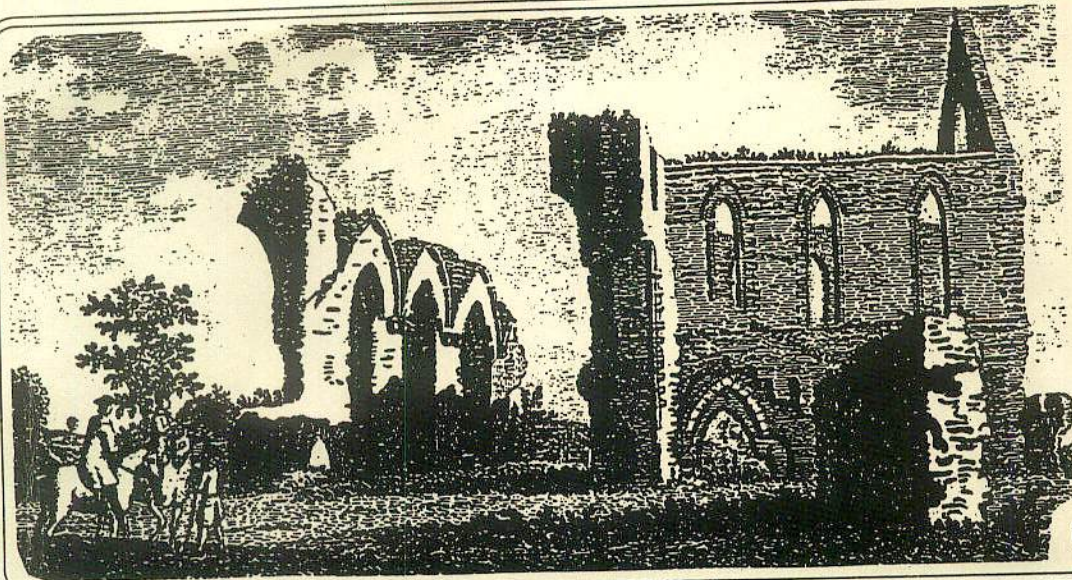


Send E Ripley History Society



Newark Priory

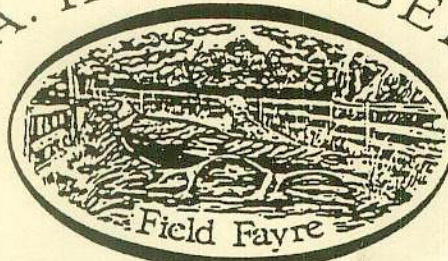
Newsletter No.119

November/December 1994



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Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society
Registered Charity No 296324

President: Mr. L.G. Bowerman

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

Chairman: Mr. L.G. Bowerman

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Typed by Mrs. Chris Parker.

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November/December 1994

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Cover Illustration: Christmas Greetings Postcard c 1900 (original in colour)

EDITOR'S COMMENT

As 1994 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those members and friends who have contributed to the Newsletter. The comments I receive from time to time indicate that those members who cannot attend our meetings appreciate reading about the history of the two villages. I would also like to thank our advertisers for their support, and hope that they will continue to support us in 1995.

The Society will be celebrating its 20th anniversary on Saturday, 28 January, at the Hautboy Hotel, when it is hoped that as many members as possible will come and enjoy an informal social evening. Please return your application for tickets as soon as possible.

Mentioned elsewhere in the Newsletter is the vacancy for a Treasurer, which will occur at our AGM in February 1995, when Patricia Medlen retires.

Last but not least, a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to all our members and friends.

THE SOCIETY WINS A GUILDFORD HERITAGE AWARD

Send & Ripley History Society is in the news as winner of the Environmental category of the much-coveted Guildford Heritage Awards.

The Awards Scheme was conceived in 1986 "in recognition of the need to stimulate a community interest in preserving and enhancing the beauty and character of our local environment". The Awards acknowledge buildings and projects that have been sympathetically designed, built or restored, and that have made a significant contribution to the conservation or enhancement of Guildford's architectural and ecological heritage.

There are five categories, viz new buildings, refurbishment, Environmental, schools and, for the first time this year, a Considerate Contractor Award. It was suggested to us a couple of months ago that we should enter our Local History Museum, which we duly did. John Slatford, Chairman of our Museum Subcommittee, and I subsequently entertained the panel of four judges at the museum. They were Peter Clarke, Secretary of the West Surrey Branch of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Ron Phillips, the architect for English Heritage, Auriol Earle, a Committee member of the Guildford Society, and Ann Dent, a senior reporter for the "Surrey Advertiser". They seemed impressed, but had many more entries to visit.

The news then came that we had won the Environmental category. Previous winners have been Normandy village pond, the Evelyn Terraces in Albury Park, Dapdune Wharf in Guildford, Millmead Car Park and Riverside Walk, the garden at Holy Trinity Church in Guildford, Withies Pond at Compton, and The Bars in Guildford (sounds interesting, that last one!).

John and I received invitations to attend the Award's presentation at the restored Guildhall in the High Street. The presentation was made by Martin Bradshaw, Director of the Civic Trust, who said we were outright winners of our category and that we had done a superb job. John was presented with our Award, which consisted of a lettered scroll recording our achievement. After the ceremony and photographs, John and I had a long chat, both with the Mayor of Guildford, who explained to us some of the Borough's unique collection of silver, and with Mr Bradshaw, who was particularly impressed with the fact that the moving of the NatWest Bank building and its setting up as a museum, with the helpful cooperation of the Village Hall Committee, was an entirely voluntary project.

Congratulations once again, then, to all who have been involved with the museum, which brings the centre of communal interest in Ripley more firmly to the Village Hall area. We are now well and truly on the map.

Les Bowerman (President)

THE ONE STOP SHOP, RIPLEY HIGH STREET

By John Slatford

Another chapter in the history of the Ripley grocer's shop began in September 1994 with the opening of One Stop Community Store. Sadly, the Richardson family, having owned the business since 1975, have given it up to concentrate on their hardware and florist shop.

What most people will probably not realise is that there has been a grocer's business in this building for well over 150 years. Overall, the building and its owners are still being researched and it is hoped that a full history will be published at a later date.

