

SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

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Newsletter No. 8

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EDITORIAL

If it is a sign of success that there are many activities in a Society, then we are doing very well at present. There are many aspects to the word "history" in the name of our Society, but overall we take it to cover learning about the past (and present) and recording what we learn. Our natural history group attracts up to three dozen members for its fortnightly rambles, which range from walks around Send to visits to places as far afield as Pagham in Sussex; most members of the group have undertaken specialist study projects, and there are further plans under consideration. People who were novices in natural history a few months ago are learning fast and finding, under the expert instruction of Ted and John Bartlett, that with increasing ability to recognise birds and birdsong, to name but one aspect of the subject, a whole new pleasurable dimension is added to such simple activities as sitting in one's own back garden, taking the family for a walk or cycling to the station. It is when written, pictorial or aural records are made that the study of nature becomes natural history. Members of the group are therefore encouraged to record what they see and hear.

The genealogical group is actively engaged in transcribing the parish registers and making plans to record the inscriptions and layout of the Churchyard. It is hoped to publish some of their work in due course, but whether it is published or whether it is available for reference, it will be as valuable to any of our members carrying out local research as it will be to genealogists from farther afield.

When one first hears the word "archaeology", one thinks automatically of digging up interesting remains. The interesting remains to be dug up in Send are likely to be few, and it may not be either possible or desirable to dig up what there is, but fortunately there is much more to the subject than wielding a spade. "Archaeology" means above all learning about the past from material remains as opposed to pure "history", which implies learning about the past from written sources. Under archaeology we can include both "field archaeology" and "industrial archaeology", as well as the traditional "digging". "Field archaeology" means learning about the past by studying the landscape, and this is something which we can all do at any time, either alone or on outings with the Society. "Industrial archaeology" involves studying what remains of industries, trades, crafts, and transport systems and their equipment, plant and tools. We have a number of members interested in different aspects of industrial archaeology and one of them, Lyn Mileham, will be giving us an interesting illustrated talk on 23rd June. Another, Ted Goldup, will be showing us some heavy horse equipment at Dedswell Manor on 2nd June. The Surrey Archaeological Society has recently formed an Industrial Archaeological Committee which is keen to record everything of interest from this point of view in Surrey. The Committee has asked us to help it complete a survey by recording what is relevant in Send. A preliminary list has been made and submitted, and a copy of it appears on a later page. It is by no means comprehensive and may contain errors. We welcome any corrections and suggestions of items which could be added to make it more complete.

The article on the migrations of some of the Bourne ancestors, which appears on a later page, is not strictly speaking local history, but it is so full of human interest, illustrates so well what research into one's own family history can turn up, and shows so graphically how European colonisation spread through South Africa and America, that it seems well worth including.

If it appears that these observations are disjointed, it may be because they are, but running through them all a single thread is to be seen - learning and recording, to which we may add appreciation, for whether we are appreciating a consecration cross in a church, the arrival of a willow warbler, or the skill required to shoe a horse, it is appreciation as much as the thrill involved in discovery and the satisfaction to be derived from recording, which provides the enjoyment we obtain from our history.

The Editor

NATURAL HISTORY GROUP RAMBLES

On 13th March the group met at the lay-by in Send Barns Lane and proceeded to Farley Heath. The way led along a sandy track up across the heath. Here the silver birch and oak grow in natural splendour, with a thick carpeting of bracken covering the ground.

Our first stop was at a badger sett, a well established sett with great heaps of soil outside the many entrances. Members were shown the many runs radiating from the sett, with pieces of bedding material still lying about from the previous night's activity. Leaving the badger sett, we carried on down through the old established wood where the trees are decaying, providing many homes for birds and insects alike. Rabbits were very much in evidence in the sandy banks, and many things of interest were discussed. A most pleasant and enjoyable morning was had by all.

Leader E. J. Bartlett

The 28th March saw the group farther afield at Church Norton, near Selsey. The weather was particularly nice and made for good viewing of the many and varied waders out on the mud flats. We were very fortunate to see a few stragglers of the Brent Geese flock, plus several Shelduck.

Leader E. J. Bartlett

A local ramble through the Clandon woods took place on 11th April with a very good attendance by members. Birdsong was the most noticeable feature of this walk, with lapwings and pheasants calling in the background. A dead badger was seen near the railway line, a sow which had been electrocuted. The two woodcocks seen were perhaps the highlight of the walk for most members, plus the distant call of that harbinger of spring, the cuckoo.

