

Send & Ripley History Society

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Journal Volume 7 No. 228

Jan/Feb 2013

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Cover photo: Foresters' sashes - see article on page 3

Photo © S&RHS Collection ref: B52/19.

Editorial

Standing in for our editor this time, I am reminded that we are at the start of our 39th year. What a year last year was! But enough has been said about the Jubilee and the Olympics. What about our Society? I like to think that we go from strength to strength and a good indication of this shows in the continuing high quality of this Journal. Our membership has remained remarkably consistent at around 300 over the years and, at present standing at 316, is about as high as it has ever been. What is worrying, however, is that our active membership is getting to be even older. It's also a sad reflection that the number of obituaries in this Journal seem to be increasing year by year.

Where are all the younger active members? It may be suggested that after all these years that every aspect of our history has been researched and published comprehensively and that there is little else to be done. Nothing could be further from the truth. New research projects are always appearing and all too often tend to be neglected for want of someone with the time and energy to tackle them. It may also be said that so much work has been done in the past that anyone new to our subjects would not know where to start. I'm sure that's not true. Let's hope that 2013 will encourage some new blood to become really active.

So welcome to 2013, where a full programme of events has been arranged by our events secretary Anne Bowerman, and I will close by offering every member my very best wishes for 2013.

John Slatford
President

Some memories from Margery Bernard (Nee Whapshott)

compiled by Andrew Jones

Margery recalls Mr Dixon started as head master 1936 at Ripley C of E School.

Margery remembers that her teachers at Ripley were Miss Clay-infants, Mrs Blaxland-lower juniors and Mr George Hughes who was followed by Miss Herrington-older juniors. Most subjects were taught by the class teachers. Her older brothers, Bill born 1912 and Bob born 1915 attended Ripley C of E from age 5 to 14. They had to walk to Ripley from Sussex Farm, which was then two cottages, via Kiln Lane; there was no school transport in those days.

She recalls that in 1937 for the coronation of George VI, Gordon Stewart, then owner of Send Manor organised and paid for a coach to take all the children of Ripley C of E School to Bognor Regis for a day out and they all received 6 shiny new pennies in a brown envelope to spend which was a fair amount of money at that time. It was in the July of this year that Marjorie left Ripley School as she won a scholarship to Woking Girls Grammar School.

The family lived in Tithe Barns Lane and Margery can remember the post box being on the corner by Sussex Farm House having 4 collections and 3 deliveries a day the first in the morning by van, the second was by motorbike and sidecar at about mid day the third in the late afternoon was by van and the fourth a collection was in the evening also by van, she can also remember all the children of the road being given a lift home by the Postman in the back of the van and sitting on the empty mail bags.

She can also remember King and Holyers Shop on the corner of Rose Lane and the High Street opposite the Bakers, Collins. About fourteen weeks before Christmas they would display toys which could be ordered for Christmas and the amount of weekly payments required. The village children would gather to tell their friends what they were going to have.

At lunch time the older boys would gather on the corner by Cedar House which was a butcher's shop to look through the cracks in the doors which led to the back yard to see pigs slaughtered.

Margery's brother Bob had a Nursery at West Clandon for many years. Bill emigrated to New Zealand in 1953 but unfortunately died about 15 years later.

She wonders how many who were pupils at St Bede's when Mr Goodger was Headmaster still remember the school code?

Margery moved to Shalford in 1976 and after retirement settled in Brixham, Devon.

Margery asks: 'does anyone remember or has information on the Alan Cobham Air Displays, held in the field at the back of Waverley Cottages (where the family lived) around about 1937/8 or possibly earlier'.

The Foresters

Jane Bartlett



1908 Foresters on the Green

Mrs Jennifer MacFadyean has given to the society two silk sashes, one a narrow red and one a wide black, which were worn by her grandfather, Arthur Pinnock, as a leading member of the Ancient Order of Foresters (see front cover).

The Ancient Order of Foresters, one of the earliest Friendly Societies, evolved from an even earlier organisation 'The Royal Foresters', who banded together for mutual aid and protection. Their principles and rituals passed down to the present order. All the forests used to belong to the King as Royal hunting grounds.

The first known written reference was in 1745 from Kirkgate in Yorkshire. The object of Forestry was described as 'to unite the virtuous good in all sects and denominations of man in the sacred bond of brotherhood so that while wandering in the forest of the world they may render mutual aid and assistance to each other' The annual subscription of each Forester was invested

and from this grants were given to those who were out of work, injured, to widows and orphans and for funerals.

At a formal meeting in 1834 in Rochdale, a new High Court was formed with a new High Ranger. All courts of the order were to be registered here, giving their name, number and list of members. The new name of the order was 'The Ancient Order of Foresters', which was to replace the original title – The Royal Foresters. All members were sent a Lincoln green sash with A.O.F. and the embroidered emblem on. The sashes were worn from their right shoulder to their left hip. There were also scarfs joined at the end above a tassel.