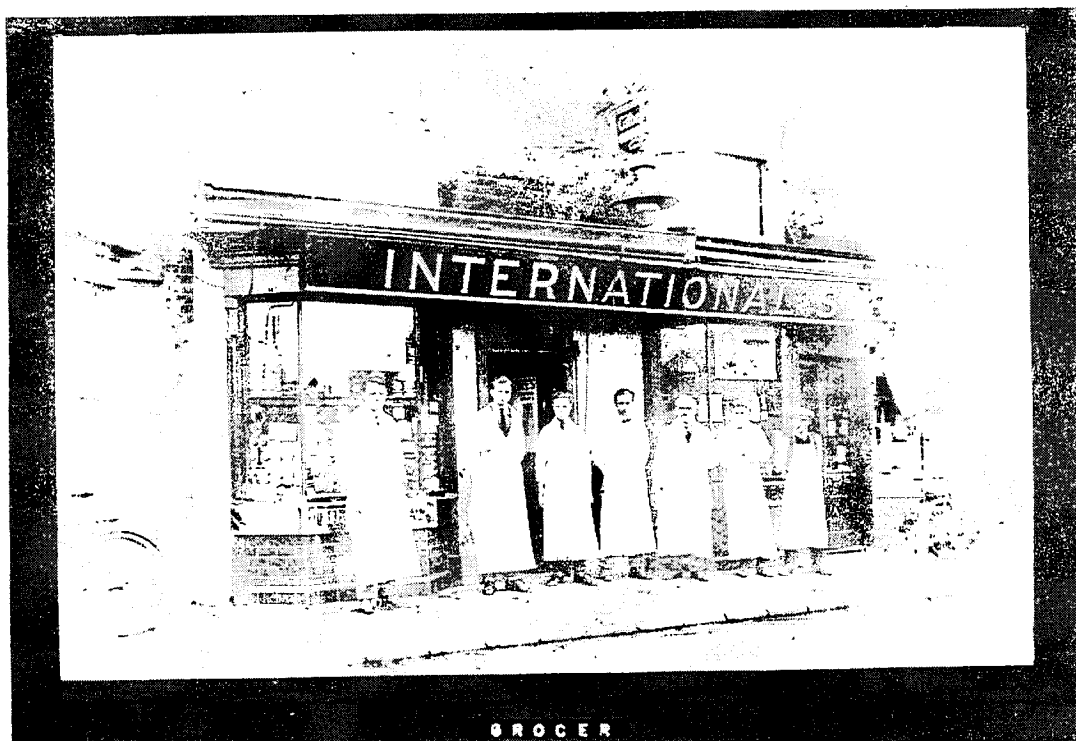
In a directory for 1838, Thomas Greenfield is shown as a grocer and cheesemonger in Ripley. In 1832, he was shown as a shopkeeper and draper and, in the 1826 Pigott's Directory, as a draper. We know, from the 1841 census, that he was then a grocer, living next but one to the Ship Inn.

Thomas Greenfield came from Pulborough, in Sussex. His wife, Hannah, was born in Woking. Their ten children, with the possible exception of the eldest, were all born in Ripley, although, strangely, none was baptised there. Thomas died in 1860, a year after his wife, and the grocer's business was continued by his son, John. This did not last very long, however, for by 1867, the name, William Henry Tedder, had appeared in Kelly's Directory.

William Tedder came from Easebourne, just outside Midhurst. He seems to have run the grocery business for some 30 years before handing over to his sons, James and Owen Hugh, who continued until around 1917. William Tedder died in 1909, aged 88. He was then living in London, but was buried in Ripley. The Tedders seem to have invested in property in Ripley, and it is interesting that on the title deed of our bank/museum building, Owen Hugh is recorded as the vendor of the original cottages to the Westminster Bank for £400.

In 1918, the International Tea Stores (as they were then known) acquired the business and it continued under this ownership for almost 60 years, until it became Richardsons Supermarket in 1975.

One Stop is a business owned by Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers plc, operating in different parts of the country. We hope that the new ownership will prosper and further enhance the service already provided in the village for so many years.



The International Stores c 1920s

CHRISTMAS 1944

In the run-up to Christmas, beginning about the middle of November, right up to Christmas Eve, shops in Woking, as, no doubt, everywhere else, were doing their best to stimulate trade, although during the last year of the war, there were many restrictions and more yet to follow in the following year, even though the war ended in 1945. The Woking News & Mail has recently celebrated its 100th anniversary, having produced its first edition on Friday, October 19th 1894. This newspaper has always covered Send and Ripley particularly well with news of events over that period. I therefore visited Woking Public Library, where copies of the newspaper are held on film, but the earliest record there is from 1897, although the first edition is no doubt held at the Newspaper Library at Colindale. Having, therefore, been unable, in the time available, to check what happened to Send and Ripley 100 years ago, I looked at 1944 and found the following two entries, which may prove of interest.

The first is an account (see opposite page) by Corporal George Hampshire of his experiences in the Army in Burma. The second entry concerns the Headmaster of Ripley School, Fred Dixon, and his application to use part of the common land behind Ripley village, now known as the Green, for use as a children's playground.

The Woking News & Mail, of course, carried regular information on the cinemas, of which there were three in Woking: the Ritz, the Odeon and the Plaza. The Ritz was the most modern and palatial of the three, the Odeon a close second, and the Plaza was known as the Bug Hutch or Flea Pit. Each cinema had two complete programmes a week, so it was possible to see a different programme on six nights a week. An illustration of the advertisement for November 20 1944 is given in this Newsletter.

Looking for something seasonal, the edition on Friday, November 17 (see page 6), shows an early start to Christmas with an advertisement for Father Christmas at Bentall's store, Kingston. This is the front page of the Woking News & Mail and it contains a lot of useful information, particularly regarding the rationing of food, for which points were taken from a ration book each week against food purchases, and coupons were required whenever purchasing clothing. The prices shown for food and materials should be compared with the average wage, which would have been around £4 a week.

Ken Bourne

MUSEUM ON A SHOESTRING

About 18 members were entertained by Mrs Jean Parratt at Send Red Cross Hall on 27 October with her talk relating to her experience in building up a private collection. The artefacts, well in excess of 3000, most of which had either been given or found and had cost virtually nothing, had taken her several years to collect. The total cost over the years had amounted to not more than £50 and a few of these items were on display on a table in the hall. Perhaps one of the most intriguing was a small ivory tube which was used for collecting fleas by certain members of Victorian society, using an ingenious technique involving raw meat and the inability of the flea to exit from the tube once having gorged itself on the meat. Mrs Parratt lives in a house which has been built on an ancient site, and several of her finds, including Roman coins, have emerged from her garden. Other articles included Victorian underclothes and one item, which she did have to purchase, was an exquisite, rather fragile lady's parasol. There were numerous other items, which space does not permit to list. Suffice it to say that the enthusiasm demonstrated by Jean Parratt for her subject resulted in a most informative and entertaining evening. Jean has written five books on the history of Farnham and will be publishing another book on her collecting experiences.

Ken Bourne

HOME FROM BURMA

First English Christmas Since
1938

One of the happiest family groups in Send this Christmas was the Hampshire family, who live at 2, May's Corner. Mr. and Mrs. Hampshire's son, Corpl. George Hampshire, Queen's Royal Regiment, came home from the Burma front on a well-earned 28 days' leave on December 6th, and spent his first Christmas with his family for six years.

