

Woking History Society

e-journal



HG Wells statue in Wells Plaza (copyright P A Gristwood)

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Thoughts of Chairman Gristwood

Welcome to the 3rd edition of the WHS e-journal. We have had many positive comments and no shortage of material so far. We are happy for you to pass on individual articles to other people (with the author's permission, of course) but please remember that it is primarily a journal for WHS members who have paid a subscription. A copy of each journal is deposited at the SHC.

You may have seen that, during the 'fallen statue' days, poor old H G Wells was under threat. The petition for his removal only attracted just over 100 signatures and I understand that there are no plans to remove him. He is still sitting in Wells Plaza and, at the moment, graffiti free! We are also getting a statue of Dame Ethel Smyth. The larger than life-size statue will be situated in Dukes Court with Dame Ethel conducting passers-by with her toothbrush!

We are living through difficult and sometimes turbulent times. I would like the Society to document some of the happenings of the last few months by each of you emailing a paragraph of how you have survived lockdown. Have you taken up any unusual hobbies? Have you been researching local history? (if so, please write it up for the e-journal)! Is your garden looking better than it has

ever looked before? Has anyone had Covid-19? What has been the most difficult part of the last few months? I imagine that for many of us it has been the fact that we can't see our families. Please write something for us – it can be published anonymously if you prefer. Our email address is historywoking@gmail.com

Send and Ripley History Society are making some of their older journals available online, one per month. The link to the May and July 2018 editions is on their website www.sendandripleyhistorysociety.co.uk

Richard and Rosemary Christophers produce a regular heritage blog for The Lightbox. They have written about local authors and other topics www.thelightbox.org.uk/Blogs/blog Having read the blog about authors I didn't know that Alfred Bestell, illustrator of the highly collectable 'Rupert' Annuals (of which I have many) lived in York Road and is buried in Brookwood Cemetery.

There is no sign yet that we will be able to resume Society meetings any time soon, but we continue to monitor the situation.

Helen Gristwood

An Engagement Party in Surrey

It was fortunate that Thursday June 8 1774 was fine, for that was the evening of the outdoor festivities – the *fête champêtre* – which Lord Stanley gave to celebrate his forthcoming marriage. Edward Smith Stanley was the heir of the Earl of Derby, he was rich, and he was engaged to be married to Lady Elizabeth Hamilton, the daughter of the Duke of Hamilton, chief among the Scottish peers.

He was living in The Oaks, a fine house in Carshalton, which he leased from his maternal uncle, General John Burgoyne. It was here that the party was held, and General Burgoyne, who was by no means a fulltime professional soldier, but was about to be a successful playwright, devoted his energies to organising an evening that would be a highlight of the social season. It was not totally an outdoor party. The leading architect, Robert Adam, was commissioned to provide large temporary structures to house eating and dancing. Popular musicians from the fashionable Vauxhall Gardens were to play and sing; there were numerous professional dancers and actors.

A correspondent of the *Gentleman's Magazine* was at the party. Most of what follows is from his report.

'The noble family at whose expense this feast was prepared, being desirous to indulge the curious in general with a sight of some part of the rural festival, as well as the select party who had cards of invitation, gave orders that the gate upon the Downs only should be opened, and that the company in their fancy dress should pass along the front lawn, by which means the curiosity of thousands would be indulged.

'The company began to make their appearance about half past six o'clock, and continued pouring in till past nine... The front lawn soon became crowded with fancy dresses; and the ladies, by their pastoral appearance and simplicity, made beauty appear with additional charms, and by their elegant fancy-habits meant certainly to outvie each other in taste and magnificence.

