



# Newsletter Spring 2019

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## Chairman's Report

Roger Nash

2018 was a busy year! Publishing, selling, and giving talks about the Great War books are now in the past. It was not only an enjoyable process, but also a real achievement. There are no greater events in 20th century history than the two world wars. It is important that we as a community are able to chronicle them. Some local villages are already embarked on researching the Second World War. Perhaps as we approach 80 years from its start it is appropriate, but there is much less available information as release of documents before they are 100 years old is not considered proper. So, we wait, for now.

The exception is the 1939 Register (with redaction of younger names). This is now available for research. A good friend of Rudgwick, Graham Crummett from Norfolk, has transcribed it all on a spreadsheet. If you want to know who lived in your house in 1939, I can tell you! Graham has also transcribed the parish registers for Rudgwick: baptisms, funerals and marriages from 1538 to 1900.

We are very pleased to have this resource and thank Graham profusely. He is less likely to visit Rudgwick in the future as his aunt, who lived in Rudgwick, has recently died.

This gave me the idea to move on to the school registers which are online from 1887 to 1928. Only the earlier of these are searchable online, but shortly we will have the entire sequence available and searchable or sortable. A small army of 'register elves' has been assisting me in the last few weeks. We are almost there. A huge thank you to them too. Let me know if any of this data interests you.

To complete the current flurry of data, I am beginning to work through assorted land tax material, but it is not so easy to create a spreadsheet as ownership of land is never straightforward. One can but try. We have tax lists for various years from 1785 to 1908.

Our committee is now a little more dispersed as Vanessa Lowndes, vice-chairman, has moved to Kent, but her enthusiasm knows no bounds as she bounces back for meetings and can deal with planning applications by email. Those of us living in Rudgwick still manage to get to parish council meetings to keep in touch with latest plans.

2018 saw much activity in dealing with two medium sized developments in Cox Green, but at least for the time being both

have been refused. It was not difficult to think why we did not want them, but in each case a local landowner thought otherwise. Similarly, we are now awaiting a second decision on Fairlee in Bucks Green. Our arguments were already in place here, but we had to think hard about traffic lights this time round, and no, we do not like them at all. We have also made use of the wildlife survey of the Arun floodplain to defend our environment and made stronger points about pollution from traffic it's not just about safety. Despite it being the holiday period, there was another good response from the public to these proposals. I hope we will have a quieter year ahead.

The old brickworks landfill is moving ahead rapidly now, and is on schedule, but many of you will be aware of a proposed extension currently under consideration by WSCC. By membership of the Forum which monitors the site, RPS has had good notice of this and, despite misgivings relating to change in landscape, loss of vegetation and a longer period of HGV traffic in Lynwick Street, we and the parish council are both giving it our blessing, but with essential conditions to restore the land to full agricultural use, to plant a new copse on the hilltop and to keep additional traffic to six

## Chairman's Report (contd.)

## Hugh Baddeley 1929-2018 David Cozens

months only, as the existing consent overlaps with the new. We are satisfied the topography would have been an obstacle to access, to efficient land use and use of farm machinery. To infill part of a small valley at the back of the brickworks makes sense. The new copse will be an exciting ecological first for Rudgwick, and we will try to monitor it long-term. The alternatives to a local farm business bringing land back to productive use would surely have been a worse outcome. The company responsible for the works, Restoration to Agriculture, is to be congratulated on its handling of the development so far.

Later this year, as part of Horsham's Year of Culture 2019, local history and amenity groups in Horsham are contributing to a book, currently half finished, on 100 Objects in Horsham District. I have been contributing small amounts of text and RPS has provided its quota of 'objects' - see article in this newsletter.

Alongside this, another project is under way to develop over 20 heritage trails across the district and its settlements. One for Rudgwick will take a tour around Church Street, Bucks Green and Lynwick Street. Lottery money is available for artwork and A3 leaflets. Fortunately, after writing two books of walks, and many hours of study, this will almost write itself. Hopefully it will not just be seen by us but by visitors who will use our village facilities, as well as enjoying a little light learning about Rudgwick, whilst we can visit other locations.

Our AGM includes a talk from the always interesting Judie English from Cranleigh. We have enjoyed her take on history and archaeology before, so I hope we will see a good turnout. See the flyer for details. Rudgwick's Great War will be on sale for anyone who still hasn't got their copies.

For those of you who so generously lent us £10 when you bought your book in advance, may I thank you once again, and ask you to reclaim it from the

designated table (not the treasurer's table) on your way in or in the interval. If you cannot come, we will deliver it to your door in an envelope. How's that for service?

