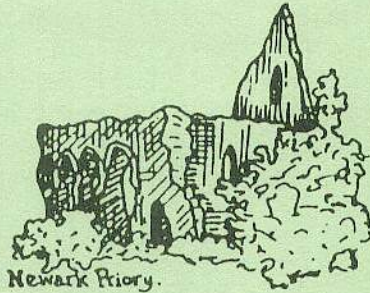
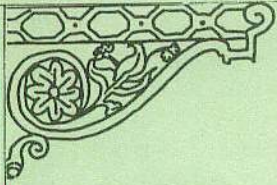
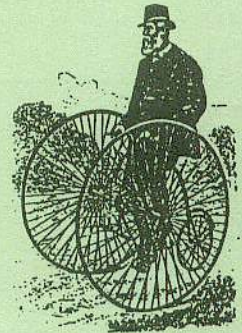
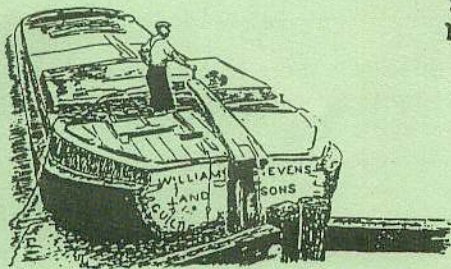


Send & Ripley History Society

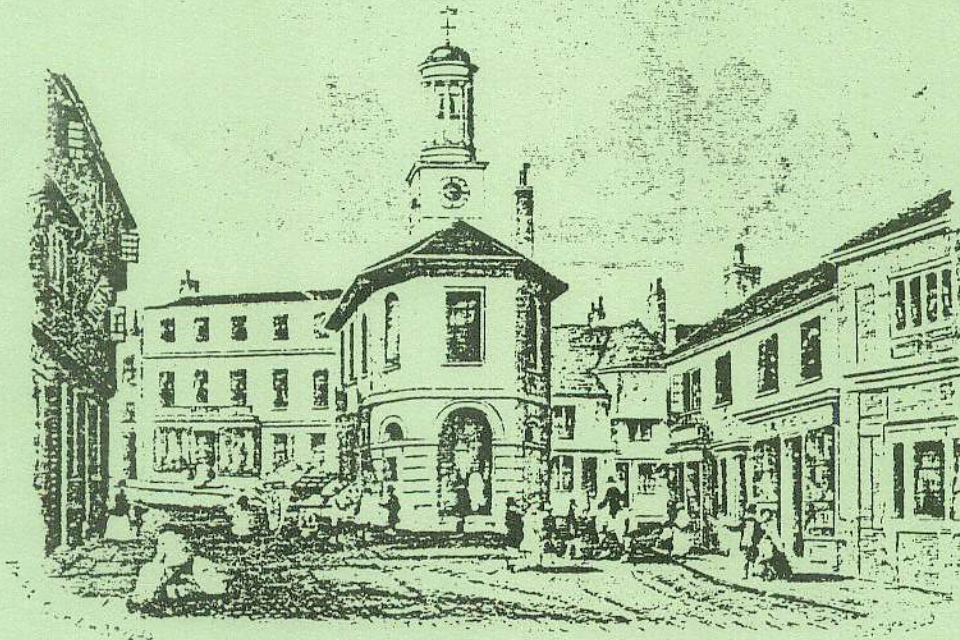


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Newsletter No. 74

May/June 1987



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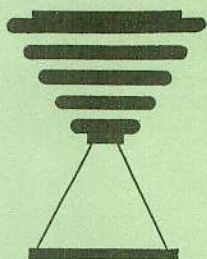
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Send & Ripley History Society

Established 1975 as Send History Society

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Heath Farm, Tannery Lane, Send, Woking (Guildford 223028)

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Cover Illustration: View of the Old Town Hall, Godalming, also known as the Pepperbox or Pepperpot, taken from an engraving by A Orтели, dated 3 October 1853. This illustration is shown on the cover of John Janaway's book "The Story of Godalming", published by Local Heritage Books, Newbury (1983).

THE HISTORY OF SEND PRISON SITE
by Les Bowerman
STOUGHTON RYDE USED AS SMALLPOX HOSPITAL
THEN DETENTION CENTRE

The Tithe Map & Apportionments of 1843/44 show that Stoughton Ryde was the original name of the 24-acre area of land on which the prison stands. In the context of this piece of land "ryde" means a clearing in the forest ("The Place-Names of Surrey"). The Apportionments also show that in 1844 it was owned by the Rt Hon Arthur George, 3rd Earl of Onslow, and occupied by Robert Shaw. It was in the south-east corner of the parish of Send, as then constituted, close to the boundaries of both East and West Clandon. It has a longer recorded history than most places in either Send or Ripley because in the Papworth Manorial Court of 1548 there is reference to an earlier document under seal, made in 1332 by Roger Enham, Prior of New Place (Newark), when the Prior and Convent granted a lease of it to William Weston, Lord of the Manor of Papworth, at an annual rent of 8/- and a further fee of 8/- whenever a Prior died, was deposed or transferred. In 1539 Henry VIII dissolved the Priory and sequestered its property, so that Stoughton Ryde was owned by him personally, when in 1540 the copyhold tenant, John Bithewoodde, died and it was passed to his son, Arnold Atwoodde. In 1544 the freehold of all the Priory lands was granted to Henry's Master of the Horse, Sir Anthony Browne. Thereafter, the Papworth Manor Rolls appear to record changes of freehold ownership and the Ripley & Send Rolls, the passing of the copyhold tenancy.

