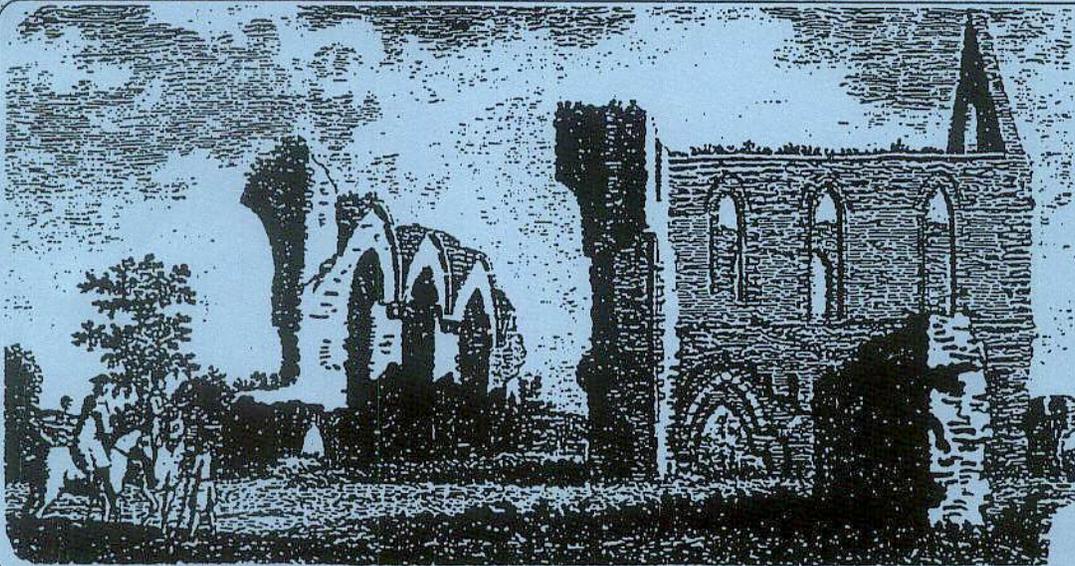


# Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY  
Registered Charity No. 296324



NEWARK PRIORY

Newsletter No.149

November/December 1999

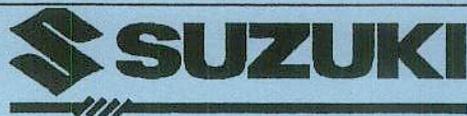


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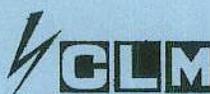
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# Send & Ripley History Society

*Established 1975 as Send History Society*

Registered Charity No 296324

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Typed by Mrs Chris Parker

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November/December 1999

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**Cover illustration** The Hautboy Hotel, Ockham, Surrey, from a postcard dated 1909, loaned by Les Bowerman.

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This, as everyone will be aware, is the last Newsletter of the Millennium, although it is not the last one in the series which ends in the 25th year of the Society's existence, which will be the next one, for January/February 2000. Therefore, if you have missed this issue and wish to get something in which is appropriate, there is still time to submit your article for inclusion in the next issue.

The tickets for the 25th Anniversary and Millennium Dinner at the Hautboy are being sold; in fact, over half of the 80 places have now been purchased, so get in your application forms, with the appropriate remittance, as quickly as possible.

I am currently compiling material for a Church Guide for St Mary Magdalen Church, Ripley, which it is hoped to have available early next year. Among the papers used for reference are the Parish Magazines for Ripley, of which there are many copies in the archives of Surrey History Centre, Woking, and also the History Society's archives. There are, however, one or two that are missing which would be useful to see, and this is an appeal for anyone who may have copies, or know the whereabouts of the following issues. These are for the years 1881 to 1885 inclusive, and 1892 to 1901 inclusive. Of course, it would be nice to have these for our archives, but we would, in any event, appreciate the opportunity to have sight of them for photocopying and extracting any useful information. Please contact either me or our Chairman and Archivist, Les Bowerman.

In the last Newsletter, under *Editor's Comments*, I mentioned the Disability Discrimination Act, Part III, which came into force on 1 October. The Society, at its recent Committee Meeting, has appointed a sub-committee, comprising Ken Bourne, Alan Baker and Anne Bowerman, whose task it will be to consider the implications of the DDA on the Society's Museum and activities, and to report on the same. The findings of this sub-committee will, of course, be made public as soon as they are complete.

Once again, subscriptions are due, and elsewhere in the Newsletter there is a reminder and a Subscription Renewal Form.

It just remains for me to wish all our members a Happy Christmas.

## HAUTBOY HOTEL

Extract from *Bicycling News*, March 12 1887

*This account is primarily of historical interest and it is not suggested that our members either use the same mode of transport, or follow the directions given to locate the hotel.*

Ockham and the Hautboy Hotel have often been heard of and have often been the wished-for destination of a run in Surrey by the writer of this, but never until last Sunday has the desire been gratified. As we know many of our readers have never been to this place, we think, perhaps, a par, on the subject may not be out of place. As every Ripley Road rider knows, Ockham lies South of Wisley pond and Ripley, and the usual way to it is to take a turning to the left just before the pond is reached, where a clear but not very artistic signboard denotes that the Hautboy and dinner may be found by the hungry traveller journeying down that road. The surface of this road was not by any means good last week, but no doubt it is as a rule. After travelling about a couple of miles, crossroads are found, and a turn to the right is taken. This, after a little distance, leads one to the village of Ockham, if such a place exists, and at the doors of the Hautboy. The hotel looks old, but it isn't in reality, which reflects great credit on the owner and builder for the taste displayed. It is built of red brick, with a quaint design running all through, of moderate height, and lighted with a number of smallish square-paned windows.

