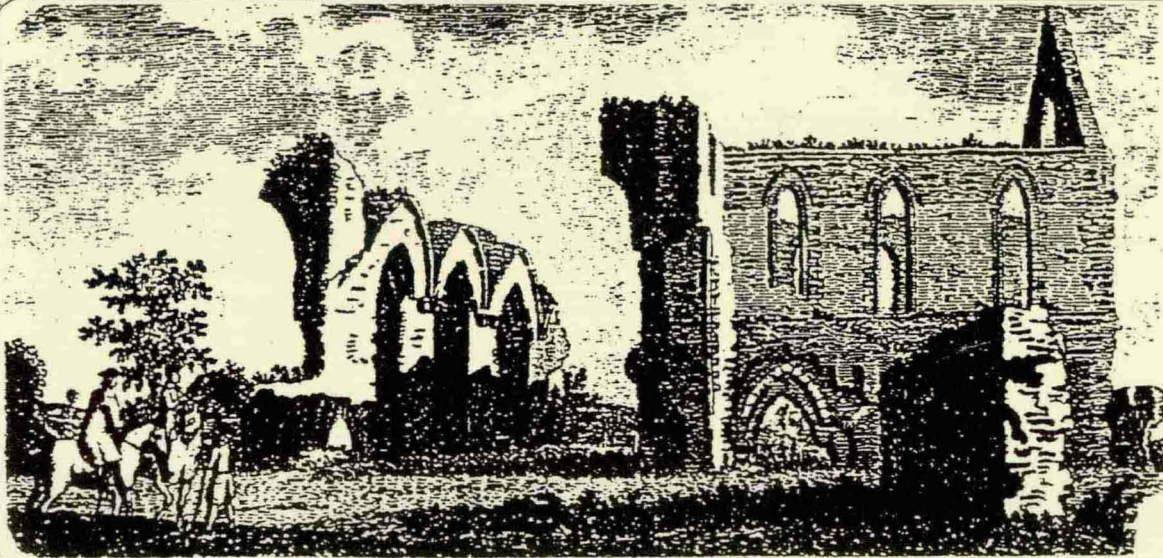


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NEWARK PRIORY

Journal Volume 6 No. 189

July/August 2006



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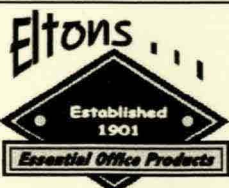
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Send & Ripley History Society

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Note. Unless stated otherwise all photographs and illustrations are reproduced from SRHS archives or are provided by the authors.

Cover photo: - Connaught Engineering – grand prix winner, see page 2. Photo by Ken Bourne.

Editor's Comment

My apologies to our readers for a slightly later issue of the Journal! It is later due to a breakdown of my computer, which has set me back about 2 weeks, see below. Also this time of the year always seems to influence the amount of news available. Everyone is either, on holiday or just going and with the exceptional hot spell we are experiencing; the flow of articles from our hardworking authors has almost dried up! Pun not intended! However, the next issue should be out at the beginning of the bi-monthly period as normal.

A New computer

Ken Bourne

The hot weather may have had something to do with my computer failing (the hard disc memory crashed) and I lost everything! Well not quite everything I had 'backed up' my important files, including the last Journal. I did however lose two weeks of computer time and it will take sometime to re-load my data and re-build my address and other unsaved files. I was informed that hard disc memory generally has a life of about 3 years; mine was nearly 5 years, so I suppose I was lucky. On the positive side I did get the chance to upgrade my computer, which is an amazing improvement upon what I had previously considered to be the latest and most up to date equipment available and likely to be all that I would need? It will be no surprise to many of our readers (certainly not my sons or grandchildren) that 5 years in the past in computer technology is like being in the 'Stone Age'! Therefore, for the technically minded I now have a computer that includes an AMD 64BIT **3200** Processor, 1GB DDR (RAM) (faster processing). Main memory - 400MHZ, **160GB** SATA Hard Drive and a **128MB** X300 Graphics card. I also upgraded my Adobe Photoshop Elements software.

Please note that I have changed my e-mail address to kenbourne.novoloco@tiscali.co.uk.. Of course there is always the telephone or normal post if you prefer to contact me that way.

Connaught Engineering – grand prix winner

By Alan Baker

From 1946 to 1957 Send had its own racing-car maker – Connaught Engineering, on the old A3 just short of the present Shell filling station at Burnt Common. Set up by arch-enthusiast Rodney Clarke, originally at Chobham as Continental Cars, this small firm started manufacturing sports-racing cars and then, with the backing of Kenneth Mc Alpine (of the big civil engineering contractors Sir Robert McAlpine) who wanted to indulge a personal passion for motor racing, graduated to Formula 2 and then Formula 1.

