

The Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 1996

VOL. 13 NO. 1

COVER PICTURES

This is the third in the series of black and white photographs of Potters Bar, taken by Mr. E. Bartlett, a past Secretary of the Society, between 1969 and 1972.



The Green Man public house is the oldest extant building in the High Street. During renovations in 1972, Ken Rutherford Davis, a former Chairman of the Society, was able to make a complete survey of the building. The upper storey contains the oldest surviving parts.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello everyone

Hoping you all enjoyed your summer break and had great holidays. During this time we've had a "Potters Bar Museum" sign erected at the turning to the entrance of Wyllyotts complex, which we hope some of you have noticed. In September we start a series of Lectures which we trust you will find of interest. Do come along and, at the same time, get acquainted with your Committee, all of whom will be wearing smart new badges, which will help you to recognise who is who. If you have any suggestions for a particular lecturer you would like to hear, or any other ideas or questions you may have - please approach any member of your Committee and put your views forward - they will be only too pleased to help. We look forward to seeing you; bye for now.

NOTIFICATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Following this year's approval of an alteration of the Constitution at the AGM, it was realised that we should have consulted first the Charity Commissioners. They have since suggested the following amendments, so as to comply with the Society running the Museum. Therefore, the beginning of the monthly meeting on Thursday 26th September will be an extraordinary general meeting to approve these amendments:-

2. OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

a) To stimulate an interest in history, especially local history, by suitable means, such as lectures, exhibitions, visits, excavations and publications.

b) To promote the advancement of education and research into the history of the area.

c) To record and encourage the preservation of buildings, monuments, documents and other evidence relating to the history of the area.

3. POWERS OF THE SOCIETY

In furtherance of the above objects but not further or otherwise the Society shall have the power:-

a) To maintain links with organisations and individuals within and without the area as they will help achieve these objects.

b) To provide a local history museum, and acquire and maintain a collection of exhibits for the museum.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Would all members who have not paid their subscriptions for the current year, kindly use the A5 form attached to the Newsletter and return it to the Membership Secretary with remittance, as soon as possible.

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!

TREASURER STILL REQUIRED. VOLUNTEERS PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN.

WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME

Thursday 26th September "In and around Potters Bar in the 1960's and 70's." by Mr Ron Kingdom.

He writes, "The slides will cover scenes of the Barnet Rd, Bentley Heath, Stagg Hill, the High Street, Little Heath, Darkes Lane, P.B.Station and South Mimms. It will take in areas before and during the building of the M25. A wide variety of vehicles will be seen on both road and rail along with shops and other buildings that no longer exist. With an old shot or two of Northaw and Cuffley. During the evening an album of similar scenes in both black and white and colour will be on display for general viewing."

Friday 25th October "The Saxons in Hertfordshire." by Mr.B.Adams M.A., Keeper of Education, Verulamium Museum.

Mr Adams brings a wealth of experience on this subject, having first given a series of WEA lectures on, "Anglo-Saxon Jewellery" at Cuffley in the early 1970's. Therefore, members are assured of an informative and entertaining evening on the Saxons.

Tuesday 26th November. "The Home Guard in Hertfordshire." by Lt. Col. John Sainsbury T.D. F.S.A. The lecture will be about the raising, organisation and purpose of the Home Guard in Hertfordshire. The Speaker has said, "Potters Bar was then in Middlesex and outside the scope of this study, but if you have any material on the local Home Guard, bring it and we will see what we can make of it."

THE MEETING STARTS AT 8PM PROMPT IN THE SIXTY PLUS CENTRE, WYLLYOTTS CENTRE. ALL ARE WELCOME. ADMISSION FREE.

CAR-LIFTS FOR MEMBERS

Certain of our members are unable to attend the lecture meetings due to lack of transport. It would be appreciated if any member who is willing to offer a lift to meetings would contact the chairman, who could then put them in touch the member needing the lift.

