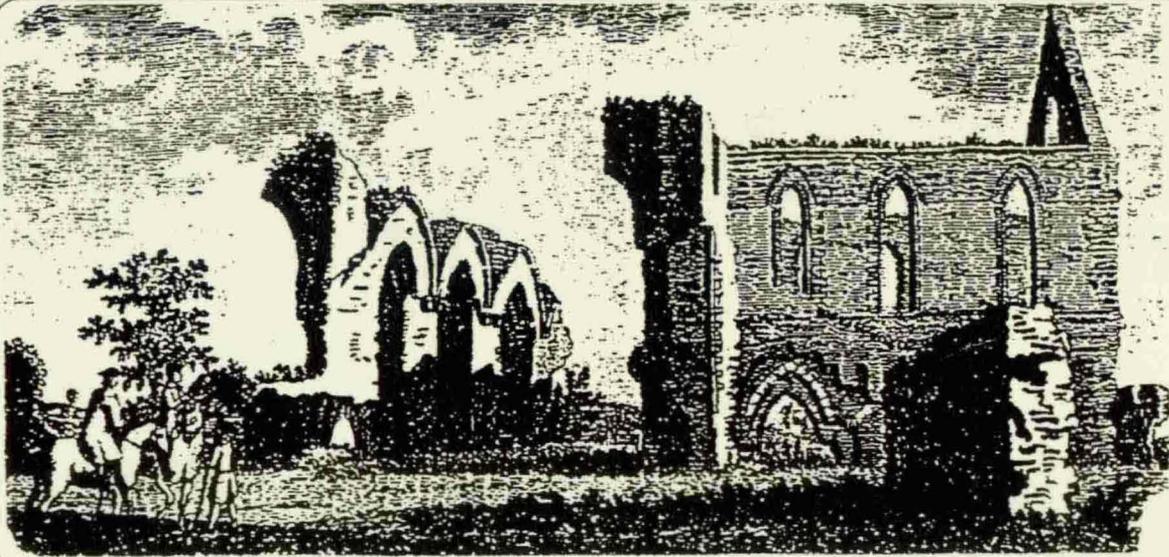


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Send & Ripley History Society

FOUNDED 1975 AS SEND HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 296324



NEWARK PRIORY

Journal Volume 6 No. 205

Mar/April 2009



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Cover photo: The Museum was photographed in the heavy snowfall c February 2nd 2009 by Jackie Carey.

Editor's Comment

An eventful year so far, if February is anything to go by! Not only, did we have, arguably, the heaviest sustained snowfall for up to 50 years, but sadly several of our close friends and members of the Society died. In the past we have had less snow lasting for several weeks and often more snow lasting just a few days but seldom 12/14 inches lasting for over a week! Consequently many of our members have been out and about taking photographs and have emailed copies to me for use in the Journal. Although it would have been difficult getting about in the snow I would be grateful for sight of any others particularly those that are typical local scenes.

On 2nd February just as the snow began to fall I was admitted to hospital for treatment of lymphoma and there I remained until 13th February; so, much to my regret, I missed all the best views of the snow, although of course, I did feel better. I would like to thank the members of the committee and everyone who sent their best wishes and for the 'get well' card signed at the AGM

Letters to the Editor

Letters from David Porter.

Once again I thank you for a most interesting **Journal number 203** and wish to add my further comments:

A W Secrett's, Pump House engine.

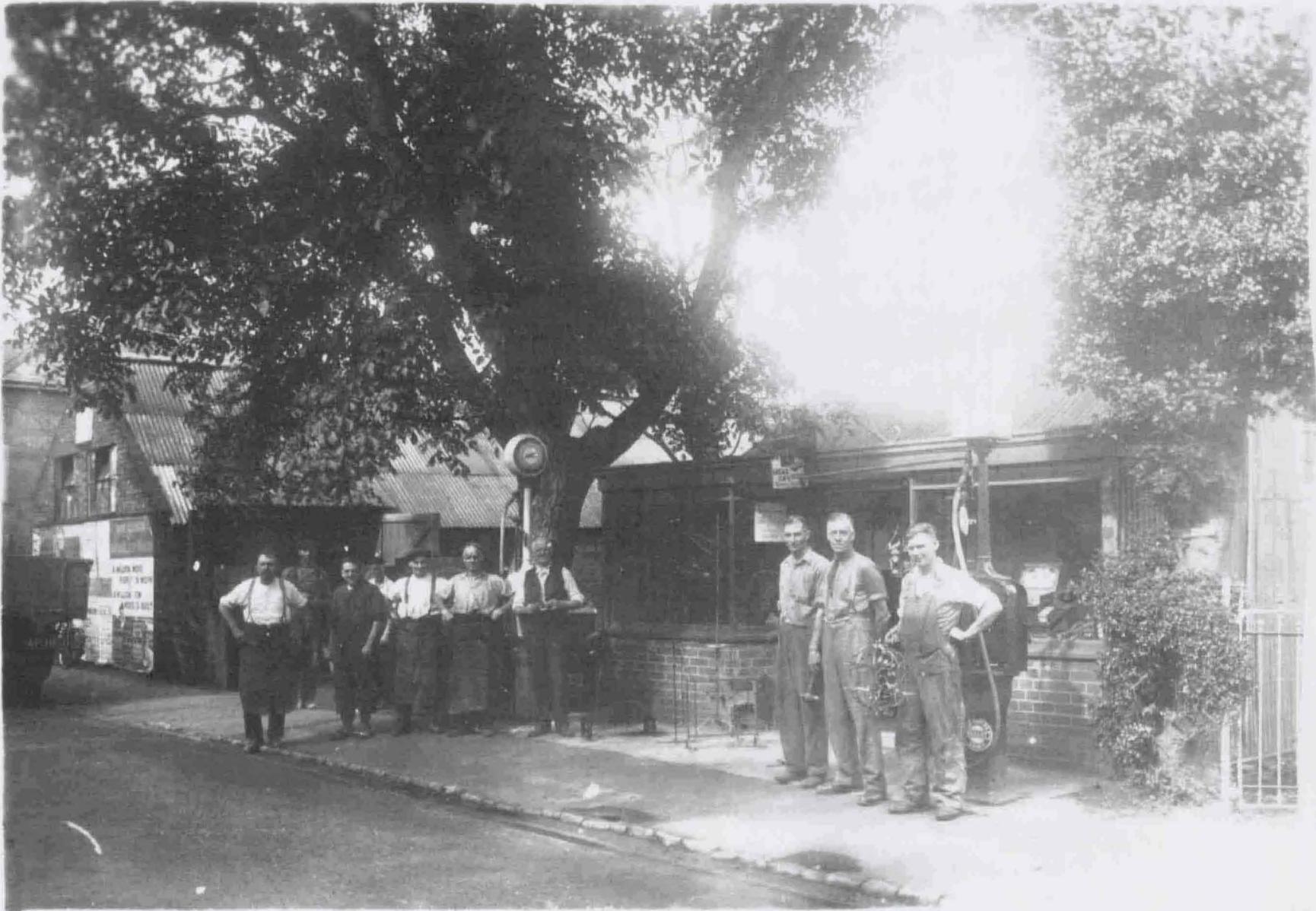
I failed to point out that the Paxman diesel engine in the pump house was started by compressed air. A tall cylindrical air bottle/receiver stood inside on the floor of the building in the northwest corner. Before the engine was stopped the 'attendant' would have to ensure that the 'bottle' was up to full pressure in order that the engine could be re-started. Air compressors were often fitted to stationary engines in this way as opposed to using an electrical starter motor and its attendant heavy-duty batteries. Therefore there was no need for an electrical supply to the pump house and as far as I recall there was none. Mounted on the wall, to the right of the air-bottle, was a semi-rotary fuel pump. This fed diesel fuel to a small tank and from here the fuel was gravity fed to the engine. The main fuel storage tank was outside the building.

