

WOKING HISTORY JOURNAL

Volume 6

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**WOKING HISTORY FESTIVAL PROGRAMME &
SEE THE BACK PAGE**



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The Steer Family of Horsell

A look at Byfleet

17th century traders token
of Chobham

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Newsletter

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And:

Part Three of our series on
Brookwood Cemetery

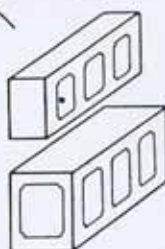




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In this issue we have the third part of John Clarke's guided tour of Brookwood Cemetery. Part One appeared in our first edition back in 1989, whilst Part Two was in issue number 3 (Summer 1990). This walk crosses over Cemetery Pales to explore part of the southern section. If you want to retrace the steps listed in all three articles then why not join John on Good Friday for his Woking History Festival walk. More details are on the back page, 'Festival Programme'.

Our centre page pull-out 'walk' is not exactly a walk. The village of Byfleet is very historic and there are a number of old buildings in the parish, but to arrange a walk linking all the places together is very difficult. So we decided to just take 'a look' at the places of interest (with a map for guidance) in the hope that you will be able to work out your own way of viewing them, either on foot, by car or both.

We also take a look at Maybury Road – a road that many drive along without giving a thought for its history. In this report we aim to prove that every road has a history and some, like Maybury Road, are full of interesting buildings, personalities and events.

History is being made every day. Everyone must agree that Woking Football Club's recent form in the F.A. Cup was one of the greatest achievements in their 104 year history (some say even better than their 1954 win at Wembley in the Amateur Cup). In honour of this we were going to publish a short piece on the club entitled 'History in the Making', but as our 'advisor' – Tom Harding – pointed out, the club's chances of making 'history' this season are not over yet, and so we have held-over our report until the summer when we should also be celebrating their promotion to the Vauxhall Conference.

History is in the news and a report on the council's progress as regards the borough museum is contained, along with the first newsletter of the Woking Community Play. Finally, to prove that people do actually read the Journal, we have two reports from readers. One is from Mrs Hughes of Tonbridge following on from our article in the Autumn edition about Horsell's Windmill. 'The Steer Family of Horsell' adds to our knowledge of the family that ran Woking's only windmill. I hope it will encourage other 'family historians' to get in touch and tell us more about their ancestors connections with the Woking area. The other reader's report is on the '17th Century Traders Tokens of Chobham', by Nick Wetton. Nick is the son of the late John Wetton, one of Woking's greatest historians/collectors, and there will be more from the Wetton Collection in later editions.

Thank you for buying the Woking History Journal and don't forget, we hope to see you all at the WOKING HISTORY FESTIVAL at Easter!

Iain Wakeford

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MAYBURY ROAD

by Iain Wakeford

Although Maybury Road and its houses are not old by most peoples standards, they do have an interesting story to tell.

The land was originally part of Woking Common, and 140 years ago would have been bare open heath. The railway was built in 1838 across the heath, but the road was not added until much later. With the town of (Old) Woking a mile away to the south and no development around the station, there was no need for a road to be built.

It was the London Necropolis & National Mausoleum Company who laid out the road, along with Walton Road, Board School Road and Boundary Road to the north. Other roads were then built at right angles (such as North Road) creating a grid of roads with neat rectangular plots for sale. That was in the late 1860s, and by the early 1870s some properties were beginning to be built.

The plots closest to the railway were much larger than those facing the canal, so that the properties of Maybury Road are much grander than the rows of terraced houses in Boundary Road. It was not a coincidence. The Necropolis Company knew that most of the buyers of the land would be coming to Woking by train. They wanted to give a good impression of the town, so by encouraging larger houses to be built facing the railway they were helping to keep up Woking's image. What happened behind Maybury Road was not quite so important, and so the plots and houses could be smaller, the Company making maximum use of its land to maximise its profit.



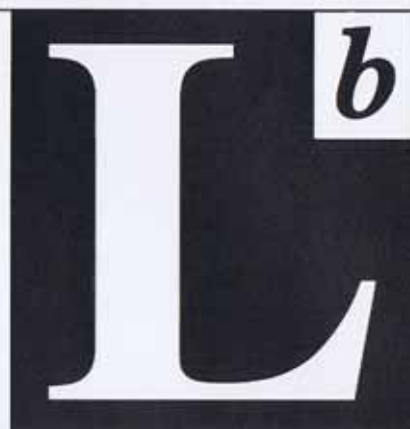
Not content with making vast profits out of the land sales the Company also apparently went into the construction business. Alan Crosby in his 'History of Woking' states that the 'Suburban Land Company', who built many of the properties in the area, 'shared' most of its directors with the Necropolis Company.

The Company took the land, laid out the plots and built some of the houses, but that is all. The road itself was just a dirt track – in winter a mud

track. It was left to the Urban District Council to make the road up. The fact that Maybury Road was one of the first roads to be tackled, in 1895, shows how important it was – and at a cost of £11. 1s 1d. it must have been money well spent.

At the time Maybury Road also included the section we now call the 'Broadway'. It's shops were constructed in the late 1880s. Several well known Woking firms started out in the road. Companies such as Meeks (established in 1890) and

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Hugh Butcher's (1897), with the building on the corner (formerly Barclays Bank) being the first property built in 1888.