S U M M E R A C T I V I T I E S

FURZEFIELD WALK

At 6.45pm on Wednesday, 12th June, twenty members of the Society gathered on a fine evening in the car park, by the astroturf, at the Furzefield centre. After a brief introduction as to the purpose of the walk, the party moved off to its first stop in Mutton lane, near Wroxham Gardens. Here it was explained that the field opposite was called Le Parke, and its close proximity to Mimms Hall (the moated manor house for the Manor of South Mimms), was similar to the other sub-manors in the area. Further stops were made at the beginning of Warrengate Lane, where it was noted as being the site of the windmill for the Manor of South Mimms, and then by Mimms Hall, where members were given a brief outline of its history. Having found the correct line of the footpath one was faced by two illegal obstructions

across the footpath, which impeded the progress of the party.

On reaching the stream members took a pleasant walk along the side of the stream and through Furzefield Wood to the carpark.

JANE AUSTEN TOUR.

On the 21st June, thirteen members of the Society boarded our Enfieldian coach for a tour of the Jane Austen countryside. We arrived at Chawton where we saw her country cottage and much of the surrounding area she loved to walk in. We were unable to view the inside of the cottage owing to lack of parking space for the coach, which was a great pity.. Perhaps we can arrange this on a further outing.

From there we went on to Winchester, a truly lovely city full of historical interest, including a beautiful Cathedral; we even glimpsed the Bishop among a large group of children, resplendent in his robes, complete with staff. A museum containing a small amount of information on Jane Austen - a steward remarking, "She seems to be making quite a come-back!" Winchester is definitely a place that requires a longer visit, and I for one intend returning. The weather was uncertain at first but about lunchtime the sun came out to stay, giving us, with the things we each did and places we saw, a truly enjoyable day out. We arrived back at Potters Bar a little tired but happy.

J. Foster.

AN EVENING TO REMEMBER AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

"Following an invitation from the Potters Bar and District Historical Society, a small number of Christ Church folk were included in an outing to Westminster Abbey on Saturday, 11th May. This covered a musical tour of the Abbey by a group of twelve members of the Purcell Club who are former choristers of the Abbey.

The Historical Society had made application to attend one of these tours in 1991, but there was a five year waiting list - so popular are these events. We learned that the list now extends to the year 2003!

About 60 members of the Society and friends assembled in the Jerusalem Chamber for a brief introduction then at 7pm we proceeded into the Nave where an excellent speaker began a series of talks on the history and architecture of the Abbey.

The choir, who were unaccompanied throughout, sang their first piece - in plainsong as it would have been when the Nave was built. We then moved on to the Quire, then to St. Edward the Confessor's Chapel and other Royal Chapels. On our way round the Ambulatory we also visited Henry VII's Chapel, Coronation Chair, the High Altar and Poet's Corner.

At several locations the speaker paused for a short talk and the choir sang pieces of sacred music, the most memorable, in our opinion, being "God be in my Head". The last of these pieces was given when we had returned to the Nave; here we were entertained by a short organ recital.

We then returned to the Jerusalem Chamber where an excellent spread of food was laid out on a long table. There were sandwiches, sausage rolls and cakes,, with tea or coffee. The speaker gave us a brief history of this room and the Purcell Club

singers finished the evening about 9.45pm with a selection of secular part-songs. It had been a most memorable evening. The absence of normal sightseers gave the Abbey a quietness that suited the occasion. It followed on the tercentenary of Henry Purcell's death in November 1695 - he had been organist at the Abbey.

Once again, we thank the Historical Society for enabling us to enjoy such a wonderful experience. We shall long remember the atmosphere of worship in this glorious Abbey."

***The above first appeared in the July edition of Christ Church, Little Heath Magazine, and is reproduced here by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Carey.

VISIT TO JESUS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

On the 20th July (a beautiful warm Saturday), a dozen or so members were guests of Mrs Muriel Brittain at Jesus College. The College celebrates its 500th anniversary this year, and Mrs Brittain took us into the beautiful College Church, where she recounted one of her many anecdotes about Jesus College. There's a black cloth hanging behind the altar in the church and it bears a stylised IHS motif. Evidently, when Sir Winston Churchill died, Archbishop Ramsey needed a mourning cope in a hurry. The firm that had provided this black back-cloth with the motif had some of the material left over, and so they made the Bishop his cope out of the remnants. The Bishop subsequently bequeathed the cope to Jesus College.