With another arch-petrolhead, Mike Oliver, as Works Manager, Connaught soon became a real competitor in Formula 1. Apart from Mc Alpine, many such well-known racers such as Stirling Moss, Mike Hawthorn and Tony Rolt competed in its cars during the Send period, the highlight of which was a brilliant but unexpected victory over the might of Italy in the 1955 Syracuse Grand Prix, with the upcoming Tony Brooks (then still a dental student) at the wheel. There were plenty of other wins – albeit less noteworthy – during the next two years but an expensive change in the F1 engine requirements conspired with the ever-spiralling cost of running a racing team to force Rodney Clarke on to his financial knees, so September 1957 saw the closing-down of the operation and the sale of its racing cars and equipment. It was a sad day indeed!

We thank Alan for the opportunity to photograph his superb watercolour of the event and regret it was not possible to print it in colour. For more information on Connaught Engineering and other local firms visit our museum, See also Alan Baker's article on Connaught Engineering's history in the SRHS Newsletter No 144, dated January/February 1999.Editor.

New – Museum exhibition – Local garages – Cars – Transport

This exhibition is up and running but there is still room to include additional pictures; stories and memories relating to any of the above, especially 'local garages' which have greatly diminished in number over the last two decades. As a tribute to local small businesses many of whom have vanished we include an article about just one such company, which had become a byword for efficiency and good service but never the less ceased trading in the latter half of 1995, itself a victim to change and big business methods. Editor.

Methold Engineering Limited Ken Bourne

If at Easter, 1927, you had been driving your car (perhaps a new gleaming Morris Oxford) along the Portsmouth Road through Ripley, Surrey weaving your way past horses and carts, pedal cyclists and pedestrians, you would have had a lot to think about not least the other road users; less disciplined than today? You were probably still recovering from the effects of the General Strike in 1926. There was talk about a chap called Lindbergh trying to fly the Atlantic in May – by himself. Stanley Baldwin was Prime Minister and Winston Churchill was Chancellor of the Exchequer. You undoubtedly would have been thinking about where to obtain petrol for your car.



The Mid Surrey Service Station c1930

Enquiries would have directed you to a new garage, which had sprung up over the last few weeks almost opposite a small inn called The Jovial Sailor. There stood behind a majestic oak tree, a neat single-storey motor repair shop with 9 pumps offering a range of petrol brands from individual companies. The ninth pump was a shilling-in-the-slot pump, which was for the convenience of night travellers when the other pumps were closed.

The owner was Mrs Sybil Methold; a lady in her middle forties who had the foresight to see that the ever-increasing number of petrol and diesel powered vehicles on the road was creating a demand for petrol and servicing facilities and at this spot on the busy road from Guildford a garage was needed. However, such a building should, in Mrs Methold's eyes, also blend in with the countryside.

In this respect she was ahead of her time by insisting that the building woodwork and the pumps were to be painted green and so they were, much to the dismay of the fuel retailers who then, as now, used bright colour schemes to advertise their brands. However, Mrs Methold's garage design, complemented by thousands of flower bulbs planted in front of the forecourt was awarded 3rd prize in a Ministry of Transport competition. The 1st and 2nd prizewinner's designs were never built!



Sybil and Montague Methold

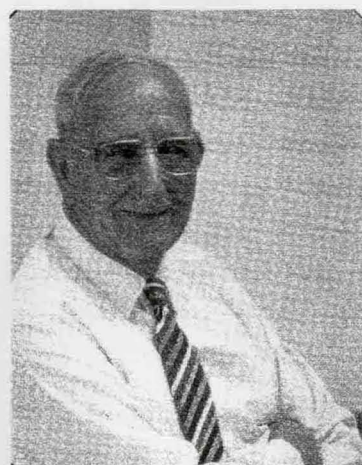
The Mid-Surrey Service Station

1927. With it's very determined and dedicated owner The Mid- Surrey Service Station opened for business; her husband Montague Methold resigned from his business in Guildford and joined her shortly afterwards. Montague became one of the first Fellows of the Institute of the Motor Trade and Sybil almost the first female member. The company grew steadily gaining a reputation for enterprise, service and reliability.

1930. At a time when cars required a lot of greasing and had many greasing points, which became blocked from road dirt. They were one of the first to install the America manufactured Tecalemit high-pressure greasing equipment, which ensured grease got to those parts that needed it.

1931. World trade depression followed but the Metholds pressed on slowly and prospered. Sybil and Montague's son Ken Methold joined the company and father and son worked in the repair shop while mother looked after the office.

1939. The Second World War changed everything. Petrol was rationed and repair work dwindled. The premises were converted to accommodate lathes and milling machines for the manufacture of aircraft parts. Montague who had carried out War Office work in 1914-18 in his own engineering firm near Reading was assigned to the manufacture of high-precision bombsight parts. The company had become a firm of mechanical engineers in the fullest sense.



