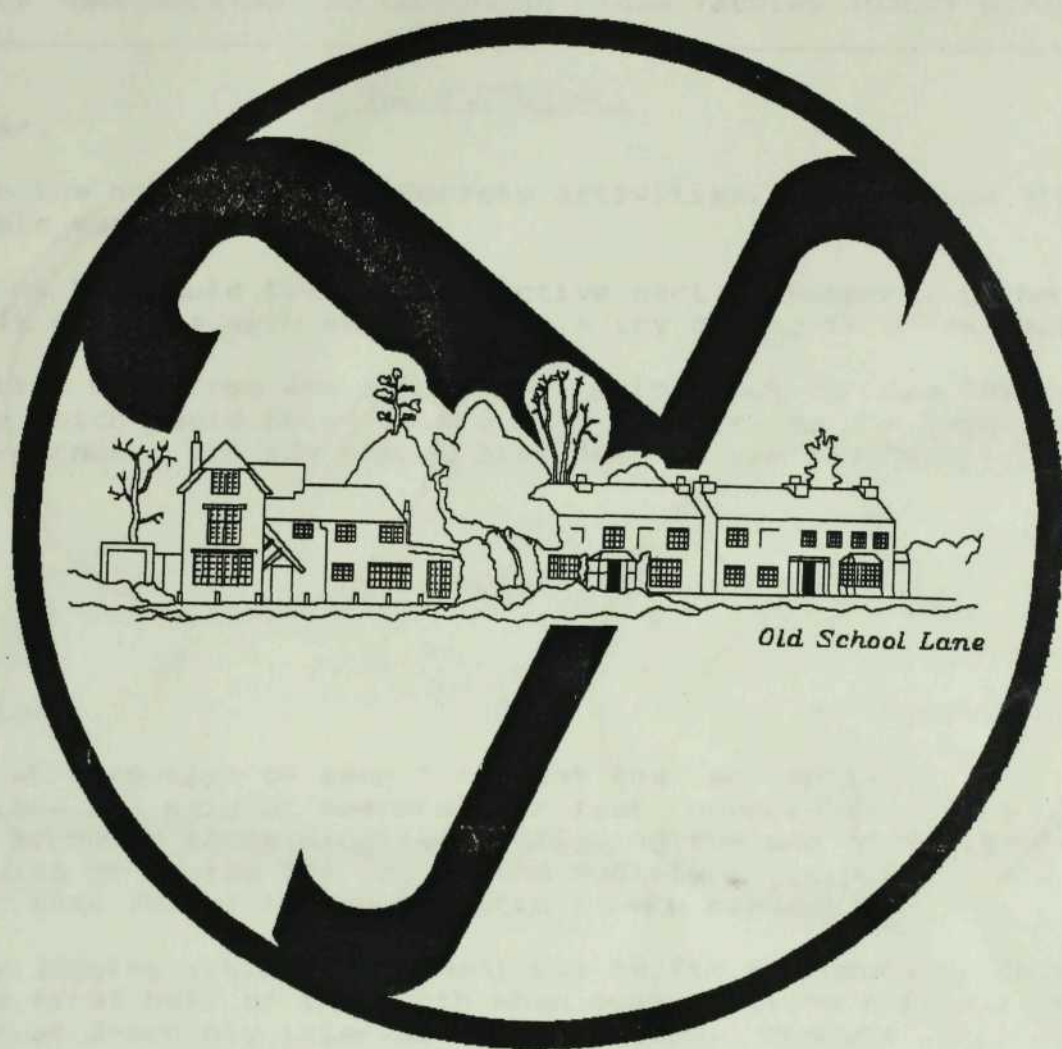


No. 54

October 1993



*The  
Yateley Society  
Newsletter*

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-THE YATELEY SOCIETY-

Newsletter No. 54

OCTOBER 1993

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

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THE EDITORIAL.

Dear Member,

Welcome to the new season for Society activities. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer.

Do you think YOU could take a more active part in supporting the Society? It would be much appreciated! - try coming to a few meetings.

The Executive Committee are always on the look out for new ideas for activities which would be of interest to members, so any suggestions would be welcome - you can always pass them on via the Newsletter editor!