At the other end of the road, by Maybury arch the shops are slightly younger and less grander than the others, but are vitally important for the economy of that area. In between there are many small industries. Some have been in the street from the start. The timber yard on the corner with North Road and the Woking

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Ford Showrooms (built originally as a laundry) being good examples.

Maybury Road, like many of Woking's streets, is changing fast. Many of the old houses have now been demolished to make way for modern offices, blocks of flats or terraced houses. In many cases this is a shame as the new buildings have much less character than the old, the

Optichrome building (where this Journal is printed) being perhaps one of the few exceptions. Happily some of the older buildings have survived. The recently opened Maybury Lodge Hotel is a good example. Here a sensitive development has allowed an old building of character to survive and add to the overall street scene.

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The same, unfortunately, could not be said for Maybury Road's most famous building – the former home of H. G. Wells. The borough council are considering placing a plaque on the wall to commemorate his eighteen month stay in the town. Quite frankly, I would rather they placed the plaque on the house next door (which is more in keeping with the Victorian home he would have known)! Wells' house is not the only property in the road to be 'modernized', but you would have thought, given its history, that it would have been done with more taste.

No road can expect to remain untouched. Everywhere must change and in Maybury Road there are many changes – both good and bad. In that respect it is a typical Woking road, seldom given a second thought by residents and visitors alike. But, I hope, by taking a look at its brief past, you will agree that even the most ordinary of roads can have a fascinating history.

Right: *H.G. Well's house, Maybury Road*



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Our item in the Autumn edition on the Horsell Birch Windmill, produced some interesting letters of response. Mrs Anne Hughes (nee Steer) of Tonbridge in Kent sent us this information. . .

THE STEER FAMILY OF HORSELL

"Perhaps you would be interested in more information on the Steer family. Isaac Steer (1807-1887) was my great-great grandfather. He married three times and had at least 14 children. Reuben (1833-1903) was from the first marriage. He later lived in Addlestone and his son David had a building and decorating business there, also with a funeral business. Isaac (1841-1900) was from the second marriage. My grandfather, Edward Steer, was the son of Allan from the third marriage. He told my father that there was a saw pit in the front garden of Birch Cottage and also mentioned 'Uncle Harry' who ran the Cricketers public house and also made coffins. I believe Harry was the grandson of Luke Steer. I have not as yet established the relationship between Luke and Isaac Steer snr., but feel they were most likely related, probably through Henry Steer who is shown in Horsell registers as a carpenter and had several children between 1740-60.

My grandfather, Edward, was born at Anthonys in 1885 and he recorded memories of attending the chapel there when a child. Apparently his father was on the committee and his mother, Hannah (nee Mant) a Sunday School teacher until one of their daughters moved in with a married man and they were obliged to stand down. The pastor was the Rev. E. W. Tarbox.

A few years ago I made enquiries as to surviving records, but without

success. 'The Baptist Churches of Surrey' by A. H. Stockwell (a copy of which is in the local studies library in Guildford) states that a cottage meeting and Sunday School began there in 1885. Two years after a mission room was built in the garden of a house belonging to Mr J. H. Smith. A larger building became necessary and in 1890 Mr Tarbox financed the building of a chapel opened by the Rev. C. Spurgeon in May 1901. Other people mentioned are Mr. F. J. Marnham M.P., Mr S. H. Mayhew of Woking and Mr. R. Filfield.

Baptist Society records show that the Rev. Tarbox died in 1918, but due to paper shortage his obituary is brief. My grandfather said the chapel became less popular when Woodham Church was built (he was married there in 1908).

Another family story is that my grandfather's uncle, Isaac Steer, built The Bleak public house an adjoining row of cottages. The Steer family lived in some of the cottages and my father was born there in 1909. Various members of the Steer family are shown as being carpenters through the generations and the building trade connection has continued to be present day.

I would be grateful for any further information on either the Baptist Chapel or The Bleak at Anthonys." Mrs Anne Hughes, Spring House, Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0DZ.



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LOCAL HISTORY IN THE NEWS

Over the last few years I have written books, given talks, staged exhibitions, guided on walks, produced this Journal, and basically done everything I can to promote Woking's past and encourage the establishment of a borough museum. Now, at last, the council seem to be moving 'a step nearer', as the following report from the Council to the readers of the Woking History Journal shows . . .

MUSEUM/ARTS CENTRE A STEP NEARER

The Council has convened a Working Party to work towards the provision of a Museum and Arts Centre facility in the Borough. The membership of the Working Party includes representatives of local interest groups such as Woking District History Society and Woking Arts Council, as well as professional advisers and Council officers.

At the first meeting of the Working Party, a number of practical issues such as floorspace, exhibitions and displays and running costs were discussed. The thorny question of the location for the facility was also discussed, although no specific site has been identified as yet by the Council.

In relation to finance, the Working Party learnt that the Council would not be able to consider allocating any substantial funds for a museum/arts centre scheme before 1993/94 at the earliest. However, a small sum has been provided by the Council for the interim period and one possible use for this would be the mounting of a temporary historical/arts exhibition. That proposal will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting of the Working Party.