Cpl. Hampshire, who is 26, is a well-known Send man. He was born in Send and went to Send School. He was called up with the militia in November, 1939, and almost immediately went abroad to India. There he served for two years, at first at Allahabad, on the North-West Frontier, where he was wounded. Later he was at Peshawar, and then went to fight on the Arakan front.

The worst part about the Burma front, he says, is that there is no entertainment—nothing to occupy the troops' leisure time. He and his companions used to organize discussions on such things as post-war reconstruction, in which the men were keenly interested. But when they came back from the line, he said, they were well looked after and provided for.

Fighting conditions were about the worst of any theatre of the war, he said. They had a lot of hand-to-hand fighting with the Japanese, and of the Jap soldier Cpl. Hampshire says he is quite a formidable fighter, but has no discipline. The Japanese soldier fights fanatically, and life seems to mean nothing to him. That is, Cpl. Hampshire thinks, a great part of the secret of his fighting qualities. One of his tasks was the escorting of Jap prisoners. Fighting took place in dense jungle and the main trouble was disease. Malaria, dysentery and 'jungle sores' were common, and nearly every soldier out there knows what these things mean, he says. There is no big advance in the jungle. Every inch of ground must be taken by hand-to-hand fighting.

After his five years in the East, Cpl. Hampshire returned to a new England, much changed by war. But his chief impression seems to have been one of relief that British morale has remained so high. 'Out there,' he told our reporter, 'we heard about the blitz, the food shortage and rationing, and the U-bat menace, then about flying bombs. We couldn't help getting anxious. We heard rumours. But everything is much better than we thought, including the food situation.' And here, we have no doubt, Cpl. Hampshire was thinking of the excellent home-made Christmas pudding and mince-pies he had enjoyed. He hadn't tasted anything quite like that since Christmas, 1938.

Also home for Christmas is Cpl. W. Pullen, of Ripley High Street, Ripley. Cpl. Pullen and Cpl. Hampshire knew each other when they were schoolboys. They were called up together, and have served together throughout the war. They were together in India and Burma, and came home on the same leave boat, for the same leave period.

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Leading
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To-day & Saturday—
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MONDAY, NOV. 20th For SIX DAYS

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TEARLE • CASALIS
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ALSO **SENSATIONS of 1945**
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Manager: H. Marchant

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6.35

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4.35
7.35

3.30
6.35

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No. 2578

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CHERTSEY ROAD
WOKING



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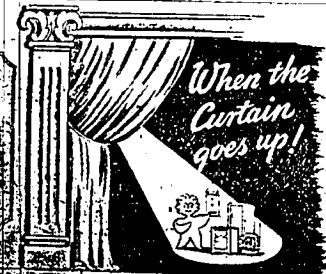
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What Joy for the Kiddies!!

THE TOY FAIR Open

(On the Ground Floor)

MORE GOOD NEWS!

What a Thrill for the Kiddies!!

Chessington Circus

COMES TO BENTALLS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25
TWICE DAILY at 1.30 and 3.30

MORE GOOD NEWS!

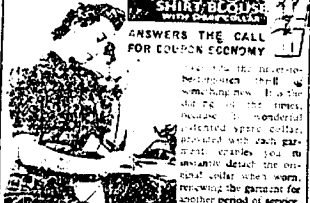
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Plain Colours in attractive Art. Silk	32/9

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Attractive Cafe with good menu. Gory Lounge.

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10, BENTALLS BUILDING, 2nd FLOOR,
WOKING - 153 of 155

PUBLIC NOTICES

(See also page 4)

THE VICTORY CAMPAIGN

10 HOURS DANCING

AT THE

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1944

8.30 p.m. to 1.30 a.m.

Admission 2/6

Box 10/6

Box 15/6

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COURTESY ROAD MEMORIAL

ANNIVERSARY

SERVICES

AT THE

YORKSHIRE CAFE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1944

8.30 p.m. to 1.30 a.m.

Admission 2/6

Box 10/6

Box 15/6

Box 20/6

THE HISTORY OF "MONTLHERY", PORTSMOUTH ROAD, RIPLEY

About 1928, Mr Thomas Gillett, MBE, bought a 20 acre plot of woodland, about a mile from Ripley, on the Guildford side, on the main Portsmouth Road. The intention was to turn it into a poultry farm. His family consisted of his wife, Mrs Nellie Gillett, and their four sons, Jack, Tony, Ted and Ian.

Thomas Gillett was an engineer by profession and Managing Director of AC Cars Ltd of Thames Ditton, Surrey. He had recently broken the One-Man, 24-Hour World Speed Record, driving a 6-cylinder, single-seater AC on the "Montlhery" race track near Paris, breaking, at the same time, 15 other world records over shorter distances. It was, therefore, decided to call the property "Montlhery".

First, about a third of the large oak trees were cleared by selling them to a timber merchant near Leatherhead. Next a driveway was cleared and laid for a distance of about 150 yards into the woods from the main road. Clearance was then made for the erection of living quarters, garage and outhouses. A local woodcutter was employed to assist.

The living quarters consisted of an ex-World War I double married Army Officers' quarters. This was transported to the site and erected, together with other sections suitable for a garage and outhouses. Water, electricity and telephone were laid on, and the family moved in. (The telephone number was Ripley 76.)

Work then proceeded to clear spaces for the poultry cabins, each being 40' x 14' in size. An area, or "run", of a quarter of an acre per cabin was wired off. The run was wired off into two halves: the poultry were released into each half for periods of two to three weeks at a time, so that they always had fresh ground. Electricity was laid on to each cabin and controlled by a Venner time switch, which was continually adjusted to give the same length of "daylight" all year round.

The woodcutter cleared all the spaces required, by first cutting down a medium-sized oak tree, the cut being made about three feet from the ground, leaving the stump for use as a chopping block. All the wood for a radius of about 20 feet around the stump was then cut and made into bundles of bean sticks, pea sticks, broom handles, posts, etc, for which there was a ready market.

The problem of water was solved by a friend who was a water diviner using hazel twigs. He located a spring just inside the top boundary. There was a gentle slope to the cabins and the work was quickly completed, with draining ditches dug down to the stream by the road.

