



WELCOME TO YATELEY
from
THE YATELEY SOCIETY



YATELEY has existed from at least early Saxon times. It grew slowly until the mid C20th when an explosion of development occurred; the result is attractive historic buildings grouped in original centres, separated and surrounded by estates of modern houses of doubtful architectural quality and with no sign of overall planning.

The parish is fortunate in having a large area of common land open to the public, both within the village (the Green) and the heathland stretching from Frogmore to Blackbushe.

THE YATELEY SOCIETY, the Local Amenity Society for the Parish of Yateley, was formed in January 1981 by a group of people anxious to maintain and improve the quality of life in Yateley.

The Society is a registered charity and its constitution follows the Model Constitution of the Civic Trust. It has the following basic aims:

(i) To inform the public on the history, natural history, architecture and geography of Yateley.

(ii) To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest.

(iii) To promote high standards of planning and architecture.

(For more information P.T.O.)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THE YATELEY SOCIETY

Classes	Adult (Annual)	£3.50	Joint Adult (Annual)	£5.00
of	Junior (Annual)	£1.50	Joint Life	£65.00
Membership	Life	£50.00	Corporate (Annual)	£10.00

Please fill in your name and address overleaf and return to:-

Mr G S Hoare, Membership Secretary, The Yateley Society, 1 Blakes Ride,
Yateley, Camberley, Surrey, GU17 7QJ. (Tel. Yateley 872948)

ACTIVITIES (VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME!)

Public Lectures - on topics of general interest, usually with local relevance.

Conducted Walks - rural and urban, to show points of interest in Yateley and the surrounding area.

Watchdog - monitoring planning applications and giving advice to public bodies and to members of the public.

Study and Research Programmes -
Local History, Natural History, Conservation.

Conservation - clearing footpaths and ponds, helping preserve specific flora on the Common.

MEETINGS

Informal Discussion, Members' Talks, Study Meetings
One or more of these take place most Thursday evenings, usually in room C.1.1 of the Yateley Centre, School Lane, or the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Public Lectures - Held in the Yateley Centre, usually in the Main Hall at 8.00pm on a Thursday.

(In addition there are occasional Social Functions)

COMMUNICATION - By newsletter, issued at nominal 6 week intervals and by announcements at lectures.

CONTACTS:- Mr G S Hoare, (Membership Secretary), 1 Blakes Ride, Yateley. (Tel: Yateley 872948)
Mrs P Harverson, (Secretary), 1 Broome Close, Yateley. (Tel: Yateley 876914)

Surname (Mr, Mrs, Miss) _____ Forename(s) _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

