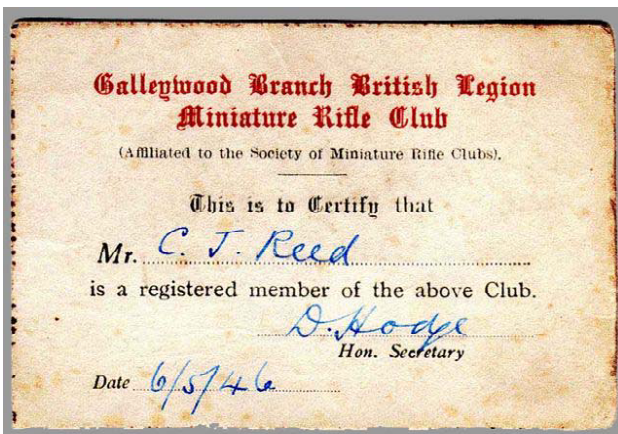


## The real story behind our main picture

THIS very dry Summer caused a dramatic lowering of the water level in Marvens Pond, the flooded part of the site of early twentieth century brick making on Galleywood Common. The opportunity was seized by our two intrepid Society members, John Turkentine and Ted Lodge – following up snippets of information gathered from casual conversations at the Society’s events – to search for evidence of the shooting range used by the Galleywood Branch British Legion Miniature Rifle Club in the late 1940s.

From Ted’s childhood memories and John’s earlier foraging around the area the target was soon positively identified. It had been hidden for many years behind Goat Willow, buried in its original position deep in the south bank of the pond. It consists of a fabricated and riveted heavy gauge shallow iron box, half buried in the silt, and supported from the rear with vertical railway sleepers and consolidated with clay, which formed a protective mound. There is still very clear evidence of a concentrated group of indentations made by .22 bullets, and the odd holes from a larger .303 calibre, which suggests that this target was originally constructed and used by the local Home Guard.



We are indebted to John Reed for the image of his much cherished 1946 Rifle Club membership card – fee 1/- (one shilling).

We would like to hear from anyone else with information about the Rifle Club and its activities

**We set up our stall at the ‘What’s on’ exhibition on Saturday 21 October in the Keene Hall and attracted a number of interested visitors. Several took away our membership application forms and we hope these will bear fruit in due course.**

### GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**President** Ron White **Chairman** David Stacy **Vice Chairman** Colin Baddock  
**Secretary** Bob Villa **Treasurer** Graham Mundy **Programme Director** Ted Hawkins  
**Committee**

Madeleine Howard Pauline Potts Peter Roscoe David Stevenson John Turkentine Philip Walters

Comments or contributions to this Newsletter would be welcomed by the editor  
David Stacy at Haldon, The Common, Galleywood, CM2 8JX  
email davidstacy@btinternet.com

# PAST TIMES

GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Number 16 NOVEMBER 2006

www.essexinfo.net/galleywoodhistoricalsociety

## Shooting Incident on the Common



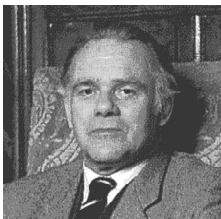
**M**ANY regular walkers on the Common will have seen the rusty iron structure being pointed out in our picture by Ted Lodge. It lies, half buried on the western edge of the large pond. Most observers have assumed this was a relic of the work that went on at Marven’s Brickworks. But we have a more interesting story – all is revealed on our back page.

**Our next meeting**



Yes, Queen Elizabeth I really did stay here. This historic house has been the home of the Petre family since it was built in the late 1500s.

Our speaker will be **Lord Petre**  
Lord Lieutenant of Essex.



The talk will be preceded by our AGM

**Wednesday 15 November 2006**  
**Keene Hall Watchouse Road at 8 pm**

## **DATES for your Diary**

**2007**

- 27 January** Exhibition by the Heritage Group  
BYGONE DAYS OF GALLEYWOOD  
Keene Hall
- 14 March** SOME GALLEYWOOD FOLK –  
A FAMILY HISTORY  
Speaker Wendy Cummin, Family Historian
- 6 June** JOSEPH STRUTT (1749-1802) BORN AT  
SPRINGFIELD MILL AND HIS MOST  
FAMOUS BOOK  
*THE SPORTS AND PASTIMES OF THE  
PEOPLE OF ENGLAND*  
How this book influenced the revival of the  
Modern Olympic Games in 1896 and the history  
of the Olympic Games to the present day.  
Speakers: Ken Edwards, Chairman Chelmsford  
Sport and Ted Hawkins

## **A new organ for St Michaels**

*This account appeared in the Essex Chronicle in March 1924*

A BIG STEP FORWARD in the history of the parish church of Galleywood has been taken by the replacement of the old organ by a practically new one, which has been placed in position in the north transept opposite the site of the old one by the side of the vestry.

The need for a better organ has been felt for a long time, and when, some months ago, the organist and choir master Mr. R Mead, learnt that the present organ was for sale, steps were at once taken to secure it for the parish. Built by Messrs. Conacher, the organ was sited at Slough Parish church and was afterwards moved to a private house at Windsor. There Mr. Mead inspected it, and so encouraging was his report that purchase was soon decided upon. The organ has 23 stops and during its removal it has been completely overhauled and renovated under Mr. Mead's supervision, and the work also included new pedals on the Great; a new Tremulance and two new combination pedals on the Swell. The old organ has been sold and removed to the church of Chignal St. James.

The total required for the organ was £320 and up to Sunday £300 had been received. The service of dedication was held on Monday evening at which the collection for the organ fund was £7. 16s 3d. leaving less than £4 to clear the account. Towards this gratifying result £110 has been given by friends outside the parish. Cards containing ten 'penny squares' were distributed in the parish and this system met with an excellent response enabling the cottagers to contribute with those better off. The vicar, the Rev. F A Roughton has spared no effort towards the success of the scheme, and a special word of praise is due to Mr. Mead.

The church was filled on Monday evening for the dedication service. The Bishop of Chelmsford offered dedicatory prayers and afterwards gave an appropriate address. Following the dedication, Mr. F R Frye, organist at the Chelmsford Cathedral, presided at the organ, the excellent tone of which was greatly enjoyed. Psalms 98 and 150 were chanted, the full choir being present. In concluding his address the Bishop said they must have solidarity, that same spirit which had enabled the people of Galleywood to raise over £300 for their new organ. Divided people could not obtain solidarity, for, as the great leader once said, divided people could do nothing.

A beautifully rendered recital was given by Mr. Frye whose masterly playing was revealed particularly in the 'Fountain Reverie' (Fletcher) and 'Shepherds Cradle Song' (Somervell) The programme also included Fugue in E Flat (Bach) and Sonata in D (Mendelssohn). Mr. J B H Low of Chelmsford gave a splendid rendering of the solo 'O God have mercy' (Mendelssohn)