Ivy House

A most delightful picture of Old Woking in Journal 203 page 10! It is important to note record that Mr Monks former newsagents shop still survives today, together with 'Plaw's' former Fish and Chip shop, sold to the Jepson family circa 1961/2 and today a 'Takeaway' shop. Both are clearly visible in the photograph. Opposite Plaw's was a greengrocer run by John (Jack) Gunning in the 1950s. It later became Chattells Antiques.

I hope to submit a full article on Old Woking High Street as it was in the 1950s on a future occasion.

3



Send Forge c1930. This delightful scene depicted on the front cover (Journal 203) raises some further questions?

Send Forge

There has also been much interest shown in the photograph of Send Forge featured on the front page of Journal 203, so it reproduced on the previous page of the this Journal together with the comments of our readers.

Send Forge. David Porter

The hand operated petrol pumps have different glass globes mounted on the top (representing different suppliers). Another photograph in the archives shows a similar view but with A 'Pratts' globe mounted on a pump. Is one of these a Pratts pump?

I clearly recall the forge throughout the 1950s when both pumps were fitted with 'Esso' globes also shown on another of the Society's archive photographs. Both pumps bore the sign 'Not for resale' and I never saw a vehicle use the pumps. When did Send Forge cease to sell petrol?

The photograph on the front page of Journal 203 does not show the pump globes very clearly but closer inspection of the original photograph reveals that, that on the left is circular with an aeroplane image in the centre. That on the right is rectangular and is 'Empire Regent Spirit'. There is no indication that another pump existed or that it was for Pratts. Editor.

Send Forge Mike Sex

With reference to the picture of the forge on page 9 (and the cover) of issue 203, I can confirm that the 3rd from the right was my father, Ron; the chap on the right of the left hand group, in front of the walnut tree, is my grandfather, Clarence Henry Sex (Clarry), who took over the forge in 1899 (hence the name of the firm, C H Sex & Sons). The man on the left of that group is Walt Muir. I think that the chap next to my grandfather is Fred Hands whose son Willy later joined the firm.

Incidentally, on page 16 of issue 203 the family tree should show that my maternal grandfather was Alfred Strudwick, not John Strudwick.

A Report from the Chairman

In spite of what the media have reported, the past few months have been witness to what seems to me the severest winter since 1962/63 and at 14" the deepest snow that I recall over seven decades. Partly because of that, and partly because it is that time of year anyway, a number of deaths of members, and others who have done good work in the two villages, are reported in this issue. There is insufficient space for detailed obituaries, for all who merit one but sympathy for the families of all, are equally felt.

Joyce O'Connor of Send Hill, who has died aged 87, joined the Society together with her late husband, Desmond, as long ago as 1977. We shall miss her particularly at the Christmas Social which she had enjoyed attending in recent years with her brother.

Condolences are offered to **Betty** whose husband, **Robert Goddard** died close to Christmas. They both joined the Society in 2005 when they deposited at the museum a mysterious old wooden shoe they had found in the roof of their home in Sedgeleys Cottages, Cartbridge. It turned out to be a very interesting, probably early 19th century, survival of an ancient 'shoe' game similar to knur and spell in which the 'shoe' was used to project a wooden ball into the air so that it could be hit by a bat. The game is believed to have mediaeval origins and is of the same genre as cricket, golf and rounders.

Postal Surcharge. Sincere apologies are offered to all our members who receive their Journal through the post. Due to an unfortunate miscalculation the last issue was sent out with insufficient postage. It is believed that the use of slightly heavier paper was just sufficient to tip the package into the next postal band, meaning that 24p more in stamps should have been affixed. With a £1 handling surcharge, it resulted in those members being faced with a bill for £1.24 extra. The Committee much regrets that this happened and feels that the fairest thing to do is to recompense the members concerned by reducing by £1.50 the postal charge which they would otherwise have to pay at renewal time next year.

Send's BEST Week. 23-28th March. Send Parish Council has designated this week BEST which stands for **BrightEn Send and Tidy it Up**. The idea is to try to involve the various groups and clubs operating in Send to help keep designated parts of the village clean and tidy. As its contribution to this the History Society has undertaken to keep Send Marsh Green free of litter and to replace the dying horse-chestnut tree on the northeast corner of the Green. The tree will not be replaced until after the daffodils growing around it have died down. Initial thoughts were to plant a traditional walnut tree, but the thinking now is that it could grow to such an extent as to detract from the sightlines for traffic and possibly to overshadow nearby gardens. A may tree is now being considered.