--ooDoo--

SUBSCRIPTIONS

by Geoff Hoare

As always at this time of year I request that any outstanding subscriptions are paid at members' earliest convenience. This is to allow the accounts to be finalised following the end of September, which is also of course the end of the Society's financial year. (At August 1st some 15% of the subscriptions were overdue.)

The memory jogging system in present use is for reminders to be sent out in the first half of the month when subscriptions fall due, and thereafter at 2-monthly intervals as necessary. Members' subscriptions are of course our only source of regular income and need to be received as near as possible to the due date for obvious reasons.

So please, if you realise your subscription is overdue, pay as soon as possible. If you are not sure, check with me on Yateley 872948, but I would emphasise that if you have not received a reminder recently your subscription is not yet due.

--ooDoo--

EXPENSES

by Tony Hocking

Geoff Hoare has given you a timely reminder about subscriptions. From the accounting point of view all expenses incurred on Society business during the year since September 30th 1992 should have already been advised to the Treasurer and reimbursed.

If you are still due for payment of expenses for 1992/93 please inform the Treasurer David Healey on Yateley 873195, as a matter of urgency.



PRACTICAL CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON

by Tony Hocking

As I hope you know the Society has, for some time, been supporting the Country Park Rangers by taking part in conservation working parties on Yateley Common one Sunday morning in every month.

It has become somewhat embarrassing to see the number of Yateley Society members taking part gradually decline until we are usually outnumbered by the occasional helpers (and with those I include the young people who can only come when their studies permit). We have been reduced to a hard core of just 5 Society members, who with the best will in the world cannot all attend every time.

It would be very encouraging to see a few more members taking part, after all it's only for about two and a half hours (including a coffee break), once a month.

Tony Davis and the other Rangers are always willing to spare their time to show us what to do - so please help us to make their efforts more worthwhile!

P.S. Our support of the working parties may be pretty dismal - but things could be worse! When the Rangers organised a public litter-picking day on the Common earlier this year, with leaders waiting at three different sites, just two volunteers turned up! Thank goodness they were Yateley Society members - our conscience is clear, if only just.

The whole story does not say much for the Society, and a lot less for the people of Yateley as a whole!

--ooOoo--

ODDMENTS

by Tony Hocking

Mary and I had a week in North Devon this summer. This was the second year at the same place, near South Moulton, and we went because we like the area for all the good tourist reasons, and also because the farmhouse we stay at provides the most enormous and enjoyable meals! - thereby hang several tales.

We discovered on our first visit that it was essential to go for a two or three mile walk after the evening meal, and on our first evening this year we felt the same need.

Wandering along a very quiet narrow country lane in the gathering dusk we met a young man with two beautiful English setters. He proved talkative and we had a long chat about dogs and other animals. He assured us that the local deer, far from being confined to the high moors, also lived in the wood at the bottom of the valley we were staying in. Shortly afterwards he set off to exercise the dogs and we decided to turn for home as the light was going. Remembering the remarks about deer we glanced over the first field gate we passed - there were two deer just coming out of the wood! We watched them for a while and walked on. Peering over the next gate we saw another deer! We concluded that this was a good omen for the holiday.



On the second evening we walked a different way and reached a crossroads on top of a hill. Below us to one side was a valley with a farm perched near the top of the opposite slope. Close to the farm buildings a hedge ran from the top of the slope to a stream at the bottom. As we idly gazed at the scene, which was brilliantly lit by the setting sun, we were delighted to see a badger stroll out of the hedge (on the side away from the farm). During the next quarter of an hour the badger carefully combed his side of the hedge and found several items that required him to lie down and chew energetically.

We returned at the same time the next evening, and again were rewarded with sight of a badger - a different one as it was clearly not the same size.

For the rest of the week we took our own animal with us. One of the dogs, which we had befriended on the farm last year, realised that we were back; after that it was always waiting expectantly outside the door at the time we usually went for our walk.

In a different vein, we can thoroughly recommend the RHS garden at Rosemore near Great Torrington. This is advertised as specialising in roses, but it has very much more in the way of shrubs, trees and waterside plants, it is well worth a visit.

