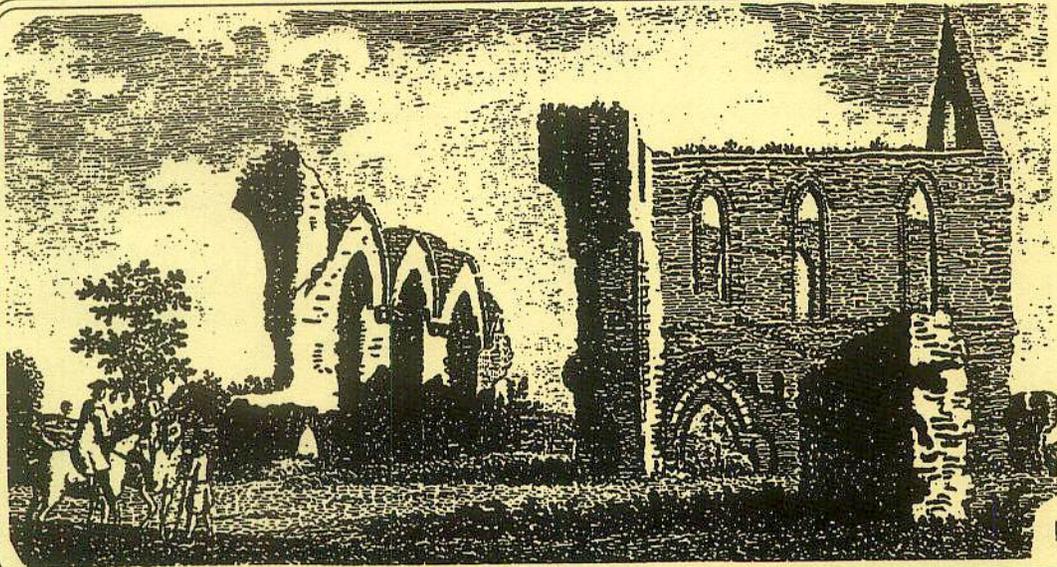


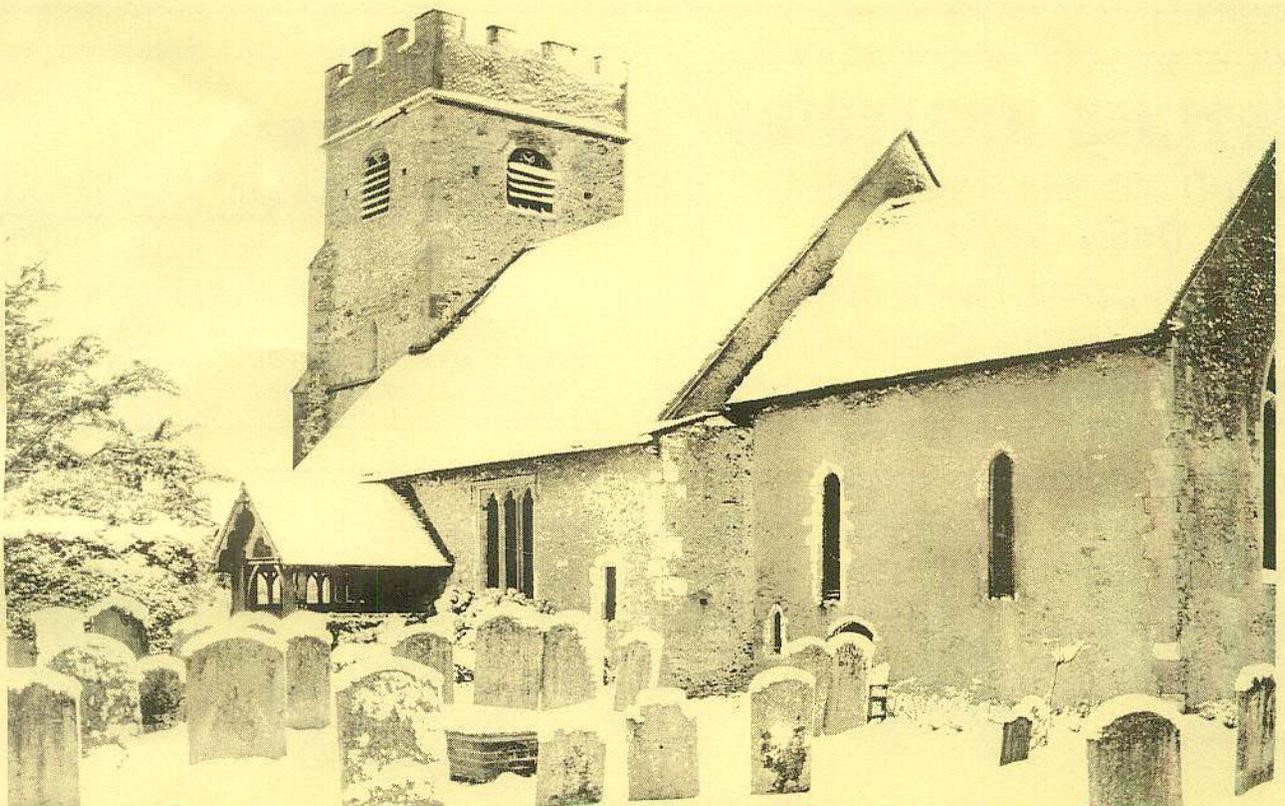
# Send E Ripley History Society



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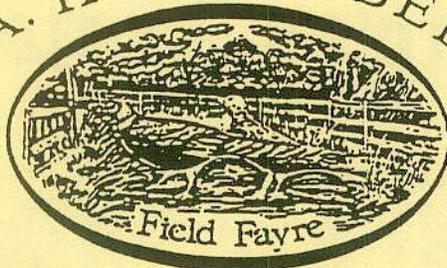
Newsletter No.113

Nov/Dec 1993



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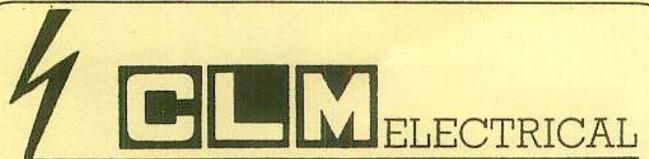
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# Send & Ripley History Society

*Established 1975 as Send History Society*

Registered Charity No 296324

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Typed by Mrs. Chris Parker.

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Newsletter No 113

November/December 1993

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**Cover Illustration:** St Mary the Virgin, Send, December 1986

### EDITOR'S COMMENT

As 1993 draws to a close, the sixth edition of the Newsletter is an appropriate time for the Editor to acknowledge the help and support from contributors and members of the Society. Les Bowerman continues to provide a distributor list for each issue and George Bleach has now undertaken to distribute the majority of the Newsletters through the distribution team. The team, which includes George Bleach, consists of Les Bowerman, Mrs E Nunn, Peter and Sylvia Barrett, Iris Watts, John Slatford, Bob Gale (George Bleach), Jane Bartlett, Audrey Sykes, Alan and Barbara Tinkler, Ken and Mary Dawson, Geoff Parker, Lloyd and Mavis Davis, Eric Ferris, Patricia and Tony Medlen - to you all grateful thanks. Thanks are due, too, to our advertisers who support the publication of the Newsletter financially and also provide, by their varied and interesting advertisements, a glimpse of the present, which will no doubt be of interest to subsequent generations. In the meantime, please support our advertisers and mention our Newsletter whenever appropriate.