Lovelace Houses. William, 1st Earl of Lovelace (1805-1893), who lived first at Ockham Park and then at Horsley Towers, was a very enthusiastic builder with a very distinctive style. Many of his buildings survive especially in the Horsley area, and the Horsley Countryside Preservation Society in 2006 published a book of the surviving Lovelace buildings in East Horsley (copy in the museum library). That Society is now keen to record all of the Lovelace buildings in the area and has accordingly invited the parish councils of the neighbouring parishes to help identify and photograph such buildings. We have agreed to help. One of the identifying features of Lovelace buildings is the Earl's penchant for 'rat trap' bond – the creation of cavity walls by using two layers of bricks on edge. The only rat-trap bond so far found in Send is in No. 1, Lucas Cottages, Tannery Lane (next to the Post Office), but there are no other Lovelace features, so it may be that Tommy Lucas, a 19th century local grocer and property builder and speculator, experimented with the style. Lovelace buildings, are not expected to be found in Send, as that parish was largely Onslow territory. There are, however, a few Lovelace houses in Ripley parish. Homewood Farm Cottages (plaque dated 1868), in Newark Lane at the junction with Polesden Lane is one. Orchard Cottages (1866) at Grove Heath is another. Then there are Roborow Wood (undated) in Ripley Lane nearly into West Horsley, and Holride Farm (Horride 1851) near Sussex Farm. In Ripley village there is a certain amount of Lovelace rat-trap walling round the back of the Talbot Inn and at Chapel Farm facing Rose Lane, reflecting the fact that they were once Lovelace properties. All of this has been photographed for the HCPS and for our records.

The Send and Ripley History's 34th AGM

Les Bowerman (Chairman)

On 18th February in the Ripley Village Hall annexe, 36 members attended it's AGM and all went off very well. The following is a brief report of the main points so as to appear in this issue of the Journal. The principal officers and all Committee members were re-elected.

The accounts showed a small surplus for the year. As they had not been approved by the Society's consulting accountant and, at the time of writing, the papers and books were all with him. The accounts were adopted subject to them being approved. Subscriptions remain the same for 2010 but the postal charge will be increased in line with postal rates. An apology was made for the fact that postal members had to pay a surcharge with the last issue of the Journal. Membership figures continue to hold up with 111 doubles and 94 singles, amounting to 316 individuals. All who have helped in any way were thanked. The meeting was followed by well-received talks/discussions by members. Bob Stonard spoke on the local Mesolithic flints he has found. Fred Hookins spoke about finding with his father back in the 1950s in the Polesden Lane sand quarry a stone-age axe head and a Saxon spear. Andy Jones spoke about his collection of small china souvenirs of Ripley.

Society Officers: Marilyn Scott as Secretary gave an upbeat report on the state of the Society, which she compared favourably with other local societies. She apologised for not having time away from the Woking Lightbox, of which she is the Director, to attend to Society business and made it clear that she would like to relinquish the post of Society Secretary if somebody else can be found who would have time to attend Committee meetings. I would be pleased to hear from any such person. It involves attending annually nine Committee meetings at the Manor House, Send Marsh Green, usually on a Monday evening, plus the AGM, taking the minutes and writing them up. There is a very small amount of correspondence. If anyone would be willing to be Minutes Secretary that alone would ease the position.

Sally Jones has kindly agreed once renewals are finished to become **Membership Secretary**, a job, which I have been doing on a temporary basis for a few years. **Helen Harris** has agreed to be **Publicity Officer**, and **Margaret Field** is to organise the Society's display at the **Ripley Church Flower Festival**. We are grateful to all of these.

The Ripley Road Les Bowerman

I refer to my notes beginning on page 12 of the last issue of the Journal (No. 204), to the Editor's footnote, and to the photograph of an early motorcar passing a patrolman and a steamroller.

John Slatford has pointed out that, when the same photograph appeared on Page 63 of the Society's publication *Then and Now*, the car was identified as probably a 1909 Lorraine Dietrich and the gentleman in uniform as AA Patrolman Curtis who lived in the first house shown in the photograph. A 1984 photograph of the same spot is also shown in *Then & Now*.

Illustrations of the same location but looking to the southwest appeared in the *Cycling* magazine in 1906, one in August and the other in December. Both were the work of artists, and both appear to show the road 'unmade up'.

Further to my comments about the tarring of road surfaces to lay the dust sucked up by the tyres of early motor vehicles in some towns from around 1905, member Brian Cobley notes that a similar device may have been employed as far back as the 1690s as Celia Fiennes noted in her diary. She observed that in major towns the roads were 'pitched.' For example "Newcastle ... it most resembles London of any place in England, its buildings lofty and large, of brick mostly or stone; the streets are very broad and handsome and very well pitched, and many of them with very fine conduits of water in each ..." and "Leeds is a large town, several large streets, clean and well pitched". One might imagine that pitch (in the sense of a bituminous tar-like substance also used to stop the seams of wooden boats) may have been laid in the 17th century on a presumably fairly hard surface such as cobbles to deaden the noise of hooves and iron tyres in towns. But the Oxford English Dictionary discloses that to pitch can also mean to pave a road with stones, pebbles, cobbles, etc., set on end, as for instance in July 1680; "In this month ... was the highway ... pitched with pebbles and hard stone."

Cyclists Address to the Steam Roller
Submitted by Les Bowerman
(With apologies to the shade of Lord Byron)

In the last issue (No. 204) I wrote about the Ripley Road and in particular about its condition for road users around 1900. The relatively few users by then were a fairly even mix of cyclists, horse traffic and early motorists. The following poem may be thought to give a graphic impression of conditions on the Ripley Road at that time and the impression (in both senses of the word) made by the first steamrollers, a slightly later one of which was illustrated on the cover of No. 204. The poem was printed in *The Irish Cyclist*, in their issue of August 14, 1901.

"Roll on thou mighty green Steam Roller, roll.
Ten thousand stones obstruct thy path in vain;
Ruts score the road with ruin – their control
Stops with thy wheels; thou makest smooth and plain
The bumpiest country road, nor doth remain
A shadow of cart's ravage, nor the moan
Wrung from the weary cyclist's jolted pain,
Who sinks in some rut's depth with bumping groan,
Without reprieve, unwrecked, unhappy, rest unknown.

Loose stones are not upon thy paths – thy ways
Are not a spoil for them, thou dost arise
And grind them 'neath thee; jutting rock displays
The road's destruction – these dost thou despise,
Crushing them 'neath thy bosom. Pulverise
And lay them shattered in thy playful way,
Then snorting o'er the road, where haply lies
Some monster boulder, that aspires to stay
Thy march, grind it again to earth – there let it lay.

The slimy mud, which makes side-slip the tyres
 Of first-grade cycles, bidding novice quake
 And ladies tremble on their plated wires,
 The cart wheel rut, whose huge ribs jolt and shake,
 The whirling dust that fairly takes the cake
 For comfort's lack, the loose stones spread afar –
 These are thy joys, and as the snowy flake
 They melt into thy level roads, which mar
 Alike the dust-fiend's pride, and side-slip's stunning jar.

