

Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY
Registered Charity No. 296324



The Ruins of
Newark Priory
West View

Journal Volume 7 No. 238

September/October 2014



Send & Ripley History Society

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President: John Slatford

St George's Farmhouse, High Street, Ripley, Woking GU23 6AF. Tel: 01483 222107

Email: jmslatford@gmail.com

Chairman: Les Bowerman

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

Hon. Secretary: Cameron Brown

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

Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Christina Sheard

Old Manor Cottage, Send Marsh Green, Ripley, Woking GU23 6JP. Tel: 01483 224600

Email: christina.sheard@btinternet.com

Journal Editor: Cate Davey

Waters Edge, Potters Lane, GU23 7AJ. Tel: 01483 773452. Email: editorsrhsjournal@gmail.com

Journal Distribution: Hilary Percy

30 Wentworth Close, Ripley, Surrey GU23 6DB. Tel: 01483 212950 Email: spezet@btinternet.com

Archaeology Specialist: Andrew Jones

106 Georgelands, Ripley, Woking GU23 6DQ. Tel: 01483 479647 Email: andrew738jones@bt.com

Web site management: Chris Brown

Web site: www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk

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Cover image: Canal boat *Iona* being pulled by Shire horse Buddy on the Godalming trip (see article p.9)
Photo © Ditz

EDITORIAL

I need to start this month's editorial with a couple of apologies.

Firstly, those of you who have given the Society your e-mail addresses will have received a message from us pointing out that there was an error in the attribution of the authorship of the article 'Growing up in Send-Part 3-Tony Milton'. The author was, of course, Malcolm Isted. My apologies to him.

I've also has some enquiries about World Cup Willie following the appearance of member Pat Clack and her son Michael with the mascot that Pat knitted for the young Michael in 1966. Each World Cup since 1966 has its own mascot. World Cup Willie, a lion wearing a Union flag jersey with the words "WORLD CUP", was the mascot for the 1966 competition - which England won. It was the first World Cup mascot and one of the first mascots to be associated with a major sporting competition.

August has been busy with activity in the two villages to mark the outbreak of World War I. There is a report on the centenary commemoration of Robert Reginald (Robin) Skene who had the misfortune to be the first man to die in the war. The Foreign Secretary, Philip Hammond, attended the service at Send Church.

Villagers gathered at Send Close early on Sunday 3 August to witness the planting of wooden poppies provided by the History Society to commemorate those men from the village who lost their lives in World War I. I was pleased to be able to participate and plant a poppy for my grandfather William Giles.

By the time you receive this Journal, the activities at Woking Palace will have taken place. If any member went there and took any photographs and/ or would be prepared to write a short note about what is going on there at the moment I would be pleased to hear from you.

I would also be interested to hear from any member who has carried out any research into their family history and be prepared to share it with us. I have recently enrolled with ancestry.com and have found it quite addictive! I quickly got back to the 1780s although the parentage of one of my great-great-great-grandfathers is proving a bit tricky to establish! There are however 460 odd hints (about possible connections) awaiting perusal on a rainy Sunday afternoon!

It's also intriguing to discover how many people are researching my family from different angles. I clearly have a lot of long-lost cousins. It was obviously quite common for siblings to lose touch with each other as they moved away from their area of birth, before the invention of the telephone and more recently the connectivity that we now enjoy with the Internet and modern telecommunications.

Catherine Davey
editorsrhsjournal@gmail.com

SURREY IN THE GREAT WAR: A COUNTY REMEMBERS - PROJECT UPDATE

I am very pleased to tell you that our bid for the second stage of the First World War Project - 'Surrey in the Great War: A County Remembers' - has been delivered to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

We expect to have a decision very early in 2015 and will then be able to start on this ambitious and exciting project.

Over the last few months our consultant has been engaged in consultations with a wide range of different groups. We are really pleased to say that the reaction has been almost unanimous; the proposed project is a great idea and an appropriate way to reflect on and commemorate the Great War. This support from communities across the County is hugely encouraging and we have already been receiving requests to register as a volunteer and other offers of support.

We have developed a structure for the planned website and have a working model for the searchable database which will contain all the information about the people who have a Great War connection with Surrey. The database is linked in to the county's Historic Environment Record so war memorials will be flagged up on any planning applications taking place in the local area. We have been working closely with colleagues in East and West Sussex to develop systems that use the same underlying principles so that data can be exchanged quickly and easily. We have also continued discussions with the Imperial War Museum's Lives of the First World War team and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission with a view to creating automated links with their data.

A new element in the planned project is the digitisation and indexing of a range of Surrey newspapers from the 1914-22 period. A great resource for anyone researching Surrey in the Great War period.

We will continue to keep you informed about project developments. If you know of anyone doing research about Surrey in the Great War and you think they may not be on our mailing list please ask them to contact the Surrey Heritage team at Surrey History Centre. We will then ensure that they are contacted and consulted once the project starts.

Many thanks to all of you who have already contributed ideas, research material and comments on the planned project.

Phil Cooper
Exploring Surrey's Past Officer
phil.cooper@surreycc.gov.uk
01483 518730

CENTENARY COMMEMORATION OF R. R. SKENE

12 August 2014

Clare McCann

St Mary's Church hosted a Commemoration of the life of Robin Skene, who died on 12 August 1914 - 100 years ago to the day of his Commemoration.

It must be a rarity that brings together a 'clutch' of Harley Davidsons, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and a Bishop - but all in Send churchyard, surely makes the occasion unique.