The Working Party is being chaired by Mr. Chris Elston, the Council's Director of Community Services, although Members of the Council will be involved on the Working Party at a later stage of the planning of the project. Although we are not on the Committee itself, we promise to keep you up to date on any future developments, and we hope to have a report on April's meeting in our next edition.

More news is contained on the following page, where by courtesy of Kall-Kwik Printing, we have reproduced the first newsletter of the Woking Community Play. If you are interested in research, please get in touch with either myself, or Jan. The 18th March meeting of the Research Group will be held at the W.A.V.S. office, in the Library Chambers, Church Street, Woking. Please do come along if you can and learn how you can get involved in this exciting new project for Woking.

STOP PRESS:

Just before going to press we learnt that the Mill House at Byfleet (see centre page pull-out) has been destroyed by fire. We understand that the owner is keen to restore the 17th century listed building to its former glory, and we wish him well in his task. Unfortunately fires in listed or other old buildings in the borough seem to be on the increase. Cripplegate Cottage at St. Johns is still being rebuilt after last years fire and the ruins of the Emmanuel Chapel at Mayford still stand awaiting a decision on their fate. Hopefully this recent spate of fires can be halted, and Woking's heritage saved for future generations.

Finally, we have been asked by the local history society for the Woking area to inform you of the dates of their meetings.

4th March	<i>The History of the Theatre.</i>
20th May	<i>The Watercress Line.</i>
1st July	<i>The History of Esher.</i>
2nd September	<i>The History of Lighthouses.</i>
4th November	<i>The Wey Navigation.</i>

All meetings are held in the village hall at Mayford, all start at 8.00pm, and there is an admission charge of £1.00 per meeting.



WOKING COMMUNITY PLAY



WELCOME!

This is the first Woking Community Play Newsletter. It's designed to keep you in the picture on progress with the play, and give you details on what help is needed and when. You have already shown an interest in the play, now you can take the opportunity to become actively involved. Everyone can help and everyone's support is welcome.

WHO WILL BE THE WRITER?

A lot of people are eagerly awaiting the announcement of the person who will write our play. At the moment, Steve Woodward of the Colway Theatre Trust is having discussions with a number of experienced playwrights. When a decision has been made we will tell you as soon as possible.



Is this YOU?

A good organiser with some free time and who can motivate others. If this sounds like you, then you could be the person we need for the vital task of leading the Play's fund-raising activities. Don't be put off by the word "fund-raising", we're not talking about rattling a collecting tin on a rainy day. What we do mean is organising events that are fun for those taking part but also raise money for the project. This could involve sponsored events, auctions, coffee mornings or whatever you can dream up! Or it could entail talking to local groups and encouraging them to arrange events in their area of interest to make some money for themselves and the play.

This is a key role, and besides a leader we are looking for a team to work together as a unit to sort things out. If your thinking cap is on, please contact David Vince on Woking 750561 during office hours.

SITUATIONS VACANT

The Play's job centre is well and truly open, pay is a little on the non-existent side, but there are many rewards to be found in the work. We need the following:

VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR - The Play has over a hundred volunteers, a number that increases almost daily. We need someone to sort out the lists of people in terms of what areas they're interested in and to get in touch with them when their help is needed.

SPONSORSHIP TEAM - Once a writer has been appointed, we'll need a small team of hardy souls to write to, phone and visit local firms and other potential sponsors to seek their financial support for the play. You will be armed with information on the benefits to them of supporting the project. We're not looking for financial whizzkids or super sales personnel, just sincere, enthusiastic people who can put the right message across.

WANT TO SEE A COMMUNITY PLAY?

If you want to see a Community Play "in the flesh" there's a chance to join an outing to one being performed in March in South Petherton, which is in Somerset. The play is called "Listenstone" and is being performed in and around the barns of Wigborough Manor Farm. If you would like to go, please contact Fiona Stirling on Woking 768061 (evenings only) by 25th February.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Committee, under the chairmanship of local historian Iain Wakeford are researching different periods of Woking's history right down to the present day. The aim is to produce as much material for the play as possible, although none of the information that is gathered will be wasted, as the Research Committee want to hold exhibitions and issue pamphlets. There is even the possibility of a book being produced.

The Committee will be interviewing older residents of the borough to record their memories of events, characters and life in Woking this century. It is hoped that local schools will be involved in the exercise, but everyone is welcome to take part, either as an interviewer or by sharing their own memories.

If you want to become involved on the research side of things, contact Iain on Woking 722591 or Jan Chapman on Brookwood 80874 (evenings only). Better still, why not pop along to one of their meetings, the next ones are on 18th February, 7th March and 18th March. They all start at 7.30 p.m., with the first two to be held at the QE II Theatre in Old Woking Road, Maybury. If you need a lift contact Iain or Jan.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE NEWS

There is a lot of work to be done on the publicity side of things as we try and raise awareness of and interest in the play. This newsletter is one of the first fruits of our labour, and we are now looking to produce a logo for the play, probably involving a competition. At the moment, the Committee covers marketing as well as publicity, so we will be looking at promotions too. We need people to help with ideas, making contact with others who can help and some practical assistance. We are establishing links with the local news media and have started issuing press releases.

Everyone who registered an interest in publicity should have been contacted by the time you read this, but if you would like to help and want to come to one of our meetings then contact Stephen McGrath on 0483 63330 (evenings only) or Peter Farr on Brookwood 80316 (evenings only).

