

Ms S. Brown

SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

The following have become members of the Society and we are pleased to welcome them:

Mr & Mrs P. Davey, 11 Cooper Road, Guildford.
Mr A. Atherstone, South Paddock, Pyle Hill, Mayford.
The Misses A. K. & M. Palmer, "Cleve", Sandy Lane, Send.

Membership as at 21 April stands at 26 single and 37 double. A number of people have not yet renewed their subscriptions and are not included in the foregoing figures. Subs. should be paid, please, to the Treasurer, Sheila Brown, or to your Newsletter distributor.

Forthcoming Events

- Sunday, 1 May ... Natural History walk cancelled.
- Sunday, 8 May ... Natural History outing to listen to the dawn chorus. Meet in the elbow of the old road at Send Barns at 3.45 a.m.
- Sunday, 15 May ... Natural History walk cancelled.
- Sunday, 22 May ... Natural history walk at the Chantries, Guildford. Meet 7 a.m. at Send Barns as above.
- Wednesday, 25 May ... Natural History meeting - see foot of Page 11 for details.
- Sunday, 22 May ... All-day outing to Singleton Open-Air Museum, Singleton Church, and West Dean Church. Meet at 10 a.m. at Send Barns, or 11 a.m. at the museum car park.
- Sunday, 5 June ... Natural History walk at High Clandon. Meet at Send Barns at 3.45 a.m.
- Tues. Eve., 14 June ... Meet 7.30 p.m. at Send Barns for Badger watching. For this you must be keen, but the rewards can be great. Please wear old dark clothes and nothing that will rustle. Don't wash using scented soap, no perfume, etc. Wrap up warmly and be prepared to stand still and soundless for two hours.
- Sunday, 19 June ... Natural History walk at Wood Street. Meet 7 1.m. at Send Barns.
- Wed. Eve., 22 June ... Walk at Farley Heath to identify countryside sounds at night. Meet 9 p.m. at Send Barns.
- Thursday, 23 June ... Open meeting at the Church Room, Send Road. A talk about old buildings. Speaker to be announced.
- Sun. Eve., 26 June ... Meet 8 p.m. at Send Barns for a walk at Henley Park to see and hear the nightjar.
- Sunday, 3 July ... Meet at Send Barns at 3.45 a.m. to see deer, etc., at Tilford Forestry Commission land.
- Thursday, 7 July ... Evening walk along the Wey Navigation towpath. Meet at the Boathouse Car Park, Potters Lane, at 7.30 p.m.

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SHIPLEY MILL - APRIL 3rd, 1977

Speaking of his old job, Mr Bishop, who for 25 years was stone dresser at Meopham Smock Mill in Kent, thus explained the windmill principles:- "Some people fancy that the weight of those sails hangs all outside the mill. It doesn't of course; it all balances inside. All that weight rests equally on the neck and tail bearings of the windshaft that carries the sails. Then the framing of the Cap, the Sheers and the crosspieces spread the weight equally all round the curb of the Tower. So then, whichever way the Cap is turned the strain on the Tower is always the same. The wallow wheel (wallower) and the upright shaft (which takes the power down from the Brakewheel built on the windshaft) have to balance just the same, not the least bit out of upright and level. And then the stones must balance too; the Bed Stone must be fixed with spirit level, and the runner stone spin level and even all the time. It was my business as stone dresser to see that it did; always to dress the stones evenly."

This, from "The English Windmill", is a quotation from "The Countryman at Work", by Thomas Hennell, and may help some members of the party at Shipley on Sunday to understand the ingenuity of the windmill builders, of whom many of the early ones could neither read nor write, and who often worked without proper plans. So perhaps we can admire them together with the spectacular and beautiful mills which they created, which blend so naturally into the English Countryside; realising at the same time that these mills, together with their cousins the watermills, were a vital link in the existence of every remote rural community, providing food for both Man and his animals.