At 12 o'clock on 12 August the Reverend Tony Shutt welcomed the Mayor, the Foreign Secretary (a Send resident), local councillors, representatives of the Western Front Association, the British Legion, the Scouts and the Air Cadets as well as many local residents - over 100 in all. The short service was part of the Commemoration of the Deployment of the British Expeditionary Force in August 1914.

The centenary journey began at Netheravon in Wiltshire where Lieutenant Robin Skene of No. 3 Squadron RFC took off with his Air Mechanic R K Barlow on 12 August 1914 and sadly, as the plane banked left, the plane lost power and crashed, killing them both. Thirty members of the Surrey Chapter UK on their Harley Davidsons were at Netheravon, commemorating this tragedy as well as the role of the Royal Engineers' Dispatch Riders. They then attended the service in Send where one of their members read 'High Flight' by John Gillespie Magee. The bikers left Send to go on to Dover for another service before crossing



*RR Skene in the uniform of the Royal Flying Corps.
Location unknown.*

to France. On 13 August a 'Drum Head' service will be held at Aerodrome d'Amiens, Glisy with replica WW1 planes taking part and finally the Surrey Chapter will lay a wreath at Arras to mark the role of the Royal Engineer Dispatch riders (this is being written before that event).

Unfortunately no Skene family members were present but the vicar read out some biographical details as well as personal memories from Robin Skene's great nephew, who had listened to stories from his grandmother and great uncle – Robin having been the youngest of ten. Philip Hammond, the Foreign Secretary then read words of remembrance and a bugler played the last post. Wreaths were laid on the Skene family grave and National Anthem sung. The service ended with prayers and a blessing from the Right Reverend Ian Brackley, Bishop Commissary for Guildford. It was a moving service, marking much more than the loss of one young airman....

The following notes are taken from the Reverend Tony Shutt's introduction.

Robert Reginald Skene, also known formally as R. R. Skene and informally by his family and others as Robin, was born in Hammersmith in 1891.

He was the youngest of ten children born to Jane and Felix Skene, who was a Clerk to the House of Lords.

Robin was baptised in the church of St James Norland, a not far from what is now the Westfield Shopping Centre in Shepherds Bush.

The 1911 Census records the occupation of the 19-year old Robin as a Clerk in the Royal Exchange Insurance Office.

Two years later, it seems Robin had moved from flying desks in the City of London to flying machines at The Bristol School based at Brooklands in Weybridge, where he gained his Royal Aero Club Aviator's Certificate in July 1913, two weeks before his 22nd birthday.

In July 1914 he was entered in the London-Paris-London Air Race as competitor No. 10. The photograph on the cover of the order of service is taken from the report of the race in Flight magazine, which unfortunately didn't work out as planned. An article in the 17 July edition says: 'R. R. Skene left Brookwood for Hendon on the 120 h.p. Martinsyde, but descended at Potter's Bar owing to engine trouble.' Robin Skene was unable to fix the problem and join the race.

At the outbreak of war on 4 August, Robin moved from the Special Reserve to join the No.3 Squadron of the Royal Flying Corps at Netheravon on Salisbury Plain. No. 3 was one of the three founder squadrons of the RFC. At that stage the role of the aircraft was reconnaissance duties.

Early in the morning of Wednesday 12 August the Squadron took off to head for Dover, where forces were being concentrated, before flying over to Amiens in Northern France.

At about quarter past five o'clock in the morning, 30 minutes before dawn, Robin Skene, accompanied by his engineer Raymond Keith Barlow, a first air mechanic in the corps, ascended from Netheravon.

The aircraft had not proceeded far on its journey when while taking a left-handed turn it banked sharply. The result was that the machine lost speed and dived from a height of 15–200 feet vertically into the ground.

Lieutenant Skene and Air Mechanic Barlow both died before medical aid could be obtained.

Barlow was buried in Bulford Cemetery, not far from Netheravon, where today's commemorative motorcycle ride began.

Robin Skene's body was brought to Send, where the family home was at the time.

Robin's mother Jane had died in December 1913 and had been buried here in the churchyard. The family lived at Broadmead House, near the Wey Navigation and the road to Woking.

On 14 August, two days after the accident in Wiltshire, Robin was laid to rest in his mother's grave.

Although his father's name is not recorded on this monument, Felix Skene, was also buried here in 1927. As the first British pilot to be killed on active duty during the First World War, Robin Skene acquires some slight prominence. But he was one man among many from that age and from that conflict whose stories can remind us of the cost of the freedom we have inherited.

One of Robin's great nephews, Dominik Wujastyk, who is based in the University of Vienna, sent the following message which was read at the service.

Robin was my great uncle and I grew up to stories about what a darling person he was, full of spirit and joy and positive energy. He was the youngest child in a big family, and was especially loved because of that.

Robin was thrilled to be a pilot, and when he died the family was devastated. I met his brother Charles, who was only a year or two older than Robin and my grandmother who was Robin's older sister and they passed on memories of Robin to us. So, although Robin died 100 years ago, his personality seems not at all remote to us.

I really am sorry that I cannot attend the memorial this month. I would like to have represented the family, as a relative of Robin and as someone who grew up hearing about him. But I'm afraid it isn't possible. I am most touched that his name is remembered and that this service of remembrance is taking place. Thank you all for your care for the lost pilots of WWI.