RESOURCES COMMITTEE NEWS

The top priority at the moment is the setting up of a "shop" for the play. This will act as a base and office for the play, dealing with enquiries and other callers, and ultimately acting as ticket office and so forth. The Committee are making enquiries of the Council and local estate agents, and the hope is that a town centre site with window display facilities can be obtained, even if the office has to move on from time to time to make way for a permanent lessee. If anyone out there can help us, please contact Les Harris on Brookwood 5107.

Looking further ahead, we will require office equipment, so if you can get hold of spare desks, chairs, filing cabinets, typewriters (dare we say computers?!) let us know. The Resources Committee's task is to come up with the goods, whatever those items are, as requested by the play's steering committee. In the future this will include costumes, items for the set of the play and all sorts of other things we don't even know about now but will be very important in the future. Les only has a small team at the moment, and would like others to come forward and help with the Committee. If you would like to take part then contact Les on the number that is given above.

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A LOOK AT BYFLEET

"Byfleet has no old buildings, its just a modern sprawl of industrial estates and housing estates."

"But what about the Church?"

"Well, yes, there is the Church - but thats all"

"And the Manor House?"

"Okay - there is the Manor House too, but nothing else"

"What about the old Mill and Mill House?"

"Granted, they are old, but there are no other old buildings in the village... Are there?"

The answer is yes, and although there are not many old buildings, those that are left are still interesting and three (apart from those mentioned above) are of sufficient importance for them to attract a 'listing' from the Department of the Environment.

The problem with Byfleet is that between the old buildings there are many modern ones and with no large concentration of old houses to look at, we tend to forget that they exist at all. This also makes a walk around the area extremely difficult to set out, so this article is more like a list of places of interest in the area, rather than a walk. We hope that you find it of interest and will discover that there is more to Byfleet than just 'industrial estates and housing estates'.

THE CLOCK HOUSE, High Road.

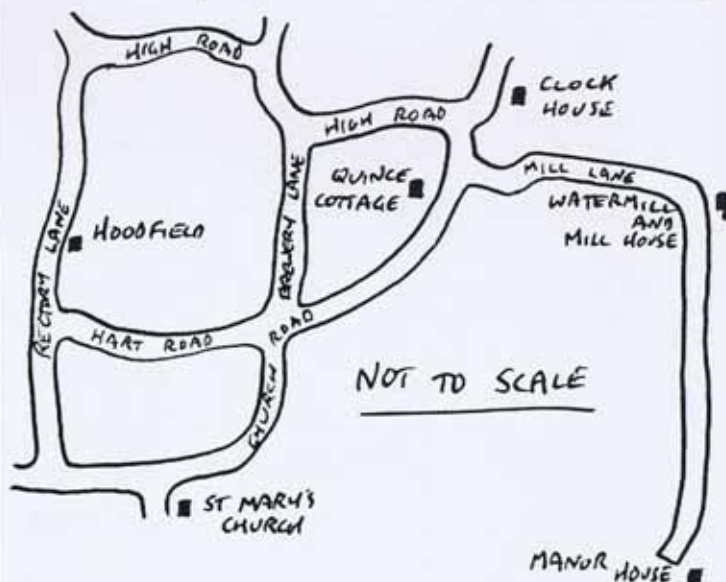
The Clock House is a Grade II listed building. Once one large house it has now been divided into old peoples flats. Originally it dated from the late 18th century, but it was enaleged in the 19th century and again quite recently.

HOODFIELD, 18 Rectory Lane.

This is one of Byfleet's 'listed' buildings - a Grade II. It dates from the 16th century, but with late 19th and 20th century additions to the ends. It is timber framed, with whitewashed brick infill below, and rendered infill above. The house was formerly called 'Hedges'.

MANOR HOUSE, Mill Lane

The history of the owners of Byfleet Manor, and of the various buildings that have stood on this site, will be looked at in a later edition of this Journal. For the time being we will concentrate on the building of today, which mainly dates from 1686, but with some earlier details and later restoration and additions of 1905. The central block is two storeys high over a basement and has two attic windows under hipped roofed dormers. The extension on the right



A LOOK AT BYFLEET

is single storey with three attic windows, whilst to the left another extension is two storeys high.

The Gateway and wall that surround the front courtyard of the Manor House are themselves 'listed'. The measure 120ft across from east to west and 60ft across from north to south. The walls are 10ft high, with the pillars about 18ft high. They date from the early 17th century being attributed to the work of Wendel Dietterlin, the 17th century dutch architect.

MILL HOUSE, (below, left), Mill Lane.

The Mill House dates from about 1750. It is three storeys high over a basement, and has a single storey 19th century addition to the left.

Both the Mill House and the Mill are on a private island in the river and can not be seen from the lane.

QUINCE COTTAGE, (above), 26 Church Road.

Opposite the entrance to Wey Barton is another of Byfleet's Grade II 'listed' buildings.

Quince Cottage dates from the 17th century and was originally timber framed. The framing is hidden by brick cladding on the ground floor and it is tile hung on the first floor.



ST MARYS CHURCH, Church Road.

The Church itself dates from the 13th century with the south aisle being added in 1841, the transept in 1864 and the vestry in 1867. The history of the Church is well recorded in Leonard Stevens 'guide', available from the Church, so we shall not waste space here by repeating his excellent notes on the subject.