Shipley Smock Mill was built in 1870 at a cost of £2,500 by local millwrights from Horsham. The tall octagonal wooden tower, with a pronounced batter, painted white, stands on a brick base which contains the ground floor used for unloading and storage, with the Waggon Floor above, just at the right level to load sacks of flour on to a waiting waggon. Above this the smock proper begins. The first floor, or Meal Floor, contains the bins which collect the meal or flour from the millstones on the floor above. Flour and meal were allowed to remain in the bins for 24 hours or so to cool, having arrived from the millstones quite warm and sweaty due to the pressure and friction of the stones. After cooling the flour would be returned to the Stone Floor above by sack hoist and passed through the "Wire Machine or Bolter" to separate the whole wheat meal into numerous grades. Coarse bran for horses followed "Pollards", "Middlings", "Sharps", and "Thirds", which were fed to cattle and pigs, leaving fine white flour ready for the Bakery. The Wire Machine or Bolter completed this process more satisfactorily with dry cool flour 24 hours old.

The principal occupants of the Stone Floor are the three sets of millstones housed in their wooden vats or iuns, and supporting a frame or "horse" which carries the corn hopper with its spout or shoe delivering grain into the eye of the upper "runner" millstone of each pair. The spout or chuck is agitated to keep it free from blocking by resting against a small three-sided iron cage revolving in the eye of the upper millstone, thus assuring a controlled supply of grain to the stones. This small iron component is called a "Damsel" by millers all over England on account of the rhythmic chatter it keeps up when at work.

The other small but important feature on the Stone Floor is the Bell Alarm, fitted to each pair of stones. When the grain hopper is almost empty, pressure is released from a cord which triggers a small bell telling the miller down below that he must replenish the grain hopper to avoid the prime

danger of the millstone running dry, producing sparks, and starting a fire.

Two sets of the three pairs of stones here are for flour grinding, the stones themselves comprising about 14 sections of very hard freshwater Quartz, commonly called "French Burr", quarried at La Ferte-sous-Jouarre in the Paris Basin. These 14 sections are fitted together and cemented into a strong bed of Plaster of Paris, then bonded by an iron tyre similar to a waggon wheel tyre, thus making a complete millstone.

The third pair of stones are "Peak" stones of millstone grit from Derbyshire, not so hard as the French Burrs, and used exclusively for grinding food for animals. All three sets of stones are under-driven, the "Great Spur Wheel" on the vertical shaft and the "Stone Nuts" (or Pinions) on the stone spindles being visible in the ceiling of the Meal Floor below, together with the Communal "Governor" or "Conical Pendulum" and "Steel Yard" which control the fineness of the meal once the stones have been tentered by hand. "Tentering" is the process which enables the degree of fineness of the meal to be regulated by the miller. It is primarily dependent on the skill of the stone dresser, who must at all times re-cut the stones with perfect accuracy. All his "furrows" must be uniform and the featherings or "stitchings" on the "lands" between the furrows of equal texture. "Proud" spots on the stones, due to uneven wear from the previous period of work (14-21 days), must be levelled with the "Mill Pick" and the "Pritchel", and tested with ebony or Laminated Mahogany Staff smeared with "Raddle". When the stones are replaced the nether stone must be set with spirit level and the runner balanced perfectly on its "Rynd" or "Macé" at the top of the stone spindle. This presents a problem as the standing balance or "Pivotal Plane" of the stone usually does not coincide with the running balance, and may necessitate the introduction of small lead weights in the periphery of the runner stone, to correct this irregularity.

Assuming that the above conditions have been obtained, the miller adjusts the stones by hand before commencing to grind. The upright stone spindle, topped by its rynd supporting the runner in a state of perfect balance, is raised by hand screw until it is just clear of the bed stone. (Stones must never run without grain because of the risk of sparks and also damage to the dressing on the stone.) This proximity of the stones is usually the thickness of a piece of paper (5-10 thou. inch).

Having satisfied himself with all these adjustments, the miller sets the sweeps turning. Grain passes into the stones and down into the meal bins and is tested with the "Miller's Thumb". If not of his approval, he raises or lowers the stone spindle by the hand tentering screw at the base of the stone spindle until the desired fineness is obtained, when he allows the automatic Governor or Conical Pendulum to take charge, and goes about the other duties in his mill.