RR Skene in the uniform of the Royal Flying Corps with two of his sisters.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Les Bowerman

The past few months have seen a remarkable spate of activity in the Society. First we had the exhibition “The Last Summer - 1914” from April to June, depicting life in Send and Ripley in the months leading up to WW1. Then we had the very successful summer barbecue at Crickets Hill Farm, which gave members the opportunity to socialise and get to know each other over delicious refreshments in a very relaxed setting on what turned out, despite the forecast, to be a fine summer’s evening.

Now we have yet another remarkable museum exhibition, “Lest We Forget”, about life here on the Home Front and by local people in the Forces in that dreadful conflict. The exhibition will last at least until late November. The next exhibition will be about sand and gravel extraction.

Also in recent months the Society has organised the commemoration service at Send Parade for the local people who died in the Great War as it used to be called. All of their names were and, at the time of writing are, displayed under giant poppies of painted plywood in the village garden near the shops with additional material displayed in the village telephone kiosk. The inspiration and leadership in all these activities have come from our Vice-Chairman, Clare McCann, aided of course by others, notably Jan Davies who has helped with the displays, John Creasey who made the poppies, Des McCann who allowed his home to be invaded for the barbecue, and Peter Croucher who manfully and skilfully acted as chef for the forty-eight members and friends who attended.

Whilst writing about the Society’s summer activities mention must also be made of the three outdoor visits, all of which proved exceptionally interesting and enjoyable and were all blessed by fine weather. These were the outings to Dunsfold and Hascombe, Bignor Roman Villa and Parham House, and the horse-drawn narrow boat trip on the Godalming Navigation. Programme Secretary, Anne Bowerman, planned, recced and led all three.

The WW1 research team has been delving deeply in search of information about local people who were caught up in the war in one way or another and has turned up much interesting information, much of which it is hoped will be published in due course.

We now look forward to a promising season of indoor talks, beginning this month (September). Peter has arranged for all of the forthcoming talks to be amplified, which should overcome the problem which was experienced with the last two talks.

THE SMALLPEICE FAMILY, RIPLEY: 1841–1916

John Slatford

One of the rewards of being a local historian is the ability to help other researchers having local interests or connections. This happens frequently with messages on the Society website. One such came recently from Derek Stott who lives near Toronto, Canada. It was an even better reward in August to meet him and his wife Candy who were on holiday and came to spend a few days staying in Guildford.

Derek’s 3 x great grandfather was Henry William Bund Smallpeice who came to Ripley shortly after his marriage in 1816, in St George’s, Hanover Square, London, to Mary Ann Bowers of Cobham. He came from Stoke next Guildford where he was born. He was a saddler and, although we have very little in our records, he had, with his son Henry William, a very successful and extensive saddlery business. However, the Ripley census returns give no indication of this. In the returns he is simply described as a saddler (employing, in 1871, 2 men and a boy). In 1851, he was also a farmer with 90 acres employing six labourers – where this was is not known. Henry William Bund died in 1876 but his family continued to live in Ripley in the same house (probably since 1816, certainly since 1841) until sometime after 1901. There were five children, four daughters and a son all born in Ripley between 1817 and 1832. Of the daughters, two, Mary Ann and Rose, never married and remained in Ripley. The other two married, moved and died elsewhere.

The spelling of the name Smallpeice is unusual but is not unknown in Surrey, for example, the former Guildford law firm of Smallpeice & Merriman. The result, no doubt, of spelling uncertainty by a parish clerk in entering family records in the parish register.

Pat and I met Derek and Candy on Sunday August 3rd and after an enjoyable lunch in The Anchor, we took them on a tour of the village. After visiting the museum, the first stop was in the churchyard where we showed them one of the Smallpeice graves by the rear of the church room. This memorial records the burials of Henry William Bund (82) in 1876 and his second daughter Mary Ann (73) in 1892. Another gravestone records the burial of his wife Mary Ann (89) in 1882 and his youngest daughter Rose (82) in 1916. Sadly, as is so often the case with sandstone memorials, the stone we saw is in poor condition and it will probably not be long before the inscriptions disappear completely.

We carried on, first inside the church, then past Chapel Farm, into Rose Lane and along the High Street until we came to The Green Cottage (Sage Antiques). We know this was the Smallpeice home because all the census returns show the family to be living next to The White Hart pub, now Sage Interiors. Needless to say, for Derek, this discovery made his visit to Ripley so much more worthwhile.

The 1841 census shows the Smallpeice family living there and the 1901 census shows the daughter Rose there on her own. By the time of the 1911 census she had gone to live in a boarding house, Burneston House, on Epsom Road in Guildford, where she died in 1916.

Derek is descended from the only son of Henry William Bund, Henry William Smallpeice, his 2 x great grandfather, born in Ripley in 1824, who emigrated to Canada with his wife and three surviving children in 1861. He was married in 1847 in East Horsley to Harriett Hooker and had lived on the High Street in Guildford. He was also a saddler and, with his father, had developed the business which had factories, it is said, in London, Guildford, Shalford and Aldershot. By the time of the Crimean War in the early 1850s, they were supplying Government contracts for large numbers of saddles and related harness. When the war ended so did the contracts leaving the business with very little work and inevitable bankruptcy. Large quantities of the manufactured goods were returned to the business, according to the bankruptcy report in the London Standard in 1857, and they had to pay "several hundred pounds in penalties for non-fulfilment of their contract". Notwithstanding the bankruptcy, his father was still in business as a saddler in Ripley in 1871.

Once settled in Canada, Henry William re-established himself as an army contractor and set up saddlery and harness businesses. He also became a farmer and much later was appointed to the Post Office Inspection Department. All in all, he had a very varied career. He died in Toronto in 1918, in his 95th year.