The Chief Ranger of a court had a red sash. There were other officers such as the Beagle (who carried a horn and whose job it was to prevent intruders) and the Woodward (who held an axe and gave the summons to members for a court meeting).

Arthur Pinnock had a red silk scarf with the letters J.W. for Junior Woodward. He also had a wide red sash with the letters C.R. as Chief Ranger.

The picture of the Ripley Green Court in front of the Bench Tree on the green (near the present car park by the cricket club) shows, second from left, someone holding the axe. In front of the left side of the banner is someone holding a horn. I do not know the significance of Mr Pinnock's black sash. Can we assume it is for funerals of their members? Our court was Ripley



White Hart Inn

Green Court No5387, and meetings were held in the White Hart Inn (now Sage next to Cobham Cottages). A sign saying A.O.F. Court and its number was once painted on the front wall, but was later painted over by David Shuttle. Perhaps its attendance at the pub gave them their local nickname of the Frothblowers? Many places had no other room big enough for a gathering but in the local inn. Other places gave them the politer name of the Green Men.

In 1892 they allowed female members to hold courts and had a junior membership, so in 1897 there was a new design on the emblem with a woman as well as a man joining hands over the shield. This is the one on the Pinnocks black sash.

By this time there were several thousand courts in England and many had started abroad. There was a very real risk of inability to pay the doctor's fees, or having to go to the poor house or having a pauper's grave. I have been told by several Ripley families that they paid their annual subscriptions. Ivy Sopp, (nee Carter) said that all her brothers belonged to the Order, and Audrey Brown (nee Chandler) said she paid as a junior member in the 1930s and all her family belonged. Her husband's family had joined the Chichester Court. If one looks at the names entered on the sports day programmes one can see a great number of familiar Ripley names.

The Foresters held annual Fete and Sports days. They marched through the High Street with their banner to Ockham Park where they held a flower show and had Morris dancing. In June 1910 they held their sports day on Mr Gatley's meadow (Where White Hart Court was, once called Cobham Field) It was followed by dancing in the evening with the Gresham Press band playing.

The programme of sports shows that some athletic events were for members only, but others were open for all. There were races for veterans and juniors. Several people's names were entered for both Foresters and Open events, doubtless attracted by the prize money - many of ten

and twelve shillings - worth a great deal in those days. In fact, Mrs F.E. Pearse, the doctor's wife, gave a twenty shilling prize for the quarter mile as well as distributing the prizes at 6.30 pm. Mr Conisbee, the butcher, gave a leg of mutton for climbing the greasy pole.

What struck me as most unusual was that the names of competitors were printed in advance on several races in the programme, and they were given handicaps, (e.g. A. Heath scratch, G.H. Hosking 15 yards, S.A. Pinnock 20 yards.)

I have not found out when our court ceased functioning. Perhaps with more available health insurance, pension schemes and state help there was not the same need for many Friendly Societies.

We would be grateful to hear from anyone who has any further details.

The Carriage Road from Burnt Common to Clandon Park

John Slatford

In 1938, the then Earl of Onslow (the fifth Earl) presented a paper to the Surrey Archaeological Society entitled 'The Road in Surrey' (Surrey Archaeological Collections Volume XLVI). In this, he outlined the development of travelling in Surrey over the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries with particular reference to travel by coach. In describing the general state of roads in Surrey, he went on to say that 'Apparently some people kept their private roads in a better state'. This seemed to be the case at West Clandon where the highway between the Portsmouth Road at Burnt Common and the Guildford Epsom Road was so bad that the Onslows built a private road from Burnt Common, parallel to the Clandon highway, to Clandon Park, a distance of just under two miles. This road would have been built solely to provide better access for travel to London via Ripley. The original grand entrance to Clandon Park (now unused) can still be seen on the Epsom Road out of Guildford.

When this private road was built is not clear, although Onslow suggests that a painting by Knyff at Clandon Park dated to 1708 shows a coach approaching the house on what seemed to be a decent road. He also said that he had had a section of the road dug up and found a 'fair foundation of flints'. However, the painting, which is still on display in the house at Clandon Park, is of the original house and bears no relation to the present house and its approach roads. A study of our early maps seems to indicate that the private road was not built until the early 1800s. It does not appear on the Inclosure Award map of 1803 but is clearly shown on the Tithe Apportionment maps of 1843 (West Clandon and Send & Ripley). A building described as a lodge is shown at Burnt Common on the 1871 Ordnance Survey Map but there is also a pair of lodges shown on either side of the carriage road on the Tithe Map much closer to Clandon Park. It is this latter that is believed to be the original site of the present day 'Old Thatched Lodge' now located much closer to Burnt Common in Highcotts Lane.