The History Society will be 20 years old in February 1995, and therefore 1994 will be an opportunity for thinking of some appropriate way in which to mark the occasion.

Finally, our thanks are due to the contributors of the articles, some of whom do so on a pretty continuous basis, and without them production of the Newsletter would be difficult. We are always on the lookout for any matters of historical interest concerning the two parishes of Send and Ripley - snippets of information or articles.

Thank you also to Chris Parker, who types up the Newsletter so beautifully each month, often at very short notice, and to Geoff for his support in numerous ways. To all our members and readers, may I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

### OCEAN CHALLENGE

**Notes from a Talk by Nicholas Jubert  
Given to the History Society on Thursday, 28 October 1993  
at Ripley Village Hall**

*Through the medium of video and coloured slides, Nicholas gave an enthralling talk of his experiences as crew member on the yacht, "Group 4". It is the story of this unique yacht race around the world during 1992/3. - Ed.*

Never before had anybody contemplated staging a race for ten identical yachts around the world against the prevailing winds and tide, the principle being that all the boats had exactly the same hull shape, deck equipment and sails. The only difference was in the crews' ability to create teamwork over an eight month period.

The feature of the race that was met with astonishment by the sailing press was that the crews would all be amateurs, 75% of whom had not sailed before, but with two years' periodic training it was believed by Chay Blyth, the race organiser, that they could show that ocean racing was not an elitist sport and could be open to anybody with the desire for adventure. The race proved to be a resounding success and has changed the ocean racing scene for ever, in that yachts a fifth of the price of boats competing in the current Whitbread Round-the-World Race could give the crews, the sponsors and the public at large an exciting adventure.

The title of the race was "The Toughest Yacht Race Ever", but for the crews involved it became a way of life, with the dangers of the Southern Ocean becoming a daily job of work. The race was not all hard work as there were three stops in probably the most dramatic landfalls one could make after an ocean passage.

The first leg, from Southampton to Janeiro, was 5300 miles over 31 days, which was in relatively good sailing conditions which allowed all the crews a final training period to

learn to work together. With three weeks in Rio, moored below the Sugarloaf Mountain and the Cocovado statue of Jesus, the 31 days at sea were forgotten about.

The second leg, from Rio down the South American coast round Cape Horn and across the Southern Ocean to Hobart, was an 8800 mile leg, taking 51 days, and was billed as the part of the race that would live up to the title. With seven yachts incurring major damage and one yacht losing its mast, it was not without its dangers. The landfall in Hobart, Tasmania, was a welcome relief and was found to be one of the friendliest places one could visit. With the crews having five weeks' stopover here, there was plenty of time to unwind, regain their land legs and enjoy the Australasian Continent.

The third leg of 6800 miles, from Hobart to Capetown, which took 33 days, in fact turned out to be the toughest of the Southern Ocean sailing, with constant storms the whole of the time at sea. The teamwork of the crew on the yacht, "Group 4", proved itself to be unbeatable, and we achieved first place on this leg. The approach to Capetown, with Table Mountain lit up in the evening, was another spectacular landfall.

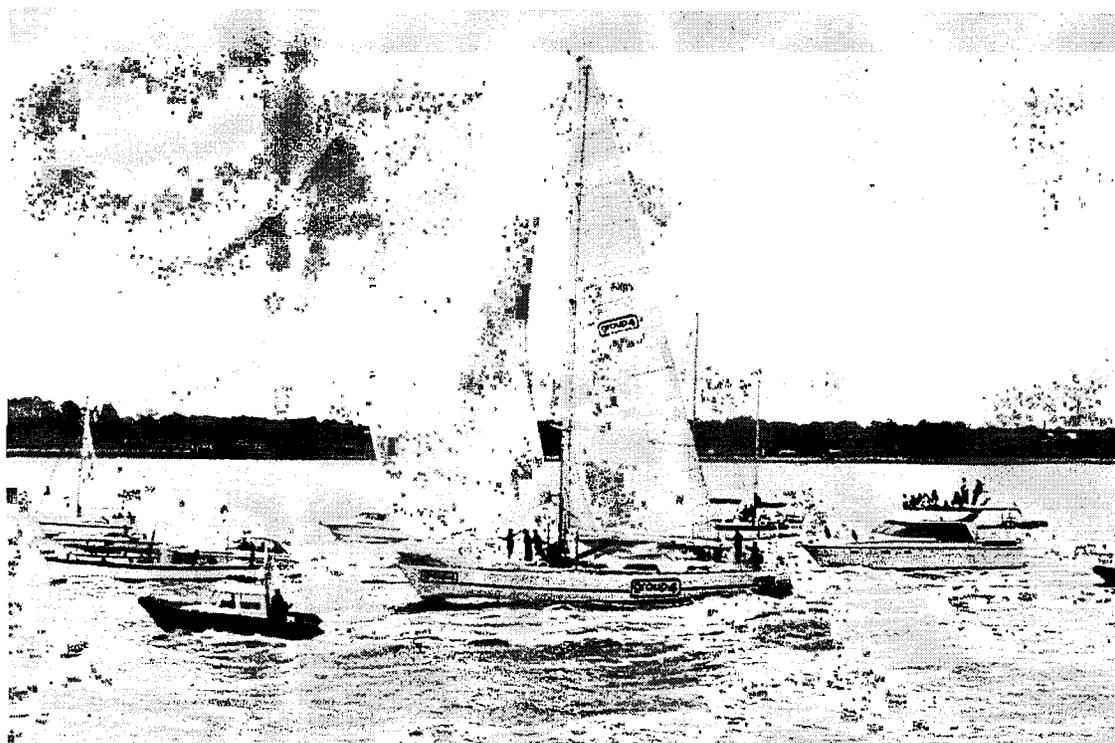
The final leg, from Capetown back to Southampton, was 6800 miles, which took 35 days. This was technically the most difficult sailing. Through different oceans and with all the crews up to speed, it became the most hard fought. The yacht, "Group 4", once again proved itself to be unbeatable and arrived at Southampton the first yacht back by six hours. The winds in the third and fourth leg were not enough to achieve an overall victory in the race for "Group 4", which came second in the whole race by just 1 hour 10 minutes.

Each crew member had paid £14,750 for the rare chance to take part in this unique adventure which would be a lifetime's memory. The race produced a wonderful camaraderie between the crews, as well as within each boat team, even though the individual boat competition was fierce.

The race has already been fully subscribed by amateurs for its next run in 1996/7.

