

DORKING & DISTRICT PRESERVATION SOCIETY



Established in 1929

NEWSLETTER

No. 27

November 2000

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DORKING & DISTRICT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER 27: November 2000

Free to members

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EDITORIAL

One of our perennial hobby-horses is the increasing nuisance of aircraft noise in this part of Surrey. Gatwick is the prime offender, and the distressing row created by its departure flights is by no means confined to the unfortunates who have to live immediately below its flight paths. This alone would be bad enough, but we also have to endure the racket made by helicopters and other low-flying aircraft using an apparently official route along the southern face of the North Downs; most of this traffic is associated with the so-called Redhill Airfield at South Nutfield which is no doubt also the source of the fine-weather flights that centre on Box Hill. Finally, Heathrow seems to make increasing use of our skies for aircraft circling in 'holding pattern' as they queue for a landing slot.

All this adds up to make the rare bouts of sky silence increasingly brief. Those who have lived in Dorking for a long time will be aware of the strong growth of aircraft noise since the 1970s. Along with it, but less obvious, comes a heavy pollution of the atmosphere from the daily combustion of tons of aircraft fuel.

We have by no means reached the ceiling. Air traffic over south-east England is still very much on an upward growth curve. A recent government study concluded that, with passenger numbers rising from the present annual 160,000,000 to 240,000,000 by 2010 and to an estimated 333,000,000 by 2025, three new airports the size of Heathrow (or four the size of Gatwick) will be needed in this timescale to meet demand. Air freight through UK airports is expected to increase by almost 100 per cent by 2010. Officials at the Department of Environment, Transport & the Regions are reported as "not knowing what to do" about the increased airport

capacity required, whilst BAA presses for early decisions, notably for a second runway at Gatwick and a Fifth Terminal at Heathrow.

Much, if not all, the growth in air travel and use of private aircraft over the past two or three decades of steady inflation is due to the very low real cost to the consumer, a feature associated with the industry's virtual exemption from taxation. It has in particular nurtured a continuing boom in holidays abroad, conveniently retailed from High Street shops at prices which make these available to almost all classes of society and render them cheaper than holidays in Britain. A hefty levy on aviation fuel reflected in ticket prices might well restrain demand, warding off the pressure for more air transport infrastructure and checking the growth in noise and other pollution in our congested south-east skies, but such a measure would of course only be effective if it were applied internationally. Were it ever to come about (and is there any alternative?), some of the proceeds could usefully be devoted to more intensive research into quieter, less polluting aircraft engines and into reducing the extremely intrusive noise associated with helicopters in flight. (It is interesting that when aircraft appear in films or on television, they are depicted as almost silent in operation!)

Meanwhile, back to reality and the present. Let no one allow any genuine annoyance to pass without recording the exact time and if possible other details to assist identification, before making their telephoned or written complaint to Gatwick, Redhill or Heathrow, as appropriate.

ALAN A JACKSON

SCULPTURES IN DORKING

Most of the readers of this Newsletter will I expect have seen the new statue of Thomas Cubitt of Denbies outside the Council Offices. There is soon to be another one immediately opposite it outside the Dorking Halls, a standing figure of Ralph Vaughan Williams, the founder of this Society. Both are by sculptor Will Fawke and are a generous gift to Dorking from Adrian White.

Meanwhile our own plans are progressing to commission a sculpture to stand outside the Post Office in the High Street. We placed an advertisement in the September issue of AN Magazine. (AN stood originally

for Artists' Newsletter, and it is the artists' recognised trade magazine.) By 20 October, as I write this, we had received 43 replies, consisting of artists' CVs, photographs or slides of their work and occasionally ideas for what they might do for this commission. The selection committee consists of Michael Forster, Beryl Higgins, Hannah Peschar and myself. We expect to be meeting in the second week of November to draw up a short list of three sculptors who will then be asked to work up proposals, out of which one will be chosen for the commission.

