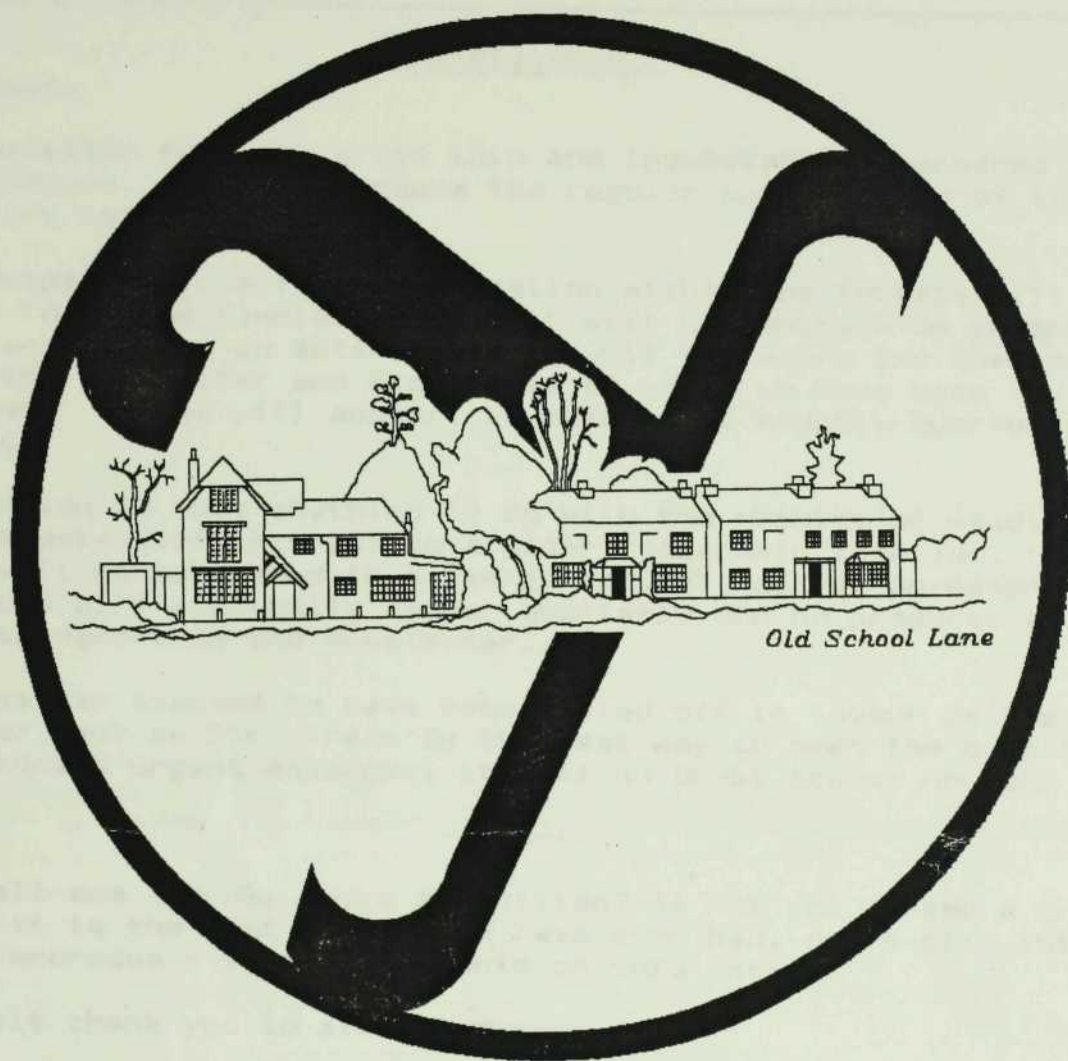


No. 53

June 1993



*The
Yateley Society
Newsletter*

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-THE YATELEY SOCIETY-

Newsletter No. 53

JUNE 1993

Editor: Tony Hocking, 30 Connaught Close Yateley (0252) 875158

THE EDITORIAL.