Wild flowers brightened our path, especially the primroses which were growing in great profusion on the railway bank.

Leader E. J. Bartlett

Birds seen and sightings during the last three walks:-

Farley Heath - Tree-Creeper, Nut-Hatch, Magpies, Jays, Kestrel, Rabbit, Woodlice, Bracket Fungus, Oyster Mushroom, Badger Sett.

Church Norton - Shelduck, Brent Geese, Ringed Plover, Little Ringed Plover, Dunlin, Redshank, Curlew, Sea Cabbage.

Clandon Wood - Nut-Hatch, Woodcock, Lapwings, Pheasant, Mallard, Red Legged Partridge, Primroses, Oxalis, Blackbird on nest, Cuckoo calling, A Sow Badger on railway.

Members are showing a great interest in these walks and as the season progresses, I feel that most, if not all, will begin to obtain a lot of pleasure from them.

E. J. B.

SEND'S BEVY OF GAME BIRDS

Without doubt the best known game bird in the British Isles is the Pheasant (*Phasianus Colchicus*), the name given to the original birds first introduced into Britain. This species comes from Western Asia, but the white ringed species comes from the Chinese (*Phasianus Torquatus*) and was introduced in the eighteenth century.

It is a ground nesting bird, laying about a dozen eggs of a brownish olive colour, usually hidden away under bracken or bramble. The general description is so well known that to go into detail here would be pointless, but suffice to say the cock bird in breeding plumage is a sight to behold.

Another of our game birds, ranking with the pheasant as an introduced species, is the Red Legged Partridge or French Partridge, which was brought here towards the end of the eighteenth century from the Continent. It is larger but shorter in the wing than our native partridge. The colouring is more striking also, the upper parts being pale brown shading to a reddish hue on the back and greyish on the head. The face and throat are white, marked off by a black line which crosses the throat. Below this black line there are black markings on the pale grey breast; and the flanks, which are also pale grey, are barred with white, black, and reddish colour. The legs are bright red. The eggs of this species are pale buff with small reddish spots, normally eight or nine to a clutch.

Our own native partridge is a small brown bird with the sexes very much alike, except that the cock has a dark brown horse-shoe marking on its breast. They are sociable birds and during the Winter months large flocks or "coveys" can be seen.

Unlike pheasants, partridges are ground roosting birds, sitting in a circle with their heads pointing outwards; this is known as "jukking" and is a natural built-in safety measure against predators.

On the low lying water meadows it is of great interest to see that fast flying bird the "Common Snipe", whose zig-zagging flight so often baffles the wildfowler. During the breeding season the lovely bleating sound can be heard, especially towards evening time. This sound is very reminiscent of sheep, and is made by the two outer tail feathers being held at a certain angle causing them to vibrate: this is known as "drumming". Like the partridge, it is of a brown colour, and when amongst the rushes and lank grasses, it is difficult to see.

Two other species of snipe are found in the British Isles, and both have visited Send. They are the Great Snipe, which is a passage migrant, usually dropping in around Autumn time. The Jack Snipe is the other bird, being much smaller than the others, and a regular Winter visitor.

Ted Bartlett

SLANK - FACT OR FICTION?

In N/L 7 we set readers an April 1st conundrum in that they were invited to say whether the word "slank", and our explanation of it, were true or false. The answer, as most of you will have guessed, is that what was written about it was absolutely correct. It is an everyday word to Joe Baigent and like "farren" it is to be found in Wrights English Dialect Dictionary of 1898 (copy in Guildford Reference Library).

L. G. B.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

The following have become members of the Society since the last edition of the Newsletter was published:-

Mrs. M. K. Gibson, Quilletts, Clandon Road, Send.
Mr. & Mrs. D. Bell, Tucana, Cedar Road, Hook Heath, Woking.
Mr. & Mrs. P. Carter, 12 Send Barns Lane, Send.
Mr. & Mrs. H. Meyer, 10 Winds Ridge, Send.

We are pleased to welcome them to membership, the total of which now stands at 109, plus family members (subject to payment of outstanding subscriptions).

Visit to Pyrford & Wisley Churches - Sunday, 11th April

Arranged at fairly short notice, this trip attracted some three dozen participants from our Society. An utterly delightful afternoon was spent under the expert guidance of Mr. Mervyn Blatch with the aid of perfect April weather.