The front of the house contains the dining room, billiard room and bedrooms; the back, the hall and the kitchens. Perhaps the hall is the most attractive portion of the house, for Mr. Strake, the landlord, has expended no little trouble and expense on it, and has turned out a highly artistic, comfortable room suitable for concerts, dances, and the like, for which uses, we understand, it is often in request. A big garden with grassy walks round a tennis ground, good stables, and ample accommodation make this house one of the nicest we have ever visited, and judging by Sunday's dinner a good cook is amongst the staff. It is sometimes dangerous to recommend a nice place when cyclists are known to go into its neighbourhood, but we have no hesitation in saying what we think of the Hautboy: for we do not think it will have attractions for the scorching division, the jolly Bank Holiday class, or the one-feed-a-week young man: and those who will be welcome and will appreciate everything will be the quieter men who have a liking for solitude, and those who take their sisters and wives out tricycling, and like to get far from the madding crowd. Let no one think we are drawing comparisons between Ockham and Ripley. Ripley will always be an attractive place for us, but Ripley is nicer in our opinion on weekdays and in the evening than Ripley on Saturday and Sunday, at which times give us Ockham and the Hautboy.

**Editor's comment** The Society will be holding its Millennium Dinner on a weekday, in fact, on Monday, 24 January 2000, but we are assured that both the welcome and the accommodation will be most satisfactory.

## VISIT TO SURREY HISTORY CENTRE

By Irene Bleach

Following an invitation to all Send & Ripley History Society's Museum stewards to join a guided tour around the spanking new Surrey History Centre in Goldsworth Road, Woking, on the afternoon of 22 September, eight of our stewards contributed towards a total number of 30, made up of stewards from other museums in Surrey, who were welcomed by Education Liaison Officer, Mrs Margaret Reynolds. The outside of the Centre is impressive, and the foyer inside is of a light, spacious and modern design. Mrs Reynolds started by telling us about the spectacular Surrey Tapestry, which, on five huge panels, depicts a colour panorama of places and events spanning more than 2000 years of Surrey history, and was designed by a young weaver, Philip Sanderson. It took a team of six weavers, working on five separate looms, eight months to complete. Either side of the revolving entrance door are glass panels, designed and executed by Martin Donlin, a leading artist in glass engraving, which show historical and geographical scenes, including contour lines, a railway map of the county, floor plans of ancient dwellings and various written historical references. Both the tapestry and glass panels are most impressive and well worth a visit to the Centre to see. There is currently a small exhibition and display of newspaper reports, artefacts and pictures relating to the Second World War years. This features the Surrey, and Woking/Guildford area in particular. After a brief look at that, we set out with Mrs Reynolds on our tour of the Centre's facilities.

These have been designed to follow through on a natural progression, so our first call was to the Holding and Sorting area, where incoming archival documents, film records, books, etc, are initially received. They come in in various degrees of deterioration, damp and discolouration, and in need of cleaning or repair, so they move on to the Drying Room, where they are given a number. The next stage is the blast freezer, where books in particular need to be cleaned of paper-destroying insects, even maggots. A temperature of -30°F will destroy most pests. A slightly higher temperature could encourage hibernation, but if they manage to survive -30°F, they

go back in for another blast! Next came the Cleaning Room, where mould, dust and now deceased pests are carefully brushed away, and staples and paper clips, which would cause rust marks, are removed. In this room, Mrs Reynolds pointed out the dramatically-named Disaster Cupboard. She explained that sometimes an urgent call is received to come immediately to a house or a building that is about to be demolished, or is in the process of demolition, but has been found to contain books or papers of historical importance, at which time the Disaster Cupboard is opened to reveal vital equipment - wellies, hard hats, brooms and protective gloves - not quite the dramatic contents we had all been expecting! Then comes the Packing Room, where the now clean items are packed for storage in specially made up cardboard packages, and are wrapped in acid-free paper, or silversafe (sulphur-free) in the case of photographs. At this stage, a gentleman in the party asked if it would not be possible for the History Centre to organise a purchasing system to enable small museums to purchase small amounts of these materials, so that they could store items safely, it being too expensive to buy them in bulk. Mrs Reynolds said she would look into the possibility. We then went on to the Conservation Room, where papers can be actually washed, or faded lines on maps, for instance, can be carefully traced over with the aid of a large wall light box. This was a very interesting department, calling for much ingenuity on the part of staff making up special devices for achieving desired results.

Now we were in the Strong Room, the final point of our tour - actually three rooms, with floor-to-ceiling movable metal shelving, holding all the boxes and packets that had arrived here by all the previously described processes. The store rooms are kept at a controlled temperature of 61°F. There is also a smaller photographic store, where the temperature is much lower, 35°F, because colour photos keep their colour better over the years if kept close to freezing. The Centre has 20 to 21 years of empty storage available, and at the moment the space is let out by the shelf or as required.

Our tour over, we were invited to enjoy a welcome cup of tea and cakes. We had all enjoyed our visit immensely, and I thank the History Centre for their hospitality and our own Society for passing on the invitation.

If there is sufficient demand, the History Centre may arrange another visit for stewards who were unable to attend on this occasion.

### **THE ABSENCE OF IRVINS' ROUNDABOUT AT RIPLEY FAIR (1998)**

Upon my visit to last year's fair, built up on Ripley Village Green, in conjunction with the bonfire event, I found a large gap in the line-up of fairground rides. This was due to the absence of the roundabout known as the "Gallopig Horses", regularly presented at this fair by the Irvin family of Poplar Road, Ashford, Middlesex.

This very old and traditional machine had been offered for sale for a long time. However, this did not take place until the spring of 1999, when the roundabout made its final appearance at Hampton Court Easter Fair, whereupon the ride was separated from its organ after 88 years! The roundabout has been purchased by an enthusiast who also owns a fleet of preserved Scammell lorries. The large organ has been retained by the Irvin family. This was the last roundabout of its type, together with a mechanical organ, to attend Send Fair way back in the early 1950s, and it remains to be seen if a similar machine visits Ripley in the future.

Thankfully, there are several examples of these roundabouts in preservation. However, their commercial viability comes into question when competing with today's "thriller" rides, which dominate the modern fairground scene.