Dear Member,

This Newsletter may seem a bit thin and insubstantial compared with earlier issues. This is because the regular publications of the Society are being reorganised.

The principal vehicle for communication within the Society will continue to be the Newsletter, but it will concentrate on programme matters and comment on activities. It will therefore lie somewhere between the Newsletter and Stop Press to which we have been accustomed. Issues will appear, as before, at roughly quarterly intervals.

The intention is that anything to do with the results of studies, and/or of potential interest to a wider readership than just the Society will be published in a new periodical, as yet un-named, which it is hoped will eventually appear quarterly and be produced to a higher standard than the Newsletter.

Stop Press was assumed to have been killed off in favour of the new newsletter, but as Stop Press is the best way to meet the occasional need to spread urgent messages, it will no doubt appear now and then.

--oOo--

Did you all see the May Fayre exhibition? If not you missed a treat! I'm sure it is the best display we have ever had, and public interest has been enormous - Valerie comments on this inside.

A heartfelt thank you to all concerned.

With her usual efficiency Stephanie Pattenden organised and ran the sales for the May Fayre - I understand that the money raised was enough to fully offset the high costs of the exhibition - thank you Stephanie, and the helpers and contributors, for such a splendid effort.

--oOo--

The last Newsletter has spurred two members to respond with additional information; this is most encouraging, and I hope to see more of this!

NIGHTJAR WALK - Friday 9th July

by Irene Draper

We will meet in the small car park opposite St. Neots Road on the Eversley to Heckfield road at 8:00 pm. Map ref: SU 766 613.

There will be a walk first, finishing in a suitable place in Heath Warren, Bramshill Forest, to listen to and watch for Nightjars. We will be accompanied by the local Ranger, Steve Woolley.

Sorry - NO DOGS.

Phone Irene Draper (Yateley 870470) if you need transport.

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"YATELEY - 1878"

by Valerie Kerslake

Masses of material came to light for the Society's "Yateley - 1878" exhibition, its use limited chiefly by time and the dimensions of our May Fayre marquee where it made its debut. The boards were then moved to the library for three weeks, the third by request owing to the high public interest.

A large section was based on the 1878 school log books from the Hampshire Record Office, which had not been looked at before. Yateley National School had at that time an excellent young head teacher in Mr Padwick; his agreeably legible entries describe day by day procedures, academic achievements and of course many problems. The latter included parents who objected to their children being vaccinated, and absenteeism due to bad weather or the acorn gathering season.

The 1881 Census provided a great deal of factual information on households and occupations, while a commentary on many aspects of village life could be found in the Diary of John Mills. Old photographs and paintings showed views of Yateley and the common and many of the old houses, some no longer standing. Sketching was a popular pastime in Victorian days and there must surely be more drawings and watercolours around in old albums or picked up at jumble sales. It would be interesting to see them, and to try to identify the scene where it is in doubt.

A score of members contributed to assembling this exhibition, some putting in a huge amount of time and enthusiastic effort. The whole of the Tipton family was busy with it at one time or another; for weeks the walls of their house were lined with maps and texts, and their floors carpeted with neat(ish) piles of pictures and notes. Everyone says it must not all just be unglued and dispersed. It is hoped instead to produce some sort of publication based on the exhibition, perhaps researching more thoroughly some of the newly-discovered and intriguing clues. Please raise yor hand if you will join in!

THE FOREST OF EVERSLEY TRUST

by Michael Holroyd

The Yateley Society has become a member of the recently formed Forest of Eversley Trust, which is also appealing for individual members. The Trust is arranging a programme of about 25 local events during June, and we hope to distribute a leaflet giving details of these and of the Trust with this Newsletter. If not, it should be available from Yateley Library. Details of two events which may be of interest to Society members are given below.

Walk along the Welsh Drive. Sunday 13 June

This is the Yateley Society's contribution to the Forest of Eversley Trust's programme. Michael Holroyd will lead a walk along the Welsh Drive, the old cattle drovers' route running through Bramshill, Eversley and Yateley to Blackwater Fair. We shall start at Cudbury Clump on the Eversley-Bramshill boundary and walk right across Eversley as far as Yateley Common, returning by a different route via Eversley Church. The total distance is 9 miles - a long way to walk on a summer afternoon, so there will be a shorter alternative route of 4 miles for those who prefer it.