'About eight o'clock a signal was given for the company to attend the Masque on the Back Lawn. General Burgoyne, who was the principal manager... conducted the visitors through the house to the voluptuous scene on the back lawn... Amazement seized the whole company; the first thing that caught their attention was the concourse of people on each side of the road, and the branches of the trees bending with the weight of heads...At the upper end of the back lawn was a most superb and beautiful plantation of orange trees,

intermixed with a great variety of greenhouse plants. Behind the orangerie lay concealed a capital band of music, under the direction of Mr. Barthelemon, the composer of the masque. On the right, swains appeared in fancy-dresses, amusing themselves at the game of ninepins, while shepherdesses, neatly attired, were at the swing. On the left side were other swains with their bows and arrows, shooting at a bird which had perched itself upon a maypole; whilst others were showing their agility by dancing and kicking at a *tambour de basque*, which hung, decorated with ribbands, from a bough of a tree. In short, every rural pastime was exhibited.

‘In the centre of the orangerie sat Mrs Barthelemon and Mr Vernon, making wreaths of flowers till... the company had taken their seats upon benches placed in a circular form on the green. Two Cupids went round with a basket of the most rich flowers, and presented each lady with an elegant bouquet; the gentlemen had a similar present. Whilst the attention of the company was taken up with admiring the agility and pretty manner of these little attendants ... they were surprized with the harmonious sound from the instrumental band.

‘This symphony, whose sweetness of sound had given every face a smile of approbation, being ended, Mr

Vernon got up, and with a light and rustic air called the nymphs and swains to celebrate the festivity of the day. After this air followed a grand chorus, which carried with it so much jollity, that the company could scarce be prevailed upon to keep their seats.’ A number of dances and songs followed and completed the first masque, ‘which the public had an opportunity of seeing in some degree as well as the visitors.

‘The company [then] amused themselves with walking about till the temporary room was illuminated, and ... another procession was made. Lord Stanley, supported by Lady Betty Hamilton, the Queen of the Oaks, and Miss Stanley, led the way... The noble visitors were first conducted through a beautiful and magnificent octagon hall, with transparent windows, painted suitable to the occasion: at the end of the great room hung six superb curtains...they were of crimson colour, richly ornamented with deep gold fringe. Colonnades appeared on each side of the room, with wreaths of flowers running up the columns; the whole building was lined chair-back high with white Persian and gold fringe; the seats around were covered with deep crimson. The company amused themselves with dancing minuets and cotillions, till half past eleven, when an explosion, similar to the going off of a large quantity of rockets, put the whole lively group into a

consternation. This was a signal for the curtains to fly up and exhibit to the company a large supper-room, with tables spread with the most costly dainties, all hot and tempting. The company took their seats in an instant and partook of the entertainment'.

After supper every one returned to the ball-room 'when again, to the astonishment of all present, down flew the large curtains and made the ball-room appear in its first state of elegance.'

A second masque followed, featuring several speeches by a Captain Pigott in character as a Druid of the Oaks. With the aid of fauns, wood nymphs and sylvans, much was said and sung in praise of the Oaks and of conjugal felicity. 'A device in transparency was introduced, with two Hymeneal torches lighted on the top, and a shield representing the Hamilton crest... Two Cupids crowned the shield with the wreath of Love and Hymen. Thus ended the second part.'

'The third part was opened by minuets composed on the occasion by the Earl of Kelly (another Scottish peer)... then country dances struck up and continued till past three o'clock. The company was highly entertained with illuminations in the gardens. Facing the temporary room was erected a large Ionic portico,

supported by four large transparent columns of a bright pink colour. On a scroll on the pediment were the words, "Sacred to propitious Venus." In the centre of the pediment was a shield, with Hamilton and Stanley arms quartered, the whole supported by a band of Cupids... Several pyramids of lights were likewise erected in different parts of the garden.'

Lord Stanley and Lady Betty Hamilton were married three weeks later. Unfortunately, they did not live happily ever after. They became Earl and Countess of Derby in 1776; had three children; but in 1779 Lady Derby left her family to live with the Duke of Dorset. In the next two years Lord Derby had initiated the horse races still called The Oaks and The Derby, which were and are run on the downs near the site of the party, though The Oaks, the house, is no more. As for General Burgoyne, soon after the successful premiere of his play *The Maid of the Oaks*, the American War of Independence sent him back to active service. It was he who surrendered the British forces at Saratoga in 1778.

