and we soon stopped having them.

From 1964 meetings were held on the first Tuesday of March, May and November starting at 8.15, and the shows were changed to a small show in July and the big show in September. Tea and biscuits were to be served.

A letter was also written to the BBC requesting that they visited the Society for a "Gardeners Question Time" programme.

In 1969 Lady Lancaster donates a Silver Challenge cup to the Society.

In 1972 the Editor's mother, Alberta (Albie) Giles, took over as the Chair.

From 1977 meetings changed to start at 8pm and the July show called the "Sweet Pea and Rose" show; this was changed again in 1988 to August to bring it in line with "meetings every other month". From 1981 the Christmas party and January AGM were combined into a December meeting. In 1983 Ripley Society offered Send members the use of their trading facilities.

In 1987 Albie Giles died and the Secretary, Desmond O'Connor, asked Howard Stringer (a recently joined committee member), if he would care to take over until the AGM, when a new chairman could be elected. At the AGM he was asked to continue.

At this time the paid up membership had dropped to 50. The Society obtained permission from the Parish Council to use their poster stands (these were only used in those days for Council notices) and distributing little invitations to residents just before a show to come and see it. We also sought to bring in good speakers by attending meetings of other nearby societies and if we enjoyed the talk the secretary would ask whether he would like to give that talk to us! Wisley was a good source of speakers in those days..

By 1993 we had a membership of 95 and it carried on increasing for a time. Meetings continued to be held at the Red Cross Hut in Sandy Lane (now demolished) on a Tuesday.

2002 Gardeners' Question Time
l-r: Anne Swithinbank, Anne Brett, Bunny, Jo

1990. The Secretary, Desmond O'Connor, resigns and Elisabeth Stringer takes his place.

1991. The Society held its 30th Anniversary celebration in the Red Cross Hut - Sheila Bell and several other members who had moved away from the area attended.

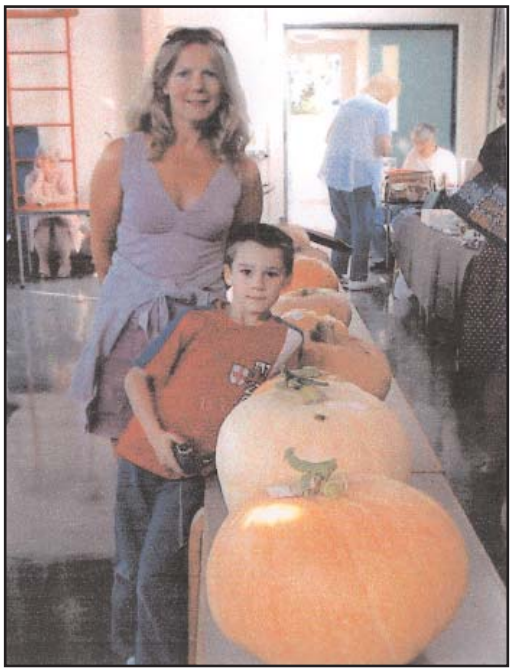
In 1996 the Society adopted a constitution at the AGM.

In 1998 the Society reached its largest ever membership number of 134. Thereafter it reduced by 5-10 a year.

The first Summer Show was held in July 1961, but a cloudburst that afternoon meant that few people came and the show made a loss.

The Society organised a big show every July in the "Drill Hall" (now the "Lancaster Hall) and a smaller one in September in the "Red Cross Hut" (now demolished) A cup was donated by Mr. Kensett and used for "Most points in the show" (Members only). The Society also ran a "Bring and Buy" sale at the May Fair.

Our Autumn show in the Lancaster Hall proved successful in general, the number exhibiting varied between 20-40 and entries 125-260. Profit varied between £30-£100, except for a small loss in 1993. Over a 10-year period the members exhibiting varied from a minimum of 23 to a maximum of 43 and entries from 124 to 264 items The show was clearly advertised in the village and notices put into residents' doors and quite a lot of visitors came. We even had the Mayor in 2004! Since 2004 the number of entries has declined and most recent Shows have run at a loss.