St. Nicholas's Church, Pyrford, is described in Surrey Archaeological Collections Vol. VII (copies in Woking and Guildford Reference Libraries). There is also a useful "Guide & Short History" of St. Nicholas by Sylvia Lewin and a "Short History & Church Guide" to Wisley Church by Sylvia Lewin & Mervyn Blatch, priced 7p and 12p respectively, both of which can be easily obtained. However, for the benefit of those who were unable to attend the outing, I give below a few basic notes culled partly from the above publications and partly from Mr. Blatch's commentary.

These two 12th Century parish churches are more nearly complete in their original Norman form than any other church in Surrey.

Although St. Nicholas's Church at Pyrford is larger than Wisley (whose dedication has been lost), the latter used to be the more important, having had a Rector when Pyrford was only a curacy. They have belonged to the one parish of Wisley-cum-Pyrford since 1631, and have recently been joined by the modern Church of the Good Shepherd in Pyrford, which was dedicated in 1964.

Both buildings are of the flinty conglomerate known as "pudding stone". Pyrford has no foundations and has had to be buttressed more or less from the beginning. The only external additions to the original building at Pyrford are the bell-turret, the Tudor porch, which still has the original pierced oak bargeboards, and a small Victorian vestry on the south side. It is possible that the site, with its commanding view across the meadows to Newark, is a pre-Christian holy site.

When a church was consecrated, the bishop marked twelve crosses on the outside of the building and twelve more inside. Very few churches have any of these crosses left now. Both Pyrford and Wisley are unusual in having as many as three internal crosses visible.

Skilful internal restorations at Pyrford were carried out by Sir Thomas Jackson in 1869, and it was he who found the first two layers of wall paintings inside the church. The later layer could not be preserved, but the earlier layer, dated at about 1200, is still to be seen. In 1967, during repair work, a further painting was discovered underneath. It shows

mounted horsemen fighting with spears, and a row of men wearing conical hats and carrying staves. It represents the struggle between good and evil, and its primitive style suggests a date prior to 1140.

The small window on the north of the chancel is original Norman. The little "dot and line" crosses near this window and the one opposite are known as pilgrims' crosses and are mediaeval. The east window, with a quatrefoil tracery light above it, is 14th Century. The roof of St. Nicholas's Church is of trussed rafter construction, whereas the roof at Wisley Church has an unusual queenpost construction. The whole of the inside of the roof was formerly covered by a ceiling. At the east end of the nave, the ceiling above where the Rood was is still covered with feather-edged grooved boarding. The pulpit is Jacobean and is dated 1628.

Wisley Church is on a slight mound in an otherwise low-lying position. The deeply splayed chancel windows and the undecorated chancel arch are typical of Norman village churches. On the south side of the chancel is a blocked-up low-side window (as to which see Jim Oliver's notes N/L 3, page 8), which would be Early English. The absence of buttressing at Wisley suggests either that the ground is more stable than at Pyrford, or that there are foundations. The north porch is 17th Century. The vestry was added during restorations in 1872, when an octagonal bell-turret was replaced by the present splay-footed bellcote. There are traces of wall paintings. There is an interesting parish chest with iron bands which serve as feet. The bell dates from 1663.

A tombstone to Hannah Choat, who died in 1890, records "Her children and her children's children numbering 160." The pitted brown stone outside the porch is probably a sarsen stone. Sarsen stones are found as isolated boulders on heaths. The board in the church shows that the Black Prince was twice (1344 & 1370) patron of the living. He was Lord of Byfleet Manor.

Forthcoming Meetings, Visits and Events

Sunday, 9th May ... Natural History visit to East Clandon to listen to the "dawn chorus". Meet at Send Barns at 4.00 a.m.

Sunday, 9th May ... Conducted tour of Send Court, etc. for the 30 members who had reserved places. Meet at the Church at 2.30 p.m. If there is sufficient demand, it may be possible to arrange a further such visit at a later date. Names, please, to the Secretary.

Monday, 24th May ... Joint meeting with Ockham History Society at 8 p.m., at Ripley Village Hall. Mr. David Longley will give an illustrated talk entitled "The Surrey Gravel Beds - an Archaeological Survey".

Wednesday, 26th May ... Natural History Ramble at Newlands Corner, to listen to the nightingale. Meet at Send Barns at 8.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 2nd June ... Visit to Dedswell Manor to view the heavy horse equipment, etc. Meet 7 p.m. at Send Barns.

Sunday, 6th June ... Natural History visit to Farley Heath to study the woodcock. Meet 8 p.m. at Send Barns.

Monday, 7th June ... Natural History Group meeting at 8 p.m. at 10 Winds Ridge, Send Hill.