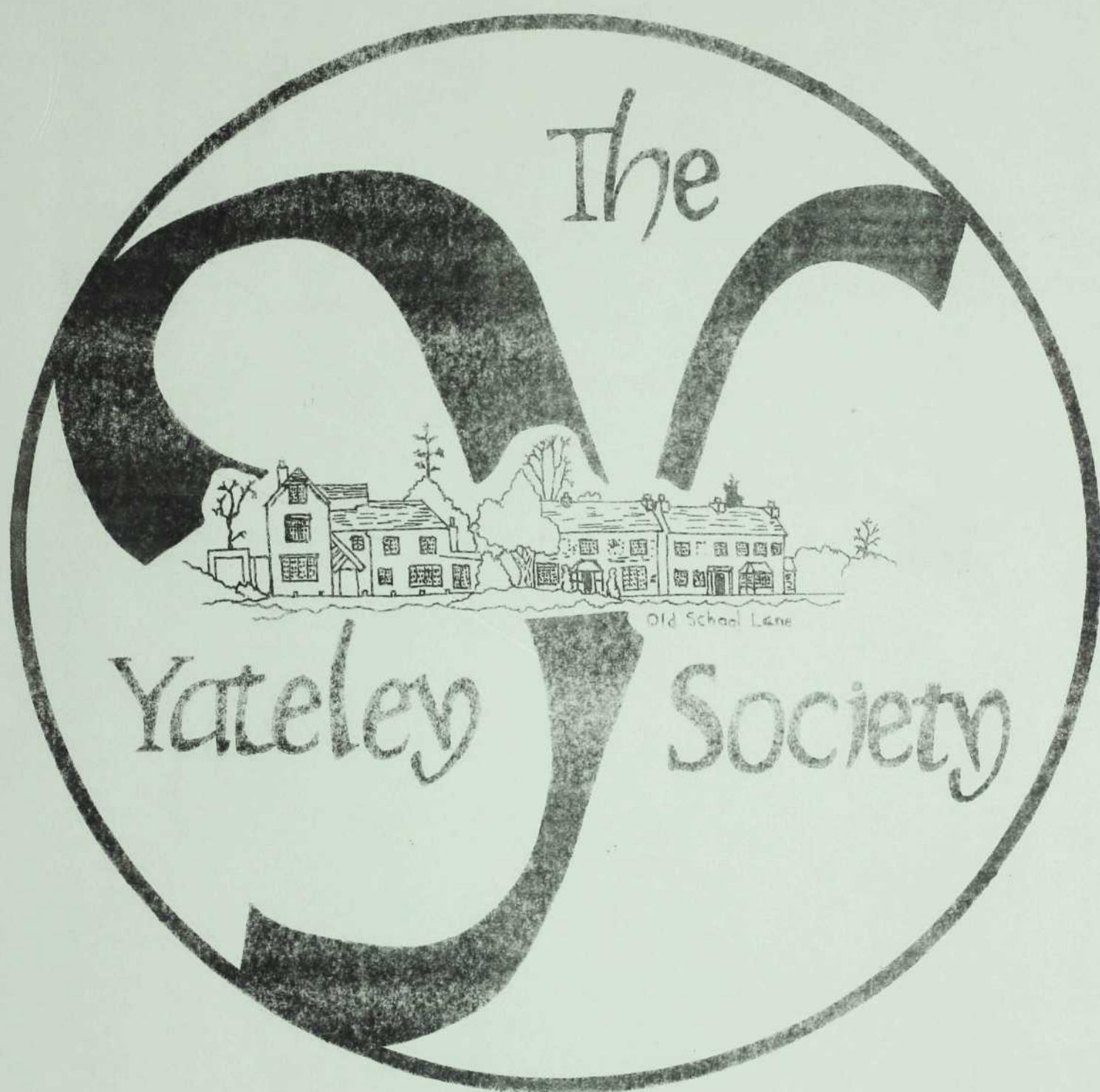
Class of membership desired _____

Any special interests? _____

(Cheques payable to 'The Yateley Society')

No. 33

DECEMBER 1987



Newsletter

THE YATELEY SOCIETY

Newsletter No. 33

DECEMBER 1987

Editor: Tony Hocking, 30 Connaught Close (Yateley 875158)

THE EDITORIAL.

Dear Member:

More innovations this issue - a puzzle and a poem!
They are provided courtesy of our young people and totally
unsolicited - this is what editors dream of!

If more of you have something unusual or new to publish - I want it!

I've given up asking questions in the newsletter, everyone is too
reticent. However, I am glad to say that Geoff Hoare has received some
completed "interest" slips (including mine).

Enough - the important thing at this time of year is to wish you all

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A WELCOME to new member Mr Howard, 103, Beaulieu Gardens, Blackwater.

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE:

COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT "STOP PRESS" - 30 JANUARY 1988
(REMEMBER, ONLY URGENT ITEMS ACCEPTED)

COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER - 15 March 1988.

TOADS

by Valerie Kerslake

After our training last year, most of us will know how to offer help
to TOADS trying to cross the road again this coming spring. Dates are
unspecifiable at present, but volunteers are likely to be required on
mild damp evenings in February and March.

*** A.G.M ***

by The Chairman

The Society's Annual General Meeting is on Thursday 21st January 1988 at 8pm in the Green Room at the Yateley Centre.