In 1907 Stoughton Ryde was compulsorily purchased by Surrey County Council from Ralph, 2nd Earl of Lovelace, and Kelly's Directory of 1938 notes that "The Surrey County Council Smallpox Hospital in this Parish was erected in 1907 at a total cost of £15,360, and holds 25 patients." The telephone number was Ripley 16. There is a story that the 2nd Earl was so violently opposed to the idea of a smallpox hospital on his land that he suffered a fatal heart attack. Ralph Gordon Noel-King Milbank, 2nd Earl of Lovelace, did in fact die suddenly at Ockham Park on 28 August 1906, aged 67 ("Dictionary of National Biography"). Peggy Aldridge tells us that there is nothing in the Lovelace family traditions to support this story, but that the fatal heart attack occurred shortly after his return from inspecting damage caused by youthful vandals on his property in Ripley Woods. Stoughton Ryde had been worked as part of Holride Farm, and those parts of the land which were not used for the actual hospital compound continued to be so farmed. As to the introduction of inoculation in England in 1716 as a result of letters from abroad by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and the inoculation of Send and Ripley families against smallpox in 1777, see Newsletters 24 and 26. The late John Strudwick wrote in the "Surrey Advertiser" of 6 August 1966 that there had been fear at the time of the country-wide outbreaks of smallpox in 1902, and it may have been this that led the Council to establish the Surrey Smallpox District Committee in 1905 and the hospital two years later.

Bob Whapshott and Mrs Alice Charman both have recollections of the hospital, the original buildings of which basically form the present prison. In the 1920's Bob was friendly with the three sons of the then caretakers, Mr & Mrs Wyatt. As boys they often played in the grounds, pushing the horse-drawn ambulance up and down the drive. The Wyatts moved to another job just before the war. There was a full-time gardener, Joe Hamblin, from West Clandon. There were very few smallpox patients. Bob remembers about ten in the ten years he knew the Wyatts. He did not think they took patients with other diseases, but it seems this changed later. Although the buildings were kept clean and ready, and the linen always clean and aired, there was no permanent resident staff. The patients came from all over Surrey and even, Bob thinks, from part of London. He assumes nurses were sent there too. If a patient was at the hospital, there was new tight security. The main gates would be locked, post and deliveries left at the main road gate and a bell rung. The Wyatts would have to take the deliveries down the drive in a

Post Office type wicker wheeled trolley with a lid. No visitors would be allowed. Strangely, though, there was no notice or signboard saying what the place was. The Wyatt sons used to stay at these times with the Whapshotts and at one other place in the village, or they would have had to miss school because of quarantine. The gardener would have to stay in quarters and not go back to the village.

There were nurses' and caretaker's quarters, a mortuary and a workshop for making coffins. Bob remembers only one death. The corners of all the rooms were rounded, presumably for ease of sterilisation. The grounds were very well kept by the Hospital Board and the buildings constantly repainted. In the period between the last of the patients and the conversion to a detention centre, it was still maintained and the garden tended. When a patient was cleared, Mr Wyatt escorted him up the drive and gave him his fare and some cash to start him on his way back. Once they had a tramp. He was treated like a king. He was provided with his own newspaper and a special stock of tobacco, and when he left he said he did not want to go anywhere in particular - he would just start from the gate. Mr Wyatt shook his hand and said "I'll bail you out." Later the same day the Guildford Police telephoned to say they had arrested a tramp for being drunk and disorderly and he had given Mr Wyatt's name as a person who would stand him bail.

Mrs Charman also recalls the isolation hospital. Her daughter, Pat, was friends with Margaret, the daughter of Mr and Mrs Beard who were caretakers from the 1940's ("doodlebug" time, as they think of it). The Beards worked there until it became a detention centre when they retired to a Council house in Clandon. They visited the Beards at the hospital, but this was not allowed if there was a patient. As Bob mentioned, the gate to the road would be locked and all deliveries left outside. Mr Charman worked as a butcher in Ripley and he had to leave deliveries outside and ring the gate bell. Of the buildings, Mrs Charman remembers only the mortuary (or the workshop?) with stacks of oak outside for making coffins. She remembers a smallpox scare in about 1922 or 1923 when all of Ripley School were revaccinated and wore red bands on their arms. She does not think anyone in Ripley caught it. There had been a diphtheria outbreak in 1908. Doris Peters ("Heifer" Pinnock's daughter) died and is buried in Ripley Church. Mrs Charman believes the hospital did take diphtheria and scarlet fever cases. There was a scarlet fever outbreak about 1916-19 which was very widespread and many died. The church bell tolled nearly every day - once for a man, twice for a woman, and three times for a child. Peggy Aldridge recalls that the local doctor recommended that she should stay in the hospital when she developed what turned out to be infantile paralysis or polio, as it is now known, as it was feared that it might have been contagious. As it happened, Mary Lovelace had her taken to Great Ormonde Street. This was in the early 1930's.

