

Send & Ripley History Society



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The History Society float
Queen's Silver Jubilee
Celebrations 6th June
1977, Send

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EDITORIAL

CAMERON BROWN

The first thing to report this month is that the bulk of the repairs at the museum have been carried out. We closed for just a couple of weeks but we have still only raised around a third of the costs from our very generous supporters. So if you have not already done so please buy raffle tickets or make a donation. All the wonderful prizes are listed on our website and the draw is at the Ripley Event on July 22.

We do also please need one or two more Sunday stewards for visitors to the museum when the monthly antiques fair is on. Time is 10.00 - 12.30 and it's not arduous and sometimes it's even fun. Training will be given. If you can help please contact Clare McCann on 01483 728546. We can only keep this lively society going if we continue to get new volunteers.

Don't forget, as ever, to check on forthcoming events at the Surrey History Centre website <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritage-culture-and-recreation> and do please keep sending me your memories, photos, letters and articles for the journal.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT JOURNAL

Contributors are asked to send articles and letters to Cameron Brown at srhsjournal@gmail.com by 15 August 2017.

Authors of illustrated articles should submit high resolution (300 DPI or higher) jpegs to the editor by email to ensure best reproduction in the journal, but no more than 10MB in any one email

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JOAN STYLES (NÉE BRYANT) – A LAND ARMY GIRL REMEMBERS

INTERVIEWED BY ALAN COOPER

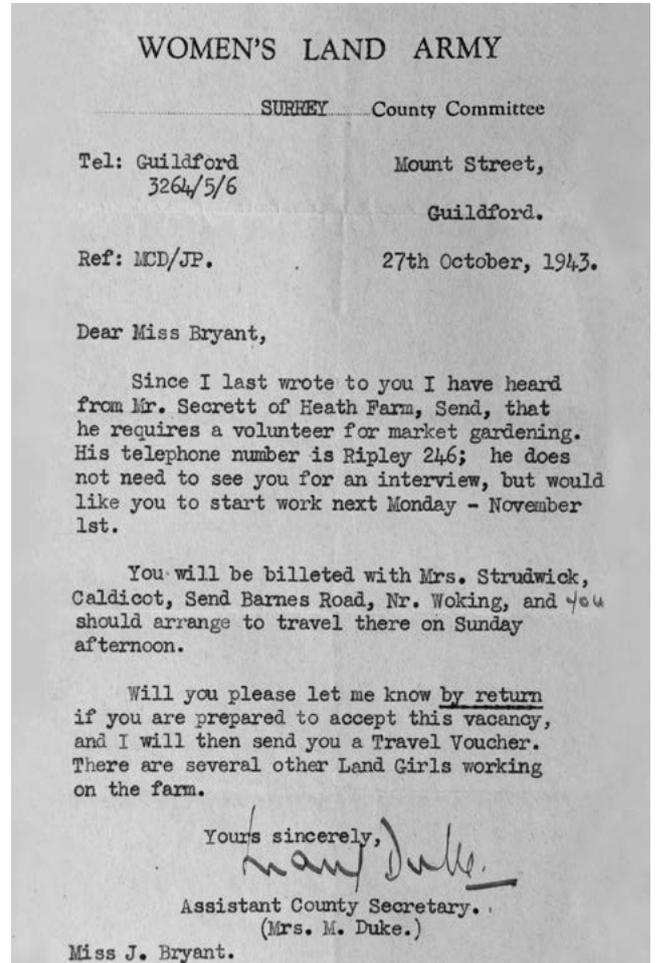


Top: Joan today

Bottom: Joan's Land Army badges

Born in Oxfordshire, Joan's story begins in Morden, Surrey where she had lived since the age of seven. With World War II raging all around, she started working as a shorthand typist at the Red Cross offices in Grosvenor Crescent, London.

At the age of 17 she met Peter Kipling, age 20, also from Morden and a sergeant air gunner in the RAF. He was about to be sent overseas when he asked to meet Joan's father. "Dad was a strict disciplinarian and very Victorian in his outlook so I suppose it came as no surprise to me when I said Peter Kipling is at the garden gate, about to go to war and would like to meet you – and he refused. Words cannot express how I felt at that moment in time. One creepy aspect of my job was having to inform the next of kin about missing, believed killed servicemen.



Invitation to start work

Some time later, going through the missing lists, there was the name, Peter Kipling, killed on his very first mission".¹

Distraught at the loss of Peter and her father's unbending attitudes, Joan soon sought out pastures new. "That's it I thought, I must get away and immediately tried to join the army and the air force but they only wanted cooks. That, in essence, is how I came to join the land army. I was sent to an address in Oxford Street, London where to my alarm, they looked at my slight physique and said "oh, you don't

¹ Peter Kipling died on 11th April 1943, aged 20. He is buried at Medjez-El-Bab war cemetery, Tunisia. (<http://www.cwgc.org>) The axis forces were defeated at El Alamein by the allied eighth army and retreated into Tunisia via Libya. It was here, flying Wellington bombers with 40 Squadron RAF that Peter was killed, having been involved in the action which ended in May 1943 with the defeat of the axis powers by a combined allied force and the end of the war in North Africa.

look strong enough to be in the land army – you’ll have to get a doctor’s certificate.” The doctor took one look at me, said “jump up and down on that chair”. This I did and he replied “you’re fine girl!”.

I was enrolled on 26th August 1943, number 136712 and on 27th October 1943 was informed of an available position with Mr. Secrett at Heath Farm, Send and a billet with Mrs. Strudwick, at Caldicot, Send Barnes Road. “Make sure you come home each weekend to see your mother” was all dad had to say!”

LIFE ON THE FARM.

“Along with the foreman, John Rixon, there were 12 other girls working at the farm and it was backbreaking work. All the hoes had short handles and when planting you were bent double but it was rewarding all the same. The companionship with the others and the fresh air all combined to create a wonderful experience – especially

compared to home life where dad wouldn’t let me go out at all. So, although the war was a terrible thing, it did me big favours – not least being given a land army bicycle! Apart from personal use, this came in very useful when we occasionally had to help out on other farms. We started at 6:00 each morning and 4:00 am on market day. To keep



Top: ‘Prince’ with all 13 girls
Bottom: 10 girls with foreman John Rixon



Top: Mr. Secrett
Bottom: Mr Secrett with a watchful eye on the workers

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	<u>Billar</u>	30	-	
			1	19 10
WAGES LESS DEDUCTIONS				
INCOME TAX REFUND				
NET AMOUNT			4	17 2

A typical wage packet – note: 30,160 items planted in a week!

spirits up we would sing, and I remember one day old Secrett came up to me and said “Very nice Joan, but sing a little faster and then you’ll work a little faster too.” ”

“There were gypsies working there, known as ‘the village women’ who, on piece work, earned more than us. I approached Secrett and said that’s not fair, I want a raise. He agreed to a one week piece work trial. Every 100 plants, you placed a stone in your pocket and every row recorded the number on a worksheet. That week I earned £10, an enormous amount. My friend Doris Pullen, also from Morden was a keen ice-skater and persuaded me to buy some skates. A lady made me a tiny short red skirt with straps and off we went to Richmond.

It all ended in tears when, negotiating the first bend I went crashing down, knocking myself unconscious and burning an arm and a leg so badly, I couldn’t work the following day. Mr Secrett was very kind and sent me some sandwiches”.

“The vegetables grown varied tremendously: cabbage, lettuce, potatoes, carrots, rhubarb, leeks, spring onions and sweetcorn - even asparagus – the restaurants in London remained open right through the blitz and beyond!”

“Everything had to be washed and dried before being packed into crates to be sent to the market. I remember one terrible winter we had to use pick axes to get the leeks out



Joan tending the Asparagus beds



Surface dressing the fields

of the frozen ground. When leeks were washed, you could smell them all around the village. Equally, after surface-dressing the fields with manure all day long, so could we!”

“Not everything was done by hand, and I quickly learnt to ride a horse. We had three enormous shire horses, two greys, Captain and Senator and my favourite, a black named Prince. Driving a lorry was a bit daunting though. I was never much good at that. Later in the war we had prisoners-of-war working with us, both Germans and Italians and I recall one offering me his ‘long johns’ when it was really cold – I refused them!”



Joan with Prince

“There were a large number of Canadian soldiers stationed in and around Send and word pretty soon got out that there were 13 girls working on a nearby farm. Needless to say, we never went short of attention!”



“Hey Mac, am I dreamin?” - two happy looking Canadian soldiers

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THE CRASHED MOSQUITO

“One day we were working near Prews Farm (separated from Heath Farm by a field of nettles) when an aircraft came down. I was in the toilet at the time, a little corrugated tin hut and as I emerged, the plane clipped a tree and crashed in flames. We ran through the field of nettles, despite only wearing shorts and helped the airmen from the wreckage. Soon afterwards, lots of RAF chaps descended on us taking all manner of notes. Some



in the Saddler’s Arms. John was there and we ended up talking. After that I would meet him in the Jovial Sailor at weekends as I cycled back from my parents in Morden. I’ll never forget one day he invited me to go for a country walk – a romantic liaison maybe? Not on your life, he promptly produced a ferret from his pocket and went after – rabbits! John served on a minesweeper, but rarely spoke to anyone of his war service and involvement.”

