

The Yateley Society Newsletter

Issue 112 October 2013

www.yateleysociety.org.uk



Autumnal greetings to all! Thankfully we had pleasant summer weather at last for most of July and August, and the sun shone fair on members who attended the Summer Social in the garden of Monteagle House on 13th July. Thanks to Elizabeth and Peter.

It is with sadness that I inform members who might not have heard of the death of Joyce Holroyd at the beginning of September. You will find a tribute to Joyce by Elizabeth Tipton inside this issue. I knew Joyce not only as a member of this Society but also as a fellow governor of Yateley School. She was there when I joined in 1984 and served for a good number of years. She did not say much, but when she did, people listened.

In July two members of the executive Committee resigned. Sarah Palmer joined the EC at the AGM in February and found that she could not spare the necessary time to attend meetings. Roger Durdle joined in 2009, initially to be Membership Secretary but on the sudden death of Graham Brown he found himself catapulted into being Secretary as well. To these posts he later added 'webmaster' and was responsible for re-designing and revamping our website. To all his roles Roger brought a high degree of professionalism and commitment and I shall miss him very much. A greatly increased role within the management of the CAB for the Fleet area, together with a desire to spend more leisure time with Rosemary, now that they are both retired, is to blame for depriving the Society of Roger!

Very recently Trudy Boothby and Jo Hill informed me that they too will be stepping down from the EC at the AGM next February. I shall say more about each of them in a later newsletter and at the AGM.

This leaves the Society at a turning point for its future, and at the time of writing, just three days after receiving the news from Trudy and Jo, I am still absorbing it and considering the impact on the Society. As you will know, we struggle each year to find new people to join the EC, but I cannot recall a previous occasion when we needed to replace so many officers in one go. Let me be clear, if we are unable to find volunteers for the posts of Vice-Chairman, Membership Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor the continuation of the Society in its

present form must be in doubt. That is without even considering other posts, such as Publicity Officer, which have been vacant for a while. We would also benefit from having an Events Organiser. We could co-opt willing volunteers on a trial basis before the AGM, but if there are no volunteers by the AGM the number of Trustees (members of the EC) will fall to 5, which is below our constitutional requirement of 8 to 12.



**YOUR
SOCIETY
NEEDS
YOU!**



Roger Coombes
Chairman



Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust

The Yateley Society is a member of this worthy organisation, and so the Yateley Society members are also members of the BVCT. Should you happen to shop in Waitrose Frimley during October or Waitrose Sandhurst during November, please consider donating your green token to the BVCT. See the back page for some BVCT events

Membership Renewal Reminder:

Renewal subscriptions fall due on 1 October. Please complete the enclosed renewal form or download the form from:

www.yateleysociety.org.uk/membership

PLANNING MATTERS

Hart Core Strategy—the saga goes on

Public Examination.

Two preliminary hearings were held at Hart Civic Offices on the 9th and 10th July chaired by Planning Inspector Kevin Ward. The reason for these two preliminary hearings was the inspectors concern over (a) the Duty to Cooperate and (b) overall housing provision. Yateley Society was represented at both hearings.

Hearing 1 – Duty to Cooperate

The Duty to Cooperate is a legal requirement placed on the Council by the Localism Act. Hart District Council (HDC) approached both Surrey Heath and Rushmoor with a view to updating the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) but both authorities declined. HDC, therefore, prepared a new SHMA for Hart only using data based on the revoked South East Plan and utilising a zero net migration model. Late in the day, after submitting the Core Strategy, HDC carried out a new SHMA using Government population growth data but did not consult with the other Authorities.

The inspector, after careful consideration, concluded that HDC had not engaged in a constructive and an ongoing basis and did not consult over the new SHMA, therefore, the Core Strategy does not comply with the Duty to Cooperate.

Hearing 2 – Overall Housing Provision

The overall housing numbers in the Core Strategy are based on the revoked South East Plan and upgraded to 236 homes per annum throughout the plan period.

For a Local Plan to be considered sound in terms of overall housing provision it is first of all necessary to have identified the full, objectively assessed needs for housing in the SHMA. Following this it is necessary, working collaboratively and through cooperation with other authorities where appropriate, to seek to meet these needs in full and to demonstrate how they will be met or alternatively to provide robust evidence that they cannot.

