



# ROWLEDGE Review

90p

August 2021



**Annual  
Rudes  
Performance**  
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**Rowledge  
150  
Coffee**  
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Rowledge • Boundstone  
Holt Pound • Bucks Horn Oak



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## From the Vicarage

Apparently 30.95 million people watched the European Cup Final between England and Italy. If you don't want to know the result, look away now! Even though England didn't win the game, there was some amazing football played and we should be extremely proud of our national team. The vile racism that followed from a very small minority is simply not representative of the England that I know and love.

For me, there were two memories that I will take away from the match. The first was just two minutes into the game, but it wasn't on the pitch. When Luke Shaw scored the first goal of the match, before some of us had even settled down in our seats, the cameras raced around Wembley stadium and caught the response to the goal from the Royal box. HRH The Duke of Cambridge ecstatically threw his arms around his son Prince George and lifted him into the air. In that beautiful moment, they were no more than a father hugging his son in a moment of utter joy.

The second image that I will take away from the match is one from the moments after Italy's victory. As the final whistle sounded, Gareth Southgate, who himself knows the pain of missing a crucial penalty, strode onto the pitch and immediately embraced Bukayo Saka. The team coach hugging one of his most brilliant players in a moment of real pain and disbelief.

We all know the value of an embrace. Medical studies have even shown that prolonged hugging can lower stress levels, blood pressure, and reduce the heart rate. There are hugs of celebration, hugs of commiseration, romantic hugs, and what my daughter calls 'everyday hugs.' For those of us who are more tactile people, perhaps the lack of freedom to hug over these last 18 months has contributed to our suffering.

The Bible often speaks of God's embrace. In the Old Testament we read:

*"The everlasting God is your place of safety. His arms will hold you up forever..."*  
(Deuteronomy 33: 27). God promises to never let us go.

The second verse is in the New Testament and it is part of the story that Jesus tells about a young son who has gone through a really painful experience (a bit like Saka and the England team). And this verse says: *"While the son was still far away, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, threw his arms around him, and kissed him affectionately"* (Luke 15: 20).

God's loving arms will lift us jubilantly in the moments of celebration and hold us close, to offer us divine comfort, in and through our losses. I have found that he really can be depended upon to never let us go. I pray that might be so for you too.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Russ'.

Rev. Russ Gant, Vicar





St. James' Church  
Rowledge

# Open!

By the time this issue of the Rowledge Review is published we hope that the Parish Church will be fully reopen.

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

## PARISH REGISTER

### Weddings

Daisy May Spiers and Frank Steven Fielding – 31<sup>st</sup> July

### Funerals

Vera Amy Dougherty



## 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.

## Morning Prayers



St. James' Church  
Rowledge

**Every Wednesday via Zoom  
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# ST JAMES' CHURCH

During the pandemic, regrettably we are unable to meet as a **whole** congregation in church weekly, physically, for worship, however we are continuing with our live-streamed services each Sunday (or recorded - as restrictions dictate).

Do join us live on our Facebook page:

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

We continue to keep the restrictions under review and will update the village as things in church change.

## Two Services a Week

We are currently running two services each week - albeit both still recorded for the time being.

This will mean there is a traditional service of Holy Communion with choral music, as well as a more contemporary service each week.

**We hope to return to physical services from July 25<sup>th</sup>...check our website for latest info.**

A mix of formal and contemporary services - if you don't see it live, all our videos can be found on our YouTube Channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBO3bsCEfpu4Hd\\_IFbKX3CQ/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBO3bsCEfpu4Hd_IFbKX3CQ/videos)



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





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## *Celebrating* **25 YEARS**

Please join Little Fishes for our  
25th Anniversary celebration

**Saturday 25th September 2021**

2.00-4.30pm

Church Lane, Rowledge, GU10 4EN

Everyone is welcome



**Little Fishes**  
Nursery School

2.00 - 2.20pm St. James' Church - a  
short thanks giving led  
by Revd Russ

2.20 - 4.30pm Little Fishes - Raffle,  
stalls and refreshments

## Life Groups –Tuesday & Thursday

Russ & Jenny Gant run a group on Thursday with about 8 people. They meet weekly via Zoom.

The Tuesday Life Group are looking at the Pastoral Letters and several are also following The Grace Course. They meet at 7.45pm on alternate Tuesdays via Zoom and are currently discussing 2 Timothy. In between, they meet socially at the same time on Zoom.

They hope to resume monthly walks once rules permit.

## Men's Group – First Thursday of the month

Starting with a Bible passage, discussion then moves on to ... well, anywhere and everywhere! During lockdown, the Men's Group meets by Zoom - first Thursday of every month. The group is currently discussing Christian Thinkers.

All welcome. **To join in, contact Rob: [robriscs@aol.com](mailto:robriscs@aol.com)**

# Church is OPEN!

Open: Monday - Thursday 10am-4pm.  
Saturday - Sunday 8am-8pm.  
Closed on Fridays.

St James' Church is now OPEN for **individual private prayers**. Individual private prayer is defined as a person or household entering the church to pray on their own, not as part of a group, and not participating in any form of led prayers or communal act. Those praying should 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.

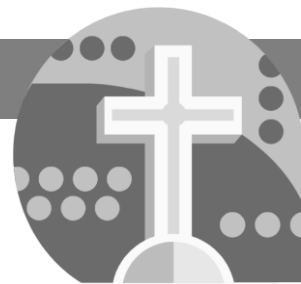


## METHODIST CHURCH

**The Methodist Church is now open** for worship on Sundays at 10am. Due to continued restriction on numbers please ring Aileen or David on 01252 795438 if you would like to join us for worship.

Our prayer chain, led by Mike & Joyce, can be accessed on: 01252 793363

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





## Farnham Foodbank

### 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.

**WEBSITE - <https://farnham.foodbank.org.uk>**

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

You can also contact St. James' Church Office to collect Foodbank vouchers.

The Church Office,

Church Lane,

Rowledge,

GU10 4EN.

PHONE - 01252 792402

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

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

If you have any queries, do contact:

**Anne Blackman (01252 793344)**

**THANK YOU!**

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

#### Foodbank urgently need:

UHT milk

Pkt custard powder

Tinned milk pudding

Long life sponge puddings

(suitable for microwave)

#### At the moment they have plenty of:

Cereals, biscuits,

pasta, tinned vegetables,

butter beans, chick peas,

kidney beans, lentils

## 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.



## August Sunday Services

SEE WEBSITE for whether services are recorded, or in the church.

**1<sup>st</sup> August – 9<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

1 Peter 4: 1-12 *Living for God*

**8<sup>th</sup> August – 10<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

Col. 1: 1-11 *The Church (Re)Defined – A People of Prayer*

**15<sup>th</sup> August – 11<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

Col. 1: 15-23 *The Church (Re)Defined – A Body not a Building*

**22<sup>nd</sup> August – 12<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

Col. 1: 24-29 *The Church (Re)Defined – Good News Proclaimers*

**29<sup>th</sup> August – 13<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

Col. 2: 1-23 *The Church (Re)Defined – Forgiven & Free*

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

**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.***

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

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 very welcome.

**Contact Mary on  
07999 368128 for  
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## The Rude Mechanical Theatre

At the end of June The Rude Mechanical Theatre made their 7<sup>th</sup> visit to Rowledge as part of their 55 night tour of south east England. As dictated by the rules on separation distances the audience was limited to just 120, a third below the capacity of previous years

Not surprisingly all the tickets sold in a few days with most of the tickets being bought by regular Rudes' supporters but a few first timers also squeezed in and will certainly become regulars in future.

The show was written by the Rudes' director as usual and was built around the childhood years of Charlie Chaplin and his relationship with his parents.

Accommodation for the troop of 7 was provided by villagers and after the show the Rudes joined their hosts in the Hare & Hounds. After breakfast the Rudes went for a swim in Frensham ponds before moving on to their next show the following night.

We hope the Rudes will include Rowledge in their 2022 tour, a date should be agreed before Xmas....don't miss it.



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W: [louisegilbertsonpilates.com](http://louisegilbertsonpilates.com)



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## **BED AND BREAKFAST**

### **IN AID OF CHIKS CHARITY**



(for orphaned children in Southern India, run by a village resident)

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**Absalom Harris – Master Potter**

Everyone knows the Wrecclesham Pottery, rather oddly called the Farnham Pottery these days. Off Quennel's Hill, it is one of the best-preserved Victorian country potteries. It is a grade II listed building and, today, it provides space for artists and craftsmen as well as a coffee shop. It was established by Absalom Harris in 1873 and for 125 years the Harris family operated it. In 1998 it was acquired by the Farnham Building Preservation Trust with the intention of preserving its use as a pottery and, following their considerable efforts in refurbishing what was a fairly derelict building, it was subsequently sold to its present owners, Guy and Elaine Hains, who have created a community-based craft education

**Absalom with one of his owl pots**

'experience' inspired by Wrecclesham's historic ties with pottery.