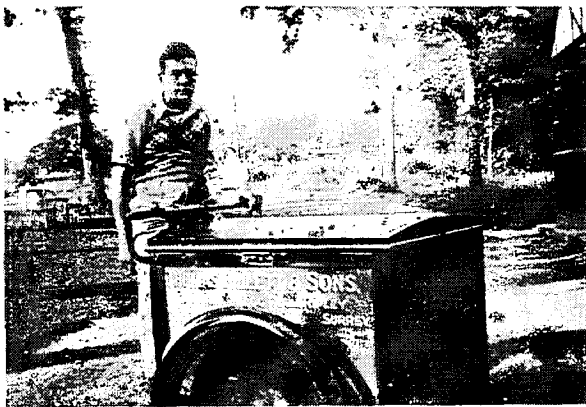
The woods were inhabited by numerous forms of wildlife, including squirrels, rabbits, stoats and weasels, also a number of snakes, all harmless except for a few vipers which had a distinctive "V" on the head. The draining ditches had to be kept clear of undergrowth every year, and on one such occasion, when one of the sons was doing this, he cut a viper in half with the faghook he was using, as the viper was about to strike!

Hatching was by large incubators. A Japanese expert was engaged to separate cocks from hens as soon as they hatched. The pullets were reared as laying birds. The cocks were fed separately for about five to six weeks and then killed, plucked and dressed for sale as petit poussin. It was reckoned in those days that to rear 5000 laying pullets, one had to hatch about 20,000 eggs and allow for about 50% of deaths through various causes, natural causes being by far the largest. Many others died through suffocation, in spite of everything being done to prevent them huddling together when sleeping at night. Rats and other vermin accounted for a lot more. To guard against rats, the sons took it in turn to sit up in a cabin all night, keeping very quiet, with a loaded 20 bore shotgun, which had a spotlight attached to the barrel and was connected to a car battery. As soon as movement was heard, the light was switched on, and so long as the "spot" was on the rat, it was never missed.

The poultry were looked after by the sons. The eggs were collected, washed and tested, then packed into 30 dozen cases ready for dispatch. To begin with, they were taken by motor cycle and box carrier to Esher, Kingston and Wimbledon, etc, and later London, and also sold to private houses, hotels and hospitals. The demand grew, other produce was added, such as dressed poultry, homemade cakes and jams.

Teddy Gillett, the only surviving son, has added the following comment:

"I do remember that either Ian, or Jack, and I used to take the eggs to Kingston, etc. We used to pull up just before Wisley Hut, then start together and race to Esher. The police eventually caught up with us and called at the farm to complain to our father, who made us leave 20 minutes apart. We just carried on, the one leaving first waited at the roadside until joined by the other! This carried on until the steering link broke on my (Teddy's) bike, resulting in six dozen eggs being 'scrambled' on the Portsmouth Road. A well bandaged Teddy was returned home by the Ripley doctor. It was soon after this event that the bikes were exchanged for Ford vans."



It is not surprising to hear that the sons were interested in motor racing, Brooklands being so near. They became members and attended every meeting, two of them driving successfully in a number of events.

"Montlhery"'s neighbours included large landowners, employing keepers to look after their game. Pheasants from these estates often wandered into the woods. Rumour had it that, unbeknown to Mr Gillett senior, they were encouraged so to do by feed "accidentally" dropped by the sons, who were all very keen shooters!

Meantime, at weekends it was decided to set up a stall by the roadside. Traffic was light in those days, but at weekends it became busier with people taking runs into the country, including numerous charabancs and coach parties. Also the route was popular with cycling clubs of anything between 20 and 40 riders (these clubs were very unpopular with motorists).

The first stall consisted of two trestle tables and a large door covered with a white cloth. A large notice was placed by the roadside offering new-laid eggs for sale. From the first day, cars began stopping and a number of regular customers were quickly built up - many names and addresses were handed in with requests for eggs to be delivered weekly. It was common to see two or three cars stopped at the stall, parked at the roadside. The sons made extra money in the spring by selling bunches of primroses and bluebells, which grew in profusion in the woods. Primroses were 3d (1.5p) and bluebells 4d (2p).

Mrs Gillett was a first class cook, so it was decided to offer homemade cakes along with the eggs. These proved an instant success. About this time Mr Gillett senior was asked by a friend, who had emigrated to Bolivia to mine for tin, to buy and take out to him six Foden tractors and advise with certain engineering factors connected with the mine. This Mr Gillett agreed to do and was away for several months.

By now things were going well with the farm and the stall, and it was decided, in view of the ever increasing demand, to build a roadside cafe. An area was cleared, a driveway in and out and car park made. Another ex-World War I bungalow was bought and erected and the cafe opened to the public. A large sign offered afternoon teas with homemade cakes. The cafe proved an instant success, especially at weekends, selling teas, eggs, cakes and jam, dressed poultry, etc. Each summer, during the Aldershot Tattoo, it was kept open all night. Private customers being served inside, coach parties were served outside from a large window. The whole cafe and car park was floodlit, and fairy lights were hung from the trees.

Mr Gillett had returned from Bolivia. Mr A P Hamilton ("Ginger"), a well-known racing driver, approached him and asked if he would sell him a site next to the cafe for a garage and petrol station he wanted to build. The deal was done and the garage built (planning permission, etc, being no problem in those days). The garage prospered and Mr Hamilton continued to race his Alfa Romeo at Brooklands and overseas.

After a number of years, the family began to break up. Mr and Mrs Gillett had moved to Tolworth, where Mr Gillett had taken charge of a new factory, Andre Rubber Co, as Managing Director. Jack had married and taken over the cafe. The poultry had been disposed of and farming ceased. Ted had become a salesman for Hartwells of Oxford, later starting his own motor business in Reading. Ian served his apprenticeship with Rolls Royce at Derby. Later the whole property was sold to developers.