The yacht, "Group 4", is leaving on a new adventure on 21 November 1993, when the skipper, Mike Golding, will sail the yacht, single-handed, round the world, non-stop, to contest Chay Blyth's record of 292 days, which is the present record in the Guinness Book of Records. Mike Golding is hoping to cut 100 days off this record.

Nicholas Jubert



*Returning up Southampton Sound*

**Editor's Note** Over seventy members attended the meeting and the sum of £148 was collected. Half of this sum was donated to the RNLI and the other half to the History Society museum project. We are most grateful to Nicholas for an excellent presentation, and also to members and friends who kindly donated to these two worthy causes.

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### 100 YEARS AGO

The following illustration shows the Hautboy as it appeared in the cycling magazine dated June 3 1893.



PLACES WE KNOW—THE "HAUTOY," OCKHAM

### THE HAUTOY AND FIDDLE, OCKHAM

An Extract from "The Cyclist", October 29 1879

**Mr. and Mrs. Ching at Home.**

Why Lord Lovelace, who is the owner of the Hautboy, ever came to build so large a house in a village of some six houses, we are unable to say, but there the house stands, built of red ornate brickwork, with gabled roof and diamond paned windows. Surrounded by some of the pleasantest scenery in Surrey: only 22 miles from Hyde Park Corner, yet as rural as if in Derbyshire, and in addition approached on all hands by excellent gravel roads, the house was destined by nature to be a bicycling resort. No railway whistle has yet broken the stillness of the Ockham surroundings, and none but those equal to a six miles walk or a six miles cab fare can reach the village from the Brighton line at Leatherhead, or the South-Western at Weybridge. Wonder at the size of the house and garden in so out

of the way a place will not be lessened as the rider, after a visit to the snug parlour to the right on entering, proceeds upstairs. Here, on a level with the first floor, is the "Baronial Hall," a spacious apartment capable of seating over 100 guests. This hall which is in reality a separate building - is supposed to have been built with a view to his lordship's rent dinners, but none have yet been held therein. At the end of the room is a gallery, from which, on more than one occasion, performers on various musical instruments have instilled motion into the votaries of Terpsichore on the floor beneath. There is also a legend of the advent, late one cold spring evening, from this gallery, of a damp sponge, which alighted amongst a party of nap players, to their great discomfort. But we digress. The bedrooms at the Hautboy are nine in number - some double-bedded, and all scrupulously clean. The feature of the house is a special bicyclists' tariff of bed and breakfast for "half a bull," about the cheapest thing we know. With all the natural advantages which we have quoted, however, the Hautboy only rose to notice by accident - a mere chance - or perhaps better expressed as two chances. In the first instance, a gentleman ran up a bill, hung up his belt, and then took himself off, never to return again! In the second case, another gentleman, hailing it is said from the north of the Tweed, enjoyed supper, bed and breakfast, and in sending, some days after, a post-office order for three shillings, added that, when he again passed that way, he would call for the change! The landlord, at that time the jovial Porter, "did a swear," but it was nevertheless the best "ad." that ever any hostelry received. He made a fuss in the bicycling papers; men called to see the belt, which still hung in the bar parlour, and the house was made from a bicycling point of view. Porter was, however, too generous for a landlord, and in the course of time the house passed into the hands of the present tenant, H. Ching, M.R.C.V.S. H. C. had been a prosperous veterinary surgeon in Clapham, especially learned in horseflesh, and indeed, so extensively was he known, that (behind his back of course) he was always spoken of by those artless creatures, cabmen, as "Blooming 'Arry," on account of his blooming, prosperous trade of course. Health failing, however, he was compelled to retire into "public" life, and it speaks volumes for the air of Ockham when we say that one short twelvemonths put him on his legs again. Tall, exceeding well favoured and good tempered, H. C. took kindly to the riders of the steeds whose diseases he was unable to diagnose, and accepted the irony of fate which converted a man devoted to flesh and blood horses into the landlord of a "bicycling hostelry."

In his business he is ably supported by Mrs. Ching, who shares her husband's good temper, and is ever ready to discuss the affairs of the day with the toil-worn traveller. Indeed, no ingenious youth, if he but possess monosyllables, need fear the running short of his conversational powers whilst staying at the Hautboy. Mrs. Ching also favours the idea that more work can be got out of youth than age, and that good looks are not necessarily a deterrent to good business qualifications, and she therefore usually selects her female "assistants" with a view to both qualities. There are three small Chings, who are generally at school, but at holiday times have a happy facility of turning up just as one is having one's collar-button sewed on by the young lady "assistant," who, like the L.C.J. (hLord Chief Justice - Ed) and many other distinguished persons, has been "called to the bar." The Hautboy practically has no neighbours, therefore none can be annoyed, and no better place can be found for a noisy musical party, who, if they only keep within anything like reasonable bounds, may enjoy the Baronial Hall, and will receive a hearty welcome from "Mr. and Mrs. Ching at home."

Contributed by L G Bowerman

**Editor's Note**      The Chings have long since departed and the present proprietors are Ian and Piera Shier, who continue in the tradition of providing a warm welcome and appropriate refreshment to all their visitors (see advertisement, back page).

### THE BONFIRE QUEEN

The older inhabitants of Ripley remember that as children they used to collect "fuzzies" (gorse) from the green to make their own bonfire. There were some fireworks, such as "bangers" and "crackers", brought by individuals, and let off all over the place. The most spectacular and, to Mrs Betty Baker, the most frightening thing were the tar barrels set alight and rolled about.

One year in the '20s, the bonfire was prematurely set alight, and Mr Ernest Cox, the carrier, organised a group of the village men and it was rapidly remade, so as not to disappoint the children. Following this, a committee was formed to organise the event. Mr Cox's daughter, Betty, lent us the picture of the building of the bonfire in 1927, with her father halfway up the stack, his carrier's cart on the right, half hidden by gorse, and that of Charlie Jarman, the market gardener of Polesden Lane, on the left.

Mr Cox died in February 1938, when Betty was only 12, so that year the Committee decided to crown her as Queen, in memory of the work her father had done for the bonfire and many other village activities. On Friday evening at the dance at the Talbot, Betty was crowned by Mr Goldsmith as the first Bonfire Queen. She wore a gown of pink shot silk and a golden crown and had four maids of honour in white muslin with red sashes.

On the Saturday, a procession of floats and people in fancy dress marched to the green, headed by a ragtime band, directed by Mr J Townsend. The newly made coach was lit up by lights on the engine of the Fire Brigade, which, with its Chief Officer Allwork, brought up the rear. The Bonfire Queen then, as she does today, lit the bonfire. Collections from the local Nursing Association and Ripley Football Club amounted to £11 on that night in 1938.



*Building Ripley Bonfire, 1927*

There were, of course, no bonfires during the following war years, but afterwards the Bonfire Association Committee was re-formed. Some of the collection now goes to the Over 60s Club, which was formed after the War, and the members of the Bonfire Committee act as waiters for their Christmas party.

It is nice to know that Ian Baker, the son of the first Bonfire Queen, is a member of the present Committee.