Jan Mihell

Arreton, Horsell Common

As a taster for the History of The Horsell Grange Estate here is the story of Arreton. Many of you will know of this as the home for the blind. Before that it was a family home situated on Shores Road near Grange Road. When it was built there was no road name, just Horsell Common.

The house was built about 1900 and its first occupant was Robert Hosier

in Gravesend. His father Robert Gray Halford was a jeweller in Clerkenwell. His mother was Mary née Hosier. Robert Hosier was the oldest child. He had two younger sisters. By 1861 when he was 23 he was a jeweller in his own right, married with a 2 month old son and living in Lambeth. His father placed him in a 7 year apprenticeship with a silversmith. Ten years later he had moved to Lambeth and now called himself a jeweller's salesman. By 1891 Robert was a jeweller, watchmaker and silversmith. He became very successful trading as



Arreton With thanks to the Surrey History Centre Ref No SHC 2243/2a.
Robert Halford sitting outside Arreton, 1906.

Halford, Hosier being his mother's maiden name. Robert Hosier Halford was born in the third quarter of 1837

R H Halford and Sons from shops in Pall Mall and Fenchurch Street. He held a Royal Warrant. His exquisitely

crafted silverware is much sought after today and sometimes fetches thousands of pounds. By 1900 he had retired and moved to Rotherfield in Sussex. Sadly Robert lost two wives. Emma, aged 62, died in January 1899. He remarried very quickly Mary Charlotte Perry, a widow, on 4 July 1899, but she died on 30 May 1906 aged 72 and Robert then married Elizabeth Rachel Bower, a widow aged 68.

His son William John bought two plots of land on the Horsell Grange Estate facing Horsell Common. He built a house named Holly Dene for his own family and Arreton next door for his father and family. They moved in sometime after 1901 but are both on the Electoral Roll for 1906. Robert then lost a third wife and remarried in 1910. Robert died in May 1913 leaving £5800. Two months later the house and all its contents were auctioned. Waring auctioned the contents on 13 July and Hampton and Sons the house on 30 July. It was a large house standing in 1½ acres of charming and mature grounds complete with a 1½ acre paddock adjoining and overlooking a breezy expanse of common. Eight bedrooms and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, four reception rooms, den, billiard room and 'stabling with accommodation for man', and of course Company's gas, water and electric light. The list of furniture etc.

was almost half a page long in the *Surrey Advertiser*.

The house did not sell at auction having reached around £5000. The contents probably did sell. In 1916 the house is listed as vacant in a local directory but the same year a Norwegian timber merchant, Finn Sundt, had moved in with his new wife, Olive Constance Knell. Birth records show that they had two children; Eric in 1918, who only lived 9 hours and is buried in St Mary the Virgin churchyard, Horsell, and Norman born in 1922. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Putney.

By 1924 Gerald Piers Dumas was living at Arreton with his family. Mrs Dumas had placed a small ad in *The Times* 12 June 1924 Domestic Vacancies: 'Cook and manservant required; must have experience; also betweenmaid; nurse and housemaid kept.' Three marriages took place during their stay at Arreton. In 1931 their second son, Gilbert, in 1933 their elder daughter, and in 1940 their younger daughter. Gerald Piers Dumas died in 1937. Gilbert joined the Royal Army Service Corps and was evacuated from Dunkirk, but was killed in a motor cycle accident in Kent on 12 October 1940: he is also buried in St Mary the Virgin churchyard, Horsell.

In 1941 The Servers of the Blind League opened Arreton as a home, at

the time a temporary home for nearly 60 older blind displaced people who had lost their home owing to wartime activity. It was visited just after opening by Mrs Drexel Biddle the wife of the American Ambassador to the Allied Governments. The home continued after the war until it came under the National Health Service in 1948.

Well known personalities came to open the annual money raising fêtes. In 1943 Jack Warner (*Dixon of Dock Green*) and his sisters Elsie and Doris Waters (a double act: Gert and Daisy) made an appearance. In 1944 Jack Warner came on his own, apologising for his sisters who were unable to attend. He read one of his letters, 'My bruvver in the Life Guards'. This piece was written by Jack Warner and is available to read on-line.

