



# ROWLEDGE Review

90p

September 2023



An  
£1,800  
haircut  
Page 26

100 years  
young!  
Page 19

Rowledge  
Holt Pound

Boundstone  
Bucks Horn Oak



Produced for the community by

St.James' Church  
Rowledge

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## From the Vicarage

September is often the month when, refreshed by our summer holidays, we hit the ground running. Even though I left full-time education a long time ago, it is hard to shake the habit that September still feels like the beginning of a new year. These patterns of life can become entrenched. We do things habitually, even though the reason we started doing them that way has long since passed.

I heard of a group of the Mothers Union who refused to meet at any time other than 2:00pm in the afternoon. Given that most of the ladies were over 80, it transpired that the reason they had to leave at 3:00pm was to pick the children up from school. It all seemed rather curious.

We are creatures of habit. This is especially true in the Church. Whether we are devotees of the Shakespearian language of the Book of Common Prayer or prefer modern worship songs and informal service. We find what works for us and hold on to it tightly.

Words from the Old Testament Prophet Isaiah that *"God is doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it,"* can cut little ice. But God's new thing is always rooted in his past dealings with us. He doesn't change, but our context and culture do. If he encourages us to change, it is not for the sake of novelty, but to ensure that the timeless message of the love of God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, can be heard afresh by each new generation. The glory of the church is that it looks very different according to the culture in which it is placed. The Anglican Church in Tanzania looks very different to the churches in South Korea which in turn have a very different feel to St. James' Rowledge!

Our challenge, as we look forward, is that the Church of England is, by and large, perfectly designed to minister to a culture that no longer exists. What we need to become to be the Church that truly serves the whole community, is something else, something new, something different. We do not seek to throw out the old, but to learn from it, to be changed by it. It is a journey we embark on. We seek to discern God's guidance, but it is a road that must be travelled. It will be a journey that, here in Rowledge, another Vicar will lead as I move on to pastures new in October, but I will watch with interest and you will be in my prayers.

All blessings,

**Revd Russ Gant, Vicar**



St. James' Church  
Rowledge

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A more contemporary service  
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For all the latest news and information about  
services and other events call us on -  
(01252) 792402 or visit our website -

**stjamesrowledge.org.uk**





## St. JAMES' CHURCH – September services

We are now meeting as a whole congregation in church weekly, physically, for worship, however we are continuing with our live-streamed services each Sunday for those who prefer that style or are not ready to return to the church building.

Do join us live on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/StJamesChurchRowledge](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesChurchRowledge)

**Sunday services 9.15am and 10.45am.**

See our website for details.

[stjamesrowledge.org.uk](http://stjamesrowledge.org.uk)

**If you want to receive email invitations to any of our online resources, email [vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk)**



September services will follow the themes of:

**3<sup>rd</sup> September – 13<sup>th</sup> After Trinity**  
Philippians 1: 3-11 Matthew. 22: 34-40  
**CELEBRATION: “Beginnings and Endings”**

**United service at 10:45am**  
followed by leaving lunch for  
Adele & Matt (see next page)

**10<sup>th</sup> September – 14<sup>th</sup> After Trinity**  
Acts 2: 42-47 Luke 19: 1-10  
**“Belonging”**

9.15 – Holy Communion (CW)  
10.45 – Morning Worship

**17<sup>th</sup> September – 15<sup>th</sup> After Trinity**  
1 Chronicles 4: 1-10 Luke 11: 1-13  
**“Praying”**

9.15 – Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.45 – Morning Worship

**24<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> After Trinity**  
Psalm 150 John 4: 7-26  
**“Worshipping”**

9.15 – Holy Communion (CW)  
10.45 – Morning Worship + Baptism

## IN OUR PRAYERS

If you have any specific prayer requests, you are invited to email [prayer@stjamesrowledge.org.uk](mailto:prayer@stjamesrowledge.org.uk) (or contact Russ by phone) who will ensure the church prays for your situation.



### SPECIAL HARVEST SERVICE

**1<sup>st</sup> October**

**United service at 10:45am followed by Harvest Lunch (See page 7)**

## PARISH REGISTER



### Marriages

Jessica Topson and Mark Rogers – 24<sup>th</sup> August



# Join us for a *Service of Celebration*

**As we give thanks for the ministry of  
Adele & Matt Regan in Rowledge**



**Sunday 3rd September at 11am**  
**followed by a**  
**bring and share lunch**  
**in the Church Centre.**

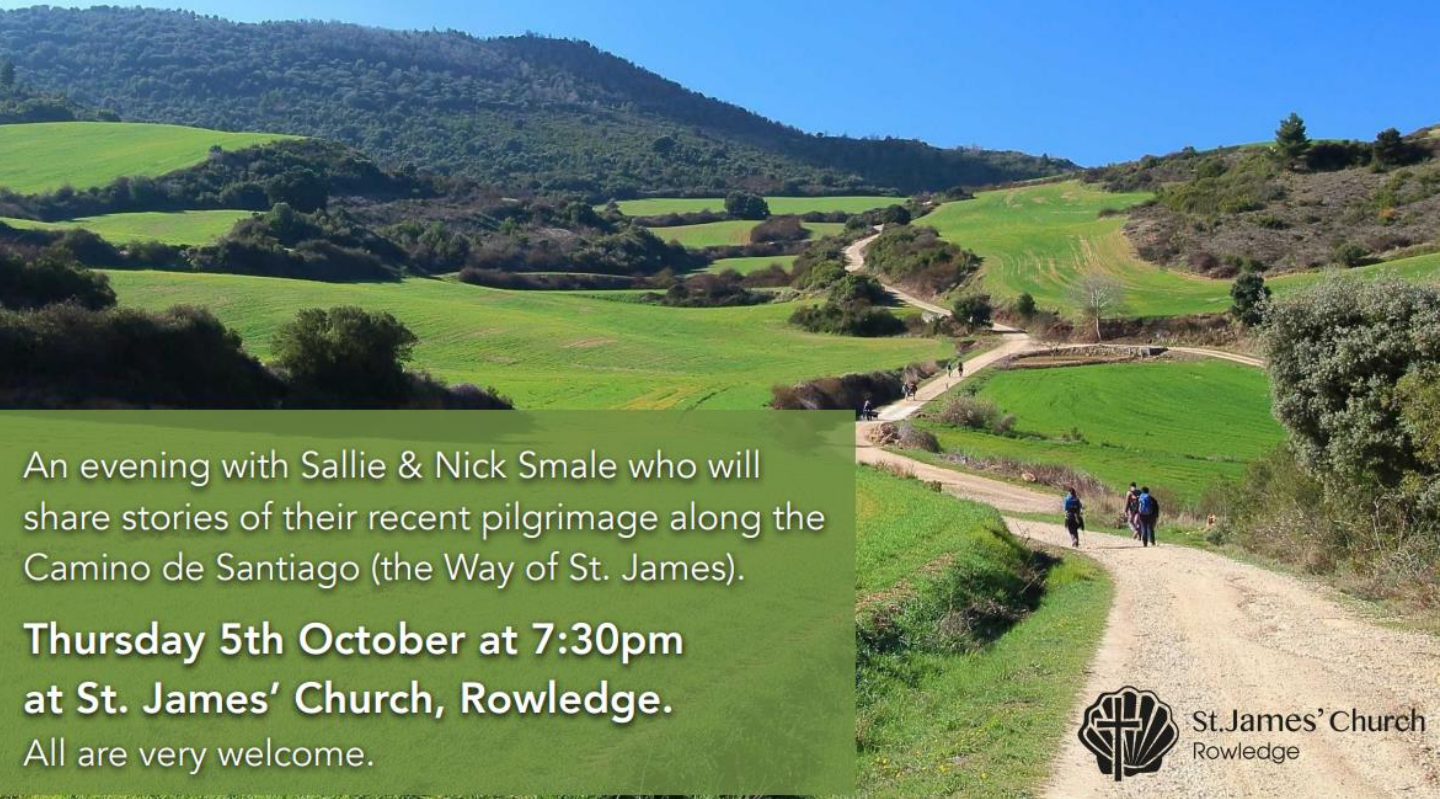


St. James' Church  
Rowledge



# PILGRIMS ON AN ANCIENT PATH

## Reflections on walking the Camino de Santiago



An evening with Sallie & Nick Smale who will share stories of their recent pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James).

**Thursday 5th October at 7:30pm  
at St. James' Church, Rowledge.**

All are very welcome.



St. James' Church  
Rowledge

# Rowledge Harvest Festival

## Sunday 1st October at 10:45am at St. James' Church

Donations of tinned and long-life produce  
welcome to support Farnham Foodbank  
Come and meet Harold the Tractor!



St. James' Church  
Rowledge



## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

**15<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Russ Gant's last Sunday at St James' Church –  
look out for further details nearer the date.



# Church is OPEN!

**Open Daily 9am - 5pm.**

St James' Church is OPEN for **individual private prayers and Sunday worship**.  
If visiting, please try to be socially distanced from other individuals or households.

It is sacred space within the village, a refuge for quiet and reflection, and everyone is welcome to visit, or come and sit, to think, to pray, to find some space.



## Morning Prayers



St. James' Church  
Rowledge

**Every Wednesday via Zoom  
From 9.15am for half an hour**

**Email Vicar for Zoom link:  
[vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk)**

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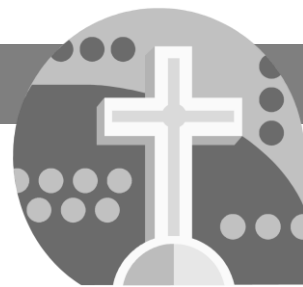


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## METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Church - open for worship on Sundays at 10.00am.

### Services and Preachers for September:

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

Alan Goldring

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

Rev'd Philip Simpkins - Holy Communion

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Sue Smith

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

Local arrangement

## Cameo

Cameo meets on Wednesdays from 2-4pm in the Methodist Hall for board games & tea.

**September dates: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

## Healing Service

The healing Service is held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Church. The next Service is

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 3.00pm**

## House Group

The next Meeting is **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September** at 10.30am at David & Aileen's home. 01252 795438

## Sunday Lunch

You are invited to lunch at The Methodist Hall on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 12.30pm.**

Please book via Aileen Ashby 01252 795438 or, for September only, Andy on 01420 227799

## Midweek Lunch at Rowledge Methodist Church

The next Thursday Lunch will be held on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September** at 12.30pm  
Please book with Aileen Ashby 01252 975438 or for September only Andy on 01420 22779

### Our Prayer Chain

Led by Mike & Joyce, our Prayer Chain can be accessed on: **01252 793363**

If you would like to speak to our Minister, Philip Simpkins, his number is: 01420 83167



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[food@toyourtaste.co.uk](mailto:food@toyourtaste.co.uk)



**Do you know anyone who is grieving from bereavement and needs more support or time?**

Meeting weekly in Farnham, the group is supported by pastoral assistants and bereavement visitors attached to various Farnham Christian churches, and allows an opportunity for those who are bereaved and lonely to meet others who understand.