There are two 'listed buildings' within the graveyard – the chest tombs of Mrs Elizabeth Shrapnell (dated 1818) and Harriet M Cooper (dated 1828) – the architecture of these two monuments being considered of sufficient interest for them to be 'listed' by the D.O.E.

WATER MILL, (below, right), Mill Lane.

The Watermill itself now dates from the mid 18th century, being extended in the 19th century and restored earlier this century. It is a grade II* listed building, considered to be of special interest.

The building is three storeys high with a two storey gallery over the stream to a smaller building on the right.

A mill at Byfleet was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 when it ground corn. In later centuries Byfleet Mill was used as a paper mill and an iron mill before reverting to corn in the last century. The Mill is now a private residence.



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1. Level crossing area: the graveled area off Cemetery Pales formed the level crossing where the private cemetery railway crossed the road. On the Anglican side, the line then passed between the trees and shrubs which form a screen beside St Cyprian's Avenue (the principal Avenue running through this part of the cemetery) and the Masonry Works. The crossing used to be protected by two seven-barred gates located on this side of the cemetery. Both gates were wide enough to extend across the roadway when the funeral trains passed into and out of the Anglican section.

On Friday 13th May 1938, an accident occurred on this site when the Necropolis Train collided with one of the Necropolis Company's lorries. The lorry was just leaving the Masonry Works and the driver failed to notice the train being propelled through the cemetery at this point. The train, with one of the hearse carriages leading, hit the lorry which was overturned and was considerably damaged by the force of the collision. Fortunately, the driver, Mr Cheeseman, escaped unhurt (see plate 1).

2. Masonry Works: This extensive range of red brick buildings formed the London Necropolis Company's (LNC) Statuary & Masonry Works. This was built c.1904 and replaced the earlier Statuary Works and Showrooms adjacent to the Cemetery Superintendent's Offices (see item 3 in the first article in this series). The new Works was served by a short siding off the cemetery railway, which allowed stone to be delivered direct. The Works included an internal "rail" system whereby trolleys, loaded with stone, could be moved from workshop to workshop using a series of tracks and small turntables (see plate 2). The Works continued to be run by the LNC until sometime after the last War, when the firm of Clements took over the premises.

3. Westminster burial ground and Ismaili Cemetery (plot 71): is marked by a prominent brick wall with wrought iron gates off St Cyprian's Avenue. It occupies most of the



Plate One: Accident on level crossing - 13th May 1938

Plate Two: The Masonry Works



former parish ground of St Margaret & St John Westminster (see also item 9 in part one of this series). The granite obelisks, which are similar to those in the unconsecrated section, record that the plot was opened in April 1855, along with the names of members of the Burial Board, and may be found in the rhododendrons screening this section from the Masonry Works.

The Ismaili Cemetery was established about 5 years ago with the assistance of the Aga Khan, the head of this Muslim sect. There are two

mortuary buildings at the St Cyprian's end of the plot and these, with the main entrance gates, occupy part of the trackbed of the former cemetery railway. In fact the trackbed has been largely removed from this portion of the cemetery; only the screen of trees along the western boundary of this plot marks the course of the railway through this part of the cemetery. There is another entrance to the Ismaili plot from St Agnes' Avenue, comprising two brick pillars supporting a wrought iron gate.

4. Professor Adam Sedgwick (1854-1913): Sedgwick, the great-nephew of Adam Sedgwick (1785-1873), was a leading zoologist. He was made a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1886; was appointed Professor of Zoology at the University of Cambridge from 1907; and at Imperial College of Science & Technology, South Kensington, from 1909. Sedgwick died on 27 February 1913, aged 58. He is buried with his sister Maribel. The grave is in a large family plot, screened by conifers, opposite the Ismaili cemetery in plot 79.

5. St Marylebone, London (plot 77): this memorial consists of a tall cross of white stone which commemorates 'the mortal remains of those laid to rest during the last century in the crypt of the parish church of St Marylebone London [which] were here buried in the year of Our Lord 1983'.

6. Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Cowell Boyes (1846-1900): this memorial is close to the junction of three avenues at the northern end of plot 82 and comprises a granite obelisk. Boyes was a senior officer of the London Rifle Brigade, whose coat of arms is carved above the inscription. He joined the Brigade after its formation in the early 1860s and received his first commission in the corps as a Lieutenant in the early 1870s. He became a Major, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, in January 1896. Boyes died at Weybridge on 26 December 1900, and the memorial was erected by his comrades in the London Rifle Brigade.

7. Wheeler family grave (plot 86): close to the above grave is this 'pedestal' style memorial topped with a shrouded urn. Of principal interest are the details of Leslie Arthur Hogg, who was the grandson of William Wheeler. He was a Private in the 15th County of London Regiment, Civil Service Rifles, and was killed in action on the Western Front near Loos on 11 February 1916. The inscription records that he is buried not here in Brookwood but at Noeux-les-Mines, northern France.

8. Sir Edmund Widdrington Byrne (1844-1904): this grave is close to the above but is in plot 86. Byrne was a Judge and a successful leader in Chancery cases. He was Conservative MP for Walthamstow 1892-1897, was appointed Judge in Chancery Division and knighted in 1897. He has been described as 'an accurate and painstaking, but slow, judge'. He is buried with his wife, Mary Elizabeth.