Lastly, and on the same topic, the Great War Project is not quite over. Although we have had generous sponsorship, and kept the prices low, we have in fact made a surplus. I won't call it a profit because all of it, with yet more sponsorship from J Gumbrill Monumental Masons (part of Freeman Brothers, undertakers), is to go to erect a memorial plaque in Welsh slate at Rudgwick School for 27 Rudgwick schoolboys who lost their lives in 1914-19. We hope to have this ready in time for its unveiling in July before the school breaks up. We are enormously grateful to Gumbrills/Freemans for this partnership. July is appropriate as it is the centenary of national Peace Celebrations in 1919.

## Memories of Hugh Baddeley David Cozens



Hugh Frame Baddeley was born in St Marylebone, London on 29th September 1929.

He was educated at Marlborough College and later at Queen Mary College, London. He was trained in Hotel Management and Accountancy.

Hugh was married to Marjory in 1957, and they moved to Rudgwick in 1964 living at Farn Brakes in Church Street until his death on the 19th June 2018.

Hugh joined Cranleigh accountancy firm Mills, Hawes and Harper as a Senior Trainee. Armed with his Part I exams, he joined Rolfe, Swayne & Assoc. in Guildford and Godalming, but he had to work throughout the day and travel up to London every evening for the Pt 2 course at the Institute's HQ. Having passed, he went on to become a Senior Associate and eventually a Partner.

In 1992 he set up his own practice in Rudgwick for his clients, many of whom became lifelong friends. Hugh soon became involved in the many village organisations and with his accountancy background it was not long before he took on the roles of chairman or treasurer. In fact it would be true to say that over the 50+ years he lived in the village he must have been associated with most events that happened, whether it be with Hawkridge, the Gardening Association, RPS, Lifeline, Holy Trinity Church, The Arts Society, ORCS, the Rudgwick Cycling Group or the Wintershall Passion Play. No doubt we all have our own memories of these occasions.

The standing room only attendance at his Service of Thanksgiving on the 10th July 2018 was a testimony to his popularity and involvement and we shall miss him.

#### Memories of a friend from a friend



I was whiling away a hot summer's afternoon in Rudgwick - at the age of ten there seemed to be countless days to fill up. I decided to go for a ride on my new bicycle, not a mountain bike in those days, just a Raleigh with three speeds, how did we manage? The village was very quiet, especially in Lynwick Street, just a distant chugging of an old Fordson tractor working on Greathouse Farm nearby. I set off past Rudgwick brickyard. It was a much smaller site in those days, but it was interesting to me to watch an old rusty mechanical excavator gnawing away at the hill at the rear of the site that was still topped by dense woodland. It was too hot to stop for long as the sun was burning down. I cycled to the railway bridge to wait to see the "up" train, as it could be heard puffing slowly out of Rudgwick station. What a contrast with winter time when often one could hear the engine losing grip on the tracks on the many icy mornings, because of the steep gradient. It was fun to disappear in the smoke and steam as the train passed under the parapet climbing to the tunnel, a place of mystery and danger to us youngsters, though that's where the best blackberries were found.

I passed several old cottages whose orchards, in season, were a constant source of attraction; it was always a slow journey home from school when the orchards were laden with apples. I arrived at the road junction with the main road to Guildford. A green bus had stopped at The Fox Inn, before crossing the road to reverse into Lynwick Street; that was how the buses were turned around in Bucks Green, before continuing their journey up through the village towards Cranleigh. It always caused concern with passengers who didn't know the route, they thought they had come to the end of their journey. I cycled past the small greengrocery shop and transport café, sited at the corner on land adjacent to the Fox, where the present bus stop is located. The shop was run by Val Botting. Children often bought penny buns there after lunch if they were going to play in the recreation ground. One had to have written parental consent to make that short

journey to the recreation ground as we were all leaving the safety of the school playground.

The steep little hill, on the Loxwood road led me past Roger Clarke the butcher (later the shop became Robin Miles Garden Machinery shop.) All the meat was safely in the cold room in the August heat. I noticed that the tar on the hill was running and sticking to my tyres, so I had to stop and push my bicycle up past the Memorial Club. The building had doubled up as an annexe to the main primary school for many years for the Infants' class; I think that the building had come into use for extra capacity since the influx of evacuees during the Second World War. We all had memories of being taught by Miss Tuff and looking forward each day to walking in a "crocodile" to the main school at Bucks Green for our school dinner (the food lift, known as a dumb waiter, in the corner of the classroom that doubled up as a dining hall, always fascinated me). The road then improved, so I rode lazily towards Tismans Common. Each year a point-to-point race was held at Tismans. It was always an exciting day, with many cars and horseboxes choking the access roads, though I am sure today the event would not be welcomed in the village.