**Bereavement Café meet every Monday afternoon 3 - 4:30pm for tea and chat at**

**The Spire Café, Farnham United Reformed Church,**

**South Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7QU**

If you would like more details please contact Mary on **07999 368128**

or [info@friendstogetherbereavement.org](mailto:info@friendstogetherbereavement.org)

There are also occasional evening groups for those who need to talk and share about a bereavement.

Parents, Spouses, Children, Friends... Do you know anyone who is grieving and would like support?

Contact Mary on  
**07999 368128**

You are also welcome to bring someone you know who may benefit from the support group, but not want to attend on their own. Accompanying friends are also welcome.

## St James' Church Website

**Take a look at our website.**

Full of interesting information and details of everything going on at St James'.



*We'd love to hear your comments.*

**[www.stjamesrowledge.org.uk](http://www.stjamesrowledge.org.uk)**

For all the latest information, visit us online at [stjamesrowledge.org.uk](http://stjamesrowledge.org.uk)





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## **Parish Vacancy Update**

Following the news that Russ our Vicar will be leaving in the Autumn, we have begun preparations to appoint a new Vicar. The Churchwardens, Karen and Clive, will keep us informed as the process continues.

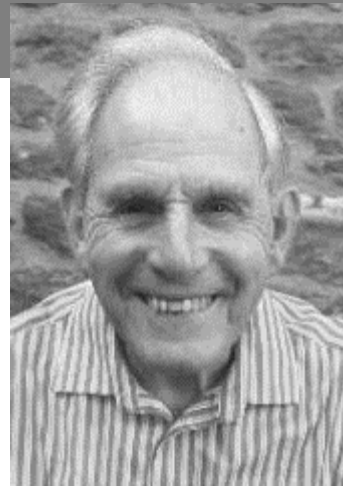
We are delighted that Revd Dr Russ Parker, our Associate Minister, has agreed to take the bulk of services during the vacancy, and we will continue to use our wonderful preaching team, as well as some guest speakers.

The Churchwardens met on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July with the then Archdeacon of Surrey, Paul Davies, who will help us oversee the process, but he has also been promoted to Bishop of Dorking. This was a very positive meeting in which Paul made it clear that he would not want the period of vacancy to be any longer than absolutely necessary, with a hope that we may install a new Vicar in the Spring.

Following a period of collecting comments from parishioners, current and past, we are preparing a Parish Profile that sets out the context of the wider community, the pattern of worship at St. James', links with schools, other ministries offered by St. James' Church,. The PCC are holding a vision morning in September that will crystallise our SWOT analysis and person profile.

Karen Fewster

**karenfew@gmail.com**



### Action Stations

Transplant evergreen shrubs – conifers, hollies, rhododendrons and cistus among them.

Take floribunda and climbing rose cuttings, rooting them in a grit-lined trench outdoors in a sunny, sheltered part of the garden.

Sow winter radishes, winter spinach and hardy lettuce in a warm, free-draining spot.

Gather early-ripening apples such as 'James Grieve' and 'Fortune' when, with a gentle twist fruits part cleanly from spur.

Pot up prepared hyacinth bulbs in bowels of fibre for flowering over Christmas.

Continue feeding fish with protein-rich flakes or pellets to build their resistance to the chill ahead.

### Plant of the month: *Phlox paniculata*

A gem for mid to late summer, its wealth of free-flowering varieties enrich a border with rainbow colours. The parent, *P. paniculata*, native to flood plains and roadsides from New York and Illinois south to Georgia and Arkansas, has yielded an immense selection. My favourites – I would like you to grow them – include 'Blue Boy' – the nearest to try blue you'll find, light-eyed, dark violet 'Border Gem', pink 'Bright Eyes', white 'Blue Ice' and reddish-purple-to-lavender-pink 'Dodo Hanbury Forbes'.

As for growing them, take your time in choosing an open, sunny spot where breezes can ruffle them and reduce the risk of mildew whitening foliage late in the season.

Feed them, too. Not just mulching them with garden compost but dosing them with a balanced granular fertiliser, such as Vitax Q4, monthly from April to September. If they seduce you into wanting more, split them every three years in autumn and replant chunky divisions to make your garden even more tempting to stroll around.

### Sage thoughts

It was in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century that Gervase Markham William Lawson uttered the immortal words:

"What was paradise? But a garden. An Orchard of Trees and Herbs, full of pleasure, and nothing there but delights. What can your eye desire to see, your nose to smell, your mouth to take that is not to be had in an Orchard?"

### Top Tips

This month our gardening enthusiast, Mike Guy, is suggesting that we transform those singularly plain terracotta pots into objects of beauty. How? By coating them with coloured acrylic paint. What better than doing it in the dry on a wet day.

### Did you know...?

The world's most expensive rose – it took 15 years to breed and cost £3 million – was



first displayed at Chelsea Flower Show in 2006. Apricot in colour, it's a cross between 'Captain Hayward' and 'Soleil d'Or'.

The oldest living rose, which is around a 1,000 years old, covers a wall of Germany's Hildesheim Cathedral.

### Perilous pursuits

Born in 1825, Bertold Carl Seeman trained at Kew Gardens. Twenty years later he was appointed naturalist on a Pacific surveying expedition aboard HMS Herald. Over eight month he collected around 800 plants new to science and recorded the customs of local tribes

"On the 30<sup>th</sup> of May we ascended for the first time the summit of Somosomo on the island of Taveuni... It was rather steep and my assistant had the misfortune to seriously hurt himself after falling down a considerable precipice when gathering botanical specimens...Large trees and abundant underwood of small palms and tree ferns produced a solemn gloom and made us long to look at the sky.



Wild pigeons of a brown colour, and in very good condition for eating, there abounded and a number were brought down by our guns. As we were pushing on, collecting all that came our way, and now jumping over rivulets, now climbing over rocks, we suddenly arrived at an open space, exhibiting a beautiful view of the whole Straits of Somosomo."

## Seeking new choral members

Farnham & Bourne Choral Society members are looking forward to starting rehearsals on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September after the summer break. We meet every Wednesday at 7.30pm at South Farnham School in Menin Way during term time and have an exciting programme of choral works to prepare for the 2023/24 season.

Under Ben de Souza, our talented musical director, we have been developing as a choir by including a wider range of musical styles, but retain a firm foundation in the popular classical standards.

We're always delighted to welcome new members and you'll be pleased to hear that we don't audition, so there's nothing to stop you giving it a go.

It's really fun!

<http://www.farnham-choral.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/FandBChoral/>



# THE COFFEE MUG

Monthly pop-up community café at St. James' Church Centre

**Saturday 10th September  
from 10am - 12noon**



All donations this  
month go to:



A place to meet, and chat  
with family, friends and  
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Open on the second  
Saturday of each month.



St. James' Church  
Rowledge

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Mondays 9.30am  
Elstead Village Hall  
Wednesdays 11.30am  
Rowledge Village Hall

Contact Alison Edwards  
for details of these and other classes  
0781 397 6841  
[alizumba835@gmail.com](mailto:alizumba835@gmail.com) [www.dancefitnessfarnham.co.uk](http://www.dancefitnessfarnham.co.uk)



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# You look like a role model

Rowledge's young people need a team of volunteers to help run their Tuesday Nights.



**Contact:** Peter Everett (07974 215405)

Colette Grist (07879 406926)

**PS - You don't have to be Bear Grylls to volunteer!**



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## Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery

Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery are pleased to share a wonderfully exciting and diverse exhibition and event programme. Featuring live music, theatre, walks, workshops and family activity days, there is so much to experience!

To browse our What's On brochure, please visit: [www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk](http://www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk)

### Nicholas Lees: Abstract Vessels

**19 September – 18 November**

Nicholas Lees is a sculptor based in Selborne. Working with porcelain clay, his abstract vessels are thrown on the wheel before being hand carved. Through his sculptures and drawings, he explores the ephemerality and uncertainty of perception and how our visual experience of reality is conditional upon light, space and body.



### Gyles Brandreth:

#### Fun and Fabulous Jumpers Part II

**5 September – 23 December**

Gyles Brandreth is a writer, broadcaster, actor, former MP and award-winning podcaster, who knows Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery well because he went to school nearby, at Bedales, in the 1960s. In the 1970s and 1980s, he became well-known for the distinctive jumpers he wore on breakfast television, inspiring fashion trends and bringing joy to many.

Part two of this exhibition celebrates these distinctive joyous jumpers, from pantomime to Christmas trees and penguins.



### Visiting Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery

#### Opening Times:

Tuesday to Saturday – 10.00am to 5.00pm (Last entry at 4.00pm).

#### Admission Prices:

Adults - £8.00 | Young People (5-17) - £4.00 | Children Under 5: Free

Family, group and concession tickets are available – please visit

[www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk](http://www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk) for more details.



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Elm Tree Pre-School is set in the heart of the village.

We provide an inclusive and diverse provision for children aged 2 to 5 years old. We pride ourselves in providing children with valuable opportunities through play; which enables the children to develop their learning and understanding tailored to their individual needs.



**Rowledge Village Hall, The Long Road, Rowledge, GU10 4DHF**

For all enquires call Hazel or Amy on **07534 462 448**  
or visit our website at **[www.elmtreepre-school.co.uk](http://www.elmtreepre-school.co.uk)**

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## Happy Birthday from King Charles! – Gill Chapman

Yvonne Anderson of Forest Glade celebrated her 100th birthday on 26<sup>th</sup> July. With good wishes from King Charles and a garden party hosted by Gill Chapman for family and friends, this was a joyous celebration.

Parents and children who know her from Rowledge Playgroup are keen to wish her a very happy birthday; each having their own warm memories of this very special and lovely lady who came to read to them each week without fail. Her smile and stories are remembered fondly.

Kim Renders writes -

Yvonne was one of the founder members of a mother and toddler group in Rowledge where mums would meet up for a coffee and chat while their children played. This group then evolved into Rowledge Playgroup around 1969. She was then a volunteer at the playgroup for many years. She loved to spend time with the children and she would have them enthralled with her stories about her childhood in Wales and made them laugh by speaking a few words in Welsh to them. She was excellent at comforting any children who were upset when initially settling into the group. Yvonne was like a surrogate grandma for children who did not have their own grandparents living nearby and the children and staff loved her and looked forward to seeing her every week.



Aileen Ashby writes - Yvonne was a member of the Methodist Church here in Rowledge. She befriended people in the village and encouraged two lonely people that she had met to join us at the Church on Sundays and in other activities. She was a lovely person, quiet but efficient. She was a very reliable helper at the Lunch Club held at the Methodist

Church. She helped lay up tables and then stayed in the kitchen to do the washing up! When I retired from work and was living in London, Yvonne insisted that she show me how Aldershot had developed while I had been away. We went by bus and after a tour of the shops and walkways took the bus back. She preferred to take the bus rather than accept offers of lifts saying that the bus service would stop if she didn't use it. I loved the way she persuaded bus drivers to stop at the end of her road, where there was no stop, to drop her off with her shopping. I never saw a driver refuse her!