The buildings are believed to have ceased use as a hospital in about 1948 or 1949, perhaps with the advent of the National Health Service, or because it had become superfluous. They were taken over by the Home Office in 1961 and opened as a detention centre with its first reception on 10 June 1962, and thus celebrates its 25th anniversary this month. Word has it that Ripley (the Parish Council?) would accept its presence in the parish only on condition that the word Ripley did not appear in the name. Hence it became Send Detention Centre. The Secretary of State had been given power to provide detention centres under the Prison Act, 1952, but the Criminal Justice Act, 1982, currently contains the detailed provisions. The courts have power to order detention of those who commit imprisonable offences. The original idea came from military glasshouses and was that they would be places where youths with a "misguided sense of adventure" (ie at the time the "Teddy Boys" - from the neo-Edwardian dress they affected) would have "time to think about their experiences". As a Junior Detention Centre, it took up to about 150 youths of 14 to 16 years of age. Sentences of detention were formerly for three to six months and latterly 21 days to four months.

Shortly after the Conservative Government came to power in 1979, it instituted a more rigorous regime known as the "short, sharp shock" on an experimental basis in one senior and one junior detention centre. Send was the junior one, although it is understood the regime in fact changed very little from what it was before. For a variety of reasons, the treatment was eased in March 1985 and made applicable to all detention centres. In recent years the courts have not used detention centres to capacity, and last May Send became a temporary Category C prison to house prisoners from Northeye in Sussex after a riot there. In January this year the change of status was made permanent. The prison accommodates adult male prisoners deemed to be of little risk.

The official address of Ripley Road, Send, is a complete misnomer. There is no Ripley Road in Send. Although Stoughton Ryde was originally within the parish of Send, it became part of Ripley parish for ecclesiastical purposes when the new parish of Ripley was created in 1878. The hospital having been constructed in 1907, Send ceased to have any connection with it in 1934 when the new civil parish of Ripley was formed, although it was then very close to the boundary. Since the boundary between Send and West Clandon was moved up to the Ripley By-Pass in 1984 (vide N/L 56), the prison (or detention centre, as it then was) has been over a mile from any part of Send.

Apart from those named in the text, assistance in compiling this article is also acknowledged from Jane Bartlett, John Molyneux-Child and Bette Slatford. The foregoing do not necessarily agree with my interpretation of why the property appears in the Manorial Court Rolls of both Papworth and Ripley & Send. Information regarding the detention centre/prison comes partly from personal professional knowledge (not that I have been inside the perimeter fence as yet - although I hope to remedy that next month!), and partly from Mr T G H Spoor, the prison's Education Officer.

THE HISTORY OF GODALMING

**An Illustrated Talk on 17 March 1987
by John JANAWAY, Senior County Local Studies Librarian**

Notes by Tony Medlen

John Janaway is already known to many members of the Society who almost two years ago spent a very pleasant summer evening in Godalming on a tour guided by him. John has also written several books on local history, in particular an excellent account of the history of Godalming. Anyone wishing for further information about this subject would be well advised to purchase this book: "The Story of Godalming", published by Local Heritage Books (Newbury) in 1983.

There is evidence that there has been a settlement at Godalming, situated about five to six miles south of Guildford, from Neolithic times. The name is unusual and is probably Saxon, meaning the people of Godhelm, a Saxon chief (those who hail from Godalming are still known today as "Godhelmians"). Saxon remains are few, but the church predates 1066 and there are two tiny blocked Saxon windows in the belfry. In 1879, when the church was being renovated, two carved stones said to be Saxon were discovered in the foundations. A single sherd of Saxon pottery has also been discovered in the town.

The first documentary evidence for Godalming occurs in the Will of King Alfred the Great, written in 880 AD. Alfred, who died on 26 October 899, left the Manors of Godalming, Guildford and Steyning to his nephew, Ethelwald. There are many fanciful legends on the origins of the name Godalming. There was, for example, reported to be a Priory at Godalming and a prioress with the name Godiva, but there

is no truth in this, even though there are many street names to perpetuate the myth. By 1086 Godalming was divided into two manors: Kings Manor, owned by the Bishop of Salisbury, and Rectory Manor, or Deanshold Manor, owned by the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury. On 7 June 1300, Godalming was granted its first charter to hold a weekly market on a Monday and a yearly fair to be held on the feast day of St Peter & St Paul, to whom the church is dedicated. It was created a borough by Elizabeth I on 25 January 1574. The market has, however, always been rather insignificant and the 19th century historian, John Albury, confirms this when, in reference to Godalming, he says "Here is a small market."



