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Richard.



The Yateley Society

NEWSLETTER

Issue 77 September 2005

Registered Charity: 282397
Registered with the Civic Trust

Welcome back after the Summer Break!



We'd like to say a big "thank you" to the Hockings for all their hard work making sure we enjoyed the **Annual Summer Social!**

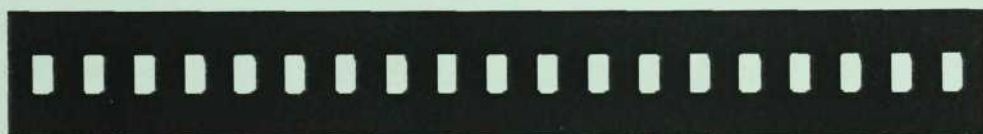


It was held this year at the Red Cross headquarters in Monteagle Lane, which proved to be a very comfortable and airy venue. Especially popular was the bouncy castle on the patio outside (which, as far as I saw, was only used by the younger members!)

As usual, the food supplied by Mary Hocking and Stephanie Pattenden was superb and there was a splendid and imaginative array of puddings brought by the members. Highlight of the evening was Tony's fiendish quiz, which featured cryptic clues to London stations.



It seems such a long time ago now, but a lovely time was had by all and we look forward to the next one!



Appeal !

We are looking for film of Yateley past and present and appeal to any members who have such footage to let us borrow it to create a "Cinematic Archive of Yateley".

If possible we'd like to focus our December meeting around our findings.



Please contact Trudy Boothby on
01252 409262
for more details



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ISSUES



Brookfield House

This extension on east and west sides intensifying the site and changing its character has been granted.

Cottage Farm, Cobbetts Lane

Conversion of 60% of the livery stable for residential use has been granted.

7 Knellers Cottages, Plough Road

A 2-storey extension, which would change the scale and character of the property of his listed building has been refused on the basis of scale and proportion in relation to existing cottages.

22 Somerville Crescent

Still pending is a proposal to erect a two storey side extension to convert the existing dwelling to four one-bedroom flats. Council recommends approval.

86 Reading Road

Still pending is a proposal to develop the house behind Forge Court as seven 2 bedroom terraced houses with new access and parking – this site is perhaps the only possible site for solving the parking problems at Church End. Council recommends approval

Woodhayes, Firgrove Road

For the demolition of Woodhayes and replacement with ten 2-bedroom apartments, the Planning Appeal was dismissed because of its effect upon the street scene and the Conservation Area, the setting of Yateley Hall and the amenities of those living at Magnolia Cottage

New Licensing Laws

Last Thursday, in my private capacity, I attended a licensing hearing at Hart. A panel of District Councillors is now determining licences for sale of alcohol in pubs, shops and supermarkets, club drinking licences, and entertainment licences. Taking advantage of the Government's determination to end the excesses of binge drinking by extending closing hours, most pubs in Yateley have applied for extensions to closing times, and to the times they can provide live music and entertainment. Obviously no pubs have applied to close earlier than 11 pm so the 'staggered closing times' are now extending until we'll after midnight.



The Yateley Society is a registered charity with charitable object clauses covering better planning, protecting biodiversity, and education (local history, planning etc). The Executive decided that as pubs, shops and places of entertainment are already subject to planning laws, therefore we can, and should, comment on the principles that should be adopted when licenses are decided. Because only people very close to a pub and likely to be directly affected by its activities are allowed to make representations about its license, the Society probably cannot comment on specific closingtimes for specific pubs. On the other hand the Town Council is doing all it can to protect us from the excesses we hear about in larger towns.

- Peter Tipton

Membership Renewals

Membership of the Yateley Society runs from September each year. Would all members, (except new members already registered for next year) please complete and return the enclosed membership renewal form, to the Membership Secretary - with the subscription fee if paying by cash/cheque rather than Bankers Order, - so that we can refresh your details.

For tax payers, we can recover some 'Gift Tax' from the treasury to assist our finances but we need your signature for authorisation to do this. Thank you!

PLEASE COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED FORM AND RETURN TO US.
THANK YOU !

WHO ARE THEY?