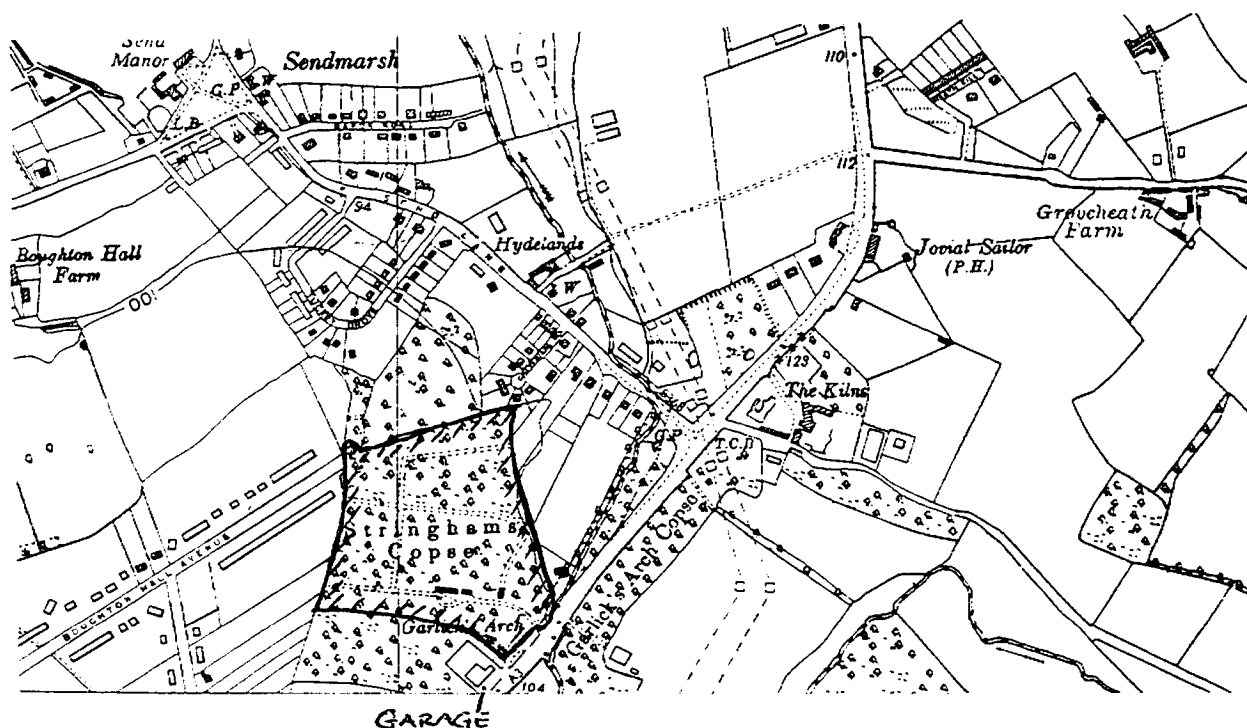
Footnote: Teddy Gillett states that he did not think the cafe had a separate name. It was just known as "Montlhery Egg Farm & Cafe".

Note from Sancia Sell: "I'm not sure when the Cafe finally closed. I was born in Tuckey Grove in 1938 and I don't think the cafe was going then. My memory is that the cafe was reopened as a transport cafe after the war and was then called 'The Three Frogs'.

Sancia Sell

Sancia Sell very kindly visited the Editor and indicated the position, as far as she can recall, of the site referred to in the above article. The area was once known as Stringhams Copse and is now built over by the Wimpey and Boughton Hall estates. The garage became Fisher's Garage, now owned by Court & Smith

Editor



PETER FRANK CONISBEE, 1930-94

Since the announcement of the death of Peter Conisbee on 6 September 1994, an obituary has appeared in the "Surrey Advertiser", dated September 9, and another account, written by Peter Gammon, appears in "Ripley Matters", October issue.

The following tribute was given at the funeral service, held at Ripley Church on 13 September, by Michael Wharton, a close friend and colleague of Peter. It is reproduced here by kind permission of Michael, Peter Conisbee's family and also his intended wife, Pat Jackson, who has supplied the photograph.

"Today we are all here to say our own final goodbye to Peter. He was a very private man with many interests and involvements, and I can only speak about my involvement with him.

"The greatest honour I have ever had from the Ripley & Send Rotary Club, and as a request from the Conisbee family, is to make this address to you.

"I first came across Peter when I was in short trousers, he was then part of the Air Training Corps 11F Squadron at Brooklands, the comments of the group of the time can best be summed up as saying that he was disorderly. His Commanding Officer, the late Michael May of Send, described him as a 'spirited youth - made of the right stuff'. He flew with the RAF and then rejoined his family business.

"Some 22 years ago the Rotary Club of Ripley & Send began to take shape slowly - Peter was a founding father. Even before we became an official Rotary Club we had won - with Peter at the helm - the Rotary Club Sailing Regatta at Bembridge on the Isle of Wight. This did cause some confusion at the time.

"Peter became our second President, so I have eaten dinner with Peter for 22 years at our weekly meetings. He was known for his laughter, repartee, and noise, and he never took life seriously and yet was a very serious man.

"It was always Peter who had time to both listen, advise and to help, and he did. I am sure others from Peter's other interests will have the same view within their circles, especially Probus, of which he was the President.

"Peter had an overseas adventure in Antigua to make a change in life - he left his business in the hands of his son. This adventure was not entirely successful as his health was not kind to him, and to use his words to me, 'I don't think I make a good employee.' He really went to spend more time with Shiela (his wife) in Antigua, which she adored, but



the lure of Ripley was very strong. On returning to the UK he found to his bemusement that he was not really needed in the business. He and Shiela did a long world tour which was very successful. Then Shiela, mother of David and Linda, became ill and died.

"Peter was left with a vacuum, he tried very hard to pull up his socks, these socks proved to be very difficult to move.

"Then Pat, a lady of Send Marsh, appeared on the scene, she also recently bereaved. Peter began to have a spring in his step again, his eyes brightened up and his repartee was back on form. How glad we all were for him. He and Pat have just returned from an extensive world tour. Only a week or so ago he was talking to me about starting sailing again, but then time, anno domini, had to be part of the philosophy.

"I am sure you have all seen white water rafting on television. Let me assure you this is tame compared with racing a Flying 15 into a headwind and sea off Hayling Island, which Peter did for many years, owning two very graceful craft during those years at Hayling Island Sailing Club. We also recounted his Antigua adventure and he had to agree that in retrospect it was a very successful move because now his business, in his words, was 'bigger, more efficient and better run by his son than ever during his time', and how proud and happy this made him. What a big heart a man has to have to say this and he meant it. How many fathers would give their all to make a similar statement.

"You can imagine just a week ago how we were all dumbfounded to learn that Peter was dead and this was then compounded when we were told that on the Wednesday he was to be wedded to Pat.

"Pat, life has been very cruel to you and at times like this words seem inadequate - loss of composure is expected and requested as very healthy, but if you are able to turn around during the service and see the large number of people in this church, all who wish in their own way to pay their final respects to Peter, please remember each and every one would like to help you and would consider it an honour to do so should you ask them.

"So finally, Peter Conisbee, man of Ripley, father of David and Linda, so nearly husband of Pat, irreplaceable, Sir, we will miss you always *Requiescant in Pace*, rest in peace."

Michael Wharton

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Rita Pullen, of Papercourt Lane, Ripley.

Janet Hughes, 18 Newark Lane, Ripley.

C R Perris, 73 Hamilton Avenue, Pyrford.

Chris Alderman, London House, Rose Lane, Ripley.

This brings membership to 112 doubles and 84 singles, a total of 308 members.

It is now the time of the year to consider subscription renewal. We hope that all members will renew, and since the subscription is due on 1 January, why not pay it now? Any subscriptions coming in from now on will be assumed to be for 1995.