² The De-Havilland Mosquito was a twin engine ‘multi-purpose’ aircraft and unusual for being constructed almost entirely of wood. This however made it very lightweight enabling it to outrun enemy single-engine fighters. Equally at home as a bomber or fighter, it is probably best remembered for specialist duties such as pathfinders for bomber command and photo-reconnaissance missions as well as precision attacks on diverse targets ranging from U-boats to the attack on Amiens prison in 1944. [Author’s suggested reading: ‘The Amiens Raid Secrets Revealed’ by J.P.Ducellier]

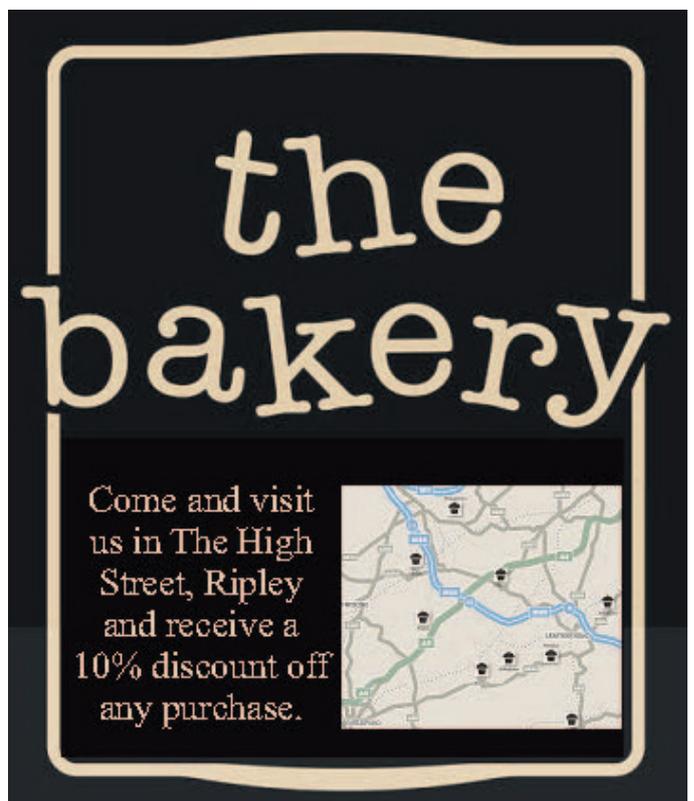
Joan enjoyed working on the farm so much it was 1950 before she finally left and now a very sprightly 93, lives in Old Woking. Two of her fellow Land Army comrades from Heath Farm still live in Send, Joyce Weller in Wharf Lane and Rose Sale at May’s Corner.

All original photographs, documents and artefacts courtesy of Joan Styles collection

Contemporary photographs courtesy of Alan Cooper collection

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GENERAL TOM THUMB

ANDREW JONES



Top: Andrew Jones' find

Bottom: A pristine example of Andrew's find



Charles Sherwood Stratton

When out metal detecting recently in Ripley (on private land, with the owner's permission) I was lucky enough to find a token or medallion depicting a man on one side and a carriage and horses on the other, with writing on both sides. Wondering what the item might be I took it to David Williams, the finds officer for the portable antiquities scheme for Surrey. Despite its being in very poor condition he was able to identify it as a medallion of Charles Sherwood Stratton, a dwarf and circus performer in the Victorian era, whose stage name was General Tom Thumb.

Before I tell you all about Charles Stratton let me tell you more about the medallion. It looked to me like pewter or plated with a silver-coloured metal of some kind. It is about four centimetres across. One side has Stratton standing on a table with some books, an egg-cup, a wine glass, a bottle of wine, a writing set and various other items. The words above him say 'Charles S Stratton Known As General Tom Thumb' and at the bottom edge are the words '40 ins high'. The reverse has a coach and horses with coachman. At the top of this side are the words 'General Tom Thumb's Equipage, The Equipment Cost Upwards Of 400 Guineas'. Lower down the medallion is the wording 'Whole Height 40 ins

Body 20in by 11 in, Ponies 28in, Crest, Rising Sun. Arms, Britannia And Liberty, Supporters, Lion and Eagle. Motto. Go-A-Head. Below this is the name of Stratton's Employer Purity (PT) Barnum. I believe that the medallion was minted around 1850 to celebrate Stratton's European Tour – but see Ditz Brown's note below.

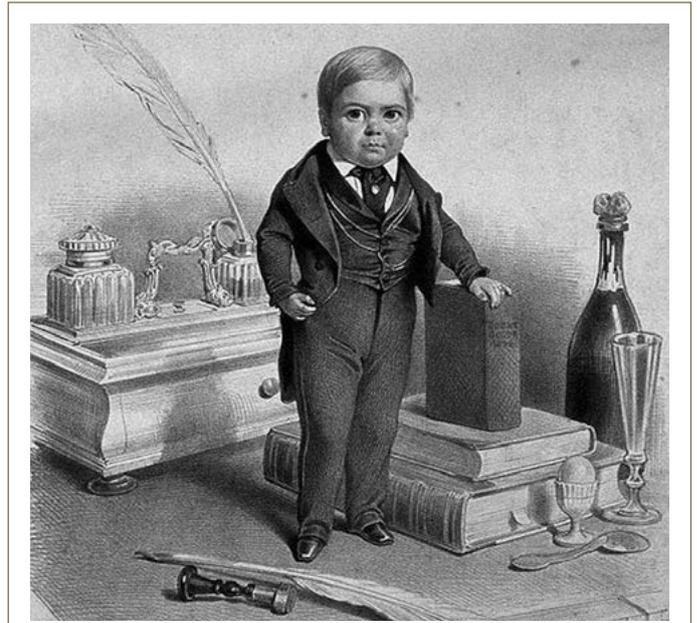
Charles Sherwood Stratton was born on January 4th 1838 in Bridgeport, Connecticut, USA. Although a dwarf he was a big baby weighing in at 9 pounds and 8 ounces (4.3kg) at birth. He developed normally for the first six months then stopped growing, at which point he was 25 inches (64cm) tall and weighed 15 pounds (6.8kg). His parents took him to a doctor who said that he was unlikely to grow normally. By late 1842, at the age of four, Stratton had not grown even a further inch in height nor put on any weight, but apart from this was a healthy, normal child.

The showman Purity (PT) Barnum, a distant relative (half fifth cousin, twice removed), heard about Stratton and, after contacting his parents, taught him how to sing, dance, mime, and impersonate famous people. Stratton made his first tour of America at the age of five, with routines that included impersonating characters such as cupid and Napoleon Bonaparte, as well as singing,

dancing and comical banter with another performer who acted as a straight man. It was a huge success and the tour expanded. A year later Barnum took young Stratton on a tour of Europe, making him an international celebrity. He appeared before Queen Victoria twice and in 1845 he triumphed at the theatre du Vaudeville in France in the play *Le Petit Poucet de Dumanoir et Clairville*. The tour was a great success, with crowds mobbing him wherever he went. On his return home from his second tour in 1847, aboard the SS *Cambria*, he met the explorer John Pallister and contributed to a collection for the relief of famine victims in Ireland.

In 1847 Stratton started to grow again, if only slowly. In January 1851 he stood exactly 2 feet 5 inches (74 cm) tall. On his 18th birthday he was measured at 2 feet 8.5 inches (82.6 cm) and in 1862 Stratton was 2 feet 11 inches high (89cm). In that same year he became a freemason.

Stratton was married on February 10th 1863 to another little person, Lavinia Warren, also one of Barnum's travelling show celebrities. The wedding took place at Grace Episcopal Church and the reception was held

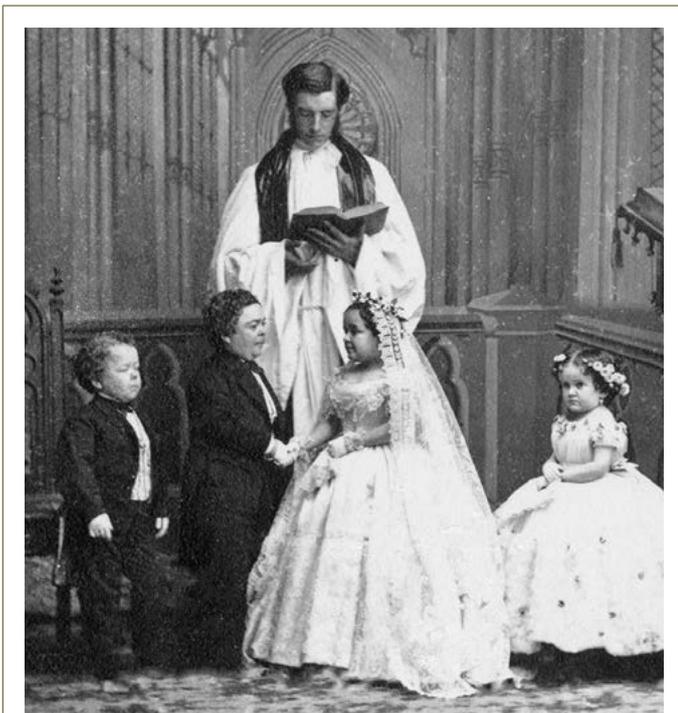


The 1844 lithograph by Baugniet, on which the medallion was based

at New York's City Metropolitan Hotel. The bride and groom stood atop a grand piano to welcome some 10,000 guests and following the wedding the couple were received by President Lincoln at the White House. Stratton and Lavinia toured together in Europe as well as British India, in particular the area that is now Bangladesh. Part of their show involved posing as a family with a foundling child that Barnum would hire from a local hospital. The public believed that the child was theirs and when audiences grew tired of this Barnum would say the child had died, although Lavinia later confessed to the deception. It is believed that she and Stratton had a child who died at the age of two and is buried in England, where they were touring at the time.

Under Barnum's management Stratton became a wealthy man. He owned a house in the fashionable part of New York and a steam yacht, and he had a wardrobe of fine clothes. He also owned a specially adapted home on one of Connecticut's Thimble Islands. When Barnum was made bankrupt Stratton was able to bail him out and they later became business partners. Stratton made his final appearance in England in 1878.

Charles Stratton died of a stroke on 15 July 1883 at the age of 45. He was 3ft 4 inches (102cm) tall and weighed 5st 11lb (32kg). It is said that over 20,000 people attended his funeral. PT Barnum purchased a life-sized statue of Tom Thumb and placed it as a gravestone at Mountain Grove Cemetery in Bridgeport, Connecticut.



