

## News from our Archive Group

THE ARCHIVE GROUP of our Society has recently been established and so far has carried out work on indexing the Ron White Photographic Archive, starting a collection of new archive material and has run the successful *Bygone Days of Galleywood* exhibition in January this year. In the future, Archive group members are to undertake research on subjects pertaining to Galleywood, possibly leading to a presentation at one of the Society meetings and writing up their research in local history monographs.

The Archive group meets on an adhoc basis, sometimes monthly or bi-monthly, on a Wednesday evening. The next meeting will take place on 13 June from 7.30-9.30 pm in the Ron White Room, Keene Hall. Any Galleywood Historical Society members who are interested in finding out more information about the group, please contact **Philip Walters** on telephone 01245 473191.

## Material wanted for our exhibition

**WE ARE HOLDING AN EXHIBITION in November 2008 based on life in Galleywood and surrounding areas during World War One. This will coincide with the 90th Anniversary of the ending of the Great War.**

Material is now being compiled for the exhibition. If you can relate any personal experiences concerning yourself or a relative, please let us know.

- \* Were there any villagers who joined the RFC/RAF?
- \* How did the farms manage during WW1?
- \* Have you any first hand accounts of the flu epidemic of 1918?
- \* Did one of your relations camp on the common?
- \* Did one of your relations join a regiment like the Post Office Rifles?
- \* What were the food/clothes ration like?
- \* What was the crime rate in Galleywood from 1914 to 1918?
- \* Do you have any photographs or documents of this period?

If you can help, please contact Phil Walters - phone number above

### GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**President**                      **Chairman** David Stacy   **Vice Chairman** Colin Baddock  
**Secretary** Sarah Walters   **Treasurer** Graham Mundy  
**Programme Director** Ted Hawkins   **Archive Director** Phil Walters  
**Committee**  
Madeleine Howard   Pauline Potts   Maureen Southerden

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

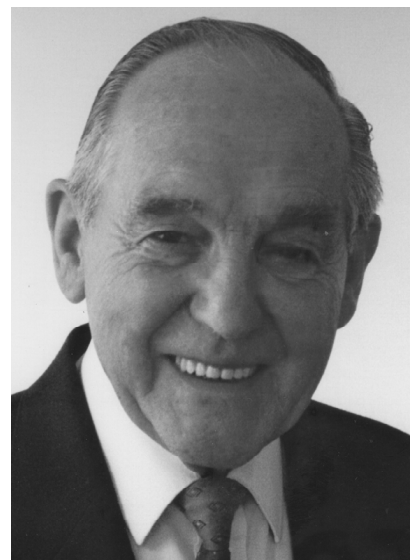
# PAST TIMES

GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Number 18    MAY 2007

www.essexinfo.net/galleywoodhistoricalsociety

## Ron White



picture by Jane Head

WHEN our Society was founded in 1998 we invited Ron White to be our first president. Around six years earlier, he had become concerned that old buildings in the village were starting to be demolished with no record of their existence being preserved for future generations.

He set about photographing all the old properties, and even toured the village in his car with a video camera mounted in the windscreen. He then developed his collection to include Galleywood people.

Family group photos were passed to him for inclusion in the rapidly expanding archive. His albums of carefully anotated pictures were always willingly brought out for inspection by callers at his home in Watchouse Road. The collection grew and grew and selections of pictures were the subject of several popular exhibitions in the Keene Hall.

In September 2006 Ron and Doris celebrated their Diamond Wedding and early in 2007 after his mobility became reduced following a series of major operations, they moved to Freshwater on the Isle of Wight to live near their daughter. They were barely settled in their seaside home when Ron died on April 9 this year.

At a memorial service in St Michael's church on May 5, tributes were paid by Councillor Janette Potter and Major Alan Watters of the Salvation Army. Ron's boundless enthusiasm in developing his collection really earned him the title 'Mr Galleywood'.

**Our next meeting**



**THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JOSEPH STRUTT**

Speakers: **Ken Edwards**  
Chairman Chelmsford Sport  
and **Ted Hawkins**

JOSEPH STRUTT was the son of a Chelmsford Miller, born at Springfield Mill and educated at Chelmsford Grammar School. After leaving school at age 14 he was apprenticed for 5 years to the well-known engraver, William Wynne Ryland, at his workshop in London and then studied at the Royal Academy School in 1769 just after it was formed. He was awarded a gold medal for 2 oil paintings and a silver medal for a drawing from ancient works of art.