And cyclists love thee, Roller! For they joy
 Thy monstrous putting forth of strength to see,
 Bearing the good road onward – no alloy
 Thou harmless Juggernaut thou bringest me
 In my delight; and if thy snorting glee
 Makes thee a terror, 'tis a pleasing fear –
 Even the children love to follow thee
 And watch thy grinding weight – all, far and near,
 Hail thee, the bike's Titanic Friend – as I do here.”

The Charities of Ripley and Send John Slatford

In the history of our Society, I have found it strange that nothing has ever been written in the Journals about the charities of our two villages. This is an attempt to remedy the situation and provide some background to the benevolent people behind them.

In the tower of our Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Send, there is a large board listing the village charities placed, it would seem, in the 1750s but with later additions. It reads as follows:

A List of the Several Benefactions given to and for the use of the poor of this Parish forever.

A House near ye Church exchanged with Genl. Evelyn for a house at Three Fords by consent of ye Parish at a vestry Dec 13 1772.

William Boughton gave 40s a year Payable out of the Rent of a house called the Keepphouse for ever.

Henry Smith Esq eight pounds a year

Sarah Hale Spinster gave twenty Pounds the interest to be disposed of to widows that received no Collection.



The Charity Board in Send Church

Dame Anne Haynes Widow gave three hundred Pounds to bind poor Children out two (sic) Apprentice.

Mrs Legat gave two hundred pounds the interest to be given to such widows as do not receive alms or Collection from the Parish.

Genl Evelyn Gave 20s A Year to be Applied to the Repair of his Monument when Necessary and when not, to be distributed to the Poor of Send on Christmas day in every Year.

He that have pity upon the poor Lendeth unto the Lord and that which he hath given will he pay him again. Thomas Burchett Joseph Weall Church Wardn 1757.

The above descriptions were perhaps an over simplification of the charities. Hopefully the following will fill in some of the gaps:

1) The Henry Smith Charity

In Send and Ripley, the Smith Charity is just one of many which are part of the national Henry Smith Charity that has continued to benefit local parishes for nearly 400 years. In our two villages, it continues to thrive and provide help for people in need.

Henry Smith, born in Wandsworth in 1549, was a wealthy silversmith and jeweller in the City of London and he has been described as the greatest philanthropist of his time as well as being one of the richest. During his later life, when he was a childless widower, he passed his entire estate to trustees and after a small income to himself and small sums to poor relations the balance was devoted to charitable purposes. Disputes arose and he then directed that his estate be invested in land. This formed the basis of the charity established on his death in 1628. In his will were many provisions but the most important was the sum of £1000 with which his trustees were to purchase land, which should produce £60 per annum. His trustees were far seeing in that they purchased a "small farm" in Kensington, Chelsea and St. Margaret's, Westminster, which later became known as the Kensington Estate. This property remained with the charity until very recently when it was sold to the Wellcome Foundation for £280million. The proceeds are now spread over a wide range of investments. The total value of the assets of the Henry Smith Charity is today believed to be over £750million and it currently awards a total of £27million in grants every year in all parts of the United Kingdom.

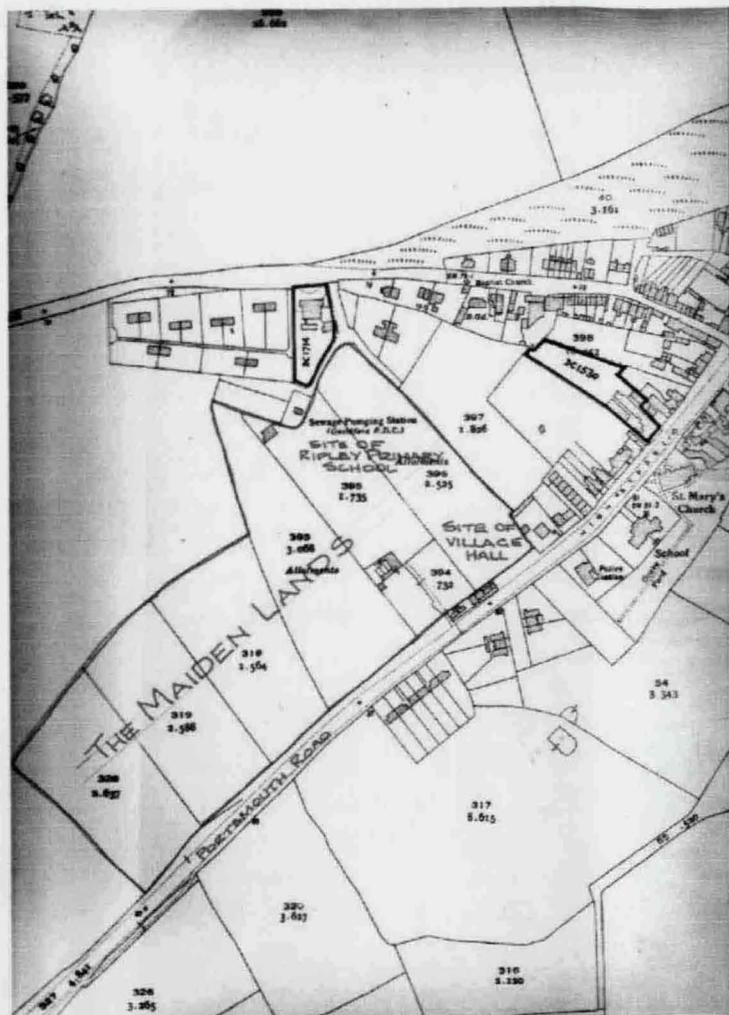
Henry Smith's objectives were many and varied but the fundamental aims were for "*relieving and releasing people from need and suffering*". Many stories have been written about him suggesting that he was an eccentric character known as "Dog Smith" who roamed the countryside posing as a beggar but seeking to determine places with people of need. Most of these tales were probably greatly exaggerated but he was in his later life known to have visited many parishes in Surrey to learn for himself how best he could help the poor. These visits resulted in one of his main provisions of annual payments to over 150 parishes, mainly in Surrey and including Ripley and Send, for distribution to the poor and needy. After nearly 400 years these provisions continue and in our two villages the present trustees, Geoff Richardson and David Conisbee, are today responsible for the distribution of well over £1000 each year in accordance with Henry Smith's original intentions. This is rather more than the original £8 a year although perhaps not so in real terms!

2) The Ann Hayne Charity.