I decided to turn back to Bucks Green, and passed the old "Regent" garage (that was the brand of petrol sold); its wooden buildings always smelt of a cocktail of petrol, tyres and old engine oil. Opposite was Farley's large builders' yard, with its many black sheds shimmering in the heat. I said hello to the village District Nurse as she left her small bungalow next door to the yard, and then passed Rudgwick Garage, which always seemed to have customers with newer cars.

I turned into the Recreation Ground. The Home Guard Hall, always known as the Home Guard Hut, had been used as a canteen at an RAF depot at Faygate (a few miles east of Horsham). Records show that Rudgwick's local builders, Farleys, charged £160 to transport and re-

erect it at Bucks Green. I remember the Home Guard Hut during the 1950s as a long narrow heavily creosoted wooden building that felt, on entering, more like a large chicken shed. The stage was so small with the right hand section hinged as one occasionally sees on a pub's bar, so that access could be gained to the rear annex. In spite of the limited space and facilities it sufficed for many events during its lifetime - one particular Scout Gang Show was so well attended that one had the feeling that the building was bursting at its seams! Ted Griffin, who was a local councillor, used to put on a children's Christmas party for the village in the Home Guard Hut; it was always extremely popular, especially the film show, usually old 16mm black and white comedies. In fact, the little building always seemed to be bursting at its seams with all us noisy children crammed inside.

There were a couple of my friends idly swinging on the old rusty swings; the conical roundabout was always fun. I think it was scrapped in later years as being too dangerous. My friends decided to head down to the "Dipple", a pool on the river Arun, to have a swim; it could be dangerous and sadly some years earlier a boy was drowned on that stretch of the river Arun.

I carried on my ride down to The Haven, past The Blue Ship pub, stopping to watch a large red combine harvester working in a dusty field of barley, a new sight as the days of binders and threshing machines were nearly over. Next I came to The Haven garage, run by Mr Ted Griffin; it always had a lot of very old prewar cars rusting away in the woods opposite. The cars had been there for years. They would be worth a fortune today! The garage had for years a wonderful advert in the local parish magazine: "Rattle In, Glide Out".

I decided to turn back to the village; The Queen's Head at

weekends often had a lot of coaches on the large forecourt as day trippers quenched their thirst, but today just one solitary old car

The Queen's Head and Queen's Hall in 1975 just before demolition of the Hall (photo © Malcolm Francis)

appeared to have been abandoned there. The adjoining Queen's Hall, another wooden shed, had been used for village events for many years but now was not often used. (It was eventually demolished in 1975).

I passed Bucks Green sub-post office that with the other sub-post office in The Haven had for many years served the large parish. In the '50s the adjoining general store still served Bucks Green (there was also another little store in Bucks Green, called Park View stores, the proprietor was Mrs Gibbs, a magnet for school children because of its Lyons ice creams). The hill seemed steep as I arrived at Victoria Farm Dairy owned by Mr Davidson. Rudgwick children knew him well as he supplied the school with the third of a pint bottles of free school milk; why did the bottles always seem frozen in winter, were the winters colder? And conversely, the crates of little milk bottles were left in the sun on a hot day and often went sour! The dairy was always cool and dark, with many large fridges, their pineapple fruit ice lollies were delicious. Suitably refreshed, I cycled up the road; on the right were the garden allotments that had many rows of runner beans growing, though no gardeners were

braving the heat. The allotments were lost when The Marts estate was built.

The station yard, from my vantage

point on the bridge, looked deserted. except for one lone coal truck being unloaded. The trucks had to be manhandled onto the sidings using a small turntable. Once I heard that a truck escaped when it was being moved by hand and ran towards Slinfold. (I learnt that it was captured by the long siding that in

The Martlet Hotel, with its large dusty forecourt, appeared to be closed. I stopped opposite to lean on the five-bar gate at the entrance to the grassy track that led down to the isolated "Thurn Cottages". On the left, there was some disused land that was the proposed site for the new village hall; the Bucks Green site was used in preference, so eventually two houses were built on that land instead.

I slowly pedalled up the street past "Flemings", the newsagent and general store; a favourite haunt for all the children when spending their pocket money. The shop front often had a cat asleep in the window. A photograph has

> recently been discovered (see below) of Mrs Fleming outside her shop with her daughter Babs. Older people in the village will remember Babs McWilliam who was my late mother-inlaw; she died in 2009. We think that this photo dates from the late '40s. The shop was turned into a private dwelling in the

Eighties and is now known as "The Old Shop".



Rudgwick Station and siding, with goods train, in 1954

those days ran next to the main line for some distance towards the railway bridge that spanned the A281).