This view, which shows the town in 1854, should really be entitled 'view looking towards Rock Place'. Rock Place was at one time quite a thriving community of cottages and workshops at the foot of Holloway Hill.

Godalming developed around the woollen industry and became a centre for the production of woollen cloth towards the end of the 13th century. The large Cistercian Monastery at nearby Waverley probably provided the stimulus for the growth of Godalming and there still exist several mediaeval Bargate stone bridges built by the monks across the Wey. A particularly fine one is located at Eshing. Godalming has always been an industrial town where things were manufactured. They were often marketed at Guildford. Woollen cloth was also made in several other villages nearby, such as Wonersh. In the 16th century the woollen industry reached its zenith. The old hand methods of extracting grease and fulling had been superseded by water power.

Powerful water mills drove wooden hammers which pounded and beat the cloth. Godalming cloth was exported all over the world. In the early 17th century, however, the industry was declining, probably because Godalming cloth simply went out of fashion. Fortunately the town was able to adapt and by the 18th century was producing wool, silk and cotton garments using the frame knitting machine which had been invented in 1589 by William Lee. Godalming then became world famous for hosiery. In 1788 George Holland introduced a new method of knitting quality stockings. The Holland factory produced excellent quality cloth known as "fleecy and Segovia hosiery". This could be used for many purposes. Knitting, using the frame machine, became once again the main industry and Godalming acquired a reputation for cloth-making equal to that of Nottingham and Leicester. Throughout the 19th century, there was much movement and exchange between workers living in these towns and indeed they often had relatives or family in one or more of these areas. In 1885 the firm of Pitcher's patented a method of doing cable stitch on a frame knitting machine, hence the famous Charterhouse sweaters so beloved of cricketers. The Holland factory at Catteshall Lane eventually closed down in 1890 and the premises were taken over by a steam laundry. The only firm today that still maintains the knitting tradition is Alan Paine's. Established in the mid-1900s, Paine's still produces high quality knitwear in Godalming.

Other industries with which Godalming has in the past been associated include tanning and leatherwork. At one time there were four tanneries and also four breweries. Godalming's name was also long associated with paper-making, which started in the 17th century and continued until 1928, when the last mill closed at Catteshall. Godalming was not, however, a healthy place in which to live in the 18th century and there were many outbreaks of smallpox. In the 19th century the population was crowded into small tenements and typhoid and cholera were common.

Godalming lies approximately halfway from London to Portsmouth. The importance of Portsmouth as a naval centre meant that Godalming, like Ripley, was an important coaching stop and many fine timber-framed inns were built in the town. These declined with the coming of the railway in 1849. However, for ten years Godalming was the terminus until the line was completed to Havant, thus giving a direct line to Portsmouth.

In 1872 Charterhouse School, which had been established in London in 1611, was relocated in Godalming. The Victorian passion for fresh air and the country led to Godalming being considerably cleaned up. In 1880 a piped water supply was constructed.

In 1882, as a result of a corporate decision, Godalming became the first town in the world to install an electric street lighting supply, with cables placed in the gutters. However, although it was a significant breakthrough, the system was not successful and in 1884 street lighting reverted to gas. In 1894 a piped sewage system was installed and the town underwent much modernisation. Fortunately not too much of the old town was destroyed.

Our evening was rounded off with a slide show of some of Godalming's finest buildings and landmarks. The 20th century brought the motor car, and with it the appalling congestion in the High Street. A ring road, which is projected for construction in the near future, will help to ease the pressure on many of these fine buildings.

Finally, no story of Godalming is complete without mention of Mary Toft, "the rabbit woman of Godalming", who in 1726 deceived the world, including the medical profession, into believing she had given birth to rabbits. Mention should also be made of Peter the Great, Czar of Russia, who in 1698 stayed overnight in Godalming at "The Kings Arms" on his way back to London after studying ship design and construction at Portsmouth. He and his entourage caroused the night away and consumed vast quantities of food. The landlord was left to settle the bill with Peter's host, the then King of England, William III. It is claimed that the noise of the Czar's merry-making can still sometimes be heard today ...

SEND & RIPLEY HISTORY SOCIETY OUTING TO WOODCHURCH

Twenty-two members of the Society went to Woodchurch in Kent for a day's outing, from whence sprang our esteemed Chairman, Ken Bourne. This became apparent because various distant relatives were commemorated in the village, from William John, a popular and respected churchwarden for many years, to whom the church altar is dedicated, to those who served in the forces during both World Wars, some, sadly, never returning to continue their lives in such a delightful village.

