



# The Yateley Society

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 92 October 2008

Registered Charity: 282397  
Registered with the Civic Trust

### Summer Social



It seems a long time ago that we had the Summer Social – well it was 3 months ago. The weather hasn't changed much. We had sunshine and rain then too. Many thanks have to go to Graham and Jenny Brown who kindly offered the lawn of their beautiful house for the occasion.

A fantastic buffet spread was provided and Members brought a

wonderful variety of puddings. Tony Hocking concocted one of his famous dastardly quizzes and Roger Coombes put together a comic character quiz for the younger guests (although we adults couldn't resist having a go at it too).



### Since last newsletter...

We have had 3 really interesting talks:

David Ford on the Legends of Hampshire all about the fascinating legends which have grown up within the old county of Hampshire over the centuries with an emphasis on North Hampshire; heroes, villains, kings, saints, monsters, giants, ghosts and buried treasure. We learnt that Hampshire has it all.

Then we had Religion, Ambition and Family: Thomas Jervoise Esq of Herriard by Zoe Downing, which investigated how the upbringing, principles and ambitions of Thomas Jervoise interacted with his family life. He built the early eighteenth century mansion at Herriard, designed by John James. Zoe's talk followed the ups and downs of the fortunes of this well-intentioned but controversial Hampshire Member of Parliament, concluding with a sympathetic evaluation of his colourful character and complex motives.

Our last talk in September was an illustrated talk by our old friend Robert Louth, Head Gardener at Heckfield Place, where he continued to regale us of tales of this old Hampshire establishment.



## **Do you care what happens?**

The process involved with planning applications has changed a great deal over recent years, with the emphasis now being placed on establishing planning principles with Design Documents, Conservation Area Statements and Parish Plans which lay out how the development of an area should progress (and how it shouldn't).

We are looking to put together a Local Development Focus Group who can provide simple, plain English feedback, by email if preferred, working with a Development Co-ordinator about local planning applications as they arise..

If you are interested in joining in, please call Tony Hocking on 01252 875158 or email [ajfhocking@googlemail.com](mailto:ajfhocking@googlemail.com)

**Sensible comments from Local People**



## **Quiz Night in aid of Motor Neurone Disease**

Saturday 25 October 2008  
Sandhurst Memorial Hall  
Yorktown Road  
Sandhurst

Table of 6 - £30

For more details, contact Graham Brown 01252 879103 or email  
[a.graham.brown@ntlworld.com](mailto:a.graham.brown@ntlworld.com)



## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

With this issue of the Newsletter, you should receive a Membership Renewal Notice because all memberships are due for renewal in September. Please remember to complete and return the form in order to keep receiving your Newsletter and maintaining your membership.

Thanks!



**Reminiscences of Old Yateley by a Septuagenarian.**  
(William Burrows Tice b 16.8.1860, d 3.6.1941) (UNDATED, ca1933)

**Part Two of a serialisation of the Yateley Society booklet**

*Continuing the serialisation from our June newsletter, please note that these are reminiscences, recorded about 1933. Some information is now out of date or may be factually incorrect. They do however, provide a glimpse into the world of Yateley as it was in the nineteenth century. Footnotes by R H Johnston, 2008.*

Where Mrs. Chapman's gardener's house now stands<sup>1</sup> there stood a delightful old thatched cottage I remember, with green shutters, there was no fence as now, and no garden in front, but was all open and part of the Green. The gate and fence to the cottage was almost close up to the house and all that part which is now enclosed by a brick wall was all open to the road. I have many times played "here we go round the mulberry bush round the walnut tree that now stands on Mrs. Chapman's lawn"<sup>2</sup>. Between the fence (which was only trellis work) to the old house which then stood there, there was only a gravel path between the fence and the house, when we made too much noise Captain Halhed<sup>3</sup> who lived there, would rap the window and put on his hat, making out that he was coming for us; we used to run across the road and jump the ditch and out into the new road in double quick time, we knew we were safe when across the ditch, There was no fence by the side of the road until you got to Simla Cottage which was then a bungalow<sup>4</sup> where Dr. Biddle<sup>5</sup>, our local doctor, lived.

The suburbs have greatly altered, Mill Lane for instance, there was no house down there at all until you came to Mascalls Farm<sup>6</sup> on your way to the Old Mill, now unhappily done away with<sup>7</sup>, but which has been immortalized by the late Mr. Benson in his book "The House of Quiet"<sup>8</sup> which deals so largely with Yateley. When I first remembered the Old Mill the road went down past the Mill House, turning sharp to the right over a small brick bridge that took you over the water that turned the Mill wheel and down into the ford. The way for those who were walking there was a wooden bridge<sup>9</sup>. The present bridge was built and the road straightened about 40 years ago<sup>10</sup>.