Rudgwick in those days had five filling stations including Station Garage, whose land abutted the station and was run by the Laudet brothers, Marcel and Maurice. The Laudets had "wolf whistles" fitted to their own cars

which always amused us youngsters as they sped past. The Laudets were of French ancestry (I understand that previous generations had been motor manufacturers but I am unable to confirm this). An adjacent building housed a carpentry business; outside, a large wooden dinghy gave a nautical



Church Hill was climbed, that was always a test of one's stamina, but I couldn't resist the thought of an ice cream from Humphrey's, the grocers next to The King's Head. The steep entrance steps gained access to the shop and adjoining Post Office, both fronted by large plate glass windows installed in the 4 '20s before the days of strict planning regulations. The shop had a lovely smell, now missing in these days of excessive packaging; a mixture of ground coffee, cheeses and fresh bacon. As a small boy it was always fun to stamp on the many air bubbles trapped in the old pink rubber floor covering (I cannot imagine that flooring existing today with all the risks of litigation, trip hazards, etc.) Also in winter I liked to peer into the large black threelegged paraffin stoves which burnt your hand if you touched them. I always wondered what was in the large containers perched on some high shelves (I learnt in time that they contained tea). The shop stocked a lot of items, now found in larger delicatessens, items that were rare in the '50s, though as a tenyear-old I just wanted an ice cream.

Just past the shop at the top of the hill was an old red telephone box; it always seemed large to a small lad with its shiny "A" and "B" buttons. (one had to insert coins into the mechanism and press A to connect to the required number or B to get the coins back if one could not "get through".....such excitement.

On the right I could see cattle in the stockyard of Dukes Farm, standing in the deep shadows on the low tiled roof, they were agitated by the ever present flies. It was time to turn down into the shade of Lynwick Street and freewheel down the hill to home.

## The Jenkins Family in Rudgwick (2)

Doug Betts

In the Autumn 2018 Newsletter I wrote of John Jenkins (1771-1853) owner and innkeeper of the King's Head. In this issue I look at the lives of John's sons John (junior) and Henry, born at the King's Head in 1813 and 1819. Their lives are too full to do justice to them in one article and I will continue their story in a future issue. As sons of a property-owning and major figure in the community they must have been educated privately and were in a key position both socially and

geographically to play an important part in village affairs.

#### The brothers and parish affairs

Both were active from an early age in the administration of the parish. John junior (from now on just 'John') was appointed as a vestry clerk, attending vestry meetings (the forerunner of the parish council) summoned by the churchwardens, making entries in the vestry minutes, writing notices prepared by order of the vestry, keeping written records, and other duties. He was also an assistant overseer of the poor, keeping records for the overseer responsible for poor law provision, collecting the poor law rate and other duties related to poor relief, education and health. Later, as a ratepayer, he was entitled to attend vestry meetings. He was appointed by the vestry as a guardian and overseer of the poor, and chaired committees, including that setting the poor rate (and allotting the new church pews, part of the Burchatt legacy to the church for internal remodelling).

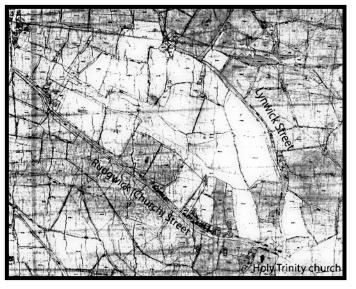
His brother Henry was equally active, by the age of 19 appointed as an assistant overseer of the poor and involved in letting out vestry-owned properties: a tenement in The Haven (now called Wayside) at 1/3d per week [about 6p], part of the almshouse at 1/4d pw, part of the workhouse at 1/6d pw (once, in

1842, to his brother John!) [the workhouse, or poorhouse, is now The Fox Inn]. Like John, also a regular attendee at vestry meetings, which he chaired from time to time. he was appointed as a churchwarden from 1849 until 1861. Like his brother he was a guardian of the poor and chaired,

and was a regular member of, numerous committees, including the appointment of a village constable, the highways committee and setting the cottages and tenements rate. From the 1830s to the 1860s both brothers were very actively involved in village administration. Even so, these were part-time roles, dependent for their appointments and involvement on their social position in this close society as well as their education and inherent abilities and also being in the 'right place at the right time'. Their old home, The King's Head, continued to be the most regular location for vestry meetings, or post-vestry meetings, throughout this period (there was, from 1845, a 'vestry room' in the church).

#### Farming – and teaching!

At some point the brothers went into a business partnership and by 1840 they were jointly farming land lying mainly between Rudgwick (now Church) Street and what is now Lynwick Street, and comprised Greathouse, Cozens. Hencocks farms and part of Parsonage farm, around 130 acres in total (see Tithe Map extract - the white areas). The nature of the land in Rudgwick suggests that the farming was principally dairy and beef cattle and sheep farming with associated grassland producing animal fodder. The land was rented, not owned, but the setting up and running costs



no doubt came with parental support. There is some evidence to suggest that John was the 'true' hands-on farmer while Henry was less active personally. Between 1839 and 1841 (and perhaps longer) Henry was a schoolmaster! Who he taught and at what school is another question. It was not unusual for a village to have a school at this time, with some support from government grants (from 1833), but mostly voluntary and for the poorer families. Richer families would either have sent their male children to a grammar school or have had them educated at home. There is no clear history of a school in Rudgwick at this time but one almost certainly did exist and by the time of the 1851 census there is no doubt that one existed - where the census describes a child at school as a 'scholar' - and there were many such 'scholars' in Rudgwick, chiefly the children of agricultural labourers (who made up the majority of the population). Henry was no longer a schoolmaster by that date.