Meet at 2:15pm on Sunday 13 June in the Forestry Commission car park on the north side of the Eversley-Bramshill road, where the pylon line

crosses it (Map ref SU 760 613). We should be back by 6:00 to 6:30pm.

Visit to Eversley: Warbrook House, Church and Old rectory.
Saturday 19 June

This visit is organised by the Historic Buildings Section of the Hampshire Field Club. John Brushe, the architectural historian, will conduct a tour of Warbrook House starting at 11:30am, and a tour of the grounds after lunch, followed by a visit to Eversley Church and the Old Rectory, the former home of Charles Kingsley, with the Rev, Graham Fuller and Rachel Fuller. There will also be an optional preliminary visit to Herriard (10:15 am) to see a model of the former Herriard House designed by John James, the architect and owner of Warbrook house.

ADVANCED BOOKING REQUIRED: send a cheque for £5-00 (includes coffee and cream tea, but not lunch) made out to Hampshire Field Club Historic Buildings Section to HFCHBS, c/o 17 Cripstead Lane, St Cross, Winchester, SO23 9SF, saying that you are a member of the affiliated Yateley Society. Further details from Michael Holroyd (Yateley 872439) or Rachel Fuller (0734 733237).

* YATELEY SOCIETY SUMMER BARBECUE *

Diana and David Healey have kindly offered to host this year's barbecue at Barclay House in Vicarage Road.

SATURDAY 3RD JULY - BARCLAY HOUSE at 7:00pm

Adults - £3-50 Children - £2- 00

(Pay on the night, bringing the exact money would make life easier.)

Admission covers food and 1 glass of wine, or soft drink, voluntary donation for more!

If you are willing to donate a salad, a sweet, or a raffle prize this would be most welcome.

Chairs are in short supply, so if possible please bring your own.

Finally, some able-bodied helpers are needed to set things up, at about 7-00pm.

PLEASE TELL CAROLYN SEYMOUR (Yateley 871 294) IF YOU ARE COMING, BY FRIDAY JUNE 25th, AND ADVISE HER OF ALL OFFERS OF HELP AT THE SAME TIME.

MORE ON PONDS

by Pam Harverson

David and I really enjoyed Stephanie's account of her new pond and it brought back many memories of ours, except that we had to fill in a hole to make ours rather than excavate, as we had a small and very elderly swimming pool that we wanted to get rid of.

Like Stephanie and Ron we have had our problems: our cat would love to fish, but after being dunked in the pond - by David - has decided that

discretion is the better part of valour, or at least it is while we are around.

In a way we have been quite lucky with our fish. Apart from seeing our neighbour's cat strutting up the road with something orange and fish-shaped in its mouth, we've only had one which swam along on its side for a while. This we cured by isolating it in a bucket in the garage and promptly forgetting about it. We found it a month later looking very healthy! But, and it's quite a large but, we have had a couple of problems that Stephanie hasn't, at least until the last Newsletter.

We woke up one morning last spring to see a heron flying away. We didn't think any more about it until the same thing happened a couple of days later, so we went out to see what damage had been done. The heron had breakfasted off our fish; we could only see one, and yes you're right, it was the one left in the garage for weeks! After buying some more David wanted to net the pond, which I didn't fancy, but maybe the fish gave the heron indigestion as so far it hasn't been back.

Something else has come though. We have ducks. Not nice small ones, but very large ones that swam round in circles decimating the plants and terrorising the fish. We now have netting over the pond! We also still have the ducks, but they have to make do with the stream, although they come up every day to see if they can get onto the pond.

I wouldn't be without the pond now though, it is very restful to sit and watch the fish after a day at work.

(Ed's note: Thank you Pam, it's nice to get a response to something in the Newsletter - has anybody else got problematical ponds, or anything else they would like to share with us?)