## The Rise and Fall of Mr Charles Hay Walker – by Roy Waight

Every reader of the Rowledge Review will know that the village hall was built for the village by Charles Hay Walker, the wealthy owner of Frensham Hill (today called Frensham Heights). He moved into the great house built by Charles Charrington in 1911 and gifted the hall in 1914. He was a teetotaler, a deeply committed Baptist, and made it a condition of the gift that the place be dry. Few know the remarkable background, the rise, and the fall of this man. I am indebted to the book recently written by Richard Clammer (*T A and C H Walker, Shipbuilders, Railway and Civil Engineering Contractors*, published by Lightmoor Press) for much of this material.

Thomas A Walker, who built the Severn Tunnel, and his nephew and son-in-law Charles Hay Walker (yes, he married his uncle's daughter) together proved two of the outstanding engineering contractors in history, and not just British and imperial history. Everyone knows the names of the great engineers like Brunel and Telford; far fewer know of the contractors who actually carried out their plans. The two Walkers were amongst the best, carrying out an astonishing range of projects covering railways, docks, canals, tunnels and shipping.

Thomas A Walker built a new village at Sudbrook in Monmouthshire for his workers who were then engaged in the digging of the Severn Tunnel, on which construction began in 1873. He built a school, post office, mission hall and infirmary. Some of the houses - originally known as Concrete Row - are believed to be the first concrete houses built in Britain. After the Severn Tunnel was opened in 1886, Walker started a shipbuilding business at Sudbrook, using the same labour force. This continued in operation until 1926.



**Charles Hay Walker**



**Fanny Hay Walker**

Thomas A Walker completed hundreds of projects, many small, some enormous, such as the Manchester Ship Canal and the Buenos Aires docks. In 1888 he was diagnosed with Bright's Disease which occasioned acute nephritis. He went on working but died on 25 November 1889. The many obituaries emphasised his kindliness. He was *'a prince among contractors, remarkably free from ostentation, and at all times careful to promote the welfare of his men, physically, morally and spiritually.'* His estate was valued at £982,243, enough to build around 500 four bedroom houses. He was rich. He left his daughter, Fanny, a sizeable fortune which did not presumably make her less attractive to her husband, Charles Hay Walker, Rowledge's Walker.



Charles Hay Walker was as prodigious a contractor as his uncle from whom he learnt the business. As his uncle was dying, he was making a success of the construction of the great harbour works in Buenos Aires. He formed a new company with various partners including a wealthy property developer called Sir Robert Perks. His success was not limited to business since he and his wife, Fanny, eventually had nine children. Charles Hay Walker proceeded to enjoy not only his own wealth, but that of his wife, who had just come into the fortune left by her father (there was a long period between T A Walker's death and probate as his executors completed various works-in-progress which yielded in the end an even greater value than was included in the will). At this stage the family divided its time between Dunkeld near Beckenham and the village of Conchillas, their magnificent factory village in Uruguay, directly opposite Buenos Aires, now a Uruguayan national treasure.

Wanting somewhere more splendid than Dunkeld Charles, almost certainly using his wife's money, purchased the splendid 32 acres and mansion of Falklands Park in South Norwood. It cost him £40,000. Charles's wife, Fanny, was particularly happy there. The Walkers kept a substantial staff including the usual governess, children's nurses, a lady's companion, valet, cook, footmen, laundry maids and fifteen housemaids. In addition, Charles employed three chauffeurs, ten gardeners, a cowman and several general labourers.



Walker's work continued to prosper ... warehousing in Buenos Aires, surveying the route for the railway from St Petersburg to Murmansk, the extension of the South West India Dock in London, a large slipway at Chatham Dockyard, and extension of the dockyard in Bermuda. However, this last contract did not proceed smoothly.

The workforce downed tools on the imposition of an extra hour's labour each day plus reduction in the labour rate. Walker responded by importing a new labour force from Jamaica.

However, things got worse. The new workforce had received neither food nor drink in the last 24 hours on board the ship and arrived to discover that they were expected to sleep, men and women, 30 to a room and without beds. They were not happy. They also had misunderstood the wage rate and they, too, downed tools. Things came to a head when the men besieged Walker's office. The dockyard police were called, six men arrested and the ringleaders jailed for six months.

Charles Hay Walker did not seem to follow the precepts of his famously kindly uncle. Work had begun in 1901. In 1902 an American pastor of the Allen Temple African Episcopal Church in Bermuda, Charles Vernon Monk, wrote an editorial in his newspaper supporting the Jamaicans calling for better working conditions. Remarkably, given Charles's Christian beliefs, his company responded by filing a charge of false and defamatory libel against the pastor. The trial went on for 51 days without result and a retrial was called. Since Monk's lawyer had died in the meantime, Monk had to present his own defence. Despite copious evidence supporting the accusations, the jury found against him, and he was fined heavily and jailed for four months.

Despite this unfortunate 'hiccup' Charles went from strength to strength. Once his several lucrative South American contracts were either completed or well under way, he was riding high. The years from 1910 to 1912 saw Hay Walker and his family at the zenith of their prosperity. They had enjoyed for several years an idyllic existence in the Falklands Park that Fanny so much loved.

But Charles had a restless, ambitious side to his nature and wanted something grander than Falklands Park. Very much against Fanny's wishes, he bought the Frensham Hill estate from Charrington and the family moved to Rowledge. Frensham Hill was (and is) magnificent or, at least, most certainly, opulent. 32 bedrooms, a 3-manual pipe organ (which Fanny loved to play), a ballroom, reception rooms, stable block in which Charles garaged his 13 cars (including five Daimlers and Seven Napiers, one of which lapped Brooklands at 90 mph!). It had a lodge, numerous staff houses, a kitchen garden, cricket pitch and golf course.



Frensham Hill

At this point of pomp Walker was approached to further extend the docks at Buenos Aires. The Argentine government signed a contract with Walker's company for £5,500,000. However, the partners of Walker and Co, rather than being delighted, were worried. Charles, feeling sure he knew the Argentinians, had agreed to be paid in Argentine Government bonds attracting 5% interest. His father and uncle had both been bitten by entering into similar arrangements with the Argentinians and Fanny

begged him to demand cash. His faithful partner, Sir Robert Perks, who was famous for his business acumen, also begged him to reconsider. But he stubbornly refused to change his mind. Sir Robert thereupon severed all connections with the company and sold his shares to other family members. Fanny could not so easily extricate herself, but Charles's refusal to take her advice led to some marital friction.

One of Charles Hay's sons, Robert, wrote in his diary *"There is something restless, almost feverish about the comings and goings, the anxious dread regarding tomorrow. All this is hard to reconcile with my parents' avowed faith in God. Undoubtedly one of Dad's weaknesses was impetuosity. He had no patience with anyone who disagreed with him. Pride and Prejudice were twin evils which to my mind were responsible for much unhappiness and precipitate decisions."*

Only three days after completing his purchase of Frensham Hill, Charles set off for Buenos Aires to finalise the deal. Doubtless he later regretted his decision since this contract was to prove an expensive error which triggered an inexorable decline in his personal and professional fortunes.

Everything went wrong. The approach of war, strike action (one striker was shot), repeated delays ... and then the First World War intervened. The Government bonds proved worthless. The contract was not completed until 1925, the year in which Charles Hay Walker sold Frensham Hill to Edith Douglas Hamilton, founder of Frensham Heights. By then C H Walker & Co had incurred a £6,000,000 loss and Charles a personal loss of £1,000,000. It is no wonder that Charles Hay Walker was pressed to make a sale of his massively expensive estate.

In the intervening years the government had requisitioned Frensham Hill as a military hospital. The Walker family returned to Falklands Park in 1914, probably to Fanny's relief. At Frensham Hill, the military stripped the rooms of their finery and converted the entrance hall and reception rooms into wards containing 71 beds. They doubtless left the building in something of a mess and Charles Hay Walker no longer had the resources to return it to its Charringtonian splendour.

Fanny, delighted to be back at Falklands, did not enjoy herself there for long. In 1917 she suffered a stroke and she died in 1918 aged 57. Charles Hay Walker must have felt that his life was now at its nadir.

In 1921 he put Frensham Hill on the market and got no buyers. He had, though, met a certain Grace Inskip, an impressive lady who had been awarded the CBE for work with the YMCA in France. They married in 1922. Falklands Park Charles gifted to the Baptists and it became the Baptist Theological College. It still is. In this he honoured his wife Fanny's dying wish. A plaque was erected in the entrance hall which reads: 'To the Glory of God and in memory of Fanny Walker. This, her home, is dedicated to her Lord's service.'



**Grace Inskip**





The Frensham

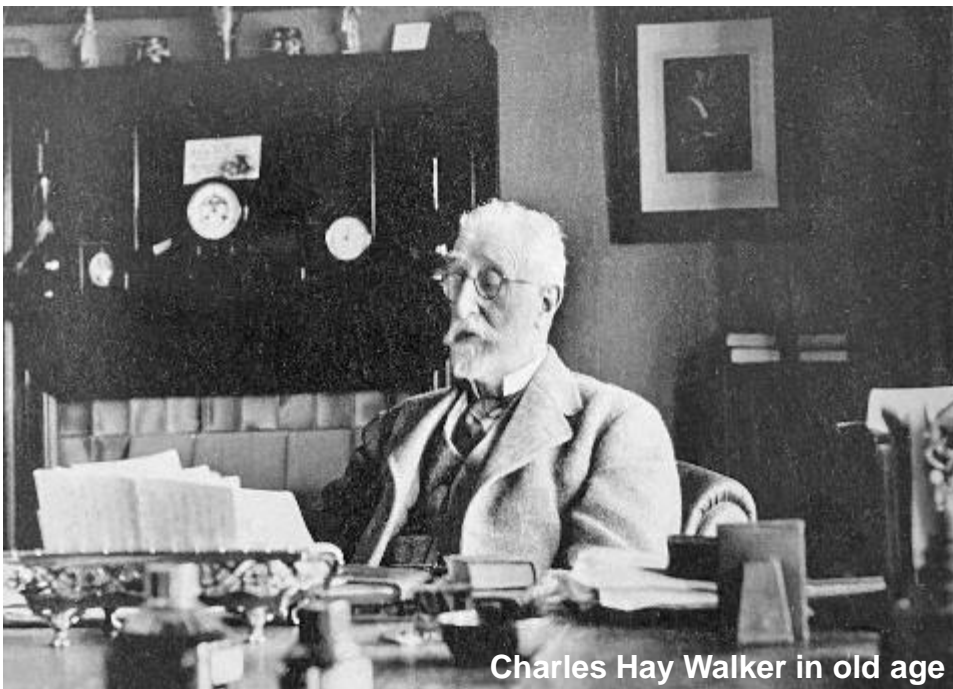


Charles Hay and Fanny Walker

*Charles and Grace moved to a more modest home at 'Wayside', Woodcote, Reading. He continued working but the glory days were over. Rather touchingly, he named the last vessel built by his company, laid down at Montevideo, the 'Frensham'. He clearly remembered his days at Frensham Hill with affection.*

Many of Charles Hay Walker's four sons and five daughters and their respective partners entered Christian ministry in Switzerland, Congo, Sudan, Egypt, Tamil Nadu and other places. New meaning was given to the Walker family motto – *Per Orbem* (around the world). Deeply religious to the end, Charles Hay Walker died at Wayside on 2 October 1942.