Henry: marriage, children, Dukes
Both brothers married and moved
on, eventually in their separate ways.
Henry was the first to marry when
not yet 20. A prize catch! She was
one of the Botting girls from a 'top'
family. Henry, aged almost 20,
married Mary Botting on 11
February 1839 in the church of St
Peter, Wisborough Green. Mary,

aged 25, was born in Gibbons Mill, Rudgwick, where her father Henry was working from just before her birth; his father Henry owned Gibbons Mill. Later her father Henry

was the



Henry Botting 1793-1864

miller of Brewhurst Mill (he also farmed 250 acres) just over the Rudgwick border in Wisborough Green and Mary grew up at Brewhurst from about 1817. The Botting family were well known millers and farmers. In the 1841 census, soon after Henry and Mary's wedding, William Botting and family

were at Gibbons Mill, while
Michael Botting was a farmer with
his family at Naldrett House.
This may have been a rushed
marriage which explains why
Henry married so young: Mary
was four months pregnant at the
time of their wedding, perhaps just
in time not to be too noticeable.
This did not stop them having a
long marriage and nine children.

A daughter, **Mary**, was baptised in Rudgwick church on 10 August 1839. At this time Henry and his wife Mary were living in Cox Green, Ewhurst, just over the Surrey 'border', but the censuses indicate that daughter Mary was born in Rudgwick, not Surrey, showing that this 1839 event took place at the family home of The King's Head, even though the baptism record shows their new home as Cox Green. By August 1839 the parish register gives the young family's home as 'Mr Burchatt's cottage, Cox Green'. At that time. Richard Burchatt owned the land known as Duke's Farm, of around 84 acres (he also owned around 300 acres of land in Rudgwick), including the house known as 'Dukes'. The term 'cottage' certainly does not describe that house, so the young family were renting another Burchatt property in Cox Green. Subsequent births were all in Cox Green, while all baptisms were in Rudgwick church.

By the time of the 1841 census (taken in June) the couple had a second child, Catherine, baptised 21 February 1841. Living with them in 1841 were Mary's brother John Botting, a miller, aged 23 (possibly working at the family's Brewhurst Mill or, more locally, in John Allberry's Wanford Mill), together with her two sisters Elizabeth (aged 16) and Sarah Botting (aged 14). There were also two female servants, aged 15 and 11. This number of residents now indicates something more than 'a cottage' it was the house known as Crouchers (confirmed by the 1842 Ewhurst tithe map), a 16<sup>th</sup> century

timber framed house with 17<sup>th</sup> century additions, on the west side of the street (just before the junction with the road to Baynards), owned by John Compton. [Cox Green as far north as Crouchers did not become part of Rudgwick in Sussex until 1993, when the county boundary was finally moved].

The third child of Henry and Mary, a son **Henry**, was born in 1842. By this date his father Henry was clearly stated to be a 'farmer', not a schoolmaster, and certainly by 1843, Henry and his growing family were living in the house known as 'Dukes', with its farm, in Cox Green. I believe that Henry's father John Jenkins may have acquired the property by this date, almost next door to the King's Head. Or was Henry renting Dukes from the successors of the Burchatt estate? In 1844 this was Mary Harmes, who owned Greathouse and Hale, both Jenkins-occupied farms. The evidence for John Jenkins (senior) acquiring the property comes from the 1841 and 1842 poll books (showing electors and their voting preferences), where he is shown with house and land in Ewhurst.

The electoral registers from 1843 to 1845 show both Henry and his brother John occupying Dukes and 'Coxe's' farms in Ewhurst. John (junior), while remaining a resident of Rudgwick (at The King's Head), was still jointly farming with Henry up to 1845, including the Dukes



land, but John did not live in the Dukes house. This house and land have a long history of ownership and occupation, the house in continuous occupation for over

#### The Jenkins Family in Rudgwick (2) (contd.) - and an old photo of The Queen's Head

200 years, the land much longer (part in earlier Jenkins occupation - another Jenkins chapter).