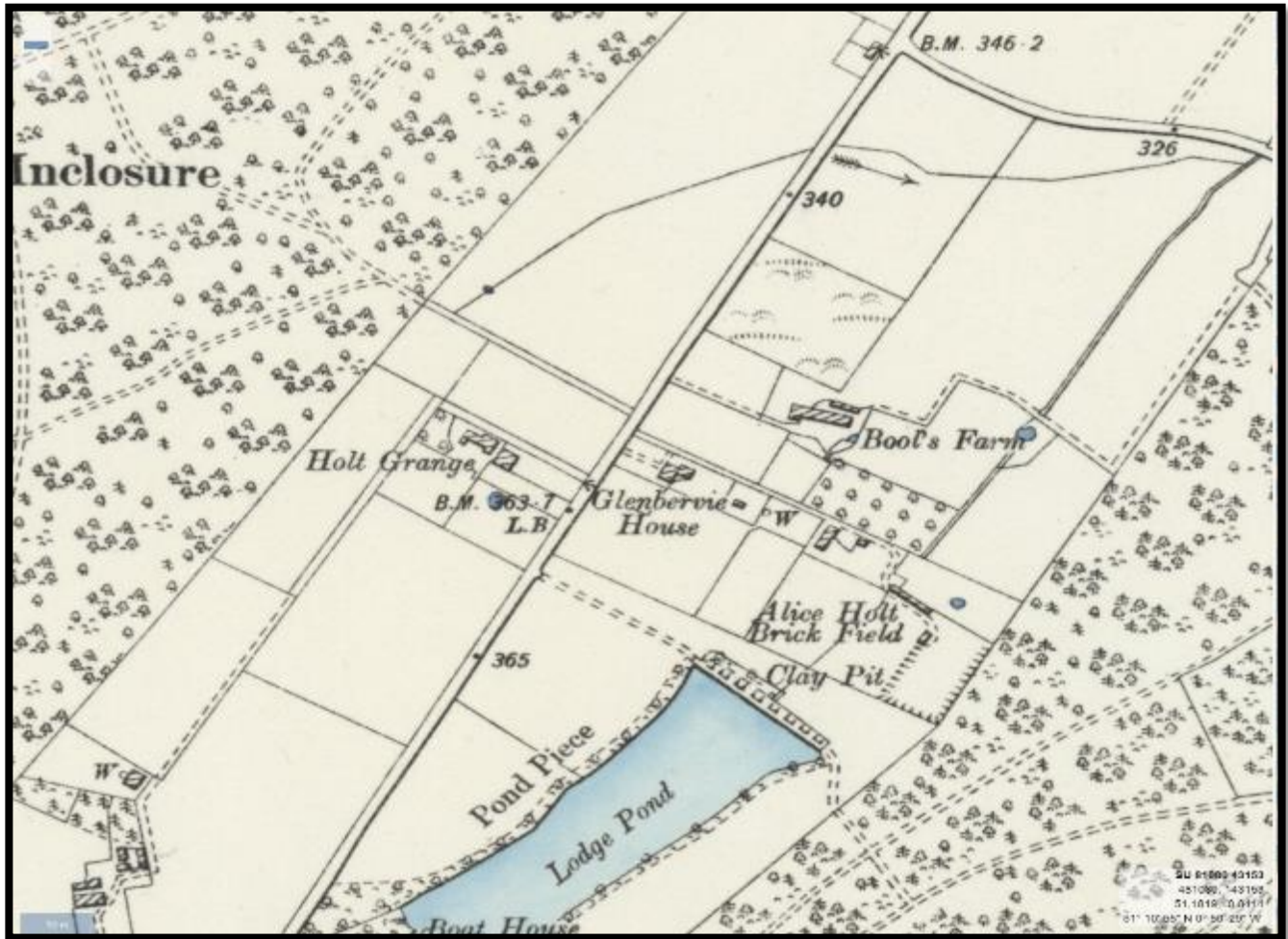
Not so well known, is that when Absalom Harris moved to the area, he first set up a pottery at Holt Pound. Although Wrecclesham rightly claims Harris as one of its own, Rowledge has, therefore, a minor claim on his reputation.

Absalom Harris was born in Droxford in 1837. He was orphaned at a young age and was taken in by his uncle, James Cobbett, who was a master potter and a member of the family which gave us Farnham's most famous son, William Cobbett. Absalom was apprenticed and he soon took over a derelict pottery at the age of 21 at Charleshill Cottages at Charleshill in Elstead, near where The Donkey public house now stands. At that time, there were many small potteries supplying local needs in villages around the Surrey/Hampshire border. Absalom soon made a success of his establishment, producing chimney pots, flower pots and tiles which he supplied to local builders. He used local gault clay. The pottery was run in combination with a small holding which provided additional income.

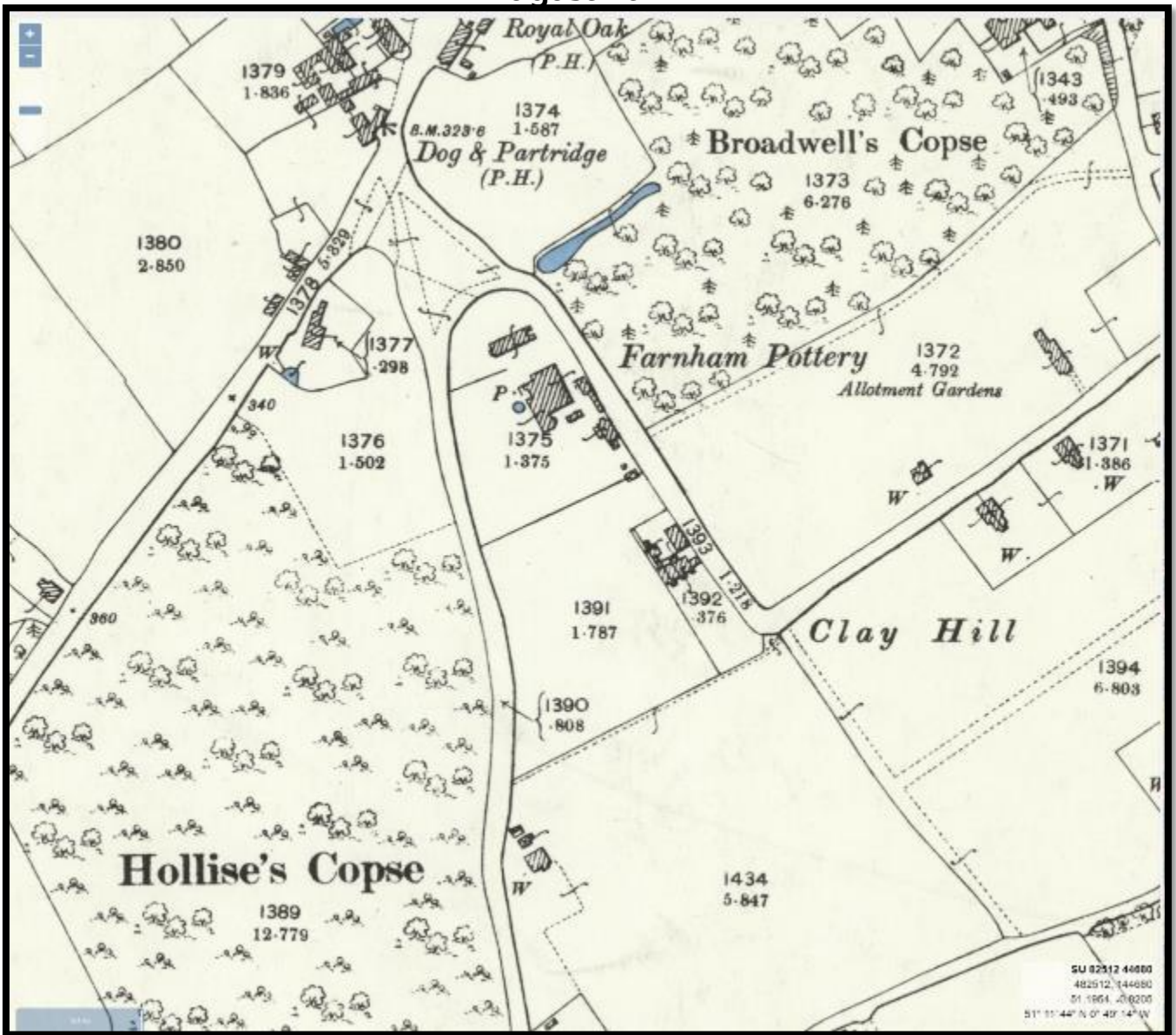
Absalom married his wife, Maria Elizabeth, in St. Andrews Church in 1862 and they soon started a family. Absalom was an energetic man and in no time became the Elstead village overseer (in effect the parish rate collector) and was elected a churchwarden. Absalom's success at Charleshill was noticed by his landlord who raised the rent for the property. This decided Absalom that it was time to move on in search of better facilities, both a source of suitable clay and a more substantial property for his growing family.

He chose Holt Pound, bought a plot of land near Lodge Pond in 1866, and built a house there which he called Glenbervie, presumably naming it after the Glenbervie inclosure which it adjoined.





The first map shows Glenbervie and the surrounding area as it was in 1871. The census of 1871 showed the young 35-year-old master potter living there with his wife, three sons and a servant. He employed two men, one of whom, William Collins, lived nearby. The new site seemed ideal for a pottery, situated on gault clay and close to the forest, which would provide fuel for the kiln. While at Glenbervie, Absalom and Elizabeth (the Christian name she used in the parish register) had two more children. Ernest, born in 1869, was baptised at St Peter's in Wrecclesham but, when his next child, Annie, was born in 1872, Absalom got her baptised on the 28<sup>th</sup> April at the newly built St. James' in Rowledge. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the new church and became one of its first church wardens. The vicar, the Revd. Parker, was fortunate in having for his first two churchwardens both the energetic Absalom and Giles Munby, the eminent botanist, who lived at the mansion, Holt Grange, directly opposite Absalom Harris's Glenbervie. One imagines that the two neighbours must have become friends. Unfortunately, Absalom's pottery at Holt Pound failed to live up to his expectations. He found that the clay in this part of the Holt contained particles of lime which caused blistering on firing, making the finished pots almost unsaleable. He decided that a new site had to be found. Absalom examined several possible sites in the Farnham area from which he took samples of clay to test. Eventually he found a satisfactory sample in Wrecclesham and he was able to buy a plot of land on which to build a new pottery on the flattish summit of Clay Hill situated between Quennell's Hill and Pottery Lane. It was also close to Broadwell's Copse and Hollise's Copse, woodland areas,



which provided firing for the kiln. The situation of his new pottery is shown on the second map dating from towards the end of the nineteenth century.

Thereafter Absalom Harris threw himself into local Wrecclesham life, becoming a churchwarden at St. Peter's and a school governor. But he was to have one more connection with St. James in Rowledge. His wife, Maria Elizabeth, died at the age of 60 in 1894. In 1901, at the age of 64, Absalom married again to Caroline Dye, a spinster aged 37. Caroline was daughter of William Dye, a farmer from Sundridge in Kent. Their marriage took place in St. James Church, Rowledge, on the 17<sup>th</sup> January, with his old friend, the Revd. Parker doing the honours, not in St Peter's, Wrecclesham. The parish register records Caroline as being a resident of Rowledge, which is presumably why Harris reverted to the church at which he had been church warden some thirty years before. It still seems a little odd that someone who had been so long prominent at St. Peter's should remarry in St. James. Perhaps he had fallen out with the Wrecclesham minister.

In 1925, Caroline passed away at the relatively young age of 62. Three years later, Absalom died at the advanced age of 91. Both were buried in the Wrecclesham Cemetery.