Three car loads left from the Manor House, Send, at 9 am on Sunday, May 3, and arrived at Woodchurch two hours later, meeting others who had made their own way there. Our first visit was to the smock mill, now being restored by a volunteer band of enthusiasts, and our guide told us that there had been a mill on the same site for over two hundred years (in 1841 a John Bourne had been a mill servant!) There used to be a second mill close by, and the pair were known as the black & white mills, for obvious reasons. We climbed three flights of stairs, and the processes of milling were explained to us, from lifting the sacks of corn up to the top, feeding it into the hoppers that vibrated so that the grain fell onto the grinding stones, and from the edges of the stones down to the meal floor, where, if necessary, it could be refined further by passing it through a sieve. It is hoped that eventually the mill will produce a limited amount of flour again, but never as a commercial venture.

By this time it had stopped raining, and we returned variously to pub and car for lunch, meeting afterwards in the church. This was a fascinating building, with much in common with our church at Send, being also mainly 13th century, but with a north and south aisle, which we do not have at Send. The first known rector was William de Wedecherche c 1220, and a much later one was the father of the present vicar of Send. One of the windows contained a medallion in 13th century stained glass. There are also two most unusual "squints", one set at an oblique angle to allow the congregation in the side chapel to see the Altar. A brass in the floor by the pulpit, dedicated to Nicholas de Gore, dated 1333, makes it one of the oldest in England. The parish chest was opened, but contained nothing of interest to us, though the chest itself is of great antiquity.

We climbed up the tower to see the six bells, three of which have been in use for 360 years, and from there the most agile of us continued upwards to view the incredible construction of the steeple, all on an ancient wooden frame, which I find hard to believe has been standing for so many years. On our way out of the church, we stopped briefly in the so-called "priest's room" over the porch, where in the past parish meetings would have been held, and in some instances used as a school room.

Time was now getting on, so down to the village hall where there was an exhibition of the village of Woodchurch in two World Wars: gas masks, ration books, tin helmets, photographs of the local fire service, more Bournes there, and at the far end ... TEA. By this time we were all ready to sit down, the home-made cakes were wonderful, and after a short interval, made tracks for home, getting back to Send slightly weary, but mentally stimulated by the great variety of things we had seen during the day. Our grateful thanks go to Ken for arranging everything, though he slipped up regarding the weather, as at one point we had hail!

Audrey Sykes

SEND SCOUT FETE

The May Day Bank Holiday was going to be a busy one, and most of the usual Society stalwarts would not be available to mount a display at the Send Scout Fete. "But we must show the flag", said Bob Gale. So Kate Smith, Eric Ferris and Iris and Bernard Watts (the latter being volunteered willy-nilly without his prior knowledge) rallied round to organise a stand with a display on the history of Newark Priory, using Charles Thurbin's model (the theme of the fete was "Models and Modelling").

We arrived early at the recreation ground on a bright, but chilly and blustery day to start grappling with the tent. With good-humoured team spirit, and tying knots that would have horrified our Send Scout hosts, we eventually raised the "big top", and were just about to set off toward the New Inn for well-earned refreshment when, to our dismay, an extra strong gust of wind lifted the tent off the ground. We flung ourselves to each corner and clung on like grim death. As the tent bucked and billowed, and threatened to carry us off over the trees, we realised we had to admit defeat and take it down: two hours gone and nothing to show for it! After some debate, Iris and Bernard went home to get their caravan, Kate went off to collect tables and other props, Bob to get children and Eric, who only lives round the corner, to go home for lunch.

At two o'clock we had assembled once again with tables set up in front of the caravan and the star of the show, a full-size mock-up of a Black Canon (dubbed MONK BOBHOUSE by Bob's children), firmly anchored in position. Mrs Gregory of Send Marsh had kindly lent us her painting of Newark Priory, and Charles Thurbin's model of the Priory was proudly displayed at the front. Eric managed to attach his

display on amusing references and familiar local names culled from the Court Rolls between the 16th and 18th centuries, partly on the caravan wall and partly propped up in the boot of his car. The boards with the explanatory notes and pictures of the Priory were leant against the tables and, on the whole, we managed finally to achieve quite a creditable display - at least the public seemed to think so. Our stand attracted much attention and people seemed very interested in the history of the Priory. There would seem to be a demand for an illustrated pamphlet on the history of the Priory (and Mill) for a few pence. We in fact sold several Society publications, producing total proceeds of £27.30, and enabling the Society to make a modest donation to the Scout funds. In all, a worthwhile and eventful day.

Iris Watts

THE MANGLES FAMILY

A considerable amount of interest has recently been shown in the Mangles family, originating from a reference to an article on Dunsborough House by Bette and John Slatford (see N/L 70). This prompted a letter (published in N/L 71) from Margaret Bayliss, whose mother was apparently in service at the turn of the last century, first at Alton and subsequently in Woking, with the Lowis family. The latter had connections by marriage, it is believed, with the Mangles. Another interesting letter from Betty Batten on the Mangles family pointed out its connection with Western Australia - Lady Ellen Stirling, wife of Sir James, who helped found the state and was its first Governor-General, was a daughter of James Mangles, (MP for Guildford in the 1830's).

