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THE YATELEY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No 7

April 1982

Editor; Elizabeth Tipton 73378

Dear Member:

The Yateley Society has won a grant of almost £1,000 for an exhibition and a booklet from the Department of the Environment.

The Society applied for a grant under the terms of the European Campaign for Urban Renaissance. This campaign was launched by the Council of Europe to promote better life in towns. A small number of grants has been made in different areas in Britain to raise people's awareness of their urban environments, and so promote the development of policies for improvement.

The Society is extremely fortunate in being selected and is delighted to have won the award at such an opportune moment. With planning policies being reviewed in the Structure Plan, and decided in the District Plan, the grant is most timely for Yateley.

The Society's exhibition will review environmental and urban issues, relating them to past policies and indicating possible future developments. It will consider the range of options open to a town of our size and age, and encourage greater public participation in planning processes. We expect to be able to work with other local bodies and with the assistance of the District and Town councils. We hope to receive display boards and essential equipment by the end of April, and plan to mount the exhibition in July.

Following that our Planning Group will use market research techniques to collect data from the town's population. The final stage will be the publication of a booklet called "The Development of Yateley - Whose Town Is It Anyway?"

Throughout the exercise the Society will seek to remain objective and neutral. Our purpose is not to mould public opinion, but to promote understanding and informed comment.

DISTRICT PLAN - LETTERS OF OBJECTION

Members are reminded that letters of objection to the Plan should be sent to the Director of Planning in Hartley Wintney by Friday 16 April 1982.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1982 \*\*\* PLEASE NOTE

Members who attended the Yateley Town Council AGM and listened to Tony Hocking's excellent talk on the Yateley Conservation Area will agree that the Society has set high standards for its public performances. Edward Dawson's opening remarks for the Society at the Yateley District Plan public meeting likewise set the mood for reasoned debate, which contrasted strongly with a tendency to hysteria at other public meetings in the District. Through regular contributions to the Parish Magazine and the local press, the Society is becoming widely known for the range of its



activities; whilst the Public Lecture programme is designed to entertain and inform our members and the community. In addition, the Society will have its own stand at this year's May Fair, when members' broad interests will again be illustrated.

We hope to attract many new members this year and trust that past members will continue to support the Society and enjoy its activities. The individual Adult subscription is £3.50 (not £3.75 as printed in the last Newsletter, for which the editor apologises.) Members whose Newsletter is marked with a star are gently reminded that their subscriptions are still owing and are asked to please pay their dues promptly, either direct to the Treasurer, Richard Earnshaw, or to any Executive member. Subscriptions can also be paid at the next Lecture, on 22 April, and at the May Fair.

#### MAY FAIR

The Public Relations committee hope to have at least some of the splendid display boards being purchased with the help of the DOE grant for use at the May Fair. Since unpredictable weather is par for the course on May Day, arrangements are being made to construct a suitable shelter for the display, using plastic sheeting attached to wooden sections. The help of several handymen is needed for this. Could helpers please contact Tony Hocking (Yat. 875158) by Friday 16 April so that design and construction can be agreed and begun in good time.

#### QUESTIONNAIRES

Attached to this Newsletter is a questionnaire from the Ecology group. History group members will have a second questionnaire. Since the purpose of these questions is to assess the range of members' interests, no matter how casual, members are asked to complete both forms and return them to Liz Preedy and Peter Tipton.

#### MAPS OF YATELEY

To assist in the studies of particular areas and features of Yateley two large scale maps have been prepared. The first shows Yateley North, the gravel pits and Sandhurst and the second shows Yateley South, the airport, Yateley and Hawley Commons and Yateley Heath Wood. They are based on the Ordnance Survey Sheets of the area and are to a scale of approximately 1:5,000. They cost £2.00 each. Copies of the composite map of the whole of the Parish of Yateley at a scale of 1:10,000 are still available and are priced at £1.00, £1.20 and £2.20 depending on the quality of the print paper.

These maps will be available to Society members on Thursday evenings direct from Liz Preedy (Yat. 878871).



#### LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The WEA Landscape History course has now ended. A being distributed to all History Group members and is available to any other interested members. The questionnaire outlines the possibility of running a new tutorial course in conjunction with the WEA from September. A tutorial course is distinct from a lecture course in that participants spend their time working on projects. Participants in the new course could form up to 4 teams to study particular topics from original sources. The role of Dr John Porter would be to direct studies, to assign tasks within the capabilities of individuals, to give help with difficulties and to monitor progress. I hope that all memebtrs interested in Local History will complete the form.

The question then arises as to what the group should do in the Summer term. Mrs Betty Vint has suggested that we study the 1881 Census and analyse its information into occupations to give a picture of the community one hundred years ago. This is an excellent idea BUT we shall need the services of two volunteers to visit Portugal Street to copy out the census by hand. The only alternative is to obtain photostats, for which a provisional estimate is £45. If there are no volunteers to copy out, we need a benefactor to provide the photostats or we cannot proceed.

I am currently studying wills and inventories (note Diana Coldicott's lecture on 27 May) and lay subsidies. I have myself ordered photographs of the latter for both Yateley and Eversley for 1571, 1598, 1600 and 1610. I already have the 1586 subsidy which gives 21 names in Yateley and 24 names in Eversley. Transcribing these subsidies could make a secong Thursday evening project for those interested in learning to read Secretary Hand. The second stage would then be to locate the relevant wills in Winchester.

A third occupation for Thursdays could be to watch videotapes of the recent BBC-TV series "History on Your Doorstep" which Geoff Hoare has recorded. There are 8 programmes which might conveniently fit into 4 Thursday evenings. Obviously these would have to be viewed at Geoff and Maisie's house.

Please come to the first History meeting after Easter, Thursday 29 April, if you would like to work on any of these projects or have any other suggestions for group work.

Peter Tipton (Yat.873378)

#### POSTSCRIPT - HILL FARM INQUIRY

As you will know, this Inquiry lasted for the most part of 3 weeks - an endurance test at least for the most resistant posteriors. Whatever the outcome, the Inspector's Report will be a notable document, reflecting a n enviable capacity for assessing the many conflicting considerations put forward for each of the 3 development sites.

Members will be interested to know that the eminent QC arguing on behalf of Charles Church, the appellant for the Hill Farm site, was Mr Michael Mann, who presided as Inspector over the Belvoir Valley Inquiry.

"I must begin with a good body of facts and not from principle, in which I always suspect some fallacy."

[Charles Darwin]



THE YATELEY INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITIONS, 1867 and 1875

... Now, while earth with heaven rejoices,  
Each your Easter Tribute bring  
Work of fingers, chant of voices,  
Like the birds, who build and sing.

Such are the closing lines of verses written by Charles Kingsley, Rector of Eversley, "to be sung at the opening of the Industrial Exhibition at Yately, on Thursday, April 25, 1867" (the Thursday after Easter) to music by Sir William Cope of Bramshill. There was another Industrial Exhibition at Yateley in 1875.

What were these exhibitions? To us the title suggests machinery and steam engines but they seem to have been more what would be called a sale of work. Some light is thrown on them by two documents in the Cope Collection at Southampton University Library: a newspaper cutting and a printed Balance Sheet, both relating to the 1875 exhibition. We learn that the 1867 exhibition was the first of its kind in Hampshire, having been preceded by only a few in the Midlands. It was organised by Mr F H Fitzroy of Frogmore Park with the help of Col Bouverie Campbell, and there were 367 exhibitors. In 1875 the main organiser was again Mr Fitzroy, assisted this time by Captain Percy Smith of Yateley Lodge, with Sir William Cope as President. There had apparently been some opposition to the holding of this second exhibition and this may have been reflected in the reduction of the number of exhibitors to 180. Most of them were from Yateley and Hawley with a few from Cove, Eversley, Bramshill and Elvetham.

The 1875 exhibition was held at "the Yateley Schools," presumably the school built in Old School Lane in 1865, now the Village Hall. The Balance Sheet shows £12 spent in whitewashing, cleaning and decorating the school and enclosing the playground. Other items in the total expenditure of £38 included the hire of a tent (£6), a band (£6), and £2.15.6 for the police. The receipts came to £55 of which £35 was from entrance fees and £19 from sale of goods. In addition £41 worth of goods were sold by the exhibitors on their own behalf, so the total sales were £60 or 6s 8d per exhibitor. The surplus of £17 was divided between the Reading and Guildford hospitals.