In one of the passages we saw a wooden door, beautifully carved with a cockerel and an inscription in Latin, in memory of Mrs Brittain's late husband. We were also allowed to visit the huge dining hall (formerly the nun's refectory), a splendid hall with a hammer-beam roof. It had only recently been refurbished so everything gleamed with gold paint and the cleverly-painted imitation marble (grisaille). The walls were hung with portraits of past worthies, and great, dark oak dining tables filled the hall.

After we'd seen the 'sights', we were treated to a fabulous cream tea, in Mrs. Brittain's chambers. There was fruit cake and lemon sponge too, and limitless cups of tea - a lovely, cosy atmosphere.

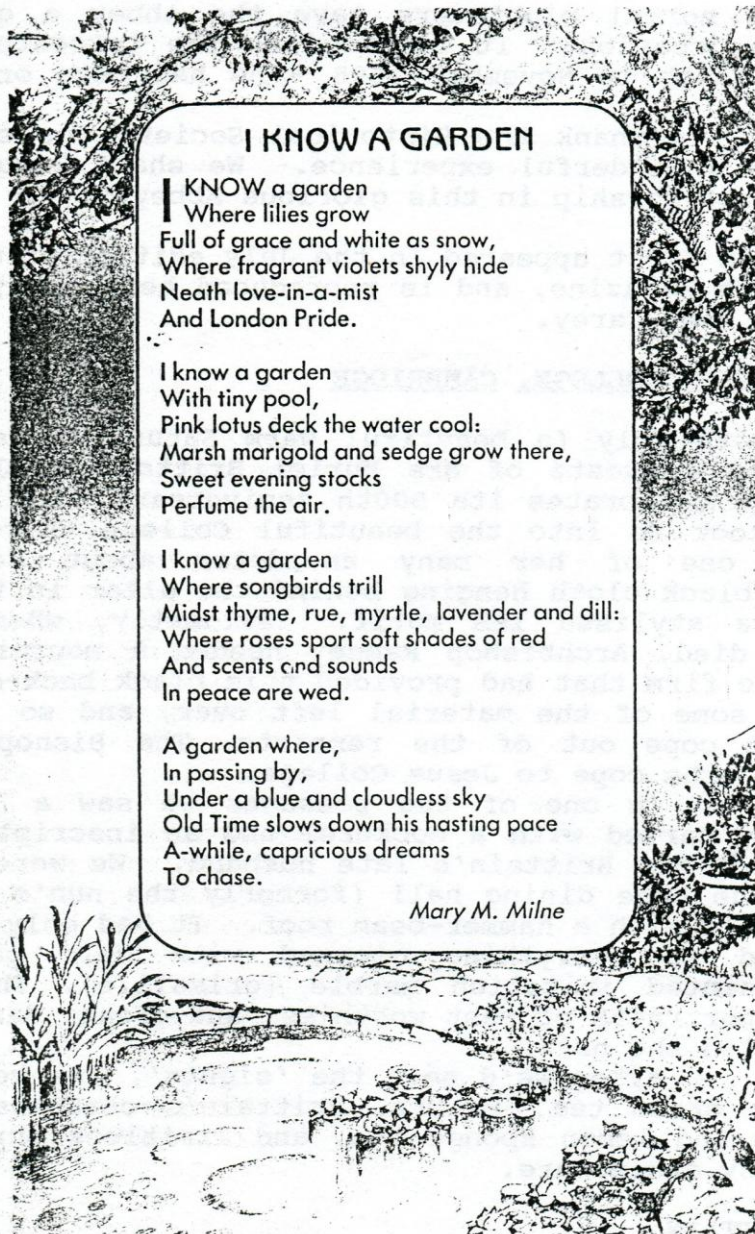
MURIEL BRITTAIN

Our past President, Muriel Brittain, has been greatly honoured by being made a Fellow Commoner of Jesus College, Cambridge. It is a rare award, which entitles the recipient to wear a special gown and receive certain privileges within the College.

Since Muriel's husband, Dr. E. Brittain, a Fellow of the College for 32 years, died in 1969, she has undertaken the position of Assistant Keeper of the Records. This has entailed collecting and collating news of former members of the College and producing an annual review. This is sent to all known former students.

Besides this official task, Muriel has been a part of the College in many other ways.

The Society wishes to congratulate Muriel on being honoured with this singular award.



I KNOW A GARDEN

I KNOW a garden
Where lilies grow
Full of grace and white as snow,
Where fragrant violets shyly hide
Neath love-in-a-mist
And London Pride.