This is your chance to hear about all the Society's activities during the past year, to comment on them and to make your own suggestions for the future. The business part of the meeting will be followed by some light refreshments.

Unlike a lot of societies, we always get a good attendance at our AGM, so please help us to keep up our record by coming along.

We are slowly but surely recruiting new members for the Committee but we still need more volunteers, particularly for a Secretary. The role of secretary is primarily to record the minutes of the Society's Committee meetings which occur roughly every 6 weeks, to write a few letters and to help generally with the running of the Society; it is not essential that the secretary should be able to type, there are other members willing to do the typing for us. So if you are interested, why not ring Pam Harverson (Tel: 876914) to learn more about the position.

Cheese and wine will be served, free of charge, at the end of the formal business. ALL members are welcome at the AGM.

NATURAL HISTORY

by Irene Draper

In October Jack and Helen Edwards led a talk/discussion on "Feeding Birds in your Garden". This was a very well attended, lively and informative evening. They brought with them a variety of different feeders and gave us tips on where and how to hang them and what to put in them to attract a greater variety of birds to feed. The article in the December issue of the Yateley Parish Magazine (reproduced below) was based on the talk and includes some of their tips.

For the November meeting we had an illustrated talk on the "Life of the Heron" by Mr and Mrs Chappell. This meeting was again well attended and a good number of questions followed the very interesting talk. I will not go into detail about the talk now as I hope to persuade Mr Chappell to write an article on his work with herons and about the colony in Windsor Great Park for the next newsletter.

Meetings in 1988.

No meeting in January - saving our strength for the AGM!

Thurs February 11 will be partly a discussion on topics for future Natural History meetings, and partly a "Bring a Thing" evening. Bring anything of Natural History interest that you can tell us about or that you would like to find out about.

Please note: LIVE EXHIBITS MUST BE SAFELY AND SECURELY CONFINED OR UNDER STRICT CONTROL. (Only joking!)

Thurs March 10th will be another chance to see Dr Robert Guest's splendid colour slides of butterflies.

FEEDING BIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN

Many people take great pleasure from feeding the birds that come into their gardens. Now winter is rapidly approaching and the autumn flush of nuts and berries is depleted, more and more will be visiting our bird tables. White bread has little nutrient value; brown bread and

cake, especially fruit cake, is healthier. Peanuts can disappear from nut holders at an alarming rate, so these can be mixed with bread or cake crumbs, oats, wild bird seed, dried fruit and melted fat to make a bird cake. The mixture can be packed into cardboard toilet roll holders and frozen ready to slip into the nut holder, first cutting off the cardboard of course. This cake helps to make the peanuts last longer and gives the birds a more varied diet.

Birds will pick clean any meat bones. Put them in a hanging basket out of reach of dogs and cats. If you have problems with squirrels, the basket will need to be hung up with a piece of very fine garden wire longer than the total length of the squirrel and its tail! You may be very lucky and attract flocks of long-tailed tits to feed in the basket.

Christmas usually heralds the start of the coldest part of the year and the prolonged cold and snow which usually follows may bring unusual birds to the garden. Seed scattered on the ground under trees could attract redpoll and siskins and, amongst the chaffinches, bramblings (our 'Winter Finch' from Scandinavia and farther east). Snow lying on the fields will drive redwings and fieldfares to feed on the cotoneaster and pyracantha berries in parks and gardens. These birds, members of the thrush family, are also winter visitors. When the berries are finished they will quickly consume any old apples or pears you put out.

Severe weather makes life very difficult for smaller ground and cover feeding birds such as wrens, robins and dunnocks. Finely grated cheese sprinkled on the ground near cover will be much appreciated. Put on the bird table, cheese will be eaten by many different species.

Finally, don't be too hasty in clearing up your garden. The seeds from golden rod, Michaelmas daisies and teasels may attract flocks of goldfinches. One teasel planted in a pot can be moved gradually nearer and nearer to the house, thus providing a closer look at these attractive little birds.