What sort of people attended and took part, and what was exhibited and sold? The newspaper report refers to "a large and fashionable attendance" at the 1875 opening but in his speech Sir William Cope spoke of the good relations between Mr Fitzroy and "all classes of the community." The Bishop of Winchester, opening the exhibition, quoted a Latin proverb, "which the ladies will excuse me for giving in that language, but I will afterwards explain it: Laborare est orare - Labour is prayer." Evidently he assumed that the men in his audience had some knowledge of Latin. As the opening took place on a Wednesday the onlookers probably consisted mainly of the leisured classes. As for the exhibits, there is little information. The Bishop refers to the results of skilled labour and the display of objects of beauty, while the newspaper report ends with a tantalising reference to "various objects of interest, which are by far too numerous for us to attempt particularising." Perhaps more clues lie waiting to this precursor of Yateley's modern May Fair.

Michael Holroyd

YATELEY SOCIETY - OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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VICE-PRESIDENTS

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Maj Gen R Ll Brown

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21 Gibbs Way, Yateley  
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VICE-CHAIRMAN

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26 Barbara Close, Church Crookham  
(Fleet 4492)

HON SECRETARY

John Barker

21 Wyndham Close, Yateley  
(Yat. 875445)

HON TREASURER

Richard Earnshaw

1 Bridge Walk, Yateley  
(Yat. 875270)

COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS

Edward Brooks

14 Tolpuddle Way, Yateley  
(Yat. 874962)

Susan Dawson

21 Gibbs Way, Yateley  
(Yat. 877458)

Ron Hayett

14 Beechbrook Avenue, Yateley  
(Yat. 875923)

Tony Hocking

30 Connaught Close, Yateley  
(Yat. 875158)

Michael Holroyd

Firgrove Farm Cottage,  
Firgrove Road, Eversley  
(Yat.872439)

Jean McIlwaine

2 Firglen Drive, Yateley  
(Yat. 872768)

Valerie Kerslake

Lime Tree Cottage  
Chandlers Lane, Yateley  
(Yat. 872240)

John Preedy

25 Wistaria Lane, Yateley  
(Yat. 87881)

LECTURE SUB COMMITTEE

Chairman	Gordon Peake
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Member	Ron Hayett

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Member	Peter Tipton



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Secretary	Julia Vincent
Press Officer	Margaret Taylor*
Newsletter	Elizabeth Tipton*
Distribn	Ron Hayett

WALKS/VISITS/EVENTS SUB COMMITTEE

Chairman	Michael Holroyd
Secretary	Caroline Powell
Social Sec	Maisie Hoare
Co-ordinator	John Preedy
Member	Pat Tattersall

\*these are co-opted Executive members

WORKSHOP CO-ORDINATOR	Pat Tattersall	25 Connaught Close, Yateley (Yat. 87027)
LIBRARIAN/ARCHIVIST	Mary Hocking	30 Connaught Close, Yateley (Yat. 875158)
MAP ARCHIVIST	Michael Holroyd	
DIARY CO-ORDINATOR	Jean McIlwaine	
GROUP LEADERS:		
CONSERVATION	Valerie Kerslake	
ECOLOGY	Susan Dawson	
HISTORY	Peter Tipton	
PLANNING	Edward Brooks	
COMMONS & RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER	Michael Holroyd	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Members wishing to have items discussed by the Executive should contact the Secretary, John Barker (Yat. 875445) at least one week before Executive meetings. The dates of Executive meetings are included in the Diary.