FLESHING OUT SOME YATELEY DINOSAURS

by David Lister

I have received a letter from Mrs Edna Butler of Manor Park Drive, and have also had the opportunity of talking with her husband Mr George butler about the origins of some of Yateley's street names. This may be of interest to readers, but I apologise if some of it is already familiar.

Mrs Butler writes (22 April 93) that she has lived in Yateley for 60+ years and comments on the following street names.

Gibbs Way. Mr Albert Gibbs was headmaster from 1924 of the school which was held in what is now Yateley Village Hall off Old School Lane. He had somewhat radical ideas for his time which did not suit those of the local gentry. A little of the atmosphere of those days was given by Mr Butler who said that if one failed to acknowledge Mrs Stilwell in the street, she would stop you and remind you that she was the squire's wife. On the other hand if you were ill or in need Mrs Stilwell saw to it that you were to some degree looked after. Mr Gibbs went to the pub every night, but if poor children had no shoes he managed to fit them out. His pupils did well, and his value was more and more appreciated.

Another example of local benevolence told to me by Mr Butler was of the Miss Guggesbergs (Nancy and Ena) who lived in Yateley Hall, ran the Guides and also paid for the uniforms.

Robins Grove Crescent. Mrs Butler wrote that it is named after a house which stood up a gloomy drive off Firgrove Road. A walled garden ran alongside Firgrove Road for some way. The owner, a Mrs Shute, tricycled around Yateley.

Hearmon Close. There were a number of Hearmons in the village. Ted was a painter for Bunches and Albey (Albert) was a postman and bellringer for many years. One also kept the Plough Public House. (Ed: The Plough was near the present Gateway - hence Plough Road.)

Mr Roger Hearmon who lives in Yateley at present, told me that Mr Eric Hearmon is commemorated on the war memorial for giving his life in the 39-45 war. Eric was Albey's son. Roger Hearmon thinks the name is German in origin, so there is a nice piece of historic irony there. Hearmon Close is probably named after Ted who was a Parish Councillor.

Somerville Crescent is named after Mrs May Somerville who may have been a councillor, but was also known for her local activities, writes Mrs Butler.

Manor Park Drive is named after the Manor park which was owned by the Gieves family of Yateley Manor. Mr Butler's grandfather was bailiff to the Gieves family, and then rented the farm from them in 1918. The land was sold in 1950 for housing as it had already been made useless for farming by the erection of temporary buildings for Blackbushe aerodrome constructed for the 39-45 war, for use amongst other things by General de Gaulle's air force.

Little Croft - off Tudor Drive - there was a house of that name, writes Mrs Butler, owned by Colonel Gulland and his mother. The colonel was a great supporter of Yateley Football Club, and Mrs Gulland taught smocking to village girls.

Kelsey Grove. There was also a family called Kelsey who lived in the village. The one I knew, writes Mrs Butler, lived in the house (still standing) next to Brook Cottages, near where School Lane joins Firgrove Road now. There used to be a pond there, at the corner. (Ed: The pond - Blake's Pond - is still there, if overgrown.) Is this family remembered in Kelsey Grove?

Mrs Butler ends her letter by saying that these are mainly childhood memories, and of course could be a bit adrift, but hopes her theories have some interest. I think they do, and hope that other readers do and will send their memories to flesh out the bones of some of Yateley's past dinosaurs.

Any offerings, round, loin, rib or chuck, are welcome to the undersigned at Monteagle Surgery, Tesimond Drive, Yateley GU17 7FE.
(Signed) David Lister

YATELEY HISTORY PROJECT

by Geoff Hoare

Further to my report in the Newsletter No.50, work recommenced in the garden of Chaddisbrook/Ramon's in September last year. After not being worked for some 3 months it was almost as if the jungle had taken over. Because of the continual growth of the grass, weeds

(particularly stinging nettles) and shrubs, etc, it was the end of October before the site clearance was completed. This included disposing of an enormous pile of tree and shrub prunings which had accumulated. Although the archaeological work could not continue until the site clearance was completed, considerable effort was put into backfilling the ditch previously excavated, after final recording was complete.