Ken Methold

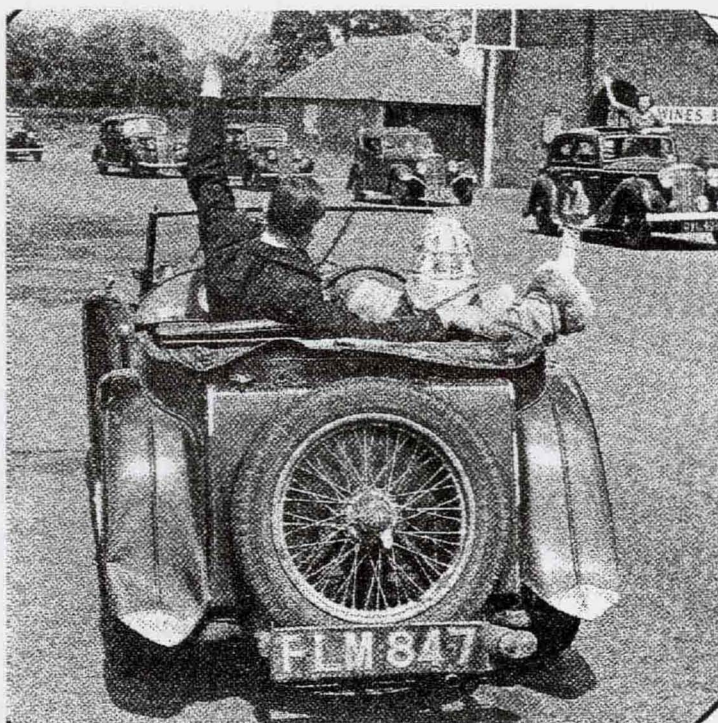
Methold Engineering Limited

1940. The firm's name was changed to Methold Engineering Limited reflecting the increased technical scope of the firm's activities. The name change attracted attention and the secret war work it seems also attracted attention from the wrong people. Espionage infiltrated the works. A small incident however, put the spotlight on the activities of one woman, a single German spy, among the workforce of eighteen or so men and women.

1945. The year brought peace. It also brought an end to War Office work. Initially the machinery was put to the manufacture of steel furniture. But cars were gradually being brought out of storage and required re-commissioning and often, complete overhaul. Spare parts were almost unobtainable so the Methold's expertise and machinery were used to manufacture them.

1946. Vehicles took up a lot of space and more was soon required and so plans were made to expand the workshop but with limited capital change had to be gradual.

1954. Five full time mechanics were employed. Panel beating and spray-painting were included and total rebuilding of wrecked cars was undertaken. Cleanliness was of paramount importance to Methold's working methods so workshop floors were painted so that cleaning was easier; each mechanic was responsible for the condition of their own work-bay.



The freedom of motoring begins to return in 1945

1960. Changes came along faster now. Complete re-design of the forecourts were in vogue to meet petrol wholesalers and customers needs. Sybil Methold's lichen green colour scheme was retained on the new Avery- Hardoll pre-set petrol pumps. A full time forecourt attendant was employed. The Ministry of Transport introduced annual testing of vehicles over 3 years old and Methold's became one of the first in the region to be appointed as a Testing Station.

1962. The old oak tree died! And so did Montague Methold at the age of 79 years. Sybil his wife and co-founder of the firm died 4 years later at the age of 83 years.

1966. David Methold, son of Ken Methold and grandson of Montague and Sybil Methold joined the firm. David had been apprenticed to Dennis Bros Ltd the Guildford based fire engine manufacturer. He had twice been awarded 'Best Apprentice of the Year Award'. David became a director in 1971.



David Methold

1970. David's younger brother Christopher left school and began his apprenticeship with Methold's. Like his brother he twice won 'Best Student of the Year Award' and became an associate Member of the Institute of the Motor Industry. In 1976 he became a director of Methold's responsible for car sales and administration. By 1989 they were both elected Fellows of the I.M.I.

Christopher Methold



1980s. Ken Methold retired handing over the firm to the capable hands of his sons David as Managing Director and Christopher as Sales Director. The early 1980s was a turbulent period for the firm. The Ripley bypass reduced passing trade dramatically and the major oil companies' policy of 'own stations' reduced margins on petrol sales for independent retailers like Metholds. An even greater emphasis on sales, servicing and repairs was needed to stay in business and be profitable.

1989. A number of alternative petrol wholesalers were tried with varying levels of success and eventually an agreement was reached with Texaco Ltd who put in a new self-service forecourt. The 'Methold Green' had been forsaken to comply with earlier oil companies' brand colours and so it was with Texaco. With additional sales being generated from *Practical Used Car Rental*, a vehicle hire franchise and the franchise for SEAT cars made in Spain, the future was beginning to look brighter.

Methold Engineering Limited 1989



1995. The Company appeared set for the future and only those close to the management will know what went wrong. Others can only conjecture but many small businesses fail for lack of working capital, seldom for lack of ability or enterprise! The firm founded by Sybil and Montague Methold in 1927 ceased trading in the latter half of 1995! So ended almost 70 years trading by a unique family business. A sad end to an enterprising firm and a real loss to the community!