SOCIETY DIARY

- Thursday 15 April Ecology 7.30pm 25 Wistaria Lane, off School Lane  
Trees: Identification of trees and location of unusual species, large specimens and areas of trees, for preparation of pamphlet "Trees in Yateley."
- Sunday 18 April Conservation 10.30am Ditch Clearing in Mill Lane opposite Firglen Drive. Hart DC are providing a skip and all ditch clearers welcome.
- Thursday 22 April LECTURE "THE COMMONLANDS OF ENGLAND" This Lecture will now be given by Mr Duncan Mackay, Deputy Secretary to the Commons, Open Spaces & Foot-path Preservation Society.  
7.30pm Drama Hall, Yateley Centre
- Thursday 29 April History 7.30pm Youth Suite, Yateley Centre
- Sunday 2 May Walk "Highways and Byeways" 2.30pm Heathlands Cemty  
A walk on the Common led by Michael Holroyd, to include the two old lanes recently cleared and drained by the Society (but wellingtons are still recommended!), and a historical look at part of the A30.
- Monday 3 May MAY FAIR Yateley Village Green
- Thursday 6 May Planning 7.30pm Youth Suite, Yateley Centre
- Saturday 8 May Ecology 9.30am Mill Lane, opposite West Fryerne  
Gravel Pit and Mill Race Walk
- Thursday 13 May History 7.30pm Youth Suite, Yateley Centre
- Friday\* 14 May Walk "Church and Chapel" 7.30pm Outside St Peter's Church. Jean McIlwaine will show us round St Peter's churchyard and recount some church history, followed by a walk to the Baptist Church at Cricket Hill.  
\*Please note day and time.
- Wednesday 19 May Executive Committee meeting
- Thursday 20 May Ecology 7.30pm Youth Suite, Yateley Centre  
Yateley Common: Identification of Plants, butterflies and dragonflies and planning summer projects on Common.



- Thursday 27 May                      LECTURE      "LOCAL HISTORY FROM WILLS AND INVENTORIES by  
Diana Coldicott. Inspired by ownership of a  
house in Long Sutton dating from around 1575,  
Mrs Coldicott published its history in 1970.  
Since then she has catalogued all the wills and  
inventories relating to Long Sutton, spent many  
hours transcribing documents in Winchester  
Library. She is now researching the history of  
4 Hampshire nunneries. Her talk promises to  
convey the excitement of the chase through  
documentary mazes as much as practical details  
for locating and understanding documents.  
7.30pm Drama Hall, Yateley Centre
- Thursday 3 June                      Planning      7.30pm Youth Suite, Yateley Centre
- Sunday 6 June                        Visit        Elvetham Hall 3.00pm  
A second opportunity to visit this interesting  
building. This time we shall be shown the  
grounds and stable block by Mr Hamerslay, who  
has kindly invited us to picnic in the grounds  
afterwards.  
Directions: Follow the A30 to Hartley Wintney,  
then turn left along the A323 towards Fleet,  
and the entrance is on the left after about  
1 mile.
- Thursday 10 June                    History      7.30pm Youth Suite, Yateley Centre

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGS

Hampshire County Council Museum Service is arranging 2 major excavations this summer:

1. Basing House                      Saturday 26 June - Sunday 18 July  
4th season of excavations, Saxon to 17th century
2. Odiham Castle                     Saturday 2 October - Sunday 17 October  
2nd season of excavation.

Occasional and full time helpers are welcome at these digs. Details and application forms from:

HCC Museum Service  
Chilcomb House, Chilcomb Lane  
Bar End, Winchester.

Next Newsletter due out week of 1 June.  
Copy please by Monday 24 May.



## LOCAL HISTORY PROJECTS

### QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Would you be interested in joining a WEA sponsored tutorial course starting September and running for 20 weeks at £15 total cost? Definitely ☐  
Probably ☐  
Possibly ☐  
Not at all ☐ Go to question 3
2. If the course ran for only 10 weeks, or your commitment would be only to pay for 10 weeks at £8 total cost, how does this change your rankings? Definitely ☐  
Probably ☐  
Possibly ☐
3. Of the four proposed research topics, overleaf, please rank them in order that you would most prefer to take part giving 1, most preferred, 4 least preferred A Rural land holdings ☐  
B Population & Housing ☐  
C Mediaeval settlement ☐  
D Historic Landscape ☐
4. Are there any other topics you would like to see covered by a project group? 1.....  
2.....  
3.....
5. Would you prefer that project groups study a particular topic in Landscape History working backwards from the present eg Roads & tracks; Buildings; Field patterns I prefer to work on one of the topics as proposed overleaf ☐  
I prefer to take one subject and work backwards in time ☐
6. Which Landscape History topic would you prefer to work on? .....
7. Which evening would most suit you for the tutorial sessions? .....