Jane Bartlett

## MUSEUM FACILITIES

By John Slatford

With the aim of providing assistance to family history researchers, we plan to have available, in the museum, a range of indices of names and places covering the various documentary researches that have been carried out over the years.

As well as the parish registers for Send and Ripley, we will be including the following:

Monumental inscriptions for both Send and Ripley churches and churchyards.

Census returns for Send and Ripley for the years 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891.

The Manorial Court Rolls for the Manors of Send and Ripley (1533-1924), Dedswell and Papercourt (1424-1728 - not continuous).

The Inclosure Award of 1815.

The Tithe Apportionment of 1843.

Much work needs to be done, but this is proceeding with the help of our volunteers, notably Janet Tice and Eric Ferris.

## THE MUSEUM BUILDING

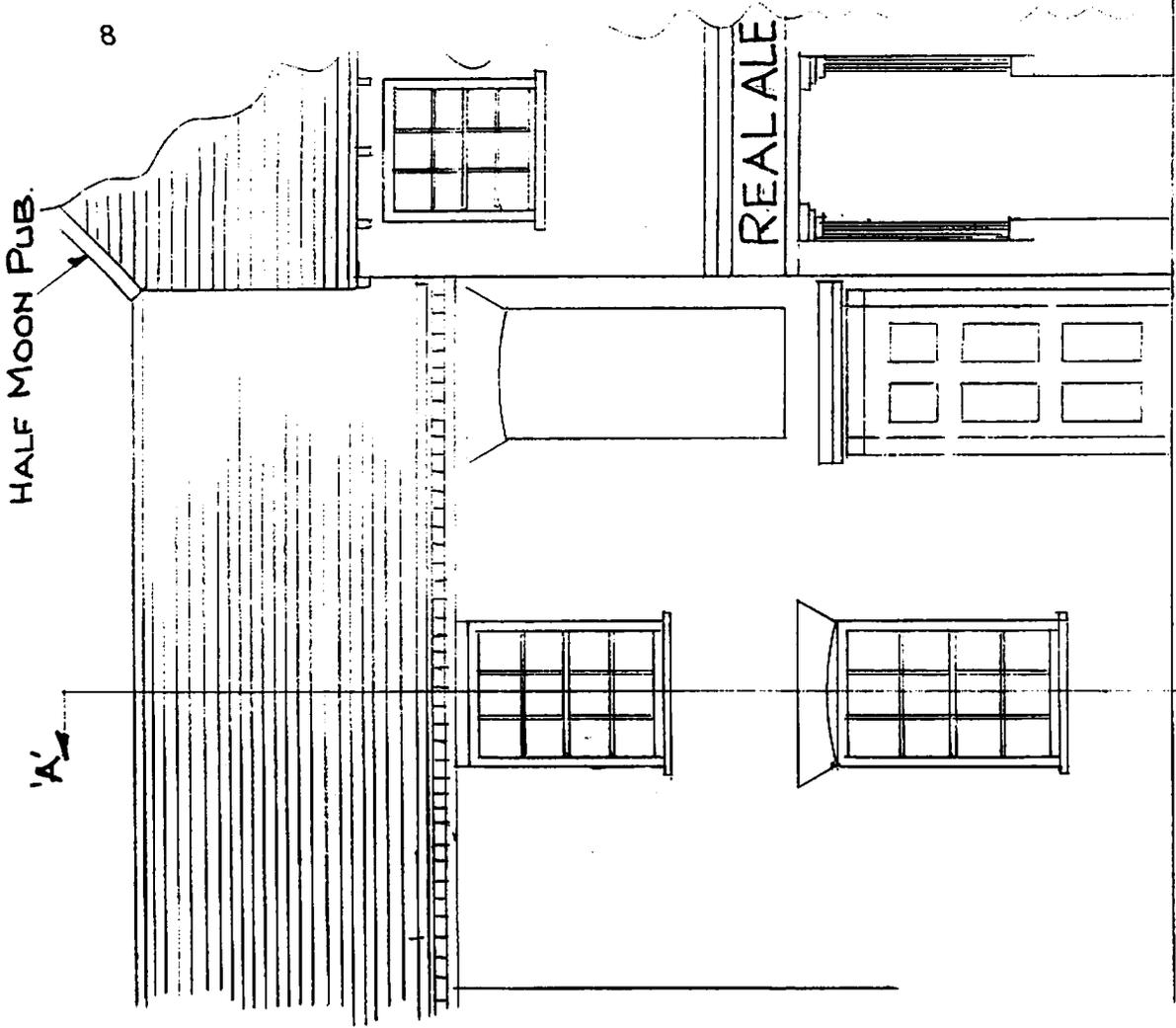
In the account which I wrote of the official opening of the museum at page 5 of Newsletter 112, I quoted what I said in my speech about the "willing cooperation of the Village Hall Committee and that "the museum and Village Hall complement each other".

It has been suggested that I should have made it clear what the relationship is between the hall and the museum. This has been done before, but I readily repeat it, since it should be clear in everybody's mind. The position is that the Society was offered the building if they would remove it from its original site. The Village Hall Committee kindly said that they would be pleased to accommodate it on their land, provided there was no expense to them. I advised that any permanent building belongs by operation of law to the owner of the land on which it stands. The Committee was happy to take ownership, but would give the Society indefinite right to occupy and use the building, free of charge, as a museum/Local History Centre. It is a matter of history that the Society raised the considerable sum required for the removal, and has spent much time and more money renovating the building and fitting it out for use.

The arrangement between the Village Hall Committee and the History Society is

HALF MOON PUB.

'A'