The editor wishes to acknowledge the source of the above information, which was derived from an excellent Methold 'Company History', printed in 1989 and presented to the Society's archives.

Prews Purrock, Tannery Lane, Send*

By John Slatford

Our member Gitta Hampton, who until recently had lived for many years at No 4 Prews Cottages in Tannery Lane, has given to the Society a collection of title deeds and related documents appertaining to her former home. Our intention is to deposit the collection with the Surrey History Centre on permanent loan where they can be stored under the correct environmental conditions. A study of the collection has provided the basis for an interesting history of the site spanning almost 500 years. The location of the site is between Tannery Lane and the stream, which eventually joins the River Wey near Newark and roughly half way between Prews Farm and Papercourt Farm (Grid Ref. TQ03355643).

The collection begins in the year 1746 and provides a continuous history through to 1950. For the most part, the documents refer to a messuage and croft of land called Prews Purrock. The first mention of the group called Nos 1, 2, 3 & 4 Prews Cottages is in 1919 from two insurance policies but Gitta has told us that the 1902 date plaque that she fixed on the wall of her former home actually covered an inscribed date of 1902. The early documents in the collection tell us that the property was originally copyhold to the Manor of Papeworth or Papercourt and this has prompted a further study of the transcripts of the manorial records. The Manor of Papeworth was a subsidiary to the Manor of Send and Ripley. Its records, which date from the year 1424 through to 1878, are intermittent with many gaps of several years. There are, however, many references to Prews, which substantially pre-date the document collection. One thing, apart from the name, that makes it possible to follow the history through is the annual rent payable to the Lord of the Manor for copyhold property. For what became known as Prews Purrock (and sometimes Puttock) the rent was at all times just four pence. According to the Oxford English Dictionary the name Purrock appears to be a dialect name for an enclosure of land. Quite why such a small parcel of land (barely one acre) should have figured continually through the history of this manor is not clear but it is a very good example of what can sometimes be invaluable in tracing property history.

The first mention occurs in the year 1518 when it was recorded that "Robert Albroke acknowledges that he holds from the Lord by Copy a close lying near le Pruyst barne for rent four pence per annum". The spelling of the name here might have arisen from difficulty with the modern transcription but more likely was an error by the original manorial clerk who would have written what he thought he had heard at the court. By the time of the next mention in 1559, the name Prews Purrock next to a barn called Prews Barne rent four pence had become established. The first mention of a cottage is in 1612 when the record refers to "a customary cottage and a close of land called Prews Purrock next a barn called Prews Barne".

In 1855 the owner was John Henley, a farmer of Send, and he was the subject of a Deed of Enfranchisement, that is, he was granted the freehold of Prews together with other copyhold property on payment of £400 to the Earl of Onslow. In 1857 an Inland Revenue document states that the messuage had been converted into two tenements, but in 1896, it was recorded that "the messuages formerly standing and intended to be conveyed were some time since destroyed by fire". Thus the buyer, John Butler Ashford, a tanner of Send, was able to buy the land as an empty site at a much reduced price. He was responsible for building the two pairs of cottages Nos. 1 & 2 and Nos. 3 & 4 Prews Cottages. These remain today albeit much altered with Nos. 1 & 2 renamed, as Beggar's Roost and Daphne Cottage respectively.

Attached is a chronology giving basic details of the documentary history together with maps of the area. We are grateful to Gitta Hampton for donating her collection to the Society and for her advice in producing this article.

**Send covered both parishes prior to the separation of Send and Ripley ecclesiastically in 1878, subsequently becoming separate civil parishes in 1933. The new parish boundary put these cottages in Ripley in 1933 as shown dotted on the OS map on the next page. Editor. 7*



Numbers 1 and 2 (Beggars Roost & Daphne Cottage) Tannery Lane, photo J Slatford.



Numbers 3 and 4 Tannery Lane, photo J Slatford.

The Chronology of Prews Purrock, Tannery Lane, Send*. 1518-1950
Extracted from the Court Rolls of the Manor of Papeworth or Papercourt and
from Title documents presented to Send and Ripley History Society.
John M Slatford. June 2006.

1518 Robert Albroke holds by copy a close lying near le Puryst barne for rent four pence per annum.

1559 Thomas Bayly who held a close of land called Prews Purrock next a bam called Prews Bam rent four pence has died.

Mathew Bayly is his son and next heir and is of full age. He is present at court and is admitted as tenant.

1561 Surrender by Mathew Bayly to the use of Maria Kelsey aged eight years. She is present at court and is admitted. Custody of Maria and her lands is committed to John Dawe until she reaches the age of 14 years.

1577 Surrender by Arthur Purdam and his wife Mary of a close of land called Prews Purrock next a barn called Prews barne to the use of Joan Warringe. The said Joan is below the age of 21 years.

1612 Joan Warringe widow lately wife of John Warringe deceased holds for her lifetime a cottage (*this is the first mention of a cottage*) and a close of land called Prews Purrock next a barn called Prews Barne rent four pence per annum.