The aforementioned book includes a lovely photograph of the aged Walker. Above his head is part of a quotation from the Book of Jude formerly in one of the reception rooms of Frensham Hill.



Charles Hay Walker in old age

*Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To God our Saviour, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.*

Two years later, the village of Sudbrook was put up for sale. The Walker properties in Conchillas lasted a little longer. When the Walkers' house in Conchillas burnt down in 1953, the story of a dynasty came to an end. The place where hubris struck, when pride was followed by fall, was here in Rowledge. It says much for Charles Hay Walker that at a time of maximal stress he found the will to gift the village its village hall.

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## An £1,800 haircut! - Albert Kefford

Rowledge CofE  
Primary School



Achievement  
for All

My name is Albert Kefford, and a few years ago my mum had breast cancer. It was one of the worst things in my life. She thankfully survived and I thought of ways to help others in this situation.

My mum's friends' children cut their hair for The Little Princess Trust. The trust have helped thousands of children regain their confidence by giving them a wig made from real hair.



So this year I decided to cut my hair for charity for children who are suffering with cancer and other illnesses so they can get wigs for their confidence and happiness. I raised over £1,800 and cut off around 35cm of hair.

Ms Oliver cut my hair during an assembly, and the hair was presented to my mum and sent off to The Little Princess Trust.

For more information about The Little Princess Trust visit

[www.littleprincesses.org.uk](http://www.littleprincesses.org.uk)

**Albert Kefford**

**Year 6**

**Rowledge Primary School**







Contact details  
are in the Village  
Directory - in the  
centre pages of  
the Rowledge  
Review.

# Rowledge Activities - Weekly Calendar

Time	Group	Age	Venue
<b>Children's Events</b>			
<b>Mon-Fri</b>			
09.00-15.30	Rowledge Preschool	2-4	Village Hall
09.00-15.00	Little Fishes Nursery School	2-4	St James Church
<b>Tuesday</b>			
17.00-18.15	Beavers	5-8	Village Hall
18.15-19.30	Cubs	8-10	Village Hall
19.30-21.15	Scouts	10-14	Village Hall
<b>Wednesday</b>			
09.15-11.00	Baby & Toddler Group (term time)	0-4	Village Hall
15.00-19.30	Ballet	3-13	Village Hall
16.45-18.00	Octave children's choir	7+	St James' Church
17.00-18.00	Rainbows	5-7	Methodist Hall
18.30-20.00	Guides	10-14	Methodist Hall
19.00-20.30	#hungry (youth group)	11-16	St James' Church Hall
<b>Thursday</b>			
18.15-19.45	Brownies	7-10	School Hall
18.30-19.30	Thirsty (yrs 5-6) - term time only	9-11	St James' Church Hall

Many group times  
changing – check,  
organisers (overleaf)

## Adults' Events

<b>Monday</b>			
08.30-09.00	Morning Prayers		St James' Church
19.30-21.30	Pilates		Village Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>			
09.30-10.30	Zumba Gold (term time only)		Village Hall
09.00-11.15	Pilates		Rowledge Club
14.00-17.00	Quilters (fortnightly)		Methodist Hall
19.00-20.00	Pilates		St James' Church Hall
19.30-21.15	Community Choir		Frensham Heights School
19.45- 22.00	Women's Institute (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)		The Rowledge Club
20.00-22.30	After 8 ladies group (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)		Homes
<b>Wednesday</b>			
08.30-09.00	Morning Prayers		St James' Church
10.30- 12.00	Mother's Union		St James' Church
14.00-15.00	Nordic Walking		Forest (St James gate)
14.00-16.00	Cameo social group (2 <sup>nd</sup> &4 <sup>th</sup> Wed)		Methodist Hall
15.00-16.00	Healing Service (1st Wed)		Methodist Church
19.00-22.00	Bridge		Village Club
18.30-19.30	Handbell ringers		St James' Church
19.45-22.30	Badminton Club		Village Hall
<b>Thursday</b>			
09.00-16.00	Patchers		Methodist Hall
10.00-12.00	Art Club		Village Hall
12.30-14.00	Luncheon Club (last Thursday)		Methodist Hall
19.30-22.00	Gardening Club (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)		Village Hall
20.30-23.00	Men's Group (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)		Hare and Hounds
<b>Friday</b>			
08.30-09.00	Morning Prayers		St James' Church
09.00-12.00	Coffee Spot		Village Hall
19.00-20.00	Choir practice		St James' Church
<b>Saturday (second Saturday of month)</b>			
10.00 – 12.00	The Coffee Mug		St James' Church

# ROWLEDGE DIRECTORY – 2023



## ST JAMES' CHURCH – Church Lane, Rowledge, GU10 4EN

Vicar	Revd Russ Gant	01252 792402	vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk
Associate Minister	Revd Dr Russ Parker	07919 335291	russparker7@icloud.com
Churchwarden	Karen Fewster	01252 795169	karenfew@gmail.com
Churchwarden	Clive Jourdain	01252 794171	henryclivejourdain@gmail.com
<b>CHURCH OFFICE</b>	<b>Rosie Dray</b>	<b>01252 792402</b>	<b>admin@stjamesrowledge.org.uk</b>

### Parish Friends

Parish Friends Coordinator	Clare Marren		Clare.marren@stjamesrowledge.org.uk
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### Children's & Youth Work

Youth & Children's Minister	Adele Regan	07791 103 895	adele.regan@stjamesrowledge.org.uk
Little Fishes Nursery	Amber Delves	01252 794617	manager@littlefishesrowledge.org.uk

### Church Officers and Group Leaders

PCC Secretary	Karen Fewster	01252 795169	karenfew@gmail.com
Hon Treasurer	Andrew Fewster	01252 795169	andrew.fewster@gmail.com
Safeguarding Lead	Becky Porter	07885 591806	safeguarding@stjamesrowledge.org.uk
<b>Planned Giving</b> (Admin)	Andrew Fewster	01252 795169	andrew.fewster@gmail.com
Electoral Roll Officer	David Pennington		david@dpcon.eu
Church Cleaning Team	Suzanne Kimber	01428 641998	j.a.Kimber@btinternet.com
Coffee Rota	Jan Clarke	01252 793661	jan.8@btinternet.com

### Rowledge Review

Editor/Creative	Tony Carpenter	01252 793060	rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk
<b>SEND ARTICLES TO:</b>	Editor	-	rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk
Advertising	Margaret Mitchell	01252 792871	deadfish58@gmail.com
Distribution	Phil Durbridge	07885 272545	pdurbridge@live.co.uk

### Church Charities

Christian Aid, Rowledge	Elaine Andrews	07928 208 590	daveandelaine@hotmail.com
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## METHODIST CHURCH, Chapel Road, Rowledge. GU10 4AP

Minister	Rev'd Philip Simpkins	01420 83167	
Office	-	-	aileen.m.ashby@gmail.com
Church Steward	Aileen Ashby	01252 795438	aileen.m.ashby@gmail.com
Church Steward	Paul Fry	01252 794748	Paul.fry@btinternet.com
Church Steward	Alison Morrice	01252 794471	
Lettings / Hall Bookings	Lynda Godfrey	01252 792479	
Luncheon Club	Aileen Ashby	01252 795438	aileen.m.ashby@gmail.com
Healing Service	Joyce Williamson	01252 793363	jm.williamson@homecall.co.uk

### Activities for Children

Little Fishes Nursery School	Amber Delves	01252 794617	manager@littlefishesrowledge.org.uk
Rowledge Preschool	Hazel Cottrell	07977 892694	hazel.Cottrell @ntlworld.com
Baby & Toddler Group	Hazel Cottrell	07977 892694	hazel.Cottrell @ntlworld.com
Ballet	Demeric School of Dance	01483 813348	info@demericdance.co.uk
Playball	Nicola Stubberfield	07919 123008	playballsurrey@gmail.com
Beavers	Rachel Mason	01252 794195	rkmason1904@gmail.com
Cubs	Richard Banes-Walker	07968 587642	richard.banes-walker@struttandparker.com
Scouts	Colette Grist	07879 406 926	colette.grist@yahoo.co.uk
Brownies	-	-	rowledgebrownies@gmail.com
Rainbows and Guides	Rachel Britton	01252 591631	rachel_vasey@yahoo.com
Rowledge After School Club	School Office	01252 792346	admin@rowledge.hants.sch.uk
Rowledge Football Club	Catherine Greenwood	01252 781785	catherine.greenwood@tribalgroupp.com

### Schools

Rowledge C of E Primary School Head Teacher	Sarah Oliver	01252 792346	admin@rowledge.hants.sch.uk
Chair of Governors	Tom Nixon		tcwnixon@gmail.com
Friends of, Co Chair	Jo Long / Sam Gillard	07703725980	david_sam@sky.com
Frensham Heights School	Andrew Fisher - Head	01252 792561	hello@frensham.org

### Village

Residents' Association	www.rowledgevillage.uk		RowledgeResidents@gmail.com
Village Fayre Chairman	Kelly Taylor	07940 549102 01252 794271	Les_taylors@yahoo.co.uk
Tree Warden	Brian Greig	01252 793762	

### Village Hall

Chairman	Richard Baines-Walker	07968587642	
Treasurer	Ken Bone	07887 758797	treasurer@rowledgevillagehall.com
Bookings	Susie Duffy		bookings@rowledgevillagehall.com

### Police

Surrey	101	Hampshire	101
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### Charity Representatives

Cancer Research	Jenny Crawford	01252 793517	
RNLI	Nigel Cuthbert		rnli.farnham@btinternet.com

### Social Groups

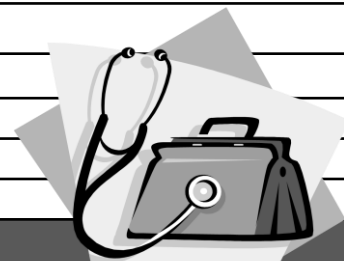
After 8 Group for Women	Sue Gardner	01252 793903	susan@gatec.co.uk
Alice Holt Women's Institute	Freja Halliday	07957 383033	frejahalliday@hotmail.co.uk
Art Club	Roger Warburton	01252 793813	rwarburton@btinternet.com
Coffee Spot	Helen Mortimer	01252 792191	
Community Choir	Edwin Rolles	01420 541966	edwinrolles@hotmail.co.uk
Quilters	Sue Stephens	01252 794375	suestephensuk@btinternet.com
Patchers	Sandra Bigg	01252 792082	sandratbigg@hotmail.com
Farnham Conservatives	Wyatt Ramsdale	07771 674634	Wyatt.Ramsdale@surreycc.gov.uk
Qigong	Julian Jaffe		Julian.jaffe@computer-agents.com