Stratton's wedding day

When Lavinia died in 1919 she was interred next to him and her stone simply said 'His Wife'. In 1959 vandals smashed the statue of Tom Thumb. It was restored by the Barnum Festival Society and Mountain Grove Cemetery Association with funds raised by public subscription.

It's amazing what history you can discover from an item you find when pursuing your hobby.

NOTES BY DITZ BROWN

Andy kindly showed me the medallion shortly after he found it and before he knew what it was. After learning of its interesting history I also carried out a little research and can add these notes:



The V&A medallion

The Victoria & Albert Museum (V&A) has a very similar medallion but the back (or verso) is completely different.

The V&A describes it as follows: 'White metal souvenir medal with a milled edge and a chased and engraved image (recto) depicting Tom Thumb wearing a tailcoat,

waistcoat, trousers, shirt and tie, standing on a table top by books, resting his left hand on a book (which we know from the original engraving to be Boyle's Court Guide). In front of him are a bottle, glass, egg cup and spoon; to his left, a quill pen and a seal stamp, and a writing stand behind him. In relief around the edge is inscribed: 'CHARLES S. STRATTON KNOWN AS GENL TOM THUMB 25 IN HIGH', and below the details of the manufacturer of the medal; and (verso): 'GENL TOM THUMB / BORN JAN;11 1832 / AT BRIDGPORT CONNECTICUT USA / AT HIS BIRTH HE WEIGHED 9LBS 2OZ / AND WAS A HANDSOME, HEARTY / AND PROMISING BOY / HE INCREASED IN SIZE AND WEIGHT TILL / 7 MONTHS OLD, AND THEN WEIGHED 15LBS / AND MEASURED 25INS / SINCE WHICH TIME HE HAS NOT / INCREASED IN SIZE OR WEIGHT: / IS PERFECT AND ELEGANT / IN HIS PROPORTIONS / AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN / IN GOOD HEALTH.'

Around the edge is inscribed: 'UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE QUEEN AND COURT OF ENGLAND. PUB: BY P.T. BARNUM AMERICAN MUSEUM NEW YORK, 1844.' The diameter is 3.8 cm, thickness: 0.4cm

The date of Charles Stratton's birth (11 January 1832) engraved on the verso of this medal is incorrect, although it is the date printed on the lithograph from which this image was taken. PT Barnum always claimed Tom Thumb to be older than he was, so that his stature would seem all the more remarkable. The date of Tom Thumb's birth is generally agreed to be 4 January 1838. The medal was issued after the European tour during which he appeared before Queen Victoria. Baugniet was the artist of the original image on which this medallion was based, a lithograph printed by Day & Haghe in 1844.



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AFTER

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JAN DAVIE



The box of photographic plates

A Sendmarsh resident has kindly donated a box of old photographic plates depicting views of the Guildford area, together with a CD copy of the full set. The plates were a chance find by his son, in an antique shop in America, and purchased due to the connection with the Guildford area. They have now been offered to The Surrey History Centre as we do not have the facilities to preserve them and they are not specifically of the Send and Ripley area.

I found on one of the pictures a group of men standing outside a building, one of them dressed in cycling clothes. There is also a bicycle leaning on the building which displays the Cycling Touring Club logo on the wall. Looking at the fashion of the time makes me think that the plates date from the early 1900s.

There are pictures of Guildford Castle, Castle Arch and local churches, including the ruins of St. Catherine's chapel at Artington; also views of the river, Silent Pool, Clandon House main gate and lodges, and a shot of the Horse & Groom public house in Merrow.

It would be very interesting if any members could identify the locations depicted on the CD. They can be viewed using the computer at the museum.



Three of the images

SEND'S FORGOTTEN MUSICIAN? — ANTHONY PHILLIPS

ALAN COOPER

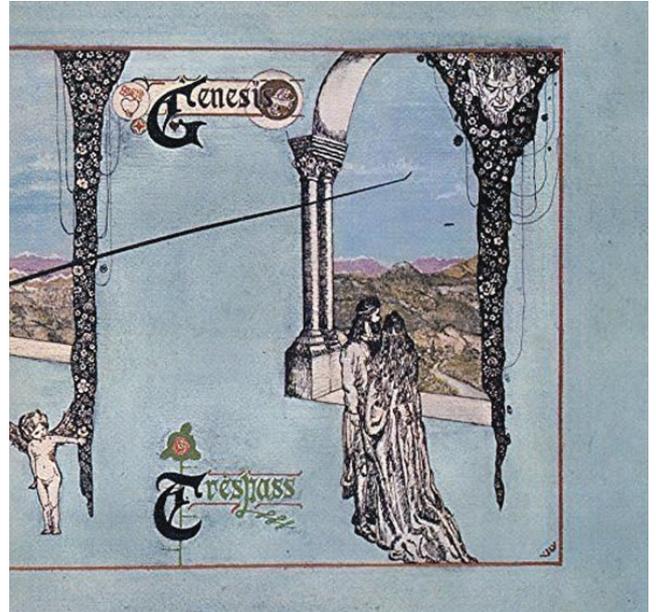


Anthony today
© Anthony Phillips collection

Mention world-class guitarists in Ripley and everyone immediately thinks of Eric Clapton. Send also had its own, albeit largely forgotten or indeed unknown, in Anthony Phillips.

Born in 1951, Anthony was educated at Charterhouse School, Godalming where, in 1967 the progressive rock band Genesis was born. The original line-up comprised Anthony Phillips, Peter Gabriel, Mike Rutherford, Tony Banks and Chris Stewart. The band's name was the idea of former pupil Jonathan King, by now an independent record producer, who had had a hit single *Everyone's Gone to the Moon*, which reached number three in the UK charts in 1965. Chris Stewart was replaced by John Silver and King went on to record their first album *From Genesis to Revelation*, released 7th March 1969. Three singles, *Silent Sun* (2-2-68) *A Winter's Tale* (10-5-68) and *Where the Sour Turns to Sweet* (27-6-69) were taken from it, but to very little public acclaim.

The band split with King and John Silver left and was replaced by John Mayhew. They began touring on a professional basis and signed with Charisma Records, releasing their second album *Trespass* in October 1970, the last Anthony would play on with the band.



The Genesis LP *Trespass*

This album contains the track *The Knife*, a live performance audience favourite for many, many years. A truly epic song at three seconds less than nine minutes in length!

He played his last gig on 18th July 1970 and left shortly thereafter. Many other personnel changes occurred before the band reached their creative peak (in the eyes of progressive rock fans) in the early-to-mid 1970s, before adopting a more mainstream and commercial approach to their music, and the fame that followed.

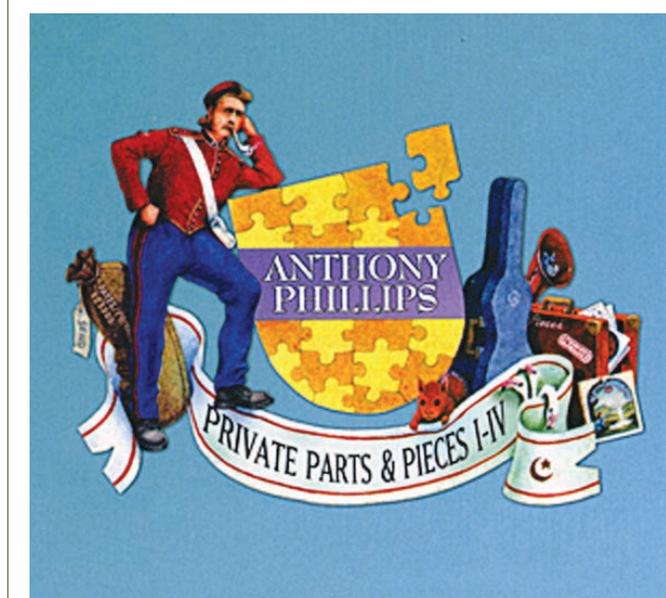
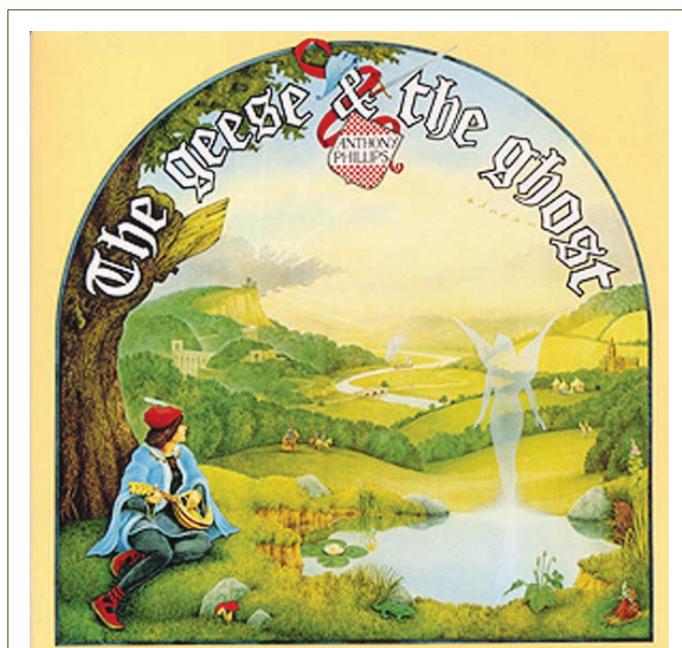


Genesis at Newark Priory 1969 – Anthony seated on the left
© Anthony Phillips collection

THE SOLO CAREER

But what became of Anthony? After leaving the group in 1970 he studied orchestration and harmony externally at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. After passing his LGSM exams he taught music at Reeds School, Cobham and at Peper Harow, whilst continuing to compose and record in his home studio in Send.