MARTIN WEDGWOOD

THE CAPEL INCINERATOR

Since the last issue of the Newsletter I have bombarded members with material on the proposed incinerator at Capel, and I would not be surprised if some of you told me that you had now heard enough. It is, however, a hugely important potential development, and many members will I am sure want to be kept up to date.

The meeting that was called at the Dorking Halls for the evening of 13 September coincided with the week of the petrol blockade, and we were worried that this would be reflected in the numbers able to attend. In fact, almost every seat in the hall was taken, and there was a very large contingent from Capel itself as well as of members of the Society. Many thanks to all of you who came, particularly those for whom it was not especially convenient to do so.

The meeting had been called by the planning officers of the County Council and was chaired by the Chief Planning Officer of Tandridge, a district not affected by any of the three proposed incinerators for Surrey; two of these are being applied for by Surrey Waste Management Ltd, a company which has signed a contract with Surrey County Council for the treatment of waste, and one on behalf of Thames Water, which has no such contract. The subject of the meeting was, of course, only the incinerator proposed for Capel, being applied for by Surrey Waste Management.

The chairman and the two county planning officers sat at a table on the far right-hand side of the stage, and on the far left-hand side sat the representatives of Surrey Waste Management. This layout was designed to symbolise that it is the responsibility of the planning officers to recommend to the Planning Committee of the County Council whether or not in their view permission should be granted, and that their position as planning officers is a neutral one. This perhaps needed emphasising, because the applicants, having signed a contract with the County Council, were effectively the County Council's own men. The County planning officers, in particular

Mrs Pelegram, went to some lengths to talk on the subject of the conflict of interest that occurs when the County Council is itself effectively the applicant, and she stressed that this was a situation that occurred regularly and that the planning officers were well-accustomed to handling it. Not surprisingly, some members of the audience reacted cynically to this.

In fact the planning officers went to some lengths to discuss both arguments for and arguments against the scheme, but their treatment of the 'principle of proximity' - that incinerators should be placed as near as possible to the sources of the waste - caused some concern. There was, they said, a shortage of case law to establish how 'proximity' is to be defined. If it were to mean 'ease of access', then greater distances would presumably be acceptable if access was by rail, etc etc. 'Proximity' was, unfortunately, 'a fuzzy concept'. This was not reassuring.

Some reference was made to the plans of adjacent authorities, in particular that of West Sussex to build a waste incinerator at Warnham, two miles down the road from Capel, but no evidence was provided to show whether there is any effective mechanism for collaboration between counties to enable them to dovetail their plans.

After the presentation, those attending were invited to raise questions. Questioners were taken at random. Neither your President, your Chairman nor the Chairman of your Planning Committee were invited to speak, but the quality of the questions was in general quite high, the responses not particularly helpful.

We came away feeling that we had not in fact learnt very much that we did not know before, except perhaps that the Government's requirement that each region should be self-sufficient in waste disposal was being interpreted, at least by the applicants, as meaning that each county should be self-sufficient.

Continued overleaf

From what we had heard we are convinced that it is going to be extremely important that the County Council does not have responsibility for the final decision. It is too committed to Surrey Waste Management and, whatever can be said of the standards of objectivity of the planning officers, it seems to us to be unwise to expect the Planning Committee of the County Council itself to demonstrate a similar standard when deciding which of the three applications should be allowed and which turned down, when deciding first for their own contractor and then for another party. There is also the serious possibility of a nonsense being created as a result of clashes between the plans of neighbouring authorities.

We have therefore written a further letter to the Chief Planning Officer of the County, to inform him that we are strongly of the opinion that the application should be refused but that, if it is allowed, it should be referred to the Minister of the Environment. A copy of this letter has been sent to the Ministry of the Environment,

Transport and the Regions and to the Government Offices for the South-East (GOSE) with a covering letter requesting that the case be called in. It can then be decided in a forum that can be more relied on to be dispassionate, and where it will also be possible to take into consideration the plans of neighbouring authorities.

