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Harland

THE YATELEY SOCIETY

PROGRAMME MAY - JULY 1983

Sunday	1 May	DAWN CHORUS	8.30 am Meet at car park behind the Royal Oak. Details from Liz Preedy (Yat 878871)
Monday	2 May	MAY FAYRE	10.00 am to 4.30 pm Yateley Green
Thursday	3 May	Planning/ Conservation	Monthly meeting 8.00 pm Youth Suite
Tuesday	10 May		Executive Committee meeting
Thursday	12 May	History	General discussion with new leader 7.30 pm Youth Suite, Yateley Centre
Friday	13 May	Kew Gardens	Open days Tickets from Edward Dawson (Yat 877458)
Saturday	14 May		
Sunday	15 May	Walk	<u>Trees in the Conservation Area</u> 2.00 pm Meet outside Barclays Bank, Reading Road
Thursday	19 May	LECTURE	"ORCHIDS OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND" 7.30 pm Room C.1.1
Thursday	26 May	Ecology	Monthly meeting 7.30 pm Room C.1.3
Sunday	29 May	Ecology	Riverbank Walk 2.30 pm Meet 1 mile North of "The Hatchgate", Eversley Grid ref: SU742334
Thursday	2 June	Planning/ Conservation	Monthly meeting 8.00 pm Youth Suite
Sunday	5 June	Walk	<u>Wild Flowers on the Common</u> 2.00 pm led by Valerie Kerslake. Meet at the Vigo Lane Carpark
Thursday	9 June	History	Oral History project meeting. See Newsletter
Saturday	11 June		Yateley Centre Tenth Anniversary Dance 8.00 - 12.00 midnight. Tickets: £4 from the Centre Office
Thursday	13 June	Ecology	Meadow Walk 7.30 pm Meet outside "Moorside", Cricket Hill
Thursday	23 June	History	Joint meeting with WEA group 7.30 pm Youth Suite
Thursday	30 June	Ecology	Monthly meeting 7.30 pm Room C.1.3
Saturday	2 July		Evening visit to Near Hill, Selborne led by Arthur Jollands. Names in advance to Liz Preedy (Yat 878871)
Thursday	7 July	Planning / Conservation	Monthly meeting 8.00 pm Youth Suite
Saturday	9 July		Yateley Schools Association Fete All day on Westfields Campus
Thursday	14 July	History	Landscape History project 7.30 pm Youth Suite
Saturday	16 July	Barbecue	Monteagle House 8.00 pm See Newsletter
Wednesday	20 July	Ecology	Castle Bottom Field Study 7.00 pm Meet at Grid ref: SU787589 on the B3013
Thursday	21 July	Walk	Evening tour of Frogmore and Darby Green 7.00 pm Led by Gordon Harland. Meet at St Barnabas Church
Saturday	27 August		Canal Boat Trip and Picnic 2.00 pm See Newsletter

THE YATELEY SOCIETY

REPORTS FROM THE

NEWSLETTER No 13

April 1983

Editor: E.J. Tipton 273378

Dear Member:

It was the "showers sweet" of April, as you may remember, which were the root cause of that famous journey to Canterbury begun by Chaucer's pilgrims some 580 years ago.

Not even Chaucer's eloquence should persuade us that the last few weeks of April downpour were the same showers sweet which quicken Nature, lighten hearts and make pilgrims eager for journeys. But so potent is the traditional image of English springtime that any brief ray of April 1983 sunshine seems to hold the promise of that most perfect of spring days when Chaucer's pilgrims set their faces towards Canterbury. Infected by nostalgia, we are persuaded that drenchings are vernal sprinklings; that gales will quickly soften; and that sodden ground will vanish beneath lush aromatic grass.

At least we are if we are planning The Society's participation in this year's May Fayre on Monday 2 May on Yateley Green. With the Round Table's choice of "Rural England" as this year's theme, we hope to attract even more visitors to our display and sales area - and not just because we offer proven shelter!