Anthony's return to the commercial music scene came with the release of his debut solo album *The Geese & The Ghost* in 1977 and since then he has created a large and diverse back catalogue as a recording artist. As



Top: *The geese and the ghost* – The debut solo album from 1977
Bottom: *Private Parts & Pieces I-IV*

well as album releases such as *Wise After the Event*, *Sides*, *Slow Dance and Field Day*, he has to date also released 11 albums in the *Private Parts & Pieces* series and four volumes in the *Missing Links* series. Amongst other projects, he collaborated with Harry Williamson on the large-scale instrumental work *Tarka* and he also co-wrote the stage musical *Alice* with Richard Scott.

Although Anthony continues to release solo albums to critical acclaim, increasingly his music has been much in demand for film and television. Commissions have included scores for both dramas and documentaries and he has written and recorded music for over a dozen *Survival* programmes in collaboration with percussion virtuoso Joji Hirota, including the award-winning *Land of Dragons* and *Creatures of the Magic Water*. Anthony has also established himself as one of the most prolific and successful composers of library music, with tracks from his extensive output being regularly featured on commercials, films and television series throughout the world.

In 2014, Anthony renewed his association with Cherry Red Records via the Esoteric Recordings label, who are re-issuing his back catalogue. *Harvest of the Heart*, a five-CD box set anthology of Anthony's recordings made between 1969 and the present day was released in November 2014 to wide acclaim. Subsequent re-releases have included the *Definitive Edition* of Anthony's debut solo album *The Geese & The Ghost*, *Private Parts & Pieces I - IV* (a box set of the first four albums in that series) and deluxe editions of the albums *Wise After the Event*, *Sides* and *1984*. The quality and impact of the Esoteric reissues was confirmed when the series won the Storm Thorgerson Grand Design Award at the Progressive Music Awards in 2016. He now lives and works in London.

Author's comment:

I myself was a huge fan of Genesis in my teenage years (as one of our members, then my next-door-neighbour will confirm – sorry!) and in those days purchased all their albums and all the solo releases. Today, early Genesis material has not (in my opinion) aged as well as Anthony's solo efforts, which sound as refreshing now as they have always done. In short I would recommend that our readership listen to what undoubtedly is an important part of our rich local music heritage.

I am indebted to Anthony for allowing our publication of his photographs with this article; also to Jonathan Dann, his website manager, for his assistance and instant responses to my questions, and in particular for the current record label information.

40 YEARS AGO - QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS, 6TH JUNE 1977, SEND

CAMERON BROWN

The article below, taken from the Newsletter of June/July 1977, is by Ken Bourne who was the Society Chairman at that time. On the cover of this Journal we show the photograph of the History Society float which Ken refers to in the article. It is a charming reminder of how much our taste in furnishing has changed over the last few decades.



The royal couple

Following a request by the organisers of the Jubilee Celebrations for Send, the History Society formed a sub-committee comprising Sheila Brown, Geoff Parker, Ted and Rita Goldup and Ken Bourne. The project before the sub-committee was to design a float for the procession which would proceed through Send and terminate on the Recreation Ground where it would form part of the general show for the rest of the afternoon.

Taking the theme of the differences between 1952 and 1977, it was agreed that the History Society would build a Float consisting of a "set piece" of a typical 1952 Dining/Sitting Room, drawing particular attention to items of furniture and fittings that are not so common-place now as 25 years ago. Once the idea had been agreed, it was surprising how quickly materials came to hand, and many offers of help were given to provide some of the furniture and effects. Ted Goldup produced the trailer, which duly arrived two weeks before the event, together with several surplus sections of the building which is being re-erected as a new Scout Headquarters behind Send Road near the canal. The site of this 18 ft x 6 ft trailer and several sections of 6 ft x 8 ft partitioning, much of it damaged, looked a

daunting prospect, and trying to erect the panels in some form of three-sided open box in a high wind proved to be even more so. However, at the end of the first day, largely due to Ted Goldup's persistence and that of his helpers, the room basically took shape complete with door and ceiling.

Over the following weekend a fireplace was added and carefully planned so as not to completely denude Geoff Parker's house. What appeared to be the entire contents appeared a few days before the procession was due to take place. After much wall-papering by Phyllis Bourne and Rita Goldup, and much polishing by Sheila Brown, a typical 1952 Sitting/Dining Room existed which would have done proud any television or film set.

One way or another most members of the Committee provided items of furnishings, and a photographic record of the completed exhibit was duly made.

Briefly, the room was prepared in a light green plain paper with a dado just below a picture rail. All woodwork, including the door, was painted dark green, and on the

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floor was lino and one or two mats. The Dining Room was furnished with a draw-leaf dark oak table with chairs to match. On the table was a blue velveteen runner and a bowl of red, white and blue flowers. To match the table, a sideboard was placed against one wall, complete with a linen runner and a wireless set. On another wall, behind the dining table was a bookshelf, of light wood construction containing magazines such as *Picture Post* and books of the period. The Sitting Room, which in this case was a continuation of the same area, showed a dark oak surround fireplace with inset light flower-patterned tiles, and was complete with an open fire grate, curb and fire irons. Next to the fireplace was an easy chair with a small stool and a portmanteau of light oak. Over the fireplace hung a mirror and on the mantel shelf was a clock, together with some letters with a George VI stamp on one and Elizabeth II stamp on the other, both dated 1952.

The exhibit thus complete, and duly decorated with Union Jacks and red, white and blue rosettes, plus Rita Goldup with her two children and Jackie Bourne and Ken Bourne, all dressed in clothes as near the period as possible, moved away, drawn by tractor, at the appointed time of 1.45pm. The 1952 room on its trailer left Heath Farm and assembled in the procession at Sendmarsh Green. The weather was overcast and inclined to slight drizzle but in spite of this a tremendous crowd assembled on the Green and a considerable number of displays had collected already to take part in the procession. The entries were many and varied, including decorated bicycles, a Jubilee Queen, a representation of Mount Everest being climbed by Sir Edmund Hilary and Sherpa Tensing in 1953, and an entry by the Brownies dressed in various national costumes.

At 2.30 the procession moved-off and followed a route which passed through Send Marsh to the A3 via Burnt Common along Send Barns Lane and Send Road, down Potters Lane, back up Send Hill, and along Send Road again to the Recreation Ground. This proved to be quite hazardous, requiring undivided attention from the Float attendants to prevent the wind and general motion reducing the Floats back to basic vehicles. Fortunately only a few flags were lost. When the displays were all stationary on the Recreation Ground, and the hot-dog stand supplied by the Scouts and refreshment tent were in full swing the History Society presented a 9 minute film of a 1952 Pathe Newsreel which highlighted events in that year, such as the sinking of the Flying Enterprise, the launching of a new all-jet propelled air liner, the Comet, and the death of Sir Donald Campbell in his Bluebird speed boat while attempting the world record.



The first prize winning float

Prizes were distributed to the displays, the first prize going to the Sir Edmund Hilary/Sherpa Tensing/ Everest float, the second prize being awarded to the Brownies and third prize to the History Society. By common consent the £1 prize money was distributed between the younger members of the History Society who took part in the procession, Grahame and Diane Goldup and Jackie Bourne.

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100 YEARS AGO – JULY AND AUGUST 1917

JAN AND PHIL DAVIE

This was the normal holiday period, for those that could afford it. However with every effort needed to win World War 1 it became unpatriotic to take long holidays, though people still took day trips to the seaside if possible.

Abroad new battles started at Ypres/Passchendaele, with at least one objective being the German submarine bases on the Belgian coast, since British shipping losses were huge and food imports were much reduced. There were significant British casualties with a number of local lads reported killed or wounded.

At home the Parish Council contacted a Mr Lucas about using part of the 'Sand Pits' as a 50-yard firing range for air rifles. Mr Lucas replied he had no objection to their being so used but his tenant, at The Bungalow, had two young babies so a 50-yard range would be too close. He believed he could find a suitable alternative site.

Away from the war the first match of Ripley's Ryde House School Angling Club (pupils) took place in early July with 22 competitors. First place was GH Walker (nine fish), second came Tommy Geale (seven fish) and third was Alf Dibble (one crayfish).

Later in the season Joseph Puttock had a successful day's fishing in Newark stream when, in late August, he caught two eels of 1.5lb each, three bream of 2lb each and some nice specimens of roach.

Finally, the landlord of the New Inn, Send (William West), was summoned for supplying intoxicating liquor after closing hours. Sergeant Humphrey, of Ripley, looked through the window of the Inn and saw ale in two glasses and whisky in two glasses being taken to the kitchen.

Drinks were tipped in the sink and not served by the time the sergeant got to the door.

Humphrey, when accusing West, was told those in the kitchen were only friends. The magistrates fined William West £10 with Conway West, Mr Hill and Mr & Mrs Ferguson were fined 40 shillings (£2) each.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM DITZ BROWN

After reading the article by Tim Morris about the Wisley airfield in Journal 253 I contacted Ben Paton, long-time resident of Ockham, as I'd always been under the impression that the airstrip was supposed to have been removed and that, had this been done, nobody would now look upon this site as brownfield. He pointed me to *Hansard* which, totally against my expectation, actually made the most delightful read and I found this thought-provoking extract:

Debate about Wisley Airport 02/12/1980

Lord Nugent of Guildford:

The history of the airfield is that it was originally requisitioned in wartime in 1943 for wartime purposes and from that time there has been a clear undertaking that when it was no longer required for these purposes it would be returned for its pre-war agricultural use. Over the intervening years this undertaking has been re-stated from time to time by various Government departments who have been responsible for authorising this special occupancy. The local authorities, the Surrey County Council and the Guildford Borough Council, insisted that when the property was sold back to its pre-war owner, Lord Lytton, all the buildings and hard standings, including the runway, must be removed to ensure a return to its agricultural use before the war and to preserve the general policy of conserving the green belt. More recently, after a good deal of discussion, these conditions were con-confirmed and a letter was sent by the PSA on 15th November 1977 to the effect that Wisley Airfield would not be sold until both the buildings and the runway had been removed. Further letters were written in 1978 confirming this and, finally, there was a letter from the junior Minister of the Department of the Environment Mr. Ken Marks, on 6th March last year (1979) to the Dorking Member of Parliament, Sir George Sinclair, making the same confirmation.