More useful information can be found in "Looking after Wild Birds", one of a series of "Talking Pets" leaflets produced by Pedigree Petfoods.

THE ROYAL OAK VALLEY - 1987

by Irene Draper

In February a Public Enquiry was held at the Yateley Centre to discuss extending the valley footpath, at the South end, through to Handford Lane (see The Royal Oak Valley Footpath by Michael Holroyd, Newsletter No.32). This was given the go-ahead and work on the footpath should start soon. Sadly, during the great storm, at least five oaks and several other trees came down in this area of the valley. These will have to be cleared and made safe before the work on the footpath can start. Growing in this section is a large Bay Willow, this was badly damaged in the storm; Peter Dinsdale, the Country Park Warden, tells us it was used by lesser spotted woodpeckers to raise a family this year. Yet another good nesting site lost.

In July a meeting with John Tickle, Mark Bleay (Blackwater Valley Project Officers) and myself was held in the valley, to discuss the long awaited Management Plan. Mark Bleay, the Assistant Project Officer, has been given the task of producing the plan. This is near completion and should soon be available to the Society for comment.

Not long after this meeting the notice board near Old Welmore disappeared yet again. This time it was not gone long, only a few weeks. One Society member actually saw two official looking men in

overalls putting it back up. Whoever they were - thank you! Meanwhile Mark Bleay had photocopied our spare, this used a new technique which copies in colour. We now have 5 spares in case any other boards go missing and are not returned. We might not be so lucky a third time.

I am very pleased to report that at last the stream running diagonally across the meadow area has been cleared out and a good deep channel dug. The work was done by Hart District Council after several requests by Jack Edwards, whose garden the stream runs through, and John Tickle. Lets hope that now during heavy rainfall the water can get away quickly and not flood the bottom of Jack's garden.

The Purple Loosestrife, devastated 3 years ago by beetles, continues to make a good recovery. Flowering from June through to August its bright purple flower spikes make a lovely splash of colour in the meadow area of the valley. A typical stream-side, wet meadow plant which likes to grow with its roots in moist soil.

In September we held our annual Rubbish Clearing Day. Sadly this was poorly attended which was a pity as it was a glorious sunny day. Those that did come in the morning enjoyed a pleasant picnic lunch as well as a little sun bathing. This year there was no large rubbish, that is shopping trollies, fridges, armchairs or car tyres. However we did fill many plastic bags with bottles, tins, crisp packets, food containers and the dreaded rose cuttings - which do not rot down. Unfortunately the valley is still being used by some local people as a place to dump their garden rubbish. There seems to be no answer to this problem.

On Sunday the 8th of October three Society members joined the Blackwater Valley Conservation Volunteers for a day's work in the valley. (The first of these joint efforts - the next is on January 24th when we will be doing more coppicing and planting, along the meadow edge, hawthorn and guelder rose. Both of these produce blossom for the insects and berries for the birds. The valley is lacking in berry producing trees and shrubs. There are a few rowan and a little guelder rose at the South end.) The B.W.C.V. are led by Mark Bleay. They come with all the tools, very good ones, and the equipment for brewing tea and coffee - very important. Willow scrub and bramble were cut down and burnt and a small area of willow coppiced. I was pleased that a young boy who lives locally joined us. He later left and returned with a friend and under Mark's careful tuition they learnt how to use some of the tools.

The final activity in the valley this year was taking part in the making of a video film. The Society was approached by a student from Farnborough Technical College who is making a film on "Nature Conservation in Urban Areas in North Hampshire". He had interviewed and filmed many young people from a variety of organisations and wanted to talk to older ones! Tony Hocking, Margaret Taylor and I answered questions on the importance of the valley to local people, and on the Society's involvement. Despite the cold miserable weather we had an interesting and enjoyable afternoon.