## Alice Holt WI Report - June 2021

### 1.605<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Alice Holt W.I. - 15<sup>nd</sup> June (via zoom)

Present Jill (Acting President) and 28 members.

Jill welcomed members to the meeting. She thanked all those who were able to attend the Gatherings held in her Garden and especially those who helped. She is thinking of holding similar Open Meetings in her garden on the Thursday mornings in August; to be confirmed.

W.I Business: Christine said that in future members would need to subscribe to SFWI News magazine or search for it on the Surrey WI or My WI website. June "Denman at Home" online courses also available on the websites.

Jill welcomed and introduced the Speaker, David Allen, who gave a very entertaining and informative Talk entitled The Amazing Mr. Dickens. He told us about his upbringing, how as a family they moved from place to place, his father ending up in a debtor's prison.



Charles started work at the age of 12 doing various menial jobs before starting his writing career and we heard about his success as a writer and the popularity of his books and especially A Christmas Carol. Alison Alexander gave the vote of thanks.

Jill then gave a report on the NFWI Annual Meeting. It had been a difficult year and it was especially sad to see the closing of Denman, though Denman at Home courses would continue on line. There were some very interesting Speakers and Jill especially enjoyed listening to the Countess of Wessex.

A pole was then completed on line in which members voted 100% in favour of the 2021 Resolution – A Call to increase Awareness of the Subtle Signs of Ovarian Cancer. The Treasurer gave the Financial Report.

Members then divided into Rooms, each with a Committee Member to discuss a change in start times of the monthly Meetings and the pros and cons of changing to afternoons for meetings held during the Winter months. Ideas for replacing the Denman bursary were invited.

Any Other Business: Members were reminded of the Summer Lunch in August. The July meeting would be on Zoom but it was hoped that we could meet in person in the Hall in September.

The Meeting closed at 9.30.



## Missing from our Memorial. by Neil Pittaway

### By way of an introduction.

Over the last three and a half years I have brought you the brief history of fifty three of the names that are actually listed on our War Memorial. There are in fact fifty four but one shown on an auxiliary panel, R.H. Parratt added in 1991, appears to be a duplicate name attributed to an incorrect regiment, The Royal West Surrey (Queens) Regiment.



No soldier by the name of R.H. Parratt, serving with the 'Queens' fell in WW1



Richard Harold Parratt, shown on the original panels served with the Bedfordshire Regiment as did his brother, Albert James Parratt who is also shown on the original panels and is buried at St. James. They had consecutive regimental numbers.

During my research, I have come across thirteen names who might have as much right to a place on our Memorial as some of the listed fifty three, but sadly none are shown. Even now there are almost certainly more names that I have not yet found.

It is known that following Armistice Day of WW1, thoughts and discussions turned to the form of Memorial that was fitting to those who had fallen. Clearly this was not an easy task and in a note to the Parish Magazine of October 1919, the Revd. Harold Godefroy, who was relatively new to the parish wrote:

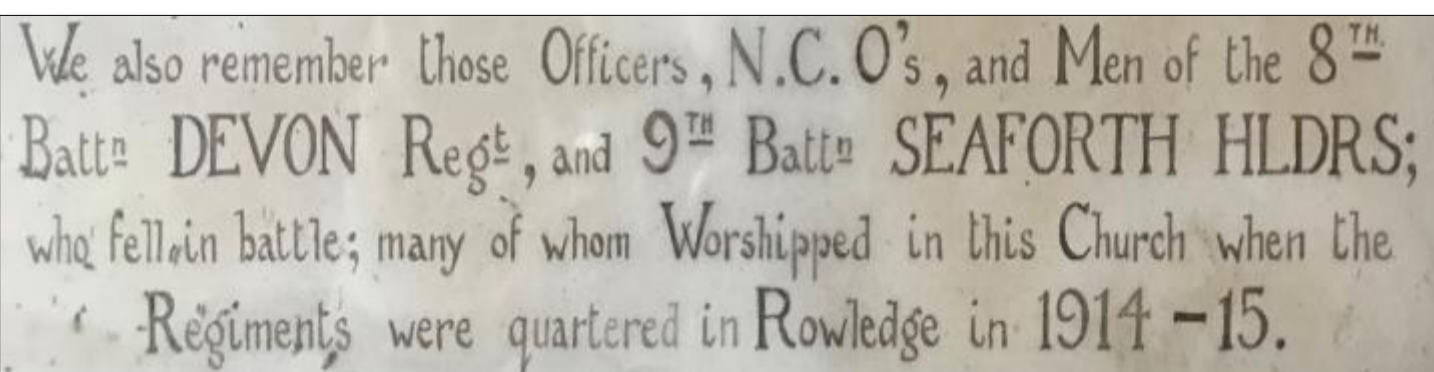


I feel altogether too sad to write much about the War Memorial Cross. There has been an incredible amount of friction, and, in consequence, a disappointing subscription list. Almost every other person one meets has a much better scheme than the one adopted at the Public Meeting. But then everybody's pet idea cannot possibly be carried out. Cannot we manage to sink our differences, and all unite to do our very best to put up a Memorial that will be really worthy of the brave men who died for us?

Possibly it was not only the form of Memorial and it's siting that caused friction, but also which names should be listed. It was of course a time when people across the country were not only recovering from the losses of war but also the fears of the terrible 1918-1919 Spanish Flu epidemic. Can we, one hundred years on, truly imagine a time when the horrors of WW1 merged with an epidemic which although hard to believe, was far more devastating than our current Covid-19.

As I have shown over the past three years, most of the Memorial's names have good, short to long connections to Rowledge but for several, any link has been at best, tenuous.

At the time of the setting up of the Memorial, the village was mourning, not just for those of its own families and village friends who had fallen, but for many of the 8<sup>th</sup> Devonshire Regiment and the 9<sup>th</sup> Seaforth Highlanders who had been billeted in homes, both here and in Wrecclesham. These men had for a time become friends and an integral part of the two villages. Over 300 of our billeted men died and many hundreds more were wounded on their first day of action, September 25<sup>th</sup> 1915 at Loos. Just one in seven were left standing at the end of the first day. Hundreds more fell in later campaigns. So many brave men never to return to their own homes. Many of these men are remembered on the Loos and other Memorials and as shown here, remembered on the St. James' porch Memorial but not by any name, nor in any form on our Memorial. Our homes, hospitality, churches and pubs were the last in 'Blighty' that these men knew.



We also remember those Officers, N.C.O's, and Men of the 8<sup>TH</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> DEVON Regt, and 9<sup>TH</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> SEAFORTH HLDERS; who fell in battle; many of whom Worshipped in this Church when the Regiments were quartered in Rowledge in 1914 -15.

One might wonder if the omission of any recognition of these men on our Memorial at that time was one of the points of friction, especially when a few of the names submitted for inclusion were far less known to the village than many of those Devonshire and Seaforth men.

Thankfully, the Revd. Harold Godefroy's hopes were fulfilled and despite the 'incredible amount of friction', a Memorial Cross and its names were finalised.

In the mid-1920s, as can be seen from the next two photographs, the octagonal Memorial Cross was placed in a prominent and highly visible position where the boundaries of Frensham, Farnham and Binsted meet. At that time, it showed 42 names on seven panels. Six more names were added to the eighth panel after WW2 and then a further six from WW1 and WW2 were added to the auxiliary panels in

**August 2021**

1991, mostly missing names noted on graves at St. James.

Also added at that time was a header panel 'IN PROUD AND GRATEFUL MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED IN THE WARS OF 1914-1918, 1939-1945'.



The site chosen in 1920 for the Memorial was where the wonderful oil lamp sits in this early 'pre-Memorial' picture of the Cherry Tree Inn taken around 1910. Mark Westcott believes this is the lamp now sited at St. James.



Taken from a similar angle, this 1920s or 1930s photograph shows how the Memorial with its cross stood proudly on the parish boundaries, visible in the open and with minimal traffic at that time.


To make room for the Memorial the signpost was moved close to Cherry Tree Cottage and the street lamp across to The Cherry Tree Inn where the modern version stands today. The house, distant behind the sign post, is the original Dovedale then occupied by Sunday School teacher, Rose Lane. It was demolished on her death in the 1980s and the current Dovedale built.



The Memorial was dedicated on October 17<sup>th</sup> 1920 and its initial forty-two names are listed on the original dedication service sheet as shown here.

One photograph of the dedication service, conducted by the Revd. Harold Godefroy, seems to show boards to stand on so it was likely that the work was not quite complete.



<div style="text-align: center;">   <b>Dedication</b>  <small>OF</small>  <b>ROWLEDGE WAR MEMORIAL</b>  OCTOBER 17th, 1920. </div>		
The following Names are inscribed on the Cross:		
Pte. A. Aldred	D. of Cornwall's L.I.	Pte. G. W. Hemwood, A. & S. High's
Pte. G. W. Birmingham	15th Lancers	Pte. H. W. Hemwood, D. Guards
Sgt. W. W. Birmingham	N.M.B. W.S.R.	Pte. J. Kennedy, Gordon Highlanders
Pte. A. Bone	R.O.S.R.	Pte. C. Lintick, Queen's R.
Pte. G. Bone	Hunts R.	Pte. R. Marshall, R.F.A.
Pte. L. S. Bryant	R.W. Surrey R.	Pte. P. G. J. Mitchell, M. G. Corps.
Pte. H. C. Carter	R.W. Kent R.	Pte. A. J. Moss, Hunts R.
Pte. W. J. Chandler	Sherwood Fore.	Pte. A. J. Parrott, Bedfordshire R.
Pte. S. A. Crunham	Labour Co.	Pte. R. H. Parrott, Bedfordshire R.
Pte. J. Collier, M.M.	Cheshire R.	Pte. J. T. Patten, R.W. Surrey R.
Pte. W. Collier	Rifle Brigade	Gr. H. Pink, R.G.A.
Pte. W. J. Colyer	A.L.F.	Cpl. R. G. Parker, 3rd Canadian Batt.
L.-Cpl. C. Deadman	R.W. Surrey R.	C.P. Officer F. G. Rampton, R.N.
Rfn. W. T. Earl	S. Lancs R.	Sgt. Mjr. J. Ridgley, R.F.A.
Pte. F. Elkins	R.W. Surrey R.	Pte. L. Sandell, A.S.C.
Pte. T. Fisher	London Scottish	L.-Sgt. V. W. Sparring, Rifle Brigade
Pte. G. Gilbank	R. Fusiliers	Gr. F. Swan, R.G.A.
Sgt. F. Gillman	R. Scots Fusiliers	Pte. G. Thompson, R. Surrey R.
Pte. A. J. Green	R.W. Surrey R.	Pte. H. Truist, R.W. Surrey R.
Pte. T. Hall	County of London R.	Pte. H. J. Turner, R.W. Kent R.
Pte. F. L. Hampton	R.W. Surrey R.	Cpl. A. E. Wheatley, Rifle Brigade

The next photograph, likely taken from Cherry Tree Cottage, as it is now known, shows those attending the dedication and how they could easily surround the Memorial cross. Sadly, this is no longer possible.