This photograph, apparently of a children's party, was taken at the side of what is now 3 Mill Lane, Yateley in 1916, which was then occupied by the Vyse family. It appears in an autograph book belonging to Lorna Vyse, a teenager in 1916, who probably lived here during WW1. Her autograph book is now owned by John Ricks, a man living in Northern Ireland, who bought the book on a market stall, became fascinated by Lorna, and has been trying to discover the history of the family for some years.

Most of the material relates to the Littlehampton/Brighton area, and he concentrated his search there, without much success, but there are one or two Yateley related items in the book. John recently contacted a business in Yateley, and The Yateley Society was then asked to help locate the house in the picture. This seemed quite hopeless as there was so little in this picture to go on.

However the 1910 Land Tax records, transcribed from the National Archives, and held in the Yateley History Project, provided John with his first certain knowledge of the location of the Vyse family! The

house in the photo was carefully compared with 3 Mill Lane, the house where the Vyse family lived, and it proved to be that house. Other photos in Lorna's book suggest that she is the young woman in the centre of the back row with the white bell shaped hat. But who are the other people in the picture?



Please could anyone who can identify any of the people, knows anything about the Vyse family, or what the event was, contact Richard Johnston on 01252 872832 or email johnstonrh@amen.org.uk

Lorna Vyse


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Conservation Working Party:

We normally meet at Wyndhams Pool, Cricket Hill at 10.00 am on the last Sunday of every month. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun!

The aim is to help the Yateley Rangers in all sorts of tasks in the upkeep of Yateley Common. To find out more, please call Mike Mann on 01252 877741.

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① [Useful weblinks](#) 

Yateley Town Council's website is worth adding to your Favourites. The site contains contact information, updates on local initiatives, improvement schemes and council meeting dates

www.yateley-tc.gov.uk

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS - 2005

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Hedgecroft, Bracken Lane, Yateley, 8.00 pm start unless otherwise stated.

Saturday 8 October 2005	Fungal Foray Unfortunately this meeting had to be moved forward at short notice. Email notices were sent, but we appreciate not everyone may have been notified. The Rangers have promised another foray next year for those that missed this one.
Thursday 20 October 2005	"The Parish Plan" - see below
Thursday 17 November 2005	"Aspects of Victorian Childhood" by Sharon Cross, Curator of Surrey Heath Museum
Thursday 15 December 2005	Christmas Social ☺
Thursday 19 January 2006	"Heathland History" by Yateley Ranger Vicky Booth
Thursday 16 February 2006	Annual General Meeting

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## Parish Plans Meeting – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Like many Civic Trusts the Yateley Society has been entrusted with producing the draft of the land-use planning aspects of the new Parish Plans process. We have long argued that housing numbers for new development should not be imposed on us from above, and that we should have a say in determining the numbers of new dwellings built. Now we have the chance to initiate the planning process from the bottom-up.

Obviously this is a considerable responsibility and must involve as many members as possible. In fact we shall have to produce a certificate to Hart demonstrating the amount of 'public participation' and the process we have adopted. We therefore need a big turnout at the meeting next Thursday. Remember that the meeting is definitely not restricted to members so please bring your neighbour.

The 'process' has already been agreed with Hart. We are going to assess Yateley by establishing a number of 'character' areas. The objective is to find out if there are any areas of Yateley which could benefit from redevelopment by building flats and apartments and new small estates in existing green spaces, large gardens, or even by demolishing existing houses. This is precisely the process to which developers are currently subjecting our Conservation Areas. Our task will be to find out if there are any better places.

We shall assess the 'character areas' ward by ward -- or ideally on a half-ward basis. The assessment will mainly be accomplished by walking round the area with a clipboard and checklist. We shall back this up with photographs, descriptions and a brief history. The process is essentially the same as for assessing Conservation Areas, but in this case we shall be looking at ordinary housing and green spaces.

We therefore need 8 people to lead each of the assessment groups, and additional volunteers to help with the assessments, to take digital pictures, and help correlate the assessments and write up the results. We shall then call meetings of the general public in each of the wards or half-wards to see if we can obtain general agreement as to the character areas and what, if anything, can be developed.

The Society's responsibility is only part of the Parish Plans process. Next Thursday I shall outline the whole process in much more detail and call for volunteers to join the Society's assessment groups. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to take part, please ring me on 873378.