It was thus a great surprise to everybody when the axe fell on 13th July last year with a letter from the PSA stating that the sale would be made with the runway still in situ. This decision by the PSA makes the site available for future use as a commercial airport, in direct breach of all the undertakings over the previous 36 years and in direct breach of the major conservation considerations for the green belt. My noble friend Lord Onslow will deal in more detail with the particular villainies of the breach. ..."

Lord Mishcon:

There are people who purchased houses in this area, believing in the assurances that were given by government that all this would be restored for agricultural land purposes. They have been sorely let down as a result of believing in government.

FROM MIKE LATTIMER

I am a volunteer archivist at Surrey History Centre working on the Surrey in the Great War project (<http://www.surreyinthegreatwar.org.uk/>). Andrew Jones's story about St Lob Strachey's bronze badge for those not selected for war service would fit into this project. I can't find any mention of this badge in the records of SHC and this would be an interesting addition to the records.

Would you like to post something directly into the records (see website) or allow me to prepare something based on your research?

I notice on looking for some information that his name appears to be Loe Strachey & not Lob as mentioned in the extract from *The Spectator* copied to your feature. He was the editor of *The Spectator*.

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MEMORIES OF A FARMER'S WIFE: PART TWO

PEGGY IRELAND

Peggy Ireland's husband John was the farm manager of Charles Hughesdon's Dunsborough Estate in Ripley and they lived at Church Farm House in Wisley in the 1960s and 70s.

Whilst living at Church Farm we had an old ginger tom cat called Jimmy, a very friendly and lovable cat who came with us when we moved from Cheshire to Surrey in 1966. He spent most of his later life catching moles, sleeping in the churchyard by the gate or under the pear tree in our orchard.

One Sunday afternoon a couple knocked on our door and asked "where is the Prince of Orange?" I did not understand and presumed they were getting confused with the Black Prince who at one time owned Byfleet manor, but the lady said "no, we meet a ginger cat here who we call The Prince of Orange". She explained that they visited Wisley church every year and brought a picnic with them, which they shared with Jimmy. I called Jimmy who appeared quite swiftly and followed the couple into the churchyard where we watched him holding court and enjoying his picnic.

One morning Paddy, our postman, knocked on the kitchen door and said "missus your cat is dead". I said "no he isn't Paddy, he just sleeps like that". "He's dead missus" Paddy responded, so I went to have a look, convinced he was asleep lying on the grass verge as he always did, but sadly I was wrong - Jimmy had passed away. When my twins Louise and James came home from Ripley primary school that day, we gave him a funeral and buried him under his favourite pear tree in the orchard.

Mr Hughesdon came to see us not long after and gave me a box with a small ginger cat inside, it seems that his dachshund dog, known as Tommy Atkins, used to play with the ginger cat in Mr Hughesdon's gardens in Ripley and he believed it was a stray.

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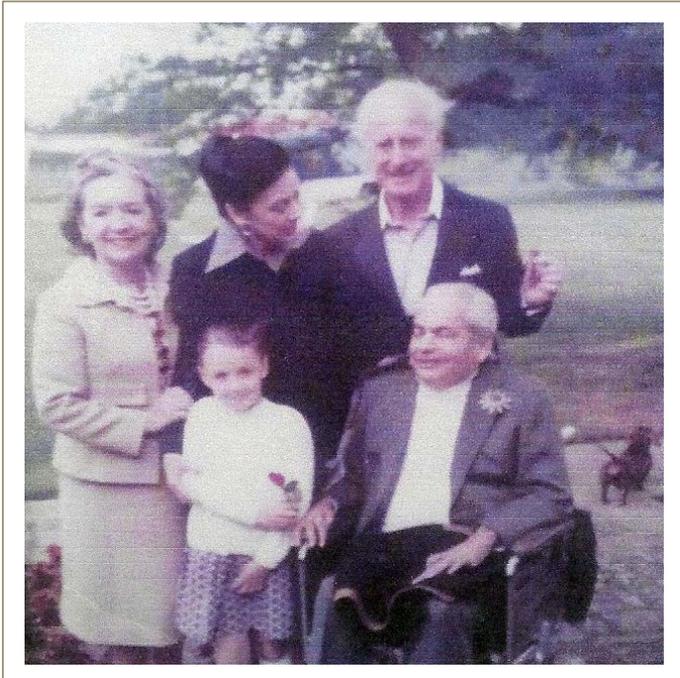
   

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However Mr and Mrs Smithers, a couple we knew from Ripley, came to reclaim their cat! News had travelled that Mr Hughesdon had replaced our Jimmy and they'd realised that it must be their missing cat, but they were very understanding and just happy to have their cat back.



back row l-r: Florence Desmond, Margot Fonteyn, Charles Hughesdon, Tommy Atkins (dog) in the background
front row: Louise and Dame Margot's husband Toto Arias



Louise with Margot Fonteyn

As well as famous local cats we also met a number of genuinely famous people when we lived at Church Farm. Mr Hughesdon and his wife Florence Desmond had a number of celebrity and high profile friends, many of whom were brought to Church Farm, and we had the pleasure of meeting them. They included Sir Charles Clore, Chapman Pincher, Sir John Mills and his wife Mary Hayley Bell. In addition Sarah Miles and Robert Bolt who lived in Byfleet at that time used to call at the farm to buy hay bales.

Many other famous people visited Dunsborough Park and in 1973 Prince Phillip and his sons Princes Andrew and Edward attended Mr Hughesdon's helicopter party

[editor's note: there is a short film of one of these helicopter parties on the SRHS website]. John, myself and the twins hid in the bushes to watch the royal party arrive by helicopter.

Other famous people who visited Dunsborough Park on a regular basis included Shirley Bassey, Peter Finch and Lord and Lady Havers. I'm sure if the walls of Dunsborough Park could talk they'd have some tales to tell! In 1977 Mr Hughesdon rang and asked if we wanted to meet Dame Margot Fonteyn as our daughter Louise was attending ballet classes at the time. We were fortunate enough to meet her shortly thereafter and Louise was thrilled.

THE CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICE IN RIPLEY DURING WORLD WAR II

ALAN COOPER



Ripley Civil Defence Service. (Location unknown)

Identified members: Top Row: first on left – Tom Cooper, fifth from right – Jim Maskell. Third row: third from left – Don Collins

Bottom Row: second from left – ‘Whisky’ Shorter © Alan Cooper collection

Due to the massive popularity of the hit BBC sitcom *Dad’s Army*, televised between 1968 and 1977 nearly everyone is familiar with the Home Guard. Initially named ‘Local Defence Volunteers’ (LDV) the Home Guard consisted of 1.5 million local volunteers who were ineligible for military service: men in reserved occupations, or those too young or too old, which gave rise to their nickname. However, many more (1.9 million) served within the Civil Defence Service (CD)¹.

The organisation of the CD was the responsibility of the local authority and volunteers were assigned, depending on experience, to one of eight basic units, their remit being as follows:

1. Wardens. Responsible for direction and control of the public when necessary.

¹ Mike Brown. *Put That Light Out! - Britain’s Civil Defence Services at War 1935–45*

2. Rescue Parties. To assess damage to bombed dwellings, the retrieval of dead and wounded persons, securing services (gas, water and electricity) and the safe demolition or repair of buildings.
3. First Aid. Comprised of ambulance personnel, stretcher and first aid parties.
4. Fire Guards. Principally employed to watch for magnesium incendiary bombs and to neutralise them.
5. Gas Teams. Trained to deal with contaminated buildings, roads and general areas by neutralising the noxious substances.
6. Control. An ARP (Air Raid Precautions) controller would direct rescue, first aid and gas teams to the scenes of reported bombings, and if overwhelmed by the task ahead would request back-up from

surrounding boroughs. Additionally, the Women's Voluntary Service (WVS) assisted in control and observation duties, running rest-and-recuperation centres and mobile canteens.

7. Welfare. The support team for people whose properties and belongings had been destroyed. They would provide essentials: money, ration books and ID cards and find temporary accommodation for those bombed out of their homes.
8. Messengers. Most messengers were teenagers, who, with just a bicycle, would report bombing incidents back to the ARP headquarters.



Top: Civil Defence breast badge and four different shoulder flashes.

Bottom: ARP badge

Photo and badges © Alan Cooper Collection

In the formative years civilian clothes (ie boiler suits) were worn but as uniforms became more readily available, from February 1941, the service was issued with dark blue battledress and berets. Those not issued with uniforms were issued with a blue armband with Civil Defence written on it in yellow.

A circular breast-badge was worn on the left pocket incorporating the letters 'CD' topped by a king's crown (in yellow on dark blue or black backing). A similar smaller badge with yellow circle around the CD and crown was used on the beret. The tasks an individual undertook would be named on shoulder flashes. Additionally, there were instructor and first aid badges that could be worn on the sleeves.