Tuesday, 15th June ... Committee meeting at 8 p.m. at Send Court.

Wednesday, 23rd June ... Open meeting at the Church Room. Meet at 8 p.m. for 8.15 p.m. An illustrated talk on Industrial Archaeology by Lyn Mileham.

Friday, 25th June ... Natural History visit to Henley Park to listen to the nightjar. Meet 8.30 p.m. at Send Barns.

Saturday, 26th June ... Jim Oliver has two spare places available for a Hampshire Field Club Industrial Archaeology outing to Eling Mill, Michelmersh Brickworks, Fullerton Mill, and site of railway station, starting from Send at approx. 9.15 a.m. Requests for places to be made to the Secretary.

Wednesday, 7th July ... Ramble along the Wey Navigation towpath with a visit to the carpenter's workshop at Worsfold Gates. Meet at the Boathouse car park at 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, 17th July ... Ripley Fete, including Veteran Cycle Rally.

Sunday, 18th July ... Veteran Cycle Run through the lanes near Ripley.

Sunday, 19th September ... Afternoon visit to Newark Priory. Meet at the car park near the traffic lights at 2.30 p.m.

N.B. If anybody wishes to attend any of the Society's outings but has no transport, there are usually plenty of spare seats available in members' cars. Please contact the Secretary (Guildford 223656) in case of difficulty.

Natural History

A camouflaged canvas hide has been purchased jointly by the Society and the natural history group at the request of the latter. The group has offered to pay half the cost, and a contribution of 25p per member of the group is suggested. Payments, please, to the Secretary. The hide is for the use of any member of the Society. Ted Bartlett is the custodian, and anyone wishing to use it should telephone him at Guildford 223478 ... and arrange to collect it from him at 51 Sandfields. A fee of 10p per borrowing is suggested towards its maintenance, or the possible purchase of further equipment.

Ted Bartlett is willing to give practical advice to any members who wish to take an interest in nature photography, sound recording, nature painting, or badger watching. He may be contacted as above.

N.B. Members should note that the programme of visits listed above takes the place of the regular fortnightly Sunday morning rambles for the time being. As all destinations are some distance away, it is important that a prompt start is made at the times advertised.

Next Newsletter

The closing date for the next edition of the Newsletter is Monday, 7th June.

Les Bowerman

GENEALOGY

My own researches into my family tree started about 1971 after a visit to the birthplace of my father in Woodchurch, Kent. Since then much information has been gleaned and many interesting places visited and much correspondence with near and not so near relatives.

One's perseverance can often be rewarded with information leading to branches of one's family that initially is unsuspected and often surprising. My great-great-grandfather, Joseph, emigrated to America to Lyons in New York State about 1845, leaving two sons and a daughter in England and taking with him one son and a daughter-in-law. About this period in English history, there was much movement in the population, particularly from the land, and many emigrated to the new promised lands of America, Canada, Australia and South Africa. I have not yet discovered exactly where Joseph is buried in America, but I subsequently made contact with an American who asked for assistance in tracing her ancestors and whose grandmother was a Bourne and came from Woodchurch via South Africa to America. Subsequent research has revealed that we share the same paternal great, great, great grandfather, James, and that two of his sons, Joseph and John, emigrated to America, John via South Africa. The following is a brief summary of John's experiences since leaving England, prepared by his great granddaughter, who now lives in San Diego, California.

John Bourne

Biographical sketch - prepared by Kathryn D. Hawkins, a great-granddaughter.

Born 27th March, 1830 - Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent, England.

Third child - and first son in family - of nine children to parents John Bourne and Sarah Beeching.

Married Jane Day of Headcorn, Kent, England - - Jane was the daughter of George Day and Sarah Honeysette.

They (John Bourne and Jane Day) sailed for Capetown, So. Africa, on the 23 June 1850 with their family. They were accompanied by Jane's brother Richard Day, his wife Charlotte Skinner, and family. This group also included Jane's sister Ann Day and her husband Charles Wood, and child Charles Wood Jr. The voyage was made on the sailing Vessel "Zenobia", leaving Deptford, near London England, and arriving at Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, Africa, 26 August 1850.

These young families were all converted to the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, by the first Missionaries sent to Africa by the Church. Jane was baptized 28 Dec. 1853 by Charles Wood and confirmed by Elder Jessie Haven. John was baptized 8 March 1854 by Elder Leonard Smith. They moved to New Lands (five miles from Cape Town), and then moved to Greenpoint, (one mile west of Cape Town) where a Branch of the Church was organized with Charles Wood as presiding Elder. There John Bourne and Charles Wood carried on brick making and burning lime for nearly four years. It was the first brick made in Cape Town.