He became one of the most distinguished literary men of the 18th Century and his most famous book published in 1801 was "The Sports and Pastimes of the People of England" with 140 of his own engravings. The following quotation is from his book:- "In order to form a just estimation of the character of any particular people, it is absolutely necessary to investigate the Sports and Pastimes most generally prevalent amongst them".

The talk gives the story of Joseph Strutt's life, with a brief description of the Ancient Olympic Games and how his book had a great influence on the Much Wenlock Olympian Games formed in 1850, the revival of the Modern Olympic Movement in 1896 and its progress over the years to the London Olympics in 2012.

**Wednesday 6 June 2007**  
**Keene Hall Watchouse Road**  
**at 8 pm**

**Admission to this event is strictly by ticket only**  
Apply to Ken Edwards  
Telephone 01245 474425  
Free to members  
£2.50 to non members

**DATES for your Diary**

- 2007**
- 19 Sept** LIFE IN GALLEYWOOD FROM 1900 TO 1950  
speakers: The Whybro Family  
Denis, Christine and Leslie
- 21 November** POCKY PESTLIENCE  
THE PEST HOUSE AND ITS PEOPLE  
speaker: Rosemary Wilsmer

**Is there only one Galleywood?**

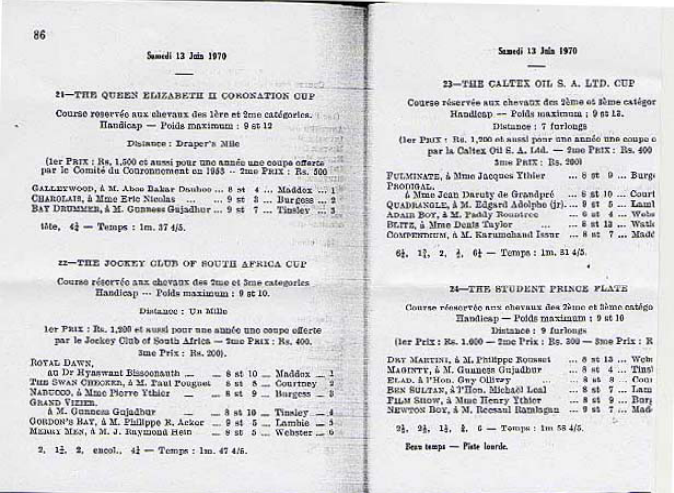
WELL APPARENTLY NOT! Whilst 'surfing the net' our intrepid Parish Council Chairman, John Turkentine, discovered Galleywood, Ickleford Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 on Google Maps.

So far there appears to be no obvious connection with our village; however a reference to Galleywood in Australia was much more interesting. This headline posted on [www.racingvictoria.net.au](http://www.racingvictoria.net.au) raised John's interest in a possible racing connection. "MCLEAN MAKES IT A GALLEYWOOD DOUBLE- Brad McLean made it back-to-back wins in the Sungold Milk Galleywood Hurdle (3100m) on Wednesday when he teamed with SOME ARE BENT to win the \$90,000 event." The second racing connection came from [www.warrnamboolracing.com.au](http://www.warrnamboolracing.com.au) with the reference to the Galleywood Club and Bar.



An e-mail to Warrnambool immediately produced the following information. The Galleywood Hurdles and the Galleywood Bar were named after a champion racehorse of the late 1980s/early 1990s named Galleywood. Although the horse has long since retired to stud, the owner passed on the information that this horse was named by his father after a successful career as a jockey in Mauritius, during the 1970s riding a horse named Galleywood.

By pure chance John mentioned this to a near neighbour who was born in Mauritius and still has family there. An email to her two brothers, one connected with their National TV network and the other their national newspaper produced



newspaper produced copies of several 1969 and 70s race cards, in French.

The research continues, who knows where it will all lead? Perhaps Galleywood's racing heritage lives on across the world?

*John Turkentine*  
10th May 2007