Meanwhile the processing of the application is progressing slowly. It was tabled for debate by the District Council on 4 October, but on the evening postponed until the next meeting, which is to take place on 1 November. The recommendation of the Mole Valley planning officers is that the District Council advise the County Council to refuse the application, for eight solid reasons. Let us hope that the County Council is persuaded by them. The application is not likely to be debated by the County Council until January 2001 at the earliest. We note that by then it will be only four months until the next County Council elections in May.

MARTIN WEDGWOOD

HOUSING AND THE LABOUR SHORTAGE

Has your post been arriving on time recently? Businesses I have spoken to say that they have no complaints, but private addresses seem to be a different matter. The Post Office is extremely short of staff. When one of them is ill, the distribution of letters becomes a huge task, involving double rounds, ending in the afternoon. The other day they were obliged to call up some supply postmen from Worthing, but they perforce started later and, because they did not know the rounds, took longer to do them. That must have been the day that our post in Pixham arrived at 17.00. *(The Editor can beat this: he has had his as late as 18.00.)*

The Post Office tells me that the problem is not unique to Dorking, but is common to the whole of north Surrey (defined as the RH and KT postcodes), and is part of a wider problem affecting all south-east England, in which there is effectively now full employment. Several of Dorking's leading employers have told me of the difficulty they are having in getting staff. Recruitment drives consistently fall short of their targets; in individual cases, quite unspecialised jobs, such as receptionist/telephonist, are vacant for months. The major employers are, however, on the whole managing, but few of their recruits live in Dorking; they are more likely to come in from Redhill or Epsom, and especially from Horsham.

Post office workers, however, start work at 04.30 or 05.00. At such a time there is no public transport, and even those who own cars are unlikely to want to drive far to work. Not surprisingly almost all the

staff at Dorking Post Office live in Dorking. If they did not, where nowadays could they find somewhere to live in our town? Their wages are reasonably competitive for the job, which means that, at present prices, home-ownership and even rented accommodation in the private sector are out of reach. Other businesses, which do not experience the problem in such an acute form, can always relocate themselves if staff shortages become unacceptable. The Post Office does not have that flexibility.

It all comes back to the lack of affordable housing. The Council plans for a specific number of affordable housing units, but Housing Associations are hampered by the lack of suitable sites. Developments of more than a certain size are required to include a proportion of affordable houses among those built. This, however, is an unpopular requirement with developers, who believe, surely wrongly, that the inclusion of affordable housing in a development reduces the saleability of the rest of the units. The law allows developers to compound this requirement by paying the Council cash in lieu, and they regularly do so. This money is put aside for the benefit of subsequent Housing Association schemes. It does nothing, however, to increase the area available for such schemes and therefore the number of available affordable units. Any change to the cash-in-lieu rule will require Government legislation. Unless something is done at this level the problem will only get worse, and so will our postal services.

MARTIN WEDGWOOD

NEWS, NOTES AND VIEWS

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Government has brought in a new Gift Aid Scheme from 6 April 2000. Under this, the Society will be able to recover tax on subscriptions paid by members. All that is required is a declaration by members confirming that they wish us to reclaim tax and that they are UK taxpayers.

When we send out subscription renewal letters in January, we will include copies of the declaration required. We would ask all members, whether they pay by standing order, cheque or cash, to sign and return the declaration.

This will enable us to claim this financial support from the Government and obviously give us more money for the work which the Society carries out and which you support.

MICHAEL FORSTER

OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Mo Bushell, our much-respected Membership Secretary since the end of 1996, has had to move to Wiltshire. Peter Parkin has generously offered to take up the reins she has had to put down, and we have pleasure in welcoming him as our new Membership Secretary. You will see his address and telephone number on the inside of the front cover of this issue.

Because of the significant amount of labour and, more importantly, expense involved in sending Membership Cards to all members, your Council has decided to discontinue the practice - principally only useful to obtain free admission to the Museum. A list of paid-up members will be held by the Dorking & District Museum, to which members will continue to have the right of free entry.