(Ed's note: It was all my fault, I volunteered us! The student, Pete Hatherell, is one of a group from Farnborough who have been to some of our meetings and did some work on the common for us. I don't know how I managed, but Irene and Margaret answered their questions without the "ers and ums" which bedevil many interviews.)

DON'T FORGET - CONSERVATION WORK IN THE VALLEY - JANUARY 24TH.
10 O'CLOCK IN THE CAR PARK BEHIND THE ROYAL OAK PUB.

I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Irene.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

by David Harverson

Are Developers of Industrial estates a greater danger than house builders?

Should we be paying more attention to the development of Industrial Estates in the area surrounding Yateley, namely Camberley, Farnborough, Basingstoke, Earley and Reading to mention a few. Are they such a good idea?

Yes, they create jobs for the people who work in them and for others who provide the services needed to operate them. Yes, they make a valuable contribution to the local rates albeit only for the time being, not after the new rating scheme.

But a large NO if you believe, as I do, that it is the "developers" subtle way of creating a higher than projected demand for houses in the area.

NO if you see how the local infrastructure is being overloaded in terms of roads, sports and leisure facilities, transport, etc.

NO if you think of the other parts of the country which are crying out for industry and hence jobs to be created there.

If the quality of life is to be maintained in Yateley, we must have controlled growth allowing the development of the infrastructure to keep pace with the natural growth of the population. There is absolutely no need for new towns in the area such as the envisaged "Foxley Wood", Up Green and Hook; there may well be in the future if we don't pay attention to the uncontrolled growth of industry in the immediate area.

Do we really want Watchmoor Industrial Park? Do we really want to see Camberley and Aldershot town centres redeveloped? - a few more shops, many more offices no doubt, far less parking spaces and very much longer traffic jams. Yes, all this is outside "our" area, but it will affect our lives.

It is up to you, we need more help in the Society in looking at the future of the area and trying to encourage the right sort of development.

Come and see us, even better come and help us, if you care.

THE FUNGUS

by Alexander Holroyd

Foetid fungus, what is your name?
Stinkhorn, stinkhorn, stinkhorn
Foetid fungus, what is your aim?
I aim to be a stinkhorn.

Foetid fungus, where do you dwell?
In a little inkhorn.
Foetid fungus, how do you smell?
Putrid: I'm a stinkhorn.

Foetid fungus, what is your name?
Stinkhorn, stinkhorn, stinkhorn.
Fungus, go back whence you came:
Back into your inkhorn!

And now for something different!

A PUZZLE for you to tackle

by James Dowling and Norma Dowling

N I B O R D E G G A R A S
B R A C K E N H N E R S D
B Y P O P L A R P T E M H
A E N E R W N E O R H A T
R G O R S E E O P H T L O
C R E P W K C Y P H A L M
T A L T E A C P Y C E C R
I S P T P N D A O T H O O
M S A Y O N N M T A E P R
R G M S D A M Y A H I P E
E W W Y R A K E B T A E P
H A L D E R E L G U B R M
L A E T Y H E R O N N R E

Within the square are 30 names for the naturalists - e.g. trees, plants, birds, butterflies, etc., - NO LATIN NAMES ARE USED!

Almost all can be found in Yateley.

Names appear horizontally, vertically, diagonally, upside down and back to front! and may overlap. If you find all 30 you should be left with 15 letters which will spell out a message.

The solution will be given in the next Newsletter. Ed.

(If anyone has an idea for a puzzle for the next issue I would like to hear about it.)

HISTORY MEETINGS

by Michael Holroyd

TUESDAY (NB) 26 January.

This meeting will be held at St Peter's Church. Jean McIlwaine will give us an illustrated talk about the history of the church, including the rebuilding after the fire of 1979. Jean and Sydney Loader will then show us round the church.

St Peter's Church 7:30pm

Wednesday 24 February.

Gordon Harland's talk on the history of Frogmore and Darby Green in November included a series of maps illustrating the early history of the Yateley area. This meeting will provide an opportunity to see these again and discuss them informally. Bring your expert knowledge, opinions, prejudices, and questions, and perhaps a clearer impression of pre-conquest Yateley will emerge.