Fiona Collett with proud pumpkin winner, Jake, at the show held at Send Barns Lane Junior School

In 2002 the Society finally heard from the BBC apologising for the long silence and saying that they would hold a Gardeners' Question time with us this year. However, there were a few problems to be overcome. The BBC specified the day they would come and the hall chosen would have to be of satisfactory sound quality and hold 200 people. Sadly the Lancaster Hall was booked on that day and those that had booked it refused to let us have it! We decided then to try Ripley, as our nearest neighbour. Their society was very keen to support the meeting and we reserved a booking and reported to the BBC that we had chosen a venue for them to come and test it. The BBC reported that the hall was not suitable for their broadcast and we eventually ended up in the hall in Sundridge Road, Old Woking. Attendees had to apply to our Secretary for a ticket to enter and provide any question they wanted to ask. The BBC's posters went up all over Send. In the event, lots of Old Woking residents booked, a few from Send and from Ripley. However, we also received requests from villages outside our area and we ended up having a totally booked hall. The visit was in two parts, in the morning the team visited gardens of those members who had requested a visit to help with a problem and the recording in the evening in the hall.

By 2006 gradual reduction of members since 1997 resulted in enquiries being made to other societies, which elicited a widespread view that the public think that horticulture is a technical subject, difficult for them and that "Gardening" was something they could do. The name was changed to Send Gardening Society but made little difference to the membership numbers. At this time the venue of the autumn show was changed because hiring was becoming very expensive and through a committee member, Linda Daniell, who was a teacher at the Junior school in Send Barns Lane the Society secured the use of the school hall for the show. The next show was therefore designed to encourage children to show something, so Mrs Daniell decided to add a home-grown pumpkin display for them. There were lots of fine entries by the children and their parents came as well but unfortunately none of them joined the society and few of Society members came. So after three shows at the school we started to use the Church Rooms.

Howard Stringer had to retire as Chairman that year owing to serious illness and his place was taken by Catherine Davey.

Cover photo details:
l-r: Sylvia Winteridge, Bob Winteridge, Yvonne Gilding, Elisabeth Stringer, Jean Saunders, Marion Williams, Mrs Granger, June Baxter, ??, Laurie McKeague, Theresa McKeague, Barry Baxter, Brenda Butt, Keith Butt, Geof. Salmon, Derek Bromley, Geof. Rapley.

Correspondence

Sheila Hookins has written in relation to the report of the West Surrey History Society Open Day on 5 November 2011.
" The lady who took the dancing classes in the church hall in Ripley in the 1940s was not Florence Desmond. She was Betty Mason. Her mother, Mrs Mason, played the piano. They lived in Corner Cottage on Ripley Green. They expended a lot of spare time and probably money on us children. When we put on a show Betty made all the costumes at a time when material was rationed and hard to come by. Once she dressed the whole chorus line with offcuts of parachute silk on which she painted red spots. I think Betty and her mother had both been on the stage."

John Butler wrote:
"Regarding the bus in the cover picture of the last issue (J223), I am puzzled about this bus/coach. The radiator bezel can identify as pure Thorneycroft but, most unusually for Thorneycrofts, the bodywork does not allow the driver to be beside the engine. Yet the main bodywork is the same width over-all and the wheels are of an earlier design. The body front is of a mid-thirties style which would seem to be a re-body. I don't know the equivalent of the "East Surrey" in the Guildford area, but it may be a Portsmouth coach although its indicator appears to indicate a local service. I'd be interested to know what it is.

The Ripley Motor Works fuel cranes only disappeared c1962 but were out of use prior to their removal and lashed to the front wall of the works.