Ann Hayne, the daughter of Henry and Sarah Tichborne, was baptised in Send on 31st May 1670 and was married to William Hayne on 25th August 1695 at St Mary's, Islington, London. She inherited considerable lands and property from her father in Send and in Sussex and so by the time of her death in London, by then widowed but aged only 33, she was very wealthy. She was buried in Send on 31st May 1704.

In her will after making bequests to her many family members, she made a special bequest to the Minister and Churchwardens of Send, which became the basis for the Charity which bears her name. The transcript from her will reads: *Item. I give to the minister and churchwardens of Send in the County of Surrey the sum of £300 of lawful money of England to be by them the said minister and churchwardens laid out in the purchase of some lands of inheritance to be settled in such manner as counsell shall advise so that the rents and profits thereof may laid out in the putting forth of poor men's children to apprentice.* The land that was purchased in Ripley became known as the Maiden Lands and this eventually formed what is today the Village Hall, Ripley Primary School and part of the Georgelands Estate,

Section of 1934 Ordnance Survey Sheet
XVII -14



Few records of the charity have survived but those that do indicate that it continued to function according to its original purpose until 1938, that is, for assisting young people into apprenticeships. In that year there is a record in which the Charity Commission approved an application by the trustees to change the objectives to assist "*poor persons resident in the Ancient Parish under the age of 21 who are preparing for, entering upon or engaged in any trade, occupation or service by (purchase of) outfits, payment of fees for instruction, travelling expenses or such other means for their advancement in life or to enable them to earn their own living*". In an application to the Charity Commission in 1945, the trustees were granted permission to sell the land (15,849 acres) for not less than £3000. This was designated as plots 318, 319, 328, 393, 394, 396 and 398 on the OS map No XVII. 14. 1934 edition. It would have been at this time that the then Guildford Rural District Council became the owner.

There is a further record showing that in 1947 the new owner leased part of the lands, plots 395, 396 and part of 394 (now the site of the Village Hall and Ripley Primary School) to Ripley Parish Council for use as allotments. The annual rent was £11.10 shillings.

No early records are known of grants made before the 1920s but after that time a number of apprenticeship indentures have survived. One of these dated 4th October 1932 concerned Ronald Hill then aged 15 the son of Hubert Hill of Newark Road, Ripley who was apprenticed to Albert and Percy Bland of Blands Garage in the High Street. This was, of course, one of our members Ron Hill who died not long ago. The trustees paid the Blands two sums of £10 with a further £10 two years later. Ron was to be paid 8 shillings per week in the first year rising to 12 shillings, 16 shillings and £1 in the subsequent years. Another indenture dated 26th June 1933 was between Stewarts Hairdressers in Woodbridge Road, Guildford and Miss Rene Huggins, daughter of Frederick Huggins of Boormans Cottages, Send for her to be trained for two years as a Court hairdresser. For this the charity paid a total of £12 and she was to be paid 2 shillings and sixpence (12 ½ p) per week less sixpence for washing her coat.

An example of the later disbursements by the charity is in a record of 1962 when 28 teenage children in Send and Ripley were awarded a total of £125. Among them were two of our present Ripley Parish Councillors. Jennifer Brown now known to us as Jenny Cliff, received £2 10 shillings (she can't remember what she or her parents did with it!). She is today a trustee for the Haynes Charity. Mike Baker received £7 10 shillings.

The Haynes Charity continues to flourish today under the trustees: Rev Tony Shutt, Jenny Cliff and Margaret Bruton.

3) The Boughton Charity

In 1608 William Boughton, a yeoman of Send, by his will gave 40 shillings a year from the rent of a house in Send called the Keep House and land at Hunger Hill to be paid "*yearly into the hands of the overseers of the poore of Send for ever to be given to the poorest of Send and Ripley where most need is*".

The present day Keep House in Send Marsh Road is a largely modernised house of Victorian origin. However attached to the rear and not visible from the front is a small timber framed building of around 1600 or earlier! This was probably part of a group of buildings replaced by the Victorian building. These older buildings originally provided the basis of the income for this charity, which continued for well over 400 years. The only known surviving document is a payment book recording disbursements to eight elderly residents between the years 1916 and 1960.

It would seem that the title deeds for The Keep House contained a provision that the owners were required to pay the trustees the yearly sum of £2 - presumably in perpetuity. The book records the annual payment by the owners and the names of the eight recipients each year. The first pages in the book record that the money was paid to local traders and that vouchers for coal, clothing and provisions to the value of five shillings were issued to each of the beneficiaries. Later this was changed to cash payments of five shillings. This arrangement continued until around 1957 when it appears that new owners of The Keep House decided to ignore the requirement to pay the annual rent. The final entry was by the then trustee Mrs D M Dixon (the wife of headmaster Fred Dixon) when she wrote that before leaving Ripley she gave 5 shillings each to five widows from her own pocket.

They were: Mrs Potter, Mrs Plowman, Mrs Hill, Mrs Muir and Mrs Salway. It was then that the Charity seems to have ceased to exist.

4) The Legatt Charity

Susannah was the widow of Jeremiah Legatt who was a miller believed to be at Newark Mill through the early years of the 1700s. She died in 1725 her husband having predeceased her in 1723. She made her will in 1722 but it was not proven until 1 February 1729, four years after her death. The first provision was an instruction to her friend and executor Henry Pawley (of Ripley House) for a sum of £200 *“to be laid out with all convenient speed in the purchase of some lands of inheritance to be vested in trustees – and the annual profits thereof may be distributed yearly amongst such poore widows inhabitants of the parish of Send and Ripley as receive noe alms from the collection of the poore rate for the parish”*.

Sadly there are no known records of the implementation of this bequest or of what eventually happened to it.

5) The Hale Charity

The burial registers for Send and Ripley record that Sarah Hale was buried on February 1st 1687. She was a spinster and in her will written just days before she died, she left £20 to provide an income intended for poor widows. Nothing is known about this bequest until 1777 when it became the subject of a bond involving James Hone a yeoman farmer at Homewood Farm in Newark Lane who was also said to be a churchwarden. The record states *“Bond of James Hone of Homewood yeoman to George Johnson of Ripley tallow chandler, William Harris yeoman, William Stone yeoman, Samuel Greenfield tanner and Thomas Mills yeoman in £40 for payment of £20 with interest at £4. 10s being money left by Sarah Hale the interest to be aid to the poor widows”*. Yeoman Hone had somehow (in his role as churchwarden?) had somehow obtained a loan from the Sarah Hale fund and had lost it by the time of his death in 1784. There is also a record suggesting that he had lost the tenancy of his farm due to bad management and convivial habits. Thus after James Hone, the Sarah Hale charity ceased to exist.

