

The Yateley Society



Newsletter

Issue 117 September 2014

www.yateleysociety.org.uk

I am pleased to report that the Society's exhibition, "World War I: Yateley's Story", is now on display in Yateley Library until the end of October, when it will move to Frogmore College for the second half of the academic term. I would encourage all members to visit it. There are six roller banners on various topics covering the Home Front and action in Mesopotamia and at sea involving Yateley men. There is an accompanying leaflet and an opportunity to purchase Graham Fleuty's book "Yateley Men at War" if you don't already have one. When you go, please sign and write a comment if you wish in the Exhibition Visitors' Book.

Many thanks are due to the team of researchers who have been working on this project for over a year. I shall be saying more about this in the Annual Report. Not that their work is finished, though, because we have covered just the first year of the war, 1914, and are continuing to research into 1915 and beyond for further exhibitions. The group has settled into a pattern of monthly meetings at Muriel Brent's home. If you become inspired by what you see and would like to get involved please contact us contact@yateleysociety.org or telephone me on 01252 879103.

On the subject of meetings, the Society's monthly meetings have always been held on the third Thursday of each month. We have used various venues over the years. Whilst this has generally been convenient for the majority of members the numbers attending have fallen considerably in recent years and it has been pointed out to the EC that our good friends the

Yateley WI and Yateley Country Market have several members who would be interested in joining us and attending our meetings if

they did not clash with their own. Indeed this has always been the reason why we were never able to book the WI Hall on third Thursdays. The EC is therefore considering moving our meetings to either the second or last Thursdays. Doing this would also enable us to use the WI Hall for meetings which might be more centrally located for members, particularly useful in winter months. A drawback, however, would be the smaller parking area. Another idea being floated, given the continuing difficulty of finding new topics and speakers, is to meet less frequently – perhaps moving to a quarterly cycle.

We will not make any changes without consulting members, however, and this would be done at the AGM in February. That is five months away, which gives you time to consider the proposal and to give us your views, pro and anti, so that we can gauge how popular or not such a change would be. Perhaps you can come up with an alternative?

Roger Coombes



Planning Matters

HART LOCAL PLAN

Hart District Council has published a consultation document “Hart Local Plan Housing Development Options Consultation”. This consultation gives Hart residents the opportunity to assist the council in the preparation of a new housing delivery strategy up until the year 2032. You can view this document on the Hart web site; go to www.hart.gov.uk/local-plan.

In essence there are five options:-

- Option 1 Development within existing settlement boundaries.
- Option 2 Development by extending existing settlement boundaries.
- Option 3 The provision of between 1 and 4 Strategic Urban Extensions similar to Elvetham Heath.
- Option 4 A new town centrally located in Hart similar in concept to the Governments “garden city” idea, complete with services and infrastructure.
- Option 5 Creating new settlements outside the TBHSPA zone of influence. This will involve developing the south west area of Hart.

With the possible exception of Option 4 it is unlikely that any single option will solve Hart’s housing requirement.

Hart will be holding a public exhibition at the Monteagle Community Hall on Monday the 15th September between 10.30 and 19.30.

This is your chance to influence the next 15 years housing development in Hart.

Barry Moody

Report on April's Monthly Meeting

For our monthly meeting in April we were treated to a talk from Frances Rogerson, who spoke about the history of Yateley's Women's Institute (WI) and Country Market.

She told us about the history of the WI in general, which began in 1897 by the wives of the Farmers Institute in Canada, and how 23,000 land girls were initially involved in the UK. Closer to home, the Yateley WI was started by 15 ladies who sat round Yateley Hall with its owner at the time, Margaret De Winton Corry. Miss De Winton Corry was very influential when the group was set up and Frances brought photographs with her showing some of the initial gatherings.

The Country Markets were for a long time part of the running of the WI groups, and in most cases the markets were held in library premises in order to assist increasing footfall in the libraries themselves once per month.

The first Yateley WI Country Market was held in 1976 and £16 was collected! The market has been in Monteagle Hall since 1994. It wasn't until 2004 when the Country Markets were separated from the WI groups, and Yateley Country Market is the only surviving market for Berkshire (Yateley WI has always been recorded as Berkshire).