John: marriages and Hale Farm By 1846, John (junior) was farming at Hale Farm, where he was to remain for the next 30 years. John, now 37, married Emily Allberry on 11 July 1850 in Rudgwick church. Emily was the daughter of John Allberry and Ann (Napper). John Allberry was a miller at Wanford Mill, in Bucks Green, and then later a farmer and grocer, with a grocer's shop in Bucks Green. By the 1840s his son Henry had taken over Wanford Mill. Emily was born in 1816 and baptised in Rudgwick church on 3 October. John and Emily lived at Hale Farm, a substantial landholding at the western edge of the parish. John would have rented Hale from Mary Harmes or her successors the King Estate. The couple had no children and the marriage was short-lived. Emily died in 1856 and was buried in Rudgwick churchyard on 22 December, aged 40. She is remembered in one of the stained glass windows in the church, and, much later, John was buried with her.

Newspaper notices in February 1851 were used to report that the partnership between John Jenkins junior and Henry Jenkins, farmers, of Rudgwick and Ewhurst had been dissolved. It is not known if this was an amicable dissolution, or what occasioned it.

The 1851 census shows John farming 200 acres, employing 6 men and two boys. This may have been an approximation: Hale Farm was listed as 126 acres in the tithe map schedule (1844) but in that schedule Mary Harmes owned both Hale farm and Newhouse, then called South Hale, of 116 acres, so the likely extent of the land farmed by John could have been 242 acres. By 1861 this was still a similar size, 216 acres, employing 5 men and 2 boys.

John married for a second time on 28 April 1859. His bride was 35-year old Anne Elizabeth Kibblewhite. It is possible that they met in the Black Horse Inn, West Street, Horsham, where Anne was the niece of the innkeeper (William Milward, who was her mother Elizabeth's younger brother, born in Horsham in 1805; he died in early 1851, then Louisa his widow became the named innkeeper). Anne worked there at least between 1841 and 1851 and probably longer. But there may also have been a Rudgwick connection. Anne's mother, born in Horsham, was originally married to Thomas

Kibblewhite (a coachman in London in 1829), and had remarried after the death of her husband in 1833. Her second husband's name was Edward Jelley, a farm bailiff, possibly related to the Jelley farming family of Rudgwick, who would have been well known to John Jenkins. The marriage of John and Anne took place in St Clement Danes church, Westminster and this may have been because Anne had family living in London. Again, there were no children.

Henry – farming & more children Henry's farmland during these years was more extensive than John's. In 1851 he was farming 375 acres, employing 10 men and 4 boys. This had apparently reduced somewhat by 1861 when it was said to be 320 acres, employing 6 men and 4 boys. It is not known if Henry owned any of the land that he farmed (or that was farmed for him). Meanwhile his family continued to grow. Jane was born in 1843, **Ellen** in 1845, **Ann** in 1847, **Hugh** in 1849, **Walter John** in 1852, **Emily** in 1855. All these children were born in Dukes and baptised in Rudgwick church - all have their own stories which I shall return to in future Newsletters.

Meanwhile, we will leave the brothers at around 1861 and come back to them next time.

A fine photo of the The Queen's Head c.1914-20, with steam delivery lorry in the forecourt of the pub (a Foden steam brewer's dray for the Rock Brewery) and great detail - the ads in front of the old stables can be read when the photo is enlarged (from a postcard, courtesy of Malcolm Francis)





Last year, the Heritage Forum for Horsham District set up a website attached to Cowfold Village History website, and subsequently the person behind the initiative, Michael Burt, came forward with the idea for a book to be published in Horsham's Year of Culture 2019 to celebrate and inform readers about 100 objects found across the district. Funding was forthcoming, so the book is now well on the way to publication this year, with an exhibition in Horsham Museum to go with it in August.

Each member society was initially asked to come up with ten "objects". For bigger settlements like Horsham, Henfield, Steyning and Storrington there are museums, collections and a wealth of history to call on. It was asking a lot of Rudgwick! The initial brief widened out to more than just museum objects, to include buildings, structures, even views. We were not sure where this was all leading. So, being a diligent lot, we (the committee) made a long list and tried to turn it into a short list; not easy.

This was our list, in a rough sort of order:

- The marble font, Holy Trinity church
- Horshamosaurus rudgwickensis, discovered in Rudgwick Brickworks, Lynwick Street
- 3. The book, The Development of Timber-Framed Buildings in the Sussex Weald, The Architectural Heritage of Rudgwick, Diana Chatwin, pub. RPS, 1996
- 4. Holy Trinity church, Rudgwick, exterior 13C. tower

- 5. Double bridge, Downs Link
- Memorial window and grave, Lt Edward Teshmaker Busk, 1914, Holy Trinity church
- 7. Panoramic view of the Weald, from Sussex Border Path, above Woodsomes Farm
- 8. Rudgwick Conservation Area (part), assembly of houses, former shop and pub
- Baynards Tunnel, southern portal, Downs Link
- Warhams Farmhouse, internal timber, specifically the 13C. decorated capitals

But, oh, the difficulties! Is our Sussex marble font 12<sup>th</sup> century? Recent evidence suggests not, perhaps 13<sup>th</sup> century, so not older than the church after all.