All this machinery receives its power from the vertical shaft revolving straight down the centre of the mill. The shaft rises through the next floor, the "Bin Floor", containing the bins of unground grain as in an ordinary granary, and up into the "Cap" of the windmill where it is crowned by a large bevelled cog wheel of cast iron called the "Wallower", which in turn is engaged with the "Brake Wheel" on the windshaft, turned by the sails outside. Close examination of the Brake Wheel and the Brake Shoes and in fact the whole of the Cap reveals earlier features than seen in the rest of the mill. It is now known that these items are re-used components from an earlier mill, possibly on the same site. The Brake Wheel of wood, clasping the iron windshaft, is tightened by wooden wedges, and the wooden teeth, of

apple or pear, sawn to the right pitch, are mortised into the Brake Wheel and wedged from behind. One is amazed by the smoothness with which they drive the Wallower.

The sails or sweeps of the mill are of the "Patent" type - the last refinement in sails. They resemble Venetian blinds, automatically opening in high wind to "spill" the wind, and closing when the wind drops, thus ensuring steady running of the millstones and uniform grinding. The old re-used Cap rotates on the circular top of the body of the mill on a "dead curb" - that is on greased wooden blocks only, with no castors. The grease used was called "Black Grease" and made from rendering the fat of horses. A "Fan Tail", diametrically opposed to the sails, and geared to the Cap by a Worm and Rack, kept the sails facing into the "Eye of the Wind" at all times, and obviated that other terror of the miller, of having his mill "tail-winded" with his sails and all his machinery going madly into reverse.

This, then, is briefly the environment in which the miller at Shipley had to work, and a few of the many points of which he had to be alert to make his living. He got no bonuses for special skills and was fortunate if he had the help of a lad, while his hours of work were at the whim of Nature. He had to work when the wind blew - day or night; but a windmill never seemed short of a miller, and we can only admire the men who built and worked these friendly giants of the Past.

P.S. The windmill in motion presents an illusion of immense power, but in fact the power generated was rarely enough to drive two pairs of stones at once. Usually, one pair were in action at a time and the little surplus power was used to drive the Wire Machine or Bolter, and the sack hoist. If wheat were brought to the mill with the spores of the disease called "Smut", it would be put through the Smut Machine or "Smutter" to remove the spores and the attendant musty smell before grinding. One pair of stones require about 4 h.p. to drive them and will grind 5 bushels of wheat per hour. Assuming the mill is working in a "Pleasant Breeze" of 14 m.p.h. or 20 ft/sec. and the mill has four sails, each of 144 sq.ft. surface area, the power produced is calculated from this formula:

$$H.P. = \frac{AV^3}{1080000}$$

where A = Total Area of Sails in sq.ft. and V = Velocity of Wind in ft/sec.

$$\text{Thus } H.P. = \frac{4 \times 144 \times 20^3}{1080000} = \frac{4 \times 144 \times 8000}{1080000} = \frac{576}{135} = 4\frac{1}{4} \text{ H.P. (approx.)}$$

P.P.S. The everyday vocabulary of millers and millwrights not in use by ordinary people ran to about 400 terms and expressions, with perhaps a further 100 for specialists. This small point serves to stress the complexity of the apparently simple operation of grinding grain by wind or water.

P.F.P.S. Some old millers, unfortunately, over the Centuries earned a reputation of inborn dishonesty, which in its commonest form was the keeping of a portion of the customer's ground meal or flour and making up the weight in the customer's sack with some foreign material like fine sand. Numerous entries in Manor Rolls (Courts Leet) of fines on early millers for selling impure flour (flower) bear this out, and an inscription of 1566 in Black Letter on a stone set in the wall of my cousin's mill at Fiddleford near Sturminster Newton is an exhortation to the miller, and worth quoting.

"He thatt wyll have here anythyng don
Let him com fryndly he shal be welcom
A frynd to the owner and enemy to no man

Pass all here frely to com when they can
For the sake of trothe I do alway professe
Myller be true disgrace not thy vest
If falsehod appere the fault shall be thine
And of sharpe ponishment think me not inkind
Therefore to be true yt shall the behove
To please God chefly that liveth above."

J. Oliver

SUNDAY, 3rd APRIL - OUTING TO SHIPLEY WINDMILL & CHURCH

A party of some three dozen attended the Society's outing at Shipley, a remote Sussex village off the A272 near Billingshurst.