On 5th of April 1860 the three young couples and their families sailed for America - and Utah in particular, to join the main body of Saints. They sailed on the vessel "Alacrity". 24 hours before sailing Ann Day Wood gave birth to a son. Passage had been booked in advance, and they must either

sail or lose the passage money that had been paid. So sail they did!

En route the ship called at the Isle of St. Helena where many of the passengers went ashore and visited "Ladder Hill" where Napoleon had been banished to.

They arrived in Boston, after being on the water 73 days. A large crowd had gathered at the pier in Boston, anxious to see the African converts. (Thinking of course, that they would be African natives.)

They arrived at Winter Quarters, or Florence Nebraska about the middle of July and left Florence with ox teams 20th of July 1860. Charlotte Skinner Day gave birth to a baby girl the first day out. The baby was named Emily. Richard Day and his Family had started out for Utah in the wagon of Charles and Ann Wood-- and so were very much crowded. When they arrived at Wood River, Richard Day and family stopped off - to come thru the following season. He was offered employment by a Mr. Peek, and this would enable him to buy a wagon and team, etc. Later in 1861, while out after some oxen, a heavy rain storm came up - causing a flood in a ravine that was usually dry. In trying to ford it, Richard was drowned.

John and Jane Bourne and Charles and Ann Wood, had arrived in Salt Lake City 5 October 1860 - exactly 6 months making the journey from Table Bay So. Africa.

These two families moved to Fillmore for the winter. In the Spring of 1861 they moved again - this time a short distance to Deseret. John Bourne and Charles Wood built a house using bog or cane and bullrush roots - one large room with a divider or partition, so as to serve both families.

This same year 1861, Charles Wood wrote to Brigham Young - asking if he could make some arrangement to have the family of the late Richard Day brought to Utah. Pres. Young did so, and later in the season this family reached Utah in safety.

In the Spring of 1868 Charles Wood moved to Holden - and some of his family are there today (1975).

John Bourne made the first brick that was ever made in Fillmore. He had lost one child, buried at sea after leaving England. Had five children when he came to America. Four more were born to them in Fillmore. Their children: Infant buried at sea, John, Eliza, Sarah Anne, Richard, Emily, Emma, Mary Jane, Matilda Ann, David Angus. Emma married John Nichols, and Mary Jane married his brother Joshua Nichols; they remained in Fillmore most of their lives.

In 1869 John Bourne became a citizen of the United States of America, on 10th of February 1869, at Provo, Utah. In July 2, 1871 he was granted possession of five-plus acres of land in Fillmore. Upon this he built a home and Family Hotel, called the Bourne Hotel. He made the brick out of which this home was fashioned. The Wells-Fargo stopped at this Hotel. Often it was John's young son, David that changed the horses for the Wells-Fargo.

Around 1881-1887 John Bourne and his wife moved to Wells, Nevada, where he remained for about 30 years, until his death 27th June 1911. He was buried there. Was greatly loved and respected. Had lived a full rich 82 years. His wife Jane had died 10th of April 1887, in Wells, Elko County.

The old Bourne Hotel has had various owners since John left for Nevada. During the world war II it was occupied by Japanese. Today it still stands in the main street of Fillmore, as the last building of any prominence from the Pioneer Era. It is hoped that the State of Utah will see fit to restore it and preserve it for future generations.

Ken Bourne

NOSTALGIC RECOLLECTIONS OF THE VILLAGE SCHOOL
Following the Recent Researches by
Sheila Brown into Its History.

In September 1908 I became an infant pupil at Send Church of England School. It was situated in School Lane, a turning off Send Hill, and was of course, the only school in the village. It has been out of use as a school since 1972 and now appears to be in a bad state of repair.

The school was a natural part of a small agricultural village community; the head master and his wife and family lived in the school house, the rest of the staff lived locally and parents and teachers were all well known to each other.

It was a Church School, and the Vicar visited twice weekly to teach and to make sure that the specified scripture lessons were being properly taught each day. Mr. Lancaster, of Sendholme, was the patron of the living and visited the school once a term to check the registers and test the pupils on religious knowledge, a morning of dread and terror for staff and children alike. Even worse was the yearly visit of the Diocesan Inspector, but at least that meant a half holiday.