### Sports /Activity Groups

Badminton Club	Michael Ng	01252 794353	lyn_mikeng@hotmail.com
Bowling Club Captain	Martin Gerhold	01252 793685	captain@rowledgebowlingclub.co.uk
Bowling Club Chairman	Robert Green	01252 794860	chairman@rowledgebowlingclub.co.uk
Bowling Club Secretary	Liz Thomas	01252 793802	secretary@rowledgebowlingclub.co.uk
Bridge Club	Bev S-Evans	07766685584	Occasionally in Rowledge Review
Cricket Club Chairman	Carl Baker	07768 325701	carl@carlbaker.co.uk
Cricket Club Club Administrator	Haidee Goodwin	07850 351271	information@rowledgecricketclub.com
Nordic Walking	Sue Gardner	01252 793903	susan@gate.co.uk
Pilates/Yoga/Zumba	Hannah Epps	07855 291833	hannah@farnhampilates.com
Pilates	Linda Johansson	07756 969755	lindsit@hotmail.com
Tennis Club	Kelly Taylor	07940 549102	info@rowledgegetennis.org.uk
Rowledge Gardening Club	Roy Gardner	01252 793903	chairman@rowledgegardeningclub.org.uk
Zumba	Alison Edwards	0781 397 6841	ianandalison1@tiscali.co.uk
Hand-bell Ringers	Moira Davies	07960 656376	moirad366@gmail.com

### Welfare

Care Farnham	Duty Officer	01252 716655	
Phyllis Tuckwell Support Group	Mandy Main	07904 531337	
Doctors' Surgery	Holly Tree Surgery	01252 793183	
Chiropractor	Anna Maynard	01252 793183	
Surrey Victim Support	[24 hr]	01483 770457	
Hampshire Victim Support	[24 hr]	01252 342777	



### Councillors

Surrey County Council	Michaela Martin	07899 844674	michaela.n@surreycc.gov.uk
Hants County Council	Mark Kemp-Gee	01420 563923	mark.kemp-gee@hants.gov.uk
E Hants District Council	Ken Carter	01420 22576	Ken.Carter@easthants.gov.uk
E Hants District Council	David Ashcroft	07966 511868	David.Ashcroft@easthants.gov.uk
Farnham Town Councillor	Paula Dunsmore	01252 710009	Paula.dunsmore@farnham.gov.uk
Binsted Parish Coun. [Clerk]	Mike Mordecai	07483 310631	clerk@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk
Binsted Parish Coun. [Vice Chair]	Ryan France		ryanfrancemoore@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk www.binstedparishcouncil.org.uk
Binsted Parish Coun. [Chair]	Alison Melvin		A.Melvin@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk



## Ladies Day Bowling Success

A team from Rowledge Bowling club attended Tongham Ladies Day on Sunday 6th August. Sue Stephens, Pat Thompson and Pauline Smith were among 14 teams competing for the trophy.

The atmosphere was friendly and the sun was shining, adding to the enjoyment of the day. Having played, and won, 3 games, the Rowledge team earned a place in the final against Cove Bowling Club. This match, watched by the other teams, ended in a draw, resulting in an extra end to decide the winner.

The final end was tense. Rowledge were leading by 1 point and Cove had the final shot. Thankfully, the 1 point lead remained and Rowledge were successful in winning the trophy.

A most enjoyable day concluded with a supper for all players, served by the men of Tongham Bowling Club.



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## News from the Nursery



Little Fishes  
Nursery School

Little Fishes has been having a well-deserved rest over the Summer.

We had an amazing end to the school year. Our annual sports day was held at Rowledge School. The children took part in age-appropriate races, were encouraged to cheer on their friends and there were medals for everyone who took part.



Then we said congratulations and waved goodbye to our school leavers with a graduation ceremony and party. We are so proud of them and wish them all the best in their new schools for September.



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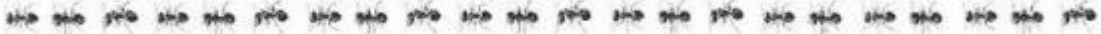
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## Missionaries resting at St. James' ...by Neil Pittaway

Back at the start of July the long grass along the paths of the Churchyard at St. James' was cut back and for some reason my eye focussed on a small low memorial stone which I had simply not noticed before. Research on this memorial's wording led me to another related memorial stone at St. James' but first, the almost illegible memorial for Agnes Louisa Layard Carter which is on the west side of the main path through the northern graveyard.



It reads:

**TO  
THE MEMORY OF  
AGNES LOUISA LAYARD  
WIDOW OF REV. J CARTER M.A.  
C.M.S.CEYLON  
5.5.1873 – 17.7.1951**

C.M.S. Ceylon is the Church Mission Society of Ceylon, now Sri Lanka which was formed around 1850. The C.M.S. had been supported by St. James' since at least 1890.

Agnes Louisa Layard was not the first wife of the Rev, J Carter. She was born in Colombo, Ceylon in 1873 to missionary parents, the Rev. Richard Thomas Dowbiggin who was a Lancastrian hosier's assistant before taking the cloth and going to Ceylon as a missionary where he met and married Ceylon born Laetitia Anna Layard in 1869. Laetitia was the sixth daughter of a high- ranking Civil Servant in Ceylon, Sir Charles Peter Layard K.C.M.G.



*Richard and Laetitia Dowbiggin,  
the parents of Agnes.*

By the age of at least thirteen, Agnes Lousia Layard Dowbiggen had returned to the U.K. to attend the then new Church Mission Society College at Limpsfield in Surrey where in her final years she trained as a student teacher so that she could teach in a missionary school in Colombo, Ceylon.



The Llimpsfield college was and still is an impressive building, almost daunting for young students from overseas. Today the listed building on Wolf's Row remains as built, but adapted for up market apartments.



This picture shows Agnes on the right with other students at the Llimpsfield College in 1892.

On completion of her training, Agnes returned to Ceylon to teach in a missionary school. There she possibly met the Rev. James Carter and they were married in Ceylon in 1904. Agnes was his second wife, James having tragically lost his first wife, Mary Fernie five years earlier.

I say that Agnes Dowbiggin possibly met the Rev. James Carter in Ceylon but she may have returned briefly to the UK with her mother in 1901 when sadly on that long voyage her father died whilst his ship, the S.S. Shropshire was in the Red Sea heading for the Suez Canal. The Rev. James Carter was in fact in the UK in 1901 with his children after the death of his first wife so maybe Agnes and possibly her bereaved mother met him in England at that time.



*The Rev. James Carter and his second wife Agnes Louisa Layard Dowbiggin*

## Rowledge Review

After their marriage, Agnes and James returned from Ceylon to live in England where the Rev, James Carter became the rector of Oxhill with Whatcote in Warwickshire until 1920 and then the rector of Eaton Bray in Bedfordshire until 1929. James' last posting was to Stanstead, Suffolk near Bury St. Edmonds where he served until his death in Thetford in 1937. Agnes and James had no children of their own although James, as I will show, had three by his first marriage.

After James' death, Agnes moved into the Old Parsonage in Lindsey, Suffolk where she was living in 1939 on independent means. I can find no record of Agnes after 1939 until 1950 when the electoral register shows her living in Rowledge in the White House on the corner of Fullers Road and the High Street. She was living with Mary Olive Marjorie Carter, her step-daughter and the only daughter of the Rev. James Carter.

Agnes died a year later on July 17<sup>th</sup> 1951 and was buried at St. James'. by the Rev. Arthur Winnett.

Agnes Louise Layard Carter N/21	76 White House, Rowledge	21 July 1951.	77 Jan	A.R. Winnett
No. 165				

The fact that Agnes was living with Mary, the daughter of the Rev. James Carter and as you will see, herself a missionary in Ceylon, explains the C.M.S. detail on her memorial that has enabled me to research this story as best I can.

Step-daughter Mary remained at the White House for a short while after her step-mother had died, presumably to finalise the estate. She had apparently returned from her work Ceylon to look after Agnes.

So, who were Mary Olive Marjorie Carter and her parents, the Rev. James Carter and his first wife, Marie Fernie?

I have shown you a photograph of James but sadly I do not have one for Marie Carter (nee Fernie).

James Carter was born on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1865 in Netherseal, Leicester. He did very well at the Appleby Grammar School in Leicester and went on to receive a B.A. in 1887. He was ordained a deacon in 1889 and became a priest at Lichfield in 1890. By 1891 he had become an M.A. and was appointed a curate at Stone in Staffordshire in the same year.

James' wife to be, Mary Fernie was the daughter of a Medical Practitioner and was born in Stone in 1869. She was still living there with her parents and siblings in 1891.

The Rev. James Carter became vice-principal of Trinity College Kandy, Ceylon from 1891 until 1894 when he became principal of St. John's College, Jaffna in 1894.

It appears that not only had the Rev. James Carter left Stone for missionary duties in

Ceylon in 1891 but Mary Fernie had gone too and married James. This is confirmed by the fact that the pair are together in Jaffna, Ceylon in 1895 where their first child.

Mary Olive Marjorie Carter was born on June 16<sup>th</sup> 1895. There is no obvious record for a marriage but then Ceylon records are hard to find. I could not find a Ceylon marriage record for James' second marriage to Agnes in 1904. Whether both James and Mary returned to visit Stone in 1897 is not clear but Mary gave birth to her second child, Reginald Francis Fernie Carter there on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mary soon returned to Jaffna, Ceylon where her third child was born on May 31<sup>st</sup> 1899, Arthur James Fernie Carter.



Sadly, nine days later on June 9<sup>th</sup> 1899, Mary passed away, possibly from birth complications. She was just 30. It is hard to imagine the emotions of her husband James and their two older but still very small children, Mary (4) and Reginald (2).

James returned to England and his home county of Leicestershire and immediately took a temporary role of curate in Leicester, a role he then held from late 1899 until 1902. The 1901 census shows him living in Leicester with his three young children. He had nursing help. He returned to Ceylon in 1902 and became principal of Trinity College, Kandy for two years up to 1904 when, after marriage, he permanently returned to England with his new wife, Agnes.

James' three children likely remained in care in England for those two years. The 1911 census shows the boys together in a boarding school. Meanwhile, Mary Fernie's church, Christ Church in Stone, Staffordshire had this beautiful memorial window designed in her memory.

The wording is:

***God sent forth his Son made of a woman.  
To the Glory of God and in loving memory of  
Mary Carter, the beloved daughter of Edward  
and Emily Elizabeth Fernie who died at Jaffna  
Ceylon June 9<sup>th</sup> 1899.***



I have already listed the 'rector' roles of the Rev. James Gilbert after he returned to England with his second wife Agnes in 1904 until his death in Thetford in 1937.

What then became of his three children? Firstly, none of them married.

Reginald, born in 1897 eventually took up farming and possibly went to live in Cape Town where he died in 1931 aged just 34. He had served in WW1 becoming an acting Captain in the Indian Army until 1921.

Arthur, who was born in 1899 a few days before his mother died, served as a fitter in WW1 in the R.F.C. and then the newly formed R.A.F. He left to live in New Zealand where he worked as a labourer. He died in 1953 aged 54.

What then became of Mary Olive Marjorie Carter who in 1950 and 1951 (maybe earlier) looked after her step-mother, Agnes in the White House, Rowledge. She seems to be missing from the 1911 census but was possibly already learning missionary work at that time. She spent the whole of WW1 working with the Red Cross in the VAD, Voluntary Aid Detachment. She was based in Kineton, Warwickshire and received a citation for her work. Many young ladies undertook the same duties at our own Frensham Hill Hospital during WW1.

There are several shipping records for both before and after WW2 showing Mary travelling to and from Ceylon as a missionary.