At Burnt Common there was also, on the opposite corner, another lodge house and carriage road which led to Boughton Hall. This also appears for the first time on the 1843 Tithe Apportionment. Could this have been a case of Robert Boughton keeping up with the Onslows? The lodge was demolished many years ago and the only trace of the carriage road today is the public footpath leading from The Pathway to Boughton Hall Avenue and then to the Moated Site field. It is unlikely that this was ever a made-up road.

The Clandon carriage road was cut off with the construction of the railway. Completed in 1885, the New Guildford Line, as it has always been known, provided an alternative route from Guildford to London with the result that changes had to be made to the carriage road. A new

entrance was made in 1884 into West Clandon village with the building of the mock Tudor cottages to the design of the Victorian architects Sir Ernest George and Harold Peto and today known as Cranley Cottages and Lodge. The frontage to the cottages has very ornate black timber decoration. The rear is attractively tile hung. This work would have coincided with the opening of Clandon Station and provided easy access to the station for train services to London. The road leading back to Clandon House, part of the original carriage way was tarmacked many years ago and is still mostly in reasonable condition. To the rear of the Clandon Cottages the continuation of the carriage way towards Burnt Common is still to be seen.

With the construction of the railway and the severance of the carriage road the aforementioned pair of lodges was then just about 200 yards from the railway cutting and they were dismantled and rebuilt on the Highcotts Lane site. They are shown on the 1896 edition of the Ordnance Survey on the corner of Highcotts Wood, a heavily wooded area. It is said that the Lady Onslow of the time wanted to establish a hunting lodge. Although the lodge originally had a thatched roof extending over the, by then, disused carriage way, the thatch has been replaced with wood shingles, the structure being not strong enough to carry the weight of clay tiles.

Today, only random parts of the carriage road remain, having been further dissected by the A3 by-pass completed in 1976.

Thanks to Mr and Mrs Gretton, the owners of The Old Thatched Lodge, who have provided useful additional information.

Additional sources: Surrey History Centre.

The Clandons, 1991, The Clandon Society.

An Early Photograph with a Local Connection

Les Bowerman

As a result of a contact made at last November's Local History Symposium at Ashted, Sue Tombs of the Dorking Local History Group and Museum has sent in the 19th century photograph shown here, asking if I could say what the letters 'C S? B C' on the saddle of the tricycle stand for. No problem there as they are the initials of the Civil Service Bicycle Club, amended in the mid 1880s to Civil Service

Cycling Club after the club became popular with tricyclists. Sue successfully identified the location of the sign post as the junction on B2039 just north

of East Horsley where it is joined on the east side by Drift Road. The present day signpost has almost identical wording as may be seen in the second photograph.

Closer local interest is provided by the fact that the country headquarters of the CSBC were at the Talbot Hotel in Ripley. The



© Alan Brindle



© Les Bowerman

Modern photo of the same road sign



H L Cortis ca 1978

club's President was Lord Bury (1832-1894). On the death of his father in 1891 he became the 7th Earl of Albemarle. He had both a military and a political career, but nowadays he is possibly better known as the principal author in 1887 of the *Cycling* volume of the Badminton Library.

In *Bicycling News* of 19th February, 1887, it was reported that Lord Bury had described Ripley as 'The Mecca of all good cyclists',

and had expressed a wish for the CSCC to get up a run to 'the sweetest village in Surrey' one Saturday afternoon and that he would accompany them, which he duly did on April 30th that year, meeting them at 'Kingston station'. The party visited the church to inspect the memorial to Herbert Liddell Cortis, This was