The current subscription is £4 for single, £6 for double, and add £2 if you need postal delivery. Please send your subscription to Mrs Patricia Medlen, Honorary Treasurer, Muir House, Brooklyn Road, Woking, Surrey GU22 7TJ - cheques made payable to Send & Ripley History Society.

FROM LE ANGELL TO THE ANTIQUE SHOP, PART ONE

The history of the Angel site follows the general pattern of change in the High Street. Once Ripley was lined with inns, many now long gone. We have traced the change of the White Horse to a chemists's shop. The George is now an art gallery and The Georgian House was once the Red or White Lion. What is now Hartley Antiques was once



the Angel. The earliest mention I can find in the Court Rolls is in 1544, when "Mathew Kellett gentleman and his heirs hold freely from the lord, a messuage garden and croft in Ripley called le Angell with two closes of land". Although the spelling varied, it was still Le Aungell when it changed hands in 1582 and 1585.

Many of the influential families of Ripley and Send were at one time owners of the Angel, such as William Francis, 1594 (Spage & Herriman's Register), Margaret Mabanke, 1605 (GLRO DW/PA/5) and John Farley, 1636 (Court Rolls), but the days of the Angel now seemed numbered. In the will of Robert Coulton, yeoman, in 1679, he left to his niece, Anne Goater, "the messuage the Angel, now the Three Mariners, barn, and 3 r of land" (Coulton family papers). At one stage it must have changed its name to the "White Lion", as is shown in a conveyance of 1903 between Thomas Berridge of Ryde House and the Baker, William Stevenson: "All that messuage formerly called or known or bearing the sign of the Angel and afterwards of the White Lion with its barn, stable, garden and orchard thereto belonging and adjoining".

I have been unable to find out when the building ceased to be an inn, or what use it may have been put to in the 18th century, although there is mention of the owner, Tice, at one period. This could well have been John Tice of Ryde House, who owned several freehold and copyhold properties in Ripley. Certainly it must have been rebuilt at about this period, just as John Tice did to Ryde House. We do know its history from the 19th century when it had become yet one more of the High Street bakers and butchers, as we find from the Tithe Award, the census returns and Piggott's Directories. In 1815, Mary Hyde, baker, was both owner and occupier, and from 1851-71, we are given John Hyde as the baker. By 1881 Harriet Griffith was the baker, employing three men. It continued as both baker's shop and tearooms under Mary Bonner and then William Ernest Stevenson.

Stevenson first leased the property from Thomas Marriott Berridge of Ryde House, then bought it in 1903. It was he who had built (by John Pledger) the three cottages on what was once the yards and orchards of the Angel. The side access to them now has the adopted name of Ryde close. No 3 Poplar Cottages was leased to the Postmaster General for the Telephone Exchange; Stevenson himself lived in No 2. It was in about 1903 that the main premises began to have three distinct uses: Stevenson, the baker, in the middle shop, the butchers's shop and slaughterhouse at the London end, and at the Guildford end a variety of uses, such as a tobacconist, a hairdresser and an estate agent.



Bonner's Bakery c 1890s

The butcher's shop and yard were leased by Ernest Easton in 1903, followed by Arther Frederick Rust in 1930. Freddie Rust bought the shop, the yard and the three cottages from the widow when Stevenson died in 1942, and lived in No 2 Poplar Cottages himself. The centre shop continued to be a baker's under, first, Belchambers, then Wellers, and Rust continued as a butcher's and slaughterhouse until Freddie retired in 1965.

Perhaps by the 1960s, with the appearance of large chain stores and the increase in car ownership, Ripley could no longer support three bakers, three butchers, and two slaughterhouses, as it did for much of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and in 1964 Joseph Hartley bought the major part of the Angel, and became one of the first of the antique dealers, now a feature of Ripley High Street. He expanded into the Guildford end when Horace Meech, the estate agent, had come to the end of his lease. He built an extension towards the London end over the original entrance to the yard. In the yard itself he used a workshop, once part of the slaughterhouse. At one time he employed 14 apprentices on furniture restoration.



Easton's, Butcher, c 1903

The present build is probably of about 1700 (Newsletter No 53), but obviously there was a much earlier building on the site in the "Angel" days, and Mr Hartley has found a well and foundations of an earlier building when alterations were being done. The magnificent staircase in the centre of the showroom was built by him in keeping with the style of the building, as they were unable to get any large pieces of furniture into the upstairs showroom by the original staircase.