You will find us this year on the west side of the Arena, backing on to the Pond. With a simplified traffic circulation plan devised by the Tablers, every person visiting the Fayre should pass every site. And since The Society has a double site this year, no one should miss us.

Part of the enclosure will have a new display on the work and interests of The Society whilst the other part will be a sales area. Here we shall be offering a carefully chosen range of home-baked biscuits and sweets, and two other quite unique items which you will just have to come and see for yourself.

The Society's Tree Booklet has just been published and will be on sale for the first time on May Day, price 45p. Derek Doherty's "Yateley - A Medieval Village" and Michael Holroyd's edition of the 1844 Tithe Map will also be on sale, together with a representative selection of the Shire publications, for which special orders can be taken for titles not on display.

Finally, and not least, we hope to attract considerable numbers of entries to our May Garland contest and these will be decorating the interior of the enclosure. Our 'staff' will therefore be suitably attired too.

The profits from sales of the homemade goods will go towards The Society's "Plant a Tree in '83" fund and we would welcome suggestions for possible sites and species of tree. As in past years, we know May Day will bring The Society new members and hope that all present members will visit the stand and approve The Society's contribution to Yateley's own special event.

THE DAWN CHORUS 3.30 am Sunday 1 May

This year, for the Society's second Dawn Chorus meet, we shall be gathering in the Royal Oak Valley. The event will be led by Peter Edwards from Kew Gardens whose encyclopaedic knowledge of Natural History never ceases to impress us all. Some of you will remember his previous trips to Yateley.

For those uninitiated in the ritual, the idea is to identify the birdsong in the dark period just before dawn. Once it is light there are so many birds singing that it becomes difficult to separate their songs. We shall then have time to join the Morris Men at Wyndhams Pool where they start their Day of Dance at 5.30 am. If you bring your sausages and bacon with you no doubt a place can be found to round off the event with breakfast.

Names please to Elizabeth Preedy (Yat 878371)

SOCIETY WALK: "TREES IN THE CONSERVATION AREA" 2.30 pm Sunday 15 May

To mark the publication of the booklet "Yateley's Trees - A Walk in the Conservation Area" The Society has arranged a walk following the route described. We hope that the booklet will promote public awareness of the Conservation Area as well as informing people about the trees around Yateley Green. It is a pleasant walk taking you over some of the less used paths and roads of the area and the trees are at their best at this time of year. The event will be led by Irene Brager and Norm Dowling who wrote the text. Please meet outside Barclays Bank on the Reading Road.

The booklet, produced by the Ecology Group, is designed to be easily carried on the walk. It has a map of the Conservation Area and the text is illustrated to help in the identification of some of the tree species. It will be on sale at the May Fayre, price 40 pence.

The Ecology Group would like to thank Janette Santons for her help in typing the booklet.

SOCIETY LECTURE: "ORCHIDS OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND" by Andrew Cleave

Thursday 19 May
Yateley Centre
Room C.1.1
7.30 pm

Over many years of lecturing to local WEA classes on a wide range of Natural History topics Andrew Cleave has established a considerable reputation for his superb photographs and relaxed but informative presentation. Even if your interests do not include Natural History you are sure to find this lecture on England's most beautiful wild flowers utterly fascinating.

SOCIAL EVENT: BARBECUE at Monteagle House

Saturday 13 July
Monteagle House
8.00 pm

Due to its refurbishing, the Village Hall is not available to us this year, so for the summer social event Peter and Elizabeth Tipton have offered to host an outdoor barbecue at Monteagle House. The cost will be £2 for adults and teenagers and 90p for children. Names in advance to Elizabeth or Peter (Yat 878378)

CANAL BOAT TRIP AND PICNIC

Saturday 27 August
Colt Hill Bridge
Odiham
2.30 pm

Following the lecture last year about the Basingstoke Canal many people suggested that a trip on the "John Pinkerton" would be a good summer event. So that it can be a family outing we have arranged it as an afternoon picnic. The cost will be £1 per seat, though children small enough to be carried are free. Bring your own picnics. Names to Caroline Powell (Tel 275706) or John Barker (275445)