--ooOoo--

#### ADVERTISEMENT

##### CRAFTS IN ACTION

Swallowfield Parish Hall

Saturday 23rd October

10:30 am to 4:30 pm

MANY CRAFTS DEMONSTRATED

(Coffee, lunch and tea available)

Entrance: Adults 30p

Children 15p

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\*\*\* OPEN DAY - SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER \*\*\*

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

SUSSEX STREET WINCHESTER  
(near Winchester railway station)

The new, purpose-built Hampshire Record Office will be open from 2 to 5pm for members of local, historical and genealogical societies. There is no charge. Visitors can see the building, the archives and displays of archive preparation.



## THE PROGRAMME

by Tony Hocking

Welcome to the new season of Yateley Society activities. As you can see from the programme page the Programme Committee has been busy.

Richard Johnston, the Chairman of the Society, has long been anxious for us to include talks of direct relevance to Yateley - a reasonable request indeed!

This season we have done our best to follow Richard's directive.

In October we start with a talk about the role, functions, powers, committees, land holdings and future plans of the Yateley Town Council, given by Paul Watkins the Town Clerk.

In November Adrian Collett, our Hampshire County Councillor will describe his work on the HCC, and the impact this has on Yateley.

December, January and February are given over to Society social functions and the AGM.

In March we hear about the early years of Blackbushe, the airfield and area that dominates our skyline and generates much passion in the local inhabitants.

April has a talk by Sir Euan Anstruther-Gough-Calthorpe Bt, the largest local landowner whose territory includes the Elvetham Estate. Sir Euan has been asked to describe the running of a large estate, and also to comment on his ideas for countryside management, forestry access, commonland and similar topics.

Finally (so far), we have a talk in May about agriculture in the Thames valley (which is relatively close). The period chosen includes 1870 to 1940 and therefore should contain snippets of relevance to the "Yateley in 1878" theme of this year's May Fayre display.

The museum of Rural Life, from which the speaker Dr Sadie Ward comes, is a fascinating place well worth a visit. it is full of tools and equipment used in the countryside over many centuries.

Also in the programme are the regular Conservation exercises - please help.

As yet there are no walks shown, but we have ideas and hope to organise some during the season.



YATELEY SOCIETY PROGRAMME 1993/1994 (FROM OCTOBER 93)

N.B. Y.C. = Yateley Centre, School Lane. The Green Room is next to the Public Library.

- October -

Thurs 21 TALK Paul Watkins, the Town Clerk for Yateley Town Council will give a talk Y.C. Green Room 8:00pm  
"A TOWN WORTH LIVING IN", about the role of the Town Council. (See page 4)

Sun 31 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am

- November -

Thurs 18 TALK Adrian Collett, our Hampshire County Councillor, will give a talk on Y.C. Green Room 8:00pm  
his work as a councillor, and what impact this has on Yateley. (See page 4)

Sun 26 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am

- December -

Thurs 9 SOCIETY CHRISTMAS SOCIAL Y.C. Green Room 8:00pm  
This will be our customary get together for a chat, with wine and mince pies,  
and a game to keep you awake. Details later.

Sun 27 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am  
If you are still bloated from the last two days this will help you recover!

- January 1994 -

1994

Fri 28 SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER  
This function will be held at the Chef and Brewer (Chequers), Eversley. It will be organised  
as last year, and will be a carvery meal with wine and soft drinks included for a charge  
to be paid before the event. More details later.

Sun 30 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am

- February -

Thurs 10 YATELEY SOCIETY AGM Y.C. Green Room 8:00pm  
The chance for all members to take a direct part in the running of the Society

Sun 27 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am

- March -

Thurs 17 TALK "Blackbushe - the Early Years", an illustrated talk Y.C. Green Room 8:00pm  
by Mr Benjy Wilmer, who has a large number of interesting photographs of this subject.

Sun 27 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am

- April -

Thurs 21 TALK Sir Euan Calthorpe Bt has been invited to talk on the running of Y.C. Green Room 8:00pm  
of a large estate, and on his views concerning countryside management.  
He owns a very large amount of land in this area. (See page 4)

Sun 24 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am

- May -

Thurs 19 TALK Dr Sadie Ward of the Museum of Rural Life, Reading, will give a talk on Y.C. Green Room 8:00pm  
aspects of life in this part of the country. The title will probably be:  
"Agriculture in the Thames Valley, 1870 to 1940".

Sun 29 CONSERVATION ON THE COMMON Our regular working party assisting the Rangers. Wyndhams Pool 10:00am