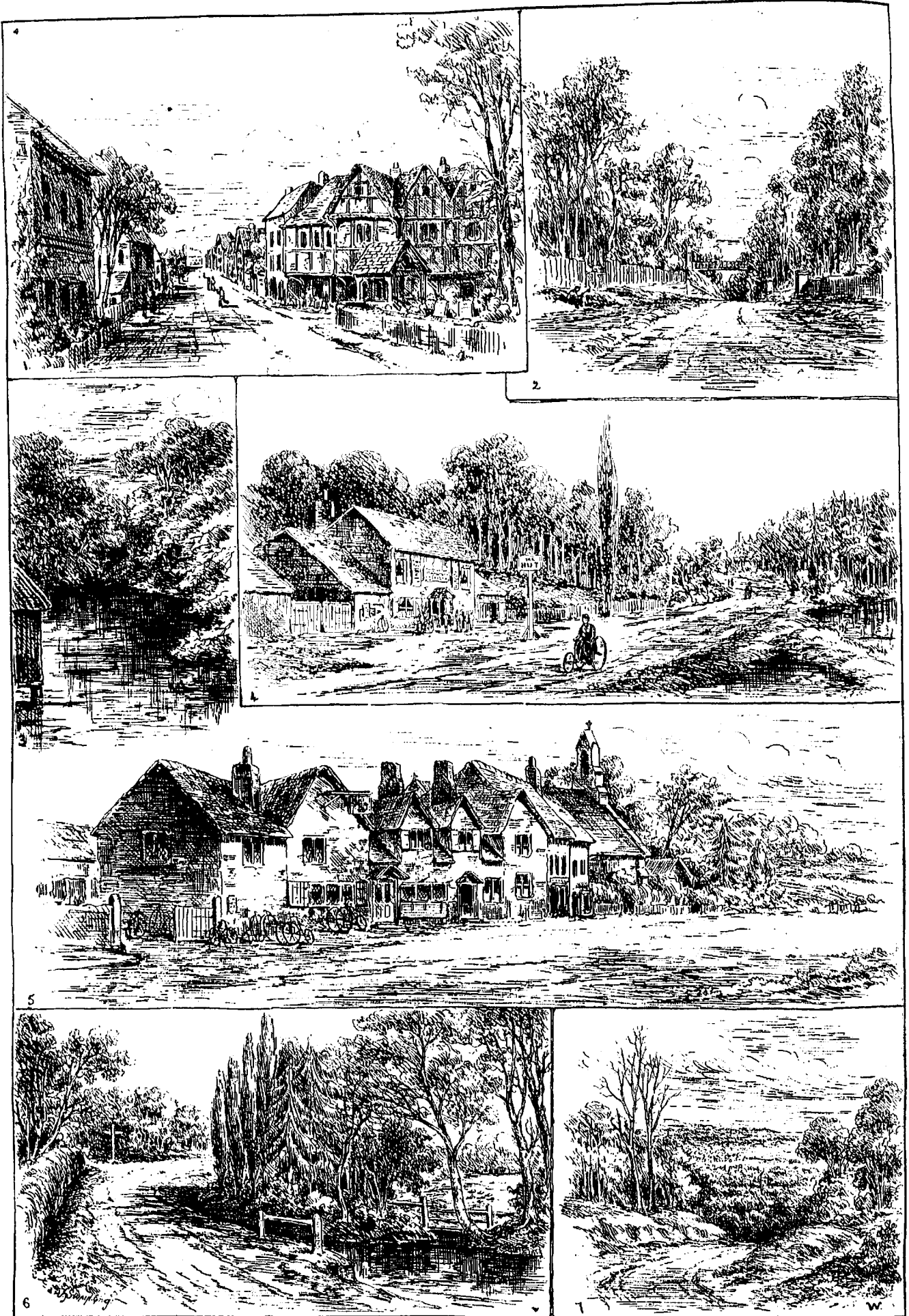
To be continued

Jane Bartlett

DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM

In the previous Newsletter, our President, L G Bowerman, referred to six loose sheets of illustrations from the May and June 1887 editions of the "Illustrated Sporting & Dramatic News", donated to the museum by Valerie Pearson. Reproduced opposite is one of these sheets, relating to Ripley, dated May 21. On this sheet are seven illustrations, which are numbered, and are as follows:

- 1 Church Street, Cobham.
- 2 Pains Hill.
- 3 The Silent Pool at Albury.
- 4 The Hut, Wisley, the predecessor of the building that was pulled down when Ripley Bypass was constructed.
- 5 The Anchor, Ripley.
- 6 Ockham.
- 7 Assumed to be Newlands Corner, looking towards Albury.



MARGARET HOPE SANGER, MBE, 1897-1994

Hope Sanger was a member of Send & Ripley History Society for 14 years prior to her death on October 4 1994. In July 1985, she agreed to talk to two of our other members, Gloria Henson and Barbara Tinkler, and reminisce on her life and associations with Send. The following is an extract from this interview.



Hope Sanger was born in New York on 24 October 1897, one of four children. Her mother was Canadian, and later Hope came to England to be educated. Her education was finished with one year at Heathfield and one year in Paris. When she was 18, at the beginning of the First World War, she found herself cooking breakfast for Australian and South African troops who were on training. She recalled cooking breakfast for 200 troops, and this she did for a period of two years and related how she could still smell the mud on their clothes. She then worked for the Army Contracts Office as a Civil Servant, when she was paid 30s per week. She recalled the Zeppelin raids over London and the bombing of His Majesty's Theatre during a period of night duty in 1918.

At the end of the First World War, she gave up her job and moved with her family to Chessington. At that time, she recalled, there were only two large houses in Chessington: one was called Chessington Place, which later became Chessington Zoo; the other house was owned by Hope's parents.

Hope was able to take things a little easier and played tennis, rode a horse and socialised. She also helped out in the racing stables at Chessington Place. In 1922, she met her husband, Gerald, and was married at St Mark's, Surbiton, moving into a flat in West Kensington. They had two children, a girl and a boy, and there they lived at 101 Eaton Terrace until 1937, when the family moved to Willingham Cottage in Send, which had been bought by Hope's mother in 1932. There were now three children in the family: her daughter, Mella, who was 12, and sons, Clyde, 10, and Jim, the baby. Soon World War II was to begin, and she recalled that the house was always full of family and friends, who frequently visited during the war. Her husband was in the Army, her children were at school and Hope began to take part in local activities.

She recalled that there were many bombs dropped in Send, one on the Recreation Ground at 9 pm, one on Mrs Donn's in Tannery Lane, one on the Council estate, 22 houses on Send Hill had their roofs blown off and a Doodlebug blew up in the sand pits. Boughton Hall was used as a food store for evacuees and the Red Cross took over the Church Room. During the war, Hope drove for the Food Office, delivering orange juice and issuing ration books. This gave her a good knowledge of the villagers and villages. After the war, Miss Lloyd gave up as WVS District Organiser and Hope Sanger took over, being responsible for 24 villages - this at a time when her youngest child was still only five years old. Her husband returned and joined the Home Guard and became Editor of "Movie Tone News".

She entered local government in 1946 and was Chairman of the Parish Council for over 20 years. In 1953 she was elected to Guildford Rural District Council, serving on this Council for 20 years, and then Guildford Borough Council until 1979. She was returned as an Alderman in 1982. She was also a magistrate on the Woking Bench from 1949 until 1970. After 1974, she reverted to being the village representative responsible for Meals-on-Wheels in Send, a job she continued to do until she was 93. A longstanding member of Send Conservatives, Mrs Sanger was Branch Secretary for 35 years until 1992, when she retired

at the age of 94. Prior to this, she was Chairman of the Dorking Division of the Conservative Party, between 1955 and 1958.

She was actively involved in local affairs in Send, serving on the Board of Governors for St Bede's Middle School and Send First School. She was Chairman of Send Social Council and the Lancaster Hall Committee. She also Chaired the Guildford & District Committee of Voluntary Service Overseas and served on Surrey County Council's Civil Defence Committee. In the 1980s she received the British Red Cross Society's Award for Outstanding Service.

The WRVS paid tribute to Hope Sanger as its longest serving and especially loved member. It stated: "Hope Sanger never lost her great interest in the WRVS, and the Service will always remember her with gratitude and affection."

Margaret Hope Sanger's influence was enormous, and many organisations and individuals have memories of her outstanding care and contribution to the elderly, through her local work with the Meals-on-Wheels service, and our member, Mary Milner, recalls how, in 1969, she cooked a joint and took hot drinks to those afflicted by the flooding in Maple Road, wading in deep water to reach them.

From the foregoing, it is obvious that Hope Sanger was an extraordinarily good organiser and had considerable energy, which helped her not only to carry out her work as an able administrator, but also to assist wherever needed at a personal level. She will be remembered by the History Society through her contributions of various documents to our archives, and locally by her name being given to Sanger Drive, off Send Road.