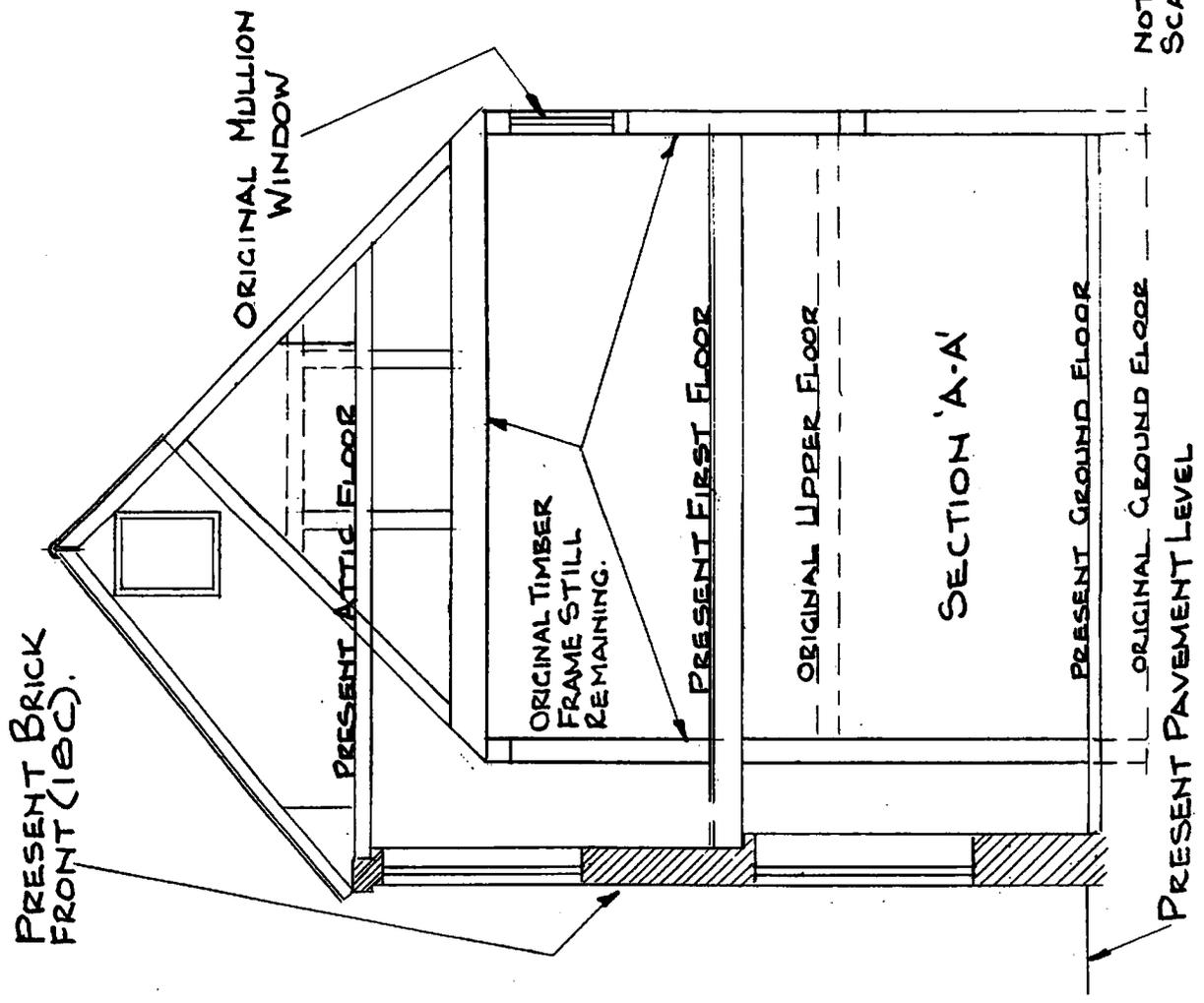


No. 1. HALF MOON COTTAGES  
HIGH STREET, RIPLEY

J.S. Nov. 93

'A'

NOT TO  
SCALE



PRESENT BRICK  
FRONT (18C).

ORIGINAL MULLION  
WINDOW

PRESENT ATTIC FLOOR

ORIGINAL TIMBER  
FRAME STILL  
REMAINING.

PRESENT FIRST FLOOR

ORIGINAL UPPER FLOOR

SECTION 'A-A'

PRESENT GROUND FLOOR

ORIGINAL GROUND FLOOR

PRESENT PAVEMENT LEVEL

working very satisfactorily, and there is no reason to suppose that it will not do so in the future. The main negotiations have taken place in a very amicable spirit between Graham Jowett, Chairman of the VH Committee and a member of the Society, and John Slatford, Chairman of the History Society, and himself a member of the VH Committee. As President of the Society, I confirm that we are exceedingly grateful to Graham and the Committee for being so helpful and for being a pleasure to work with. What we have all done is undoubtedly to great benefit of the local community.

Les Bowerman

### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Society is pleased to welcome the following members:

Mr & Mrs J Morris, 13 Birchwood Road, West Byfleet, Surrey (rejoined).

Kieth & Linda Berry, Oakdown, Burnham Close, Send Marsh (rejoined).

Irene Fielding, c/o The Antique Teapot, Ripley, Surrey.

Les Bowerman

### **No 1 HALF MOON COTTAGES, RIPLEY**

**By John Slatford**

In Newsletter 109, we wrote about the discovery of a 17th century mullioned window in this house. Since then, more of the original timber framing has been uncovered to provide a more detailed picture of the development since the original build in the early 1600s.

It had previously been assumed that these cottages were late 18th century or early 19th century builds, although not all at the same time.

We now know that No 1 was in fact largely rebuilt in the 18th century, with a new roof and brick front and leaving much of the original timber frame intact, but concealed inside.

The drawing shows how this was accomplished. What is interesting is that the original floor level was some two feet (600 mm) below the present floor. This is not unusual and there are a number of similar examples in Ripley ... Perhaps, the best of these is the house, Little Barn, just opposite where there are several steps down from the front door to the ground floor.

The general increase of road levels over the centuries is quite normal, particularly with busy thoroughfares such as Ripley High Street. I remember seeing an excavation near St Paul's in London many years ago - an area called "The Shambles" - where the mediaeval level was some 13 feet (4 metres) below the present street level!

Our thanks are due to Athena Hubble for showing us the discoveries she has made in her house and also for permission to publicise them.

### **RIPLEY PROPERTY**

**By John Slatford**

Members may have seen the recent Ripley feature in the property section of the Surrey Advertiser. The article was based upon the Society's "Walk About Ripley" publication.

What is interesting about the feature is the number of historic Ripley houses at

present for sale. To see Dunsborough Park, Homewood Farm, Footbridge House, Ripley House and Ryde House advertised at a total asking price of over £3,500,000, all at the same time, is, surely, most unlikely to happen again!

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### FIRST IMPRESSIONS

By Bill Titcombe, August 1993

My first visit to Ripley was over 60 years ago. This is how it came about.

A friend and I used to do car repairs in our spare time at Lightwater. The local grocer, Brewster, had a delivery service to outlying houses with a Jowett van. He had a breakdown, a half shaft sheared. The local garages could not supply a new one, only by ordering one from the manufacturers at Idel, Bradford, but said there was an agent at Ripley. Brewster wanted a quick repair because he had to deliver with a tradesman's bicycle, which was difficult.

One of the garages at Bagshot said a garage at Ripley could supply a new shaft, so we decided to go to Ripley, consulted the map and went via Guildford. We found the garage, run by Max Howard, father of the late Toby and Jack. Grace worked there. The garage is now Town & Country Cars, run by Mike Herwig. There is a fuel tank in the ground in the front, now filled with sand.

We bought a spare half shaft from the garage and had a look round the village - what an interesting place! - many shops, three fruiterers, three bakers and four pubs. Little did I know that I would be living there one day.

**Editor's Note** Bill Titcombe lived in Clova Cottage, in Rose Lane, for many years and ran a successful architectural design practice there. He was responsible for the design and build of Ripley Village Hall, Clandon British Legion and many other projects round the area. He now lives at Woodhill Farm Cottage.

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### 18th CENTURY RECIPES

We all copy recipes from friends - sometimes headed with the name of the donor. Eliza Pinckney kept a household recipe-record in 1756 while she was living in Ripley House. Don't forget that even Mrs. Beeton's Cookery Book had not yet been printed and few houses would own any form of cookery book, so that a wise housekeeper would keep records of recipes, with comments when she had tried them.