In 1942 she received an M.B.E. for her work with the Deaf and Blind in Ceylon. This is the London Gazette citation:

**Miss Mary Olive Marjorie Carter, Principal,  
School for Deaf and Blind, Ceylon.**

She clearly followed in the footsteps of her father, mother and step-mother and left Rowledge around 1955 to resume her missionary work in Ceylon.

She had indeed followed her father as Principal of a College. There are now three such schools in Sri Lanka. Was she part of the development team for all three...quite possibly. The schools have been commemorated on occasions in Sri Lanka by the issue of stamps such as this one issued on its centenary in 2012:



It is possible that Mary was involved in the work of these schools for nearly 70 years. On her several returns to England after her step-mother's death in Rowledge, she listed her address on each occasion in Pyrford near Wisley.

However, at some stage she retired to Rowledge and died on December 12<sup>th</sup> 1987, aged 92. At the time she was living at Boscobel in Cherry Tree Walk off the Lickfolds Road.

Mary Olive Marjorie Carter was buried by the Rev. David Eaton just before Christmas 1987.

Mary Olive Marjorie Carter	'Boscobel' Lickfolds Road Rowledge	21st December 1987	92	David Eaton
No. 771				



She has a fine memorial head stone about eight rows east of her step-mother's headstone. Although it's not too easy to see, it just shows her M.B.E.

**MARY  
OLIVE MARJORIE  
CARTER. M.B.E.  
16 JUNE 1895 - 12 DEC 1897  
GOD'S FAITHFUL SERVANT**

I hope that Mary's mother, also Mary has just such a headstone in Sri-Lanka. Maybe this historical note helps those looking at the headstones in St. James' understand a little of the two missionaries who rest there having given so much to others in support of their faith. What I cannot fathom is why Agnes and her step-daughter Mary came to Rowledge by 1950 and why Mary eventually retired here...can any-one complete the story? Maybe it was as a result of St. James' ongoing support since at least 1890 for the Christian Mission Society.

There are or have been many 'Carters' in Rowledge but none obviously seem to be related to the Rev. James Carter.

## Community Speed Watch: Call for Volunteers

Road traffic has grown significantly in and around the village since the last Community Speed Watch. This is due to the increased density of population and the enlargement of some local schools. Many are concerned about speeding from all types of vehicle including parcel delivery drivers who are under extreme pressure to achieve onerous targets.



At certain times of day there is speeding along roads entering and leaving the village centre.

Speeding vehicles present a danger to all road users especially pedestrians including children, the frail and elderly. Teenagers are often less aware of risk and some compound this by listening to music through ear-pods.

Many village roads do not have pavements. (Bizarrely, Surrey CC informs us that the beige coloured strips along The Avenue and Chapel Road do not give any priority to pedestrians, even though there are walking men symbols painted on them. They are there to tell drivers that there might be pedestrians using them!?)

With shrinking budgets and manpower, we cannot rely on the police to set up speed traps on our roads. Therefore the Residents Association is gauging the mood for repeating the Community Speed Watch exercise that was carried out some years ago. Community Speed Watch is now a nationwide organisation whose stats are shared by many police forces nationwide.

**<https://communityspeedwatch.org/FRONT-v2-Home.php>**

The Residents' Association is looking for 8 to 12 volunteers to be trained to be members of Rowledge's Community Speed Watch for each of the Surrey and Hampshire areas. Anybody wishing to take part, please email us at **[rowledgeresidents@gmail.com](mailto:rowledgeresidents@gmail.com)** and we will send joining instructions. It will involve some online and in person training from Surrey Police.

### Some Headline Stats

- In the UK a child is killed on the way to or from school every week.
- 29,795 people were killed or seriously injured last year on UK roads. Such accidents are **4 TIMES** more likely to happen on rural roads than in urban areas.

Help needed – more than ever!

FARNHAM FOODBANK



# HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

**At this difficult time, please do support your local Foodbank.**

Donations can be made at St. James' Church, Rowledge Co-Op, Waitrose or at Anne Blackman, 12 Prospect Road or Mike Randall at Poplars, 7 The Avenue.

There is a huge increase in need at the moment, especially from those families who would usually be reliant on school dinners.

To access the Foodbank should you be in need, please see contact details below.

<https://farnham.foodbank.org.uk>

[info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk)

The Church Office, Church Lane,  
Rowledge, GU10 4EN.

PHONE - 01252 792402

EMAIL - [admin@stjamesrowledge.org.uk](mailto:admin@stjamesrowledge.org.uk)

*"The Foodbank was there when we really needed it, it was an absolute lifeline."*

The Foodbank would also be very grateful for any financial contributions you feel moved to make.

## Foodbank Vouchers

St James' Church is now able to issue Foodbank vouchers for those in need. To be eligible for an emergency food parcel as an individual or a family, you will need to be referred with a voucher from the church office.

Your referral will be completely confidential. If you or someone you know is in need then please contact the church office on 01252 792 402.

### Foodbank need:

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If you have any queries, do contact: **Anne Blackman (01252 793344)**

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## Another Era! ...Perry Mitchell

I hope you will forgive me for writing about another of our neighbouring towns, this time 'The Home of the British Army' – Aldershot, built c1850 on the site of a small Hampshire village to house and train the Army for the Crimea War. In 10 years the population of Aldershot went up 20 times! The town continued to house and service the needs of the Army for the next 100 years, but the last 50 years have seen a gradual contraction to what is now a small fraction of what it was with a commensurate (very sad) decline in its general health.

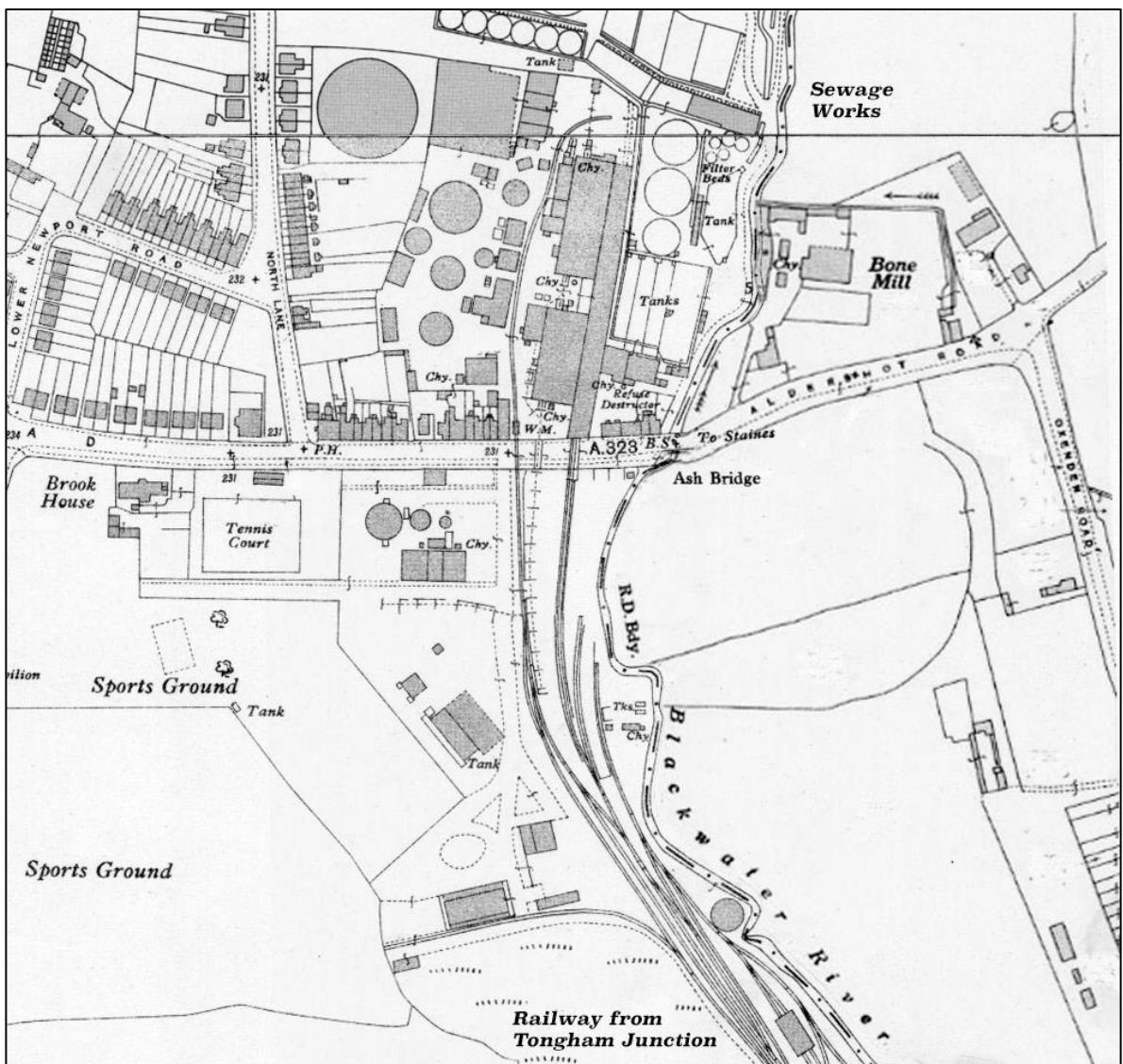
Back in those Victorian times, my mother's extended Alden family were mostly farm workers located about the Hampshire villages between Farnham and Alton. Aldershot drew many of them to other work for the council. My grandfather Stephen Alden was born in Binsted in 1882, and I believe he may have trained as an engineer with a spell in the Navy. By the 1900s he was working in Aldershot Sewage Works maintaining the electric pumps. It was his good fortune that this was deemed a reserved job that kept him out of WW1! He met and married one Elsie Philadelphia Hains, who lived with her widowed father John. He had been a farm bailiff, living in Farnham; and then a foreman at Moor Park Farm living in High Mill with the miller's family. At the time of their marriage in 1911, he had taken a job as manager of the Mariner Bonemeal Works at Ash Bridge, Aldershot, which offered an attractive detached house on site as a perk of the job. The Sewage Works were adjacent and Stephen moved in with his new wife and had a very short walk to work! The following year, my mother Beatrice Joyce (Joy) was born. A sister Barbara followed in 1919. Elsie's father John died in 1921, and the family moved into a terraced house located just over the county border, plumb in between the Gas Works and a rubbish incinerator! I am guessing a tied cottage to Stephen's job.

At some point around the start of WW2, both girls met an Eric Mitchell. Not one man, but two completely unrelated individuals! They both married and to avoid confusion Joy's husband became known as Jack. In 1945 Jack and Joy had a son, yours truly Perry Mitchell. A brother John arrived the following year. Jack was an insurance man, 'The Man from the Pru' if you are old enough to remember the adverts. He was allocated a territory in Kent and so in 1947 we all moved to a small village just south of Maidstone. Somewhat ironically, around the same time, Stephen and Elsie were allocated a new Council House in Moreland Road, near to The Lido. My mother suffered several periods of ill health so I spent most of my summer holidays living with my grandparents. Sadly Stephen died in 1955 when I was 10. Elsie lived to a grand age of nearly 90 and throughout my childhood we visited her several times a year. It was a long car ride for young boys, and I always remember the iconic view of the Gas Works gasometers from the Hogs Back to signify we had nearly reached our journey's end. After the death of my grandpa, Elsie took in lodgers, particularly for some years members of Aldershot Town Football Team. Many were semi-pro and would come down from the North for just the season. It was heaven to us boys to be taken down the park for a kick about with a real footballer!