Plaque to H L Cortis



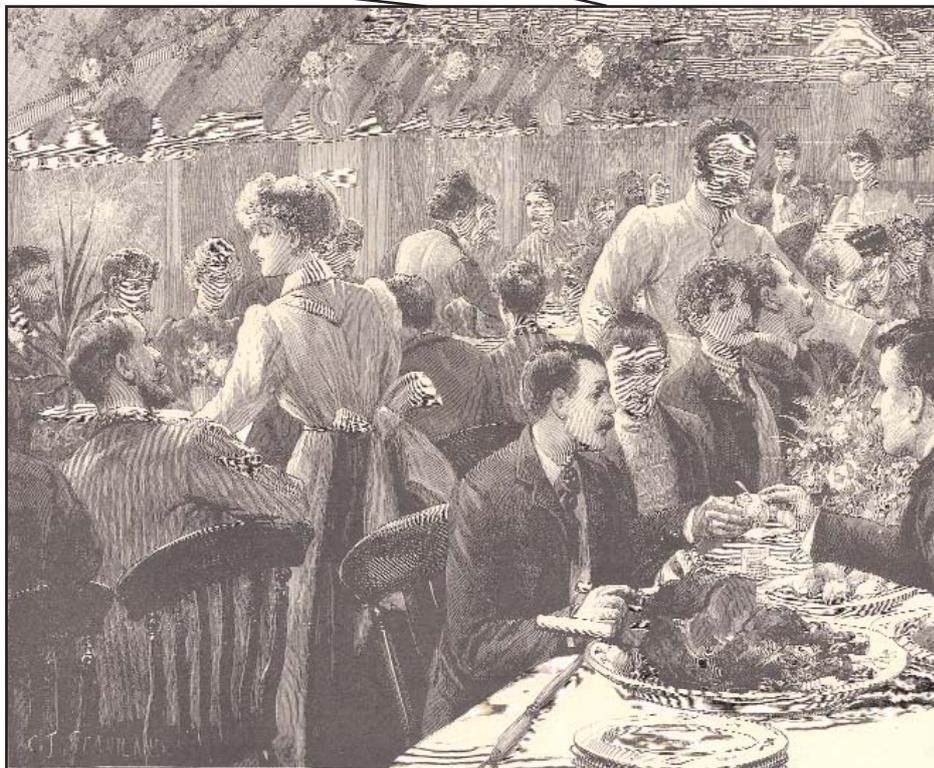
Memorial Rose window

subscribed to by his admirers as the Roger Bannister of his day for being the first person to cycle 20 miles in one hour. The feat was achieved in 1882 at the Crystal Palace track in South London and the text refers to the fact that he died prematurely at the age of 28, as a result of a horse-riding accident after he had emigrated. The plaque and the memorial rose window above it were photographed recently by the author.



Lord Bury's party adjourned to the Anchor where the name of the CSCC was pointed out to him amongst those of other

clubs in the dining saloon (see illustration). They entered their names in the visitors' book (see illustration) and adjourned to the Talbot where no less than 35 members and two visitors partook of an excellent dinner.



The dining room at The Anchor. Standing left: Harriet Dibble (probably); right: Alf Dibble. From The Graphic 3 Oct 1891

The tricycle shown in the East Horsley photograph is a Humber type, most likely of the first half of the 1880s. The very smart clothing is of a similar period. The fact that the rider is very well turned out suggests that he was

1971	C. M. Mair	Ripley, Surrey
2	Bury	Coventry C.C.
3	J. A. Howard	do.
4	J. A. de S. Moller	do.
1976	H. M. G. Gables	do.
6	R. M. B. Bury	do.
7	M. M. B. Bury	do.
8	M. M. B. Bury	do.
9	L. M. G. Gables	do.
1980	P. M. G. Gables	do.
1	L. G. Mitchell	do.
2	M. M. B. Bury	do.
3	M. M. B. Bury	do.
4	M. M. B. Bury	do.
1985	F. M. G. Gables	do.
6	C. M. Mair	C.T.C.
7	W. M. G. Gables	do.
8	W. E. H. Lloyd	London Wheelers
9	L. G. Mitchell	do.
1990	J. M. G. Gables	London C.C.
1	W. M. G. Gables	London C.C.
2	R. M. B. Bury	London C.C.
3	C. M. Mair	London C.C.
4	M. M. B. Bury	London C.C.
1995	M. M. B. Bury	London C.C.

Lord Bury's entry in the Anchor visitor's book 1887

reasonably wealthy, so the machine is likely to be fairly new. Although the *Bicycling News* report notes that Lord Bury rode his "stout Rover", it is believed that the well-known drawing of Lord Bury in his Badminton book (see illustration) shows him on a Humber, the only difference from which in the photo in question is that the young rider has sportier handlebars. Clearly, with his map opened before him, the rider is a visitor to the area. It is interesting to speculate whether, as well as being a fellow clubman, he was one of Lord Bury's party.

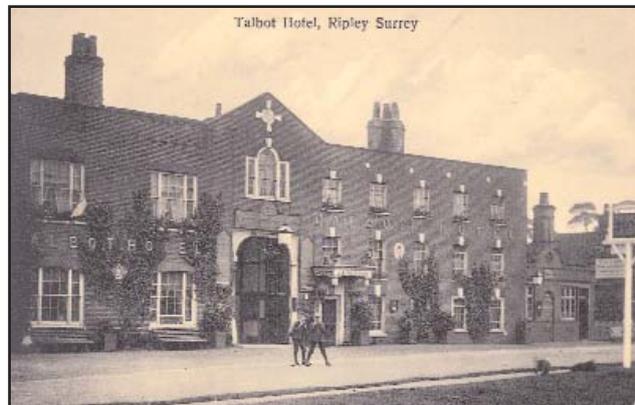


Lord Bury From Cycling by Lord Bury 1887

The last reference this writer has to the

CSCC is in 1898 when the membership was shown as 80. The uniform was light grey. A later Civil Service Cycling Association is known to have existed from 1922 to 1950, although probably it had no connection with the Talbot.

The East Horsley photograph is reprinted with the kind permission of its owner, Alan Brindle, to whom I am grateful, as I am to Sue Tombs.



Photograph of the Anchor.