David Porter

## CONNAUGHT ENGINEERING - LAST LAP

By Alan Baker

The Send factory in which Connaught racing cars were built, back in the 1950s, and about which I wrote in the January/February and May/June issues, may well be no more by the time you read this. The site is being redeveloped as high-class office accommodation and demolition of the old works was expected to start towards the end of August.

The day before the bulldozers were due to move in (but didn't!), a memorable farewell party took place on the site. It was organised at short notice by Duncan Rabagliati, who runs the Connaught Register (a sort of one-make club), and was generously underwritten by site owners, Longwood Developments. I was able to help Duncan with the names and addresses of a few suitable guests, and this, with the articles in the Newsletter, was enough to get me an invitation too!

Guest included "period" racing drivers (not Tony Brooks, unfortunately, since he was on holiday in Spain), former employees (from my helper, Mike Oliver, downward), present-day Connaught owners, assorted motorsport enthusiasts, friends of the Longwood management and representatives of the press - motoring and otherwise. More than 150 of us sat down to lunch in a big marquee, outside which was an impressive line-up of surviving Connaughts and other classic racing and sports cars, some of which are depicted in my photograph.

It was an appropriately nostalgic end to a typically British era. Everything on the site will change, with one exception: the new building will be named "Connaught House" too.



## CELEBRATIONS IN RIPLEY - 1953

By Jane Bartlett

It is interesting, as Millennium preparations are under way, to find out what form of celebrations were organised in Ripley for a previous event. Just under 50 years ago, there was the coronation of Queen Elizabeth, to be held on June 2 1953.

A meeting was held in Ripley School in October 1952 with representatives from village organisations, including the Cricket Club, the Scouts, the Fire Brigade, the WI, the British Legion, the school, the Allotment Association and others.

It was decided that the cost of a celebratory event should be raised by local effort and subscriptions, and not from the rates. The initial aim was to raise £250 during the year (bearing in mind that this would be worth at least ten times this amount now). Sub-committees were set up to organise the fundraising, the entertainments, the decorations and the catering.

By November, fundraising was well on its way. A Square Dance was held at the then Village Hall, where Cliffords' shoe shop now is. The Football Club agreed to forego the profit from their Christmas Draw and add it to the fund (it fetched £15 18s 6d). The Allotment Association ran a whist drive. Two cups were promised by Mr Turk and Mr Bushnell for a darts competition. Village clubs were not to run their own Derby draw, so that there could be a special one for the Coronation Fund. There was even a house-to-house appeal to all residents. The rummage sale was successful and a talent competition raised £29 16s 6d. Ripley was not a rich village and the Fund was increasing very slowly. By April the balance was only £80 9s 9d, but the bonus was that the year had been full of activities for everyone.

The outline programme for the day had been decided on. The procession, a traditional start to all Ripley celebrations, could be joined by anyone wearing fancy dress. All children aged 5 to 15 years, whether they lived in the village or went to the local school, would have tea in the school and be given their souvenirs by the Headmaster, Mr Dixon. Teas for the over 60s would take place in the Village Hall. Mr Dixon also agreed to organise children's sports and the maypole and Country Dancing.



*Procession across Ripley Green*

The Rev G R Wells (vicar from 1953-61) was to be asked to give a short address. A Comic Cricket Match, in fancy dress, had a women's team with the men bowling under arm. Does anyone remember if this was the occasion that the Comic Football Match was played on bicycles?

Problems were not over, however. Miss St Quintin reported that the Women's Institute could not see their way to undertake the catering (there was still a shortage of food so soon after the war). They relented, however, and agreed to serve on the day, they organised the purchase of paper plates and cups, but the cakes were to be purchased from the local bakers, Hewins, at the corner of Rose Lane, and Wellers (now Hartley Antiques). Mr Robins (representing the Fire Brigade) was refused what the committee considered an exorbitant price for street decorations (£65), so he asked the shops if they would provide their own, and then he and his wife collected colourful material from many householders and made pennants themselves. The Allotment Association came up with a bright idea to combine fundraising with decorations. They offered a prize of a guinea to the Best Decorated Cottage Competition; the decorations were not to cost more than £1. It seemed that no one could provide a public address system, not even from Maxwells, the music shop in Woking, until Mr Paice, the Scoutmaster, lent the one belonging to the Scouts. The records to be played were borrowed from Ripley residents who owned a gramophone.

There was much discussion over what souvenir should be given to the children from birth to 15 years. Public opinion seemed to favour Coronation Mugs or Pencils, but Mrs Dixon, the Headmaster's wife, thought that a New Testament would be the best souvenir and she won the day. It was wishful thinking at the beginning of the year, when they considered any surplus money should be given to needy old age pensioners, as costs continued to mount. Mr Dixon required prizes for the children's sports, and asked permission to spend £1 4s on braid for the maypole.

All went well on a bitterly cold day (one mother put a hot-water bottle in her baby's pram). The programme was as follows:

- 4 pm - Grand Procession from the Talbot Hotel to the Jubilee Café (now Via Media).
- 4.15 - Teas - For all children 5-15 at the school and for over 60s at the Church Hall.
- 5.15 - Repeat procession, ending at the Green.
- 6.05 - Address from Rev G R Wells.
- 6.15 - Maypole and Country Dancing.
- 7.15 - Children's Sports.
- 8.15 - Comic Cricket Match.
- 8.45 - Comic Football Match.
- 9.15 - Dancing on the Green.

It was suggested that two copper beeches should be planted to commemorate the occasion. Does anyone know if this was done?

## MEMBERSHIP

The total number of members was reported in our previous Newsletter and we are pleased to welcome the following additional new members, which now brings our total to 291.

Mrs Ruby Shepherd, now of Island Cottages, High Street, Ripley, coming back to her favourite village in widowhood.

Mr & Mrs M Khalek, of Danesfield, Send Marsh.