Y.C. A.1.5 7:30pm

Wednesday 23 March.

Geoff Hoare will give us the third in his series of illustrated talks entitled "Yateley Lost and Found". This will continue the story of Kneller's Cottages, in Plough Lane, based on his recent investigations there.

Y.C. A.1.5 7:30pm

Wednesday 27 April.

A "symposium" with several contributors on the history of Yateley Manor, formerly known as Hall Place. This will include an account by Gordon Harland of documents in Berkshire Record Office which throw light on field names and on the Mason family.

Y.C. A.1.5 7:30pm

YATELEY SOCIETY PROGRAMME 1988 (FROM JANUARY 1ST)

- January -

Sun	3	CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON - Tree clearance and tidy up Meet in the lane behind Blackbushe Metals, opposite the earthed up "gipsy" car park near the south end of Vigo Lane.	Vigo Lane Map Ref SU 817 591	2 pm
Thurs	14	Monthly Review of Local Planning	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm
Thurs	21	**** YATELEY SOCIETY A.G.M ****	Y.C. Green Room	7:30pm
Sun	24	CONSERVATION - ROYAL OAK VALLEY Join the Blackwater Valley Conservation Volunteers for coppicing and planting. <u>Please</u> <u>support this joint effort.</u>	Car park behind the Royal Oak	10:00am
<u>Tues</u>	26	THE HISTORY OF ST PETER'S CHURCH An illustrated talk and tour of the church with Jean McIlwaine and Sydney Loader.	<u>St Peter's Church</u>	7:30pm

- February -

Sun	7	CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON - Tree clearance and tidy up. Meet in the lane behind Blackbushe Metals, opposite the earthed up "gipsy" car park near the south end of Vigo Lane.	Vigo Lane Map Ref SU 817 591	2 pm
Thurs	11	NATURAL HISTORY - "Bring a Thing"- Bring along anything of Natural History interest you can tell us about or want information on.	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm
Thurs	18	Monthly Review of Local Planning	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm
Wed	24	HISTORY - The early history of Yateley. Group discussion.	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm

- March -

Thurs	3	LECTURE. "THE FORESTRY COMMISSION" A speaker from the Commission will talk on forestry in general with a chance to ask questions on local aspects. (Postponed from November)	Y.C. Main Hall	7:30pm
Sun	6	CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON - Tree clearance and tidy up. Meet in the lane behind Blackbushe Metals, opposite the earthed up "gipsy" car park near the south end of Vigo Lane.	Vigo Lane Map Ref SU 817 591	2 pm

Thurs	10	NATURAL HISTORY - Butterflies - More of the excellent colour slides taken by Dr Robert Guest. Must not be missed.	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm
Thurs	17	Monthly Review of Local Planning	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm
Wed	23	HISTORY - Yateley lost & found Part 3: Kneller's Cottages. Illustrated talk by Geoff Hoare.	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm

- April -

Sun	3	CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON - Tree clearance and tidy up Meet in the lane behind Blackbushe Metals, opposite the earthed up "gipsy" car park near the south end of Vigo Lane.	Vigo Lane Map Ref SU 817 591	2:15pm
Thurs	7	LECTURE. "AMPHIBIANS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT" A talk by Howard Inns who gave us such a good evening on reptiles and amphibians last year.	Y.C. Main Hall	7:30pm
Wed	27	HISTORY - The history of Yateley Manor (Hall Place): A symposium. Talks by Gordon Harland and other contributors.	Y.C. A.1.5	7:30pm

Note: The Yateley Centre are trying to keep A.1.5 as our standard room following the damage to B block.

C.1.1 is no longer available for public lectures because it is in use as the school staff room, we have to use the Main Hall or the Green Room. Any changes to the advertised rooms will be advised in Stop Press if we get sufficient notice.