The windmill is a good example of a smock mill. It is in apparently good working order, although the paintwork of the wooden smock looks neglected. It was built in 1879 by the Horsham millwrights and engineers with the appropriate but improbable name of Grist & Steele. In 1906 the mill with land around it was bought by Hilaire Belloc, the poet and author. It was in full commercial use until the end of the 1914-18 war, and was worked occasionally until 1926. Mr Belloc endeavoured to keep it in good condition, but by the time he died in 1953 it was in a poor state of repair. With the aid of voluntary contributions and financial help from the West Sussex County Council, it was brought back into working order as a memorial to Mr Belloc. A description of the mill and its modus operandi by our President precedes this item.

Like Send, there is no real village centre at Shipley, and similarly its church is dedicated to St Mary the Virgin, but there the comparison ends. Shipley Church is a massive early Norman one built by the Knights Templar in about 1130. Its strong symmetrical appearance was marred in the 19th century by the addition of the two aisles on the north side which give it a lopsided look. When that was done, a 14th century porch was removed to another part of the churchyard where it is still used as a toolshed. The church was renowned for its 12th or 13th century reliquary, a small and beautiful casket covered with copper and images-enamelled, which contained a piece of bone allegedly from the body of a saint. It was secured behind a strong glass panel in the chancel, but was regrettably stolen only a few months ago. Although never populous, Shipley was clearly a parish which derived wealth from its rich farming soil. This wealth is reflected not only in the quality of the church itself and its ornamentation, but also in the large number of chambered tombs in the graveyard.

Les Bowerman

STRUCK FLINTS

In N/L 9/9 we mentioned a collection of flints picked up by Mr Edward Partridge near the site of the former tannery in Tannery Lane. These have since been inspected and found to consist of several hundred struck flints, a few of which have secondary working on the edges. Most of them appear to be "wasters" and were probably never used after being struck from their core. Without being an expert, it is not possible to give a reliable estimate of age, but it is probably safe to say that they appear to be mesolithic rather than neolithic. Mr Partridge's collection from one concentrated area at the lorry park at the Pulverising Mills is unlikely to represent all of the flints there because he states an earlier collector from Woking had "20 times as many" from the site. Similar flints occur elsewhere in Send and Ripley.

NATURAL HISTORY GROUP REPORT

Pagham Visit - 20/3/77

6.30 a.m. was the time, and the two young leaders for the ramble were there, right on time and raring to go, at Send Barns; the heron winging his way over seemed to be a good omen.

There were 12 of us in all and we had a good journey down, losing count of how many pheasants we saw on the way, male and female. On arriving at Church Norton, the great tits, chaffinches and robins were there to welcome us as usual, in the car park, tame as ever - the great tits eating from the hand in no time.

We first made our way westwards along the coast facing the wind, binoculars much in evidence of course, with plenty to see. Coming back with the wind behind us and the sun shining down was a real delight and very much more interesting having every bird named for us by the two expert bird watchers leading us, Jeremy Blakey and David Nearney.

The chiffchaff was heard and seen, one of the first of our summer visitors. All in all a most rewarding outing, and our grateful thanks from the group to David and Jeremy. Birds seen include: Mallard, Shelduck, Ringed Plover, Lapwing, Chiffchaff, Dunlin, Shoveler, Teal, Ruff, Oyster Catcher, Cormorant, Black Tailed Godwit, Redshank, Curlew, Turnstone, Reed Bunting, Meadow Pipit, Yellow Hammer, Dunnock, Linnet, Goldcrest, Goldeneye, Coal Tit, Blue Tit, Great Tit.

Pains Hill - 27/3/77

Rain, rain and more rain, no one but no one will turn out on such a day at 7.30 a.m., but turn out they did, 19 in all, even Andy put away his hide to come! Although I hope he forgives us for losing him in the blinding rain along the A3, it was all right for us behind windscreen wipers! We did find him eventually, sitting on his Honda in the rain, at the roundabout at Cobham, and we all reached the car park in the woods without getting caught up with the cyclists and their time trials, fancy going on such things in that weather - must be mad! (No problem - I did it for years - Editor.)