MUSEUM GAINS HERITAGE AWARD

By the time this issue of the Newsletter is out, members will be aware of the Society's success in the 1994 Guildford Heritage Award competition, having won the Environmental category. Coming, as it has, at the end of our first year since we opened, it is very rewarding to receive this recognition of our achievement.

Over the past year we have had a steady stream of visitors, many from far and wide. Most have had kind and encouraging words to say about our building and the displays. Judging from the number of entries in the Visitors' Book, the total number of people who have come must be around 600, which averages over 10 for every day that we have opened.

We still have some way to go before we can say that our displays are fully developed with a local history theme, but we are progressing. It remains our intention to hold special events and exhibitions from time to time. Our family history open day in July was very successful, and the next event is arranged for December 3, when Ken Bourne will be holding his exhibition of Send and Ripley picture postcards.

I would once again like to thank all the members who have served as stewards when the museum is open, and especially to thank George and Irene Bleach, who organise the rota and open and close for each session.

We would be pleased to hear from any member interested in joining the stewards' rota. The task is not onerous and everyone says how much they enjoy helping. Also, as I have said before, we are always interested in looking at new artefacts, especially those with a local connection. Please note that during the winter months our Saturday openings are mornings only. We have, however, started opening on the third Sunday each month, mornings only, to coincide with the Ripley Antiques Fair.



John Slatford

VICTORIAN GUILDFORD

Talk by Eric Hunter

On Thursday, 29 September, about 30 members and friends gathered at the Ripley Village Hall to hear Eric talk about Guildford in the late Victorian period. Eric is a member of the Royal Photographic Society and the Guildford Photographic Society, of which he was for many years its President. Eric began his talk by describing the photographic process used by Victorian photographers, using glass plates and the "wet collodion" photographic process, which in those days necessitated fairly long exposures of one to two minutes' duration. Next the first of many excellent photographic slides was displayed, which gave a superb example of the proof of slow exposures, as the subject was Ripley Church clock c 1850s, which clearly showed the movement of the hands during the period of exposure. Eric Hunter has very kindly presented a copy of this photograph to the Society for our archives, and it is reproduced below. There followed a stimulating talk, liberally illustrated with old views of Guildford, and supported by a learned commentary on the various views and buildings, beginning at the Toll Gate on the Shalford Road, passing through Guildford High Street, North Street and the various byways, with very many close-up details, which it is possible to obtain from these early high quality photographs.

Les Bowerman, our President, speaking on behalf of all those present, said how much the talk was appreciated, and thanked Eric hunter for a most entertaining evening.

K H Bourne



GERTIE BASHALL

Valerie Pearson tells us that her aunt, Gertie Bashall (nee Dibble) died last February. She was one of the children of Alf Dibble. Gertie and her husband, Harry, lived their lives in Ripley. Harry came from Ockham. He won the Junior TT in 1908 and still holds speed records at Brooklands.

Presumably, Harry is of the same family as Henry St John Hick Bashall, who wrote "The Oak Hamlet", the history of Ockham, which was published in 1900. Henry was a solicitor and the first Chairman of Ockham Parish Council. In the 1880s he had been Secretary of the Temple Bicycle Club in London and took both of their tricycling championships in 1884 ("The Tricyclist" 14/3/1884 and 19/12/1884).

Les Bowerman

HISTORY SOCIETY TREASURER - VACANCY

Patricia Medlen was elected Treasurer at the AGM held in February 1986 and now feels it is time to relinquish this post at the next AGM in February 1995. Patricia would like to hear from any member who would like to take on this very interesting job and would be very pleased to explain what is required. Further details can be obtained from Patricia on 01483 760021.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 3 and 10 December - History Society Museum, Ripley

An exhibition of local views of Send and Ripley, depicted on early postcards from the turn of the century, will be on display in the museum from 10 am to 4 pm. The views on display will include many that have not been seen before by our members.

Tuesday, 17 January - 8 pm, Send Red Cross Hall

A talk by Tim Winter on the history of the picture postcard, with reference to rural crafts and industries.

Send & Ripley History Society 20th Anniversary Celebration

There will be a 20th anniversary dinner for members and friends to be held on **Saturday, 28 January 1995**. The dinner will be held in the galleried room of the Hautboy Hotel at Ockham, known as the Brasserie, meeting at 7.30 pm for dinner at 8. Applications for tickets, priced at £12.50 each, excluding wine, should be made on the enclosed form, together with your remittance, as soon as possible.

Wednesday, 22 February 1995 - 8 pm at Ripley Village Hall

The History Society's AGM. Details of the programme in next Newsletter.

Newsletter Contributions

The closing date for material for the next edition of the Newsletter is Friday, January 7 1995.

MUSEUM OPENING TIMES



The museum is open every Saturday morning at 10 am.

Please contact George or Irene Bleach on Guildford 22233 if you would like to help in the museum.

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The Hautboy

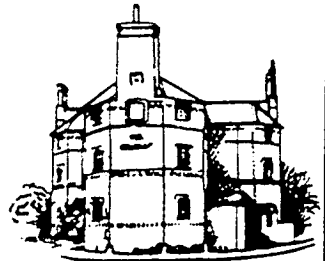
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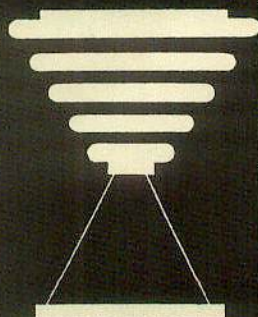
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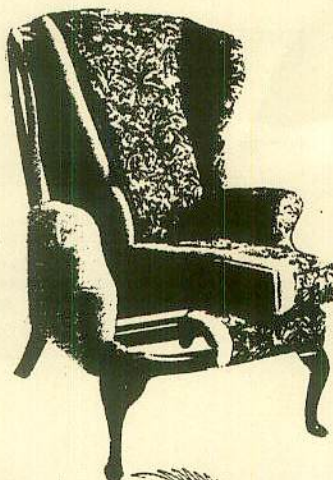
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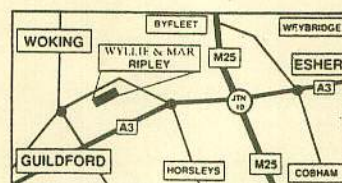
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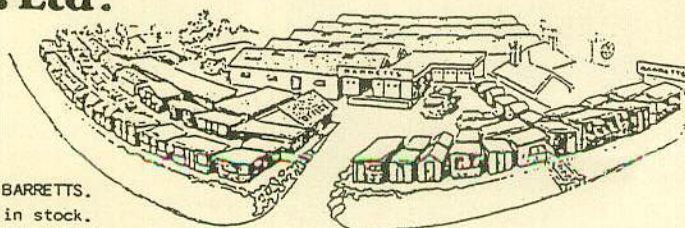
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