In his comments on Margaret Bayliss's letter (N/L 71), Les Bowerman referred to "... Albert (son of James Mangles, MP - Ed) who married Rose Newcombe in 1831." Mrs Sylvia McQuire of Farnham, a member of the West Surrey Family History Society, who was shown copies of the relevant Newsletters, has written to correct this statement: Rose Newcombe was married to Charles Edward, while his brother's (Albert) wife's name was Georgiana.

Sylvia McQuire's interest in the Mangles arose from her research into the architectural origins of "The Barrows" at Charleshill, Tilford, the home of Frank Mangles, on behalf of the present owner. Certain features suggest an architectural connection with the house which Harry Mangles had built at Littleworth Cross, Seale. Interestingly, these features have also been noted at Great Tangley Manor in Wondersh. The Littleworth Cross branch of the Mangles family is also noted in the horticultural world for the development and hybridisation of rhododendrons. Much of this work is known to have been written down, but unfortunately the botanical notes have been lost.

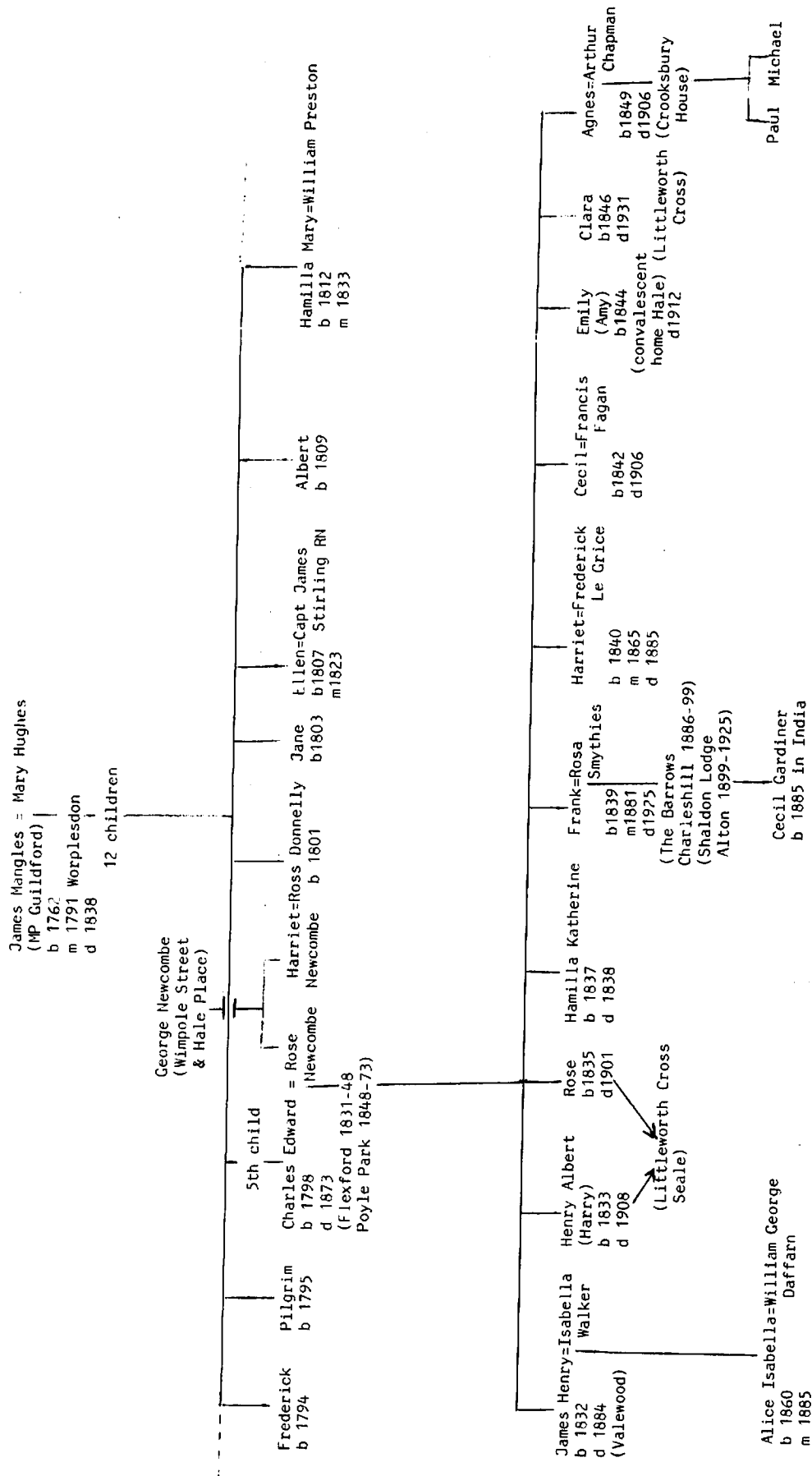
Sylvia McQuire has kindly provided a copy of the relevant part of the Mangles family tree discussed, which is reproduced here. For those who wish to pursue the subject further, she recommends a booklet, available in the Guildford Muniment Room, entitled "The Mangles Story". She would also welcome contact from anyone who could throw any further light on the architectural problem and who might know the whereabouts of the botanical papers (please ring her on Runfold 2105).

