

POTTERS BAR & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 1986

THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2 No. 2

This year's membership has reached a new record, and those few who have not yet renewed their subscription are reminded that all subs were due by 31 December 1985. The membership figure could reach one hundred if two or three members were recruited before March.

The Committee wishes everyone a happy New Year and hopes it will again prove a very successful one for the Society.

LOCAL HISTORY CENTRE/MUSEUM

For the information of those members who were not at the recent monthly meetings, the Society made a reply to the draft Potters Bar Town Centre Review, requesting a Local History Centre/Museum be included in the Wyllyotts Manor development. Another suggestion was that The Lion public house might be converted, or that it could be re-erected on the Wyllyotts' site, thus allowing a roundabout to be built at the Southgate Road/Mutton Lane junction.

The Society and Potters Bar need such a centre and all members are encouraged to support the above proposals.

MEMBERS' NEWS

A warm welcome is extended to the latest new members, Mr & Mrs J E Woodman.

In recognition of her long membership and service to the Society, Betty Fost was presented with a framed copy of a 1795 print of South Mimms church. Her new address is: Rest Harrow, The Street, Swanton Novers, Melton Constable, Norfolk NR24 2QY.

It is with regret we record the death of a former member for many years, Mr Mackinlay. Our condolences have been conveyed to his widow and daughters.

LONDON & MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S CONFERENCE

Thanks are due to Mrs Helen Baker for mounting an exhibition on 'Dancers Hill' as the Society's contribution to the Conference on Saturday 30 November, at the Museum of London. Apart from the displays by other societies, the theme of the three excellent lectures was the pre-Domesday period. It is hoped that more members will attend this year, when the theme will be 'Domesday 1086'.

SOUTH MIMMS

When Betty Fost left South Mimms after 34 years' residence, she donated to the Society her copies of the Parish Newsletter and Parish Papers for nearly twenty years. If anyone has a copy of Feb. and March 1975, or April and Sept. 1980 and would either donate them or allow the Society to photocopy them, it would make the series complete from 1964. Dan Ruge-Cope (tel. 53221), the co-ordinator of the Herts Recorder Scheme for Parish Magazines, would be pleased to hear about any copies still extant prior to 1964. This also applies to parish magazines of any other churches in the area.

WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME

If you require a lift to these meetings, or are able to provide one, please inform a Committee member.

Wednesday 15 January Oakmere House 8pm Committee Room 3

'Cuffley and Northaw' by Mr Jack Edwards

This talk will be a pictorial history of Cuffley and Northaw before and after the rapid expansion which followed the coming of the railway in 1910.

Thursday 27 February Oakmere House 8pm Committee Room 3

'Dancers Hill and the Manor of Mandeville' by Mrs H Baker

In this illustrated talk, Mrs Helen Baker will describe the history of Dancers Hill and show its connection with the Manor of Mandeville. In the area of Dancers Hill House there were fields called Mandeville, copyhold of the Manor of South Mimms. Also, lands attached to Wicks Place, or Dancers Hill, later Laurel Lodge, were called Mandeville or Dancers Hill. There was Mandeville's Hill and an inn called Mandeville or Green Dragon. Is there a connection with Geoffrey de Mandeville, who gained South Mimms as part of the Manor of Edmonton at the Domesday Survey nine hundred years ago? Come and find out.

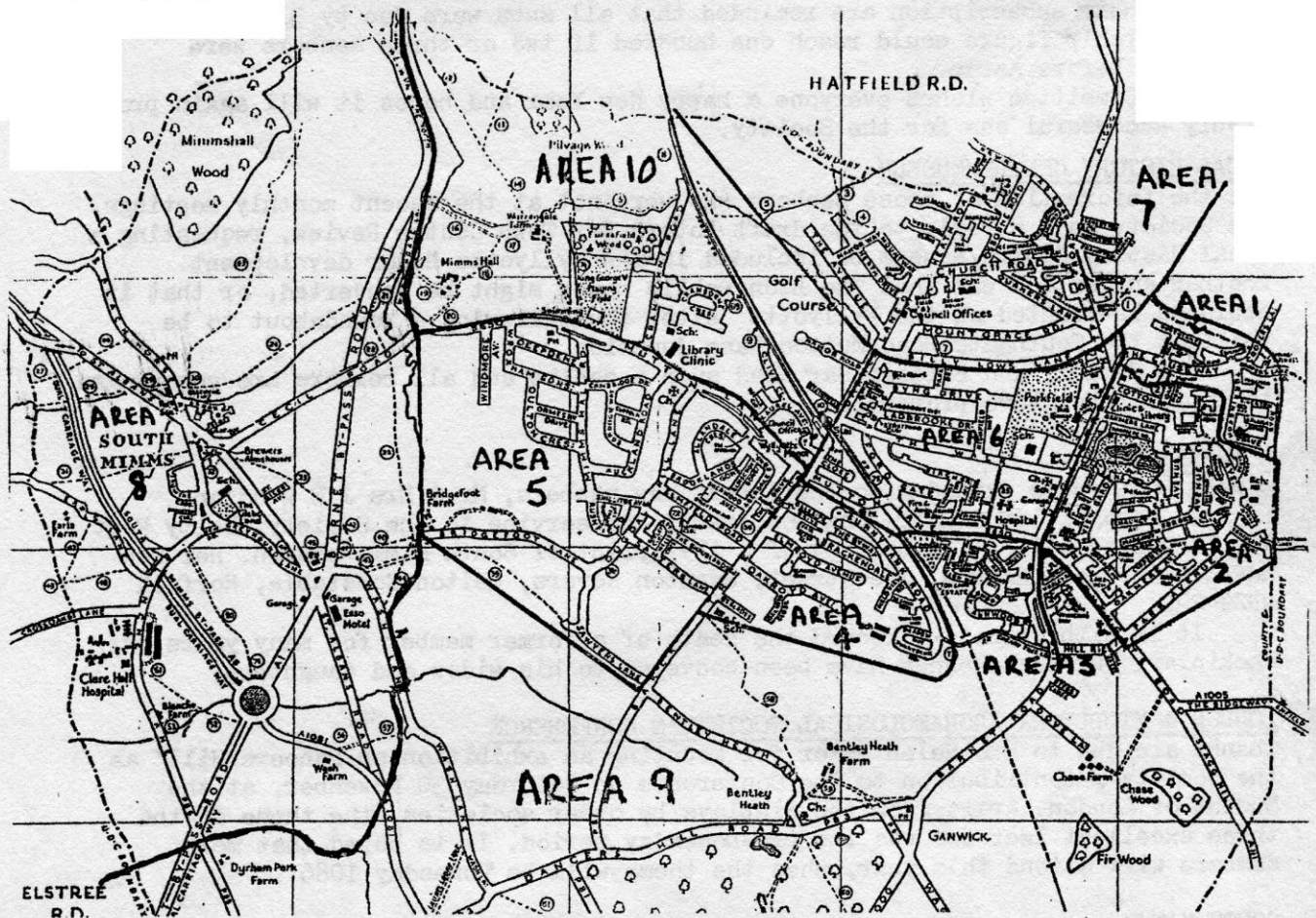
Wednesday 19 March Oakmere House 8pm Committee Room 3

