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STOP PRESS!



Issue 47 December 2000



The
Yateley
Society

Latest News on the Local Interest Issues currently being worked on by members:

Mushroom Farm - After being approved by the Development Control Committee, the plans were refused by a full Council Meeting the following evening. This has resulted in the Developers appealing against the decision. This means there will be a Public Inquiry held - probably in March. The procedure for Public Inquiry is that comments may be made by letter to the Inspector (contact me if you'd like the address), but members of the Public may also request in their correspondence to speak at the Public Inquiry to put their personal views forward. The more speakers the better! Written submissions or requests to speak must be submitted by 13 December to The Secretary, The Planning Inspectorate, Room 10/13 Tollgate House, Houlton Street, Bristol, BS2 9DJ quoting refs 99/01152/OUT and APP/N1730/A/00/1-52946. The Developers, in the meantime, have put in a duplicate application (00/01359/OUT), probably in the hope of continuing negotiations.

Handfords Barn - the application for modifications to this important agricultural building has been refused.

Heath Cottage (the Dental Surgery) for demolition to be replaced by apartments - the Society has objected.

Esso garage - Richard Johnston studied the plans for altering the Esso garage to include a larger shop, and could see no planning reasons that would sustain an objection.

Robins Grove Park, application for 7 houses, was refused by the Councillors, against the advice of Hart's planning officers, on the grounds of the effect on the Conservation Area and the impact on local residents. The Developers have appealed and this will be determined by written submissions only. Richard Johnston, during his 3 minute appeal to Councillors for the application to be refused, waved a copy of the Council's official Conservation Area Statement in the air. As you know, the Society is committed to helping preserve our local

Conservation Areas and has played a major role in collaborating with the Council to produce these Conservation Area Statements. Planning constraints must reflect the policies within the Statements. The pressing need to do so is especially emphasised when we have a comment such as that by Alan Franklin of the Star Newspaper, that '*councillors should realise there is very little worth conserving in Yateley*'. Mr Franklin is wrong, but it shows the Society is fully justified in making the protection of Yateley's Conservation Areas a top priority in order to stem the continuing erosion of the quality of Yateley's environment.

A letter has been sent to the Environment Agency asking what has happened to the water in the Boundary stream. Levels have dropped quite considerably, to the detriment of SSSI Castle Bottom and also the Moulsham (Moules Fen) area which, in the recent downpours, did not Fen!

Oral History - The Society's Millenium Oral History Project has taken off. Sheila Farmer made our first recording of Yateley's former postlady, Mrs Marjorie Lovell, and only managed to reach the end of World War II. By coincidence, our most recent interview was with Mrs Lovell's niece and nephew. Mrs Denereaz was born in Yateley, but married an Australian. She came back from Australia for her mother's funeral. Her brother, Ted Wooldridge, had seen the announcement of our East India Company talk in the Fleet News. At the talk they learned that the Tiptons live at Monteagle House. Their great grandparents lived for many years at Monteagle Farm Cottages, which faced the Common, on the site the developers have now coined as Fox Farm. We said we would be happy to help them with their family history provided we could record their memories of Yateley. Little did we know the "interview" would go on for over seven hours! Anyone interested in joining our growing team to make these recordings please contact

Peter or Elizabeth Tipton on 01252 873378. If you know of anyone with memories of Yateley before 1961, please ask them if they would be willing to be recorded and we would be pleased to be introduced to them.



The AGM is coming up in February. Now is the time to submit your nominations for Officers and Committee Members. In particular, with the increasing workload within the Planning Sub-Committee, we are looking for some help on the Hon Secretary/Minute Secretary front to allow Richard Johnston to concentrate his efforts there. Tony Hocking will be compiling the Annual Report, and needs contributions about the Society's activities this past year by 25 December.



If you would just like to know any more about any or these issues, just contact me and I will do my best to help. The selection shows only some of the things the Yateley Society is currently involved in or monitoring. Is there anything you think you would be able to help with or enjoy getting involved in? Anything you feel strongly about?

Contact me

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EVENTS PROGRAMME

THURSDAY DECEMBER 14 -

'Yateley Mummers Unveiled'

8pm at the Ryder Social Area, Frogmore Community College, Frogmore Campus

Hidden away for 100 years, we are proud to present the discovery of Christmas past - 'The Yateley Mummers'. Curious? Tired of political correctness? Good. Come along and enjoy a glass of wine or two, be entertained, and updated on the Society's activities. We would also invite you to share your local ghost stories with us, they will be recorded for posterity.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 31 -

"Mince Pies on the Common"

10am to 1pm, meeting at Wyndhams Pool, Yateley Common (off Cricket Hill)

Do you know what the Conservation Group does at their working sessions? Why not join us for a cup of tea and a mince pie at 11.30am up at the Common and see what happens. You can come to Wyndhams Pool at 10 am and spend the morning with us (hard

work is not mandatory!) but in any case we will leave directions to our workplace on the notice board near the pool so that you can search us out at our festive tea-break. We hope to see some of you!

THURSDAY JANUARY 18 -

"Farnborough Air Sciences Trust (FAST)"

8pm at the Ryder Social Area, Frogmore Community College, Frogmore Campus

With the history and future of Farnborough as an aviation centre so much in the news recently, we invite FASTA to reveal to us how they are preserving part of the RAE history and heritage in some of the listed buildings on the main RAE site.

SUNDAY JANUARY 28 -

"The Feel Good Factor"

10am to 1pm, meeting at Wyndhams Pool, Yateley Common (off Cricket Hill)

Did you visit us for our festive teabreak. If you would like to join us for a little brisk exercise, come and 'do your bit' for the conservation of Yateley Common under the guidance and supervision of the Country Park Rangers. No previous experience needed. Tools and free refreshments provided - we meet the last Sunday of every month.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15 -

"Yateley Society AGM"

8pm at the Ryder Social Area, Frogmore Community College, Frogmore Campus

All Members are requested to attend the AGM, to hear the Chairman's report, to change the membership year in the constitution, vote on resolutions and elect the Officers and Committee from nominations received.

Please note that the Venue for the Meetings will be the Ryder Social Area, Frogmore Community College, Frogmore Campus. We used this for the October meeting and the facilities are good, if not the signing.

Directions - Take the walkway to the right of the Reception under the canopy. Take the next walkway on the right and The Ryder Social Area entrance is at the end of that walkway on the left.

Planned for 2001: (subject to confirmation)

March - I have managed to arrange an evening guided tour and talk of the Royal Military Academy.

If you would like to go, please call or email me asap. Numbers are limited to 25!

April - English Heritage

May - Yateley Fire Service