Whilst on motoring, I have had some old petrol cans with very fine brass threads on their brass caps. Three are plain but one has "CROWN" engraved on the top, and the fifth has "BEWLAYS". Any ideas on the manufacturer would be welcome. Only one can remains serviceable, for oil.

Lastly, to my main interest – industrial railways. I would like to know who owns the land west of Tannery Lane where the 'tunnel' from Redlands appeared to run under the lane to sandpits. I forgot to photograph it when it was working, but a cutting on the Prews Farm side is still evident. I have a few pictures of the place (Redlands) and have one of the type of diesels that worked there latterly, after their two Orenstein and Kopples were paid off."

Commenting on the above letter David Porter confirmed from the radiator that the charabanc was indeed a Thorneycroft, made in Basingstoke. He adds:
"Like most manufacturers at the time, Thorneycroft made both 'half cab' and normal control chassis, the latter being the one shown in the photograph. This goes for both Dennis and Leyland

as well. The 're-body' of a commercial vehicle, both SPSV and HGV, was very popular in the 1920s and 1930s, and lasted well into the 1950s. The coach destination blind may have had Portsmouth, London, Private Hire and Duplicate on the linen roll. They were nicknamed linen as they were printed on fabric/cloth."

On the subject of industrial railways and Redlands, David comments:
"I do not believe that the Norcon railway ventured this far. I have written about RMC when they were Hall & Co, and I believe the tunnel to which John refers is the one excavated when Halls began digging behind what was then Ben Turners behind the 'Manor'. This was about 1960. The very large crane known as a dragline used in this excavation was, I believe, a Priestman. Member Michael Morris's father, Bill, worked for the company many years ago. Michael may be able to confirm this machine. The alternative would have been a Ruston Bucyrus as used by Tom Smith in his pit behind St Bede's School."

On John Butler's final paragraph David observes:
"John's ownership of a narrow gauge (2') diesel engine suggests that he may be the person who owned the length of 2' railway track which ran alongside Grove Heath Road about 20 years ago adjacent to the farm (near the A3 by-pass). Parked upon this length of rail was a rake of hopper wagons used to convey stone from a quarry. From where it all came has always been a mystery to me – also its disappearance! John may hold the answers! Two Orenstein and Kopple engines – Were they diesel or steam. Orenstein and Kopple made both."

The last-mentioned letter was shown to John who observed that he had nothing to add which would be of interest to members of SRHS.

As regards the tunnel under Polesden Lane, in Newsletter No. 64 Part 5 of a series of articles on local mineral extraction by Les Bowerman contains the following paragraph:
"Meanwhile (i.e. after the first Papercourt pit was worked), in 1953 the first of the pits which were to become the sailing club lake was opened. Work began very deep at the north-east corner (OS043564), but further south in about 1960 as it approached footpath No. 40 at Send Marsh, the gravel petered out (i.e. the clay was at a higher level). When this pit was started, a channel was opened at OS039562 across Polesden Lane and a 6' tunnel of concrete pipes was inserted and the road reinstated. This was for use of a conveyor to take material to the plant on the original site. The tunnel was dug in two stages to allow for continuous use of the road. Member Fred Hookins was the driver of the digger which did the actual excavation (and indeed provided much of the information for the article). On completion of this phase in the late 1950s, the site was landscaped for use as a sailing lake."

At the time of writing this for the Journal the Sailing Club Lake is up for sale.

Member Nicholas Gadd writes to say:
"As a member of the Send & Ripley History Society I have to tell you of my absolute delight at seeing a picture of my grandfather in Journal 223. Walter Gadd was a postman in Ripley and Ockham for 34 years and can be seen holding on to his bicycle outside the Post Office which was part of the King & Hollyer shop.

Born on 16 February 1888, Walter lived at 1 Hedgecroft Cottages and his good friend Bert Freeman, also a postman, lived at 4 Hedgecroft. I am trying to date the photo and at the moment I believe it to be somewhere between 1935 and 1940. If any of your readers can help with identifying the year I would be most grateful. I would also like to thank Jane Bartlett for providing me with an enlarged copy of the original photograph."