If any members feel they would prefer to continue receiving Membership Cards, please let Peter Parkin know and he will see that you do.

MARTIN WEDGWOOD

GRAFFITI

New scrawling has recently appeared on the abutments of the underline rail bridge over the Pixham footpath just south of the main station, near Deepdene Vale. It is to be hoped that those who use this path and nearby residents have already alerted the Railtrack 24-hour Helpline (0845 711 4141). This telephone number should be noted and used by anyone observing graffiti or other damage to railway infrastructure.

TAMING THE A24

The Government's Ten Year Transport Plan, published on 20 July, includes statements that "60 per cent of the trunk road network [will be] given lower-noise surfaces" (this to include "all concrete surfaces"); trunk road investment will give priority to "reducing environmental impact"; and the Plan acknowledges that "noise from road transport remains a concern for many people".

Aerated Tarmac to reduce the tyre noise made by high density traffic has already been laid on parts of the A24 near Mickleham, but further extension through the Dorking residential areas has until this year been refused by the Surrey County Council on cost grounds. It will be interesting to see whether and when the work will now be done in Deepdene Avenue and London Road within the Dorking built-up area. Those who suffer from road noise may wish to refer to the statements in the central government Transport Plan and ask their County Councillor when Surrey County Council intend to make a start on this work.

Most residents of Deepdene Park, and those living in the South Drive area, have recently signed a petition calling for a pedestrian crossing over the A24 at Deepdene Drive. If provided, this should help inhibit the present often dangerous pace of traffic up and down the hill immediately south of the Deepdene roundabout.

DEPARTMENT OF APOLOGIES

Owing to a blip in printing, some copies of our last issue had page 1. printed upside down. This was only detected at the very last moment and we apologise to anyone who received a faulty copy.

ABOUT TO RETIRE OR NEWLY RETIRED?
TIME ON YOUR HANDS?

Once again the Museum in West Street urgently needs more stewards of both sexes, aged from 20-90. Requiring only three hours once a month, this is an interesting job, spent in congenial company, which will provide opportunities to meet visitors from all over the world and to learn more about the past of Dorking and district. If you are interested, please phone Brian Hodges at 01306 882669.

SOUTH STREET CAVES

Over 160 visitors entered the Caves over the Heritage Weekend when Mr Tyler was assisted by Judith Mindan and Mr Evans. There is some wear appearing on the floors from the increased foot traffic.

SCC and SWM WASTE PROPOSALS: TRANSPORT IMPLICATIONS

At the 13 September meeting on Surrey Waste Management's scheme for waste incineration (see the Chairman's comments on p.2), it became obvious that although the proposed incinerator sites at Copyhold (Redhill) and Clock House Brickworks (Capel) are both less than 500 metres from an existing railway, the road and rail alternatives for transporting waste for incineration, ash for dumping at Redhill and continuing landfill deposits for Capel have not so far received a full cost benefit analysis which would take account of social gains. Since the initiative for new developments has been left entirely to the County Council's private contractor, it is hardly surprising that the significant environmental and road traffic benefits offered by the rail option have so far been ignored in favour of simple comparisons of the basic financial costs. As well as displaying a waste disposal plan in some disarray, Surrey County Council apparently lacks a waste *transport* strategy; in both respects they seem to have come adrift from current central government policy requirements.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir, I am writing to express my appreciation for your article, and that of our Chairman, on the Central Railway proposal and the latest Sainsbury plan (respectively). I found each most illuminating and I feel sure that others will have too.

I feel that the line taken in your editorial is quite correct; we must surely try to increase railway usage - particularly for freight.

I have some sympathy for Caroline Lore's concerns about the latest Sainsbury proposal. I feel we do need to be wary of an instinct to accept it as "less bad" than the East end proposal; it remains valid to like neither!