Excavation started in earnest in early November with opening a trench to the west of the previously excavated ditch to confirm that it still continued in that direction, which it did. Our big problem at this time and later in December was the weather, with the heavy rainfall and rising water table causing flooding of the trench. A further trench was cut farther still to the west and the ditch confirmed at that point, but we were unable to follow it further as by this time we were into the hedge and bank forming the churchyard boundary.

There were two interesting developments at this time.

1. When we started cutting the last trench a large deposit of broken pottery, bottles, etc, dating up to the 1930's, and originally contained in a metal container, was found in the bank at the point where we were working. This is being looked at on a selective basis.
2. The linear slots referred to in the previous report are now believed to be the bottom of bedding trenches for flowers or vegetables, etc.

While trying to discover if they ran under the churchyard boundary bank a field drain was uncovered. This was located at two further points on a line converging on the ditch, and in fact in the last trench we excavated the drain ran across it but at a higher level than the ditch. It is very difficult to date a field drain accurately on the form of earthenware drain vessel used, and the early 19th century would be the nearest we can get. The Rev. Stooks in his "History of Crondall and Yateley" refers to the churchyard being thoroughly drained in 1830, and perhaps the drain described above was part of this drainage system.

Two more trenches were opened in the centre of the garden but the only thing of note was a buried gravel path located in both of these. From its position and direction (running down from the rear of the house to Pipson Lane) it is very probably the path shown on the 1871 map and the 1881 sales document.

The deposit of burnt flint also referred to in Newsletter No.50 has been investigated further and we have uncovered an area of 9 square metres to date. We are now trying to delimit the deposit which will hopefully produce evidence enabling us to fully interpret its function, rather than theorise as we are doing at the moment.

Answers to THE CHRISTMAS CRYPTIC QUIZ ON YATELEY, as promised.

- 1 FOR THE PARSON, AND THE PARSON'S NOSE? - BRANDY BOTTOM
- 2 SOUNDS LIKE A RACING COLOUR - DARBY GREEN
- 3 THERE ARE WHITE MEN UP THERE - CRICKET HILL
- 4 SUNSET PASTURES? - WESTFIELDS
- 5 NOCTURNAL ANIMAL AND ITS SATELLITE - BADGERS MOON
- 6 THIS LANE IS A RURAL RIDE - COBBETTS LANE
- 7 WHERE YOU MOTOR THROUGH THE CALEDONIAN FOREST - FIRGLEN DRIVE
- 8 A GOOD SPINNEY FOR BIRDSONG? - ROBINS GROVE
- 9 A COLOURFUL LANE AT BOTH ENDS OF THE PARISH - GREEN LANE
- 10 A HERBAL THOROUGHFARE - ROSEMARY LANE
- 11 CAN YOU BUY CHIPS IN THIS LANE? - FRYS LANE
- 12 THE BRITISH OPEN ROAD - WENTWORTH ROAD
- 13 SOMEONE EXPECTS TO HELP SHIPS IN THIS LANE - CHANDLERS LANE
- 14 CROSSING A SURREY RIVER WITH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE - WEYBRIDGE MEAD
- 15 HORTICULTURAL CAR MUSEUM? - BEAULIEU GARDENS
- 16 YOU COULD DRIVE A TRACTOR ALL OVER A SPHERE - GLOBE FARM LANE
- 17 WE ARE NOT AMUSED TO MOTOR HERE - VICTORIA DRIVE
- 18 - BUT PIGS WOULD MOTOR HERE FOR LUNCH! - BEECHNUT DRIVE
- 19 THE ECOLOGICAL CENTRE OF YATELEY? - THE GREEN
- 20 CONTRIBUTES TO THE WOODEN WALLS OF ENGLAND, HEALTHY TOO! - OAKLANDS
- 21 A THOROUGHFARE FOR BOOKLOVERS - READING ROAD
- 22 CLOSE LOST THE ST. WHEN MOVING FROM CORNWALL - IVES CLOSE
- 23 STEADY POSITION FOR LOOKING AT HORSES - STABLE VIEW
- 24 VULCAN'S PALACE - FORGE COURT
- 25 AN AVENUE OF LITERARY DAFFODILS? - WORDSWORTH AVE
- 26 THE HISTORY OF YATELEY FINISHES HERE - STILLWELL CLOSE
- 27 STREET OF CHRISTMAS BERRIES - MISTLETOE ROAD
- 28 WHERE THE 3 MUSKETEERS ENDED UP? - DUMAS CLOSE
- 29 AUSTRALIANS STOPPED FLYING HERE - CANBERRA CLOSE
- 30 SOAP STREET? - NO! - ROAD - CORONATION ROAD
- 31 THE GROUNDS OF ISCA DUMNONIORUM - EXETER GARDENS
- 32 DID MRS GASKELL PARK HER CAR HERE? - CRANFORD PARK DR.
- 33 COULD BE A GWR 78XX CLASS - BUT NOW ITS A SCHOOL - YATELEY MANOR
- 34 CLOSED TO TROGLODYTES? - WREN CLOSE
- 35 LEADS TO ITS NAMESAKE, AND COMES BACK OVER THE BRIDGE - SANDHURST ROAD
- 36 GROWS PRECIOUS METAL - CUNNING! - SILVER FOX FARM
- 37 BATTING THROUGH THE RIVER - WILLOW FORD
- 38 LEVEL (FROM THE COURT PRECINCT TO THE DUTCH ROAD) - THE FLATS
- 39 COULD BE THE WEAKEST PART OF YATELEY? - THE LINK
- 40 A SPECIAL AGENT MAY LIVE HERE - BARTONS DRIVE