Cherry Tree Cottage may have been called 'Newlyn' at that time and was known as 'Elsie Villa' when it was built around 1907 by Jesse Ralph, Elsie being his daughter.



I think it safe to assume that all in this picture of the dedication would either be grieving for one of the fallen, or know someone who was. Was the name of their fallen soldier actually on the new Memorial? Maybe not.

August 2021

It is interesting to note that by the Autumn of 1920, the Spanish Flu epidemic had subsided and people were relaxed about coming together. However, with nearly twice the number of U.K. deaths from that influenza epidemic than those currently recorded for Covid 19, one could assume that some in this gathering also mourned, directly or indirectly, for losses related to the epidemic.

The Memorial siting was achieved despite a caveat from Alton Rural District Council who had at the time, according to Mr Thomas Francis Augustine Stroud (seen here), the then headmaster of Rowledge School, *'reluctantly agreed to the siting on the basis that if the need arose, the Memorial would have to be removed and the site made good'*.



The Memorial stood in that prominent position for more than three quarters of a century until 1997 when, for a second time, a vehicle struck and damaged it.

The damaged Memorial was taken away and stored. The site was partially 'made good' but as it straddled the

border of three parishes, it took some time to resolve the issue. Thankfully Binsted Parish Council took the initiative to involve all the relevant authorities but a proposal to restore the Memorial in its' original position was sadly not agreed. Possibly this was not too surprising in 1998 considering the vastly increased vehicle size and volume of traffic since the Memorial's siting in 1920.

Hampshire County Council constructed a poor curbed verge extension adjacent to The Cherry Tree and the Memorial was placed in its current position in 1998, simply by placing it within the new kerb and crudely laying the surrounding turf on top of the existing highway tarmac. This quickly led to the consequential poor results we see today.

We have proposed to replace the struggling grass with York stone and a recent survey has shown widespread village support for this. Work continues to progress this. At the same time, it might





## Rowledge Review

be felt prudent to replace the very poor name auxiliary panels and in so doing possibly add some, or all of names that have come to light which may merit inclusion on our Memorial.

Over the next few issues of the Rowledge Review, I will bring you the twelve unlisted men and one woman that have surfaced in my research. I will show each name in a format similar to that I have used for the named fifty three and hope you will agree with me that some, if not all the names might be considered for inclusion on the Memorial. Most of these names are already in the list of the fallen read at St. James on Remembrance Sunday. One of the thirteen names that I will bring you is not from either World War but from the Troubles of Northern Ireland. Sadly, there will possibly be further conflicts around the World in years to come which may take the lives of some in the parish. Whatever we do now should surely be in a form that allows future generations to add the names of their fallen to the Memorial.

However, our Memorial has more significance than just the names upon it. It surely asks us to remember all who have fallen or died whilst serving our Country and the thirteen names I will bring you are just a small reminder that for every name on our Memorial, or on nearby Memorials, there are many whose only Memorial lies in distant lands with some who have no Memorial at all.

When looking at this 1908

Rowledge Square photograph of a Church Parade, I often wonder how many of the forty six WW1 names on the Memorial are in this photograph, or indeed if any of the new names that I will show you over



the coming months are in this wonderful photograph. There will be some lads and young men shown here who gave their lives who we have not yet identified and most probably never will.

Ten years on from this picture, WW1 was in its final months and the Spanish Flu epidemic was well under way. My new names will also include some who gave their lives in WW2 which started just twenty one years later. I will also include one name from the troubles of Northern Ireland. For all conflicts, Rowledge must continue to remember those who have given their lives, many known to us from our Memorial and some, as I will show you in the months to come, not so known.

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- Zumba Gold - Wednesday 10.30am  
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- Zumba Fitness - Thursday 7pm  
Thursley Village Hall
- Zumba Gold - Friday 9.30am  
Milford Village Hall
- Zoom Zumba Gold - Thursday 10am (online class)

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**Broadcasting then and now. Perry Mitchell**

To anybody of advancing age, broadcasting involves a box fed by an aerial! To the younger folk, it could be any method of remotely feeding entertainment, information and education to a screen or a speaker. Let us briefly see where we came from and where we are now.

**The Wireless.**

Audio Broadcasting started in UK after WW1 but really arrived with the birth of the BBC in 1922. For over 50 years it held the official monopoly for radio broadcasting in this country. From rather straight laced programming controlled by MD Lord Reith, radio really became popular during WW2 with entertainment aimed to keep the population cheerful! It evolved to three mostly adult based channels until 1967 when pressure from pirate radio led to the introduction of Radio One for 'pop' music. Finally in 1973 commercial radio was officially licensed and the BBC monopoly ended.

For most of the 20th century, radio broadcasting involved terrestrial transmission of an analogue signal on AM medium and long bands and from 1955, FM signals on the VHF band. This technology gave limited bandwidth to severely limit the number of channels that could be broadcast. In 1995, Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) started giving vastly more space for new stations. It is fair to say that manufacturers took some time to popularise the medium!

Meantime, in 1979 Sony invented the 'Walkman' and with it the concept of portable audio. Cassettes and then CDs came (and went!) but the biggest boost to the concept was the MP3 player around the Millennium, and in particular the Apple iPod in 2001. Apple started the iTunes computer program to support it and sell downloadable music. MP3 is a form of digital compression and the technology enabled live transmission of music on the evolving Internet through the 1990s - 'Streaming' had arrived! Various commercial models were developed such as Pandora and then Spotify. The vastly increased bandwidth of Broadband Internet has made streaming audio routine, and now most radio stations offer a streaming service that of course is accessible world wide. Internet Radio is easy on a computer but somewhat more difficult to achieve on an economic portable device, and it took the adoption of the Smart Phone to enable the required technology.

In the first 50 years of radio broadcasting, we went from one to four official BBC channels with Radio Luxembourg and then the noisy pirates. In the last 50 years we have evolved to an almost infinite number of channels to every possible taste.

**Television.**

John Logie Baird invented a form of television in the 1920s but his mechanical scanning system proved to be a dead end. Russian Zworykin and American Farnsworth are truer 'fathers of television' as it became viable, mostly through the marketing might of RCA. In the UK, the development of television can be seen to mirror some notable Royal events.



Transmission started on 405 lines in the London area in the mid 1930s and the first televised coronation of George VI in 1938 gave a big boost to receiver sales. TV was halted for the War but restarted in a nationwide roll out in the early 1950s. The coronation of George's daughter Elizabeth in 1953 probably sold more sets than any other event in history!

Commercial TV started in 1955 and more affordable and viewable sets led to widespread adoption by most families. The 1960s brought 625 lines (initially just on the new BBC2) and then colour! It took a dozen or so years to develop the receiver technology to a decent level of affordable performance, just in time for the wedding of Charles and Diana in 1981. Channel 4 started in 1984 and then Channel 5 in 1997.

By the end of the century we had the arrival of Satellite Broadcasting, widescreen digital and the promise of high definition (HDTV). Digital broadcasting was a 'game changer' since the associated video compression allows many more programme channels to be crammed into the same bandwidth. This has enabled the government to sell off some of the frequencies previously used for television transmission to the mobile phone companies. The last dozen or so years has thus resulted in a continual shuffle of allocation of channels to each transmitter and a frequent need to retune.

There is also a squeeze of available space for potential new programme channels. One alternative that was popular in other countries like USA is Cable TV, that involves a dedicated network of new cables in the street. It had been around in UK almost as long as TV, serving areas that suffered from a poor transmitter signal.

Around the millennia there was much company upheaval in this area but in 2006 Virgin Media arrived and is still the only National Cable service. (In fact, in recent times it has changed to a fiber system that is relayed via BT so a street cable access is no longer required). It doesn't produce any of its own programming but enters agreements with the Broadcasters.

Another solution to transmitter bandwidth came with the widespread availability of broadband Internet. Streaming video (Internet Protocol TV or IPTV) had been on computers for years (think YouTube) but full quality video needs significantly more data capacity than web browsing. BT did extensive research on IPTV but the government initially stopped this to protect the emerging Virgin Cable market. Internationally, IPTV developed to the current giants of Netflix and Amazon Prime. In 2006 BT launched its IPTV service (initially BT Vision, then BT TV) which like Virgin basically carried other broadcasters' channels. There has been an ongoing issue with carrying Sky programmes but perhaps as a result of BT competing for the Premier League football coverage, Sky was removed from BT TV this year. IPTV is also clearly the future for all TV broadcasting. The BBC has vastly expanded the features and quality of its iPlayer IPTV application.

In 2016 BBC3 became an IPTV only channel, and as well as its traditional feature of offering a replay service of recent transmissions, the iPlayer now offers delay and pause features for 'live' programmes, and often a 'block' availability for all the shows in a series. The other UK broadcasters are also now offering IPTV versions of their

programming.

Uniquely to the BBC (currently) they are offering occasional UHD versions of transmitted programmes. UHD (Ultra High Definition) TV has 4 times more pixels than current HDTV. There is also an associated possible extra feature called HDR (High Dynamic Range) which some people (including me) think actually offers a much more obvious improvement over HDTV. There are currently 4 separate formats for providing HDR so it is a bit of a mess! Only Netflix and Amazon Prime are providing HDR on a regular basis. If you think UHD (or 4K as it is also known) is the limit, then be aware that in Japan they are already transmitting 8K signals!

The TV manufacturers are indeed seeing 8K as the next big marketing tool and are already offering compatible sets. In the UK there is no current plan for 8K programmes, and you are urged by this writer to ignore this feature. If you want a new set with a reasonable lifetime of features then 4K is fine, just ensure that it supports all 4 HDR formats and has a support for all the IPTV channels that interest you. In practice, this means having 'Smart TV' features that can be freely updated on the Internet. Unfortunately many manufacturers insist on doing this through their own servers and giving only partial or delayed access to new apps.