Bob Gale

100 YEARS AGO - AN EXTRACT TAKEN BY LES BOWERMAN FROM "BICYCLING NEWS"

Members will recall that in an extract published in the last Newsletter, Lord Bury had expressed a longing to go to Ripley, which had been described as "the Mecca of all good cyclists". His desire was satisfied shortly afterwards, and extracts from his report in "Bicycling News" for May 7 1887 continue on page 10.

THE MANGLES FAMILY TREE



"On Saturday last at the invitation of the club we were privileged to join the Civil Service on their run to Ripley to escort their president, Viscount Bury, to the far-famed cycling resort, meeting at Kingston station. The ride down was most enjoyable, the famous road putting on its best appearance in honour of the occasion, whilst the country looked charming. Lord Bury compared the Ripley Road very much to its advantage with the roads of Norfolk over which he is usually condemned to cycle, though to the necessity of riding in narrow cart-tracks is doubtless attributed the very straight and steady manner in which our President steers his stout "Rover", which carries him splendidly. The run to Ripley was made in good time, the entry taking one back to the days of club drill, so orderly were the dispositions as the escort approached the famous Lambert's Hill. Riding straight through, the church was visited to inspect the Cortis Memorial, and then an adjournment was made to the Anchor, which was duly surveyed and the name of the Civil Service duly pointed out amongst those of other clubs in the dining saloon. The names of the cyclists having been duly inscribed in the book, the Anchor Shield inspected, and a short chat indulged in, the whole party adjourned to the Talbot, the Ripley headquarters of the visiting club, where no less than 35 members and two visitors - Messrs C. W. Nairn and G. Lacy Hillier - partook of an excellent dinner, after which Mr. Rishworth, in fitting phrases, welcomed the President of the club to Ripley. In reply, Lord Bury expressed the personal pleasure and gratification it had been to him to ride down and visit the place. Shortly afterwards 'Auld Lang Syne' brought an 'historic' evening to a conclusion. We do not think it is the last time that Lord Bury will visit Ripley."

**85 YEARS AGO - AN EXTRACT TAKEN BY LES BOWERMAN
FROM "NEWS & VIEWS 57"
of the SOUTHERN VETERAN-CYCLE CLUB
(now the VETERAN-CYCLE CLUB)**

"One fine Sunday in June 1902, a friend and I were paying one of our visits to Ripley and upon arriving at the small bridge over the stream just as one enters Ripley, my friend, perhaps needing a rest, decided to sit on the dwarf wall of the bridge hoping to see any motors that might come along - these were few and far between in those days. Although we noticed that the wall had been tarred some time previously, it seemed quite hard and fairly safe to sit on.

"My friend decided to risk it whilst I went for a walk along the stream. I returned after about half-an-hour and found him still reposing on the bridge, so I suggested we 'pushed on'. Lo and behold, when my friend (he was killed in the First World War) went to rise he found he was stuck and called for my help to release him! Being a hot day, plus the heat of his body, and the length of the time he had been sitting there, had melted the tar, and I had to take him by both hands and gently drag him off. Of course, a considerable amount of tar was embedded in the material of his Plus-fours and this set us thinking as to what to do. We knew he dare not mount his bike so we found a quiet spot in a field where I got him to lie face downwards and with my penknife scraped as much tar as possible off the seat of his pants.

"It was a terrible messy job and so difficult to keep my hands free of tar, but I often laugh when I think of the operation. It was a most embarrassing situation to find the backside of one's trousers all sticky with tar and the hopelessness of being able to sit down anywhere. However, after walking about for some time we decided to make our way back and have tea at Esher, and the only way to do this was to cover his saddle with paper. When we arrived at Esher the paper was firmly stuck to his trousers and I can assure you it was a very funny sight to see him walking about trying to hide himself from view and walking backwards in the tearoom to avoid being seen by the waitress. We eventually arrived home and often talked about the experience when we wanted a good laugh.

"W. G. Wilson" (published 1967)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Mr & Mrs W Heath, Goodrich Meech, High Street, Ripley
Mr & Mrs T E Hewitt, 11 Hawthorn Road, Send Marsh, Ripley

Paid-up membership stands at 80 double and 68 single subscriptions. Some have still not renewed their subscriptions this year and regretfully their membership will be terminated if the dues are not received shortly.