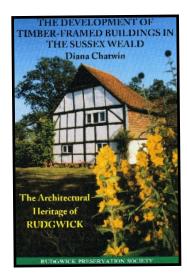


Our dinosaur, however, has become just that; William Blows, who named it, decided recently it was not a 'polocanthus' after all, but a genuine dino!

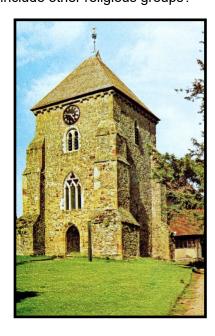


In doing so he mildly insulted us by adding Horsham to its name (anyone can give any name apparently to a fossil or even a living species). At least 'Hr' still resides in Horsham Museum.

Can a book be an object? We thought so and maintain there is no better equivalent in the district; non-fiction is as much culture as is fiction.



Our church tower with its 'crazy paving' geology is possibly unique, but 13<sup>th</sup> century churches are two a penny in Horsham District, and some have good brasses, stained glass, or other medieval objects therein, and there are Saxon churches such as Downland Botolphs. How to choose, and to include other religious groups?



We are on stronger ground with the Downs Link double bridge, as few other significant railway objects survive in the district, and the same goes for the tunnel (where we also score over Cranleigh which filled it in). Don't tell Slinfold, that bridge is the parish boundary!





The book will include military history, so we are also on stronger (and timely) ground with the memorials to Ted Busk, but he himself lies buried in Aldershot.



We should not rely too heavily on our lovely church either. Can a view be an object? Surely not, so this one (or any other) from the Sussex Border Path is a wild card thrown in to upstage those in the South Downs who think they have all the iconic views. The book will have a section on the topography and geology of the district. I would argue that even if not an object, panoramas across beautiful West Sussex are inherent in its cultural geography. I once read a book about the so-called Literary Trail from Horsham to Chichester (which I have walked in its entirety) and found not a single map or viewpoint in it! Sacré bleu! As the South Saxons would not have said

Finally, what of our iconic ancient houses? They are not just pages in Diana Chatwin's book; the full ninety still have a great deal of life left in them, as some of you know who live in them, and are custodians for future generations. However, they are private property. We included at No 10 the oldest house, but wouldn't you know another parish came up with a rival for that claim (Capons in Cowfold)! Those capitals however are unique, we believe. RPS helped to pay for the dendrochronology which gave the dates AD1215 to 1240. Can we, however, compete with, for example, St Mary's, Bramber, a timber house open to the public?



Every village has its iconic centre of gravity, which brings us back to Rudgwick church again, but this time the cluster of former shop, The King's Head, and perhaps Woes opposite, the oldest house in the street. But this is multi-object. Does it count? Is context important (thinking of its asymmetric location

in the parish)? Probably not, but how could we leave out our conservation area and its streetscape?



Church Hill from an old drawing

So, what did we leave out? Are you thinking of something, or somewhere?

What about the motte and bailey above the tunnel - sorry, it's in Surrey, but it will get a mention in the book. We cannot outdo Bramber Castle as an icon of the early medieval period. What of our two watermills, both private houses now? Gibbons Mill scores well for accessibility on a public footpath. How does it compare with Belloc's smock windmill in Shipley - no longer open to the public? I have at home, on behalf of RPS, the last Cricketers Inn sign from Tismans Common, but I'd be embarrassed to put it on display as an airgun was once accurately fired at the part of a cricketer known for its box protection.

We have precious few museum objects in our village. All is not lost, as Horsham Museum have some. As a result of its *Picturing the District* exhibition of watercolours January to March 2019, our archive now has three digital images of Tismans House from various dates showing its development over time. Whilst not perhaps one of the district's 100, they are useful for showing how some farmhouses in Rudgwick changed over time, as owners became more prosperous, and



### Horsham in 100 objects (contd.) Hints of Spring in Rudgwick (22 Feb.)

they add to our stock of copies of other Rudgwick paintings. Perhaps another article beckons!

It has been easy to fall into an inferiority complex. The district has a wonderful museum in Horsham, and less well known but significant collections in Steyning, in Storrington, in Henfield, at Parham House, at Christ's Hospital, and elsewhere (simultaneously with the watercolours, Horsham Museum has a Brangwyn in Horsham exhibition in February and March the series of chapel paintings at Christ's Hospital). Naturally, the book will draw heavily on all these, ranging from the prehistoric to the near contemporary. Culture is alive and well in Horsham. We even have a Year of Culture poster on the crossroads at the end of my road!