Obituaries

Sylvia Winteridge 1923-2012

We are very sorry to report the death of Sylvia Winteridge on 18 March 2012. Sylvia was born in Dorking in 1923. Her family moved to Leatherhead when she was a child. At school in Leatherhead she sat next to Betty Winteridge and through this got to know Bob. They were married on Armistice Day - 11 November 1944.

Sylvia Winteridge

In 1956 Sylvia and Bob moved into the bungalow at Cartbridge in Send where Bob still lives. Sylvia quickly became involved in the village, serving for 14 years on the Parish Council. Perhaps some will remember the New Year's Eve parties at the Lancaster Hall that she used to organise; and of course she co-edited Send's newsletter before it became part of Ripley and Send Matters. Sylvia's contribution to village life was recognised with an invitation to a Buckingham Palace garden party. Her other interests included cycling, gardening and birds. Sylvia and Bob were keen cyclists when younger and were members of the East Surrey Road Cycling Club. Sylvia was a keen gardener and an active member of Send Gardening Society until illness prevented her from attending. She worked for many years in the office at the laundry in Potters Lane (where the development known as Worsfold Gates now stands).

Sadly, 13 years ago Sylvia was rushed into hospital with acute pancreatitis from which she was not expected to recover. Doctors reckoned without her determination, but the illness left her with many problems and she eventually became housebound. Nevertheless, Sylvia always continued to take an interest in the life of the village.

Connie Garside 1909-2011

by Mavis Perryman

Connie Warner was born on 4th February, 1909, in a house in Old Woking on the opposite side of the road from the Crown and Anchor Inn. She went to school in Old Woking and started work, as was the custom then, at 14, following her father by going to Unwins printing works, also in Old Woking. She was on the office side whereas her father was in the print rooms. She told me that

when the area flooded, as it did regularly then, a horse and cart would come and meet the workers at the bridge by the road and take them to work – no excuse then! She married Ron Garside early in World War Two and they went to live in Potters Lane. They did not have any children and Connie worked her way up to become Chief Secretary to the bosses. She continued full-time until she was 63 and then worked part-time until her mid-seventies.

© Mavis Perryman

Connie Garside aged 102 in 2011 at Gresham Mill with Mark the site manager

Connie's husband died at some stage and she remained in Send, latterly with a friend. In 1991 she moved to Park Court Flats in Constitution Hill, Woking, looking after herself with warden assistance. She had someone come in to do her housework, but otherwise was independent. I met her some years ago coming to Send Lunch Club – she loved her food and always left a clean plate. A lady who came from Woking (ex-Heath Drive) brought her. Connie drove, rode a bicycle and was very organised. She had all of her hundred or so 100th Birthday cards sorted into groups and she gave me most, except for her family cards, to stick into a scrapbook for her – in order, please!

Last autumn I took Connie to the Gresham Mill building site to see what they were doing and the Sales staff were delighted to meet her. She lent them a book on the history of Unwins. She belonged to many groups, being collected by members.

Finally, Connie decided to go on a Carribean cruise on the Queen Mary with her niece, Rhona, from Scotland. She was taken ill just before Christmas on a small island and was transferred to Martinique where she sadly died on 27th December. She had a wonderful life and was always very smartly dressed. A memorial service was held at St Mary Bethany Church in Mount Hermon Road, Woking, on 25th January to celebrate a very long, interesting and eventful life of 102 years. A lovely lady.

Note by Les Bowerman: Connie is the fifth person resident or formerly resident in Send to have reached the great OO since the Society was formed in 1975. Others have been Eveline Lancaster of Sendholme in 1976, Ethel Tice aged 104 in 1981, Dorrie Challen in 2005 and Elsie Robinson in 2008. Curiously, no Ripleyites have been reported to have reached that magic milestone in the past 37 years, although as far back as the 1700s Ripley was renowned for its healthfulness.