Mrs Ivy Sopp We record with particular sadness the death, at the age of 84, of Ivy Sopp. Ivy was one of our first members from Ripley and was a regular attender at our meetings. Indeed she was at our last indoor meeting, held only a month before her death. During the whole of her long life she only ever lived in two houses, both in Ripley. She is the only person to appear in both a "then" and a "now" picture in our book "Ripley & Send Then and Now". In the first she is depicted in about 1914 with her niece outside Hurst House, which was the family home, next door to what is now Richardsons hardware shop. In the second, taken for the book three years ago, she stands in the same spot with her nephew, Mr Peter Shoesmith, then Chairman of Ripley Parish Council. Ivy was a great character and a marvellous source of local memories. We shall miss her greatly.

Mrs Lily Doe The death of Lily Doe of Boughton Hall Cottages, at the age of 70, is also recorded with sadness. Although never active in the Society, Lily had been a member for a number of years and liked to read the Newsletter. Her late husband was from an old Send family, and they lived all their married life in Send.

Mr Bill Hedges Although he never joined the Society, Bill Hedges, who died recently, was interested in local history. He always lived in Send and many will remember him as a jobbing gardener and as the Send roadsweeper who was to be seen about the village with a paviour's wheelbarrow rather than an orthodox roadsweeper's barrow.

Retirement

The Reverend W E B ("Guz") Jones, the vicar of St Mary's Church, Ripley, retired in May after six years as incumbent. A presentation was made to him and his wife, Muriel, at a farewell party in the church room, attended by many friends and associates. As they are moving to Reepham, in Norfolk, Guz and Muriel are relinquishing their membership of the Society, which wishes them a long and happy retirement.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday, 28 May ... Evening visit to Peter Hoyte's "Village Workshop" museum of byegones at Millbridge, Frensham. Meet at Send Marsh Green at 7 pm, or at Millbridge at 7.45.
- Saturday, 30 May ... Buildings Group all-day visit to the Weald & Downlands Open Air Museum at Singleton. Meet at the museum at 10.30 am.
- Monday, 1 June ... Local Memories Group meeting at 8 pm at Little Ripley House, High Street, Ripley.
- Saturday, 13 June ... Send Church Fete at the Recreation Ground, Send.
- Monday, 15 June ... Committee Meeting at 8 pm at the Manor House, Send Marsh.
- Tuesday, 16 June ... Documentary Group meeting at 8 pm at 15 Kevan Drive.
- Thursday, 25 June ... Tour of historic Guildford, conducted by Matthew Alexander, Curator of Guildford Museum. Meet at Send Marsh Green at 7 pm, or at the entrance to the Castle Keep at 7.30. The tour will include the Castle, the Church of St Mary, with its Saxon origins, and the river area.

Sunday, 5 July ... All-day outing to Ightham Mote and, time permitting, Penshurst Place, Kent. Start at 10 am at Send Marsh Green, or meet at 11 am at the Mote. Entrance to the Mote is free for members of the National Trust, but £1.80 for non-members. After a picnic/snack lunch in the village, there will be a guided tour of the 12th century St Peter's Church, Ightham, commencing at about 2 pm.

Wednes-Saturday, 15-18 July ... For information, "The Toe-Tapping Twenties", at Claremont Landscape Gardens. A National Trust extravaganza.

Saturday, 18 July ... Ripley Event, at 2 pm, on Ripley Green.

Saturday, 8 August ... West Surrey Family History Society One-Day Conference at Ripley Village Hall. The theme is Transport and Movement in Surrey. John Slatford will speak on "Send & Ripley - a History of the Environment". For details SAE to Mrs M Waller, 7 Ember Court Road, Thames Ditton Surrey KT7 0LH. Cost £8.

Closing Date The closing date for submission of material to the Editor for the next edition of the Newsletter is 3 July.

ERRATA

With reference to the cover illustration on N/L 73, the note at the bottom of the contents page should have stated that Horsley Towers was built by Sir Charles Barry and not Sir Charles Bury.

In N/L 73, the article on Lord Lovelace refers to his wife, the only legitimate daughter of Lord Byron, as Ada Augusta. Her name was in fact Augusta Ada.

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NOTICES

Evening Visit: There will be an evening tour of historic Guildford with Matthew Alexander, Curator of the Museum, as guide, on Thursday, 25 June. See Forthcoming Events for details.

All-Day Visit: The Society has arranged a visit on Sunday, 5 July, to Ightham Mote, a beautiful manor house of 14th century origins near Sevenoaks in Kent, now in the hands of the National Trust. In addition, arrangements have been made for a guided tour of the church at Ightham. For details refer to Forthcoming Events.

Music: Members might like to note that at 11 am on Saturday, 13 June, the Woking Symphony Orchestra will be giving a children's concert at the Woking Centre Halls, in which they will perform the Caprice from the Divertimento for Bassoon, composed by Pauline Marshall, a member of the History Society.

Claremont: A National Trust extravaganza, "The Toe-Tapping Twenties", will be presented in the landscape garden on Wednesday-Saturday evening, 15-18 July.