In the 1957, 1964 and 1968 directories Arreton is still known as a Servers of the Blind League home. However, it first appears in the telephone directory for 1964 as a home for the blind under the control of Surrey County Council, who re-designated it as an old people's home between 1967 and 1969.

In 1995 Arreton was demolished and replaced with 6 new houses and renamed Arreton Mead.

Richard Langtree

A Tankard, the Railway Hotel and Charles Dickens



A tankard has just appeared on an E-Bay auction. This is linked to the very first building in Woking, other than the station, The Railway Hotel built in 1840. In 1895 a new landlord came to the hotel, Charles Findon Waters. He was the proprietor until 1902. He was born in 1853 in Upper Clatford, near Andover, to Walter Waters, a relieving officer and registrar, and his wife. Charles trained as a chemist and by 1881 had moved to Guildford as a brewer's manager, then a brewer's traveller. He is first recorded at The Railway Hotel by *The West Surrey Times* where an "excellent dinner served by the host Waters" was presented at the first annual dinner of The Woking and District Horticultural Cottage Gardeners' and Fanciers' Association. He became a

Freemason in Bramston Beach Lodge in Godalming in 1892 when he was in Guildford, transferring to Bisley Lodge in 1897, where he maintained membership until at least 1921. In 1902 he moved to Sudbury in Suffolk to take over the ill-fated Rose and Crown coaching inn – it burned down on the night of 31 December 1921 / 1 January 1922. He quickly became a Freemason in Great Yarmouth and a member of the Chamber of Trade.

In 1909, making use of his training in chemistry, he started a business Curacho [Cure-ache-o], manufacturing an embrocation. It would appear to have consisted of essential oils including wintergreen, citronella and eucalyptus. It was supposed to help relieve bruising, swelling stiffness, aches and pains.

Charles Findon Waters was a good publicist as well. The Rose and Crown had his name on the front of the building in lettering slightly larger than the name of the inn. Not Charles Waters, that was too common, but C Findon Waters, a much more interesting name. He placed advertisements in many local newspapers, usually with an endorsement from a satisfied user.

In 1907 he addressed a Chamber of Trade meeting with a talk about Charles Dickens's first book, *The Pickwick Papers*, which features a parliamentary by-election in the

fictitious town of Eatanswill. Over the years many towns have claimed Eatanswill as their own, including Ipswich, Kettering and Sudbury. Charles Dickens had been a newspaper reporter and had visited these towns to report on elections. Charles Waters thought that Sudbury had evidence to support a claim. Evidence though was very thin. He was really trying it on to encourage visitors to the town and more importantly to the Rose and Crown.

Between 8 January and 6 August 1910 he had moved to Ewell Road Surbiton where he announced himself as the Sole Manufacturer of a product which is "Important to Football Players – Are you fit for the coming struggle?" 3 September 1910 in the *Surrey Comet*.

He was undoubtedly a poor businessman or his embrocation failed to sell as well as he had hoped. The following year 1911 he was seeking creditors and the company was put into voluntary liquidation, as was a re-launch the next year, thus in 1913 Curacho Ltd. was wound up. This did not stop him from carrying on a business though, and there are advertisements between 1914 and 1919 inviting people to ask for a booklet from the Curacho Works, Surbiton. By 1929 he had moved to Lewisham and the 1939 Register shows him still living in Lewisham as a "Proprietor embrocation". He died

there in 1942 and left £272. By 1924 the name of Curacho seems to be the property of a Captain Frank Dance of Ross-on-Wye, who sought to have the trademark and manufacturing rights passed to Curacho (1924) Ltd., with him as managing director and works at Lydbrook. It gave its name to the Curacho Cup for cycle races (still being competed for in 1965), but was liquidated in 1928. The product carried on after Waters's death, being manufactured in Croydon and advertised as established in 1908; an advertisement of 1950 bears a testimonial from Reg Harris, then Britain's leading cyclist, and a greyhound was named 'Curacho Croydon'. Telephone directories show the company at Sanderstead from 1960 to 1966 and at Wimborne, Dorset, from 1968 to 1984. Some time between 1950 and the 1990s Curacho appears as an embrocation for greyhounds, with no mention of human uses: the Veterinary Medicines Directorate withdrew its licence as a veterinary product on 24 January 1991, so it is still available today probably only in Scotland and Ireland.