"To make Marmalade" came from Mrs Chatfield of Ripley Court.

"Pare, quarter and core your quinces, then scald them tender and weigh them To 3 pound of the Quinces take 2 pound of sugar, pound it, and wet it with the water the Quinces were scalded inn, then set the Quinces and sugar over a gentle fire and let them stew until they are of good colour. If you would have it as marmalade you must bruise the Quinces as fine as you can, and if for quarters you must let them Stand over the fire till they are red quite through. You must keep your preserving pann covered close while the marmalade is making."

Mrs Chatfield also gave a recipe "to make jelly" which was done with boiling Hartshorn Shavings or Calvesfoot, then flavouring with Rhenish wine, sugar and lemon peel. Eliza added her comment: "Though this is an Expensive, tis so Excellent a one I prefer making use of it to any I ever mett with, as the Jelly is much Superior to any I ever saw or tasted."

Mrs King of Ockham Park gave her recipes for pickling hams, tongues or Dutch Beef. "Lay your Hams a week or ten days in Common Salt then take two pounds of brown sugar

3 pound bag salt 4 oz Saltpeter put these into 4 Gals of pure or spring water and boil it. Scim it well and let it Stand till tis cold then put your hams and let them lie 3 weeks, then smoak them being put up in brown paper. This quantity is for two hams but you may put as many tongues as the pickle will cover." Mrs King goes on to say that some people smoke the hams with horse litter, which gives them the Westphalian taste, "but as to the Smoaking part I had no conveniences for it so used to send them out with the rest of the bacon, and they were Smoaked inthe common way."

Lady King also gave recipes for the cure of 'Rhumatism' using Gum Guaiacum in Rum.

I am wondering whether to try Eliza Pinckney's own cake recipe - a large cake with five pounds of 'flower' and 16 eggs, flavoured with currants, mace, cinnamon, nutmeg, 'Carraway Comfit's', candied lemon and musk and ambergris. It sounds suitable for Christmas, but will someone tell me where to find must and ambergris? Eliza tells us "An hour will Bake it."

Jane Bartlett

### "FARRS", HIGH STREET, RIPLEY

Mr and Mrs Ken French kindly showed several members of the Society round "Farrs", where they have lived since 1970. Ken described how it was when he bought it and what alterations he had made since those days, and who better than a craftsman builder, and one of the earlier members of the History Society, to explain it to us?



"Farrs", Ripley

The earliest mention of the house in the deeds is when it was conveyed to a W G Webb in 1837 and occupied by Henry Boulton. It is interesting to note that his daughter, Sarah Boulton, or Botton, who bought it for £235 in 1865, leased it to William Cutt, a Ripley baker. So we have mention already of one more baker's shop in Ripley, and again one which was a baker's shop for nearly 100 years - continuity alongside change.

When, in 1886, William Cutt bought this property he had been leasing, it is described as a "piece of land with cottage and other buildings". ("Other buildings" presumably refers

to the stables) - but when it was sold after his death, it is described as "messuage and baker's shop formerly a cottage".

Although William Cutt had bought the premises, it was heavily mortgaged to both John Pledger, the Ripley blacksmith, and to Thomas Lucas, the grocer of Ripley and Send. In those days, those who had surplus capital invested in mortgages in local property in the way that nowadays we invest in a building society. Mr Lucas later took over the whole mortgage, now £500, and, after Cutt's death, acquired the property, the property having doubled in value, presumably partly because of the baker's shop. In 1892 he leased it to Mr Charles Farr, baker and Mealman - so hence the name "Farrs".

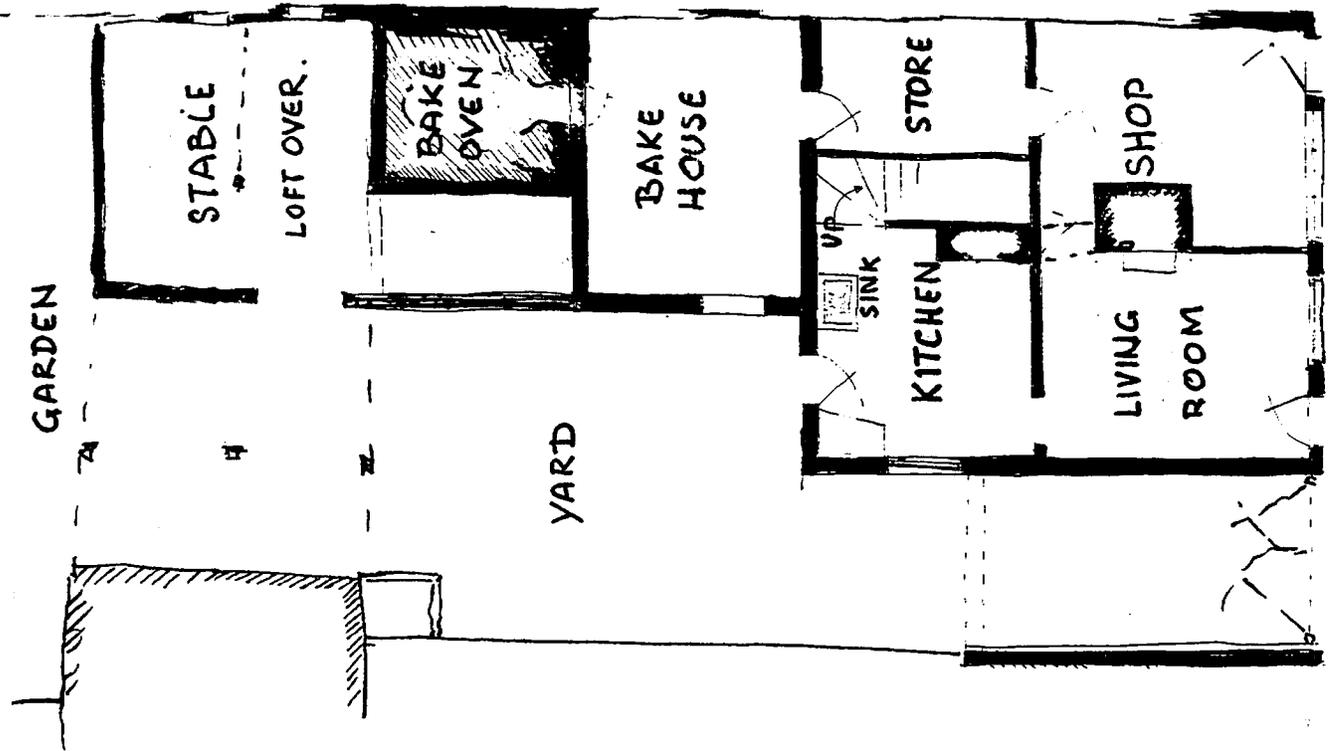
In 1913, Charlie Farr bought the property from Thomas Lucas "of Send, Gentleman" and it continued to be a baker's shop until his death in 1928. His two daughters felt they could not manage the bakery, but kept on the shop, now known as the "Gift Shop", where they sold cakes and sweets, until the death of Winifred. Ella Farr then sold it to Ken French in 1970.