The future of TV in UK is certainly complex and there is very little certain planning to help us see what it may bring!

## Car Parking in Church Lane

**As St. James' Church reopens, motorists are politely reminded that the Church car park and the Forestry Commission car park in Church Lane are reserved for visitors to church services on Sunday mornings.**

**Thank you for your cooperation.**



St. James' Church  
Rowledge



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*The "What's happening in Rowledge...  
...and who to contact?" section*

**ROWLEDGE VILLAGE EVENTS CALENDAR 2021**



# **VERY IMPORTANT!!!**

## **ALL ROWLEDGE Event Organisers!!!!**

**Please email the Editor with event dates for 2021, so we can include it in all future issues of the Rowledge Review. Email: [rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk)**



# Rowledge Activities - Weekly Calendar

Time	Group	Age	Venue
<b>Children's Events</b>			
<b>Mon-Fri</b>			
09.00-15.30	Rowledge Playgroup	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	5.30-7	School Hall
<b>Friday</b>			
16.00-18.30	Ballet	13-adult	Village H



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

## Adults' Events

<b>Monday</b>			
08.30-09.00	Morning Prayers		St James Church
14.00-16.00	Steady Steps		Village Hall
19.30-21.00	Bruce Yoga		Village Hall
19.30-21.30	Pilates		Village Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>			
09.30-11.30	Ballroom Dancing		Village Hall
09.30-10.30	Zumba Gold (term time only)		Village Club
10.40-11.40	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	Womens Institute (3 <sup>rd</sup> T		The Rowledge Club
20.00-22.30	After 8 ladies group (1 <sup>st</sup> day)		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 Singers (2 <sup>nd</sup> &4 <sup>th</sup> Wed)		Methodist Hall
15.00-16.00	Healing (1st Wed)		Methodist Church
19.00-22.15	Bridges		Village Club
19.00-20.00	Pilates		St James Church
19.45-22.30	Rowledge Club		Village Hall
<b>Thursday</b>			
09.00-16.00	Teachers		Methodist Hall
10.00-12.00	Art Club		Village Hall
12.30-1.30	Luncheon Club (last Thursday)		Methodist Hall
14.30-15.30	Steady Steps		Village Hall
18.00-19.00	Boot Camp		Village Hall
18.00-19.00	Gardening Club (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)		Village Hall
18.00-19.15	Bootcamp		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
16.00-18.30	Ballet		Village Hall
19.00-20.00	Choir practice		St James' Church
<b>Sunday</b>			
19.45-20.45	Ballroom Dancing		Village Hall

# Rowledge Review

## 2021 Subscriptions Due

Clearly, it has been a difficult year and, due to the pandemic, we have been unable to deliver paper copies of the Rowledge Review to your door or collect this year's subscriptions.

**However, we continue to publish monthly and each issue is available to read or download on the St James' Church website:**

**<https://stjamesrowledge.org.uk/whatson/rowledge-review-magazine/>**

If you like to flick through the pages, you can also pick up a paper copy at the back of church.

When Covid restrictions lift, we will return to delivering your paper copy to your door.

So, as with most other things this past year, we're hoping we can take advantage of technology to take subscriptions by card/online. The cost is £10 for the year (slight increase on last year, to allow for additional administration and online payment fees).

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# ROWLEDGE DIRECTORY – 2021



## ST JAMES' CHURCH – Church Lane, Rowledge, GUI0 4EN

Vicar	Revd Russ Gant	01252 792402	vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk
Churchwarden	Karen Fewster	01252 795169	karenfew@gmail.com
Churchwarden	Clive Jourdain	01252 794171	clive@clivejourdain.plus.com
<b>PARISH ADMIN</b>		<b>01252 792402</b>	<b>admin@stjamesrowledge.org.uk</b>

### Pastoral Assistants

Parish Friends Coordinator	Elaine Andrews	07928 208 590	daveandelaine@hotmail.com
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### Youth Work

Children's Minister	Adele Regan	07791 103 895	Adele.regan@stjamesrowledge.org.uk
Little Fishes Nursery	Judith Parish	01252 794617	littlefishesnursery@gmail.com

### Church Officers and Group Leaders

PCC Secretary	TBA		
Hon Treasurer	Andrew Fewster	01252 795169	andrew.fewster@gmail.com
Director of Music/Organist	Vacant		
<b>Planned Giving</b> (M'ship)	Mike Randall	01252 792007	randallm_e@msn.com
<b>Planned Giving</b> (Admin)	Andrew Fewster	01252 795169	andrew.fewster@gmail.com
Electoral Roll Officer	David Pennington		david@dpcon.eu
Cathedral Link	Colin Honey	01252 794317	
Church Cleaning Team	Maria Doland	01252 793984	
Coffee Rota	Jan Clarke	01252 793661	jan.8@btinternet.com



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Distribution	Church Office	01252 792402	admin@stjamesrowledge.org.uk

### Church Charities

Children's Society	Vacant		
Christian Aid, Rowledge	Elaine Andrews	07928 208 590	daveandelaine@hotmail.com
USPG	Janet Cunningham-Christie	01428 609290	





## METHODIST CHURCH, Chapel Road, Rowledge. GU10 4AP

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Office	-	-	aileen.m.ashby@gmail.com
Church Steward	Aileen Ashby	01252 795438	aileen.m.ashby@gmail.com
Church Steward	Anne Chuter	01252 792685	
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	Judith Parish	01252 794617	littlefishesnursery@gmail.com
Baby & Toddler Group	Miranda Billowes	07977 539 315	rowledge toddlergroup@gmail.com
Rowledge Playgroup Pre-School	April Pegler	07751 366392 or 07806 784035	rowledgeplaygrp@aol.com
Ballet	Maureen Hamilton	01428 656402	maureen@almondndance.com
Playball	Nicola Stubberfield	07919 123008	playballsurrey@gmail.com
Beavers	Rachel Mason	01252 794195	rkmason1904@gmail.com
Cubs	Richard Baines-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	
Bootcamp	Olivia Gardner		olivia_g@hotmail.com
Roller skate club	Adam Collis		rowledge@skateclubs.org
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
Co-Chair of Governors	Helen Davies		
Co-Chair of Governors	Tom Nixon		
Friends of, Chair	Caroline Eaton	07710 463311	caroline_eaton@me.com
Frensham Heights School	Rick Clarke - Head	01252 792561	admin@frensham-heights.org.uk

### Village

Residents' Association	Jeff Ward	01252 795773	wardjeff99@btinternet.com
Village Fayre Chairman	Kelly Taylor	07940 549102 01252 790722	Les_taylors@yahoo.co.uk
Tree Warden	Brian Greig	01252 793762	

### Village Hall

Chairman	Richard Baines-Walker	07968587642	
Treasurer	John Phipps		treasurer@rowledgevillagehall.com
Secretary	Karen Fewster	01252 795169	karenfew@gmail.com
Bookings	Susie Duffy		bookings@rowledgevillagehall.com

### Police

Surrey	101	Hampshire	101
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# Rowledge Review

## Charity Representatives

Cancer Research	Jenny Crawford	01252 793517	
RNLI	Nigel Cuthbert		rnli.farnham@btinternet.com
Save the Children / CHIKS	Robin Radley	01252 794212	robin.radley1@btinternet.com

## Social Groups

After 8 Group for Women	Sue Gardner	01252 793903	susan@gatec.co.uk
Alice Holt Women's Institute	Grada Helsdon	01252 727824	aliceholtwi20@gmail.com
Art Club	Roger Warburton	01252 793813	rwarburton@btinternet.com
Coffee Spot	Liz Thomas	01252 793802	liz_thomas118@yahoo.co.uk
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	Jeff Kelly	01252 625612	jeffmkelly@virgin.net
Ballroom Dancing	Angela Cobley	07732 556170	angelaschoolofdancing@hotmail.com
Bowling Club Captain	Ken Wickenden	01252 794413	captain@rowledgebowlingclub.co.uk
Bowling Club Chairman	Robert Green	01252 794860	chairman@rowledgebowlingclub.co.uk
Bowling Club Secretary	Sue Stephens	01252 794375	secretary@rowledgebowlingclub.co.uk
Bridge Club			Occasionally in Rowledge Review
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Cricket Club General Secretary	Lynley Griffiths	01252 710534	lynley.griffiths@talktalk.net
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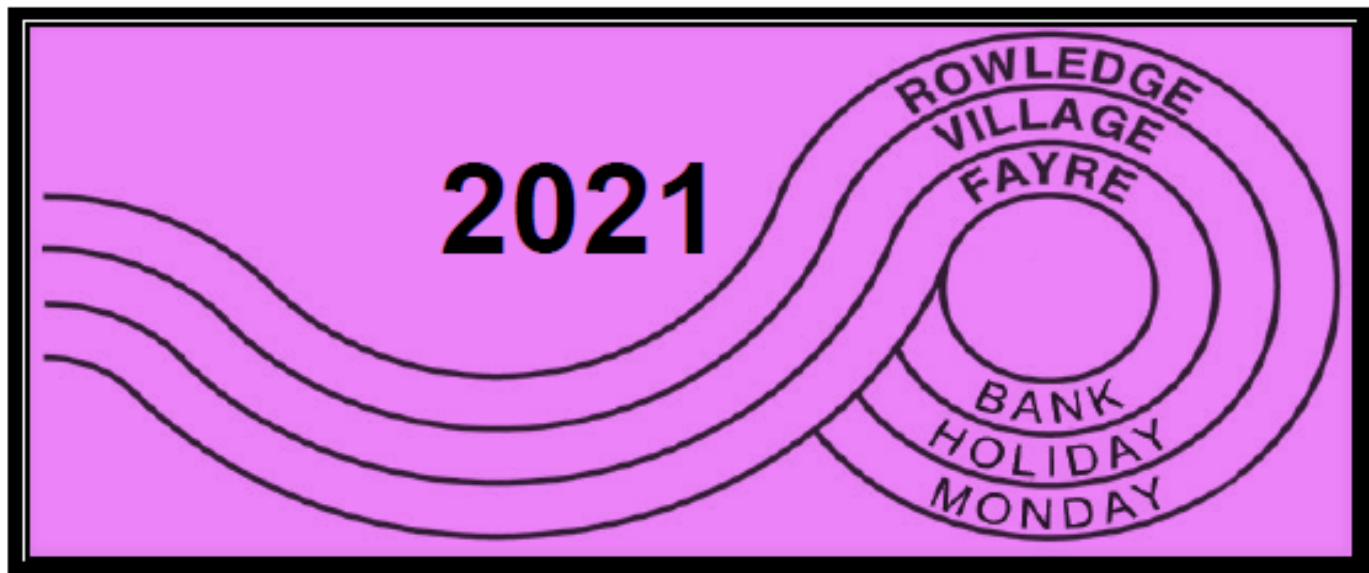
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As 1964 passed into 1965, it was decided that my mother and myself would take a trip out to Australia by ship to visit relatives in Western Australia. Believe it or not, in those days, it was cheaper than flying!! The pair of us departed in June 1966, leaving from Southampton on the Northern Star, a ship which was built on the Clyde, but was scrapped just a few years later, as it did not meet the current Board of Trade standards. I spent my twenty-fourth birthday out there, returning to the UK in September 1967, having experienced foreign travel which was to form my character for the rest of my life and enabled me to grow up considerably more than if I had stayed in Boundstone.