So we started, not expecting to see much in the rain, but nevertheless keeping our eyes open, the junior group soon found a badger sett to investigate. Eventually we arrived at the lake with large London plane trees between our path and the Mole (the river of course!) The walk came to life seemingly at this point, maybe due to our good friend the heron, who again flew over the lake and alighted in a far tree.

The Canada geese were surprised to see us, but soon settled down and returned to their respective partners. Wending our way round the lake, tufted duck, mallard and coots were in evidence.

Unlike our previous visit, this time we walked right round the lake. This pleased the juniors as another badger sett was found - a larger one this time with freshly used latrines.

A large bridge leading on to the island was the next thing that invited further inspection, one of the features on the island was a grotto lined with crystalline material in a stalactite formation, not unlike fossilised wood. The large cedar which had been seen from the lakeside measured a massive 27 feet in girth, an impressive sight these Lebanon cedars, this one reputed to be the largest in Britain.

In its heyday one can imagine it to have been an impressive garden, a miniature Stourhead, not so miniature either! It is wild at the present time, but plans are believed to be afoot ...

The group tended to fragment rather, much worse without you I can assure you Ted! It is an important point for us all to bear in mind though, for all the group to get maximum benefit from our rambles. Also we might not have lost you for a while Pauline, as we did - our apologies! In spite of the conditions, everyone seemed to have enjoyed it and we had seen a lot more than expected, including the following:- Heron, gold crest, long tailed tit, chaffinch, goldfinch, 7 pairs Canada geese, 3 pairs tufted duck, coot, mallard, blackbird nest with 3 eggs, moth (speckled brown?), fox droppings, 2 badger setts, one with 4 holes and the other with 8 holes, plus badger latrines.

Ranmore Common - 10/4/77

This was another one of our extra rambles. An Easter treat for those who came (well it was a 6 a.m. start!)

The sunrise alone was worth the effort of the early rise, a brilliant red orb through the trees. The pheasants were the first to greet us, the wood must be teeming with them judging by the number seen and heard. Our path up through the woods soon led us by the magnificent beech trees and beneath, all around, the little double leaf beech seedlings were pushing their way through the woodland carpet. In a short while the way led down to a fir plantation on the valley floor, and a short detour through the spruce to view a badger sett, dug out of the chalky subsoil. The digging appears to have been tough going, even for old Brock, judging by the large lumps of chalk strewn in front of their holes; a short distance away fresh diggings had been made complete with freshly used dung pits.

The background bird song all around us was most enjoyable, seemingly amplified and echoing in the valley bowl. Climbing up the other side gave us a fine view looking down on the frost laden spruce, the higher trees warmed by the sun shedding their frost in a steady shower of glittering droplets, backlit by the sun, all seen through the lordly beeches. Ted remarked at the time that it was just like fairyland, it was just that!

Making our way back through the peaceful woods, we wondered where on earth three hours had gone, a most impressive ramble and truly a superb Easter treat.

Birds, etc., seen include:- Marsh tit, willow tit, chiffchaff, nuthatch, pheasant, great spotted woodpecker (green woodpecker heard), stoat nest hole and deer.

Ron Croucher

ORNITHOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

Lodgers in the Garden

Last spring I noted that there was a pair of Blackbirds nesting in the fir tree we have in the garden. This year they have gone back to the same nest, having a successful Brood so far.

Blue tits have taken up residence in a bird box we have in the oak at the bottom of the garden. When the adult bird comes with food for the young,

they all start hissing and chirping.

We also have a robin around the side of the house. The nest is in the same place as last year, but it is not finished yet; I hope they will finish soon and have two or three young we can enjoy looking at. I think we possibly have a wren's nest in Dad's bean sticks, as it has flown out from there a couple of times and been singing in the tree just over the sticks. There have been some nests along the footpath behind my house, but they have been deserted for some reason.

I sometimes wonder where all the birds nest, because you see hundreds of birds but never many nests; perhaps some don't nest for some unknown reason, which hopefully I can find an answer to.

D. Croucher

Visitors to Send

A survey is being carried out by the Young Ornithologists Club this spring on migrating birds, when they arrive in this country and where. This prompted me to record the summer visitors as they arrive in our area and pass on the information to any who would be interested.