The Anchor

The photograph of the Anchor on this page is from an album compiled (probably by local publisher Frank Lasham) at the time of the Southern Counties Cyclists Camp in Shalford Park, Guildford, in August 1886. The album is in the library of the Guildford Institute in Ward Street. The photo has several layers of interest:

The building – At this period it was rendered, as indeed it was until sometime between 1917 (*Cycling* photo) and 1923 (sketch in C G Harper's second edition of *The Portsmouth Road*). There are wooden racks for window boxes outside the upper windows. Two of the ground floor windows have shutters, presumably for security at night or to keep out dust. There is a gas lamp outside the main door.

The road – Clearly not macadamised or asphalted (that came between 1912 and 1916). No kerb. Loose small stones near to the building. Horse manure in the centre of the road.

The people – A maid looks out of an upper window. The two women in the centre in black clothing are probably Annie and Harriet Dibble who assisted their mother, Harriet, the landlady. The couple on the left are clad for cycling in the ordinary wear of the time. Far right, a workman (possibly Jack Pullen) is fitting the iron railings to the churchyard wall. The cycling visitors probably signed the visitors' book which Annie had started keeping in 1881. The volume for 1886 has not survived, otherwise the visitors may well have been identifiable.

The cycles – On the left a high bicycle or 'Ordinary' of about 1880 leans against the wall. Left of centre are what appears to be a high wheeled tandem tricycle with what is possibly another single tricycle behind it. Right of centre is an early safety bicycle, probably a Hillman, Herbert & Cooper "Kangaroo" which was introduced in 1884. The front forks were extended below the hub to pedals and cranks with a chain taking the drive back up to the hub. In this way the wheel could be smaller and the gear increased.

Volunteers wanted

Surrey Historic Buildings Trust is looking for passionate, committed and dedicated people to appoint to Trustee positions and to help in the general running of the Trust in developing its aims into the future.

The aim of Surrey Historic Buildings Trust is to help conserve the historic architectural heritage of Surrey for the benefit of future generations, by purchasing, repairing and selling buildings, raising awareness of historic building issues, offering grants and providing advice to owners or other trusts or like-minded organisations. Recently SHBT has been restructured to help achieve these aims.

SHBT was formed in 1980 and is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charitable trust managed by a board of Trustees. Trustees are responsible for the good governance of the charity. This is a voluntary role and we are very grateful for all the work our Trustees do to help the charity achieve its objectives.

The SHBT is looking to appoint new Trustees by the beginning of March 2013 with experience in **Administration, Financial Management, Buildings (Technical), Events, Fund Raising, Strategy, Public Relations, Projects, and Without Portfolio**

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Trust, further information on volunteering, including Trustee role profiles, are available from our temporary website <http://4culture.weebly.com/surrey-historic-buildings-trust.html>. If you wish to be involved with

the work of the Trust but do not wish to be a Trustee, then please contact Angela Fraser, Chairman, SHBT at angela.fraser@surreycc.gov.uk or c/o County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DN. Deadline for applications is 4 February 2013.

‘Birth of the English Gardener’

Report by Claire McCann

Margaret Willes, author and literary editor, gave a talk jointly to the history society and the local garden clubs. She explained that in the 16th century gardeners began to step out of the shadows, gain identities, and that a century later, one or two working gardeners were attaining what might be called celebrity status.

Her first example was William Cecil, Elizabeth I’s Secretary of State, garden designer and knowledgeable plantsman. She showed us a portrait of him holding a nosegay of honeysuckle and pinks. She also told us of gardeners florists, who in the 17th century cultivated new cultivars, not as one might assume, arranged flowers in vases! There were also medicinal gardeners, men and women who cultivated plants and herbs for their healing properties carrying on a tradition from monks and nuns after the dissolution.

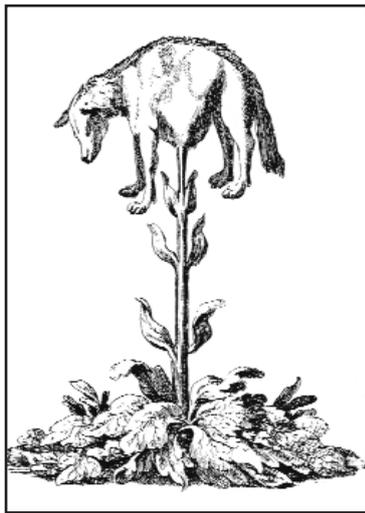
Most of these gardeners of this time were anonymous but the names of gardeners began to appear in the account books of Henry VIII and of his chief minister, Cardinal Wolsey. For example Richard Harris, who came from Ireland, specialised in the growing of fruit. Apparently the first gardening books in English were written by Thomas Hill, a Londoner, whose most famous book was *The Gardeners Labyrinth*, which was published in 1577. The pictures in the book are of good quality, and may have been printed from blocks imported from the Continent. Men are shown digging, raking, training climbers over arbours and planting flowers in raised beds.