1612 Joan Warringe has died since the last court and the reversion belongs by right to Francis Ferrant. He is present at court.

1614 Francis Ferrant surrendered a cottage and a close of land called Prews Purrock near a barn called Prews Barne to the use of Thomas Bates He is present at court and is admitted. At the same court Thomas Bates surrendered the same to the use of Juliana Stinte now the wife of Robert Stinte. She is present at court and is admitted as tenant.

1616 Robert Stinte and Juliana his wife surrendered to the use of John Ede. He is present at court and is admitted as tenant.

1635 John Edes has died since the last court. John Ede is his son and next heir and below age: 11 years. John through Thomas Hitches his nearest friend seeks to be admitted. Custody of John and his tenements is granted to the same Thomas until he is of age.

1639 Thomas Hitches came to the court and has recognized that John Edes holds by copy a cottage called Prews Purrock.

1659 John Ede who held one cottage and one orchard with appurtenances called Prews Purrock has died without issue, Kathryn wife of Richard Fawkner and Susan wife of Charles Hamond are sisters and co-heirs of the said John Ede. The said Kathryn came to the court and was admitted to one moytie of the said cottage.

1671 John Edes (*not dead after all?*) surrendered a messuage and a close of land called Prews Purrock adjacent to a barn called Prewes Barne to the use of Edward Dyer. Edward Dyer present in court and was admitted as tenant. Afterwards the said Edward Dyer surrendered to the use of himself and Sarah his wife for the term of their lives and to remain then to their son William (*then not of full age*).

1712 William Dyer is named as copyholder of a messuage and a close of land named Prewes Puttock. Rent four pence.

1741 William Dyer acknowledged in court that he had held the copyhold of the messuage garden orchard and croft of land called Prews Puttock for about seventy years. He surrendered to the court to the use of such persons as he shall name in his will.

1746 William Dyer has died having first made surrender to the use of his will to his eldest son Thomas Dyer subject to him paying the other two sons William and John five pounds apiece.

1760 Thomas Dyer has sold his messuage and croft of land called Prews Puttock then in his own occupation to Mary Howard for £66.

1776 Copy of the Court Baron records the surrender by Thomas Dyer in 1760 to the use of Mary Howard now the wife of Henry Gade. Mary Gade came to the court and was admitted.

1781 John Henry Gade of Vere Street Clare Market biscuit maker and his wife Mary have sold the messuage and croft of land called Prews Puttock to Thomas Harrison of Ripley shopkeeper for £53.

1801 Thomas Harrison who had survived his wife Mary had died and by his will dated 29 April 1796 left his messuage and close of land called Prews Purrock to his nephew William Meryett. William Meryett was present at court and was admitted.

1803 Copy of a Special Court Baron records that William Meryett surrendered all that messuage and close of land called Prews Purrock to the use of John Henley of Send labourer. John Henley was admitted as tenant.

1811 John Henley surrendered all that messuage and close of land called Prews Purrock to the use of such persons as he shall name in his will.

1812 John Henley has died and in his will he gave the messuage and close of land called Prews Purrock to his nephew John Henley the son of George Henley subject to the payment of £50 to his brother William Henley. John Henley is admitted as tenant.

1812 John Henley the nephew surrendered the messuage and close of land called Prews Purrock to the use of such persons as he shall name in his will.

1855 A Deed of Enfranchisement records that John Henley of Send farmer is, upon payment of £400 to the Earl of Onslow, granted the freehold of various properties in the manors of Papeworth otherwise Papercourt and of Ripley and Send including a messuage and close of land called Prews Purrock.

1857 An Inland Revenue document records the Succession Duty on Real Property of Jane Henley on the death of John Henley. The property is described as a messuage divided into two tenements and called Prews and occupied as: Mr Sale – one tenement, Mr Webber – one tenement and a plot of land about one acre in the occupation of Mandeville. A declaration states that Jane Henley was born on 15 September 1854 and was the daughter of John Henley (*is this the same John Henley who died in 1855 aged 82?*).

1872 A Deed of Covenant records that John Henley of Littlehampton gent undertakes to produce to Jane Henley of the same place spinster certain documents when required.

1875 A Deed of Covenant records that Edward Ryde of Woking esquire undertakes to produce to Jane Henley of Polegate Sussex spinster certain documents when required.

1875 A Conveyance records the sale by Jane Henley of Redhill spinster to Alfred Honnor of Ripley farmer for £150 of all that messuage now divided into two tenements and a close of land known as Prews or Prews Purrock.

1896 A Conveyance between Ann Honnor of Shepperton spinster and Nelson Honnor of Watford auctioneers clerk and John Butler Ashford of Send Tanner cites that Alfred Honnor in his will gave his estate to his brother Thomas Honnor (since deceased) and his sisters Louisa Honnor (since deceased) and Ann Honnor. Thomas Honnor in his will left his property to his son Nelson Honnor and Louisa Honnor died intestate leaving Nelson Honnor her heir at law. Also stated was that the messuages formerly standing and intended to be conveyed were some time since destroyed by fire. The parties sold to John Butler Ashford for a total of £75.