Professor Joan White CBE, BA, MA, FRSA 1941-2012

Our member, Joan Wendy White died suddenly on February 21st at the age of 71. She was born in Tonbridge, Kent in 1941 and grew up there being educated at Tonbridge Girl's Grammar School. She came to Ripley in 1983 and was the first resident in the newly built Church Row cottages. Although well known in the village as Joanne, the name she preferred, few, if any, could say they knew much about her; she was a very private person. In reality, she was a person of great achievement in her field of dance education. Such was her notability that she was awarded a CBE

Reproduced by kind permission of Royal Academy of Dance. Photo: F.A.

in the recent New Years Honours List for services to dance (she preferred to call it dance education) but sadly she died before she could receive it.

After a varied career in dance education, in 1987 she became Lecturer and Course Director in Performing Arts and Dance Studies at the University of Surrey in Guildford In 1999, Joan was appointed to be Director of the Royal Academy of Dance in London, which continued until her retirement in July last year. In her field of dance education, she was at different times engaged in dance research projects, chair of examiners for GCE A and AS levels for dance assessment, a consultant to, among others, the Royal Ballet, a member of many organisations concerned with the Arts and dance education and a prolific writer and contributor to books and journals. In her field she was very well known and highly regarded, not just in the UK but overseas as well. In Ripley, she served for a number of years as a Parish Councillor and was a Governor and, for a short period, Chair of the Governors of Ripley C of E Primary School.

Her funeral at Guildford Crematorium on March 5th was conducted in the Quaker tradition. A celebration of her life is to be held at 5pm on Saturday 14th July at the Royal Festival Hall in London.

Howard Stringer 1923-2012

With thanks for permission to reproduce this obituary from Joan Morgan and the Fruit Forum.

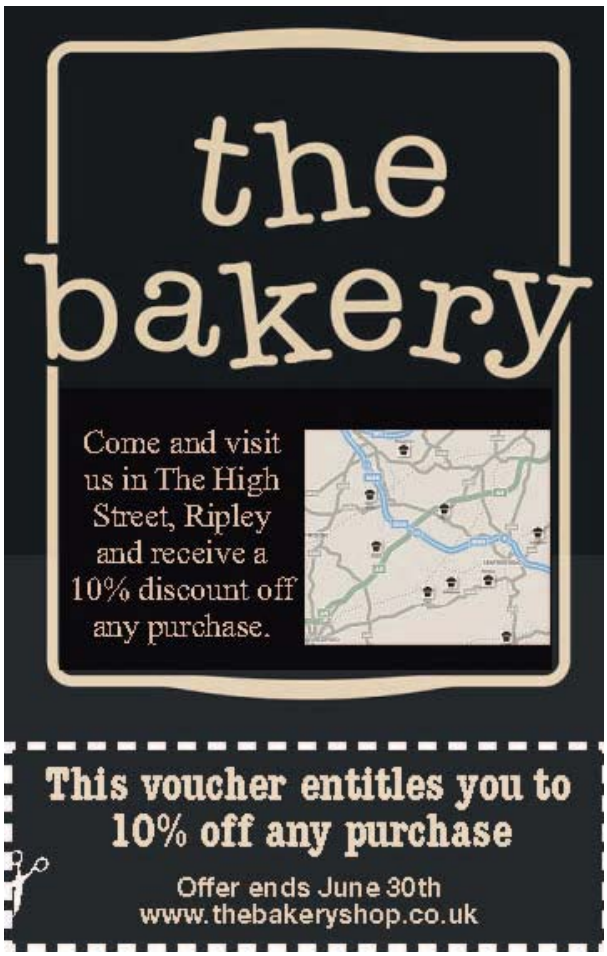
With great sadness we inform visitors to this website of the death of Howard Stringer on 24 February 2012 aged 89 years. Howard's last contribution to Fruit Forum was to the Blog where he wrote about the Uttwiler Spätlauber apple, a native of Uttwil in the Swiss canton of Thurgau. Though little known, it has exceptional keeping quality, never wrinkling in store, an attribute which is now being exploited by the cosmetics industry as an ingredient of anti-ageing cream. This charming combination of fact, curiosity and inquiry characterised Howard's writings and his rich knowledge of fruit backed by many years of practical experience.

