

# POTTERS BAR & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 1985

THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. I No. 2

I trust that everyone had an enjoyable time over the festive season and will continue to support the Society this year. It is very encouraging to the Committee that the membership continues to increase and there was a good attendance at all the events last year.

It is proposed by the Committee to submit a new Constitution for approval by the members at the next AGM. The previous Constitution was adopted in 1961 and it is time for its revision.

## POTTERS BAR FESTIVAL

This was an outstanding success as regards the publicity received by the Society. The lectures were well-attended, membership was increased and enquiries from the public are still being dealt with. They include the age of one's house, the loan of property deeds, photographs and estate agents' brochures.

Thanks are due to all those who helped in any way to achieve the outstanding success of this event.

## HERTFORDSHIRE RECORDER GROUP SCHEME

The first meeting of our Recorder Group was held on 11 October, when it was decided to divide our area into the following divisions, with those named acting as the co-ordinator:

North of Billy Lows Lane to North Mymms - Mr T. Goulding	(56429)
Mutton Lane/Baker Street to Sawyers Lane - Mr C. Overend	(44493)
Southgate Road/Barnet Road to Wagon Road - Mr N. Brown	(59824)
Causeway/High Street/Southgate Road - Mr D. Ruge-Cope	(53221)
Sunnybank Road area	} - to be appointed
The Walk/Ladbroke Drive area	
Torrington estate	
South Mimms	
country areas	

One might ask, 'What does a Recorder do?' A Recorder is responsible for recording the present changes in their area. It would be of great assistance if members could notify Recorders of any alterations they observe. It is not so much the M25 or Canada Life but the laying of cables, re-roofing, alterations to premises, etc, which imperceptibly change the present scene. Your help would be appreciated.

The following members have been classed as special recorders: photography - Mr T. Goulding; tape recording - Mr B. Chanter; parish magazine collection - Mr D. Ruge-Cope; local newspaper collections: Ridge - Mr T. Salter, South Mimms - Mrs B. Fost, Potters Bar - Mrs H. Baker, Mr B. Warren.

If you feel able to volunteer to cover one of the areas without a recorder, or would like to know more about the scheme, contact any of the present recorders, or come to the next meeting at 21 Chace Avenue on 7 February at 8.00pm.

## FAMILY HISTORY

As a result of the note in the last Newsletter, five members have been helped. Also, a lady from Canada who was only in Potters Bar for two days, was given assistance in tracing her ancestors who once occupied Chase Farm.

If you have any problems with your research, contact Brian Warren (Cuffley 87617).

## OUTINGS

Bruce Chanter has had a good response to his questionnaire but would be pleased to receive any outstanding forms as soon as possible. If you have lost the form then contact Bruce for another one! (51931).

## THE JOURNAL

The Journal will contain articles of historical interest in our area. It is free to members. Any articles should be sent to Dan and Chris Ruge-Cope, at 21 Chace Avenue, before 22 February.

## COURSES

Local History Conference 1985 - Landscapes of Industry  
Winston Churchill Hall, Ruislip, Middlesex.  
Saturday 9 March, 11.00am - 5.00pm. Cost £2.50 each.

The theme of this conference will be Industrial Archaeology with references to the history of canals and railways as they have affected the Ruislip area.

A One Day School to Vernacular Architecture

The Theatre, Buckinghamshire College of Higher Education, Newland Park, Gorelands Lane, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks.  
Sunday 31 March, 9.45am - 5.00pm. Cost £7.50.

Further information from the noticeboard at meetings or contact Cyril Overend (44493).

## EXHIBITIONS

THE AGE OF THE TRAIN IN POTTERS BAR

This exhibition, shown at the Potters Bar Festival, will be displayed in Oakmere Library from 21 January to 2 February, and Cranborne Library from 4 February to 15 February, in normal library opening times.

We may ask members to help steward this exhibition.

HERE FOR THE BEER

This exhibition, prepared by Watford Museum, comes to Oakmere House from 2 February to 2 March. It illustrates the history of brewing in Hertfordshire.

## NEW MEMBERS

We extend a welcome to the following:

Miss T. Crowder; M. R. Barrow; Mr & Mrs Fitt; Mrs S. Gee; Mr & Mrs C. F. Osborn; Miss J. D. Coleman; Mr & Mrs A. J. Huber; Mr M. Gough; Mr J. C. Clarke; Mr & Mrs H. R. Sillis; Rev. R. Gage, Vicar of South Mimms and Ridge.

It is hoped that all members will continue to recruit new members.

## WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME

Do not forget to arrive early to look at Cyril's noticeboard.

Wednesday 16 January Oakmere House, Committee Room 2, 8.00pm

'Enfield Chase' by David Pam

David Pam has lectured to the Society before and has just published a book, 'The Story of Enfield Chase'. It is the first attempt by any local historian to write a complete history of the Chase and is the result of his research since his retirement as the local history and museums officer of the London Borough of Enfield in 1982. Copies will be on sale at £6.95.

Thursday 21 February Oakmere House, Committee Room 3, 8.00pm

'Local History' by Brian Warren

As so many people were turned away when the lecture 'Potters Bar from 1920 Onwards' was given at the Festival, it has been decided to repeat the talk. Additional information and slides will be included.

Wednesday 20 March Oakmere House, Committee Room 2, 8.00pm

'The Potters Bar War Memorial' by Reg Crook

A look at the Memorial and its history with some of the effects of the 1st World War on the villages of Potters Bar, Little Heath and Bentley Heath. With the help of slides, a visit to part of the battlefields to locate the last resting place of three of those named on the Memorial.