ST PETER'S WEEK

The Society has been invited to participate in this year's celebration by the church of St Peter's, Yateley. From Saturday 26 June until Saturday 2 July the church will have a special programme of services and events. The Society will be mounting a display relating important events in the thousand-year history of the church building to the village life of Yateley at each period. Since historical records inevitably vary in quantity and quality from one period to another, this is more difficult to do for some centuries than for others. The St Peter's flower ladies are devising complementary flower arrangements for each section and we hope together to achieve a modest portrayal of the church within its ancient parish.

LMATH AND CAB

Although you will all know that LMath Grant Ferguson's inimitable figure no longer presides over the Yateley Society's activities, many members are probably unaware of how much The Yateley Society owes to him. Had it not been for his conception and organisation of "The Study of Yateley" course in September 1979, The Society might not exist yet. He constantly encouraged and helped The Society and even as he was departing for Trelear School, he helped bring together the core personnel for the embryonic Oral History of Yateley project (of which more later).

The realization of a Yateley & District Citizens' Advice Bureau was a wider community project which LMath was also very keen on. The Yateley CAB will be holding their first AGM on Monday 28 May at 8.00 pm in the WI Hall to which Society members are invited. The guest speaker will be LMath, on the theme "Developing Community", a theme which Society members will find relevant to the Yateley Society and its broader purposes. It would be a small gesture of thanks to LMath, as well as a gesture of support to the CAB Management Committee, if some Society members could be present that evening.

A BIT OF CLEARING UP

by Valerie Kerslake

... in and around the pond and wood in Chandlers Lane was a contribution The Society made towards the Best Fert Village Competition. About 10 members spent a Sunday morning clearing away the huge quantities of household and garden rubbish that had been dumped and scattered in this little wood - which is common land belonging to the parish. A tiring and tiring job, clearing up other people's mess, but we did get most of it gathered together and the Town Council took it away.

Within a week, however, more bags of rubbish had appeared. Probably not everyone knows that household and garden rubbish may be taken to the Amenity Dump between Yateley and Hartley Wintney. It is along the little lane to the right immediately past the "Whyte Lyon" on the A33.

Very much more agreeable (in spite of continuous rain) was one more onslaught we made upon the scrub invading heathland behind "The Ely." This particular type of conservation must cease now until the autumn to avoid disturbing nesting birds.

THE COUNTRYSIDE AT NIGHT

by James Dowling, Age 10

On Thursday 14 April I went to my first Yateley Society meeting. I enjoyed the talk and slides shown by Arthur Jollands very much. My favourites were the slides on barn owls, foxes and badgers. The barn owls were nesting high up in a derelict cottage. The mother owl will lay her first egg and start incubating it straight away. It may be two weeks before the last egg is laid. Therefore the chicks are hatched at different times. This is unusual in the bird world. In this family there were 4 chicks. When the parent came to the nest with food the eldest chick would push to the front and jostle the smaller chicks. Arthur Jollands put a piece of wood up against the edge of the nest so they could not be pushed out. If they had fallen out the parents would have ignored them, then they would have starved to death.

The fox cubs I saw looked like my Siamese cat with their long pointed faces and ears. Arthur Jollands encourages the badgers with honey on a stick and peanuts which they now take from his hand. Mr. Jollands said - "They are not tame, but trusting." I also saw bats, a kestrel, field mice, deer and rats. I am glad I went to the talk. I hope there will be others for children.

Ed's Postscript: There will be a superb opportunity to actually see Arthur Jollands' badgers on the evening of Saturday 2 July, when Mr. Jollands will lead an evening walk on Noar Hill, Selborne. The plan is to leave Yateley around 5.00 pm, meet Mr. Jollands in Selborne, walk to Noar Hill looking at orchids on the way and then badger watch. By the time the badgers have tired of us the glow-worms will be lighting the path back down to the pub.