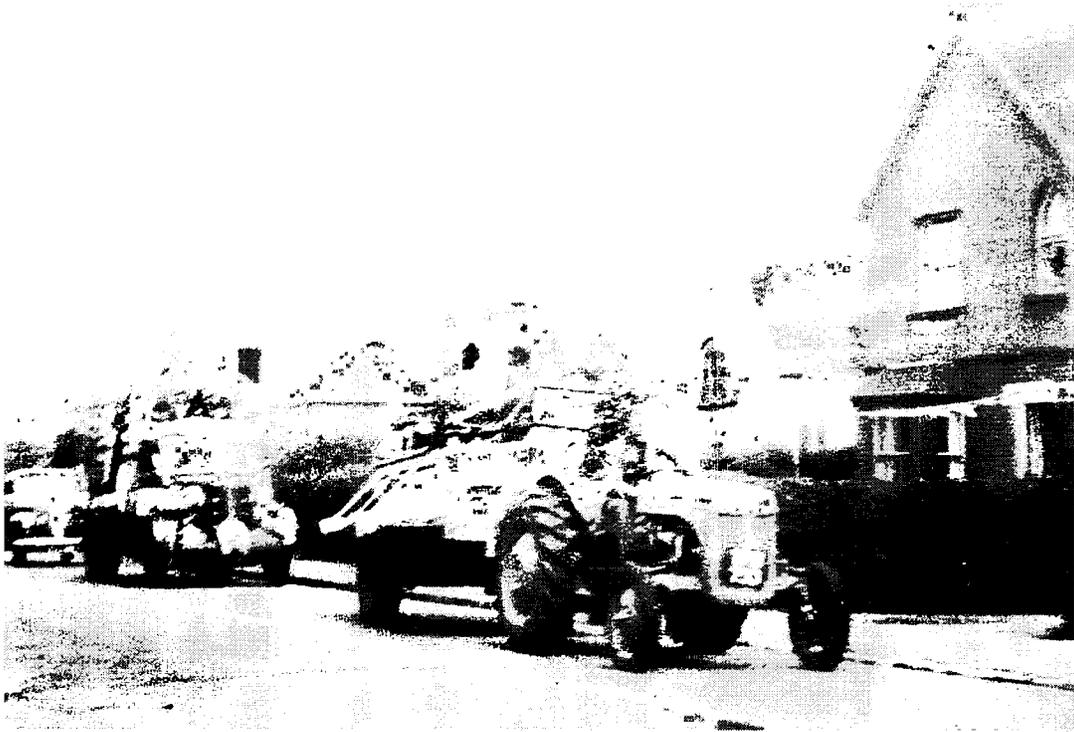
Mr & Mrs R Smith, of Amberley Close, Send.

Mr & Mrs H Turner, of Woodlands, Burnt Common, Send.

George Bleach (Membership Secretary)

### CELEBRATIONS IN SEND - 1953?

Here are two photographs, provided by Peter Parvin, via Pat Clack, of celebrations near May's Corner in Send. It is believed that these may relate to the Coronation celebrations in 1953, because there is also bunting on the house they are passing, and there is a figure dressed as Britannia. It is believed the number on the tractor is TPB 798, so someone may know that, and there are two figures sitting on it. Unfortunately, the photographs are slightly out of focus, but can anyone confirm the occasion on which these photographs were taken?



## THE HISTORY OF CRICKET IN RIPLEY AND SEND 1749-1999

Ripley Cricket Club is celebrating its 250th Anniversary, but it is likely that cricket has been played in the village even longer than that. G B Buckley, in his book, *Fresh Light on 18th Century Cricket*, describes "a great match (in 1747) at cricket for 50 guineas-a-side is made by the Noblemen and Gentlemen and to be played on Monday next, in the Artillery Ground, between the Gentlemen of Ripley, Bramley and Thursley in the West of Surrey, against the Gentlemen of London ... They play the following match the Thursday following on Ripley Green."

Many games were played for wagers, and particularly notable in this regard was Charles Bennet, 4th Earl of Tankerville, and his enthusiasm and patronage meant that cricket in Surrey flourished from its earliest days. One of his employees was "Lumpy" Stevens, who was born in Send, played for Ripley and helped to win his master many of his bets. "Lumpy" is said to have won a bet of £100 for his patron, by hitting a feather within four balls.

"Lumpy"'s real name was Edward Stevens, but one account says he was nicknamed "Lumpy" because he was so stout, another because he once ate a whole apple pie at a Hambledon Club dinner, and another because of some peculiarity in his bowling. It was mainly due to Lumpy that we have the third stump in cricket. In a single wicket match between Hambledon and England, the last man was set to make 14 runs. He made them, but it was noticed that Lumpy three times bowled through the wicket, and as this was considered hard, it was decided to add a third stump. Lumpy, with Yalden and Thomas, or Daddy White, formed a trio that constituted the most famous players of Surrey, and that remained for years the backbone of the team. He was 84 when he died and he is buried at Walton-on-Thames.

The cricketing scene on Ripley Green has changed relatively little over the years, although the bell tent pavilion gave way in 1936 to a wooden one, and thence to the pavilion we see today. This building was originally the stable block of Elm Tree House, but was at first leased, and later given to the Club by the Priston family. Cricket even survived in Ripley during the war, as workers were needed at the Vickers factory at Weybridge, and so it was still possible to muster a team.

Many traditionalists wanted the nature of the Club to remain the same, as well as the idyllic setting in which the games were played. However, eventually the majority voted to become founder members of the Wey Valley Cricket League in 1973. The Club progressed to the Three Counties Cricket League in 1982, and the Fullers Surrey County League in 1993.

Ripley has a flourishing Schoolboy & Youth Section, and it was via this route that local boy, Ashley Giles, learnt his cricket. He has now moved on to greater heights at Warwickshire and in the England One Day side, but it is good to know that he is following in the wake of Lumpy Stevens and George "The Lion Hitter" Griffiths.

The Send Cricket Club is not as old as Ripley, and its earliest surviving fixture list is from 1894, but Cricket was definitely played in Send prior to that date. We know from Edward Ryde's diaries that Gentlemen attended a match at Sendholme to see the Woking Club play the Send Club in September 1878. It seems highly likely that cricket was played by villagers well before that. Lumpy Stevens (1735-1819) is claimed by both Send and Ripley, but there is enough evidence to indicate that cricket was played locally right from the game's earliest years.