The inspector has concluded that the full objectively assessed housing needs have not been identified in HDC or the wider SHMA. Late in the day, HDC submitted a paper stating that the full objectively assessed housing requirement, approximately 400 homes per annum, cannot be met because of the constraints of the Special Protection Area (SPA). Current mitigation for the SPA is based on the principle of providing Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG). This, however, has yet to be proven to work for the current housing provision. HDC maintains that for a significant increase in housing provision above that in the revoked South East Plan it will be necessary for a new Appropriate Assessment to be undertaken. The inspector pointed out, however, that none of this argument is within the Core Strategy submitted for examination.

The inspector has concluded, therefore, that the Core Strategy is not sound with respect to overall housing provision. HDC need to carry out an objectively assessed need for housing in the SHMA. He recognised that this would require a significantly large amount of work and would result in a fundamentally different Core Strategy, therefore, a suspension of the examination would not be appropriate.

The inspector has advocated two options, (1) HDC could choose to receive his report which effectively means non adoption or (2) HDC can choose to withdraw the Core Strategy.

Conclusion

On the 30th September Hart District Council announced that it has formally withdrawn the Core Strategy from the examination process. They will now produce a new Plan and a timetable for this will be published as soon as it is ready. This leaves Hart very exposed if developers start making large scale planning applications for housing. Yateley Society's response to the Core Strategy highlighted both of these issues. Although unpalatable there is likely to be a significant increase in housing provision throughout Hart. In the meantime there is a serious risk of inappropriate development getting the green light without an up to date approved Core Strategy!

Barry Moody

Discoveries saved !

Members who use or pass through Church End (the area around St Peter's Church and The Dog & Partridge) will be familiar with the charity shop called Discoveries. Even if you have never been inside it is a familiar sight, and if you were living in Yateley in the late 1970s you will recall that it was then Ramons DIY store.

Earlier this year it would have ceased to be a familiar sight if St Peter's planning application to demolish it as part of a redevelopment of the area had been successful. The Yateley Society objected to the plan. Some people feel that the building has no architectural or heritage value but we regard it as having a significant role in the history of Church End from the 1880s to the present day. The plan was turned down and now St Peter's has submitted a revised plan which retains the building and incorporates it with the neighbouring Chaddisbrooke House as part of the Church's need to adapt the buildings for community use.



There has been commercial use of both Chaddisbrooke House and the single-storey annexe (which I shall continue to refer to as "Discoveries" for want of another name) for centuries. Older residents will remember that prior to Ramons' occupancy in 1974 "Discoveries" had been a grocery called Tice & Son. This dated back to 1928, although Harold Tice had ceased to trade in 1934 and it was bought by Leonard Collison, albeit retaining the Tice trading name, until 1974. Collison ran it as a grocery, bakery, greengrocery and off-licence. In the 1955 photograph you can see both buildings and just make out "Tice & Son" on Discoveries.

If you have one of the Society's postcards of an earlier photograph you will know that at the turn of the last century it was known as Gadd's Stores ("Gadd & Co."), also a grocery and baker. William Gadd occupied the premises of

Chaddisbrooke House from 1871, initially as tenant and then as owner, probably by 1881. It was he who built "Discoveries" at some time in the 1880s. Although intended as an annexe to the business which he was running in Chaddisbrooke this was not an extension as such but built very close to Chaddisbrooke. There is a connecting door between the two structures. Gadd owned the premises and businesses until his death in 1920. An E. C. Webley owned them for a brief interregnum before selling to Harold Tice in 1928.

Chaddisbrooke House is therefore older than Discoveries. We do not have a precise date for its construction but it certainly pre-dates the 1840s. Archaeological evidence uncovered by YS member Geoff Hoare indicates that buildings on the site before this were involved with bakery (a grain store) and as far back as Tudor times had a connection with the wool trade. There is also evidence of Saxon remains, which fits well with the Saxon origins of St Peter's Church.