Mr. Jollands seems happy to conduct any number of us, but names should be given in advance to Liz Preedy (Yat 678871) so that car lifts can be organised. See you there, Jamie!

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

by Michael Holrcyd

Peter Tipton has decided that he wishes to retire from the position of leader of the Local History Group in order to have more time for other Society activities. The Executive Committee has asked me to take over, and I have agreed to do so.

Peter has been running the group since The Society started and has been an inspiring leader. He has not only taught us all a lot about the history of Yateley and its sources, but has succeeded in communicating enthusiasm, perhaps the most valuable achievement of any teacher. I am sure I speak for all members of the group, and indeed of The Society, when I offer Peter our thanks for all his efforts. Peter will remain an active member of the group and will continue to co-ordinate the Oral History project, as well as being always ready to help people investigating the history of Yateley's old houses.

My own first priority will be to learn what members of the group have done so far and wish to do in the future. I hope that on Thursday 12 May all members of the group and any other members of The Society who think they might be interested in local history will come along to the Youth Suite so that we can have a general discussion about our future activities. I hope that we can keep in close touch with the WEA Yateley History Project. On Thursday 23 June we shall be having a joint meeting with members of the WEA group and their tutor, Dr. John Porter, to hear about their research and discuss any links with what Society members have been doing.

I am also hoping to revive interest in landscape history, and on Thursday 16 July I am planning a discussion of a number of topics which members have investigated, and others which still await investigation.

ORAL HISTORY

by Peter Tipton

You will have noticed from a couple of articles in the "Yateley News" that The Society is undertaking to record memories of Yateley, both before and as it has developed to its present size. We believe that Yateley is somewhat unique in the speed and size of its growth, so that one of our intentions is to provide future local historians with a record of our times, recorded live from the people who live here.

Our approach will be somewhat different from that of genealogists and family historians, since we shall be recording the history of the development of a community: not so much the life within each house, as the life of the community around each house. Eventually part of the material will contribute a section to the booklet on the development of Yateley for which we won part of the DoE grant..

We have our first two tapes, each 1½ hours long. One deals with life in the first two decades of this century; the second deals with the period 1940-1968. We are evolving a standard format for interviews so that anyone interested can take recordings. Youngsters from the history courses at our two comprehensive schools have volunteered to help as well as Society members. We intend to work in teams of two, one to interview, the other to record, though both can chip in with questions. Cassettes will be provided.

On Thursday 9 June the Society meeting will be assigned to Oral History, when we shall be explaining procedure to anyone wishing to take part in the project. Bring along a friend, not necessarily a Society member, and find out if you would like to help.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

by Peter Tipton

The Hampshire Field Club has recently formed an Historic Buildings Section which intends to arrange meetings/visits throughout the year, and whose first Newsletter has just been published.

Geoff Hoare and I went to Petersfield one Sunday for a day symposium on the carpentry of timber-framed buildings, organised in conjunction with the Petersfield Society and the VEA. Richard Harris, author of the Shire publication "Discovering Timber-Framed Buildings" was one of the main speakers for an excellent day which attracted an audience of over 100, a great encouragement to the Hampshire Field Club and to the Section organizers.

Further days are planned to continue this theme:

Sunday 15 May Priory Stabling, Winchester Cathedral Close. 16th century
A practical introduction to measuring timber buildings.
Some tapes and other measuring equipment will be provided
but pencil and paper are needed. Everyone will record
structure and joint details. Cost: £1

Saturday 25 June Botley Church
Demonstration by an expert of practical methods of
recording churches. Numbers strictly limited.
Cost: £2.50

Saturday 28 July St Agatha's Church, Portsmouth and other churches not
normally open to general viewing. Cost: £1

Sunday 13 September Tour of Historic Wall Paintings in Hampshire.
Transport not provided. Cost: £1

Society members interested in any of these visits should contact me immediately for booking forms. At least three of us intend going to the practical day in Winchester in mid-May so there is at least one car seat vacant. (Tel 873373)

TYPISTS WITH TIME

For many months now Jean McIlwaine has been devotedly recording the inscriptions in the churchyard of St Peter's. Now the writing is done and the typing needs to begin. If any typing member could give Jean some help, she would be most grateful. Her phone number is Tel 872763.