6) General Evelyn

Lieutenant General William Evelyn was a great grandson of the diarist John Evelyn. He lived at Send Grove next to Send Church from at least the early 1770s until his death in 1783. His grave on the north side of the church near the tower is marked by an impressive memorial for which he left in his will the sum of 20 shillings a year for its repair with any surplus to be distributed to the poor on Christmas Day. There are no known records of whether this actually happened or what became of his legacy.

Send and Ripley villages are probably not unusual in having charitable bequests made by some of the better-off residents for the benefit of the less well-off. We are also probably not unusual in that some of these have disappeared over the years. However, we have in the Haynes Charity something entirely local, which has thrived and continues to do so. The Smith Charity is different in that not only has it grown to be extremely wealthy but it is a national institution.

Sources: The Henry Smith Charity website.
Ripley Parish Council records.
Society archives.

Barretts Garden Buildings Ltd

Foreword by Les Bowerman

Members living in Ripley, and also probably in Send, will be aware that the firm of Barretts Garden Buildings, long established in the Portsmouth Road, has closed. The Winter 2008 issue of *Ripley & Send Matters*, No. 64, contained an article about Barretts by our member, Ted Strange, who worked there for the whole of his career. With the consent of both Ted and the Editor of *Ripley & Send Matters* we reproduce that article below both for the historic record and for the benefit of those members who live outside Send and Ripley.

Since Ted wrote his article another firm, Titan Garden Buildings Ltd, based in Chilworth, has moved in. At the time of writing it is not known whether they will construct wooden buildings on the site or use it for storage.

Barretts By Ted Strange

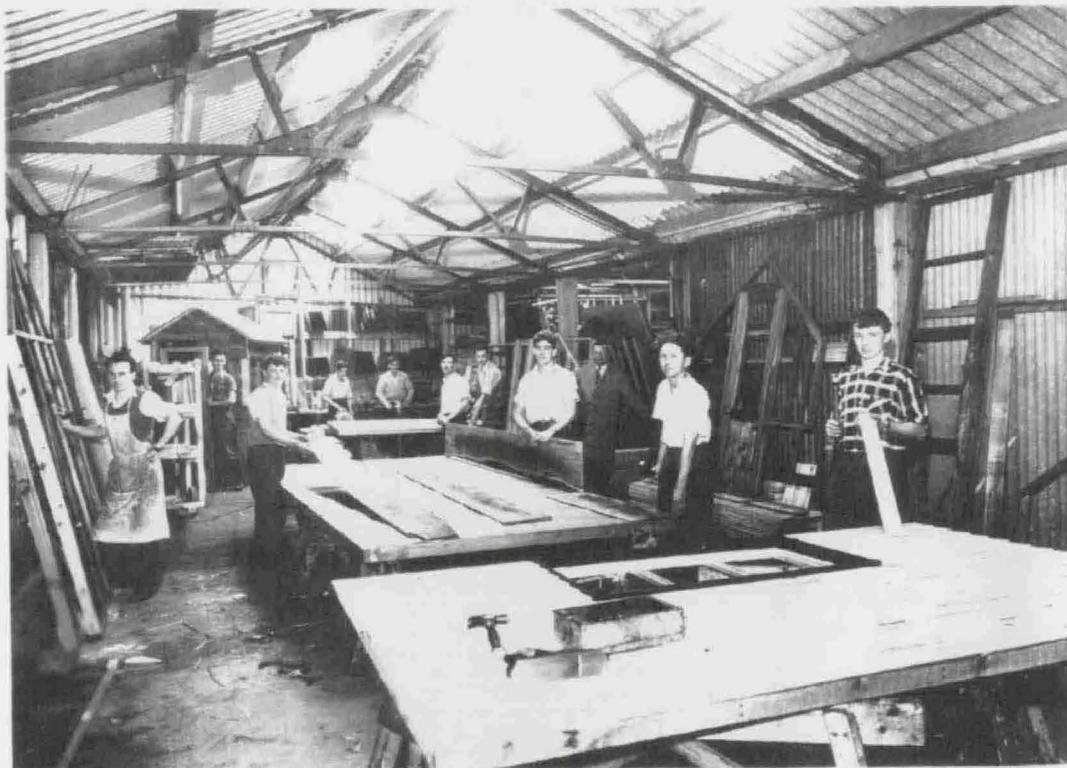


Barretts Garden Buildings Ltd started up in 1933 under the name of P G Barrett and Son. During the Second World War the building was taken over by "Vickers". Arthur Barrett (the son) served with the RAF in the Middle East. After the war Major Ford together with his son John leased the building for the production of leather soles and heels, employing many local men and women.

Early in 1949 Arthur Barrett started up making sheds again in a lean-to on the side of the main building taking on "Shonto" Masters and me. In those days timber was on licence, and imported kiln-dried timber could only be used for the building of houses, etc. The timber we had was home grown from the woods, also second hand tobacco crates which we used for the roof boarding. In April 1952 I was called up for National Service. On my return two years later the work force had grown. Just before my return Arthur had got a contract to build a wooden church for the Sheerwater estate, which was being built to house people from London. I often wondered how we managed to build it in such a small workshop.

Whilst I was away Arthur had built a large extension on the back of the main building but most of it was being used by Fords. In the mid 1950s the lease ran out and Fords moved to Send Marsh. In the years that followed the large elm trees on the bank outside were taken down and the Show Ground made much larger,

In the early 1960s Arthur Barrett decided to sell the business and move to Devon. Luckily for me and other local lads it did not sell. George Finch who was the Works Manager persuaded Arthur into buying his bungalow in Devon, leaving him to run the business. Some time later George took over the firm, taking on a long lease, and I became Works Manager.



The workshop

We made hundreds of buildings a year, which included very large buildings such as school class rooms, games rooms, offices, etc. I remember at one time work was slow coming in so someone had the idea that if a customer bought a shed we would erect it free of charge. So the FREE ERECTION sign was put up. It was not long before people were coming in smiling, talking about our new sign. We then realised what we had done and from that day on if I told anyone where I worked they would say the place with "Free Erection". One day we found the sign missing. Later on we had a phone call from Farnham College saying the sign was on their sports ground facing the girls quarters!