Yateley WI has around 60 members and meet on a monthly basis in their hall. They often hold workshops for dying crafts (eg. Knitting) and the members take part in charitable projects, including knitting jumpers for penguins and goats, and making story sacks for schools.

Attendees at the meeting were also treated to cake from the market and given the opportunity to purchase some of the produce – I don't think anyone resisted taking something home with them!

Abby Roper

Calling all local businesspeople!

Is that you or someone you know?

For our November monthly meeting we are planning a Christmas Shopping event - with the stallholders being local people who produce their own items to sell. At the current time we're looking for anyone who may be interested in taking a stall to get in touch. So if you spend your free time doing things like crafting necklaces, making garments, taking photos or designing pottery it would be great if you'd like to participate in the event.

Alternatively, if you know of anyone in the Yateley area who does and would be interested in taking a stall, please pass on my details, as I am co-ordinating the event.

When our stallholders are confirmed nearer the time we will of course be advertising details of the event to you so that you can come along to see some unique Christmas gift ideas!

Abby Roper

membership@yateleysociety.org.uk

The Yateley Magazine

This relatively new venture <http://theyateleymagazine.com/> has a lovely article about the conservation volunteers on the common, I am told. This in the September number, which is due around now. I was rather disappointed with the on-line presentation, but it would seem that it is worth persevering.

Chris Willis

Summer Social

Although the weather had been somewhat suspect, it turned out nice for the Summer Social. This year we were in Darby Green, kindly hosted by Abby and Mark Roper. As usual the Society volunteers (Jo and Abby) had put on a splendid spread for the main course and there was a rich variety of puddings provided by the guests. Tony Hocking again provided one of his quizzes, which has just the right mix of obscure and familiar material. I am sure those who attended enjoyed the evening as I did, and will join me in thanking Abby and Mark, Tony and those who helped put the meal together. Thank you.

Chris Willis

From the Parish Magazine [1890s]

Easter Monday

Yateley and Minley were very much astir on Easter Monday, and the dear quiet old Flats presented an appearance of gaiety and life such as they have not known to do for very many years. And the reason for all this bustle was the sham fight which took place upon them between the Berkshire and Hampshire Volunteers. After expending a large quantity of powder, and being very much hindered, we should think, by the crowds of sightseers, the battle ended, we believe, in favour of Hampshire, although in real warfare the carnage would have been dreadful; for the opposing forces were taking point blank shots at each other, none of the combatants, except of course the Yateley section taking any trouble to shelter themselves under cover. The machine gun was an object of much interest, and must be very demoralizing when loaded with bullets. The Volunteers turned out well and presented a very smart soldier-like appearance, and we have them to thank for a very pleasant day on the Flats.

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.

September - October 2014	World War I: Yateley's Story , exhibition in the library
Thu 18 th September	After a bit of a hiatus our monthly programme resumes this month with a talk by Councillor Gerry Crisp, Mayor of Yateley, on his initiatives on Youth and Yateley Small Businesses.
Sat 27 th Sept 11am - 12noon	Book signing -Graham Fleuty -“Yateley Men at War”.
Thu 16 th October 7:30 Drama Studio	Roger Coleman MBE on the 4 th Royal Hampshire Regiment during World War I. This will be held in the Drama Studio which is near the Library and refreshments will be served in the Library following the talk. This will also be another opportunity to view the Exhibition and purchase Graham Fleuty's book. Graham will be on hand to sign your copy if you wish. This is the public Library Lecture. Admission by ticket - £3 from the library.
Thu 16 th October following talk	Book signing -Graham Fleuty -“Yateley Men at War”.
Thu 20 th November	A local craft and produce market with introductory talks by the stallholders. More information from Abby Roper (Membership Secretary) who is organising it.

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

[Notices on the common suggest that the rangers would be pleased to hear from people available at other times. -Ed]

Membership renewal

Please remember to renew (or join as appropriate). The membership year runs from 1st October to 30th September. There should be a form with details with this newsletter. -Ed.

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