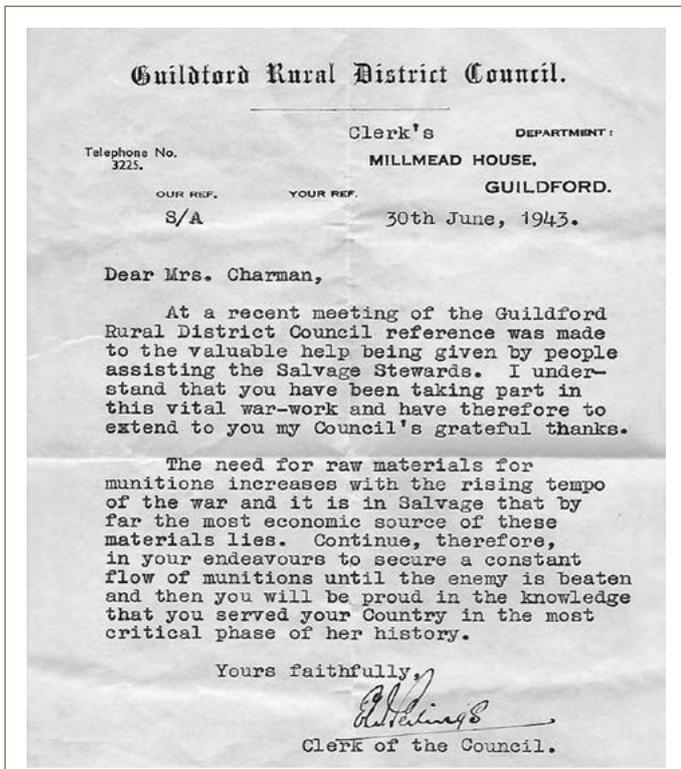
Members were issued with gas masks and steel helmets, marked with an abbreviation of their role, for example, 'W' for Warden, 'FAP' for First Aid Post, 'SP' for Stretcher Party 'A' for Ambulance Crews and 'FG' for Fire Guard.

Local people also gave of their time and 'did their bit' in a multitude of different ways, for example the collection of salvage for the war effort - Alice Charman of Newark Lane being one such person.



Salvage Steward badge

Photo and badges © Alan Cooper Collection



Letter of thanks from Guildford RDC to Alice Charman, dated 30th June 1943
 Photo and letter © Alan Cooper Collection

POSTSCRIPT:

The Home Guard continued to police the coastal areas of the United Kingdom and other important places such as airfields, factories and explosives stores, until late 1944 when they were stood down and finally disbanded in December 1945.

The Civil Defence Service was disbanded on 2 May 1945 though many of the duties of the service were revived in 1949 and renamed the Civil Defence Corps.

THE CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICE AT WORK IN RIPLEY.

Newark Lane, Ripley received direct hits from a number of German bombs, destroying the end cottage of what was once the village workhouse and damaging the one adjacent. The occupant, Vera Anscombe, was unharmed, leaving her husband Ron, away on overseas war service, a nasty surprise to come home to! They were rehoused at Mays Corner, Send, and spent the rest of their lives there.

Little Horrells – opposite – also received a direct hit. Henry Burdett, wife Sarah (née Gunner) and lodger Tom Buller lived in no 2. Henry had died a few months before the bombing and Sarah and Tom Buller in particular had a very lucky escape.²

² Several memories of this bombing appear in the Society's book *Memories of War* and an in-depth article *The History of Horrells, Newark Lane, Ripley* by John Slatford may be found in *Journal* Volume 6 No. 216.



Top: Newark lane in Edwardian Times – the full extent of both The Workhouse and Little Horrells clearly visible © Alan Cooper Collection

Middle-left: The destroyed section of the old workhouse. The adjacent property was also damaged and the occupants rehoused. Rita Avery, bombed out of her home in the High Street, was eventually rehoused here and remained until her death in 2006. In the foreground stands the CD rescue party toolbox with its instruction manual to the right of the lid. Helmets marked RP hang on the apparently undamaged fence © the late Janet Sheppard (née Wilkinson) collection

Middle-right: The property today © Alan Cooper Collection

Bottom-left: Ron Anscombe, away at war when the bomb struck © Alan Cooper Collection

Bottom-right: Henry Burdett, whose home was destroyed shortly after his death © the late Janet Sheppard (née Wilkinson) collection

FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM GERALD SANGER'S DIARIES - THE SVENHONGER DIARIES

EDITED BY CLARE MCCANN

Gerald Sanger was born on the 23 May 1898 in Surbiton but from the Society's perspective the main interest lies in his accounts of Send village life in the Second World War though some of his general observations about the war are equally fascinating.

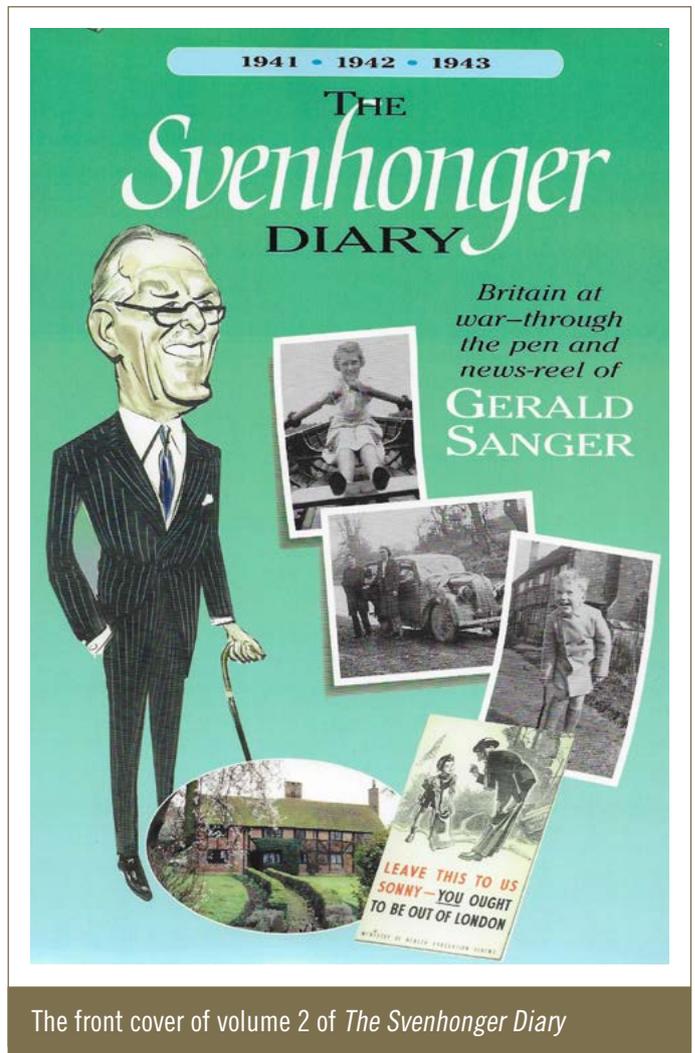
The diaries are called the Svenhonger diaries, a joke derived from an ancestor, possibly called Severn-hanger. The three published volumes of Gerald Sanger's diaries have been edited by his son Clyde and they cover the period leading up to the war and run on until 1946. So far we have published three sets of extracts, in journals 248, 249 and 250 (2016).

1942. Alamein – the hinge of fate

So while 1942 is headed up *Alamein – the hinge of fate*, it features a more local altercation. 'The Battle of Send' so named by Hope (Sanger), involving a small boy throwing a stone at the Broadwood's son Stewart in the garden at Wilingham Cottage. Eventually he was tracked down by Stewart's formidable mother and found to be an evacuee from Sendholme. Felicity expected her son to fight the small boy but when he showed no sign of defending himself, Stewart refused to hit him as did Clyde Sanger, especially as the boy was quite small. Felicity then hit the cowering boy herself and according to Clyde, hit him when he was down. Far from being prosecuted, Felicity was commended by the boy's mother, who was also living with the Lancasters, as apparently *'he had had it coming'*.



Felicity and Stewart



The front cover of volume 2 of *The Svenhonger Diary*

In February Felicity Broadwood was again showing her fiery Irish mettle. This time involving Albert Smith, who had a smallholding between the sandpits off Send Hill. Gerald says that Albert was described by his cousin Ernie Smith (Home Guard) as *'a gypsy, a bad lot, and foul-mouthed into the bargain'*. Albert had threatened to shoot dogs that strayed onto his land before and was apparently about to do so when Mrs Broadwood showed up and shouted, *"Stop you rat!"* with such ferocity that the shot went wide and the dog escaped. Mrs Broadwood then claimed he said, *"I'll strangle you, you bloody bitch!"* and fisticuffs ensued with Albert ending up with a bloody mouth – or at least this was the story from Mrs Broadwood. Later in the diary he comments, *'Of course, in this village (as in all other villages, I suppose) you have to chase a rumour right home to its source before you can believe a word that is repeated.'*



Clyde and Stewart wrestling



Hope on her 45th birthday

Send's Warship Week in January 1942 raised money for the Navy. There was, so Gerald Sanger claimed:

'a four mile procession around the parish (I assume he meant it travelled 4 miles not 4 miles long!) with Michael May (and his moustaches) in a van with loudspeaker horns on top playing gramophone records. There were five or six decorated vehicles and children in fancy dress. Mr Paice in his white steel helmet, and all the other air raid wardens in black ones, travelling in cars and Send Fire Brigade including two of the Tice boys (the builder's sons). There was the ATC in their uniforms and sundry others but no Home Guard! Either the Colonel had forgotten or chose not to attend'.

March 22 is headed up *Home Guard lives!*:

'Finally Colonel Gamble had resigned and Cundall had taken over with Sex as second in command'. (Colonel Gamble died in 1943 following an operation). In May Gerald Sanger was made a full Lieutenant. Later in June he recounts a serious one night 'battle' when the Home Guard had to defend Brooklands airfield against Canadian troops as an exercise. Despite 'gallant resistance' the Canadians were in control by morning. In July the 3rd Battalion were visited by the King at Brooklands. A smoke bomb was let off at the wrong moment during the exercise by a Major MacKay, who was later described as a *'Napoleon'* (I seem to remember that was what the air raid warden called Captain Mainwaring in *Dad's Army*).