'The Human Touch at an Industrial School' by Mrs G Gear

Church Farm Industrial School, East Barnet, was established in 1860 as a result of an Act of Parliament in 1857. It was linked to a home in the Euston Road, which later moved to Regent's Park Road. Church Farm was the country home where the boys were trained in country crafts. Most of the boys were without homes and had come from the streets of London.

HERTS RECORDER SCHEME

The scheme is working very well and for the information of members this map shows the exact division of Potters Bar and district.



If members know of any changes to buildings or landscape would they contact the appropriate Recorder:

Area 1	Mr G Eve	56831	Area 5	Mr S Redington	58000
Area 2	Mr D Ruge-Cope	53221	Area 6	Mr R Warwick	53400
Area 3	Mr L Field	53801	Area 7	Mr T Goulding	56429
Area 4	Mrs V Murphy	58447			

There are vacancies for areas 8, 9 and 10, so do not hesitate to volunteer! The group meets twice a year, in June and November: apart from that it is up to the individual. In the next few years there will be as great a change in Potters Bar as there was in the 1950s.

FAMILY HISTORY

Please ensure that you keep accurate records of all your present-day photographs. You know the people and places, but what about someone looking at them in forty years' time? Much time is spent trying to identify the people on old photographs of Potters Bar, because no-one thought to write on the back or keep sufficient records. You have been warned!

An enquiry from Ted Salter, concerning a friend of his who been granted an authenticated coat of arms for the Chong family by the Sanson Institute of Heraldry, resulted in a letter from Cecil R Humphrey-Smith, of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, stating that such certificates were worthless and he would expose the fraud by sending a photocopy of the certificate to the Editor of the Heraldry Gazette.

POTTERS BAR AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY exhibition

7th Jan. - 7th Feb. on display in main foyer, Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood

14th Feb. - 28 March the full exhibition will be on display in the front window of Canada Life building

THE JOURNAL

The Journal contains articles of historical interest on Potters Bar and district. It is free to members. Any articles for the next issue should be sent to Dan Ruge-Cope, 21 Chace Avenue, by 31 January 1986.

FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

The Society's publications are to be entitled Potters Bar Historical Series, and it is hoped that the first one will be available early in the new year. Those in course of preparation are:

- The Railway through Potters Bar, by G H Eve
- The Great North Road, by Dr A C Lynch
- Malcolm Tomkins 1930-81: a collection of his writings

Other subjects are also in preparation.

Please detach

OUTINGS 1986

To help in the organisation of future Summer programmes it would be very useful if members would tick, below, those events which they might support.

Thank you.

- 1) National Trust properties
 - Waddesdon Manor, near Aylesbury
French Renaissance château built late 19th cent.; extensive art collection; fine aviary; Sika deer herd
 - Ascott, Wing, Beds
Anthony de Rothschild collection of fine pictures; French and Chippendale furniture; garden of unusual trees
 - Knole, Sevenoaks, Kent
One of the largest houses in England dating from 1456; one of the most important 17th cent. collections of furniture in the world; large deer park
- 2) National Trust properties with a concert/entertainment
 - Cliveden Shakespeare/Gilbert & Sullivan
 - Polesden Lacey Shakespeare
 - Fenton House, Hampstead Late 17th cent. house and walled garden
Concerts - early keyboard instruments
 - The Wyne, Sherborne St John, Basingstoke, Hants
- 3) Non-National Trust Properties
 - Stratfield Saye, Hants
Home of the Duke of Wellington; contains family papers, heirlooms, &c
 - Spains Hall, Finchingfield, Essex
 - Excellent house in area of interesting churches and picturesque village
 - Syon House One of the masterpieces of Robert Adam
- 4) Small parties with limited numbers, on half-day visits
eg The Wellcome Institute, River Lea pumping station, Bank of England, Guildhall, Harlow Museum
- If members belong to any trade, professional or scientific organisation which might help the Society gain access, please indicate below.
- 5) Visits linked to lectures

	Pre-visit	or	Follow-up
Harlowbury
Waltham Abbey
St Albans
- 6) Local Walks in the Potters Bar area, similar to 1984 and 1985
- 7) Guided Walks of local villages, eg Ridge, Essendon, Bayford, Hadley
- 8) YOUR FURTHER SUGGESTIONS