By profession, Howard was an engineer, but even as a child he had been interested in growing fruit. Howard bought his first fruit tree when only eleven years old from the proceeds of a paper round; he gave half of his earnings to his mother and used the remainder to buy a pear tree. While he was away during the war years his mother kept him informed of its progress, when it flowered and how much fruit it

Photograph of Howard Stringer reproduced with kind permission from the website of Daniel Willaeys; from 'In Memoriam Howard Stringer', http://blog.seniorennet.be/fruit/

produced; the tree still grows in the garden of his childhood home. At his own family home in Send, near Woking, Surrey, over the past thirty five years or so, Howard built up an extensive fruit collection in an acre of garden. Cherries were a particular passion, and he also grew apples, pears and soft fruits. The village of Send is just around the corner from the Royal Horticultural Society's Wisley Garden, where Howard became very familiar with the Society's fruit collection and a member of the RHS Fruit Group, serving on its committee for many years. He also joined East Malling's 'Research Association' and here too Howard became a valued participant in debates and discussions.

As well as being interested in the technicalities of fruit cultivation, Howard delighted in exploring a wide range of varieties. The apple Finkenwerder Prinz that arose on the island of Finkenwerder in the Alte Land near Hamburg was one he grew and he even facilitated its introduction to North America. As a result of his writings championing its virtues, Howard was contacted by another enthusiast Eckart Brandt, who had a large collection of old varieties growing outside Hamburg that included Finkenwerder Prinz, which is well suited to the high summer rainfall of the Alte Land and resistant to scab. Howard was able to put amateur fruit growers in Seattle in search of a scab resistant variety for their rainy climate in touch with Brandt and Finkenwerder Prinz found a new home in Washington. Howard was fluent in German and he understood Dutch and Flemish, which allowed him to establish many contacts on the continent with individuals and societies. He communicated with the great German pomologist the late Herbert Petzold and thus relayed to English readers the story of how the Frau Mieze Schindler strawberry acquired its unusual name - 'Mieze' is the German term by which you beckon a cat and the equivalent of 'puss, puss'; we reprint below Howard's account.



It is through Howard that the UK enjoys such close relations with Belgium's fruit community, that is via the leading society Nationale Boomgaarden Stichting (NBS) and his friendship with Daniel Willaeys who runs an organic fruit enterprise near Antwerp. The connection was cemented in October 1993 when Howard and his wife Elisabeth, along with the late Bob Sanders and his wife Pam, took an exhibit from the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale to Europom; a spectacular pan-European fruit show invented by the NBS and then held only in Belgium. Now Europom is staged throughout Europe, Jim Arbury and the RHS take exhibits every year to different countries and in 2010 Europom came to Wisley.

Of all Howard's fruit activities, his greatest interest was probably Brogdale and the National Fruit Collection. Through the ups and downs since 1990 Howard and Elisabeth were loyal supporters, contributing enormously in so many ways. When the Ministry of Agriculture's experimental station, the National Fruit Trials at

Brogdale, Kent, was closed by the Thatcher government in 1989/90 and the security of its unique fruit collection threatened, Howard was among the many fruit lovers concerned as to its fate and again in 2007 when there was the possibility that the National Fruit Collection, as it had become known, might be moved from Brogdale to another site. But public pressure again ensured that it remained at Brogdale.