Margaret was keen to point out that women too, took an interest in gardening. Bess of Hardwick she said stood out, as a member of a sort of horticultural circle around Queen Elizabeth, along with William Cecil, Christopher Hatton, and the Queen’s great favourite, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. Only the barebones of her gardens at Chatsworth and Hardwick have survived, but they still carry hints of magnificence. The account books of Bess contain details of her gardeners, both men and women. Her head gardener was called Robin Gardener – as her cook was called Henry Cook, from which it seems likely that some of her essential servants were named for their roles, a custom of the time. Under Robin’s supervision, teams of female workers, including his wife Elinor worked at weeding, a traditional task for women with their nimble fingers.

Herbals were written in the late 16th and 17th centuries, for example by John Gerard, a barber surgeon, who cultivated his own garden in Holborn. He was an enthusiastic recipient of the bulbs of flowers sent in diplomatic bags to his distinguished employer, Lord Cecil. In his portrait he chose to be shown holding a potato plant recently introduced from Virginia.

Another herbal was written by, John Parkinson and published in 1640. He was an apothecary who was so successful that he was appointed the King’s Herbarist to Charles I. He was excited by the new plants that were coming into England from every part of the world. He apparently believed in the existence of a plant known as a vegetable lamb or a Scythian lamb, which was, it was believed, grew on a stalk, and died once it had exhausted the grass around it.

Margaret Willes highlighted the importance of the Botanic garden in Oxford, the first of its kind in England. The Oxford garden had to propagate and care for the plants as well as deal with the chaos of the civil war when Oxford became the headquarters of the Royalists. Bobart, the curator, was an eccentric man of large girth with long flowing hair, and was invariably followed around the garden by his pet goat.



Scythian lamb

Although the great era of plant hunters was later, she mention Tradescant. He first appeared as a gardener at Hatfield House in Hertfordshire, the home of Robert Cecil, William Cecil's younger son. John Tradescant arrived at Hatfield on the first day of 1610, at an annual salary of £50, and within a year he was sent to Europe to buy plants and fruit trees. After Cecil's death, John Tradescant went on to act as head gardener first in Canterbury and then for James I's favourite, the Duke of Buckingham. He went on ambitious journeys bringing back plants.

In South Lambeth, along with his garden nursery, Tradescant created the Ark, an extraordinary collection of curiosities. He used his contacts with merchants travelling to the Americas and the East to bring back 'all manner of beasts and fowls and birds alive or if not with heads, horns, beaks, claws, skins, feathers ... and also from the East Indies with shells, stones, bones, egg-shells with what cannot come alive.' By 1634 this collection had grown so much that it took a full day to tour, open to visitors for a fee of 6d. It was really the Madame Tussauds of its day. The plant collection was augmented when his son, also called John Tradescant, went to Virginia on a plant-hunting expedition, one of the first undertaken by an Englishman. Tradescants' collection eventually fell into the hands of a wily lawyer, Elias Ashmole and in 1683 the Ashmolean museum opened in Oxford!

Our speaker then introduced a Surrey connection by mentioning John Evelyn, who was born near here at Wotton House in 1620. The house was a rambling Tudor mansion folded away between the Surrey Hills and the North Downs, and the family had money, derived from the manufacture of gunpowder. He travelled in France and Italy recording gardens and introducing ideas into English gardening. Ms Willes said it might seem obvious to go and look at the leading gardens of the time, but the English had been very restricted in their chances of travelling due to the break with the Church of Rome, and the subsequent religious turmoil which had cut England off from Catholic Europe.

Evelyn was the designer of his garden, but he was also a knowledgeable gardener, as shown in the instructions that he compiled for his apprentice. These were drawn up in 1686, when Evelyn was in his sixties and wanted gradually to hand over the running of the garden to his assistant. He also compiled an enormous encyclopaedia of horticulture, the *Elysium Britannicum* – so ambitious that he simply got bogged down in it. John Evelyn made available to the British public the latest ideas on garden design and gardening. Our speaker concluded that the leap forward for both gardening and gardeners in the hundred years between the accession of Elizabeth I in 1560 and the return of the Stuarts in 1660 was enormous, and momentous, and that Britain was poised to become the leading horticultural nation of Europe.

Feedback on J227

Phil Carter has written in response to the article on the Post Office. His father was assistant postmaster and he believes that there are extant pictures of it situated in Board School Road. It was opened circa 1950 and Phil's paternal grandfather was a postman there. Phil comments that 'in a sense the Stationmaster had responsibility for Information'. The Stationmaster (on transport information) and Phil's dad 'who was more or less responsible for all communications, had to work together'. Phil also remembers 'as a telegraph boy, handling a number of OHMS

communications which contained news of a loved one's death', he observes 'there was no reply - only deep sorrow'.

Museum and Events

Clare McCann

MUSEUM



Members who have not been to the museum in the last few weeks might like to know we have a brand new exhibition entitled "A Tale of Two Smithies" which has allowed us to show off, not only photographs but some of the wonderful artefacts we have from the Send and Ripley Smithies. We have a children's quiz and the chance to design your own piece of wrought iron work or decorate a horseshoe so please bring your children or grandchildren.