One suggestion I have not heard is for Sainsbury to be offered the M & S facility, together with as much of the other St Martin's Walk shopping volume as they need for their business. M & S seem to be lukewarm about this piece of prime space. Can we not make better use of this area? Is there some basic obstacle to such an idea?

MICHAEL BENOY
Tower Hill

A NEW RESIDENT CALLIGRAPHER

Our plea for a volunteer to enable us to continue a decorative back cover was answered by Hank Etheridge of Box Hill. We look forward to seeing his work, which will appear as soon as we have used up the remaining stock of Eric Ferguson's output.

CHAIRMAN AT HOME TO NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTORS

Kind summer weather favoured a large gathering of Newsletter distributors and others invited by Sir Martin and Lady Sandra Wedgwood, who were at home on 24 August. Their spacious and well-tended garden on the site of the former Pixham millpond offered a charming background, tempting many of the guests to explore its secrets after tea.

Dear Sir, With reference to your heading [Do we want a new Sainsbury Supermarket in Dorking?] on page 3 of the [July 2000] Newsletter, the answer should definitely be a No No!

This proposal will undoubtedly destroy our rural town and ruin many lives in the process.

If Sainsburys need extra space, then they should consider taking over one or two adjacent shops which should be quite adequate. We do not want them to extend their products and further deprive local retailers of business. They should confine themselves to the provision of food.

I trust the Society will fully support the ban on this proposal.

L WEST
Rothes Road

REPORTS OF SOCIETY OFFICERS AND GROUPS

PLANNING OFFICER

The development of the Abinger Hall site at Abinger Hammer has been allowed. The original drive will be used, and landscaping will include restoration of the existing gardens.

No further news is expected until 2001 regarding the proposed Sainsbury Development behind St Martin's Walk, Dorking. The developers are still engaged on feasibility studies.

The application for a housing development on the St Austells Garage site at South Holmwood was refused. The appeal was withdrawn and the public meeting cancelled.

The decision to grant the application for a Night Club at Daw's Engineering in Curtis Road, Dorking, for

a temporary period ending in May 2002 prompted an angry reaction from businesses and residents in the area. The opening hours proposed are 22.00 to 03.00 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 18.00 to 23.00 for the under-18s on Wednesdays. Up to 500 people will be admitted at each session. It is expected that unacceptable disturbance will be caused to residents as revellers arrive and leave, particularly in the early hours of the morning. Both business users and residents have concerns about security, vandalism and policing. Most of Curtis Road is designated as a light industrial estate and should only be used as such; the rest of the road is residential. We question whether a night club should be allowed in this location. The residents intend to maintain strong opposition to the proposal.

ANN CHAMPION

DORKING & DISTRICT MUEUM

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The big news this time is that the Museum has received a certificate from Resource (formerly the Museums & Galleries Commission) recognising that it is now "Fully Registered" under their Registration Scheme. This Scheme was launched in 1988, and a second phase with enhanced standards and updated guidelines followed in 1995. Resource is a "strategic agency" which works with museums, galleries and archives across the UK, and the award of the Certificate shows that our Museum:

- (1) has achieved approved standards in museum management, collection care and public services;
- (2) is a suitable home for collections which are part of our common heritage; and
- (3) is worthy to receive support from public sources.

This certification marks the conclusion of a two-year task for the Museum management and, hopefully, the beginning of an auspicious stage in the Museum's development.

RETIREMENTS & APPOINTMENTS

Terry O'Kelly has decided to retire from the post of Curator (Buildings), having given well over 10 years' service in this position, and many more as a member of the Museum Working Party ("The Boys"). His job has involved not only maintaining the fabric of the buildings (owned by MVDC) including decoration, heating and dealing with leaking roofs, but also looking

after museum security and the display of objects. Terry has amazing energy and a willingness to get on with the job, often using tools inherited from his father; he also has extensive local and natural history knowledge. We are delighted that he has agreed to continue to be a member of the Working Party and to help with stewarding.