As many readers will know, the whole Brogdale site was bought in 1990 by the Brogdale Horticultural Trust and then in 2000 by HillReed Land. The land and buildings passed into private hands, but the Collection remained in the ownership of the Ministry (now Defra), which holds a long lease on the land, and Defra provides the funding for its maintenance and curatorship. The first holders of this Defra contract were Wye College and the Trust, which opened up the Collection to the public for the first time in 1990. Howard became involved in this engagement with visitors as a member of the Friends organisation and one of the 'experts' dispensing advice on fruit cultivation, particularly at the fruit events and festivals. Howard was an excellent communicator and he also produced many articles for Fruit News as well as other publications. He continued to be an active member of the Friends of the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale until last year, when he was still writing articles.

We will all miss him very much. ■

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Museum, next to the Village Hall, is open every Saturday morning from 10.00 to 12.30pm and on the third Sunday in the month to coincide with the Antiques Fair. Come and see the new exhibition entitled '60 Glorious Years' – a brief look at six decades of history in Send and Ripley in parallel with a Royal timeline, including photographs and royal memorabilia. Weather permitting, this exhibition will also be on show on the Recreation Ground at Send and on Ripley Green on Monday 4th June, when children can come and make their very own crown. See below for more details.

Monday, 7th May – Send May Day Fair. Offers of help in setting up the Society's stall and/or manning it to Peter Croucher, please, on 01483 769653.

Tuesday, 8th May - A walk to St. Catherine's, Guildford, with David Rose, starting at Ye Olde Ship Inn, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, for coffee and finishing there for lunch. There is only one space left. Those from Send & Ripley who have booked should meet, please, at the Manor House, Send Marsh Green, at 10.30am, so we can arrange possible lifts for members without transport. There will be a charge of £6 per person for the tour .

Monday, 4th June – Queen's Diamond Jubilee holiday. Help is needed to erect the Society's tent on Send Recreation Ground for the afternoon and possibly to transport everything to Ripley Green for the evening. Offers, please, to Clare McCann on 01483 728546.

Monday, 18th June – A guided tour of Lord's Cricket Ground and Museum, followed by lunch. Please meet at Send Marsh Green at 9.45am so we can arrange lifts if possible. There are a few spaces left. If anyone else would like to come, please contact me for details

Wednesday, 4th July – An evening walk around Old Woking with Iain Wakeford. Meet at Send Marsh Green at 6.40pm or at the roundabout car park in Old Woking at 7 o'clock. There will be a charge of £2 per person and the walk will finish at the Crown and Anchor.

Saturday, 28th and 29 July – The Olympic cycle road races for men and women, respectively, will be passing through Ripley. Further details of displays by SRHS will be given in the next issue of the Journal.

If there are any questions regarding the programme, please ring me, Anne Bowerman, on 01483 224876 for further information.

Journal Contributions: Closing date for the next issue is **Sunday 24 June 2012.**
Will authors of illustrated articles please submit **original photographic prints** if at all possible to ensure reasonably good reproduction in the Journal

Photo © Neil Blaydon

SEND & RIPLEY
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Also open on 3rd Sunday of each month to coincide with Ripley Antiques Fair in the Village Hall

Other times for school groups and small parties by arrangement

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

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

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

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

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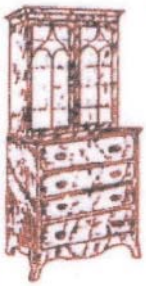

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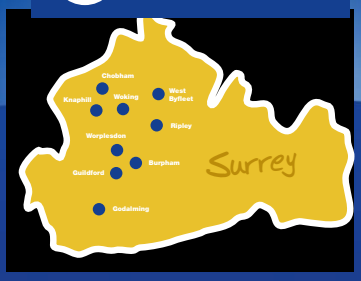

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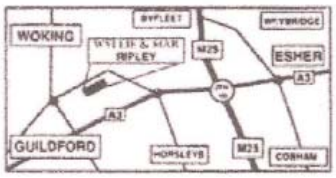

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