The Send Cricket Ground has not always been at Sendholme. Maling Grant, who lived at Sendhurst Grange, provided a cricket ground for the people of Send behind Sadlers Farm in Vicarage Lane. He also gave the corrugated iron-clad, timber-framed building as a pavilion.

The arrival at Sendholme, in the 1870s, of Sir Joseph Leese, QC, MP, a cricket enthusiast, saw the shadowy beginnings of the Send Cricket Club. The ground was improved in 1881 by a professional firm from Kennington. The cricket played at that time would have been mainly country house cricket organised by Sir Joseph. Visitors included the Woking Club, the 11th Hussars, Aldershot Military Club and the Will-o'-the-Wisps. By 1894 Sir Joseph was President of the Club, but it was his successor at Sendholme, Mr Arthur H Lancaster, who encouraged the

THIS PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN AT THE SEMI-FINAL CRICKET GRAND SETTLEMENTS LEAGUE ON THE OCCASION OF THE FINAL MATCH OF THE SEASON. REGULARS V THE REST



- REGULARS:  
 W. MAY CAPTAIN  
 H. ELLIOTT  
 G. Mc. ONISLOW  
 G. HILL  
 H. WHINNERY  
 C. BAIGENT  
 F. BAIGENT  
 G. WICKSON  
 H. JACKMAN  
 A. STRONNER  
 D. COZIA  
 UMPIRE: COL. GULL

- THE REST:  
 MR. LAWES HON SEC.  
 A. LILLYWHITE  
 W. SEX  
 MR. SHIEFER  
 G. PRINCEBHAM  
 E. GULL  
 G. HILL  
 W. MAY  
 MR. LARSEN  
 E. BAIGENT  
 H. JACKMAN  
 A. STRONNER  
 J. MONKEY  
 R. GIBBMAN  
 D. CHALF  
 G. STRICKER (GOVERNOR)  
 F. THORNTON  
 J. THORNTON  
 I. JACKMAN  
 A. STRONNER  
 H. JACKMAN  
 G. WICKSON  
 E. BAIGENT  
 MR. LARSEN  
 W. MAY  
 MR. SHIEFER  
 MR. SHIEFER  
 MR. SHIEFER  
 G. PRINCEBHAM  
 J. MONKEY  
 R. GIBBMAN  
 D. CHALF  
 G. STRICKER (GOVERNOR)

*Ed. Williams, P. C.*

*The Mercury, 14th Dec. 1914*

Send team to make Sendholme its permanent home. This, of course, upset Mr Grant, and it is said that the Lombardy poplar trees he planted along the boundary of his property were to block out the view of Sendholme.

Under his patronage, and later that of Miss Lancaster, his daughter, Send became a typical village club, with farm workers, carpenters, blacksmiths, etc, making up the team, and it is in this era that the photograph was taken.

In 1950, Miss Lancaster opened a new pavilion; prior to that both teams used to change in a tin shed between the oak trees. Over time, the pavilion was added to, and then, in 1987, was damaged in the hurricane.

In the 1950s, Send became more than a village team. The Club put this partly down to the quality of Jim Oliver's cow manure, which was brushed onto the wicket, mixed with clay. The excellent batting wicket attracted some good outsiders to the Club. The standard of cricket meant they were able to join the Surrey Cricketers League in 1973 and they were Champions in 1974. The Club has an active colts' programme, and Adam and Ben Holioake, both of whom have played for England, have played for Send, as has Ian Ward, the current Surrey Opener. All three players are part of this year's winning County Championship side.

Sadly, the present owner of Sendholme does not wish to continue giving the Cricket Club a home, and although Send are playing a few games at Sendholme this season, the Club has amalgamated with West Horsley and the village will be without a team next year.

The above is with acknowledgements to *A Celebration of Cricket at Ripley* - produced by Ripley Cricket Club to mark their 250th Anniversary, and the souvenir programme produced for the centenary of Send Cricket Club in 1986.

Clare McCann

## BOMBS IN SEND - WORLD WAR 2

With regard to your article about prehistoric implements from Papercourt (Newsletter 147 page 2), you ask if any member knew of bombs falling in the area. Well, there was one that fell at the junction of Tannery Lane and Brook Lane. Also Rob Donn told me about an incendiary bomb. This may be the same night that over 200 incendiary bombs fell, but as luck would have it, all missed the village and fell across A W Secrett's farm. It was said at the time they were looking for Vickers' airfield. The Home Guard, the AFS (Auxiliary Fire Service) and Fire Watchers, plus the Bomb Disposal Squad, which was based down near the New Inn, all helped to put them out.

Rob Donn confirmed that the main bomb, which fell in what was later Richens' garden, may have been explosive, but not very. It didn't go off. The bomb disposal people gathered round early next morning and it then exploded, but no one was injured.

Peter Rixon

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

We do hope that you will wish to renew your membership for the coming year, and you can help us by doing so from December onwards, which spreads the work load a little. The current subscription is £8 per couple and £6 for single membership, plus £2 if you live in an area outside Send and Ripley which requires postage.

Enclosed in this Newsletter is a Subscription Renewal Form.

George Bleach

## NEW BRIDGE AT CARTBRIDGE, SEND



Where the Wey Navigation passes by the New Inn at Send, there must have been a bridge ever since the Wey Navigation cut a new channel here in 1651/3 - see article by Les Bowerman in Newsletter 108/3.

The postcard, printed c1900, shows an old wooden bridge, which may have been the bridge built in 1759, probably often repaired: a stone with this date incised was built into the brick abutments of the bridge that preceded the present new structure. This stone has been transferred to the brick abutments below the present new bridge, on the Send side.

The photograph, given to the Society by Reg Giles, is dated 24 June 1920 and relates to the bridge that was built in 1914. With occasional repairs, this bridge stood there, giving excellent service, until 1994, when, following remedial repairs, it was found necessary to build a replacement. Following a Public Inquiry in 1996, the Secretary of State approved a scheme for a new bridge.