9. Lovell family grave: moving to plot 88 we find the family grave of the Lovells. These include some early graves of interest. The headstone records that Emma, mother of Emma Jane, 'died suddenly from the rupture of a blood vessel 18 May 1857 aged 24 years'. She is buried with her daughter who died on 2 June 1856, probably at an early age, although this is not recorded. The inscription is very worn and includes a small stone at the foot of the grave-space on which is carved "E. L. 1857".

From this grave, turn into St Paul's Avenue, walking away from the last group of memorials. At the end of this avenue, turn right along St Andrew's Avenue.

Following the course of St Andrew's Avenue we reach the extensive plot 76 which is known as the 'Garden' or the 'Lawn', probably on account of the excellent way in which the grounds are kept. There are many interesting graves in this section, and a number of plots containing human remains removed from London churchyards are adjacent to this area.



Plate Three: St George the Martyr, Southwark

10. St George the Martyr, Southwark (plot 81): this is a large monument off St George the Martyr Avenue where the obelisk has toppled off its base due to the uneven settling of the ground. The obelisk was a 'replica of the obelisk in St George's Circus, Southwark, erected 1900'. On another face of the base is recorded: 'In memoriam: the human remains from the crypt of the church of St George the Martyr Southwark were here re-interred in this site October 1899 in accordance with an Order in Council' (see plate 3).

11. Earl of Abingdon & Lindsey (1887-1963): returning to the 'Lawn' area we find the grave of the Right Honourable Montagu Henry Edmund Cecil Townley-Bertie, 8th Earl of Abingdon and 13th Earl of Lindsey, who was born in 1887, the only son of Lord Norreys, the eldest son of the 7th Earl of Abingdon. He served in the Grenadier Guards and the Royal Naval Air Service during the First World War. He succeeded his grandfather as 8th Earl of Abingdon in 1928, and his kinsman as Earl of Lindsey in 1938. He was High Steward of Abingdon and a Family Trustee of the British Museum. Sir



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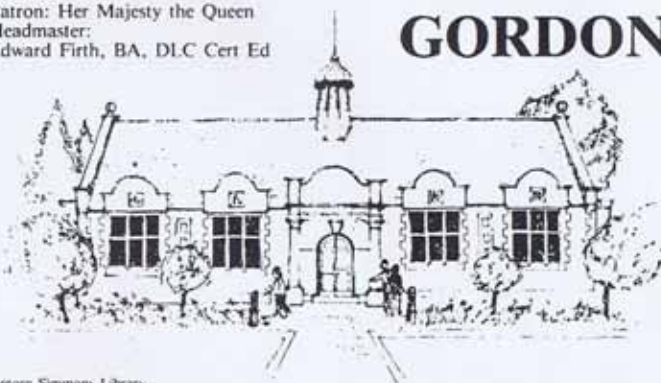
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Osbert Sitwell remembered him as having 'no fear of expressing himself, indeed [he] seemed rather to enjoy it ... and his views were always infused by an extreme common sense - if common sense can ever be extreme.'

12. Busick Edmonds Pemberton (1851-1934): in the same plot is the grave of this Barrister-at-Law who died suddenly at Droitwich on 11 September 1934, aged 84. Pemberton was for many years a partner in the firm of Messrs Lee & Pemberton of 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, and was the senior partner from 1905 until he retired from active practice in 1914. He was appointed a Director of the LNC from 1917 until his death. Universally respected, he was described as 'a man of the highest honour [and] gifted with a charming manner'.

13. Sir Frank Athelstan Swettenham (1850-1946): Swettenham was a Colonial Administrator who entered service in the Straits Settlements in 1871. He was advisor to the Sultan of

Selangor 1874-75, and initiated the Federation of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang. He was Resident-General of the Federated States 1895-1901, and became High Commissioner of the Malay States and Governor of the Straits Settlements 1901-1904. He was Chairman of the Royal Commission on the finances of Mauritius, 1909; and was Joint-Director of the Press Bureau, 1915-1918. Created KCMG in 1897, GCMG in 1909 and a CH in 1917. He published several books including Malay sketches (1895), Unaddressed letters (1898), and The real Malay (1899).

14. John Baker Walker (died 15 March 1943, aged 73): Walker has a prominent grave adjacent to St Andrew's Avenue. He joined the LNC in 1889 with Cyril Tubbs; both became important officers of the Company, and both were subsequently buried at Brookwood. Walker was General Manager from 1897, Managing Director from 1919, and Chairman of the Board of

Directors from 1941. He lived in a LNC owned house, 'The Cedars', which is on Heath House Road. The grounds of the house were tended by workers from the cemetery. Walker is remembered as a tallish heavily built man who was always immaculately dressed in a black jacket, pinstripe trousers, bowler hat, and was seldom without an umbrella. He was seen regularly as he walked through the cemetery to Brookwood Station en route to the LNC's offices in London. It is interesting to note that when Walker died, in 1943, he had lived long enough to witness the demise of the cemetery railway service (the LNC's London station was largely destroyed by bombs in April 1941), and it is difficult not to see his death as representing the end of the 'old guard' of Company Officers, the cemetery having gone into steady decline ever since.