1896 A Statutory Declaration by William Merrick of Shepperton states that he knew Alfred and Louisa Honnor for over 30 years and that neither of them ever married.

1919 Two insurance policies refer to nos. 1 & 2 Prews Cottages and to nos. 3 & 4 Prews Cottages.

1949 A Conveyance cites the sale by Ruth Emmeline Ashford of Woodbridge, Cartbridge, Send, to John Kenneth Dedman of the Post Office, Send, of Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4 Prews Cottages for £700.

1950 A Conveyance cites the sale by John Kenneth Dedman to John Harry Dedman, both of the Post Office, Send, of Nos. 3 & 4 Prews Cottages for £750.

John M Slatford © Send & Ripley History Society June 2006

Have you read?

Mavis Davies

Having enjoyed John Janaway's recent talk to the Society about Surrey privies, I thought I would dip into his volume on Surrey ghosts. It proved most entertaining.

One ghost story in John's book took place at Ganghill, in Merrow. A family living in 'Finches Rise' in the fifties to seventies was persecuted by a heavy presence, which loomed in the bedroom by night. It was the child of a family who finally awoke, screaming that she had seen a spectre. Could he have been a tall man, deformed and disfigured, wearing a long coat and black hat? Investigations at the Surrey Archaeological Society office in Guildford revealed that three men were hanged on Ganghill Common in 1776. Was the ghost one of these men? Was it Christopher Ellis, a figure frightful enough to petrify a child? When the family left 'Finches Rise', however, the haunting ceased. Luckily for them it decided not to follow them!

A poltergeist haunted the Percy Arms at Chilworth. Was it the spirit of some unfortunate who had been blown to pieces in the notorious gunpowder mills or indeed a spirit from another dimension?

I was intrigued by the story of two friends who made a pact that the first one to die would appear to the other. They parted company, one staying in England the other going to India. The resident in England was staying very snugly at the Wheatsheaf Inn at Virginia Water when he saw a face at the window and was overcome by a strong desire to go outside into the very cold night to investigate. Once outside he had a vivid impression of a train rushing through the night and of a man being pushed from a carriage. The body appeared to fall at his feet, and he recognized the dead face of his friend. The next day he heard that his friend had been killed in exactly those circumstances.

I suspect that the local ghost story we all know best is the one that took place at the Angel Hotel, Guildford High Street. I remember hearing this story for the first time when I was working in Guildford. The ghost who appeared in the mirror, I was told, was that of a French soldier, which caused much consternation to the female guests in the room. Whether this was from the ghostly visit itself, or the reputation of the Frenchman in general, the story doesn't tell us!

There are many more fascinating tales to be read in this book but I have heard no recent reports of apparitions in this neighbourhood, no Tudor ghosts living it up at Woking Palace, or monkish music heard at Newark Priory, although I did write up for the Jan/Feb 2002 Journal the tale of the 'pipe smoking gent' who appeared at the Tannery in Send.

John is prospecting for a further ghost book, I believe, so if members have had any supernatural experiences, now is the time to air them.

Why not start in the Society's museum library? Can't guarantee anything on spooks but you should find a good read there! Editor.

Les Bowerman wins SIHG Award

Following the AGM at the Ripley Village Hall annex on Saturday 15th July, of the Surrey Industrial History Group (SIHG), which is a limb of the Surrey Archaeological Society, Prof Alan Crocker, President presented to Les Bowerman (left) the annual SIHG Award which was given in recognition of his conservation work on bicycles and for the educational aspect of talks and displays, which he has given over a period of 20 years or so. Les and Anne are well known for their collection of cycles, which began in 1963 with the purchase of a 1910 Dursley Pedersen bicycle from Godwin Southon of Shalford.

After the presentation Les gave a talk on the development of the bicycle. The first machines that Les used to illustrate his talk was a replica Dennis Johnson hobby-horse originals were made in 1819, as an improved version of Karl von Drais's all wooden laufmaschine (running machine) of 1817, which was where the story begins. The second exhibit was an original Michaux pedal velocipede of 1868-1870 shown behind Les and Prof Alan Crocker (right) in the photo—the first pedal bicycle. The third exhibit was a 50inch Singer high bicycle of about 1882. The final one was a solid-tyred rear chain-driven safety of about 1887, somewhat similar to the Rover safety of 1885, which “set the fashion to the world” as their publicity had it – in fact the Rover was basically the first successful safety of the diamond-frame design which is still the main form in use today. The final invention to make the bicycle as we know it was John Boyd Dunlop's 1888 pneumatic tyre, the principle of which is of course still in use today for all road and air transport.

Les and Anne invited the group back to the Manor House at Send Marsh for tea and biscuits and to see a selection of some 50 machines in the collection. This was much appreciated and considered by all the highlight of the day.