Bill Brooker, now aged 87, went to work for Charlie Farr aged 16. He told me that the dough was made and proved overnight. The oven was heated by wooden faggots, the ashes of which they then scraped out by means of a long stick with a wet cloth tied to the end. If he was careless there was sometimes a scorched twig stuck to the bottom of a loaf. To see into the large dark oven, they greased and set alight an iron bowl. He, Mr Farr, and a man whose polished gaiters he admired did both the baking and the bread rounds on tricycles, pushing a wooden container, while the two daughters ran the shop and baked the cakes.

Ella and Winifred are remembered by many. Their love of children seemed more important to them than profit - and many a time they told a child with 1d (1/2p) to take their time, and in fact they actually gave away sweets and cakes to young customers.

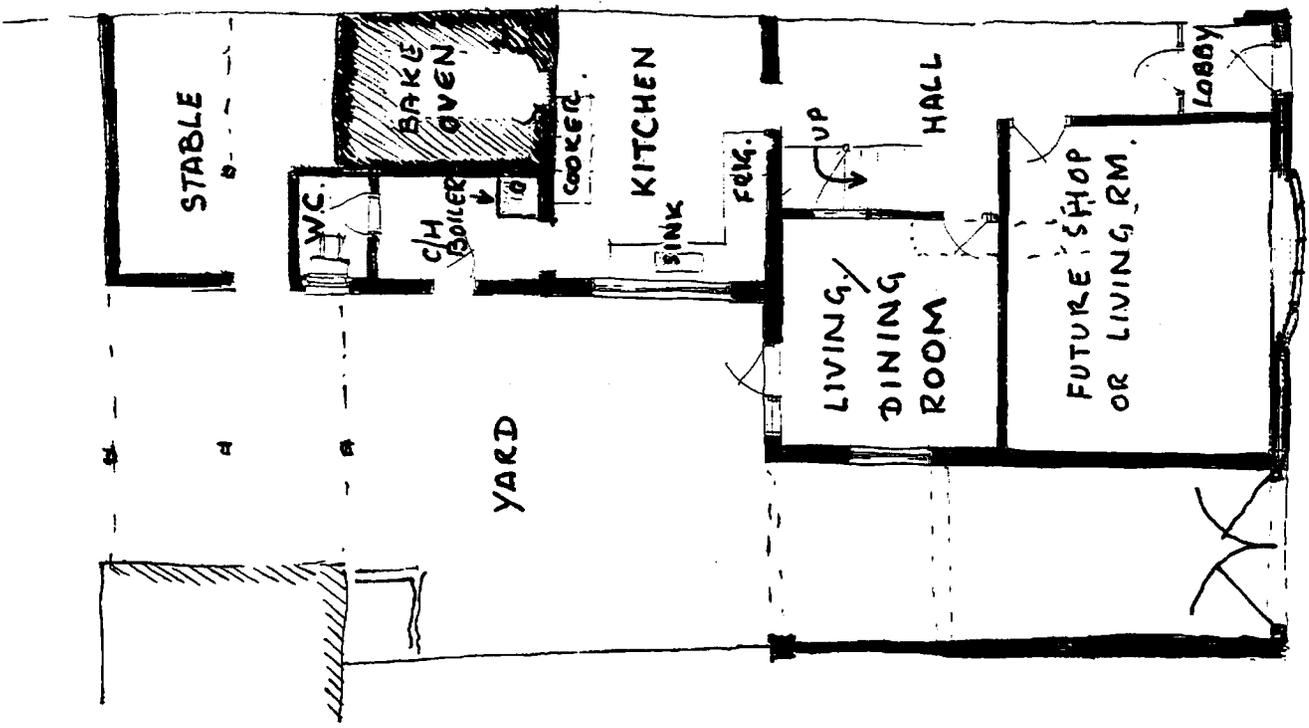


*Looking Towards Cart Shed and Stable*



'Farrs' HIGH STREET

Pre 1970



'Farrs' HIGH STREET

Post 1970

In 1970 the property was still as it had been in Charlie Farr's time - the narrow shop with its shop window at the Guildford end leading back into the windowless shop store, and that led to the bakehouse and oven. The overall size of the oven, lined with fire bricks, was 12' x 9' x 7' high and was probably built about the 1890s. It is still there, although the front is now plastered over. It had three doors, for the proving oven, the baking oven and the ashbox. It all projects from the bakehouse (the present kitchen) well into the stables, which is of an earlier build than the present house-cum-shop. There must have been stalls for six horses before the oven projected, which makes one wonder if this was the residue of the earlier "Cottage and other buildings therein erected" described in a deed of the 1830s. They were no longer using horses in the 1920s when Bill Brooker worked there, but the oat tub was still there and much of the harness. Outside the bakehouse the yard was piled several feet high with coal and coke ash over all the cobbles when the Frenches took over.

The front room on the London side had a door into the shop, as well as one leading back into the existing kitchen. Both the flues from the living room fire and the range in



*Stable showing Bake Oven Built into One Stall*

the kitchen led into a stack with eight flues. The stack formed an arch over the door from the living room to the shop. This suggests an extension or modification from the earliest build. This was probably confirmed when Ken was working in the front London end. He found traces of an earlier timber-framed house with foundations inset from the building line, with padstone footings at a width of 12 feet. The rest of the house is built in Ockham brick and seems to be basically of early 19th century construction.

The original kitchen was very dark, with no window, only a glass panel in the door to the yard. There was no access to the shop on the Guildford side, and the staircase led from this room almost to the bedroom door. It is not known where the original staircase was. This one was built by Allworks of Ripley about 1912. They put in the garage doors, and built the extension, later a bathroom over the carriageway to the stable yard. There was still a well in the corner of the kitchen near the foot of the old stairs, with a pump. It was seven feet deep and still contained six inches of clear water, and had obviously always been an internal well. The lead pipe which led from the well to the pump has now been diverted outside to the yard and the well safely covered over. There was a flour loft with a chute to the bakehouse. Lighting was still by gas lamps throughout.

Ken French had a great deal of work to do to repair dilapidation and to make the ex-shop into a satisfactory home. The first surprise must have been to find that someone had removed the brass fittings from the gas lamps, so that they leaked when switched on. As there were no foundations, the floorboards were rotting. The joists, end on, were 23 feet in length and went underneath all the partition walls. Temporarily the family lived upstairs while not only were the foundations and new wood put in, but opportunity was taken to move the partitions, taking in some of the shop and store into the living room and kitchen. The old range was removed at the same time. The staircase was turned round, so that it led from the passage instead of the living room. The top step was set back from the bedroom. Meantime the family went upstairs by ladder!