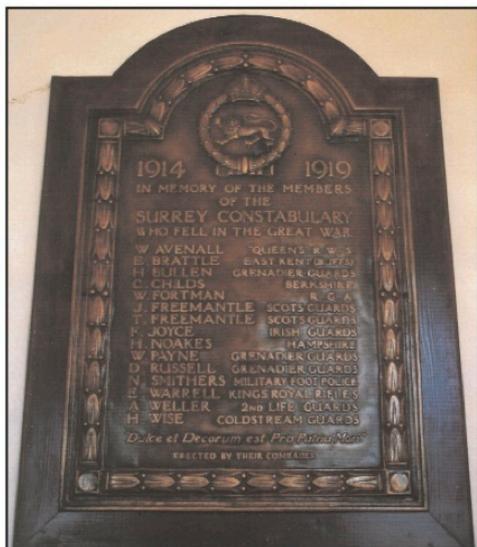
I am very grateful to Derek for supplying the details of his family and for his permission to reproduce them in this article.



Centre Henry William Smallpeice born Ripley 1824, back left William Robert Smallpeice born Guildford 1850, back right Frank Clifford Smallpeice born Canada, front Gwendolyn Smallpeice born Canada.

DISCOVERING A MEMORIAL TO PC NOAH SMITHERS

Janet Tice



The plaque in the Conference Room at Mount Browne Police HQ, Guildford

A small group in the History Society have been researching the impact the First World War had on the residents of Send and Ripley.

While searching through our collection of local history books my husband, Trevor, found a booklet entitled “A Hundred Years of the Surrey Constabulary, 1851 – 1951”. In it he came across a photograph of a Memorial to the members of the Surrey Police Force who had lost their lives in World War One. The memorial was at Mount Browne, the Police HQ in Guildford, and one of the names was that of Noah Smithers of the Military Foot Police.

Noah had lived on The Green at Ripley with his mother, and prior to enlisting was a Police Constable. He had joined the Surrey Constabulary in June 1905 and his collar number was 160. At the time of his appointment he gave his trade as ‘farm labourer’, working for Mr Cleverly at Ripley. He was first stationed at Farnham, later serving at Frimley Green, Virginia Water, Addlestone, Horley and finally Lingfield. During his service he was promoted from 3rd Class to 1st Class Constable, despite being fined

10 shillings on 2 September 1911 for being in the bar of a Public House when off-duty for two and a quarter hours without reasonable excuse!!

He was killed on 21 May, 1916. The July 1916 issue of the *Ripley Parish Magazine* states that, ‘In France while on duty in some town as Military Foot Police, Noah Smithers was struck by a shell and died almost at once. He is a son of Mrs Smithers on The Green.’ The *Woking News and Mail* of 2 June, 1916, records that, ‘....He had served for some years in the Surrey Constabulary, and about 8 months ago joined the Military Police with whom he served abroad.’ The Commonwealth War Graves Commission informs us he was 32 years old, and was buried in the Noux-Les-Mines Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

Audrey Smithers had previously contacted the group to share photographs and information that she had already managed to find out about Noah Smithers, who was her Grandfather’s brother.

I rang Audrey to see if she knew about the Memorial but she was unaware of it. She then contacted Mount Browne to see if she could view the Memorial, and they were very helpful in making arrangements for Audrey and her family to visit. When Audrey’s cousin, Indra, told her husband Martin, who works at the Surrey History Centre in Woking, about the Memorial he was surprised as the History Centre had no knowledge of it at all. He and two work colleagues asked to join the group so that they could photograph the Memorial for their records.

So on 12 June, 2014, Audrey, her brother Peter, their cousins Ruth and Indra, with her husband Martin, and the two Duncans from the History Centre, and myself, were warmly greeted at Mount Browne. We were shown into the Conference Room where the bronze Memorial tablet hangs to the left of a beautiful carved oak mantelpiece, while on the right is a similar tablet to commemorate the policemen who lost their lives in the Second World War. When looking at the World War One tablet it was noticed that the maker was William Morris Co.



Audrey Smithers (2nd from left) and family standing beneath the plaque

To round off the visit Audrey’s family assembled beneath the Memorial for a photograph – a fitting and poignant ending to the occasion.

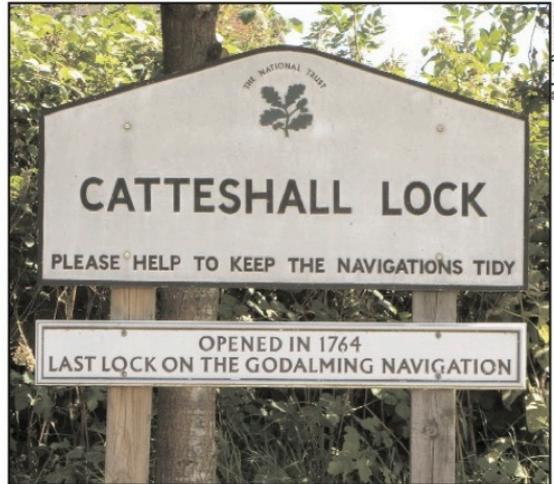
HORSE-DRAWN BOAT TRIP ON THE GODALMING NAVIGATION

Notes by Les Bowerman

As members of this Society will be aware, a considerable portion of the River Wey Navigation passes through the parishes of Send and Ripley. Its purpose was to make the river navigable from Guildford to the Thames at Weybridge. It was opened in 1653 after being constructed by "Navvies" in only two years. This was probably the first major canal scheme since Roman times.