We can be proud of the small contribution we can make. If you did not get to the paintings, why not try one of the many events in Horsham listed at:

https://www.horshammuseum.org/whats-on

The 100 objects exhibition will be in August. Follow the Year of Culture events at:

https://www.hdculture2019.co.uk/.

There is another project emanating from the Year of Culture. Heritage lottery funding has been obtained for a set of Heritage Trails to be devised for many communities in the district. I shall have been trained in the skills required by the time you read this. I understand all the trails, with a map, and information on local heritage, will be produced as downloadable pdfs as well as on paper. We will be able to visit others and others will visit us. This is good for local tourism, for our shop, café and pubs.Initial ideas for Rudgwick are a circular trail around Church Street, Bucks Green and Lynwick Street. There are plenty of stories to tell and places of refreshment. A shorter version can be used if the Downs Link route is taken.









Two views from a high quality photograph taken in 1949. The first shows the local baker Mr Birchmore parked outside The King's Head. I have a vague childhood memory that it was an old Morris van and painted dark green. One can see the loaves stacked on its shelving. The lady striding by has not yet been identified. One can see the front large plate glass windows of Humphrey's shop and also the local Post Office adjoining. The car outside the pub was a brand new Standard 14 (my late father had the same model, atrocious brakes!) The old



van in the second photo may not have been parked by a customer in the pub as the writing on its side says Cox and Barnard Ltd, who were suppliers of stained glass windows, so there was possibly work taking place in the church. There is quite a lot of information about Cox and Barnard on the internet. The company was based in Hove and in business for many years supplying stained glass windows internationally; the company ceased trading in 2014.

An amusing anecdote regarding the local baker that my father once recalled was when one of the baker's customers complained that the loaves sold were often riddled with holes..."one was large enough it weighed half a pound "...



Wintery view from Woodsomes Farm, looking south

#### **Walks Programme Summer 2019**

**Geoff Ayres** 

All walks are on Tuesday evenings, and are open to all. Most start at **7-00pm**, but the **last two at 6-30pm**.

For a third year, we will be running a programme of 16 walks. This extends the programme into August. Due to daylight considerations, the last two will start earlier at 6-30pm. The late Stan Smith started these walks and the Preservation Society have continued them. The walks are on our website (see rudgwick-rps.org.uk), and in the Parish Magazine.

The average walk is 4 miles in 2 hours. These walks are fun, and often end in the pub. Thanks go to our remaining excellent local pubs, please support them with your custom or we could lose them.

Sunsets: May 7<sup>th</sup> 20.28; June 18<sup>th</sup> 21.19; August 6<sup>th</sup> 20.40 #August 13<sup>th</sup> 20.27; #August 20<sup>th</sup> 20.13

Bank Holidays Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May

Tuesday	Leader(s)	Starting from C	Grid reference TQ:
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	David Buckley	The Fox (Bucks Green)	078330
May 14th	Doug Betts	The Mucky Duck (Tismans Comm	on) 067323
May 21st	Clive and Nicky Bush	The Red Lyon (Slinfold)	118315
May 28th	Roger Nash	The Fox (Bucks Green)	078330
June 4th	Cliff Walton	The Scarlett Arms (Walliswood)	118382
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	John Connold	The Sussex Oak (Warnham)	158337
June 18th	Alan Miles	The Inn on the Green (Ockley)	147402
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Geoff and Jean Ayres	The Chequers (Rowhook)	122342
July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Doug Betts	The Blue Ship (The Haven)	084305
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Roger Nash	The Onslow Arms (Loxwood)	042312
July 16th	Geoff and Jean Ayres	The Limeburners (Newbridge)	073255
July 23rd	Roger Nash	The Bat & Ball (Newpound)	060269
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	John Connold	Whitehall lay-by (Cranleigh)	078380
August 6th	Geoff and Jean Ayres	Pephurst lay-by (Loxwood Road)	056318
<b>6-30</b> August 13 <sup>th</sup>	Malcolm Francis	The King's Head	090343
<b>6-30</b> August 20 <sup>th</sup>	Roger Nash	The King's Head (different walk)	090343

Please park considerately. At the Blue Ship & the Mucky Duck, park in the lane beyond the pub. At the King's Head use the far end of the car park. The Whitehall lay-by is at the bottom of the dip before Cranleigh, on the east side of the B2128. At the Onslow Arms, park in the canal car park behind the pub. At the Limeburners please park only on the pub side of the road. At the Chequers use the car park up the lane, not at the front.

#### **Rudgwick Preservation Society**

Chairman & Membership Secretary: Roger Nash Tel: 01403 822 581

New members: please enquire via website

www.rudgwick-rps.org.uk