The roof, unlike the ground floor, did not have long ceiling joists. There was a central valley between two short spanned pitches. There was a ring plate all the way round, into which the rafters, made of 4" x 2" pine, were spiked, but there were no purlins, a typical construction of the 19th century. Unfortunately the nail fastening of the roof timbers to the plate at the front had failed and the front wall was being pushed outwards. The bomb across the road doubtless did not help, so Ken had to take the front wall out and jack back the wall plate and bolt the whole lot up securely before rebuilding the front wall. At this stage the family went to bed behind tarpaulins!

Charles Brooking of Guildford, the collector of architectural by-gones, begged the sash lights of the Victorian shop front, consisting of 3" square stained glass panes, and the Georgian sash windows of the sitting room, with their narrow bars of unusual moulding, are now in an architectural display in a London Technical College.

When the Green Lantern, the neighbouring teashop, closed in 1981, Ken bought the piece of land which dog-legged behind his garden, making a very pleasant long garden tucked secretly behind the house.

We are grateful to Mr and Mrs French for showing us around "Farrs". The museum, on its opening day, showed the grinder that prepared fodder for the delivery horses and the scales for weighing flour which they so kindly gave to the Society, as well as the delivery baskets and the long aprons marked "Farrs". We have great admiration for the work Ken has done in his spare time, and also for the family who happily lived there while the renovations were going on. We wish them good luck in their new home on the coast.

Jane Bartlett

## THE REV HENRY HOOPER

### Donation of photograph to the Society

Henry Hooper was curate of the joint parish of Send with Ripley from 1869-79. When Ripley became a separate ecclesiastical parish, he was instituted in the latter year as its first vicar, a position he held until he resigned in 1895.



Apart from the usual duties which go with the post, such as being "school correspondent", as noted by Jane Bartlett in Newsletter 85/2, he took a great interest in the cyclists who visited Ripley, and particularly the Anchor, in great numbers during his period of office. The fact that he became known as "The Cyclists' Vicar", and the reasons why, have been mentioned in these pages several times. He did not really approve of cycling on a Sunday, but took the pragmatic view that if they were going to anyway they may as well have the opportunity of a service while they were in Ripley, so he ran "cyclists' services" in the church on Sunday afternoons. Newsletter 71, on page 5, quotes a contemporary source ("Bicycling News" of 4 December 1886) about this. In Newsletter 82, page 8, a correspondent in "Bicycling News" of 13 October 1888 was quoted as saying "First dinner had just concluded at the Anchor when the bell for church began." This doubtless refers to the

church bell indicating that a cyclists' service was about to begin, but it may have been the source of the rumour that a bell was rung inside the Anchor at 2 pm for the same purpose.

In Newsletter 90, page 11, a contemporary account of the cyclists' presentation to Hooper of a Hammond typewriter in 1889 was quoted in full. On that occasion we published a sketch of Hooper by the cycling artist, George Moore (as well as one of the typewriter).

Recently a friend of mine, Derek Roberts, founder of the Southern Veteran-Cycle Club in 1955 (since 1987 the Veteran-Cycle Club), donated to the Society what looks like the original photographic print from which the sketch was drawn, and we are extremely grateful to him for that. It is a particularly a fine "cabinet portrait", with a clear stamp on the back reading "J. Holloway, photographer and pianoforte tuner, Ripley, Surrey". Bette Slatford has tried to trace Holloway in Kelly's Directories, but so far without success. Among the collection of vicars' photographs in Ripley Church vestry there is a slightly older image of Henry Hooper, possibly taken nearer the time of his resignation.

Les Bowerman

*Mr Rev<sup>d</sup> Sturges*

*Vicar of Ripley*

*who organised services for  
cyclists in Ripley church,  
to whom cyclists gave a  
presentation*



*Presented to SRHS with the Compliments of*

Derek Roberts

22/10/93

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

##### **Friday, 10 December, 8 pm - Ripley Village Hall - Christmas Social**

This year the Christmas Social will follow the traditional pattern, consisting of food and wine, coffee, tea, etc, followed by a talk to be given by Eric Hunter on "Victorian Guildford". Tickets for the social are £3.50 each and are available from Audrey Sykes. Donations for raffle prizes will be welcome.

##### **Thursday, 27 January 1994, 8 pm, Ripley Village Hall**

A talk by Rob Poulton on the Guildford Castle excavations. Rob Poulton is Unit Manager of Surrey Archaeological Unit, and is also Director of Excavations at Guildford Castle.

##### **Thursday, 24 February 1994, 8 pm, Send Red Cross Hall**

This is the date and venue set for the Society's AGM, which will be followed by an illustrated talk, given by Don Franklin, with the intriguing title, "Where Is It?" - local views within 20 miles of Guildford.

#### **Newsletter Contributions**

The closing date for material for the next Newsletter is Friday, 14 January 1994. All contributions to be included, please, to be handed to the Editor by this date.

## MUSEUM OPENING TIMES



The museum is open every Saturday morning from 10 am until 1 pm.

Please contact George or Irene Bleach on Guildford 222233 if you would like to help in the museum.

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*The Hautboy*

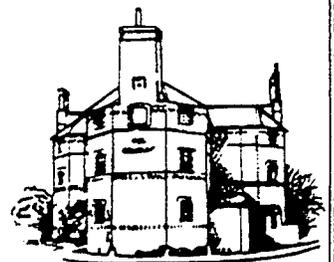
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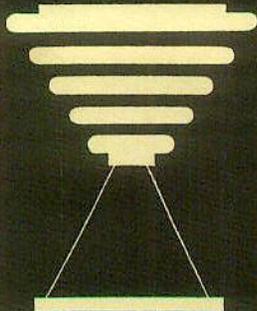
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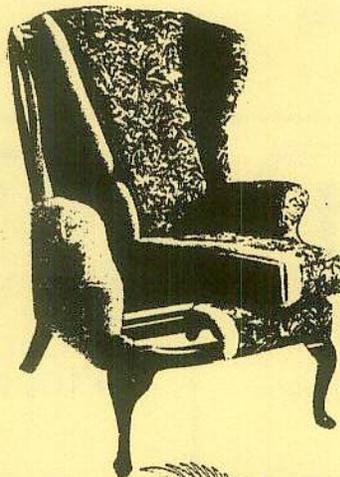
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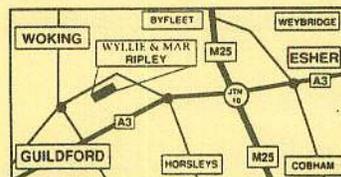
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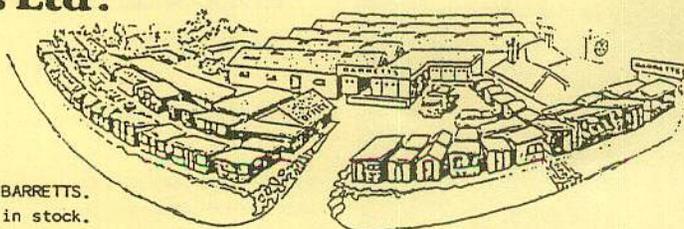
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