Bill Heath, the Ripley Smithy

SYMPOSIUM

We were once again represented at the local history symposium, which this year was held on November 10th in Ashted and focused on research. The Society had a display about Newark Priory, demonstrating how we are trying to pull together different strands of research, which will culminate in our planned publication on the topic. Sadly we did not win the Ken Gravett prize this year. The opening speaker, Professor Chris Dyer from Leicester University, told us how he had been criticised by 'purist' archaeologists for believing that documents could, and should, be seen as complementary to archaeology, in trying to make sense of ancient settlements in the landscape. He likened research to patches of light from street lights in an otherwise dark landscape. He illustrated his point of view with reference to his research into the lost village of Compton Scorpion. The second speaker, Dr Catherine Ferguson from the university of Roehampton spoke on the British Academic Hearth Tax Project to digitise and interpret the records of Hearth Tax, a tax which was levied from 1662 - 1689 (www.hearthtax.org). She pointed out whilst there was a wealth of records they should not be treated as a simple census. The tax was administered different officials, first by local constables and later by stove or hearth inspectors or receivers sometimes known as 'chimney men'. To further complicate things, exemptions changed over time which mean that the poor are not recorded or those below a certain rateable value are also excluded, which made comparing one year with another quite problematic. Dr Ferguson has been studying the records in Woking and will be publishing these in due course. Alan Bott gave us a whirlwind slideshow tour around the churches in the parish of Godalming such as Dunsfold, Thursley, Witley, Peperharrow and Compton as well as Godalming itself. He tried to highlight the gems that had not been destroyed by the Tractarianism of the nineteenth century - architects such as Henry Woodger and George Gilbert Scott. In his opinion Compton is the best. Some of Alan Bott's slides

featured Hassell watercolours which led neatly into Julian Pooley's talk about John and his son Edward Hassell. He put them into the context of eighteenth gentlemen antiquarians such as Robert Barclay of Bury Hill. He explained how collectors subscribed to county histories, which came in parts rather than in bound volumes, allowing individual collectors to 'Graingerise' them, ie add their own illustrations. The Hassells, father and son, specialised in painting buildings in Surrey and were therefore used in part for illustrating the County History. After lunch Howard Bengé gave a lively talk on the Seething Wells filter beds at Surbiton. He made a compelling case for James Simpson, who constructed them, being seen in the same light as the much more famous Dr John Snow. His carefully constructed filter beds cleaned water for Lambeth and his appreciation that the water had to be cleaned above the tidal reach of the Thames improved the water quality enormously. This was demonstrated in the 1850s when there was an outbreak of cholera and in an area of London where several adjacent boroughs, Vauxhall, Southwark, Battersea and Lambeth met. All the boroughs affected had a similar population but it transpired you were 14 times more likely to get cholera if your water came from a company using water from the tidal Thames rather than water provided by the Lambeth water company. So while Dr Snow is rightly honoured for proving that cholera was water born, John Simpson saved countless lives by his filter system. His design for filter beds was subsequently copied and even exported abroad. The symposium was wrapped up by Keith Atkins who had rescued the records for Cranleigh Cottage Hospital, the first cottage hospital opened in 1859 by subscriptions. The rector John Sapte was a driving force behind the project and it served the local community. The hospital took about 25 patients a year and unless they were an emergency, then they had have a written recommendation before admission. However this did not exclude the poor as their keep was paid for by the Poor Law Guardians and the hospital became a model for other towns.

New Members 2012

Andrew Jones (Membership Secretary)

The following have joined the Society since the last list was published in November 2011 (Journal 221), and we welcome them to membership:

Sam & Jacqui Cameron of Rose Lane, Ripley
Jenny & Laurence Parker of Boughton Hall Avenue
Ewa & Jim Arbury of Weybank, Wisley
Freda Sprickett of High Street, Ripley
Hugh & Pamela Proctor of Portsmouth Road, Ripley
Graham & Vivienne Ottaway of Send Hill
Peter & Irene Woods of Boughton Hall Avenue
Anne Teall of Great Harwood, Lancashire
Ingeborg Westphal of Ainsdale Way, Woking
Mary Trevill of Dunsborough Park
Reg & Mavis Perryman of Stringhams Copse, Send Marsh
Peter & Rosemary Phillips of Rose Lane, Ripley.

A Chance to Get Involved
A Plea from Terry Hewitt



Terry Hewitt is aiming to breathe new life into a really worthwhile project, that sadly had got put on the backburner, namely to produce a book or booklet honouring Send and Ripley men who gave their lives in two world wars. We want this publication to be out in time for the 2014 centenary of the outbreak of WWI and, incidentally the 70th anniversary of D Day.