#### IF YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED IN THE WEA TUTORIAL COURSE:

8. Are you interested in LECTURE courses in any of the following local history subjects? Cost would be about £10 for a 10 week course? Please tick each subject interested 1. Timberframe Archaeology ☐  
2. Palaeography ☐  
3. Statistical Population Studies ☐  
4. Family History & Genealogy ☐  
5. .... ☐
9. Would you prefer to continue project work in Local History within The Yateley Society? Working individually ☐  
or  
At Thursday Evening Meetings ☐

NAME.....

PHONE.....

ADDRESS.....

ARE YOU A YATELEY SOCIETY MEMBER?

.....

YES ☐ NO ☐

Please return to; MONTEAGLE HOUSE, MONTEAGLE LANE, YATELEY 873378



## RESEARCH TOPICS

### A Land, landholding and the agricultural community, 1830-70

Concerned with the structure of the rural community, with particular reference to the role and nature of agriculture; the pattern of landholding; the mid-19th C. rural landscape; changes in the above.

Sources to include census returns, tithe surveys, Agricultural Returns, Land Tax returns, local newspapers, etc.

Deriving from members' existing work on tithe map analysis, tithe app. card index, land tax card index, field names card index, occupation analysis, 1851/61 census analyses.

### B Population, housing, and wealth, 1600-1800

Concentrating on housing and domestic life, the pattern of population change the emergence of prominent families and estates.

Sources to include probate inventories, property records, Hearth Tax returns, vernacular architecture studies, parish register analyses.

Deriving from members' existing work on old house studies, property record studies, church register index.

### C Medieval and early settlement

Mainly Tudor times and earlier, aiming to identify early units of settlement and land organisation, with a view to establishing the origins of settlement and early institutions and their continuity with prehistoric times. Archaeological expertise might eventually be valuable. A willingness to learn some Latin and early handwriting would be needed.

Sources would be very diverse and would include material from the earliest to modern times.

Deriving from members' existing work on medieval studies of Cove and Yateley, Crondall Records studies.

### D Historic landscape study

This would aim to identify all pre-1870 surviving features in the landscape. The end product would be a highly detailed map of surviving field features perhaps with additional 'period' maps, and an indexed catalogue giving detailed descriptions and documentary references. Such a study has implications for conservation in an area undergoing rapid housing and population development.

Sources to include all known maps, aerial photos, documentary references.

Deriving from members' existing work on old houses surveys, turnpike roads, parish boundary walks.



QUESTIONNAIRE

ECOLOGY PROJECTS

1. Are you interested in participating in the projects?
 

Working individually .....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working regularly on group projects .....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assisting occasionally on group projects .....	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Which of the projects\* are of particular interest to you?
 

Gravel pit Colonization	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hedge Dating	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heathland Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moth Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Butterfly Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Mammal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dragon & May Fly Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watercourses of Yateley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bird Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trees in Yateley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fungi Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Royal Oak Valley Study	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. Are there any other topics of interest to you?
 

.....
4. When would you be prepared to attend field meetings?
 

Sat. AM	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sat. PM	<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday evening	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sun. AM	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sun. PM	<input type="checkbox"/>	in Summer	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. How often should Thursday evening discussion meetings be held?
 

Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/>	More Often	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Less Often	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Please place in order of preference the four proposed formats for discussion meetings.
 

a. Discussion of all ongoing projects	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Discussion of one or two specific projects	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Discussion of one project and related general matters	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. General interest meetings with talks by a specialist.	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* Details of these projects appear in earlier issues of the Newsletter or are self-explanatory except the last project. This is a new project to study the plant and animal life of the area behind the Royal Oak Public House which has been proposed as an open space/recreation area in the draft Hart District Plan.

Name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 .....  
 Telephone: .....

Existing Ecology Group Members and any Members of the Society wishing to join the Ecology Group please return this form to Liz Preedy, 25 Wistaria Lane, Yateley (878871)