As this article is about Boundstone, my travels will not form part of it. However, upon returning to the UK some fifteen months or so later, it was to find that the community had moved on and my friends had all scattered to the four winds, pursuing their careers etc. So, I was faced with a new set of circumstances and had to find a different path to take, in order to settle back into life in this country and in Boundstone. Travelling gives one itchy feet and it took me a good two years to settle down again.

For instance, Farnham had changed to a one-way traffic system and one had to give way to the right at roundabouts. Quite a shock to find this in such a short space of time. The reason (I think) why so many of the young people left the Farnham area was, in the main, due to the expensive housing situation. Some things never change. Several of my contemporaries went to live in the Alton area, but even there, it was beyond the reach of the young to find suitable housing.

Another thing that both my mother and myself noticed time and again, which neither of us had encountered in Chessington, was the rivalry between villages. This spilled over into animosity in a competitive sense and it amused us to notice that, for instance, the Rowledge-ites hated the Wrecclesham-ites, Churt-ites hated the Frensham and Dockenfield-ites, Hale-ites hated the Weybourne-ites and so on. These vendettas went back several generations, so we quickly realised that talking about somebody had to be approached with caution, in case the recipient was related to the person that was being discussed!!

This, to a minor extent, still goes on today, so discussions have to be approached with a certain amount of tact, so reader, please take note - I have learned this from experience! It also amused us to notice how much the Church still set the social rules such as not working on a Sunday. My mother jolly-well had to do housework, washing etc on both Saturdays and Sundays, because she was out at work all week. It was noticed that one never for instance, hung washing out on a Sunday, not until my mother did it that is. The social rules seemed to change after that!!

The 1960's was a heady time to be a teenager. The generation that was part of it (mine), was known as 'The Bridge Generation' for the simple reason that the teenagers and twenties who connected with the new, were still being asked to practise the old values too. Not easy, believe me. Added to that, there was the ever-present threat of nuclear



war in the background. However, I cannot ever remember being bothered by it, in fact, that threat was in a far away place (oh the innocence of youth).

I am going to insert some text from Andy Little here, as it relates to his growing up in the area and connection with the Alice Holt Forest and the Forestry Commission, who were both prominent employers in the area during the sixties.

### **Experiences of Working at Alice Holt Forest - 1959 to 1962 (*written by Andrew Little*)**

On leaving school in 1959 I started work in mid-August at the Forestry Commission Research Station at Alice Holt. I was living at Harmes Stores in Boundstone and our near neighbour, Ernie Dopson, suggested I cycle there with him on my first day as he worked in the Genetics Section.

The cycle ride is about two and a half miles via Echo Barn Lane and Holt Pound. I had been told to report to the Woodlands Nursery yard on the east side of Gravel Hill Road. I introduced myself to the Assistant Forester and the Foreman, Les Skilton, who in turn introduced me to members of the outdoor Squad.

The work was general maintenance including nursery work in the small area joining the yard preparing and seeding seedbeds for experimental use and then monitoring the various treatments of applied herbicides and weedkillers. Also, small seed lots were grown and transplanted until ready to go out into the forest trials plots in Alice Holt forest and further afield. I was also a member of a small squad that travelled to outlying experiments at Bramshill heathland nurseries near Blackbushe Airfield. We also travelled out to Buriton Forest near Petersfield to measure semi-mature tree trial plots.

Another job was the maintenance of the Poplar stool beds between Fullers Road end and what was Barkers Garage at Holt Pound. This area was planted with many varieties of poplar and willow that were cut every winter, bundled and labelled and taken back to the Yard to be cut into 9 inch lengths for dispatch to nurseries around the country.

After two years I was eligible to apply for a place at one of the Forestry Commission's Foresters' Training Schools. The application was successful, but I wasn't given a starting date. Meantime, I was transferred to Alice Holt Forest staff who were based at Bucks Horn Oak next to the main road at that time. The Head Forester was George Cross who was helped by an Assistant Forester who used a BSA 125cc motor-cycle with a box sidecar for his tools etc. for his day-to-day supervision duties.

I was put into George Strugnel's squad (He lived in the cottage opposite the Fullers Road end at Holt Pound). They were in the process of breaking-in a new heathland nursery at Headley, cutting and burning scrub ready for the area to be brought under cultivation. In the spring we were lining out - that is planting seedlings sown the previous year - into rows 6 to 9 inches apart with the trees 2 to 3 inches apart in the row, depending on plant size and species.

In early August 1962 I was told to report to Benmore Foresters' training school at Benmore House situated within the Benmore Botanic Gardens (an off-shoot of the Edinburgh Botanic Gardens), near Dunoon, Argyllshire. This was to be a completely different experience, lochs, mountains and 72 inches of rainfall per annum, along with

the dreaded Midges!

Actually, there are earlier memories. Pre-school nursery at Miss Prott who ran a nursery from her house in Lickfolds Road. One of the activities was to walk from her house by way of the track that came out at the Cherry Tree pub and then past the church into the forest for several hundred yards where there was a clear space under some huge pine trees. We played games there and generally raced about. I remember that there was a broadleaf tree with low branches that we could climb on and use as a swing before we trekked back to Lickfolds Road.

A summer activity was to picnic at Lodge pond after a walk from Boundstone.

### **House and shop on Sandrock Hill Road. (M Davies)**

This photo was taken by yours truly recently (2020), because I was unable to obtain an image from the 1960's. However, it does show the little shop and house, which has not changed very much in appearance. The house is now called 'The Old Bakery' which is a charming reference by the present owners, to a bygone age and shows that they have sourced the history of this house.



As 1967 rolled into 1968/9, the area started to become a very desirable place to live and more and more people from other parts of the country, chose it because of its proximity to London (45 minutes from Farnham main line station to Waterloo) and morning and evening, commuters trundled to London and back, day in and day out, in order to give their families some space and fresh air.

When I arrived here in 1963, Farnham and Boundstone were charming country places, but the old ways were fast disappearing. Some of these changes were good and others not so. The Hogs Back by this time, had become a dual carriageway, with farmland being taken on the right side of the old carriageway, going from Guildford to Farnham, making a race track, which it still is, to this day.

### **The Masterman's cottage In Celery Lane, Boundstone**



This photo is of an old cottage that used to be situated at the top end of Celery Lane, Boundstone. I took this picture to keep a record, as it was due to be demolished and a large house was subsequently built there. There was just a single track path down to the cottage from Upper Bourne Way, but the new owner obviously got additional space for a car's access to the new house. This appears to be the only record of this cottage, although I understand some members of the Masterman family are still in existence.

Although the Boundstone of today has changed beyond all recognition, I can still recall the charming habits of the 'locals'. One of these was to always call at the back door instead of the front. I have asked several of the locals who grew up in the area, why this was the case, simply because I found it so charming. One theory that has been put to me, was that it was a matter of 'class'. I think this habit may have been a left-over from the old days, when servants and the lower classes, never approached by the front access - to a property - always the back or tradesman's entrance. So it was and probably still is to a certain extent, particularly to the older generation.

To bring you, the reader, up to the latter end of the 1960's Boundstone, more and more properties were, (and still are) being built in the area and surrounding villages. This part of South Farnham has become very expensive indeed, but is still a charming place with lots of character and superb scenery, to please the eye. I intend to stay until the Lord decides otherwise.

### ***Additional copy by David Little.***

The Methodist Church, which was situated on Boundstone Road, featured quite highly in the social life of the Little Family. The numbers of members were good and steady and it mainly comprised families. Sunday School and Youth Club were what I went up through. My father, despite being a quiet, simple man, became a Local Preacher who used to go around the smaller chapels in the area. Often I would accompany him on his journeys in the bread van. He had stock sermons he used and certainly the country folk liked his straightforward honest thinking. In the meantime, my mother was firstly involved with the Young Wives and then later she ran the Women's Fellowship for many years. Upon her retirement Christine took this over.

Despite being a family of seven our Sunday lunch or afternoon tea always had the ability to expand. Visiting preachers, servicemen and new folks to the area all spent time in the Little's household. For years my mother used to receive Christmas Cards from servicemen from Canada who had enjoyed her hospitality and friendship. When I was 21 I went to Canada for a year and was looked after by Ray Breadner who had been 'adopted' by my parents whilst he was stationed in Rowledge waiting for D Day.

My aunt was a Deaconess in the Methodist Church and although she was based in Manchester she would come home to visit the family and her role in life seemed to be to marshal us boys. This continued when she became the first Deaconess to be a Chaplain in the RAF and had the misfortune to be posted to Egypt just before the Suez crisis, which she never talked about. She stayed with the RAF for many years and when she retired from the RAF, she went back to becoming a Deaconess in the West Country. We boys, as we grew up, all went different ways. John trained to be a furniture maker, David went into agriculture, Andrew went into the Forestry Commission and ended up in Scotland where he still lives, Martin after a few false starts ended up as a Psychiatrist specializing in family welfare and Christine trained to be a teacher and taught for many years at Frensham School where she was well liked.



## **Boundstone - Felling the tree by the Bourne stream**

In the picture of the PO taken from Sandrock Hill there is a very tall tree, a conifer, standing in the garden of the house on the stream side of the Barnard's house.