Members are likely to be less knowledgeable about the Godalming Navigation, which was opened 111 years later in 1764, thereby extending the navigable river to that town. It became profitable only after it was connected at Stonebridge to the Wey and Arun Junction canal in 1816, thus providing an inland route from London to the south coast. Unfortunately, the Wey and Arun closed after operating for only fifty-two years.

On 4 July this year eighteen SRHS members took the opportunity to partly familiarise themselves with the Godalming Navigation by participating in the Society's third and last outing of the year, which was a return trip by the horse-drawn narrow-boat, "Iona" (owned and operated by The Godalming Packetboat Company), from the Navigation's terminal wharf at Godalming to where the canal parts company with the



original river some three miles downstream towards Guildford. The section of the Navigation traversed by the narrow-boat is mainly original river apart from a short canal stretch at Cattershall.



Les and Anne Bowerman on the canal boat with Shire horse Buddy enjoying the towpath grass

This was a delightfully relaxed trip on an idyllic summer day in the most tranquil of settings. The pleasure of the afternoon was enhanced even more by the serving of a cream tea on the return journey. Those interested in ecology may like to reflect that the non-carbon motive power for the trip was provided entirely by Buddy, an amiable but immensely powerful Shire horse whose only fuel was the grass growing along the towpath. Even the end

product of the fuel is ecologically beneficial to the environment!

For most of the canal history in the above notes reliance has been had on Alan Wardle's historical guide book, *The Wey Navigations*, published in 2003.

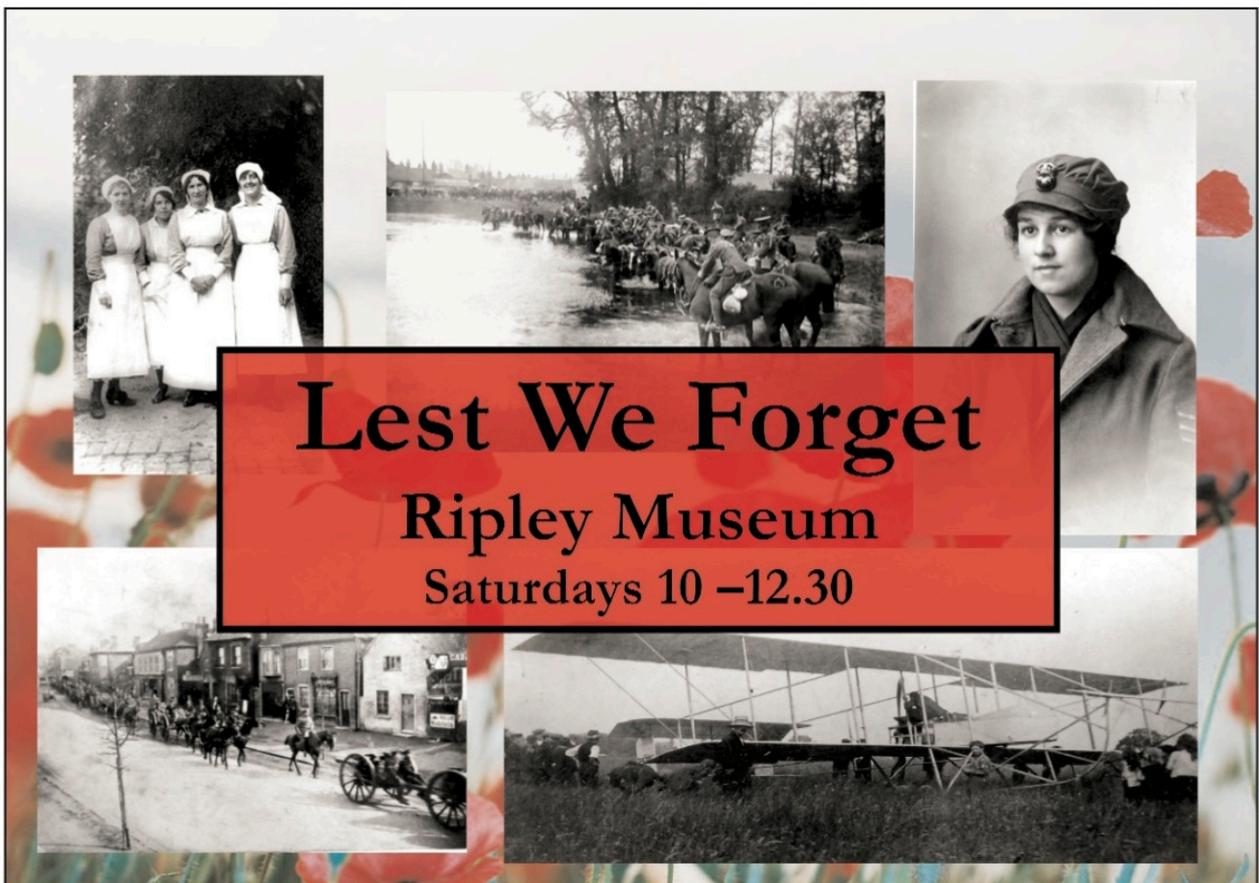


The Godalming Packetboat Company's 'Iona'

ONLINE

Members will be pleased to know that the computer at the museum is now online thanks to piggy-backing on the village hall connection - so thank you.

If you want to come to the museum to do some research, then please do. Also on the computer are most of the society's photographs, a searchable database of those photos, and a spreadsheet of all the library books, organised both by author and subject. Remember, many of the books can be borrowed and all can be consulted. Mavis Davis has done a great job over a number of years looking after the library, so it would be great to see it better used.