The Committee of the Museum and Council of the Society thank Terry for his contributions to our Museum and are pleased to report that John Woodcock, son of Alan Woodcock the High Street Chemist, has agreed to take over the Curatorship post from Terry. He has been formally appointed by the Society.

We would like to thank two other people for their very long service to the Museum - Victoria Houghton and Cliff Weight who are retiring as Stewards; both are well known for their local history knowledge. We also thank Cliff for all his work as Sales Manager, a responsibility he has shouldered very diligently for a long time. Sales of everything from pens, postcards to local history and other books have made a regular and major contribution to Museum finances. We are pleased to report that Judith Mindan has taken over from Cliff.

The Museum Committee agreed that the appointment of an Education Officer would help promote the development of educational aspects of our Museum for school children and adults. Committee Member John Higdon took over this responsibility but regretfully cannot continue. We are therefore looking for someone to take this position. If you are interested, or know of anyone, please contact me or a Curator for more information.

LIBRARY WINTER CLOSURE AND CHANGES TO MUSEUM OPENING HOURS

To allow time and space for improved packaging and storage of documents and photographs, we have decided to close the Library area from 1 November until the beginning of March 2001. We regret any inconvenience but feel that this will permit the large amount of work involved to proceed more quickly and, in the end, improve the facilities for our visitors.

The Exhibits part of the Museum will close for the usual three-week break over Christmas. Because of stewarding difficulties on Saturday afternoons, we are proposing to close at 16.00 instead of 17.00, starting at the beginning of November.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Gladys Arlett, Curator of Photographs, has been successful with her application to the South Eastern Museums Service for a grant towards the cost of conservation covers for over 3,000 of our photographs. This is 50% of the cost, and Gladys has very generously offered to pay the remaining 50%. Gladys and her team are pleased to report that they now have a computer-based index of our postcards, which will help researchers locate items of interest. They are also working their way through an enormous collection of photographs to remove duplicates and improve our records.

MARTIN COLE

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

So far this year the number of accessions to the Museum Library & Archives has already exceeded 100, making us give even more thought to the problems of conservation, storage and accessibility of our collections. During our winter closure we intend to pay special attention to our collection of over 1500 loose sale particulars, some of which date back to the early 19th century.

Among this year's accessions are:

130 sale particulars and 25 other documents from the late David Knight's collection, purchased with the help of generous donations from members of the Society and the Local History Group, for which we are very grateful;

Shopfitter's catalogues used at Degenhardt's shop in the 1930s and 1950s;

Transcripts (with name indexes) of the 1871, 1881 and 1891 census returns for Westcott, produced by members of the Westcott Local History Group;

(Continued in next column)

Transcript (with name index & analyses) of the 1861 census returns for Dorking produced by members of the Dorking Local History Group; Original documents on parchment (1702-1788) relating to property in the parishes of Ockley and Ewhurst;

The day-book used at the Dorking Brick Company's North Holmwood works in the early 20th century.

A constant stream of visitors have kept library curators and stewards busy, and the many written enquiries have been as rewarding to us as we hope they have been to our clients. Indexing, documentation and a variety of interesting projects have also kept us busy, and you may be assured that we will be even busier during our 'closed season'.

MARY TURNER
Curator (Library & Archives)

LIST OF ACQUISITIONS BY DORKING MUSEUM SINCE 5 FEBRUARY 2000

1. Wooden collection box labelled "Dorking British School - Building Fund" - 1898 (Renamed Powell Corderoy School in 1906). *
2. Hornby model 6-plank coal wagon, No 148, marked "Thomas Meakins, Dorking, Surrey (London Brighton & South Coast Railway)". *
3. Blacksmith's-leg vice. *
4. Framed colour print of Mr John Martin's rose-combed Dorking Cock "Champion". Cup winner in 1870, 1871 and 1872. *
5. Carton which had contained Sodium Penicillin made by Ayerst in Canada in 1945. *
6. Glass torpedo mineral water bottle inscribed "D Edwards, Dorking". *
7. Pair of bowls (woods) inscribed "Dorking Bowling Club Competition Winner A Duffield July 1913 (one year after formation of the Dorking Bowling Club in 1912).
8. Badge - Dorking Girls' High School. *
9. Metal printing block for bill heads - Geo Peters, Butcher, 3 South Street (late Fuller) - early 20th century.
10. Pair of miniature metal figures of John Alden and his wife Priscilla (née Mullins).
11. Badge inscribed "Dorking Coronation Celebrations - Official" with the Queen's photograph in centre - 1953. *
12. Badge - Dorking and District Motor Cycle Club. *
13. Glass lemonade bottle - Castle Brewery, Guildford, c. 1914. *