And the tankard? It is inscribed underneath "The Railway Hotel" and on the side with initials in a very



elaborate script "C F W" which took some decoding. It has a hallmark, VR, 349 and LCC, showing it was manufactured in London between 1891 and 1901. I really wanted this tankard for The Lightbox. The auction had two days to run and had no bids. I e-mailed the seller and explained where it had come from and how much The Lightbox would like it for Woking's Story. I said that at the moment The Lightbox was only financing necessary maintenance. Could he donate it to the Lightbox or sell it to me at the initial auction price? I was amazed when he replied and said he was in a similar financial position but would sell it to me at the initial auction price of £14.99. He had paid £15 for it in Shrewsbury. He was very pleased to see that it was going home. After some light restoration work I hope you will be able to see it as an Object in Focus at The Lightbox.

*Richard Langtree with assistance from
Richard Christophers*

Temple Bar Road, St Johns in 1911

Today Temple Bar Road is a typical private road /development in central St Johns, comprising entirely modern maisonettes, pleasantly situated alongside the Basingstoke Canal. Previously the character was very different. The Basingstoke Canal Society Facebook page quotes the following from an elderly former resident of the road:

“In St Johns there was a row of old two up, two down cottages called Temple Bar. I lived there until I was 16 and although we were looked down on by the villagers, I can remember a strong sense of community . . . We all thought that the cottages were built for bargees and their families, but have since discovered that they were probably built for brickmakers?”

Another added the houses were *“derelict, then knocked down in the 1960s.”*

The 1911 Census for Woking tells us there were 18 households in this road, occupying 74 rooms in total

and housing 132 people. At the time the ‘poverty’ criteria was 2 or more occupants per room within a house. In Temple Bar Road 7 of the 18 properties exceeded this occupants: rooms ratio. Those properties housed 75 of the 132 residents. So over half of Temple Bar Road residents were living in poverty. Overall the road averaged 1.78 occupants per room, so most of the remainder were nudging close to the poverty level. The child mortality figures may also be relevant in this context. The 16 mothers in the road registered a total of 105 births, of which 20 had died. This is a mortality ratio of nearly 20%, as compared to 16% over the whole of the St Johns district.

Turning now to occupations, there is notable uniformity. All bar one head of household is a labourer of some description. The remaining one is a

‘Rag & Bone Man’. These household heads are almost equally split between general



Postcard of Temple Bar, St John’s

labourers/bricklayers, and nursery/farm labourers. I assume the nursery labourers were employed

at the nearby Jackmans or Slococks nurseries. A number of the census returns for Temple Bar Road were incomplete, so we cannot be sure of the particular employer.

The three bricklayer household heads present one small oddity. In other parts of Woking, especially in the centre, bricklayers tended to live in slightly more spacious conditions than general or building labourers. But in Temple Bar Road, 2 of these 3 live in official or near poverty conditions – respectively, they declare 11 and 7 people in only 4 rooms. I cannot speculate on possible reasons for this relative crampedness, but would happily receive any readers' ideas.

Looking more broadly at the occupations of all workers in the road, there is a similar split between the two labourer types (general or nursery/farm), with 23 out of all 38 with some kind of job describing themselves as some sort of 'labourer'. Interestingly, five sons (aged 14-17) in three houses of the road were golf caddies – presumably at the nearby Woking Golf Club. As in other Woking areas, most wives had no declared occupation so most working women tended to be young and single. All were under 18, bar one 45-year-old, widowed laundress. In fact there were only 6 women with a job in the whole road – two laundresses, a 'licensed hawker', a

pedlar (aged 12!), a kitchen maid, and one engaged in 'packing and cleaning lamps'. The packer and cleaner of lamps must have worked at the Accumulator works in Maybury, together with a 14 year-old boy who did 'factory work' there. Neither Helen Gristwood nor I could see how they made that long daily journey to and from Maybury as there was no established bus service in Woking in 1911. Any and all speculations are again welcome!