Executive Committee meets: Tuesday 10 May
Tuesday 21 June

Copy date for next Newsletter: 12 June

DISTRICT PLAN INQUIRY

I must take this opportunity to thank those many of our members, as well as non members, who supported our representatives at the District Plan Inquiry, either by letter or by attending on March 31. The weight of the numbers did not go unnoticed.

Thanks also to the other members of the team who put in so many hours of work in preparation of our case which, from various comments passed during and since the Inquiry, seems to have made some impact. Hopefully all our proposed modifications will be incorporated into the final District Plan; more realistically, however, we expect some of our proposals to be adopted and for the time being we can only wait and see.

Ted Brooks
Leader
Planning Group
The Yatalay Society

YATELEY SOCIETY - OFFICES AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1988

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENTS Maj-Gen R. Lt. Brown
 Mr. Sydney Louder

CHAIRMAN Edward Dawson

21 Gibbs Way, Yateley
(Yat 877466)

VICE CHAIRMAN Gordon Peake

28 Barbara Close, Ch Crockham
(Fleet 4402)

HON TREASURER Richard Burnshaw

1 Bridge Walk, Yateley
(Yat 878270)

HON SECRETARY John Barker

21 Wyndham Close, Yateley
(Yat 878445)

COMMITTEE
MEMBERS Edward Brooks

14 Tolpuddle Way, Yateley
(Yat 874164)

Geoff Hoare

1 Blakes Ride, Yateley
(Yat 872040)

Tony Hocking

30 Connaught Close, Yateley
(Yat 878168)

Michael Holroyd

Firgrove Farm Cottage
Firgrove Road, Eversley
(Yat 875438)

Valerie Verslue

Lime Tree Cottage
Chandlers Lane, Yateley
(Yat 875241)

Caroline Powell

87 Burtons Drive, Yateley
(Yat 873708)

John Preedy

26 Victoria Lane, Yateley
(Yat 878271)

Mary Robins

Little Acre, Bramley Bottom
(Yat 878374)

LECTURE SUB COMMITTEE

Chairman Gordon Peake
Secretary Pat Tattersall
Co-ordinator John Preedy

PLANNING/CONSERVATION

Chairman Edward Brooks
Secretary Christine Hecksher
Conservation Valerie Verslue
Member Peter Tipton

PUBLIC RELATIONS SUB COMMITTEE

Chairman Tony Hocking
Secretary Julie Vincent
Press Off. Margaret Taylor (Yat 871408)*
Newsletter Elizabeth Tipton*
Membership Geoff Hoare

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Chairman John Preedy
Secretary Caroline Powell
Members John Barker
Music Hoare
Liz Preedy

* these are co-opted Executive members

WALKS/VISITS SUB COMMITTEE

Chairman Michael Holroyd
Secretary Mary Robins
Member Pat Tattersall

MEETINGS CO-ORDINATOR Pat Tattersall 35 Connaught Close, Yateley
(Yat 376247)
LIBRARIAN/ARCHIVIST Mary Eockin 33 Connaught Close, Yateley
(Yat 376138)
MAP ARCHIVIST Michael Holroyd
DIARY CO-ORDINATOR Mary Robins

GROUP LEADERS

CONSERVATION Valerie Marsden
ECOLOGY Susan Dawson
HISTORY Michael Holroyd
PLANNING Edward Brooks
COMMS & RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER Michael Holroyd
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT Peter Titten Montpelier House, Yateley
(Yat 372372)
SCRAPBOOK RECORD Stephanie Patenden 33 Home Park Road, Yateley
(Yat 374154)

Executive Committee Meetings

Members wishing to have items discussed by the Executive should contact the Hon Secretary, John Barker at least one week before Executive meetings.
The dates of Executive meetings are given in the programme.