* On display in the Museum

B S HODGES

OTHER REPORTS

If your Report is missing, or the Report you seek is nowhere to be found in these pages, it is because none had been received by the Editor by the Press Date (see dates on page 1.) or indeed in the subsequent week, when this issue was being assembled by him.

CORPORATE MEMBERS SUPPORTING THE SOCIETY

Note that all addresses are of Dorking town and all telephone numbers have the code 01306, unless shown otherwise.

Name	Address	Tel.	Business
Abbey Information Systems Ltd	1 Paper Mews, 330 High Street, RH4 2TU	740 553	Computer consultancy
Ashcombe School, The	Ashcombe Road,	886 312	School
Bits & Bobs	20 South Street, RH4 2HL	743 119	Party shop
Betchworth Park Golf Club	Reigate Road, RH4 1NZ	882 052	Golf club
Bradney & Co	21-37 South Street, RH4 2JZ	743 939	Chartered accountants
Bray Estates	278/280 High Street, RH4 1QT	740 837	Valuers, surveyors & property managers
Broadheath Restorations	Myrtle Cottage, Newdigate, RH5 5AD	631 773	Window frame restorers
Browns of Dorking	2 Allen Court, 56 High Street, RH4 1AY	881 212	Delicatessen and caterinh
Bullimores	156 South Street, RH4 2EU	880 880	Chartered accountants
Burley, G & Sons	Burley Corner, Moorhurst Lane, S.Holmwood, RH5 4LJ	711 799	Amenity horticulturist
Chandler Cars	Unit 23, Vincent Works, Vinc't Lane, RH4 3HQ	882 001	Services and sales
Classic Bedrooms	120 South Street, RH4 2EU	880 330	Retailer
Clear, S J & Co Ltd	65 High Street, RH4 1AW	883 340	Electrical contractors/shop
Country Gardens Ltd	Reigate Road, RH4 1NP	884 845	Garden centre
Cowan & Wood	114 South Street, RH4 2EZ	886 622	Solicitors
Dorking Golf Club	Club House, Deepdene Avenue, RH5 4BX	886 917	Golf club
Dorking School of Motoring	3 Lyons Court, RH4 1AB	880 119	Driving school
Downs	156 High Street, RH4 1BQ	880 110	Solicitors and notaries
Edolph's Farm	Norwood Hill Road, Charlwood, RH6 0EB	01293 862 130	Farm
Ellis Atkins & Co	1 Paper Mews, 330 High Street, RH4 2TU	886 681	Chartered accountants
Friends' Provident Life Office	Pixham End, RH4 1QA	740 123	Life assurance
Garth House Nursing Home	Tower Hill Road, RH4 2AY	880 511	Nursing home
Graham Leather Ltd	64/65 West Street, RH4 1BS	887 727	China and glassware
Grossé UK Ltd	Portland Road, RH4 1JL	743 333	Wholesale costume jewellers
Hammond Concrete Tstg & Servs	PO Box 75, 2 Cedar Close, RH4 2YX	887 854	Concrete contractor
Hart Scales & Hodges	159 High Street, RH4 1AD	884 432	Solicitors
Harvey-Jones Phillips Prtnrship	57 West Street, RH4 1BS	742 200	Ind financial advisers
Holly & Laurel	Horsham Road, South Holmwood	885 460	Fireplaces; tea-room
Hurtwood Litho Printers	39a South Street, RH4 2JX	877 557	Printers
International Sports Mktg Ltd	Bales Court, Barrington Road, RH4 3EJ	743 322	Marketing consultants
John Arthur Gallery	Old King's Head Court, 11 High Street, RH4 1AR	741 120	Fine art gallery
King's Court Galleries	54 West Street, RH4 1BS	881 757	Art gallery and framers
Kuoni Travel Ltd	Deepdene Avenue, RH5 4AZ	840 888	Tour operators
Munro, Ian	10 High Street, RH4 1AT	882 270	Men's outfitters
Newspaper Press Fund	Dickens House, 35 Wathen Road, RH4 1JY	887 511	Charity
Newton & Co	173 High Street, RH4 1AD	884 208	Chartered accountants
Omya UK	Curtis Road	886 688	Mineral extraction
Palmer, R G	21 Monks Court, Monks Walk, Reigate, RH2 0SR.	01737 243 980	Public relations
Patrick Gardner & Co	16 South Street, RH4 2HQ	877 775	Estate agents
Rose Hill Nursing Home	9 Rose Hill, RH4 2EG	882 622	Nursing home
Schryver, Michael, Antiques	The Granary, 10 North Street, RH4 1DN	881 110	Antiques restoration
Sears, Philip, Designs	18c Horsham Road, RH4 2JD	884 477	Architectural building surveyors
Seymours Garden Centre	Stoke Rd, Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham, KT11 3PU.	01932 862 530	Garden centre
Songhurst, W Ltd	Rayleigh House, Chapel Lane, Westcott, RH4 3PJ	880 411	Builders
Super Specs	62 High Street, RH4 1AY	875 201	Opticians
Treeline	The Spinney, Horsham Road, Wallis Wood	741 800	Tree care and maintenance
Uden, C J & Co	Pledges Yard, Falkland Road, RH4 3AD	887 551	Drainage consultant and surveyors
Unum Ltd	Milton Court, RH4 3LZ	887 766	Disability insurers
Venhill Engineering	21 Ranmore Road, RH4 1HE	885 111	Specialist cable manufacturers
Viscount Agencies	Concept House, 3 Dene Street, RH4 2DR	880 715	Duty free agency
White, L A (Dkg) Ltd	11 Yew Tree Road, RH4 1HU	885 245	Builder
White & Sons	104 High Street, RH4 1AZ	887 654	Estate agents
Whitelegg Machines Ltd	Fir Tree House, Horsham Road, Beare Green, RH5 4LQ	713 200	Electrical engineers