I know a garden
With tiny pool,
Pink lotus deck the water cool:
Marsh marigold and sedge grow there,
Sweet evening stocks
Perfume the air.

I know a garden
Where songbirds trill
Midst thyme, rue, myrtle, lavender and dill:
Where roses sport soft shades of red
And scents and sounds
In peace are wed.

A garden where,
In passing by,
Under a blue and cloudless sky
Old Time slows down his hasting pace
A-while, capricious dreams
To chase.

Mary M. Milne

POTTERS BAR SOCIETY. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The following illustrated lectures have been arranged for the autumn season. These will be held at the Tilbury Hall, commencing at 8pm, admission £1.50.

Thurs	19 September 1996	Radio Memories of the 1930/40's. Mr. R Paulus.
Thurs	31 October 1996	The World of the Victorian Magic Lantern. Mr. D Stevens.
Thurs	5 December 1996	The History of the Christmas Card. Mr. G Simpson.

To obtain tickets for the lectures, please send a cheque, payable to THE POTTERS BAR SOCIETY, and SAE to:-

Mrs P.Hardiment, 34 Parkside, High Street, Potters Bar. EN6 5AU.

RECEPTION FOR OUR RETIRING PRESIDENT. 15th JULY 1996

Following the Society's formal presentation to Muriel Brittain at the A.G.M., a further informal gathering of present and former members of the Society's committee, and friends of the retiring President attended a small buffet reception in the Museum. Those attending gathered from 7.30pm onwards until 8.00pm when Jean Foster welcomed everyone to the occasion. Brian Warren then said a few words about Muriel and how she had always been available in supporting the Society, in various ways, since 1973. Prior to this date the President of the Society had always been the Chairman of Potters Bar District Council. Muriel then expressed her grateful thanks on receiving a book token, in appreciation of her services to the Society.

The assembled company then partook of the buffet and conversed with one another to end a very convivial evening.

PUBLICATIONS

The Society's next publication will be The Journal No10, which will be available for distribution in the near future to members whose subscriptions are up to date for the 1996/7 session. It will contain a further article on the history of Potters Bar Hospital, the story of Weston's the Drapers, and the typology of local clay pipes. A publication not to be missed!

MUSEUM NEWS

Len Field, who has acted as co-ordinator for the Tuesday stewards, has relinquished the post. A letter of thanks was sent to him for all the work he has done in that respect. Since then, Brian Kolbert has agreed to accept the position and will be compiling the list for October to December.

The present exhibition, by Terry Goulding, on "Photographic Views In and Around Potters Bar (1930-1950)" has provoked a great deal of interest in the rather unique collection of photographs. Information has been added to our knowledge from members of the public. At the same time other displays have been updated, so it is time for members to make another visit! During October, the Revd. Ian Brown, vicar of Little Heath, has agreed to loan the presentation trowel used at the opening of the original vicarage in 1896, which is now secreted in the Church's safe.

Enquiries have been answered from Owen's School and Pope Paul R.C. School, and two visits were made by parties from Cranborne Junior School. Mr John Burdon brought a group of teachers to introduce them to the facilities available at the Museum.

A start has been made on cataloguing the Society's collection. In this connection, from now on the lists, as completed, will be appended to the end of 'The Newsletter', so that members can compile their own catalogue.

MUSEUM STEWARDS.

Please note:-

1. If one is unable to fulfil ones commitment to steward on a certain day, then please ensure that there is a replacement and notify the organiser for that day. Just recently neither of the stewards arrived, which is embarrassing when the public assumes the Museum will be open.
2. If there are any problems with the alarm going off, then dial **ENTER**, followed by the code number which disengages the alarm. To re-engage the alarm one dials the code number.