Children started school at five years of age, and, unless awarded a scholarship to a Grammar School, stayed till they were fourteen. They walked to school, often more than two miles each way, from outlying parts of the village, and there were no school coaches or dinners.

The name of the infant teacher was Miss Diddums - it really was - and she was much loved by all the small children under her care. They sat in old fashioned desks, with tip-up seats and there was very stern drill for marching them into class and into the right places.

Heating was by open coal fires and there was often a collection of wet boots in the fender and wet socks drying on the fire guard.

Writing and numbers were written on slates with a slate pencil, and each child was given a pad of cloth for cleaning the slate, although more often than not a small finger and a spot of spit was used.

There was no sanitation as we know it, and visiting the lavatory was quite an adventure for a child - who had to walk round the outside of the school, down and across the playground, and so to the partly hidden bucket lavatories. It was usual to send a big child with a little one in case it got lost.

The school was roughly the same size as it is today, but with no hot water, no canteen, no hall, no staff room or sick room. In case of sudden illness the head master and mistress (Mr. & Mrs. Rawes) would lend a room in their adjoining house until mother could be summoned. There were medical inspections at various times and as there was neither office nor staff room,

these had to be carried out in a class room emptied for the morning while the children were shared among other classes. Parents were allowed to attend the doctor's inspection, but there was simply no room for them, so they undressed their children in the porch among the coats and hats and brought them singly to the doctor. The inspection of heads was very primitive; a nurse was stationed in one of the cloak rooms armed with a glass of disinfectant, a comb and a knitting needle. The children were let in one by one, the hair was parted several times with the knitting needle, carefully inspected, and either the name was ticked off on a list or a note was made that a letter must be sent home. These letters were distributed in class before going home, and many tears of humiliation were shed.

As there were no school coaches and no cars available in those days, school hours were much influenced by the weather. The class rooms were lit by hanging paraffin lamps, but as it could be dark by four o'clock, children had to be sent off early in order to reach home in daylight. There were no playing fields and games were simple country ones needing very little space or equipment. At certain times - very difficult to define - everybody would be playing marbles, skipping, or whipping tops; then in turn a strange game with cigarette cards, followed by bowling or trolling hoops. Girls had wooden hoops bowled with sticks; boys had iron hoops trolled with iron hooks called skimmers or skeemers. Rounders and cricket were played in the small uneven playground, but I do not remember football.

Traffic on the roads was very scarce and children were not brought to school by their parents - they walked in company with friends and neighbours.

It was all very happy and uneventful, and there is neither time nor space to record all the small happenings of those years. The pleasure of everybody when a scholarship was awarded - the Morris Dancing at the village Flower Show, which took place at Sendholme every summer - the Sunday School Treats held at the Vicarage in the summer and in the school in the winter, but always under the supervision of the head master - the building of the Lancaster Hall (then known as the Drill Hall) and the first school concert held there with a real stage - the two weeks' holiday for "London Children" who came by arrangement with their schools and lived in the village homes-- the great excitement of a Magic Lantern Show - no wireless and no television. There was very little trouble with discipline - no truancy - no vandalism - but a great respect and affection for the head master, who was receiving letters from old pupils right up to the time of his death at a ripe old age, and still living in the village.

Happy days.

Marjorie Sex

FURTHER NOTES ON THE VISIT TO ABBOT'S HOSPITAL - 14th FEBRUARY

The highly original approach of our Guide to his task, and the highly appetising smell of a good English Saturday-Mid-Day dinner, which we were not invited to view, may have done a little to blur the true atmosphere of Abbot's Hospital, so perhaps these remarks are not so superfluous as they may seem. For me, two factors over-ride everything else in this place - the Architecture and the association with the Duke of Monmouth. This second is perhaps due to my roots, and therefore bias, in being closely connected with Dorset and Somerset, where the Monmouth drama was principally enacted.