There are various accounts of the problems of fuel rationing and the difficulties of driving with the

blackout restrictions including a local couple who had a motorcycle accident by running into one of the Oliver's cows in the dark. Gerry himself nearly perished when running off the road on his way back from Woking station and stopping just short of a fifteen-foot drop into a coal yard.

Gerald Sanger frequently turned to verse and on the 24th October, Hope's birthday, he wrote

*Dear Hope, I hope you're fortified
Against the strains of forty-five.
You'll cope, I hope, however tried,
And, coping being your forte, thrive.*

He acknowledges how much harder it is for Hope *'who from a lady-in-London has become a country-housewife doing her own cooking and housework.'* For example at Christmas in 1942 Hope managed dinner for 12 despite rationing, and dealt with a rampaging carthorse in the garden, a situation which Gerald admitted he did not feel equal to.

His entry for the 15th of November 1942 marks a turning point in the war:

'The church bells rang out this morning in thanksgiving for the Eighth Army's victory. Send's chimes are a poor affair but from Old Woking in the fine, still morning floated "Onward Christian Soldiers" with limpid clarity. It was an emotional experience.' (It seems hard to believe he could hear from Send but of course there was little or no traffic.)

Reflecting on gossip, Gerald felt slightly out of the loop, as he was now a signals officer in the Home Guard and generally away from Send. Some gossip came from Bill Challen at the garage but Hope was now more involved with Send life:

'Ma Veitch tells her about Felicity Broadwood and Felicity tells her about Ma Veitch. Old Sumner the gardener is a bit deaf but Mrs Parratt the 'help' makes up for him by inventing a lot...Finally there is Nurse Moore the district nurse. Hope in an unconsidered moment accepted the secretaryship of the Send Nursing Association and has become party to Nurse Moore's confidences and grievances. They are legion in both categories.'

A letter of 26th March indicates that not all the locals got on!

Dear Mr Baigent,

If I walked into your farm and started throwing stones at your cows and chasing your chickens and kicking your pigs, you would quite rightly feel annoyed and suggest I ought to be locked up.

Therefore I am sure you will understand why I feel annoyed about your pigs and consider you should keep them locked up. Yesterday, for the third time, they have got into my garden and rooted over the freshly sown beds. This is terribly disheartening when people work hard in a garden to make it productive.

Please be a good neighbour and keep those damned pigs to yourself.

Yours sincerely

G. F. Sanger

Fundraisers punctuate village life and in May 1943 there is the following entry:

'It remains to be mentioned that "The Wings for Victory" Week in Send opened with a big bang and a grand procession from the Recreation Ground to the New Schools, led by a drum-and-whistle band of the Air Training Corps and supported by the Send Home Guard under the command of Lieutenant Arthur Sex. The WVS took part, among its nine representatives being the Clothing Officer for the district, Mrs Hope Sanger.'

Also in May he reports Hope has become the village organiser, as the previous head, Miss Whitbourn, was stepping down. Immediately there was a situation of sorting out new ration books and identity cards to be dealt with. *'Hope and her helpers will be at the Drill Hall for two days a week, taking delivery of ration books and seeing the applications are filled in correctly. Life in this village promises to become more interesting than ever.'*

She's the Chairman of the WVS

She's the one to whom the others answer 'yes'.

It's the point of this wee ditty

That the rest of the committee

Do agree with Mrs Sanger (more or less.)

This was written with an entry stating Hope had sorted out the ration books, organised the Lord Lieutenant's Fund collection, planned Alexandra Day and dealt with a situation involving Nurse Moore. *'In fact, Hope is coping'*; this on top of more people living at Willingham Cottage, including Marjorie Wallace, who was expecting a baby. Her uncle Ken Thompson visited, a racing car specialist who, during the conversation, mentioned he had been asked to buy the Talbot in Ripley but had declined as they wanted £15,000!

Later in July he mentions a baseball match in Send which had been a great success and had raised £10 for the Send Nursing Association. Thirty thirsty Canadians had been entertained at Willingham Cottage. Other leisure pursuits that get mentioned are trips on the Wey in a canoe called the *Drifting Smoke* which they rented from Mr Groves. There are also frequent mentions of tennis and his son Clyde's cricket achievements – including keeping wicket for Send when he was on holiday from Shrewsbury School.

Mella, Hope's daughter was helping out with the 'Bombed-out Clothing Depot' in Ripley. At the end of the holidays she returned to Priors Field as head girl. One other thing of interest is he mentions a *'derelict gun-site on the Broadmead'* (it is clear from a comment in January 1944 that the guns had been removed).

7th September: *'It was thought requisite that I should accompany my wife to the dance which the Send Home Guard had organized in aid of the Send Nursing Association. We arrived during the interval and were informed by Corporal Gibbons that the band had adjourned to the New Inn. Most of the dancers seemed to have accompanied them. When the refreshed musicians returned Hope and I danced once round the floor of the Drill Hall.'*

In October 1943 Hope had a major operation. It was a measure of the woman that everything was put in order before she left for the hospital – both domestically and in the village. The letters and books of the Nursing Association were up to date. The WVS was handed over temporarily to the vice-chairman. Her husband refers to her *'stalwart spirit'* and calls her the Chatelaine of Willingham (Cottage). After Christmas dinner that year he said, *'Hope the Indefatigable One was driving through the debris with all the determination of a bulldozer. Just another hurdle in her life.'*

NB: Hope Sanger is one of the notable Surrey women featured in *Surrey Women – Surrey Museums Month 2017*, which can be seen at <http://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/themes/people/women/>

INN KEEPERS OF SEND (AROUND 1900) THE SADDLERS ARMS, SEND MARSH JAMES BROOMFIELD (JIMMY BROOMY)

KEN FRENCH, JANUARY 1997

Clare McCann came across this unpublished article when researching material for the recent 'Pubs of Ripley and Send' exhibition.

Jimmy was landlord at the inn which was owned by the Daws family, the brickmakers and landowners in Kiln Lane. Mrs Daws was his aunt. The Broomfields had six children: James born 1882, William 1884, Edith 1885, Archibald 1887, Lilian (Tish) 1890 and Walter (date unknown).

During their time at the Saddlers Jimmy was repairing boots and shoes. These operations were carried out in a wooden building he had erected near the pub. His work practice was to attend to the preparations for the bar during the daytime then retire to the shed, cobbling, leaving his wife to serve customers with drinks. Generally most men would take their drinks into the shed where Jimmy was, to listen to his yarns (he was a great storyteller) and spin a few of their own (the writer's grandfather included). If at the close of the day any were incapable of walking home, Jimmy had a wheelbarrow or two available with young lads around willing to do the pushing, being rewarded with half pint of beer for the service. If the occupant weighed heavy, requiring one lad to each handle then half pint to each, providing they returned the barrow. (This account was related to the writer by a resident who lived near Send Post Office and was a 'lad' at that time).

Jimmy's aunt, Mrs Daws getting to hear of the 'goings on' (her husband being one of the story-tellers) decided to amend the situation and in conversation with the writer's grandmother remarked, "I cannot let that poor woman struggle to look after those children and work serving drinks while Jim pretends to mend boots all evenings in that 'shed'. If that is what he wants to do I will build a house with a workshop for them." That is how the double-fronted shop, with its work rooms, kitchen, living rooms and bedrooms, built next to the forge in Send Road, Send came to exist (later the chemist and since demolished). The sign-writing on the left-hand side wall of the builders mentions bicycles but most of the trade was to do with footwear repairs and sales. Jimmy's son Walter was in business with him, working alongside in the repair shop on the right-hand side.



Broomfield & Sons sign on the wall of the building in Send Rd

Lawn tennis was a fashionable game in the pre-war period so the Broomfields laid out a court alongside in the ground next to the shop. The new landlord of the Saddlers Arms also laid down a tennis court using Jimmy's shed as the changing room.

After Jimmy's death, Walter, who had cultivated the ground and kept chickens on the tennis court during the war, employed local builders, Roker & Strudwick to build a new shop with living quarters [editor's note: this refers to the property in Send Road not the Saddlers], carrying on the footwear business from the old shop on his own. Mr Ken Dedman of Send Post Office bought the freehold of the old shop and a friend of his established Send's first chemist shop there.

Jimmy Broomy, a great friend of the writer's grandfather, who was no doubt a great character in his time, missed his time at the Saddlers [Clare's note: we assume this means Jimmy rather than the writer's grandfather] for most of his time was spent at the bench in Send Road. All he saw, apart from his son, was the smoke rising from the blacksmith's furnace. His wife [editor's note: the writer's grandmother?] thought aunt Daws' action must have led to a more comfortable lifestyle.

SEND AND THE PLAGUE

CLARE MCCANN

At the Send May Fair a local man called Mr Pritchard, who lives on Send Hill, came up to chat. He told me that the original name for Potters Lane was the Guildford Road (which I had heard before) but he then went on to say that the village of Send was moved because of the plague and this increased the importance of the route over Send Hill. He said the new settlement was called Sanday (Sande). He thought the natural history group in Woking had information but was unclear on the nature of this information.

I followed this up with members of the Society and the Surrey History Centre. Les Bowerman confirmed that Potters Lane, certainly from Cartbridge to Cricketshill House, was Guildford Road until relatively recently. Older people in Send knew it as such. When the Parkers, Geoff and Chris, bought their house in Potters Lane, apparently the official address was still Guildford Road. Les said that he had done a little research on this many years ago and Potters Lane and Potters Lands had been the name for the lower and further part of the route, going back, he thinks, to at least the 17th century.



A photo of the lane from the society's collection

He had heard stories about the plague before but no evidence had ever been forthcoming. He seems to remember that Jim Oliver once told him that there was a part of the churchyard where he had seen a jumble of bones, which were possibly connected with the plague or Black Death, but with no confirmation that this was the

case. All the evidence suggests there was never a village as such in the area of the church. Send appears to have consisted in the past only of a series of small hamlets, near the church, at Send Marsh, at and around Send Barns and probably at Papercourt. Even Cartbridge may not have existed before the Navigation was dug.