My best memory of the early days was building and erecting a petrol kiosk for Connaught Garages, Burnt Common. A young lady came out of the office giving me a big smile. I married Jackie in 1954, and now 54 years later she is still smiling.

It is rather sad that yet another firm is closing down in Ripley. Many local lads came and went, some coming back. There were a few like me that had a job for life. I retired in 1998.

Connie Garside – Centenarian

Congratulations to Connie Garside, who joins the growing list of long-lived Send ladies who have attained the still remarkable big double zero.

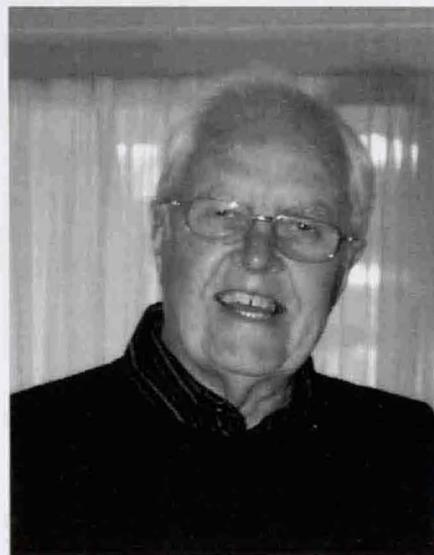
There was a very good report of the occasion, accompanied by a photograph of a remarkably young looking Connie, in the Woking News & Mail of 12th February. She celebrated with one party with friends at the retirement flats in Woking where she has lived for the past 18 years and another for family and old friends. In addition she came back to Send, where she had lived for 51 years, for another birthday cake with the Send Over-60s Club where she is a very popular member.

As noted as recently as last autumn in Journal issue No. 202, the four other local people to achieve this milestone since the start of the Society in 1975 have been Evelyn Lancaster in 1976, Ethel Tice in 1981, Dorrie Challen in 2005 and Elsie Robinson in 2008, all of whom lived in Send.

Les Bowerman

Alan Tinkler

It is with great sadness that we report the death on 15th February of our Advertising Manager, Alan Tinkler, at the age of 78. It is difficult to believe that he was as old as that, but most of the very early members are now a bit long in the tooth. Alan and Barbara joined the Society a third of a century ago at the beginning of 1977, two years after it was founded. They were some of the most regular attenders at our meetings and outings. I recall Alan from the earlier days as a forthright but jovial figure with an ever-present sense of humour. It was only in relatively recent times when he readily took on the job of chatting up prospective Journal advertisers and collecting their fees that I really got to know him and appreciate what a strong character he was. In the last few years he developed a number of serious ailments which would have crushed and depressed anyone else, but there would Alan be at meetings beaming and exuding bonhomie as though he had not a care in the world. Even in the past few months as he found it increasingly difficult to move around, he still enthusiastically went about delivering invoices and collecting cheques. Alan's good friend and neighbour, John Creasey, has kindly agreed to take over the job.



Alan was so at home in the world of business that acting as advertising manager came naturally to him and he seemed to derive great pleasure from it, which is something that many of us could not do. The funeral took place at Woking Crematorium, attended by some two hundred friends, relatives and former work colleagues and acquaintances. Eulogies were given by Alan's long-time friend and former colleague, Bob Barker, and the Rev'd Tony Shutt, Priest in Charge at St Mary's, Send, who conducted the service. From this I learned that, in addition to the business world in which he was greatly respected, Alan was also interested in motorcycling following his son Paul's involvement in it, in cricket, football, walking and caravanning. He was a great mimic and comic, and above all good company. For Alan's retirement party in a restaurant near Winchester, Bob and another colleague hired Grenadier Guards uniforms. Afterwards Alan said "That was great fun, but I wasn't in the Grenadier Guards. I was in the Welsh Guards, you 'nana !"

Condolences are offered to Barbara, Paul and other members of Alan's family.

Les Bowerman

Nancy Graham obit

Almost certainly our oldest member, Nancy Graham sadly died on 1st February. She had lived all her 94 years on the same piece of land in Send Road. Her mother had died in childbirth and she was adopted by Edith Saunders who lived in one of the cottages belonging to the Wharf Laundry owned by Matilda Sale. Edith was the widowed daughter of Mrs Sale. As a child Nancy helped in the laundry. After leaving school she worked as a model for William Harvey in Guildford, an experience, which led to her being elegantly turned out for the rest of her long life.

On marriage to Edgar Baker they had a house, Wharfdene, built in 1935 on land bought from the laundry and Nancy lived there for 74 years. It was the first house in the road to go onto mains drainage. During the War they had two Land Girls, two women teachers and two children from South Shields billeted on them. Some of them remained in touch for the rest of their lives.

Nancy was very active in village life, especially with the Women's Institute and the Church Mission Society. She was always making things or baking cakes, being an accomplished seamstress and cook. After he suffered a stroke, Edgar was nursed by Nancy for a number of years until he died in 1974 after nearly 40 years of happy marriage. Later, Nancy got to know Tom Graham at Send Church. They married and lived happily at Wharfdene for nearly another 20 years. She learnt to drive when in her 60s.

Nancy and Tom joined the Society in 1982 but Tom died 11 years later. They did not attend meetings or outings, but Nancy always took a great interest in the local history. She read the Journal avidly and was not slow to point out any inaccuracies. Her long knowledge of Send was very useful.

At the funeral service at Send Church, a moving tribute to Nancy was made by Reader Pat Cartledge who is one of our members, and I am grateful to Pat for willingly allowing me to use her notes in compiling this obituary. I have also freely used the notes of Jane Bartlett's 1995 interview with Nancy. Both Pat's tribute and Jane's notes contain a great deal more information than there is space for here. A copy of Jane's interviews with over 100 Send and Ripley people is filed in the reference library at the Museum.

Les Bowerman

Peter Gammon 1920-2009

We were saddened to hear of the death of Peter Gammon at the age of 88 on 4th January. He was such a major force for good in Ripley and such a prominent local personality that this is one of those cases where we publish an obituary for somebody who was never a member of the Society. His close friend Malcolm Pritchett in the local Rotary Club has kindly written a detailed eulogy of Peter's life which will be available in the library and also possibly on our website. There are also two obituaries to Peter in the current issue of *Ripley & Send Matters*, bound volumes of which are on the shelves of our library. The following is a very brief summary based on Malcolm's eulogy.