The first one to be heard was the chiffchaff on March 22nd by the fishing lakes in Send. Next to come was the willow warbler, seen and heard near the cemetery on April 6th.

Easter Sunday, 10th April, saw the arrival of three sand martins in Send Court Quarry, but whether they will actually nest there this year remains to be seen, as the pit is almost completed and there is very little cliff face left.

For many people the cuckoo is the first real herald of spring and he usually arrives in mid April. Walking along the River Wey towpath near Triggs Lock on Sunday afternoon 17th April, I heard my first cuckoo of the year, and almost immediately afterwards a swallow swooped down, chasing some small insect. Also that afternoon I saw two house martins. This morning, April 21st, a bird was caught in our raspberry nets. Before releasing it, I was able to identify it as a whitethroat. Ted Bartlett reported having heard a blackcap in the old Send School playground at the beginning of April.

Another matter of interest to readers may be - the great crested grebe on the fishing lake was carrying her young on her back on 13th April.

A pair of lesser spotted woodpeckers have been displaying and drumming on a tree near the cemetery. A fresh hole has been bored so there is every indication that this is where they will take up residence.

Jean Croucher

THE SCOUT MOVEMENT IN SEND

The 1st Send (St Mary's) Scout Group celebrates the tenth anniversary of its formation this year, and will be marking the occasion with the opening of its own hall. Although this Group has been in existence for only a decade, there is an intermittent history of Scouting in the village extending over 66 years. 1977 is a fitting year for the present Group to celebrate because Scouting in Send began in the Coronation Year of George V, and this is of course the Silver Jubilee of his granddaughter Elizabeth II. The

progress of the earliest troop is very well recorded in the Send Parish Magazines of the time, but first let us set the scene.

After a distinguished Army career, Robert Stephenson Smythe Baden-Powell, the hero of Mafeking, at the age of 50 organised what was, in effect, the first ever boy scout camp on Brownsea Island in Pool Harbour in 1907. Using his experience of this together with ideas, unconventional at the time, which he had been developing for many years, of encouraging first soldiers and then boys to think and fend for themselves, he published "Scouting for Boys" in fortnightly instalments in 1908. He did not intend to form a separate organisation originally, believing that existing bodies such as the Boys Brigade, Church Lads Brigade, clubs, schools, etc., would simply adopt the ideas set out in his book. This they did, although it is also tradition that boys formed themselves into Patrols and asked adults to help them. There was a central office in Henrietta Street W.C.2 at least as early as 1908, and the Royal Charter for the Boy Scouts Association was granted on 4th January, 1912. Contrary to what many may believe, camping for pleasure was not introduced by the Scout Association. The Camping Club had been in existence since 1906 and had itself been formed out of the Association of Cycle Campers, which was inaugurated in 1901.

The earliest known evidence of the Scout movement being taken up in the Woking area is apparently in the January 1909 edition of "The Scout", where there is a reference to the Rev. H. R. Bates of the Woking Company of the Church Lads Brigade. A Scoutmaster's warrant was issued to him on 12th August 1909 for the Christchurch Church Lads Brigade Scouts in Woking. The 4th Woking Scout Group, which has always been connected with Christchurch, has no doubt that it is the direct descendant of this troop. The next local reference brings us to Send where in May 1911, an anonymous writer, presumably the Vicar, the Rev. G. C. Allen, D.D., states in Parish Notes "... I am anxious to get a detachment of Boy Scouts started. I think we are nearly the only Parish of any account in Surrey which has not yet taken up the movement ... Don't be alarmed, dear parents; it will not foster militarism ...". The temptation to speculate as to which Parishes are of no account must be resisted. In August 1911 the Woking Church Lads Brigade School Battalion had a week's "encampment in a field near Sendholme, kindly lent by Mr A. H. Lancaster." The heading of this entry is "Cadets in Camp". Camping by kind permission of the Lancaster family clearly has a long history, for it was still in use for this purpose in 1946 when the writer spent a weekend there as a boy scout in the 9th Woking Troop, and it did not cease to be so used until last year when Miss Eveline Lancaster died aged 100.