LAMAS
LONDON & MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Thirty-first Local History Conference
LAMAS

London Industry - From Workshop To Factory

Sat. Nov. 9th 1996
10.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
Museum of London Lecture Theatre

- 10.00- 10.20 am Exhibitions open
- 10.30 am Opening remarks
- 10.35 am **Making History - Man and Machine 1550-1700**
- Hazel Forsyth, Curator of Post-Medieval Collections. Museum of London
- 11.35 am **London Manufacture - The 18th & 19th Centuries**
- Alex Werner, Deputy Head of Later London History, Museum of London
- 12.35-1.45 Lunch interval - tea will be available
- 1.45 pm **South London's Pottery Industry 1600-1956**
- Brian Bloice, Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society; lecturer at Morley, Wandsworth & Lambeth Colleges;
- 2.15 pm **Chippendale to Curtain Road - East London's Furniture Trade 1750-1900**
- David Dewing, Director of the Geffrye Museum
- 2.45 - 3.30 pm Tea
- 3.30 pm **The Bricks that Built London**
- Michael Hammett, Senior Architect Brick Development Assn., Hon. Secretary British Brick Society
- 4.00 pm **Glass-Blowers to Bottle Machines - London's Glass Industry 1700-1980**
- Cathy Ross, Head of Later London History, Museum of London
- 4.30 pm **Industries of the Great West Road**
- James Marshall, author of "History of the Great West Road", Assistant Librarian, Hounslow Local Studies Library

There will be displays of recent work and publications by Local History Societies in the Interpretation Unit from 10.00 am.

Cost £5 (incl. tea at lunch & tea times only)

Please apply early because there is no guarantee that tickets will be available on the day.

LAMAS
LAMAS

If one requires a ticket, send a cheque for £5 made payable "London and Middlesex Archaeological Society" to LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE. 36 CHURCH RD. WEST DRAYTON. MIDDX. UB7 7PX. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your tickets.

Wyllyotts Museum and Local History Centre

POTTERS BAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S COLLECTION

POTTERS BAR & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ARCHIVE - marked PBHS

- PBHS No. I The Victoria History of the County of Middlesex volume 5
O.U.P. 1976
- 2 Monken Hadley by Frederick Charles Cass, M.A., 1880
- 3 South Mimms by Frederick Charles Cass, M.A., 1877
- 4 South Mimms by Frederick Charles Cass, M.A., 1877
- 5 East Barnet Part I by F.C.Cass, M.A., 1885
- 6 East Barnet Part 2 by F.C.Cass, M.A., 1892
- 7 English Houses 1200-1800 The Hertfordshire Evidence
by J.T.Smith HMSO 1992
- 8 Britons and Saxons The Chiltern Region 400-700
by K.Rutherford Davis Phillimore 1982
- 9 Hertfordshire Inns & Public Houses an historical
gazetteer by Graham Jolliffe & Arthur Jones
Hertfordshire Publications 1995
- 10 Hertfordshire in History Edit.Dr.Doris Jones-
Baker. The Hertfordshire Local History Council 1991
- 11 The Care of Old Buildings Today by Donald Insall 1973
- 12 Memorials of Old Middlesex Edit..J.Tavenor-Perry 1909
- 13 Barnet & Hadley Almshouses by W.H.Gelder 1979
- 14 The Story of Potters Bar & South Mimms edit.
K.Rutherford Davis 1966
- 15 South Mymms by F.Brittain W.Heffer & Sons Ltd 1931
- 16 Northaw Great Wood Edit. Bryan L.Sage 1966
- 17 English Medieval Sculpture by Arthur Gardner 1935
- 18 A Modern History of Brookmans Park 1700-1950
by Peter Kingsford 1983
- 19 Catalogue of Exhibition at Parkfield School 1950
- 20 Catalogue of Exhibition at Parkfield School 1950
- 21 Catalogue of Exhibition at Oakmere House 1959
- 22 Catalogue of Exhibition at Oakmere House 1959
- 23 Catalogue of Exhibition at Oakmere House 1959
- 24 Catalogue of Exhibition at Oakmere House 1959
- 25 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C 1963
- 26 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C. 1966
- 27 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C. 1967
- 28 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C. 1968
- 29 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C. 1969
- 30 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C. 1970
- 31 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C. 1971
- 32 Public Health Report-Potters Bar U.D.C. 1972
- 33 RCHM Annual Report 1992/3
- 34 RCHM Annual Report 1993/4
- 35 RCHM Annual Report 1994/5
- 36 RCHM Strategic Plan 1996
- 37 RCHM Citizen's Charter: Final Draft
- 38 RCHM Newsletter No.6 Spring 1992
- 39 RCHM Newsletter No.7 Summer 1992
- 40 RCHM Newsletter No.8 Autumn 1992
- 41 RCHM Newsletter No.9 Spring 1993
- 42 RCHM Newsletter No.10 Summer 1993
- 43 RCHM Newsletter No.11 Autumn 1993
- 44 RCHM Newsletter No.12 Spring 1994
- 45 RCHM Newsletter No.13 (Swindon map) Autumn 1994
- 46 RCHM Newsletter No.14 Winter 1995
- 47 RCHM Newsletter No.15 Spring 1995
- 48 RCHM Newsletter No.16 Summer 1995
- 49 RCHM Newsletter No.17 Winter 1996