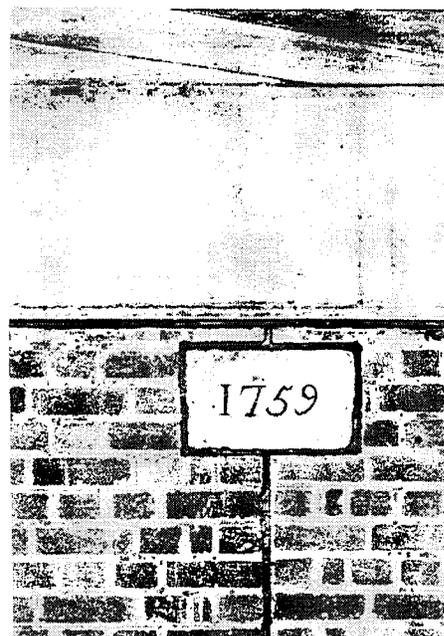
Work started in 1998, and was carried out, on behalf of Surrey County Council, by Dean & Dyball Construction Ltd. The opportunity was taken to remove a dangerous bend in the road and improve its alignment. During the construction, single line traffic flow was maintained for most of the time, although there were one or two periods when the bridge was closed completely and traffic had to be diverted. The bridge was built in two halves, using sheet piling for the abutments to avoid large scale excavation. Better footpaths and street lighting have been installed, with speed limit signs to improve safety. A new towpath has been built under the bridge, linking with the existing river towpath.

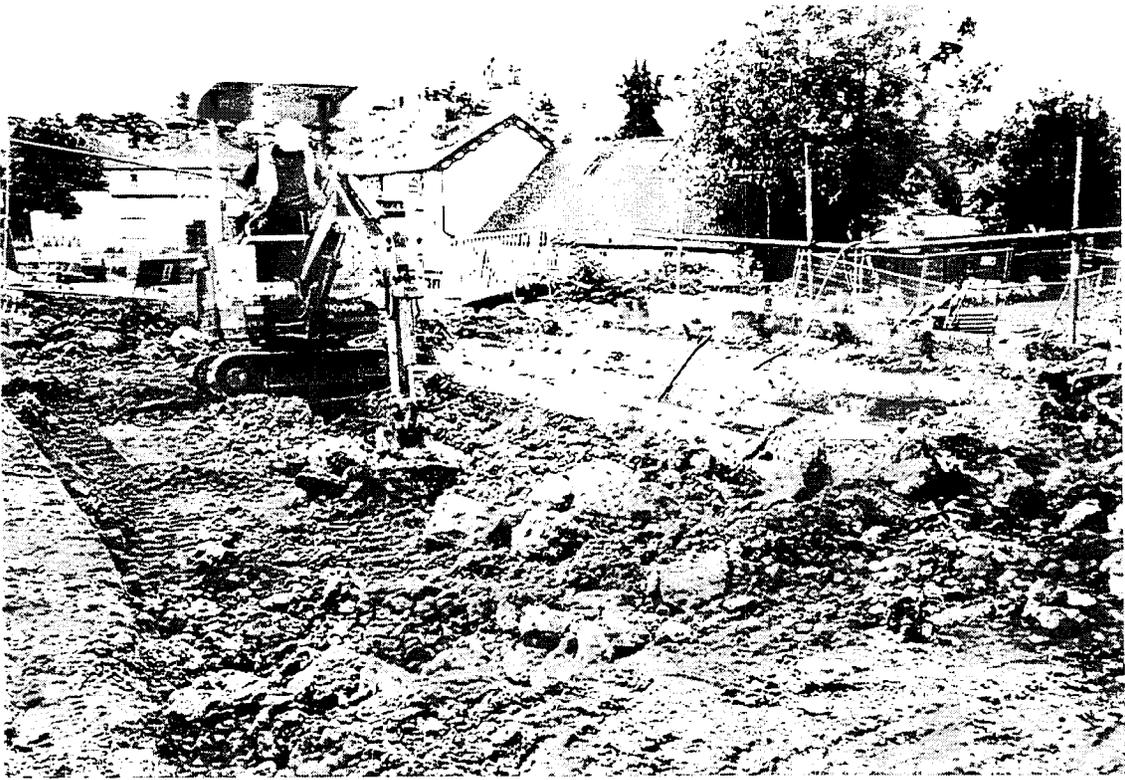
The group photograph, which appeared in the *Woking News & Mail*, March 4 edition, shows the official opening of the bridge, with David Davis, Chairman of Surrey County Council Environmental Committee, on the left, presenting a plaque to Peter Jackman, Chairman of Send Parish Council, on the right, whilst the plaque is being held, in the centre, by Martin Hirst, Chairman of Dean & Dyball Construction Ltd. Other people in the photograph are Ted Goldup, to the extreme left, a member of this Society, Jill Spiral, Clerk to Send Parish Council, just behind David Davis, and Vince Locatelli, Lock Keeper, between Martin Hirst and Peter Jackman, at the rear.