I remember it being felled. I don't know how old I was - I think I would have been about eight. The tree was in the front garden and was felled across the road towards the bridge. The tools were axes and a two-man crosscut saw. The butt of the tree was trimmed and the "gob" - a wedge - put in to ensure that the tree fell in the right direction.

They must have waited until the bus went to Farnham and then started sawing as they would have had to clear the road before the next bus was due!

The other thing I remember was that the neighbours and locals were all filling sacks with axe chips and small offcuts for kindling and firewood.

## **The denouement - by Moira Davies**

As the 1960's decade has now come to an end, my article must close. Sadly time marches on, but I have to say that it has been a joy to make the re-acquaintance of old friends and to discover that many people who now live in Boundstone, are so very interested in my story.

Although it has been sad to see some of the negative changes in the area, with too much house building taking place, it is still a beautiful place in which to live and I thank God for sending me here in 1963.

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## Coffee Morning for Rowledge 150

This year marks 150 years since the formation of the village of Rowledge. As we emerge from lockdown, the community of Rowledge came together on July 9<sup>th</sup> for a Coffee Morning in Halifax Gardens to raise money for Rowledge C of E Primary School and St James' Church.







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## Cometh the Hour, Cometh Year Four! Mrs S Jones

The hour had finally come. It was 9am on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May and the Year Fours excitedly boarded the bus to Guildford in what had felt (due to Covid) like the longest wait for a school trip ever. Dressed as evacuees and clutching bulging ration supplies to keep them going, their first task was to climb the hill to reach the dizzying heights of Henley Fort. As the skies filled with menacing grey storm clouds, the children could really imagine what 57 days and nights of the Blitz had felt like as they admired in awe the view across the land to wards London, where the folk of Guildford had watched London burning as the bombs fell during the war.

Once safely ensconced inside the fort, the class was split into two groups to take part in a range of activities cleverly designed to bring WWII to life. As the children found themselves role playing as German spies, ARPs and evacuees they were able to imagine what hard times were like for children during the war. With only candle light to illuminate the fort, they huddled round in the shelter as the sirens sounded until the all clear was given. Later that day, Year Four made a name for themselves as a very effective Home Guard complete with broom handle and pike!

Of course, the best part of the entire trip aside from a home packed lunch was being able to roll down the hills at lunch time and truly feel like a child after the tumultuous year we have all had.





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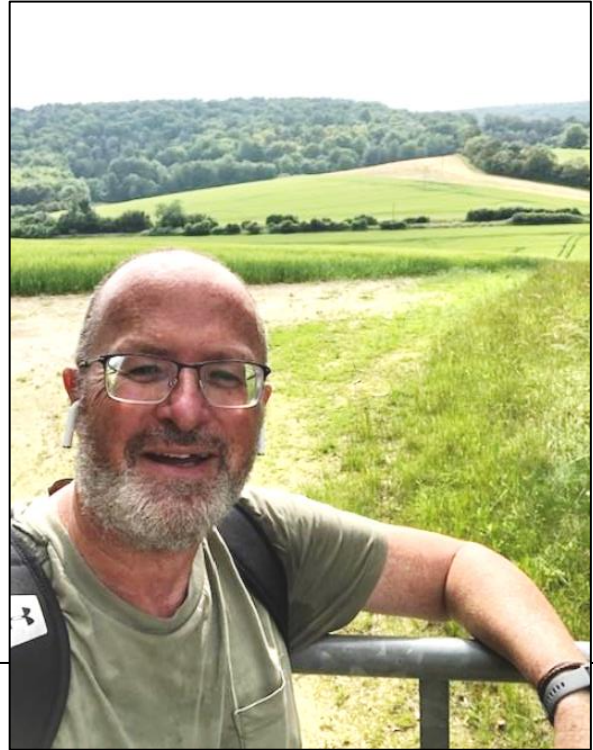
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## Malawi Schools Trust - update

Rowledge-based charity is thrilled that their current school building project is well underway. Fundraising through the pandemic has been something of a challenge so they have had to find creative ways of raising money, including a 100 mile walk across the South Downs by former Frensham Heights Headmaster, Andrew Fisher.

Please make time to visit their stall at Rowledge Fete on 30 August to find out how their work is helping children from one of the world's poorest countries. The fete will be the charity's very first 'in-person' event so they will really appreciate your support. Oh – and they'll be selling candy floss if you need an extra incentive to stop by!





## Ponds in the Parish of Rowledge – Roy Waight

Some things happen so slowly, they are hardly noticed. One such is the gradual disappearance of ponds. I've done my best in this note to count how many ponds there used to be, and how many remain. I would be happy if ramblers would correct any errors or exclusions since not all ponds are easy to access and I may have missed some. Most people respond to the beauty and historic significance of ponds. Lodge Pond about which I wrote in the July edition of the Review is a case in point. I thought I might say a little more about the Parish's ponds, stimulated by Mike Thurston's lending me a wonderful and poetic book on the subject, *Still Water – the Deep Life of the Pond*, by John Lewis-Stempel. Before going further with detail, it's worth saying something by introduction.

First of all I am talking of the ponds found in or on the border of what is now the ecclesiastical Parish of Rowledge. The area of the Parish is some 3.5 square miles. In around 1850, according to a careful scrutiny of the Enclosure maps for Binsted, Frensham and Farnham, all mapped around that year, the number of visible ponds in what was to become the Parish of Rowledge was 46. Today, the number according to the 25,000 OS map is exactly half that, 23, although several of these ponds are no longer visible in the Google satellite images and the real number today may well be even fewer. Of the 46 ponds existing in 1850, 17 are still there today according to the modern OS map. 29 have disappeared over the past 170 years. On the credit side, some 6 new ponds seem to have been created.

Oliver Rackham, the celebrated fellow of Corpus Christi, Cambridge, and the man who influenced forestry and our understanding of the countryside as much as anyone in the past century, looked at old OS maps dating from 1870 (which are, incidentally, better editions than the current ones). He concluded that there were at least 800,000 ponds in England in the Nineteenth Century. A pond was recorded on OS maps if it was more than 20 feet across. Paddling pools were not included! This works out at about 14 ponds per square mile. At this average rate, the Parish of Rowledge would have had some 49 ponds. In this regard, then, Rowledge was pretty average.

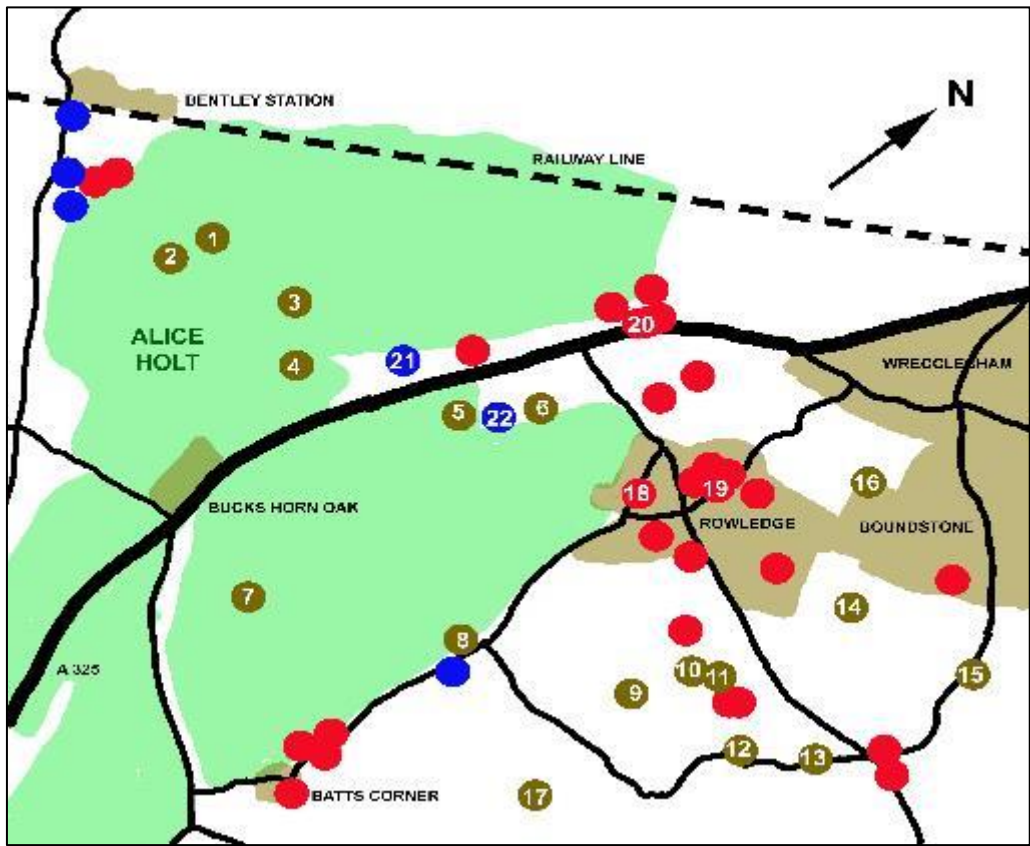
Rackham believed that the time when the first superb quality OS maps were drawn, around 1870, was also the time when the number of ponds was at its greatest. He concluded that there were far fewer in 2003, the year in which he was writing, and that decline seems certainly to have occurred in the Parish of Rowledge.

Ponds arise in all sorts of ways. Natural ponds arise depending on the local geography: kettleholes, swallow-holes (as in Farnham Park), landslips, pingos (remnants of glaciation), lagoons, meres and dew ponds are all natural. Artificial ponds usually arise through the digging of pits: clay pits, brick-pits, coprolite pits, peat-cuttings, or were dug as fishponds or decoy ponds. Bomb craters, and, in the forest saw pits, also generate ponds. And then there are ponds dug for ornamental purposes.

Ponds, no matter what their origin, don't last for ever. As Rackham says, "*ponds ... disappear through the English habit of putting rubbish in holes. They are hated by*

*tidy-minded people ...*” How fast a pond disappears depends on the pond. Sometimes they are filled in by the tidy-minded or by someone wanting to build or park in the space, or incorporate it in a lawn. But ponds also disappear from natural causes. They are filled with silt or dead leaves. When the water gets shallower than about two feet, reeds and bulrushes root in the bottom and their remains quickly fill the pond. Rackham’s own scrutiny of maps led him to believe that typical field ponds last only a century or so.