15. Glorney mausoleum: nearer the course of the former cemetery railway is the prominent mausoleum of the Glorney family, finished with a rough

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stone effect. This building used to have attractive stained glass side windows with bands of bold primary colours. The mausoleum has suffered from vandalism and the windows and doors are now blocked up.

16. Baron Hirst (1863-1943): adjacent to the course of the cemetery railway and opposite the Glorney mausoleum in plot 74 is the white 'chest' style memorial to the Hirst family. It contains the remains of Hugo, 1st Baron Hirst of Witton. He was born and educated in Munich, and was naturalized in 1883. He founded the General Electric Company and was its Managing Director, 1900-1943, and Chairman from 1910-1943. He was a recognized expert on international trading. Created Baronet in 1925, and Baron in 1934.

17. Sir Leslie Gamage MC FCIS (1887-1972): buried in the same grave are Sir Leslie Gamage and his wife. Gamage was the second son of A. W. Gamage (the founder of Gammages) and originally intended to pursue a career in the law. When the First World War broke out he joined the army and became a Captain and Adjutant in the 24th London Regiment. During the War he was awarded the Military Cross and was later captured. After the War he joined the General Electric Company where he progressed to General Manager, Joint Managing Director and Vice-Chairman. He was Chairman and Managing-Director of the firm from 1957-1960. His wife, Muriel, the Honourable Lady Gamage (1894-1969), was the elder daughter of Hugo Hirst (see item 17) and a former Chairman of the NSPCC. She was killed in a car accident in 1969.

18. Finn Braine mausoleum (plot 74): further across in this same plot is the prominent white marble mausoleum of the Finn Braine family. This has a green pantiled roof, a circular stained glass window at the rear, and a bronze door reminiscent of a 1930s semi-detached house. The mausoleum faces the course of the former cemetery railway. (Plate 5).



Plate Four:
Henri van Luan

19. Sir James Galloway KBE MA MD FRCP FRCS LLD (1862-1922): this grave is in plot 75. Galloway was Senior Physician and Lecturer in Medicine at Charing Cross Hospital. He was born in Calcutta but educated in Aberdeen. Galloway worked in the London Hospital before his appointment onto the medical staff at Charing Cross in 1894. After the Boer War he served on the Advisory Board of the Army Medical Services, and during the First World War served as the Consulting Physician to the 1st and 2nd Armies in France. He held many public appointments and wrote several articles and books. Created CB in 1917 and KBE in 1918.

20. Henri van Luan (1819-1896): this interesting grave is situated in plot 80, just off All Souls' Avenue. The memorial consists of a terracotta square pedestal with a marble bas-relief of Luan on top. At each corner of the base are representations of single-footed winged lions, with each wing extending along each side of the base (see plate 4). Luan was Dutch, but pursued his academic career in this country. He had an intense interest in French literature – especially Moliere – and wrote several important books on this subject. He is buried with his wife Sophia (died 1900).



Plate Five: *Finn Braine mausoleum*

21. Sir Maurice Fitzmaurice CMG FRS (1861-1924): also in this plot is the grave of Sir Maurice Fitzmaurice who was a civil engineer. He was articled to Sir Benjamin Baker and engaged under Baker and Sir John Fowler in the construction of the Forth bridge (which was opened in 1890). He entered service under the London County Council under Sir A. R. Binnie from 1892, and was subsequently Chief Resident Engineer to the Egyptian government, 1898, and was engaged in the construction of the Aswan Dam, 1898-1901. He became Chief Engineer to the London County Council, 1901-1912. He was knighted in 1912 and became a FRS in 1919.

22. Greenfield mausoleum (plot 80): this attractive building is carefully sited at the end of St Luke's Avenue, creating an interesting vista when viewed from the 'railway' end of the Avenue. It is flanked by a group of large trees and all but surrounded by rhododendrons which have helped preserve the mausoleum from excessive vandalism. The family mausoleum was built in 1891. (See Plate 6).

23. Isabella Hirst (plot 73): retracing our steps along St Luke's Avenue and onto plot 73 we arrive at the 'slab' memorial to Isabella Hirst, wife of Walter Knight. This is particularly interesting because the inscription records that Isabella was cremated on 14 February 1891, at a time when cremation was still a radical choice for the disposal of the dead. The first cremation at St John's had taken place only 6 years previously, and by 1895 only 209 cremations had taken place in Great Britain.

24. Emil Behnke (1836-1892): also in this plot is the modest gravestone of Emil Behnke. The headstone was erected as part of 'a memorial fund contributed by a few friends and pupils in affectionate remembrance of the deceased'. Behnke was an expert on the mechanism of voice and was born in Stettin on 20 June 1836 and died in Ostend on 17 September 1892.

25. VAD graves (plot 72): moving back towards Cemetery Pales onto plot 72 and close to a circular plot of parish remains is a group of 12 graves of Voluntary Aid Detachment and other nurses who died on active service in northern France, largely during the period 1916-1918.

From here you may retrace your steps through the Ismaili cemetery and back to Cemetery Pales, or cross the course of the former cemetery railway (the screen of trees at the bottom of this plot) and rejoin St Cyprian's Avenue, turn right, and so return to Cemetery Pales.