- 
- <sup>1</sup> The gardener's house stood between The White Lion and Harpton House (which when Tice wrote was occupied by Mrs Chapman). Harpton House and the attached gardener's cottage were demolished in the 1960s: Village Way and the car sale rooms etc. now (2008) stand on their sites. The name Harpton is preserved in Harpton Parade
  - <sup>2</sup> That is, on the lawn of Harpton House. Mrs Susan Mary Chapman (nee Nash), wife of George Augustus Chapman, was the sister of William Harry Nash, father of the painter Paul Nash (1889-1946), one of the most important artists of the first half of the twentieth century and the most evocative landscape painter of his generation. Nash came to stay with her as a child and young man, and attributed his "first love of winter country" to his visits here (Nash. P, *Outline – an autobiography and other writings*, 1949).
  - <sup>3</sup> Captain Henry Halhed (b 13 Aug 1805) was one of the sons of John Halhed Esquire of Yateley Hall. He had been an army Captain in the East India Company Service, who retired in 1839. In the 1881 census he was in the privately operated St Leonard St Lunatic Asylum, West Malling, Kent, and classed as a "lunatic".
  - <sup>4</sup> The site is now occupied by the early C20 two storey brick house, now (2008) called Gayton House
  - <sup>5</sup> Dr Biddle died 17 May 1879, age 45, and is buried in Yateley Churchyard. He had been Assistant surgeon of the 104<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> the Kings Regiment (in India), before becoming Yateley's surgeon for many years.
  - <sup>6</sup> Mascall's Farm lay on the western side of Mill Lane, not far from the junction with Chandlers Lane
  - <sup>7</sup> Yateley Mill was roughly on the same site as the present (2008) Mill Farm. The Mill was demolished in the late 1880s or 1890s, and replaced by a farm house, which was in turn demolished and replaced about 1990.
  - <sup>8</sup> *The House of Quiet: An Autobiography*, Arthur C Benson, 1907. Benson's father was headmaster of Wellington College when A C Benson was a child. The descriptions of Yateley are his romanticised recollections of childhood.
  - <sup>9</sup> A watercolour from about 1880 by Mrs Margaret Mills (d1885), wife of John Mills of Potley Hill, shows this ford and foot bridge.
  - <sup>10</sup> That is, in the 1890s, after the mill had been demolished.



## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS – 2008

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at The Tythings, Reading Road, Yateley, 8.00 pm start unless otherwise stated.

*All events are open to non-members and there is no admission charge.*

Thursday 16 October 2008	David Ford - Ghosts of Hampshire.
Thursday 20 November 2008	Charles Brooking is one of Britain's leading authorities on building construction and design gained in his role of creator and curator of the Brooking Collection, a unique archive of more than 100,000 items rescued from houses and public buildings. Charles will bring along some examples of his collection.
Thursday 18 December 2008	Your Questions answered. Do you have any questions about Yateley's past that you would like answered? See if our panel of experts can help you - or help answer the questions if you can!
Thursday 15 January 2009	Global Warming - Fact or Fantasy?
Thursday 19 February 2009	AGM - This is the most important meeting of the year and we must have a quorum. Come along, have a glass of wine and exercise your Member's right to vote.

### The 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



Editor - Jo Hill, tel: (01252) 640909, email [jo.hill.45@ntlworld.com](mailto:jo.hill.45@ntlworld.com)

Yateley Society website: [www.yateleysociety.org.uk](http://www.yateleysociety.org.uk)

## Yateley Society Membership Renewal for Subscriptions due 30th September 2008

Please return your completed form to

The Yateley Society Membership Secretary, Hartford House, Vicarage Lane, Yateley GU46 7QR

Cheques to - The Yateley Society

Please renew my/our membership of the Yateley Society

Name	<input type="text"/>	Address 1 <sup>st</sup> line	<input type="text"/>
E-mail address	<input type="text"/>		

I enclose payment of £.....

(please delete as necessary)

I wish to pay by Standing Order

Membership required (please delete as necessary)

Corporate .....	£20.00	Student .....	£3.50
Household .....	£7.50	Pensioner Household ..	£5.00
Adult .....	£5.00	Adult pensioner .....	£3.50

### Gift Aid (optional)

I am a tax payer and I authorise the Yateley Society to recover Gift Aid from the Inland Revenue.

Signed	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
--------	----------------------	------	----------------------

### Standing Order Mandate

To	<input type="text"/>	Bank	<input type="text"/>	Branch	<input type="text"/>
Bank Address	<input type="text"/>				

Please process this as a New Instruction

Please amend my Previous Standing Order quoting Reference/Beneficiary ☐ Tick one box

Details of Account to be debited:

Sort Code

Account Number

Reference

Account Name

YS

### Beneficiary Details

Bank	BARCLAYS BANK,	YATELEY BRANCH
Sort Code	20 16 99	
Account Number	70989371	
Beneficiary Name	The Yateley Society	

### Payment Details

Please Pay £  now

and annually on 1st October until further notice.

Signature of Account Holder

Date