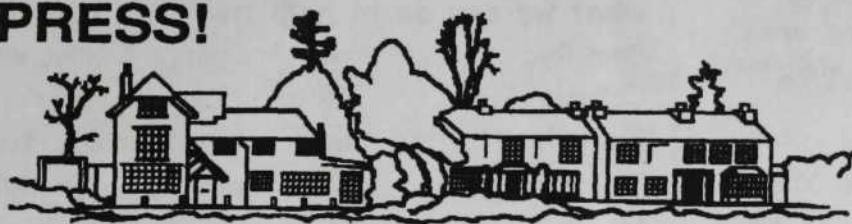


v/hj2/13/49

STOP PRESS!

Issue 49 May 2001



The Yateley Society

Latest News on the Local Interest Issues currently being worked on by members:

Mushroom Farm - Obviously a trickier one than the Inspector first thought. Although the Public Inquiry was held over 6 days in February, there is still no decision to report.

Forty Winks - application for a 5 bedroom house - another repeat application in a sensitive location - this one was approved by the Development Control Committee of Councillors against the advice of the planning officers and English Nature. Officers have referred it to the Secretary of State for final approval (as a departure from the Local Plan). If this one is approved, it could affect the outcome of a lot of applications around the Special Protection and Conservation Areas.

Robins Grove Park - A revised application has been made and although objections have been sent, this application seems likely to secure approval.

The revised Local Plan is still being considered, but it does include a provision for the land on Sandhurst Road, between the Tri-lakes and Reading Road, for a commercial sports hall, driving range, office buildings and car parking for around 250 cars. Some of this site is within a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)!

I am very pleased to announce that one of our new members, Margaret Talbot, has volunteered to help with the planning workload. Thanks very much Margaret and welcome aboard!

Colin Medley, on behalf of the Exec Committee, has written to Mr Tickle at Hampshire County Council with suggestions for

better controlling horse-riding and rights of way on the Common. I'll keep you informed of progress on this one.

Philip Todd is requesting assistance from anyone interested in helping to research the history of Firgrove Manor. If you are able to help, or know someone that can, please let me know and I will pass your interest on.

Elizabeth Tipton organised a Yateley history walk for the schoolchildren of Potley Hill Primary School last month. It was very well received by both the children and the staff. As a result of the event, work is now beginning in liaison with the school on a Teacher's Pack which will be offered to all schools in Yateley to teach about local history.

A Word from Tony Hocking

It is with regret that I have to report two very sad events which have happened since the last Stop Press.

Jack Edwards, a long term member of the Yateley Society, died suddenly of a heart attack in his garden on February 15th. Jack a former employee at the Royal Aircraft Establishment included many years service at the Ambarrow Court outstation, now a local nature and leisure reserve. He was a keen naturalist, gardener, stalwart of the WEA and an enthusiastic wood-turner, who took part in 'bodging' displays at Yateley May Fayre and elsewhere. We offer our deepest sympathies to Helen Edwards and family.

We would also like to extend heartfelt sympathies to an old and dear friend Irene Draper on the sad and sudden loss of her husband David.