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 Betchworth Parish Council
 Box Hill Afternoon Women's Institute
 Capel Parish Council
 Brockham Green Village Society
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NEWSLETTER No. 27

THE RIVER MOLE · 2

In 1831 Miss M.D. Bethune, in her poem
"Emlyn River - or the Mole" writes of its
origins:

"From a lowlier fount
Its deep abundant waters bubble forth
In far St. Leonard's forest, where its spring
Is all unsought, no pilgrimage is made
To the bright source; but, silent and alone,
It sends its welcome waters all abroad
Through meadows of rich grass and grateful corn;
By wooded banks, where fringing alders dip
Their pendent branches in the clear, cold wave,
And, as the light wind stirs among them, shew
The silver lining of their glossy leaves;
And thus the gentle river journeyeth on,
Long time unmarked, save by the fresher green,
Where thankful meads, whose thirsty sides she bathes,
Strew bright-eye flowers along her lingering way."

There are other allusions to the River Mole in
poetry: In Book 4 of "The Faerie Queen" by Edmund
Spenser (1552-1599):

"Mole that like a noozling Mole doth make
His way still underground till Thamis he overtake."
And Michael Drayton (1563-1631), in his great topo-
graphical poem on England - "Polyolbion" says of the
Mole "which like a noozling mole
Doth noozle underneath."