LEST WE FORGET

Remember that we have a new exhibition at the museum on the subject of WW1. Come and learn the connection between Lord Kitchener and Ripley. How Send and Ripley helped Plucky Little Belgium and much, much more...



SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Autumn 2014 Conference

Saturday 15 November

THE RESEARCH FRAMEWORK: A NEW EMPHASIS

Programme

09.30	Registration	13.30	Introduction to the Afternoon: John Manley
10.00	Opening Remarks: Chairman: John Manley	13.40	Social transition from 1600: Catherine Ferguson
10.05	Introduction: David Bird	14.10	Industrialisation and technology: Pam Taylor
10.15	Prehistory in Surrey: Where from Here? Jon Cotton	14.40	Tea
10.45	Coffee	15.10	Taking Concrete Decisions: Tony Howe
11.15	The Late Iron Age to early Saxon period: David Bird	15.40	Discussion: David Calow & Richard Savage
11.45	Later Saxon and Medieval: Richard Savage	15.55	Closing Remarks: John Manley
12.15	Discussion	16.00	SyAS AGM
12.30	Lunch		

Advance booking fee: £10 per member
£12 per non member
£8 per student under 25

To book, send cheque and SAE to:

SRF Conference 2014
Surrey Archaeological Society
Castle Arch, Guildford,
Surrey GU1 3SX

Venue: Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall,
Woodfield Lane,
Ashtead,
Surrey
KT21 2BE

Further details available from:

01483 532454

info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk
www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk

BIGNOR ROMAN VILLA - VISIT 5 June 2014

We have room this month to include another photographs from the Bignor trip.



This photograph shows the mosaic and hypocaust under-floor heating in the 'Venus' room.

Hypocausts (Latin *hypocaustum*) were a Roman system of underfloor heating, used to heat houses with hot air. The word derives from the Ancient Greek *hypo* meaning "under" and *caust-*, meaning "burnt" (as in caustic). Vitruvius, writing *circa* the end of the 1st century BC, attributed their invention to Sergius Orata. Hypocausts were used for heating hot baths (*thermae*), houses and other buildings, whether public or private. The floor was raised above the ground by pillars, called *pilae* stacks, with a layer of tiles, then a layer of concrete then another of tiles on top; and spaces were left inside the walls so that hot air and smoke from the furnace would pass through these enclosed areas and out of flues in the roof, heating but not polluting the air in the interior of the room. Ceramic box tiles were placed inside the walls to both remove the hot burned air and to heat the walls. Rooms requiring the most heat were placed closest to the furnace, whose heat could be increased by adding more wood to the fire. Hypocausts required constant attention to tend the fire, and were expensive in fuel and labour, so tended to be a feature of villas and public baths.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

David Roake has written in response to query 2 on page 10 of Journal 236 May 2014

'I believe that until about 1951 a barber called Charlie Dawkings (Dorkings?) cut hair in the property next to Nurse Moores

I believe that the property was demolished and a new bungalow built and inhabited by Mr and Mrs Lepper (a coach driver) and the brother of Jack Lepper of Tyler's off licence. Their children were David and April who I was at school with in the mid 50s.

I had my hair cut by Charlie until I was about five, then went to Macs in Old Woking, who had recently opened up and later to Bill Lumley in Potters Lane with his barbers' premises at the rear of his bungalow.

Best wishes
David Roake'

David also wonders if anyone is still in touch with Pat Carter. He lost touch with her and her brother Brian after her mother Mrs Nancy Carter died in Lowestoft about ten years ago. I was at school with Pat who lived in Potters Lane but we have not had contact for fifteen to twenty years. [Ed.]

ENQUIRY RE REV. WILLIAM HENRY PARSON (1805-1882)

Gregory Robert Freeman has been in touch with Les Bowerman with the following query.

'I was directed to you by Rev. Shutt on an inquiry of mine regarding Rev. William Henry Parson (1805-1882) who was stipendiary curate of Send & Ripley from 1828-1838. Would you happen to have any information of how the ecclesiastical duties of a curate in Send & Ripley would have been performed in the 19th century? Such as, whether curates would attend Send in the Sunday morning service, and Ripley in the afternoon, or some other arrangement of serving the two parishes?

Could Parson have been primarily at the one, and not the other, or could he not even have been physically present at either parish? As a young man who was only ordained in 1828 and still at Oxford until 1830 when he received his M.A., I wouldn't suppose he could have made a large impact on the communities, and must have been busy while finishing at university (so I imagine). From 1830-1838 is the most crucial period. Parson is said to have become a Tractarian (Oxford Movement having "officially" begun in 1833); so it would be important to establish when and where those opinions crept in, and when and where he first came into contact with local architect Henry Woodyer whom he later contracted in 1856 to build a school and restore the parish church at Lynchmere in Sussex.

He's a curious character! I came upon him after finding an 1855 Book of Common Prayer presented by the parishioners of Lynchmere to the church in 1856, in a Vancouver bookshop. The book had been used in services at Lynchmere for decades, and somehow after WW2 came to Canada, ending up in the Vancouver School of Theology which downsized its library this year while moving. Thus I have it (living about Guildford, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada, coincidentally) and I'm having a great time researching it and the men who used it.

Any help on Parson, or what his duties were, and how performed between Send & Ripley, would be greatly appreciated.'

Les responded

'Thanks for your interesting enquiry which, I am afraid to say, is a hard one to answer.