So if you feel you would like to be involved, even if you have no experience of historical research then please get in touch with Terry. For example you might be a keen photographer and could perhaps visit some of the grave sites and take photos or just pick one name from the war memorial to see how much you can find out about that man and his story.

Contact Terry on 01483 224128

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Please note the opening times of the Museum on the next page. The current exhibition is based on the Send and Ripley smithies and has a great collection of associated objects and photographs. Indoor meetings are normally held in the annexe of the Ripley Village Hall, starting at 8 o'clock on a Wednesday evening.

Wed. 20th Feb – AGM and cheese and wine followed by talks by members.

Wed. 27th Mar – The Building of Bellfields – ‘Palaces for the Workers’
A talk by Carol Brown. **NB** The date has had to be changed from that advertised in the last Journal due to the school pantomime.

Wed. 17th Apr - A talk by Pat Lock on ‘The Three Graces of Clandon Park’

Thurs. 9th May - Outing to Selborne – Gilbert White’s house and garden and Selborne Church

If you have any queries about the programme, please ring me, Anne Bowerman, on 01483 224876 for further information about the Society’s talks and events.

Journal Contributions: Closing date for the next issue is **Friday 22 March 2013.**

Will authors of illustrated articles please submit **original photographic prints** if at all possible to ensure reasonably good reproduction in the Journal

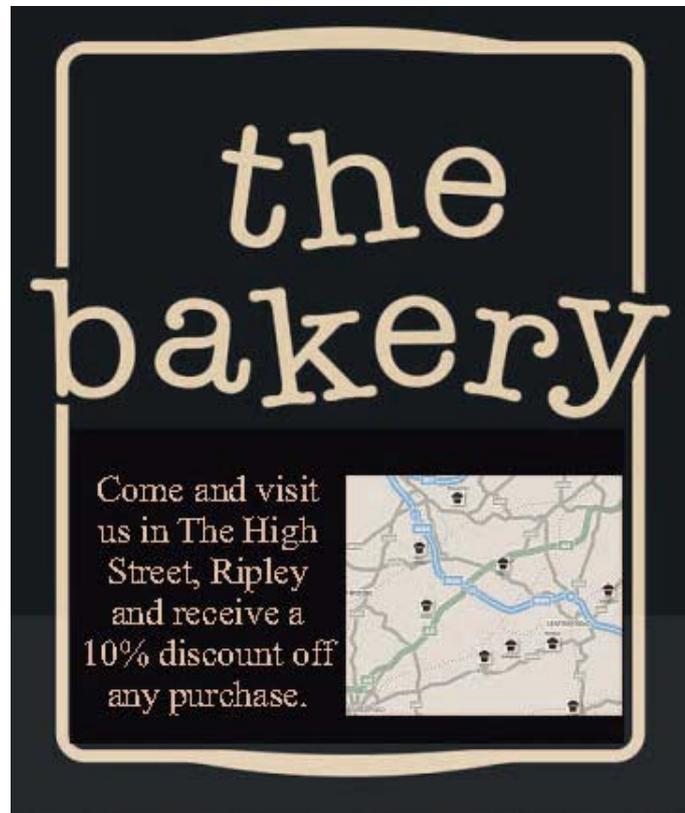




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**Contact Les Bowerman on 01483-224876
if you require further information or wish
to help in the museum.**

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’	(Reprinted 2012) £4.00
‘The Hamlet of Grove Heath Ripley, Surrey’	(Reprinted 2005) £4.00
‘Ripley and Send – An Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures’	£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
‘Map of WW2 Bomb Sites in Send, Ripley and Pyrford’	£2.50
‘Memories of War’ and Map of Bomb Sites	£10.00
‘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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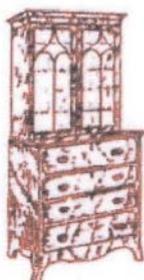
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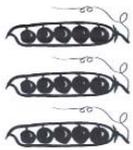
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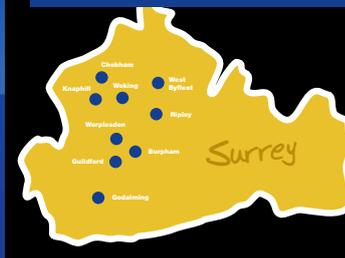


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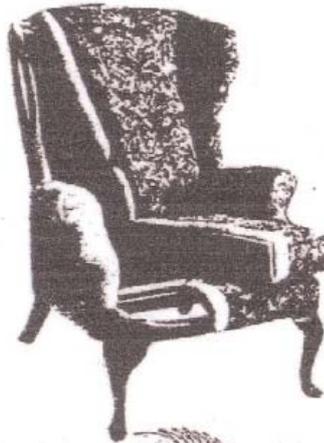
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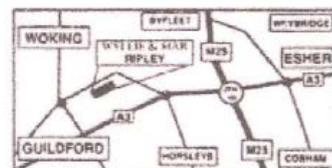
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