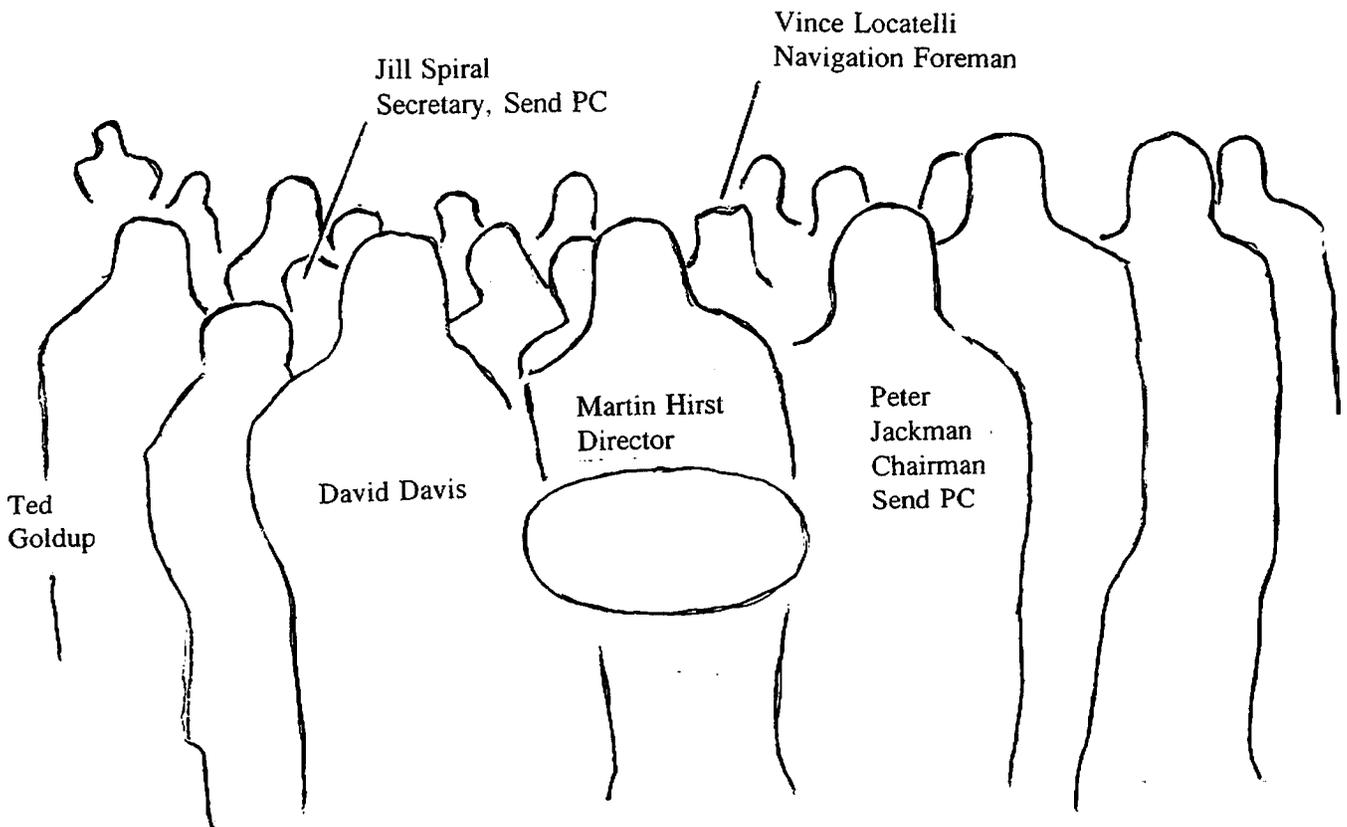
The other two photographs show the bridge during reconstruction - the photograph copy provided by the Project Manager for Surrey County Council - and the other photograph is of the new bridge from the London side, showing the new towpath, photo by Ken Bourne.