Photo by Glenys Crocker



Some of the 'high bicycles' on display at the Manor House, Send.
Photo by Les Bowerman

Visit to Basingstoke Area

Report by Anne Bowerman

Eleven members of the Society went to Basingstoke on the 28th June, an extremely hot day. First stop was the café at the Milestones Museum before we explored the pleasantly air-conditioned interior.

Milestones, is a living history museum and it was like stepping back into a small Victorian town with cobbled streets and old-fashioned shops and workshops on view. It was enlivened by some of the museum staff in period costume demonstrating techniques such as printing on metal and talking about their work. There were also opportunities to sit and watch short films on some of Basingstoke's old firms such as Tasker's and Merryweather's* both famed for transport vehicles, some of which are on display as are their reconstructed workshops. Easily accessible information is provided by audio-guides, which describe all the different areas.

**Merryweather supplied fire escape ladders to Dennis's for their fire engines built at Guildford. Editor)*

After lunching in the secluded setting of the Millstone pub at Old Basing, we walked about half a mile beside the River Loddon to see the ruins of Basing House. This was once the country's largest private house and belonged to William Paulet, Marquess of Winchester, in Tudor times. It was built on the site of a Norman castle and we were able to see the ruins of the old wells and walls, cellars and towers. Unfortunately, Basing House was destroyed in a siege by Oliver Cromwell's forces in 1645 but there is still plenty of interest there, including the re-created 17th century garden and the enormous medieval Grange Barn.

Our visit finished in the small museum, which sets out the history of Basing House and the siege, and has a display of assorted finds from archaeological explorations.

Letters

Letter from David Porter. **Re – The enchanted tea gardens exhibition.**

May I through the media of the Journal, thank our member Clare McCann for her sterling effort in creating the exhibition on 'The enchanted tea gardens of Ripley' Journals 186 and 187.

To add to the information on the photograph of The Triangle Café, Journal 186, p4; the vehicle on the right next to the building is a Ford Thames 400E van. The two vehicles in front of Crossways Garage, Journal 186, p3, are a Bedford CA, on the left and an Austin J2 on the right. I would therefore estimate the date of the photograph to be c1960.

I wish to comment also that during the 1950s, the lock keeper at Papercourt Lock sold sweets from a side window of the his cottage, however, I do not recall them selling drinks?

Membership

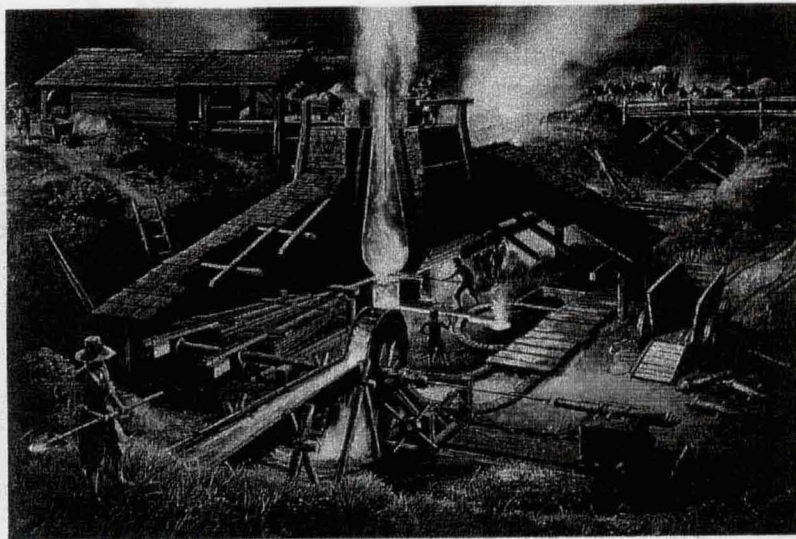
Membership at the beginning of July 2006, stood at 108 doubles and 84 singles or 300 total.



CBA South East Annual Conference 2006
(in association with Surrey Archaeological Society)

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE WEALD

BRIDGE OR BARRIER?



4 November 2006
Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey
(just off M25, junction 8)

The Weald – once a great forest stretching some 100 miles west-east and 30 miles north-south across the counties of Hampshire, Surrey, Sussex and Kent, and still one of the most heavily wooded areas of England. Traditionally seen as a barrier across south-eastern England and, for much of its history, penetrable let alone traversable only with great difficulty. But how true a picture is that? To explore this theme CBA *SE* has brought together a number of leading specialists in the archaeology and history of the Weald.