In the November 1911 edition of the Parish Magazine, the Rev. Allen announced "Scouts! Scouts! Scouts! The notices have been sent out by Mr. Rawes (the schoolmaster) and have so far met with enthusiastic reception. Hurry up, boys, and join. Remember, what Send thinks today the rest of England will think tomorrow." In December it was recorded that "The Rev. H. R. Bates, of Woking, gave a most interesting Lantern Lecture at the schools (i.e. the old disused primary school) on Church Scout Patrols ... The Scouts are now fairly launched in Send, with Mr. W. Collins (Organist and Lay Reader) as Scoutmaster, and the Vicar as Chaplain. 14 enrolments were made on Monday afternoon, the 27th (of November), at the Drill Hall."

By April 1912 the numbers were up to 23 and they were meeting two nights weekly for "drill and instruction". "Drill, Semaphore, Skirmishing, Compass and General Observation" had been taken. Although Baden-Powell envisaged a number of Patrols forming a Troop, as they are still known today, it is noted that in Send "the Church Scouts Patrol", as it was entitled in the

magazine, is recorded as consisting of 4 "groups". The reason for the difference in terminology may be that the Independent Church Scout Patrols (sometimes referred to in Parish Notes as I.C.S.P. and sometimes as I.S.C.P.) was something in the nature of a separate organisation from the Boy Scouts Association. This may also be the explanation for Mr Collins being called the "Commanding Officer" (instead of Scoutmaster) and Mr Alan Rawes "Second in Command" and "Ensign" in April 1912. (No militarism?)

In January 1912 the boys had a half-day out with "the Woking Scouts" on Horsell Common. In April, "by kind invitation of Captain the Rev. H. Bates and the Woking Scouts", they had a field day on Chobham Common. In July, it was not expected that "our boys" would stand "any chance against such patrols as Woking and Portsmouth". The strong impression is therefore created that the Rev. Bates' troop was the only one in existence in Woking itself in 1912, although by 1914 Old Woking had a Troop (still going strong) and their log book for 1914/15 mentions 1st & 2nd Mayford, Horsell, Bisley, Pyrford and Wisley Troops. The reason for the two troops in Mayford could be that 1st Mayford (of which the writer's father was then a member) was the village troop and 2nd Mayford (if that was its correct name) the school troop.

The field day on Chobham Common began with 19 scouts meeting at the Drill Hall to be taken by "brake" to Woking to join the "Woking boys". They had a "five miles tramp" to the Gordon Boys Home, stopping for lunch at Chobham Vicarage. During the afternoon they engaged in a "flag raid" on the Common, and "that successfully to our great delight, as the Shaftesbury Scouts are considered the crack patrol in the neighbourhood". "We" were presumably the Woking and Send Scouts combined. After the wide game they marched back to Woking and reached Send at 8 p.m. "after a tiring, but happy day".

On Whit Monday 1912, Send took part in a rally of Church Lads Brigades, Independent Church Scout Patrols, and Cadet Corps at Basingstoke, to which they travelled by train. On arrival they marched through the town to the field where the "review" was to be held, and then took part in a "March Past" which was described (as their day on Chobham Common had been) as their first taste of "real hard work". After lunch various competitions took place. The Send Scouts chose six different subjects "to shew the use of staves". As already noted, it was not expected that Send would show up very well, but they nevertheless came third out of eight. The report in the Parish Magazine adds "I gathered also that the catering was somewhat inadequate. One slice of bread and butter and two strawberries seem a rather meagre tea for a hungry man after three hours marching." Nevertheless, "all reached home tired but happy."

Information for this article, which is to be continued, has been obtained from the bound volume of the Send Parish Magazine for 1910-1923, kindly loaned by Flossie Oliver, from correspondence in "Woking Scout" in 1972, and from Mr Peter Cook of the 4th Woking Group, who is Archivist at Scout H.Q. in London. I am grateful to all concerned.

Les Bowerman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - STOP PRESS

Wednesday, 25 May ... Natural History Meeting at 14 Orchard Way, at 7.30 p.m.
Camera and tape recorder evening. Please bring your natural history slides and equipment, etc.

CLOSING DATE for the next issue of the Newsletter will be Monday, 27 June.