Originally a Kingston man, Peter had close family ties with Barnstaple in Devon. During the war he was a glider pilot and, in a Horsa, was towed into Holland for Operation Market Garden at Arnhem where he was lucky to escape with his life. After the war Peter trained as a surveyor and ended his career as a Planning Officer for Sutton Borough Council. In 1948 he married Denise Offer (known as Boo), whose parents ran the Anchor Inn by the river at Pyrford and later the Ship Inn here at Ripley. They lived in Ripley from 1965. There were two children, John and Anna, to whom we offer condolences. Peter had a lifelong interest in railways, was a loyal member of the Ripley British Legion, holding most of their offices over a period of time. He was a founder member of the Rotary Club of Ripley & Send, which shares a birth year, 1975, with what is now the Send & Ripley History Society. Again he held most of the offices at one time or another.

Among many things Peter did for Ripley and Send were singing in the Church choir for 32 years, repairing the war memorial, practical help at Sendhurst Grange when it was a children's home, being involved in the re-hanging of the old school bell at Ripley Primary School, organising Remembrance Day Parades, transport for relatives to visit sick relatives, installation of public park benches, helping at the Ripley Cricket Club and directing parking at the Ripley Event.

Joan Harris (1923-2009)

We regret to record the death on 7th January of Joan Harris. She was not a member of the History Society but had been a respected member of the local community, contributing to Send village life for over 50 years.

Joan and David came to Send in 1953 with their two children, Jenny and Lawrie, moving into a new bungalow built by local builder, Norman Munns, in Bush Lane. When David joined Send Cricket Club at Sendholme, Joan helped behind the scenes. Their second son, Andy, was born in 1955. At about that time Joan joined the Send Branch of the W.I., becoming President in the early '60s. She was especially interested in handicrafts and the choir, representing the Branch many times at local and regional level from the '50s to the '80s. Joan and David were keen members of the Old Time Dance Club which thrived in Send in the 1950s, both at the Lancaster Hall and at St Bedes.



Joan was Secretary at Send Primary School, under the redoubtable Miss Stella Perrin, from the late '60s to the mid '70s. From there she moved on to the Child Guidance Clinic in Woking, which work she found particularly rewarding. On retirement Joan became fully involved in the Send Over 60s Club, serving both on Committee and as Chairman. With her interest in handicrafts, she ensured that the annual competition between the Send, Ripley and Pyrford clubs continued as long as possible despite sadly dwindling membership in all three. She was also deeply involved with the Red Cross. Joan much enjoyed the Over 60s Choir in which she sang right until the end in spite of severe breathing problems. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Condolences to David, the three children and the grandchildren.

The above notes are based on an obituary written by Joan's son, Lawrie, and notes by member Pat Clack, whose daughter Valerie is married to Joan's son, Andrew. We are grateful to both.

Send & Ripley

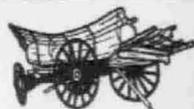
A Tale of Two Villages

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10am - 5pm March 11th to
May 10th

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history of Send and Ripley. From the Mesolithic — through the monks — to market gardens and motor cars.



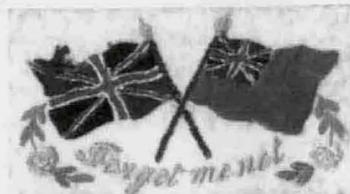
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The new exhibition in the Museum is called "Forget me not" and features an impressive collection of embroidered silk handkerchiefs which were sent to their loved ones by soldiers in the First World War. You may also wish to use the lending library and the reference library. Opening times are Saturday mornings from 10.00 until 12.30pm and for two hours on the third Sunday of the month to coincide with the Antiques Market.

Programme for 2009

Wednesday 15th April – "The Crystal Palace, a talk by Ron Trevelyan of the Woking Philatelic Society.

Monday, 4th May – The Send Scouts May Day Fete on the Recreation Ground in Send. The Society will be manning a bric-a-brac and book stall so do come and support us with contributions for sale and purchases. help will be welcomed on the day from 12 o' clock onwards,

Wednesday, 6th May - An outing to Reigate Priory and Museum. Meet at the Manor House, Send Marsh Green at 1.15pm. Please let me know by Monday, 23rd May, if you would like to come, as the guide at The Priory needs to know the numbers. There will be a moderate fee.

Tuesday, 2nd June – 1.30pm. A conducted tour around The Spike, the old Guildford Union Workhouse which is in St. Luke's Park, off Warren Road, Guildford. Numbers are crucial so please let me know if you wish to be included by the 19th May. A fee will be charged.

Thursday, 9th July – All day outing to Tonbridge, Kent. Details in the next Journal.

Friday, 28th August – Evening Barbecue at Cricketshill House, Potters Lane, Send. Details to follow.

Wednesday, 16th September – A talk by Jeanette Hicks on "Newark Priory".

Wednesday, 21st October - A talk by Brian Thorne on "Secret Surrey".

Wednesday, 18th November – An illustrated talk by Patrick Molineux on "Surrey Domesday" with reference to Send.

Wednesday, 16th December – The Christmas Social.

For further details of any of our events, please ring me, Anne Bowerman, on 01483 224876.

Journal Contributions: Closing date for the next edition is **Friday 8th May 2009.**



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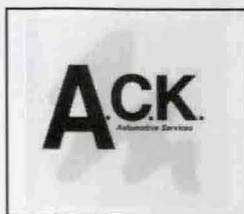
Other times for school groups and small
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Contact Les Bowerman on 01483-224876 if
 you require further information or wish to
 help in the museum.

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

'Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life'	(Reprinted 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		£3.00
'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

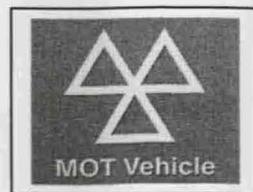
All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of 'Ripley & Send Then and Now' and 'Two Surrey Village Schools' can also be obtained from Send Post Office.



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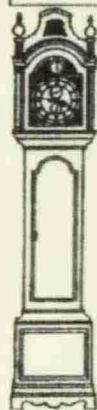
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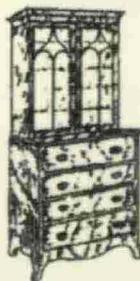
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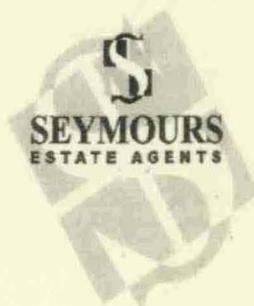
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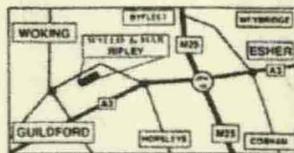
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