When George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, decided to build his Hospital for his fellow creatures in his boyhood town, he did not build in the up-to-date style of the day, but looked backwards for a century or more, and a building grew which was obviously influenced by the great building

adventures of his episcopal and archi-episcopal predecessors. Had he built in the style of the time, we should today see a building on more Classical lines, for Inigo Jones had already drawn up plans for The Queen's House at Greenwich for Anne of Denmark, Queen to James I, and as Abbot was active at James's Court, he must have known of these plans and other building revolutions that were afoot. Instead he preferred to build what is in effect a Court Yard House to the Tudor pattern, and to grace it with the last great Gate House to be built in England. This thing had been done before by Abbot's predecessors. Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, 1395-1486, built at Esher and Farnham, Archbishop Bouchier, 1404-1486, at Knole in Kent, Archbishop Warham, 1450-1532, at Malshanger in Hampshire, and at Otford, Kent, Cardinal Wolsey at Hampton Court, and Cardinal Morton, 1420-1500, at Hatfield. All these men had built houses of this pattern, and with the exception of Knole in Kentish Ragstone, all were in brick. So it is no surprise that for his new Hospital Abbot chose the shallow bricks of the period, with a range of colours varying through all those of ripe plums to red roses, and capable of absorbing and reflecting the subtle changes of sunlight and shadow, and giving immense pleasure to the viewer who is prepared to look at them and really see them. They are also enhanced by the wide courses of slightly tinted mortar used to compensate for the irregularities in the firing and shape of the hand-made bricks, and the total effect does nothing but give rich pleasure. All this in the English Bond of brickwork, as the Flemish Bond was not yet introduced into England (at Kew Palace in 1631).

However, Abbot decorated his Hospital in the accepted style of the time. The door cases and fireplaces have elaborate but correct Jacobean chamfer stops, the door furniture is contemporary, together with the trestle tables, benches and forms, and some original glazing remains, together with the fine chimneys together with their crow-step gabling, acting as a foil to the roof-line and the Gate House.

These features, and the fine scalloped round headed doors are admired by the 19th century authority, Ralph Nevill, F.S.A., in his now rare book on the subject (Old Cottage & Domestic Architecture in S.W. Surrey 1889). He also admires the splendid staircase which we did not see and which gives access to the Master's Quarters and the Board room which are housed in the South Range, which contains the Gate House with its four octagonal corner towers.

The facade facing the High Street presents an interesting example of good Architecture. The scale and symmetry of the most important range are achieved by bringing forward, by the width of a bay, the two end chambers to far right and far left of the Gate House and then raising the gables of these chambers above the roof-line in the style called Shaped Gables, and by inserting windows into these gables. Thus a balance and a sense of height are obtained and the Gate House prevented from completely overpowering the front of the building.

Shaped Gables of curved brickwork were first introduced into East Anglia via Kings Lynn from the Low Countries about 1600, and spread quickly. As a means of decoration they must not be confused with the Dutch Gable which followed about 1630, with the essential feature that it is crowned with a pediment. Abbot's Shaped Gables are thus a fairly early example of the fashion. Others exist locally at Brook Place, Chobham, and Ripley Manor House, and a good Dutch Gable can be seen at Slyfield Manor, Fetcham.

The last features I wish to mention are in the south wall of the garden which opens from the North Range of the Hospital. These are arched recesses in the brickwork about the size of the back of a Windsor Chair, and are

Bee Bowls, which housed small dome-shaped beehives of straw that helped the economy of the Hospital in two ways. Honey provided sweetening for culinary purposes before the advent of sugar from the Caribbean, and the beeswax was used for the making of high quality candles for use in the Master's House and the Chapel. Bee Bowls must have been common at this time, but now very few remain. Others in S.E. England can be seen at Fordwich and Kemsing in Kent, and more at Gainsborough Old Hall in Lincolnshire.

The Jacobean staircase previously mentioned in the corner of the South Range leads to the Board Room on the first floor of the Gate House. Here James, Duke of Monmouth, spent the night of July 10th, 1685, under heavy guard on his way to Whitehall to face his uncle James II after his disastrous attempt to seize the English Crown which culminated in his execution on July 15th, 1685.

James, Duke of Monmouth, was the first natural son of Charles II, then Prince of Wales, and was born to a girl named Lucy Walker in Rotterdam in 1649. Charles had been kept in England by his father, Charles I, during the early stages of the Great Civil War, and he was actually present with his father at the Battle of Edgehill in 1642 as a 12-year-old. But when the Royalist cause took a turn for the worse in 1644, he was sent for safety, first to the Scilly Isles, and then to Jersey, where the liaison with Lucy Walker was formed, and James, Duke of Monmouth, born in 1649.