I trust that the above is self-explanatory, if not, please give me a ring.

Tony Hocking

YATELEY SOCIETY PROGRAMME 1993 (FROM JUNE 93)

- JUNE -

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|-------|----|--|---|---------|
| Sun | 13 | WALK - ALONG THE WELSH DRIVE
Led by Michael Holroyd, full details including description of the starting point on page 2. | Car Park
Map ref SU 760 613 | 2:15pm |
| Thurs | 17 | TALK, Landscape Design in Hampshire
By Ian Philips, Landscape Architect for Hart. | Y.C. Green Room | 8:00pm |
| Sat | 19 | VISIT TO EVERSLEY.
Details under "Forest of Eversley Trust", pages 2 and 3.
ADVANCED BOOKING ESSENTIAL. | See inside | |
| Sun | 27 | CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. | Wyndhams Pool | 10:00am |
| Sun | 27 | BUTTERFLY WALK on Yateley Common. Led by Dr Robert Guest, our local expert on butterflies. This is a joint Yateley Society and Yateley Country Park event. | Vigo Lane
opposite Dunggells Lane
Map ref: SU 814 594 | 2:00pm |

- JULY -

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|-----|----|---|---------------|---------|
| Sat | 3 | *** YATELEY SOCIETY SUMMER BARBECUE ***
One of our major social events. Adults £3-50, Children £2-00.

<u>More details on page 3 of this Newsletter.</u> | Barclay House | 7:30pm |
| Fri | 9 | NIGHTJAR WALK led by Irene Draper
Those of us who have been nightjar spotting before know just how weird their calls are, and how fascinating they are as they chase insects in the dusk.
<u>More details on page 1 of this Newsletter.</u> | Bramshill | 8:00pm |
| Sun | 25 | CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. | Wyndhams Pool | 10:00am |
| Mon | 26 | Programme Meeting | Barclay House | 8:00pm |

- August -

SUMMER BREAK

- September -

- | | | | | |
|-------|----|---|-----------------|---------|
| Thurs | 16 | GENERAL MEETING to discuss:
1. The future of the 1993 May Fayre exhibition.
2. Society social events. | Y.C. Green Room | 8:00pm |
| Sun | 26 | CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. | Wyndhams Pool | 10:00am |

COPY DATES: NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 10TH, STOP PRESS: On request if urgent.