Finally I turn to birthplaces of the road's occupants. Of the 18 household heads, 4 were born in Woking, and a further 4 came from the surrounding area. Most of the remainder came from the Home Counties. The same was broadly true of the wives. Of the 85 children, 69 were born in Woking and none were born outside Surrey's adjoining counties. This is very much in line with our wider findings across other Woking districts in our data collection from the 1911 Census. Manual/unskilled workers tended to be localish, whereas those engaged in the professions were almost entirely 'immigrants' from virtually anywhere in the UK except Surrey. These days Surrey is reckoned to be an affluent county, with Woking embedded firmly in the stockbroker belt. Not so then, certainly not in Temple Bar Road.

Dick Carpenter

Cobbett's shed.

The story of Cobbett's shed or 'storehouse' is bound up in the history of Horsell Wharf, also known as Cobbett's Wharf, and the Basingstoke Canal. This small plot of land in Horsell, approximately two acres in size, upon which there are now eleven houses, borders the Basingstoke Canal, Brewery Road, Horsell Moor, and WWF's Living Planet Centre.

This plot of land was part of the Pyrford Manorial wasteland known as Horsell Moor and was of such poor quality that it was never enclosed. The Basingstoke Canal was built across this wasteland in 1791 and the towpath borders the plot on the south side. The exact location of the wharf is not apparent today, but remnants were certainly visible until about 30 years ago. Its location has been described as '200 yards west of the bridge, which carried the road from Woking to Guildford'. House deeds describe properties as 'facing Horsell Common formerly known as Horsell Wharf'. The sale details for the Canal in 1904 describe it as being 'part of Horsell Moor with extensive frontage on the canal'.

The Tithe Map of 1841 shows no identifiable habitation in this area. The first sign of anyone living on the Moor was in Edward Ryde's survey of

Horsell carried out in 1851 which shows a solitary building, numbered 110, on the plot of land surrounded by wasteland between the track across the moor and the canal. Isaac Hampton is listed in Ryde's Reference Book to the survey as the owner/occupier of this building and the surrounding plot of land. Isaac Hampton and his family were listed as living in Horsell in the census of 1841, but with no indication as to where. By 1851, the census listed him as living 'North East of Chobham Road, Horsell' which places him in roughly the right area. In 1861 the location was 'The Moore'.

Apart from Hampton's house, the only other building nearby was a shed, or 'storehouse', on an adjacent piece of land near to the towpath. It was plot number 111 on Ryde's Survey. Henry and Carmi Cobbett, nurserymen and coal merchants in Horsell, owned this shed, possibly to enable them to despatch goods on the canal. It is possible, but not proven, that Isaac Hampton built his dwelling here to supervise the loading and unloading of Cobbett's goods. This shed became the cause of a bitter dispute in 1896/97 between the Basingstoke Canal Company and the Cobbett family after the Canal Company knocked it down, claiming that they owned the land. This dispute was documented in a series of letters from Smallpeice & Co., Solicitors of Guildford, and the