After the Restoration in 1660, Charles, now Charles II, soon brought back his son, married him to an heiress, Anne, Duchess of Buccleuch, and gave him various appointments, including that of Captain General in succession to General Monk. When Charles II died in 1685, his Catholic inclined brother succeeded him as James II, and the Protestant Duke became the willing or unwilling stooge of the astute statesman Anthony Ashley, Earl of Shaftesbury, who had used him in the Rye House Plot in 1683, and convinced him of his claim to the Crown. After flight and a year in exile, he returned with a band of 80 followers to claim the Kingdom from his uncle. He landed on the Cob (still there) in Lyme Regis harbour in Dorset on June 11th, 1685, and progressed through Dorset and Somerset, collecting 2600 foot and 600 horse on the way. He was proclaimed King at Taunton, and then sought out the force which James II had sent to take him. The armies clashed early on the morning of July 6th near Weston Zoyland on Sedgemoor. By ten o'clock that morning Monmouth was in flight, and the following day had reached Cranbourne Chase, making for a Channel port and a ship to take him to safety. He obtained a Shepherd's Smock at Woodyates for a guinea and put on this disguise at the Woodyates Inn (which I remember being demolished as recently as 1971). But by now the hunt was properly on, and by the time he had progressed less than three miles he was betrayed and word was passed to Sir William Portman, near Blandford, who dashed over with a troop of horse and took prisoner a whimpering young man hiding in a ditch under an ash tree in a pea field near Horton. The field is still called Monmouth's Ash, and the old ash tree still carried a brass plate, suitably inscribed, until it fell some years ago. A young ash has been planted to replace it and the plaque refixed.

From the field called Monmouth's Ash on Cranbourne Chase, the unfortunate man was taken on horseback, with arms tied behind him, back to confront his uncle in Whitehall, and passed that one night of the journey in the Gatehouse of George Abbot's Hospital in Guildford.

It is said that he grovelled before the King and offered to embrace the Catholic faith, but to no avail. James II showed no mercy and Monmouth was executed on July 15th. I think Thomas Babington Macaulay, in Vol. I of his History of England, says that the execution of Monmouth was not one of the more clean and tidy sort and that Monmouth did not show at the last much of that Stubborn Courage which was such a characteristic of the House of Stuart in spite of all their other failings.

Sedgemoor was the last battle fought on English soil. Dorset and Somerset were then scourged by a wave of judicial slaughter under Judge Jeffreys that is still spoken of with horror in that part of England, and so the Realm entered the last thirty years of the Stuart Era.

These were some of my thoughts at Abbot's Hospital on February 14th, 1976.

Jim Oliver

SURVEY OF INTUITIVE ARCHAEOLOGY IN SEND

Contrary to the comments in the Editorial, there is insufficient room for this article in this edition. With regret, we are holding it over. We have also had to hold over a list of the references to Send in the G.L.C. Record Office.

MORE NOTES ON THE BROADMEAD

Since the Broadmead was last written about in these pages, Joe Baigent has kindly given the writer a copy of the "Woking Broad Mead" Regulations which were promulgated in 1906 for "effectively carrying out the Enclosure Award". They very largely confirm what was previously written and it is intended to publish them in due course. One thing which they bring out which had not previously been appreciated is that if any animal which had not been paid for was found in the Mead or if any horse was found there with its hind shoes on, such animal was to be "impounded in the pound provided for the purpose". In spite of this, Joe says there was no Broadmead pound before he had the one at Papercourt made. He believes that he as official herdsman only ever put one or two horses in it for having hind shoes on. It was mostly used for penning the animals before they were turned out onto the Mead.

In the Guildford Muniment Room there is a beautifully drawn map of Woking Manor in 1719. This includes the Broadmead which was and is part of the manor of Woking. It shows "Upper Broad Mead" bounded on the north by the River Wey, on the west by Broadmead road, on the south by a rambling line more or less where the Broadmead Cut now is, and on the east by the Wey Navigation up to Papercourt Lock. "Lower Broad Mead" is to the east of the Navigation in the Papercourt Farm area. The Wey Navigation itself is called "The New Cut River" no doubt because it had been opened only 66 years earlier; it was clearly the digging of this which led to the division of the Mead into upper and lower parts. The "Broadmead Cut" which is sometimes itself called "the New Cut" locally was dug as recently as about 1930 when an extensive flood relief scheme was undertaken which also straightened out a number of meanders in the river at Send Mead (referred to in Jim Oliver's article in N/L 5). I understand from Joe Baigent and Harold Giles that prior to the digging of the Broadmead Cut the Mead was bounded on the south side by a ditch presumably where the boundary is shown on the 1719 map, and that a hatch (in the sense of a floodgate) made of iron which was across the ditch can sometimes still be seen in the bed of the Cut to the east of Broadmead Bridge.

Les Bowerman.