Les recalls from the 1940s that Send Hill was not fully made up as a road, and on the 1895 6" OS it is shown on the flat upper part only as a track, so it doesn't look as if it was very important in Victorian times. Before that, most of the roads in Send were probably only tracks. Les had never heard of Sanday and can only guess that it originated in a mispronunciation of Sande, an alternative spelling of Send, as in the *Domesday Book*.

The Surrey History Centre rather backed up what Les had to say.

“A search has been made in our collections catalogue and you are quite right to think we probably have few references to plague specifically for the Send and Ripley area. The references to the plague that were found were mainly in collections of correspondence in the records of families such as the More Molyneux family at Loseley, and the Bray family at Shere in the 16th and 17th centuries, and these more often relate to London, though there are some that relate to places in Surrey. There are also some references in vestry books and other church records but nothing specifically for Send. I had a look at the Send burial register for around 1665 for any indication that there was higher mortality in the parish at the time that might indicate plague, but it was no higher than other years. Obviously there were many outbreaks of the plague particularly before the great plague of 1665 but the registers for Send only begin in 1653.

As regards Sanday as a place name I checked Send in *The Place-Names of Surrey* (Cambridge: University Press 1934) by JEB Gover, A Mawer and FM Stenton which notes that Send is listed as Sande in the *Domesday Book*. According to the *Victoria History of the County of Surrey* Send is situated ‘on a patch of Bagshot Sand’ so Sanday may have just evolved from the word sandy. I can’t find any recorded reference to the name spelt in this way, it might possibly just be a name used locally.”

THE MAYOR'S AWARD

CAMERON BROWN



The award ceremony. Margaret Field 1st left, Mary Trevill 3rd from right. © Grant Pritchard Photography

Two of our members, Margaret Field and Mary Trevill, were among the recipients of this year's Mayor's Awards for Service to the Community. The Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Gordon Jackson, presented the 2017 awards on Saturday 22 April at the County Club. Potential recipients of the award are nominated by local residents who make their recommendations online on the GBC website.

SRHS events secretary, Margaret Field, said that when she heard that she was to receive an award she presumed that it was because of her 60-year involvement as organiser of the bucket collections for the annual Ripley bonfire. As the event has grown it now involves managing the many volunteers carrying the collecting buckets, selecting their routes and then counting and paying in the very substantial proceeds. In fact she was

surprised on the day to find out that the award was actually for some of her other activities in Ripley. "I only discovered when I looked on the back of the certificate that it was for my work with the bowls club, meals on wheels and the Village Hall Trust where I used to be treasurer."

Mary Trevill won her award for a range of services to the village of Ripley over many years.

WHAT IS THIS? ALAN COOPER



Photo & object c/o Alan Cooper collection

The wooden handle is attached to a hollow brass cone. This contains a steel blade which unusually pivots centrally rather than from the end. The blade is marked "Ges Gesch" (German for "Patent Pending")

What was its purpose?



Mystery object

A non-member who saw Journal 254 guessed this one: it is a butcher's tool - name unknown. The blade was used to scrape hair from the carcass of a pig, the hook for dragging the carcass onto the prep-table.

STUDIO 63 IN THE 1960s

CLARE MCCANN

In flicking through a copy of the Woking Review dated January 1966 (from our archive) I came across an article relating to an amateur dramatic group called Studio 63 which followed on from the Phoenix Players. The Society has some photographs of the Phoenix Players but personally I had never heard of Studio 63.

AROUND THE VILLAGES STUDIO 63

An amateur theatrical group with the unusual name of Studio 63 is one organisation which has helped to keep the village name in the news in recent years.

Once Ripley was the home of the Phoenix Players. The president was Mr. W. J. B. Titcombe, of Clova Studio, 23 Rose Lane. He told the "Review" that many of the leading lights of the company had grown tired of organising it. A producer was also lacking. One came as the result of an advertisement, but soon left, and the Phoenix failed to "rise from the ashes" like the mythical Greek bird.

Then, when things really looked black, a brilliant young producer arrived. Michael Baskott, who lived in London and worked in a plastics factory, soon enthused the remnants of the company, who proceeded to change their name, as they all felt that some kind of hoodoo afflicted the name "Phoenix".

The deliberations took place at the "Studio" in 1963.

Mr. Baskott suggested that they produce "Doctor In The House", which eventually ran for three nights in a packed church hall.

In 1964 the company entered the Walton and Weybridge drama festival with "Out of the Flying Pan" and took first prize.

Inspired by this, the company entered the South Eastern area drama competition at Croydon, coming fourth out of 15 entries, receiving £15 as divisional finalists.

The 1965 Walton and Weybridge festival entry had casting trouble. A girl had to take a male part. The entry was unplaced.

Their recent production was Jack Popplewell's "A Day In The Life Of . . ." which had a cast of 13 and six scene changes. An increase in male members of the company has brought the strength up to 23, but the company still welcome new blood.

From the Woking Review, January 1966

The Phoenix Players apparently faltered and then failed to rise from the ashes when a producer could not be found in the early sixties.

However just when it looked as though amateur dramatics in Ripley was about to die, a producer called Michael Baskott who lived in London stepped forward. The new group was formed in a studio in 1963 – hence the name.

The first production was Doctor in the House which played to packed houses for three nights in the church hall. In 1964 they entered the Walton & Weybridge drama festival with Out of the Flying Pan and took first prize and later took fourth in the south-eastern area drama competition. A report in a Woking

RIPLEY THEATRE

"And This Was Odd" is the intriguing title of the forthcoming production of Studio 63, the Ripley drama group. This light comedy in three acts by Kenneth Horne will probably be staged at the Ripley Church Hall at the end of November, but at present few dates are available and this is causing some difficulty.

The play, featuring six women and three men, is set in the drawing room of a well-to-do family at Christmas time in the present day. It is described as "quite funny and with a humorous twist".

Parts are being played by Yvonne Carter (Mrs. Simmons, an elderly widow), Ann White (Nurse Jones), Mary Stickings (Mrs. Julia Kemp), Janet Lester (Jane Simmons), Harry Harvey (Frank Kemp), Margaret Lilley (Margo Kemp), Bernard Hunt (Sam Potts) and Fiona Faulds (Lady Wilson). Fiona Faulds is also producing the play, assisted by Mrs. Yvonne Carter.

Whist drives are held to support Studio 63, the next being on 18th November.

Woking Review, November 1967

Review dated November 1967 makes it clear the group were still going but we do not know how long for.

If anyone has photographs and more information then please let us know.

WHERE IS THIS? ALAN COOPER



Picture submitted by Pat Clack. Where was it taken?

SEND & RIPLEY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM NEWS AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All evening talks except AGM doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start Ripley Village Hall. Tea/coffee available.

DATES	EVENTS
Tuesday 19th September	Liz Taylor talk: History of RHS Wisley
Tuesday 17th October	Jane Lewis talk: Life and Labour in a Country Village (or, Learn to Love Your Ag Labs)
Tuesday 21st November	Brigid Fice talk: Dating old houses by their architecture with particular reference to Send & Ripley
Tuesday 12th December or 19th December	The Christmas Social - Members only

Further details can be obtained from Margaret Field 01483 223387

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY	
SRHS. Newark Priory, Ripley's romantic ruin	2013
LACHELIN, G. and Primrose, R. A history of Ockham to 1900	2013
Knowles, G. Surrey roads from turnpike to motorway	2015
Salter, Brian. Model towns and villages	2014
Send Parish Magazine Bound volume	2012-2014
Dibben, A.A. Title deeds 13th-19th centuries	1971
Dunning, Robert. Local history for beginners	Reprinted 1983 (rev. 1980)
Harris, Richard. Discovering timber-framed buildings	1978
Howkins, Christopher. Hidden Surrey	1987
Jekyll, Gertrude. Old West Surrey	1904 Reprinted 1978 (second copy)
Marjoribanks, Roger. Burpham: Norman manor to suburban village	1997
Saaler, Mary. East Surrey manors: a guide to their documentation	1989
Shere, Gomshall and Peaslake Local History Society Old houses in the Parish of Shere: Gomshall, Peaslake, Shere	Rev. 1981
Williams, David Wynn. 50 Finds from Surrey	2016
Parker, Eric. Surrey	1947
SCC. Antiquities of Surrey	1965
Pearce, Captain C M H. An Account of the Buildings of Newark Priory	1932
Harding, Joan M. Timber-Framed Early Buildings in Surrey c1300-1650	1993
Turner, Dennis. Surrey Ordnance Survey Historical Guide	1988

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HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Ripley & Send Then and Now; The Changing Scene of Surrey Village Life	Reprinted 1998/2006	£10.00
Guide to The Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Send		£1.25
Then and Now, A Victorian Walk Around Ripley	Reprinted 2004/07	£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	Reprinted 2012	£4.00
The Hamlet of Grove Heath Ripley, Surrey	Reprinted 2005	£4.00
Ripley and Send – An Historical Pub Crawl in Words and Pictures	New Edition 2017	£8.00
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
Memories of War		£8.00
Map of WW2 Bomb Sites in Send, Ripley and Pyrford		£2.50
Memories of War and Map of Bomb Sites		£10.00
Send and Ripley Walks		£5.00
Newark Priory: Ripley's Romantic Ruin		£8.00
Special Offer: Purchase Newark Priory and St Mary's Ripley		£10.00

All the publications are available from the Museum on Saturday mornings, from Pinnocks Coffee House, Ripley, or via the Society's website www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk



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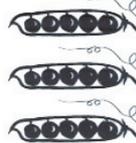
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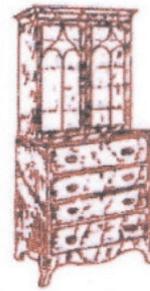
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