A quick look at our history of Send Church shows that George Walton Onslow, a member of the the same family as the Earls of Onslow, was Vicar of Send from 1806 to 1844. I regret that we do not have a list of curates, but we do know that Onslow lived at Dunsborough House which is in Ripley, so I guess there is a good chance that your man (with a very appropriate name) would have officiated at Send. Send and Ripley were both in the Parish of Send at that time, and they split into separate parishes in 1878 for ecclesiastical purposes. The National Census doesn't help because the first one was in 1841.'

If anyone has any information on the subject perhaps they could let Les know. For an introduction on the Oxford movement see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford_Movement

SURREY HISTORY CENTRE -EVENTS AND DISPLAYS

Some interesting displays and talks coming up at Surrey History Centre.

For further information about each event including details of how to book please visit:
www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritageevents

Dates	Events & Displays (at SHC)	Details
Mid Sept – 1 Nov	Display - Mapping the Past: Surrey's Mapmakers, Historians and Artists, 1600-1830	Free
2 October	Talk - Owen Manning, William Bray and the writing of Surrey's County History, 1760-1832 by Julian Pooley	Tickets - £5
4 October	Talk - The New Sylva by Gabriel Hemery	Tickets - £5 until 13 Sept, £6 after
18 October	Meeting - Surrey Local History Committee, Autumn Meeting	Free
4 – 29 November	Display - The Great War: From India to Woking	Free
8 November	Talk - Surrey Heritage Annual Lecture -The Quick and the Dead. Fallen Soldiers and Their Families in the Great War by Richard van Emden	Tickets - £10 inc. Refreshments
29 November	Talk - Surrey Infantry's World War One Victoria Crosses by Ian EJ Chatfield	Tickets - £5

Latest news

From 1 October 2014 Surrey History Centre will no longer be open late on Thursday evenings until 7.30.

This decision has been made in the light of extremely low visitor numbers during these extended opening hours. Redeployment of staff to core hours will enable us to address standard archive work, such as cataloguing and packaging, which is vital to our making more of our collections accessible for research by the public.

Date for your diary

Our Surrey Heritage Showcase is back! This year's event will take place on Saturday 25 October at Chertsey Hall from 12pm - 4pm. The Showcase will focus on Chertsey, and its immediate area, including Addlestone, Lyne, Long Cross and Ottershaw.

This will be our third Heritage Showcase in the county which is an unique event that brings together not only the amazing resources and experts at Surrey History Centre but also local organisations and societies to showcase the heritage of the area. More details to be announced shortly so do keep an eye on our website for further updates.

If you have any questions about any of the above please do not hesitate to contact us on 01483 518737 or email shs@surreycc.gov.uk

Corrections to Journal 237 July 2014

Page 4: under the group photo - 'Pat' is 'Pat Farmer'.

Page 10: The reference to 'Margery Bonard' should have read 'Margery Bernard'.

Page 11: The author was erroneously named as 'Tony Milton'. The author was of course Malcom Isted.

THE SEARCH FOR UNCLE ARCH

Peter Spooner

When I started family history research my Father provided me with information about the families of my paternal Grandparents, in doing so he spoke about 'Uncle Arch' but was only able to provide limited information. I was told that 'Uncle Arch' was a post WWI regular soldier who served in India and may have served during WWI. Assuming that Arch was an abbreviation of Archibald, I tried to identify him as a member of my Grandparents' families but was unsuccessful. Additional information was to come from Ruby Shepherd, my Father's cousin, who said that he married late in life and that his wife, Auntie Peg, was a member of the ATS. I was still none the wiser. From an entry in the April 1915 issue of the *Ripley Parish Magazine* I knew that my Great Uncle Horace Spooner, son of Albert Spooner of Rose Lane Ripley, was serving with The King's (Liverpool Regiment). An examination of Horace's Medal Roll Card revealed that he served in India with the Regiment and later served with the Machine Gun Corps but, as I could not see any reason for the name Horace to be abbreviated to Arch, I put the search to one side.

As part of separate research I contacted a member of the Machine Gun Corps History Project and, when writing added, as an after thought, the fact that my Great Uncle served in the M.G.C. and provided his service number. To the surprise of the person I wrote to and to my surprise, my Great Uncle was in their database. There were two entries in the London Gazette, one to Sergeant R H Spooner for the award of the Military Medal (Waziristan) and the other for Sergeant R A H Spooner who was Mentioned in Despatches (Afghanistan). Both awards related to service with the 6th Armoured Motor Battery, Motor Machine Gun Service. It looked like I had found 'Uncle Arch', but I was no wiser where the name Archibald came from.

Having obtained additional information I applied to the Army Personnel Centre in Glasgow for a copy of Horace's service record, this arrived about a year later. From the service record I learnt that 19 year old Horace joined the 2nd Battalion The King's (Liverpool Regiment) in 1907, as he enlisted in Woking it is likely that the battalion was stationed in Inkerman Barracks. The following year he embarked with the battalion for the North West Frontier of India, there he would take part in local campaigns. In 1918 Horace transferred to the Machine Gun Corps and served with the 6th & 7th Armoured Motor Batteries. It was whilst he was serving with the M.G.C. that the two awards were made, in addition to which he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and a Waziristan Force Commander's Certificate. The War Diary of the 7th A.M.B. contains a report submitted by Horace in January 1920 concerning shots being fired at him whilst he was travelling on a motorcycle. Two rounds hit the motorcycle and, whilst taking evasive action, the motorcycle slid from under him, fortunately he only received minor injuries and was able to continue with his journey. The year 1921 saw a further change and Horace transferred to the Tank Corps serving with the 10th Armoured Car Company. He left India in 1924 after 16 years service on the North West Frontier and joined the 2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps based in Farnborough Hampshire. In 1928 Horace left the Army with the rank of S.Q.M.S. and no doubt he thought that this would be the end of his military service but world events were to change his plans.