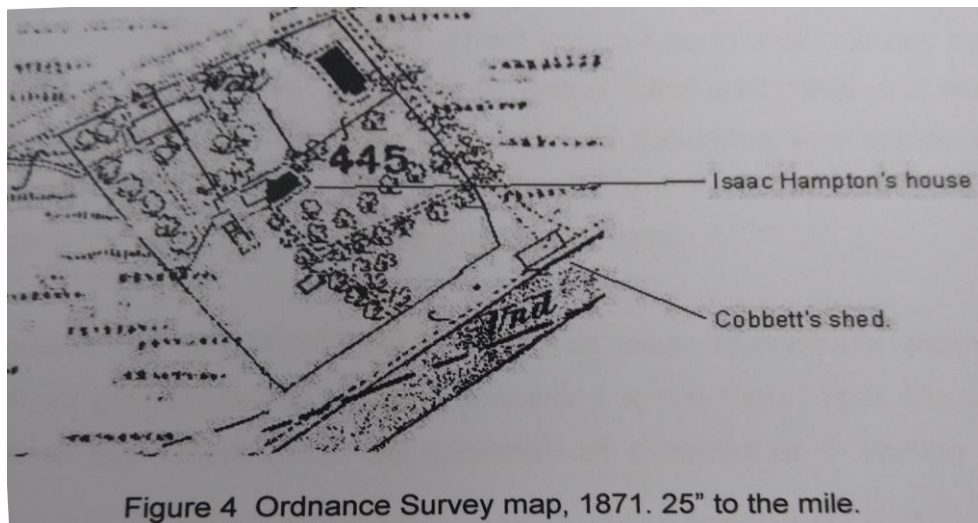


Figure 4 Ordnance Survey map, 1871. 25" to the mile.

Cobbett family. These letters mention 'coal that was deposited in the shed', proving the theory that this was the purpose of the 'storehouse'. A court case ensued after which the Canal Company paid damages of £15 to the Cobbett family. A look at the Court Roll would have showed that the Cobbetts did indeed have rights to the land on which the shed was built. An affidavit sworn in 1927 by James Cobbett, then aged 81, grandson of Henry Cobbett, said that his grandfather had erected the shed in 1812 'on the north side of the canal to the west of the Wheatsheaf Bridge and which abutted the towpath'. He went on to state that the Canal Company had laid claim to the land and destroyed the shed, despite the original undertaking that 'if the canal should be discontinued, it would revert back to the original owner of the land and that this part would

come back to be the waste of the manor.'

Perhaps the real reason that the Canal Company knocked the shed down was that after 85 years, it had become a bit of an eyesore!

References:

- SHC 6198/3/144 Sale Particulars and Plan of the Basingstoke Canal.
- SHC 7442/4/46 and /48
- Correspondance between Smallpeice & Co. Solicitors and the Cobbett family.
- SHC G97/4/7 and 7b Court Roll of the Manor of Pyrford.
- SHC 6198/11/188 and 189 Valuation of the Parish of Horsell by Edward Ryde. 1851.

Helen Gristwood

Snippets

Last month we included quarantine rules from Daniel Defoe's *Journal of a Plague Year* published in 1722. This time, we are looking at social distancing from a Tudor perspective, unashamedly borrowed from a blog on The National Archives' site. They were well aware of the importance of social distancing in reducing infection.

-o O o-

Henry VIII was very keen to keep himself and his lodgings in Windsor Castle free from infection, particularly St George's Chapel as it was a place of pilgrimage and in September 1517 he complained that it had been 'infested with contagious plague'. He asked the college to produce a set of quarantine rules, which they did. Here are a couple of them:

'and in case any of you or yours be infected or shall fortune to be infected, that then ye do see the doors of the house to be shut up where the infection is or shall happen to be amongst you, and that no recourse of people be made there, nor none of the persons of the said house do go abroad but only one to bring in meat and drink and other necessaries for the persons within the said house, he bearing always openly upward a white rod in his hand of four foot long, during the

space of forty days after the last infection within the said house, and also that a wisp of hay or straw be hanged out of the said house upon a pole's end of eight foot long at the least'

The first 'state' quarantine measures in England (1517): St George's College Archives, Windsor, IV.B.2

'take special regard and make diligent search amongst you from time to time that there be no resort, sojourning, nor lodging of any strange persons within any of your houses in our said college which shall come from London or any other place where any infection is'

The first 'state' quarantine measures in England (1517): St George's College Archives, Windsor, IV.B.2

-o O o-

In London, the measures were altered slightly, presumably to make them more effective, with a longer pole required at 10 feet rather than 8 feet. This had to extend 7 feet into the street. A bundle of straw was required at the end of the pole rather than the wisp used at Windsor! Walking down the road could have been quite dangerous!

-o O o-



16th Century Face Mask



Plague Doctor 17th Century

Facemasks and PPE throughout the Ages