Further Reading

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Plate Six: Greenfield mausoleum

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THE WHITE HART TOKEN

by Nicholas Wetton

The village of Chobham produced (as far as we know) only one tradesman's token during the seventeenth century. It was an undated brass farthing issued by William Luffe at the White Hart Inn.

William Luffe had a small stock of his tokens produced, and they were used by him and his customers for small change. (Private, or unofficial, tokens of this kind, either in brass or copper, circulated widely in mid-century (1648-1672), to meet the need for a convenient, small denomination base metal currency.)

From parish records, we learn that William Luffe was born in 1648; he married his wife, Alice in 1668, and they had eight children. The token itself records his initials and his wife's Christian name initial between them. Alice, like her husband, died in 1703, and little is known about her. In the year of his death, 1703, William is described as a "yeoman".

William Luffe is recorded in the parish register at the baptism of eldest son, also a William, on 7th January, 1676.

He is also referred to in the Surrey Feet of Fines for Michaelmas 1667 as the plaintiff in an action against Thomas Shrubbs and the latter's wife Maria concerning land and property in Chobham.

William Luffe had three brothers, Bartholomew, Joseph and Robert; in the Surrey Hearth-tax Rolls for 1664 Bartholomew is charged with six hearths, and Robert with two.

Robert, who died in 1669, is described in the 'Free and Voluntary Present to Charles II' of 1661-1662 as a "labourer", while Bartholomew, who died three years earlier, in 1666, is referred to as an "innholder".

It seems probable, therefore, that Bartholomew was the proprietor of the White Hart Inn until his death in 1666, whereupon William took over, issuing his token sometime after 1668 when he married Alice. Why Bartholomew didn't issue his own token, is a mystery.



Obverse.
WILLIAM LUFFE
A hart lodged

Reverse.
IN CHOBHAM
W.A.L.

William Luffe's eldest son, the above mentioned William (1676-1728), was a barber/"chyrurgeon" (surgeon); he probably had his own business premises and residential accommodation at the Inn.

One other member of the Luffe, or Luff, family should be mentioned in connection with the White Hart Inn: Jane Luff.

In an article on the Inn in the *Woking News & Mail* of 18th January 1957, it is recorded that during alterations to the Inn in 1956 a number of relics were found. These included a wooden doll, some beads, marbles and dolls' furniture, a tiepin with a miniature portrait of a man believed to be William Pitt, part of a ship's log dated 1760, two penies of George II and a scrap of parchment signed "Jane Luff" and bearing the words "By all good people lyars are abhord", repeated down the page.

Jane Luff, born in 1714, was the daughter of another Bartholomew Luff (1679-1730), and the niece of the barber/surgeon, William Luffe. The toys found in 1956 may well have been hers.

For this information, we can reasonably conclude that at least three generations of Luffes must have kept the White Hart Inn, from at least Bartholomew up to 1666, then William (the token issuer) up to 1703 and then Jane's father, Bartholomew up to 1730.

Sources:

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Williamson, G.C., *TRADE TOKENS ISSUED IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY* (London, 1889-91).
(This article has been written up from notes left by my father, John Wetton, in 1964. I am indebted to Robert Schueller for information about the Luffe family.)

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by John Clarke.
(admission £1.00 – including a free glass of 'Hook Heath' wine)

FRIDAY 29th MARCH, (Good Friday),

10.00am, Wooton Jeffreys, Cemetery Pales, Brookwood.
GUIDED WALK
AROUND THE NONCONFORMIST SECTION OF
BROOKWOOD CEMETERY,
with John Clarke.

FRIDAY 29th MARCH (Good Friday),

2.30pm, Wooton Jeffreys, Cemetery Pales, Brookwood.
GUIDED WALK AROUND THE ANGLICAN
SECTION OF BROOKWOOD CEMETERY,
with John Clarke.

MONDAY 1st APRIL (Easter Monday),

10.00am, St. Peter's Church, Church Street, Old Woking.
GUIDED WALK
'IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE MONKS'
(including St. Peter's Church, Woking Palace
and Hoe Place).
with Tom Harding

MONDAY 1st APRIL (Easter Monday),

2.30pm Pyrford Common Car Park
GUIDED WALK
'IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE MONKS'
(including St. Nicholas' Church, and Newark Priory)
with Tom Harding

TUESDAY 2nd APRIL

3.00pm, St. Peter's Church Centre,
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EXHIBITION
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8.00pm

AN EVENING OF MEMORIES, an illustrated talk,
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WEDNESDAY 3rd APRIL,

8.00pm, St. Johns Memorial Hall, St. Johns Lye, St. Johns.
WOKING'S TREE HERITAGE, an illustrated talk,
by Martin Humphrey

THURSDAY 4th APRIL,

8.00pm, Pyrford Village Hall.
LOCAL PEOPLE & THEIR PLANTS,
an illustrated talk,
by Chris Howkins

FRIDAY 5th APRIL,

8.00pm Horsell First School, Church Hill, Horsell.
H.G. WELLS, WOKING,
& THE WAR OF THE WORLDS,
an illustrated talk,
by Iain Wakeford

SATURDAY 6th APRIL,

10.30am Anthonys Car Park, Horsell Common.
WAR OF THE WORLDS WALK,
around Horsell Common,
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