Ken Bourne

*Group photograph by kind permission of Bill Beminster for Woking News & Mail.*







## THE HOUSE ON MAYS CORNER

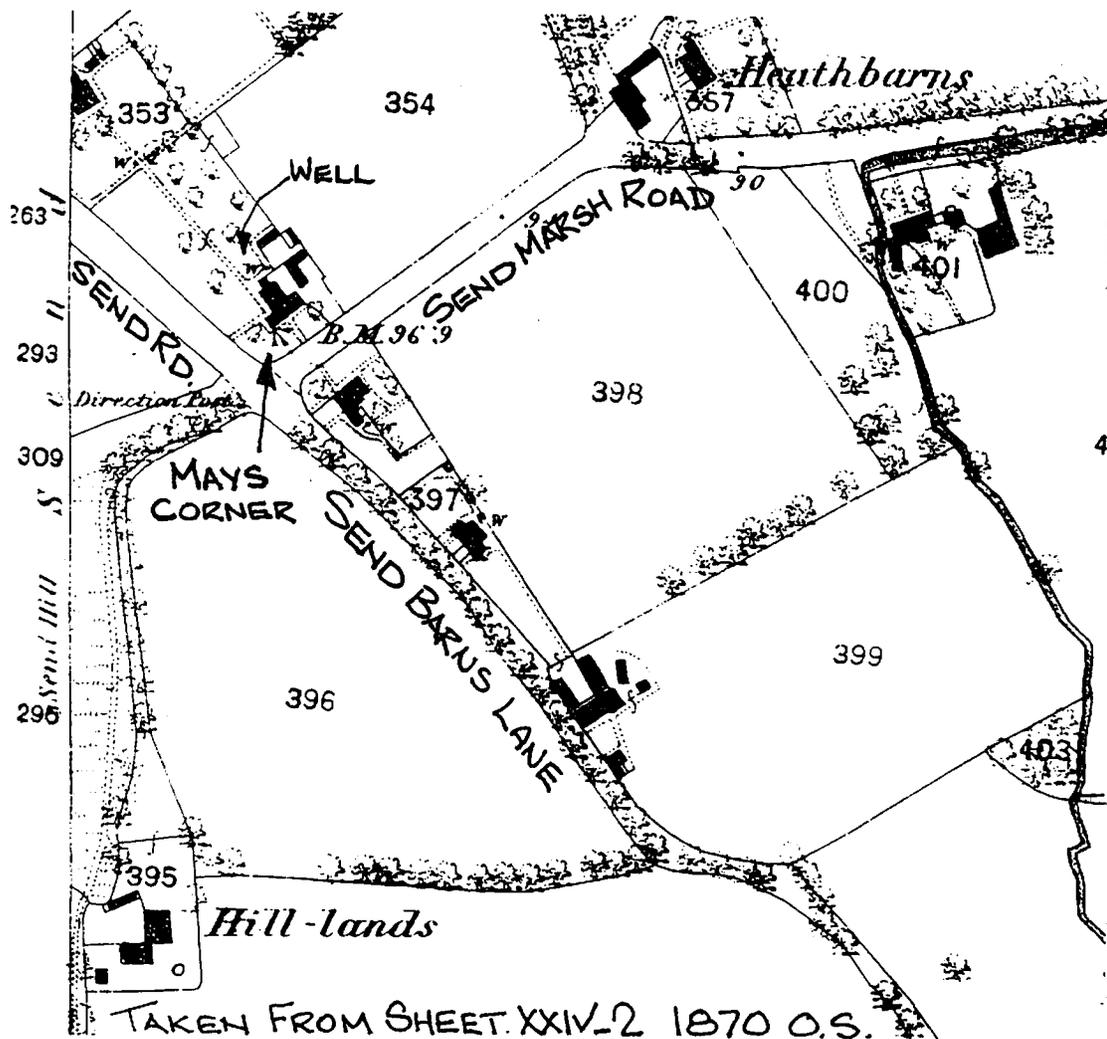
By John Slatford

Since the articles on Mys Corner in Newsletter No 148, questions have been asked about the age and origins of this building, which now seems likely to disappear. To date, there has not been an opportunity to study the inside of the house, but externally, it would seem to be a typical early 19th century build with its low-pitch slated and hipped roof.

The only other clues have to be found in documentary records of the period, in particular from maps. Below the large scale Ordnance Surveys of 1970, the best reference is the 1843 Send & Ripley Tithe Apportionment, for which the large scale map clearly defines every property and plot of land within the parishes. This record shows that the house existed at that time and was in the ownership of Frances Boughton, the widow of the last Robert Boughton. She also owned the adjacent plot of land, which became the present-day Maysfield housing site.

The 1815 Inclosure Award for Send & Ripley also has a large map, and although it is to a smaller scale than the Tithe, the Corner site is clearly shown. At that time, the Mays Corner and the Maysfield plots were one piece of freehold land in the ownership of Robert Boughton the elder, but there was no house upon the site.

Thus the best estimate of the build date has to be some time between 1815 and 1843. However, the form of the roof is not unlike that of the Mill House at Newark, which is thought to have been built in 1815. The excerpt from the 25" 1870 Ordnance Survey, reproduced here, shows the few houses then existing in this part of Send. In common with many others, the map shows that Mays Corner had its own well.



## LUKE GALE - OBITUARY

We are sorry to learn of the death of Luke Gale, son of Bob Gale, this Society's previous Newsletter Editor and current member. Luke, a student at Bristol University, was killed in a road accident. The funeral was held at St Mary Magdalen Church, Ripley, on Monday, 11 October. Our thoughts and condolences are with Bob and his family at this time.

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### **Wednesday, November 17 - 8 pm, Ripley Annex**

"Festive Food", a talk by Mrs Ann Jones of Farnham Museum.

### **Monday, January 24 2000 - 7 pm - the Hautboy Hotel, Ockham**

The Society's 25th Anniversary and Millennium Dinner. This must be booked in advance. Please return your application form for tickets with your remittance. If this has been mislaid, please contact Patricia Medlen on 01483 760021, or send £20 per person, with your name and address, to Patricia Medlen, Muir House, Brooklyn Road, Woking, GU22 7TJ.

### **Thursday, 24 February 2000 - 8 pm - Send Church Room**

Society's AGM. There will also be a short talk by one of our members on a topic of local interest.

### **Thursday, March 9 2000 - 8 pm - Ripley Annex**

A talk on Polesden Lacy by Andrew McElwee.

### **Thursday, 13 April 2000 - 8 pm - Ripley Village Hall**

A film by the Circle 8 Film Group. The film is entitled *Guildford, This Is Guildford!*. It covers the period from 5 May 1845, when the newly formed Guildford railway junction opened its branch line to Woking, and continues up to the present day.

### **Monday, 1 May 2000 - Send Recreation Ground**

May Day Fête and Dog Show. It is hoped that the Society will have a book stall at this event.

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### **Newsletter Contributions**

The closing date for contributions to the next Newsletter is Friday, 17 December 1999.



## SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM

OPEN: May-September, Saturdays 10-12.30 & 2-4.00.  
October-April, Saturdays 10-12.30

ALSO: 3rd Sunday of each month, so as to coincide  
with Ripley Antique Fair, in the Village Hall.

Other times for school groups and small parties  
by arrangement.

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

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### HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

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

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

# GOODRICK-MEECH

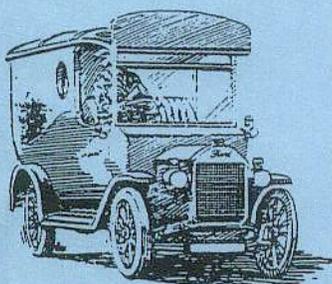
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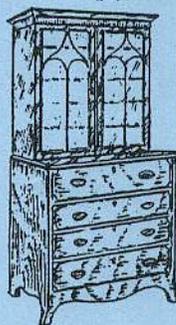
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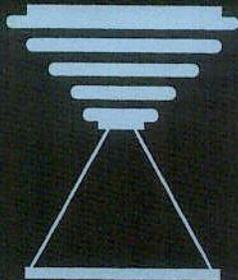
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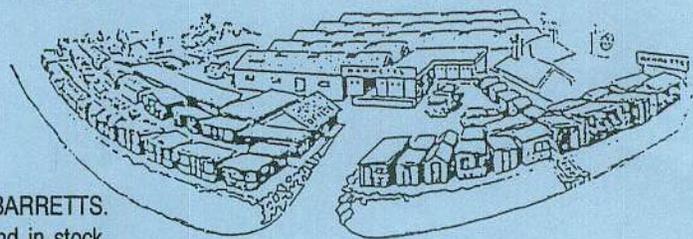
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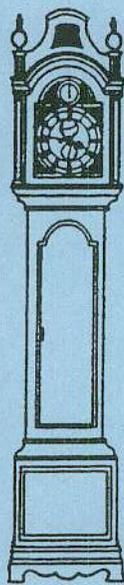
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