I thought it might be of interest to relate exactly what a 'Gas Works' was. Basically, 'town' or 'coal' gas was what we used for heating and cooking before the arrival of natural gas c1970. Coal gas is derived by heating coal in a controlled atmosphere whereby it gives off a gas consisting mostly of Hydrogen and Carbon Monoxide (CO). CO is a deadly poison, but it was uneconomic to remove it. Initially gas was just used for lighting (early Victorian times) but due principally to the work of German scientist Robert Bunsen it became the principal fuel for heating. By the end of the Victorian era, every town in England would have had a Gas Works.

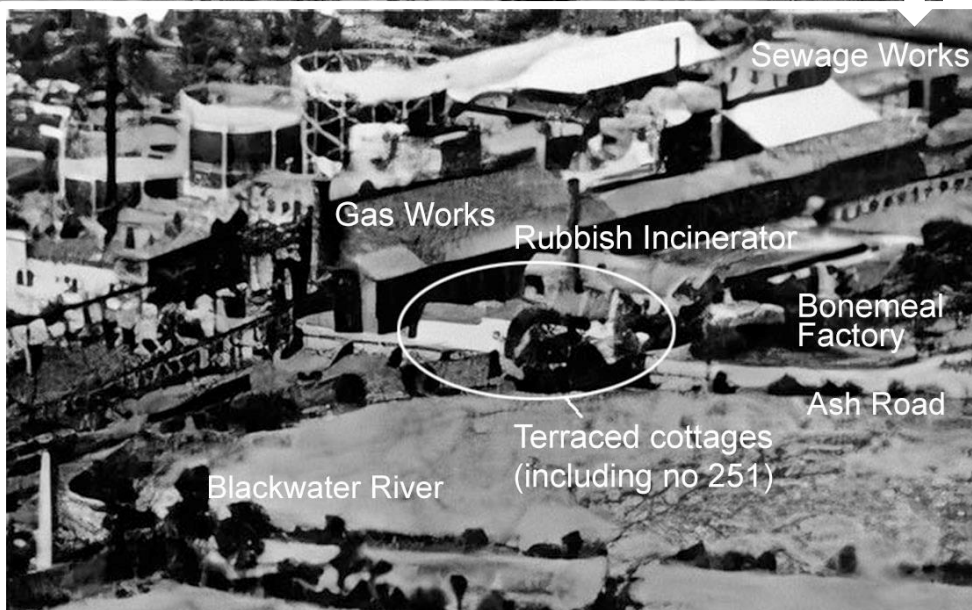
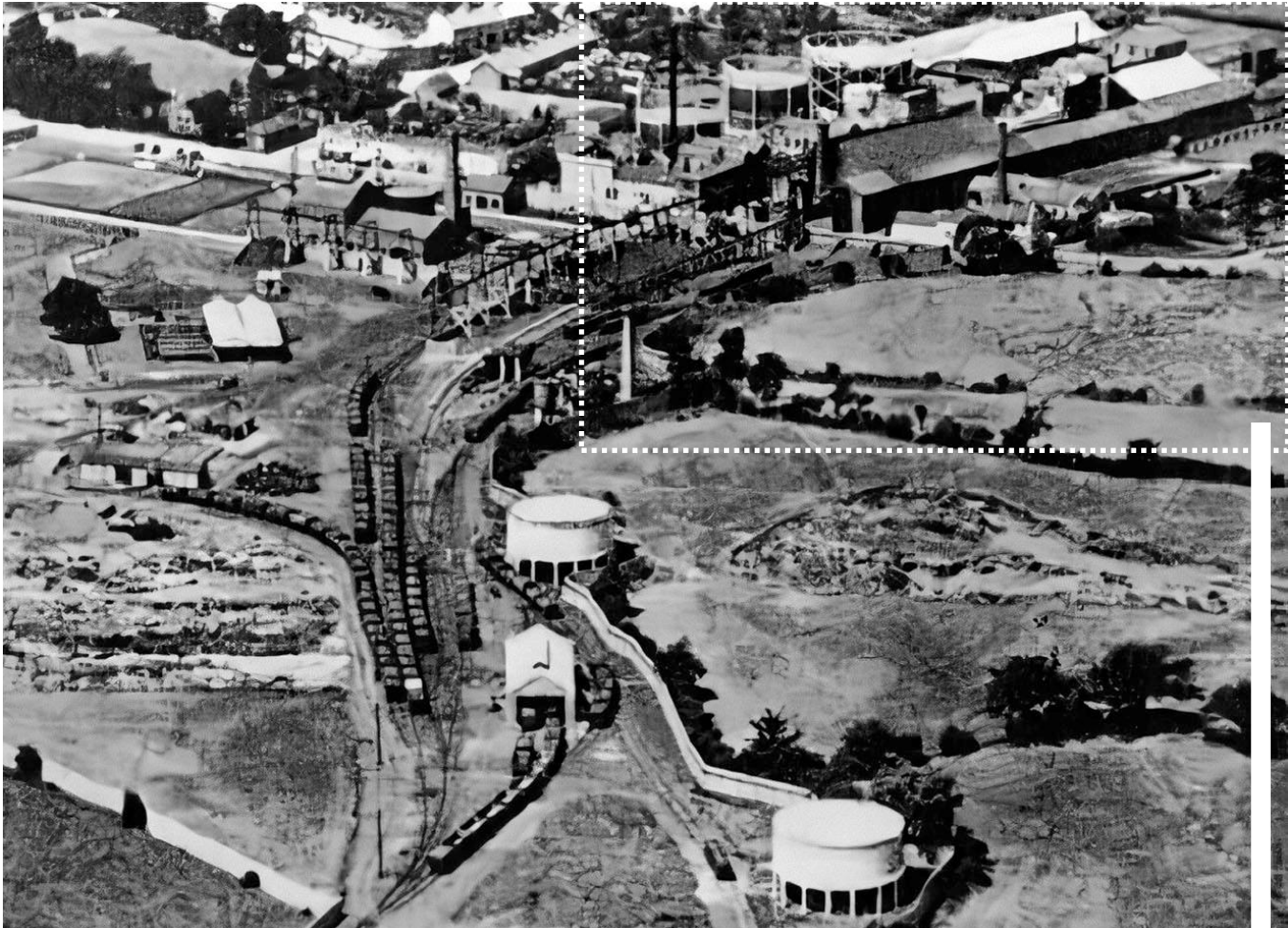
The plant where the coal is heated is known as a retort. Initially this was a horizontal affair with the process done in batches, but between the wars a new and more efficient vertical retort continuous process was developed. This led to the characteristic tall building that those of us that can remember a gas works will recall. As well as the gas, the main output of the plant is coke. This was used as a solid heating fuel, and also for industrial processes such as steel manufacture. There were other by-products such as tar and creosote.

We can now see how this specifically applied to Aldershot Gas Works. It seems it was founded as early as 1865 but we will look at it first around 1930. First we can see the OS Map of 1937 that shows the whole area.





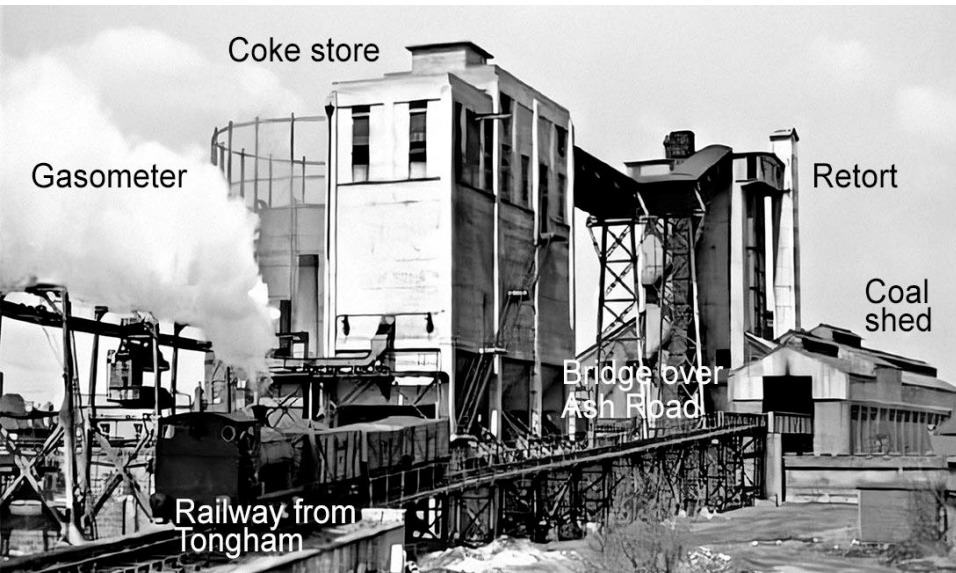
Then this is an aerial view showing the same area with the older style retort that is not obvious to see. (Apologies for the quality of the photo, which was the only one I could find.) The railway bringing coal from Tongham Junction is obvious. The fence winding its way up to the right of the tracks shows the route of the Blackwater River. It crosses Ash Road just to the right of a building with a tall chimney which was a rubbish incinerator plant. Just in front of that is a white terrace of 4 houses, partly obscured with a tree, one of which is the house where I was born. Incidentally, in the family the site was always known as 'County Bridge'.



It is perhaps worth showing the areas mentioned as a separate zoomed in view with idents.



So around WW2 there was a complete rebuild of the Works to a new vertical retort as mentioned.



The coke output from the (continuous) process was transported across the road with an aerial conveyor. This used to emit a glow at night. Apparently if you turned up with a wheelbarrow on a Saturday then you could buy coke for your stove and also buy creosote to paint your fence.

I have no other photos of it working at this time but this widely seen view c1965 shows it not long after the works closed in the late 1950s.



The building just to the left of the advertising hoarding is the end of my terraced house. Note that the bridge carrying the railway coal trucks across the road has already been demolished. Not long after this the whole area was demolished, although the largest gasometer adjacent to North Road was kept until c2000

for use with natural gas. An office block was built on the site. In more recent times this in turn was demolished and the present Peugeot dealer's premises were built. The bonemeal works were long gone, but the site now has a Self Storage establishment. The Sewage Works are still there.

It is also interesting to note that a journey to the site now from Coxbridge roundabout at the end of Farnham by-pass, is entirely on roads that didn't exist in 1965.

## Archdeacon of Surrey to become the next Bishop of Dorking.

Guildford has been home to the Venerable Paul Davies and his family since 2017, serving in his current role as Archdeacon of Surrey, responsible for the pastoral care and wellbeing of over 150 clergy, whilst sitting on the Bishop of Guildford's leadership team. He is also the Patron of St James' Rowledge.