LIST OF SPEAKERS

Human presence in the Weald in the Mesolithic	Richard Carter , University of Sussex. Chris Butler , Mid Sussex Field Archaeology Team.
Roman period	David Bird , formerly County Archaeologist, Surrey
Late-Iron Age and Romano-British ironworking - some fresh perspectives	Jeremy Hodgkinson , Wealden Iron research Group
Who gave whom the right to settle where? Early Medieval Wealden settlement	Judie English , University of Sussex
The Surrey Weald in Mid-Saxon times	Dennis Turner , Surrey Archaeological Society
Saxon Landscapes in the Western Weald	Diana Chatwin , Wealden Buildings Study Group
The transfer of vernacular building techniques across the Surrey Weald	Martin Higgins , Surrey County Council Historic Buildings Officer

CBA SE Annual Conference (in association with Surrey Archaeological Society)

The conference will be held in the Palladian style mansion, Gatton Hall, superbly sited in beautiful Gatton Park – situated close to junction 7(M23) and Reigate station is only 2.5 miles away (transport to Gatton Hall will be arranged).

As there are no alternative easily accessible catering facilities available in the area CBA SE has arranged for coffee/tea and a two course lunch (various hot and cold options including vegetarian) to be included in the ticket price of only £15 for CBA members and £17.50 for non-members.

Tickets obtainable from Eva & Steve Corbett, 4 Ditchling Close, Eastbourne, BN23 8LS. 01323 743889; or email cbase@scorbett.co.uk. A short history of Gatton Hall and Park will be sent to all ticket applicants. Registration is at 10 am and will include the CBA SE 2006 AGM during the day.

Reprint of popular S&RHS publication

Preface to this Third Limited Reprint

With this further reprint, some 22 years after this book was originally published an opportunity has been taken to revise some of the text to take account of a few of the many changes that have occurred during this time. None of the illustrations has been changed despite the fact that the growth of the society's photographic archive now provides many additional possibilities. The price remains unchanged at £10.00, plus postage.

John Slatford

April 2006

Ripley and Send



THEN AND NOW

**The Changing Scene
of
Surrey Village Life**

Send & Ripley History Society
Surrey

West Surrey Family History Fair

The West Surrey Family History Fair and Open Day, is being held this year on Saturday, November 4th at the Woking Leisure Centre. The Society will again be having a stall to make our various local history artefacts available for research and to have our publications on display for sale.

Any members, who would like to volunteer to help to staff our stall, even for just an hour or so, would be most welcome. If you would like to know more, please give me a call on 01483 222107.

John Slatford

Forthcoming Events Anne Bowerman

Wednesday 20th September at 8pm. 'Spies in Petticoats' – an illustrated talk by Carol Brown

Wednesday 18th October at 8pm. 'And the Lord Taketh Away' – an illustrated talk about **The Mount Cemetery in Guildford** by Roger Nicholas.

Saturday 28th October; the Surrey Local History Symposium on the theme '**Parks in Surrey**' at the Chertsey Hall

Saturday 4th November; CBA South East Annual Conference 2006 at Gatton Park, Reigate; 'The Archaeology of the Weald'- see pages 15/16 for details.

Saturday November 4th; Surrey Family History Fair, at the Woking Leisure Centre. Come visit the fair and our stall, see above.

Wednesday 15th November at 8pm. 'Clocks – Beginnings' – a talk by member Keith Blake-Roberts.

Wednesday 20th December at 8pm - The Christmas Social.

All of the Society's indoor meetings will be in the Ripley Village Hall Annexe. It would be nice to see a few more members on these social occasions. If you have any enquiries about the programme or suggestions for future events please telephone me, Anne Bowerman, on 01483 224876.

Journal Contributions: Closing date for the next edition is **Friday 8th Sept 2006.**



SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM

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Other times for school groups and small parties
 by arrangement

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

HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

'Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life'	(Reprinted 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)	£3.50
'The Straight Furrow', by Fred Dixon		£1.50
'Ripley and Send – Looking Back'		£5.00
'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

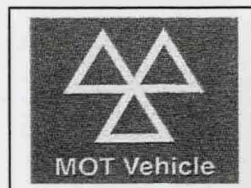
All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, or from Ripley Post Office. The reprinted copy of 'Ripley & Send Then and Now' and 'Two Surrey Village Schools' can also be obtained from Send Post Office.



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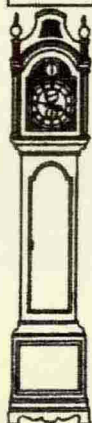


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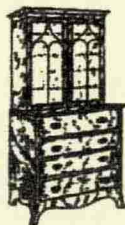
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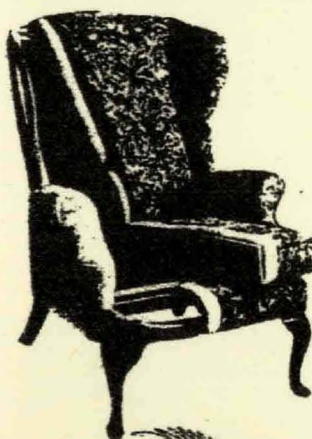
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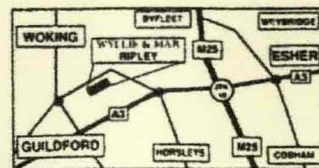
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