Horace re-enlisted in 1940, this time joining the Royal Armoured Corps Territorial Army. He made use of the knowledge that he had obtained during his previous service with the Royal Tank Corps, becoming a fitter in a Training Unit at Bovington. When discharged 1942 he held the rank of War Substantive Staff Sergeant (Mech.).

Horace's service record shows that he married, with the status of bachelor, in 1931 and his wife was to serve with the ATS. Ruby would have known about this marriage as her father, Hubert, was a witness. However, his service record also shows that, with the status of bachelor, he had married in 1919 whilst in England on re-enlistment leave. I can only assume that the years of exposure to sun impacted upon his memory.

A study of Horace's service record shows that the Army took a casual approach to his first names, he enlisted as Horace but his service record shows him as using Horace, Archibald and Reginald in various orders. I think the name changes were Horace's choice, as I have not been able to find an obvious link to family names.

As Reginald Horace Spooner 'Uncle Arch' died at the age of 83 in 1972 in Weymouth. As his death certificate shows his occupation as a retired tank fitter, it is therefore possible that he continued to work for the Army at

Bovington after his WWII discharge.

I regret that I identified 'Uncle Arch' after my Father's death, I would have liked to have been able to inform him about the service of his Uncle. In addition, my Father served on the North West Frontier of India with the RAF during WWII, so it is possible that they visited the same locations.

I do hope his medals are in safe hands, the group should consist of the Military Medal, 1914-15 Star, British War Medal with MID Emblem, Victory Medal, Indian General Service Medal with clasps for Afghanistan/NWF 1919, Mashud 1919-20, Waziristan 1919-21, Waziristan 1921-24, 1935-45 War Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Long Service & Good Conduct Medal.

RESEARCHING WW1

For those members who feel inspired to start researching their relatives' WW1 records, Angela Blaydon has kindly provided the following list of online sources for WW1 Research

<http://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/>

Forces War Records and Military Genealogy

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/first-world-war>

A vast holding of records

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/exhibitions/iwm-london/first-world-war-galleries>

Imperial War Museum's extensive WW1 information including: <https://livesofthefirstworldwar.org/>

<https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk/>

Find a Soldier's Will but bear in mind that a lot of WW1 records were destroyed during WWII and not all survive

<http://www.sonnets.org/wwi.htm>

If you are interested in WW1 poetry – there are others

<http://www.firstworldwar.com/index.htm>

A site dedicated to WW1

<http://news.dorsetforyou.com/rsm-beck-diary/>

Follow RSM George Beck through his diary posted by Dorset History Centre on a daily basis exactly 100 years later

<http://www.1914-1918.net/>

Another site dedicated to WW1

www.illustratedfirstworldwar.com

Featuring 1914-18 material and to eventually include material from its sister publications as well.

<http://www.booty.org.uk/booty.weather/climate/histclimat.htm>

Always a useful site so you can link weather conditions with dates

<http://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

and

<http://home.ancestry.co.uk/>

Very useful for tracing individuals through civil and parish documents. Both sites also have specific WW1 sections.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The opening times of our museum are on the next page. After the World War I exhibition “Lest We Forget”, which can be viewed until November, the next theme will be on the local industry of mineral extraction in Send.

Our indoor programme for the autumn is shown below. All of our meetings are scheduled to be held in Ripley Village Hall and will start at 8 o'clock. Refreshments will be available.

Tues. 21st Oct - An illustrated talk on “Roman Guildford” by Rebecca Lambert.

Sat. 1st Nov - West Surrey Family History Society Open Day at Woking Leisure Centre.

Tues. 18th Nov - “The Gaiety Girl” – The story of Marjorie Goddard of Ripley told by her daughter, Gaye Burt.

Tues. 16th Dec - The Christmas Social

Please ring me, Anne Bowerman, on 01483 224876, if you have any queries about the programme.

Journal Contributions: Closing date for the next issue is **Tuesday 21 October 2014.**

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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Other times for school groups and small parties by
arrangement

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

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

'Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life' (Reprinted 1998 and 2006)	£10.00
'Guide to The Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Send'	£1.25
'Then and Now, A Victorian Walk Around Ripley' (Reprinted 2004&7)	£4.00
'The Straight Furrow', by Fred Dixon	£1.50
'Ripley and Send – Looking Back' (Reprinted 2007)	£9.00
'A Walk About Ripley Village in Surrey' (Reprinted 2005)	£2.00
'Newark Mill Ripley, Surrey' (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
'Newark Priory: Ripley's Romantic Ruin'	£8.00
Special Offer - Purchase 'Newark Priory' and 'St Mary's Ripley'	£10.00

All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Pinnocks Coffee House, Ripley. 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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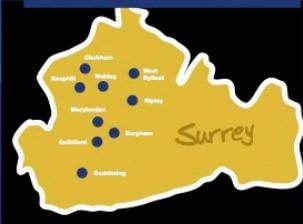
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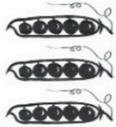
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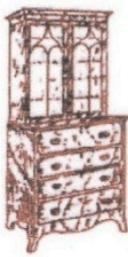
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