Chaddisbrooke itself has an interesting history. Currently used by the Church as the parish office, it has also been used during the last 170 years for various commercial activities. Most notably, the front rooms were Yateley's Post Office and telegraph office when Gadd acquired these around 1886 and transferred them from premises adjacent to the White Lion. In his later years Gadd moved to Littlehampton, leaving his businesses in Yateley in the hands of his manager William Bettesworth. It was he who around 1901 employed Flora Timms as post office clerk and telegraph operator. She lodged in Chaddisbrooke. Some years later, when she had married and moved on to post offices in Surrey, she attained fame as Flora Thompson, the author of the "Larkrise to Candleford" trilogy.

We are pleased that these buildings will be preserved and are optimistic that the essence of their social and cultural heritage within Yateley's history will be incorporated in the Church's development for its community needs.

Roger Coombes



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Our monthly meetings are held at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Red Cross Centre, Monteagle Lane, Yateley, GU46 6LU (Unless otherwise stated). Members and non-members welcome, admission free.

Thurs 17 October 7pm £2 donation to the Church Building Fund! Bring a torch.	Guided tour of St Marys Church Eversley with Elizabeth Tipton St. Mary's has been a place of Christian worship for over 900 years. There is evidence that it may have been a significant pagan site long before the advent of Christianity. The church building, which dates mainly from the 18th century, lies off a quiet country lane. It is surrounded by fields and trees, much as it would have been years ago.	
Wed 23 October 10am-noon	Fungus Foray—BVCT event Seek out the weird and wonderful world of fungus with Mike Waterman. Meet at Shepherds Meadow car park.	
Thurs 14 November 7.30pm	WWI Library Exhibition—exciting developments! Research is well underway and will be shared at this meeting to see if we can involve more members and their contacts.	
Sat 16 November 10am—12.30pm Meet at café in Frimley Lodge Park	Tomlins Pond Circular Walk—BVCT event See the colours of Autumn with a walk through the woods led by Clive Andrews, via Frimley Lodge Park, Frimley Aqueduct, Rhodendron Road, Tomlinsons Pond, Canal towpath.	

Dr Joyce Holroyd

Joyce Holroyd's sudden death at the end of August shocked those members who have known Joyce and Michael from the earliest days of the Society. Although her own health faltered over the past few years, her constant care for Michael, developing Alzheimer's, showed her capacity for determination and constructive thinking.

She and Michael shared a passion for Wagnerian opera: their joint library of scores and books measures in metres, and Joyce made the pilgrimage to Bayreuth a couple of years ago when, at last, her name was allocated one of the Wagner Society's coveted tickets. The Holroyds were also great walkers and Ramblers, beginning in the Chilterns area and continuing when they came to live in Firgrove Farm Cottage, Eversley. They led walks for the Society in the 80s and 90s and Joyce became Footpath Officer for Eversley, mapping all the parish paths. She became an enthusiastic machine-knitter, designing garments in subtle colour combinations with intricate stitchery. Then she became 'hooked' on crochet. Anyone who has seen the fantastic forms and colours of her set of mythological beasts, with moving articulated limbs and flashing eyes, will glimpse the range and power of Joyce's analytical intelligence.

Dr Joyce Holroyd was a significant woman in a masculine world of mathematics and statistics. Manchester University was leading the development of computer sciences in the 1950s, and Joyce gained her degree in Mathematics there, followed by her doctorate, her thesis title being 'Statistical Methods in Epidemiology'. This led to a career in traffic management at the Road Research Laboratory (now TRL), where she met Michael. After bringing up her son Anda (Alexander) she returned to TRL in the 1990s. She celebrated her 80th birthday in April this year. Throughout her life she supported women's rights to equality in all walks of life, was a member of CND, and joined the women of Greenham Common.

Latterly she was increasingly troubled by failing memory, believing that she too was developing Alzheimer's. In the week before her death she had learnt that this was not the case, and four days before her death her treasured son Anda had arrived from Seattle to be with her. Those who attended Joyce's funeral learnt much about a remarkable woman and were thankful that Anda had been with his mother, and that he is supported so warmly by his partner Rebecca

Elizabeth Tipton

EXERCISE THE BODY AND CONSCIENCE!

The Conservation Group normally meets at Wyndhams Pool, Cricket Hill 10 am— last Sunday of each 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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