Deeper basins, the Norfolk Broads being an example, have lasted some 600 years. There are Anglo-Saxon Ponds that are still there after a thousand years.



Ponds around the Parish of Rowledge. Note the direction of North. Main features are shown – the A 325 and other significant roads and the railway line. The green area marks Alice Holt, the brown residential areas (Batts Corner, Bucks Horn Oak, Rowledge, Boundstone, Wrecclesham and Bentley Station). The 17 ponds that existed in 1850 and still exist according to the OS map are shown as brown dots. Ponds present in 1850 but since disappeared are shown in red and ponds created since 1850 are shown in blue. The ponds mentioned in the text are numbered.

Few of the ponds have names so where there are no agreed names I have given them my own.

The ponds that existed in the Parish in 1850 and are still there were probably mostly man-made. Many of them show varying signs of degradation. The ones that still exist (according to the modern OS map), are indicated by brown dots on the map, and they are:

**Kennel Pond (1)** in Alice Holt, where a Midsomer Murders episode was filmed (*The Maid in Splendour*). This was probably developed as a fish pond by the ranger of the forest some time towards the end of eighteenth century, possibly by Lord Stawell. I had

originally hoped it was very old, dating back to the thirteenth century lodge which once stood opposite it. The 1787 Geometrical Survey shows this is not the case. It is in middling condition, now fenced off, and showing signs of silting around the margins. It is still rather a large pond and has something of a mysterious air about it. You can still stumble over the remains of the gamekeeper's house which burnt down and the associated kennels for hunting dogs, but don't twist an ankle.

**Yew Tree Pond (2)** is just a few hundred yards from Kennel Pond. This is my name since the pond is near to one of the forest's oldest yew trees. I have seen it very deep after much rain (as much as 10 feet) and seen it dry as a bone after months of hot weather. It is manmade. Nearby are several Bronze Age mounds and these might have been dug out of this pit, now intermittently flooded. I think it more likely it is the remnant of an old clay digging. It is about 50 feet across.

**The Kitchen Garden Lodge Pond (3)** – my name – is located beside the research station at The Alice Holt Lodge where there was once a kitchen garden. A delightful pond, but little more than forty feet across, this looks as if it has been recently neglected and the reeds have encroached on it since I first saw it.

**Pumping Station Pond (4)** – my name – is located near where once was a pumping station and a few yards from the point at which Gravel Hill Road takes a 90 degree right turn. Satellite images suggest it has disappeared but I recently sought it out and found it is still there, badly overgrown and hidden by tree cover from the air. It is much smaller now than in 1850 and is thoroughly neglected.

**Lodge Pond (5)** (previously Holt Pond) adjoining the Alice Holt is well known. It is full of fat carp and the like. It was probably built as a boating and, perhaps, fish pond by the Ranger of the Alice Holt. However the odd 'horns' at the west end, which I thought a boating channel, may in fact mean that this is an old decoy pond. Ponds were sometimes provided with arms called 'pipes'. These were roofed over with netting and ducks decoyed into their mouths using trained ducks or dogs. Then they were panicked into crowding into the end of the pipes where their necks were rung and they were taken to the larder. This may be surmise, but the 'arms' in 1787 were long and very marked. This large pond was integrated into the 'pleasure garden' of The Lodge and has shrunk over the past two centuries to maybe only a quarter its original size. I now like to think that it was a decoy pond.

**Clay Pit Pond (6)** (my name) is just below Lodge Pond and probably originated as an old clay digging. It is inaccessible, being in a private garden. It is fed by The Bourne. From the path alongside Alice Holt it looks highly variable in extent; quite sizable in wet weather, much smaller in dry.

**Forest Centre Pond (7)** (again my name) is the potentially picturesque pond opposite the Forest Visitor Centre. It is now much neglected and rapidly silting up, which is a pity.

**Reeds Hatch Pond (8)** was quite large in 1850; it has now shrunk and appears as two, much smaller, ponds. At least one is still there, visible from Harding's Ride.

**The Firgrove Ponds (9-11)** – three of them of varying sizes, either the natural filling of dells, or artificial and ornamental in nature and developed as part of the estate around Firgrove House, built by the Revd. Ford which is marked on the Tithe Map of 1840. Nestor Fuller moved in at about that time and changed the name to Frensham Hill and I suspect that it may well have been he who dug these ponds. Since the land is inaccessible I have no idea whether they have silted up. The satellite image suggests two of them may have disappeared.

**Summerfield Pond (12)** was once a large and splendid pond filling a deep dell at the junction of Frensham Heights Road and Summerfield Lane. It looks like an old clay pit. It has recently been filled in preparatory to house-building and has, very sadly, disappeared.

**Border Pond (13)** (my name) lies on the parish boundary a few hundred yards south east of Hamilton House (part of Frensham Heights). It was once quite large but is now almost all taken over by reeds and other vegetation. Another neglected pond.

**Upper Frensham Vale Pond (14)** is located west of Frensham Vale House but has all but disappeared according to the satellite image.

**Lower Frensham Vale Pond (15)** is located where Frensham Vale meets Gardeners Hill Road but, again, is not visible on the satellite image and has, presumably, silted up. My guess is both were ornamental and man-made.

**Lavender Cottage Pond (16)** was clearly marked in 1850 and may have been a natural filling in of a dell. It has largely silted up.

**Woodhill Pond (17)** is just outside the parish boundary but was well marked in 1850. It is still there. A few hundred yards along the footpath and beyond the Parish boundary another pond is marked on the modern OS map but now looks overgrown.

If I am right, and bearing in mind that heavy rain can refill a pond temporarily, it seems that of the 17 pre-1850 ponds, only 10 can be said to remain real ponds.

Quite a few of the ponds there in 1850 have disappeared completely from the latest OS map. These are shown in red in the accompanying map. I shall only mention the more interesting.

**Rowledge Ponds** abounded in 1850. The village centre included no less than 10 though they were all small. Particularly interesting is the pond that was located where the bowling green now sits **(18)**. It is an example of Rackham's claim that people have a propensity for throwing rubbish into holes. It had been filled in with junk by 1914 when the recreation ground was opened. Historian, Florence Parker, claimed it was a remnant of the old Row Ditch. Another pond that has disappeared almost within living memory is the pond that was located half way up the High Street **(19)**. This seems to have been filled and the land gradually 'absorbed' into the neighbouring properties. Its sad remnant is a now narrow car parking space, an inglorious end to what might now be known as Rowledge Pond had it been looked after. None of these Rowledge Ponds remains.

**Holt Pound Ponds** were four in number, though three were very small. One, much



larger **(20)**, was a feature of the Forest Inn public house within living memory. It has long been filled in.

**Frensham Heights** boasted a couple of small ponds in front of the main building, long gone. Several ponds around **Bowler's Farm** have disappeared, as have a couple of tiny ponds at **Holt Hatch** (now Bentley Hall) and one located where **Birdworld** is today. Ponds marked on the modern OS map but absent in 1850 are marked in blue on the map. They include three small ponds near **Holt Hatch** and a picturesque pond presumably built as part of **Birdworld (21)**. Most interesting, perhaps, is the pond into which The Bourne Stream flows directly below Lodge Pond, which was once a clay working, which I shall call **Brickworks Pond (22)**. There also appears to be a post 1850 pond near **Reed's Hatch**.

Some people argue that nature is always best and should be allowed to take its course. But our countryside is not wholly 'natural'. It is, rather, the resultant of forces both natural and human. This is particularly true of ponds. If they continue to suffer neglect we will end up with few if any of the old ponds. For both aesthetic and ecological reasons this would be sad.



An old postcard of the pond at Forest Inn, undated. One of many once fine ponds which have disappeared .

In *Coming Up for Air*, George Orwell puts in the mouth of the main character the words: *"I wondered why it is that we're all such bloody fools. Why don't people, instead of the idiocies they do spend their time on, just walk round LOOKING at things? The pool for instance – all the stuff that's in it. Newts, water-snails, water-beetles, caddis-flies, leeches and God knows how many other things that you can only see with a microscope. The mystery of their lives, down under the water"*.

Of course, as Louis-Stempel points out, one can easily create a garden pond. If you dig one with a depth more than about three feet and make sure you don't stock it with fish, then you create a fine micro-environment which will soon, without your doing anything, be home to newts, frogs, caddis flies and pond life of every sort. I am thinking of digging one myself.

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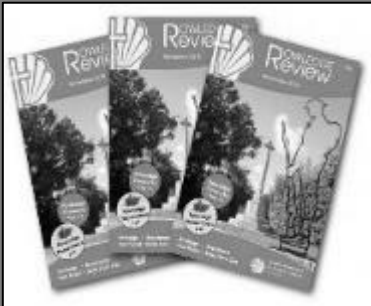
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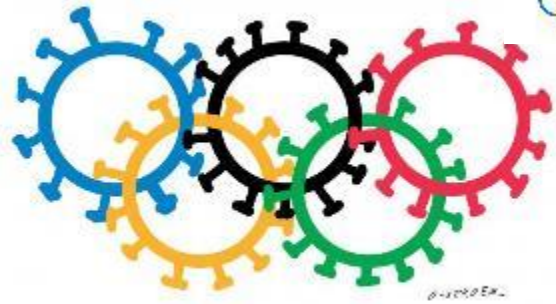
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# Fun time



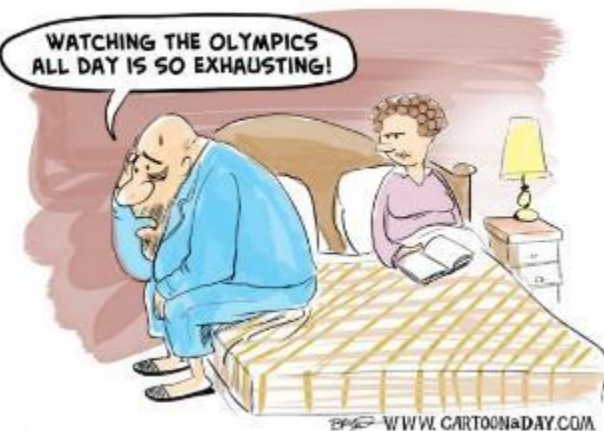
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It's going to be  
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5		1			6		4
	9		3		6		5
				9			
4							9
		1		9			
7							6
				2			
	8		5		7		6
1		3				7	
							2

**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 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021.... 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.**

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