Originally from Pembrokeshire, he read theology at the Universities of Wales and Oxford. Following his training at Ripon College Cuddesdon, he returned to Pembrokeshire to be ordained in 1997 at St David's Cathedral where he began his ministry (and fulfilled his childhood ambition of serving on a lifeboat crew!). This was followed by successive appointments as vicar of Solva in rural Pembrokeshire and then vicar of Burry Port in post-industrial Carmarthenshire. During these years he also served as Diocesan Director of Ordinands and an Officiating Chaplain to the Military. In 2012, Paul moved to rural North Wales to serve as Archdeacon of Bangor and Anglesey before, in 2017, swapping to a mainly urban English one, with his present appointment as Archdeacon of Surrey. Last month, he celebrated 25 years as a priest.

Paul will be ordained as a bishop in **Westminster Abbey on 29<sup>th</sup> September**. A service of welcome will be held at **Guildford Cathedral on 8<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm**.

Paul says; *"Whilst I am slightly daunted by the responsibility to be entrusted to me, my heart is full of joy at the prospect of continuing to serve a diocese and people I have grown to love. For the past six years, I have been constantly inspired by the faith, hope and love that pours out of our churches, schools and chaplaincies in the work of transforming lives. I feel immensely blessed to have been called to serve alongside Bishop Andrew in leading and caring for this diocese and, with the help of God, will do that to the very best of my ability."*

Bishop Andrew, Bishop of Guildford reflects on why Paul was such a good fit; *"Those of us privileged to work with Paul here in Guildford over the past six years have recognised just what a treasure he is: a godly disciple, a wise pastor, a gifted preacher, a keen strategist, and someone with extraordinary capacity for hard work. His family are pretty special too!"*

*For some while now I've known that Paul would make a wonderful bishop somewhere – and over the course of the past few months it's become increasingly clear to me (among many others) that that 'somewhere' is here. I couldn't be more delighted.*

Bishop Andrew continues on what is to come; *"Paul and I will be sharing in episcopal ministry across the diocese, as together we continue to pray and work towards a Transforming Church, Transforming Lives. He will also have a particular brief to promote three of the areas in which we are investing the most, as Champion for children and youth, vocations and the environment. As Paul lays down one mantle and picks up another, I'm really excited at all that the Lord has in store."*

During the vacancy of the Archdeacon of Surrey, the Venerable Martin Breadmore (Archdeacon of Dorking) will also be Acting Archdeacon of Surrey ably supported by Claire Isherwood (Assistant Archdeacon of Surrey).

**Rewilding – what’s it all about?**

Keen gardeners might remember the Rewilding Britain garden at Chelsea in 2022, which won Best in Show. Monty Don didn’t like it, commenting that rewilding meant no interference, and it couldn’t work in gardens. Fond as I am of Monty, I think he was wrong there. The great rewilding project at Knepp, West Sussex has shown what rewilding means in practice. Knepp is a 3,500 acre estate where nature has been allowed to flourish, and many species have returned, such as nightingales, turtle doves and purple emperor butterflies. However, nature was not left to do it all on its own, this would take far too long given the current biodiversity crisis. Intervention was necessary to kick start the process in the form of grazing animals, that would, in the past, have included bison, elk, wild horse, beaver and wild boar. Through their different grazing techniques, these animals provided the necessary disturbance to generate a diversity of habitats which was constantly changing. At Knepp, re-introduced long horn cattle, Exmoor ponies and Tamworth pigs, as well as beavers and deer, perform the functions of their ancestors.

Pollinators have a hugely important role in rewilding, and their decline is well-documented. Projects like Knepp result in improved habitats for pollinators, but we don’t all have 3,500 acres to play with! Knepp have, however, applied the rewilding principles in their Walled Garden, and I recently attended a talk by the Head Gardener, Charlie Harpur, which gave plenty of food for thought.

**Rewilding our gardens**

Clearly, we cannot leave our gardens to grow wild without interference – brambles, nettles and grasses would soon dominate and in fact reduce biodiversity. It is up to us humans to restore the natural processes and create diverse habitats in our gardens where pollinators can flourish. Charlie referred to humans as ‘pigs on two legs’ (shades of *Animal Farm* here!), with us being the disturbance agents, intervening where necessary to try and create diversity for the wildlife visiting our gardens. In other words, gardening with a light touch, trying to let nature take the lead.

**September plants for pollinators**

Late summer perennials which flower until the first frosts are great for pollinators. Salvias come in all shapes and sizes, including the well-known herb Sage, the Russian sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*) which I saw teeming with bees recently, and beautiful Salvia ‘Amistad’ with its purple, long tubular flowers which are easily accessed by long-tongued bumblebees such as the garden bumblebee (*Bombus hortorum*). You may see shorter-tongued bees cheating by biting holes in the neck of the flower and robbing the nectar, thus not pollinating the flower!

The purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) is another good one for pollinators and a wonderful garden plant. My red bistort (*Persicaria amplexicaulis*) has been flowering

September 2023

since July and is a favourite with honeybees and wasps (also important pollinators) – it is quite invasive though, so I have to exercise my pig grazing technique rooting out some of the invasive tubers! The ubiquitous purple *Verbena bonariensis* is also good, and if it likes your soil, will seed itself freely.

For a comprehensive list of plants for pollinators, visit <https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators> and download the garden plants list.

For more information about Hive Helpers, please visit [www.hivehelpers.co.uk](http://www.hivehelpers.co.uk), email us on [office@hivehelpers.co.uk](mailto:office@hivehelpers.co.uk) or phone us on 07895 547637

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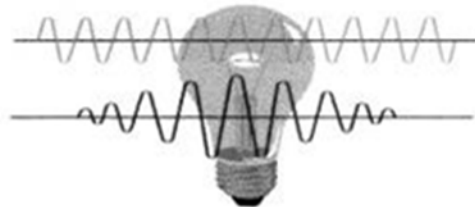
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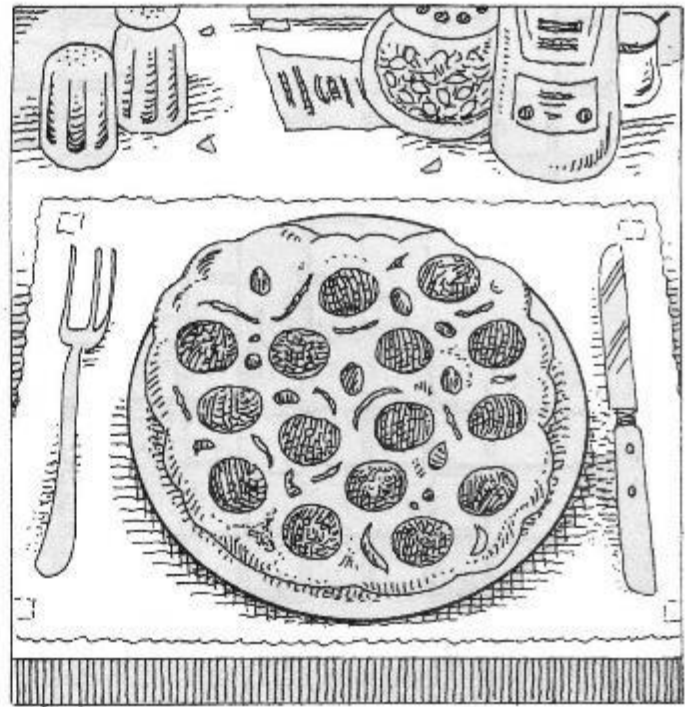
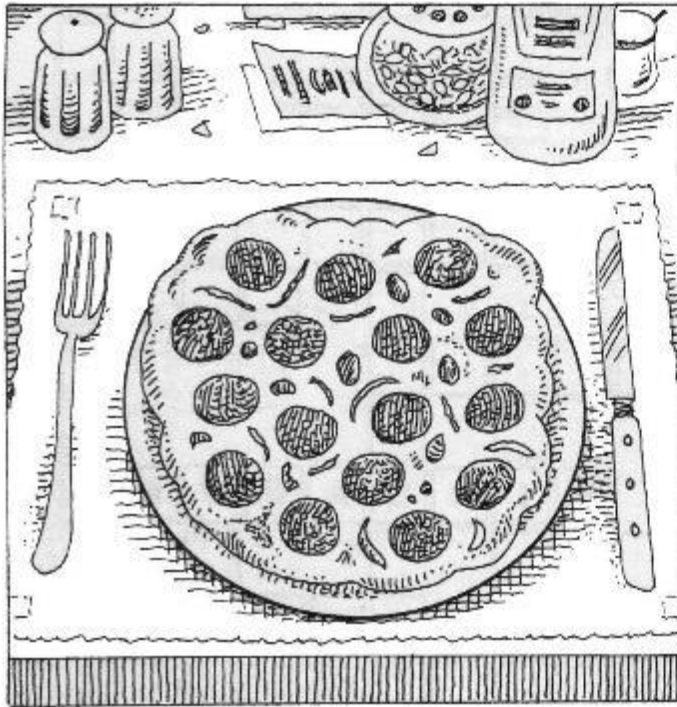
Acupuncturist

4 Swiss Close  
Boundstone  
Farnham  
Surrey

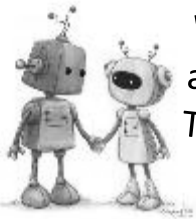
01252 794353

# Fun time

See if you can find the eight differences.



What did the leaf say to September?  
I'm falling for you.



Why was the robot couple's  
anniversary in September?  
They were autumn mated.

Why do birds fly south  
in September?  
Because it's quicker  
than walking.



What kind of car do people  
drive in September?  
An autumn-atic.

What do you call a  
snowman with a six-pack?  
An abdominal snowman!



					6	3		
5								6
		6	8		3		9	5
7		1				4		8
6			4	1	8			2
8		3				6		9
1	6		5		2	8		
3								1
		4	6					

**Sudoku** Each puzzle has a solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 9 space shape.



# EDITORIAL

**PLEASE NOTE:** The official deadline for copy for the September issue of the Review is **FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023.... LATEST DATE!!**

Please either send articles through email: **rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk** or leave your masterpieces in the pigeonhole provided in St James' Church.

We always welcome your contributions and would love to hear from anyone who think they could contribute a series of articles on a theme – any subject considered.

**Please also continue to notify us of any required changes to the Directory listing.**

Please send articles to **rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk** not to Tony Carpenter's personal email account.

Thanks

## ADVERTISING in the ROWLEDGE REVIEW

Margaret Mitchell now handles our advertising sales.

**If you want to promote your business through these pages, you can contact Margaret on:**

**01252 792871 (Home)    07976 299188 (Mobile)    deadfish58@gmail.com**

Did you know Home-Start Weywater is covered by Home-Start Hampshire! It's the same staff just a new name, location, and bigger support network. Find us using the information below or online, by searching for Home-Start Hampshire!

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Segensworth, Fareham,  
Hants PO15 5TU  
E: [info@hshants.org.uk](mailto:info@hshants.org.uk)  
W: [www.home-starthampshire.org.uk](http://www.home-starthampshire.org.uk)  
T: 0330 124 2095



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**If you have children 11 years or younger Home-Start Hampshire CAN help.... Email [family.support@hshants.org.uk](mailto:family.support@hshants.org.uk) to find out more.**

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