Wylliotts Museum and Local History Centre

POTTERS BAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S COLLECTION

POTTERS BAR & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ARCHIVE - marked PBHS

- PBHS No. 50 Records of the gravestone inscriptions in the churchyard of St. John the Baptist, High Street, Potters Bar. Collected and recorded by Mrs. Betty Fost.
- 51 Revised edition of PBHS No. 50 updated by C.T. Overend.
- 52 Historical Records Number 1 2nd (Revised) Edition of PBHS No. 50 published 1982
- 53 Index to Monumental Inscriptions St. John the Baptist - Potters Bar by D. Willcocks May 1984
- 54 Historical Records Number 2 Pub. PBHS
Transcripts of Willliotts Manor Documents, South Mimms, Middlesex. Seventeenth Century Rentals by H.M. Baker and B. Warren 1976
- 55 As for PBHS No. 54
- 56 Historical Records Number 3 Pub. PBHS
Northaw Parish Registers Transcripts. Taken from the Bishop's Transcripts, St. Albans, Herts. Part I. 1564 to 1632. By A.W. Longden.
- 57 As for PBHS No. 56
- 58 Historical Records Number 3A Pub. PBHS
Northaw Parish Registers Transcripts Taken from the Bishop's Transcripts, St. Albans, Herts. Part 2 1681 to 1713 by A.W. Longden. Dated 1977
- 59 As for PBHS No. 58 but containing some amendments.

NOTE PBHS Nos. 50-52 have been further updated but not yet published.

PBHS Nos. 56-59 were withdrawn from sale when it was noted that the publications contained errors.

Consult the present Hon. Curator for updated material.

POTTERS BAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

PBHS No. 60	PBHS No. I	February 1969
61	PBHS No. 2	n.d.
62	PBHS No. 3	November 1970
63	PBHS No. 4	March 1971
64	PBHS No. 5	March 1972
65	PBHS No. 6	December 1972
66	PBHS No. 7	March 1974
67	PBHS No. 8	January 1975
68	PBHS No. 9	February 1976
69	PBHS No. 10	February 1977
70	PBHS No. 11	January 1978
71	PBHS No. 12	February 1979
72	PBHS No. 13	February 1980
73	PBHS No. 14	April 1981
74	PBHS No. 15	April 1982
75	PBHS No. 16	April 1983
76	PBHS No. 17	April 1984
77	PBHS No. 17	April 1984

- PBHS No. 78 Potters Bar and District Historical Society: The First Twenty-Five Years 1959 to 1984 by C.T. Overend. Pub. July 1984

POTTERS BAR and DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS 1986-1995

- | | | |
|-------------|--|------|
| PBHS No. 79 | The Railway Through Potters Bar by G.H. Eve | 1986 |
| 80 | The Turnpike Road to Hatfield by A.C. Lynch | 1986 |
| 81 | Malcolm Tomkins 1930-1981 - A Collection of his Writings | 1987 |

*Potters Bar & District
Historical Society*

Regd. Charity No. 299475

Subscription commencing

April 1996 to March 1997

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

Name: (Dr, Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms)

Address:

Postcode:Telephone No.

**I/We enclose £ as my/our subscription to the
Potters Bar & District Historical Society.**

**Subscription:- Adults £3
 Family/Group £5**

Prompt payment is much appreciated - THANK YOU

**If one does not intend to renew their subscription,
please notify the Membership Secretary,
51, Highview Gardens,
Potters Bar,
Herts. EN6 5PN**

TELEPHONE:- 653801

If one requires a receipt, please send a S.A.E.

Office Use	Adult	Subscription
	Family/Group	Date received
	Cash/cheque	Receipt No.