

The Great War – Galleywood and Beyond

THIS IS TO BE THE TITLE of the exhibition we are planning to present on **Saturday 8 November 2008**. It will be ninety years since the ending of the War that it was hoped would end all wars.

DID YOU HAVE A RELATIVE WHO DIED IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR?

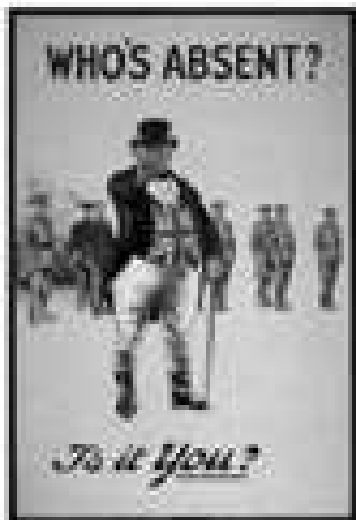
We would like 'remember' all known relatives of current Galleywood residents who died in WW1. If you have some details relating to a member of your family who died and would like them to be on our *Wall of Remembrance* please contact **Wendy Cummin** on 01245 250499 or email at jandw@blueyonder.co.uk. The serving relative need not have been connected with Galleywood but you should be a current resident.

Rosemary Wilsmer is also researching the pandemic of Spanish Flu from 1918 - 1919. So far two major organisations have agreed to run their own stand, providing documents and photographs relating to Galleywood and Chelmsford.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

The Archive Group will be pleased to hear from any member who would like join in the research for this important exhibition.

Call Phil Walters on 01245 473191 or email at mail@walters00.fsnet.co.uk



DID YOU KNOW?

SOME UNUSUAL FACTS FROM WORLD WAR ONE.

In World War One, Australian troops were called Digger and New Zealanders were called Kiwi.

On the 16th December 1914 Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool were subjected to a German battle-cruiser bombardment which lasted only 35 minutes; in that time 1,150 shells were fired with the result that 137 people lost their lives and 592 were injured. The main target being two coastal defence batteries at Hartlepool.

Major George S Patton (1885-1945) who is better known in the Second World War for his exploits. He was appointed to the United States Tank Corp by General Pershing on the 19 November 1917, at which time he was the only member.

The above facts were taken from the Dictionary of World War 1 by Ian Hogg (Hutchinson, 1994).

PAST TIMES

GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Number 20 NOVEMBER 2007

www.essexinfo.net/galleywoodhistoricalsociety

Sixty Glorious Years

*As the Queen celebrates her Diamond Anniversary,
David Stacy recalls the day he went to her wedding*

As I stood not twenty yards from the steps leading to the altar in Westminster Abbey, I realised how lucky I was to be so close to such a momentous ceremony. I was 17, and one of 26 King's Scouts chosen to give out the Order of Service to guests.

We had attended a rehearsal the previous Tuesday and here we were on the big day. And I had landed the prime position! My twelve 'clients' were foreign royalty, to be seated on the front two rows of six chairs. Although supplied with a dozen copies, I had to avoid pushing one into the hand of anyone carrying their special bound edition. This is how a spare copy found its way into my mementos of the occasion. As the service started I took up my position, standing at the end of the first row with a clear view over the heads of the seated guests. I could see Philip Mountbatten standing by the Poet's Corner door talking to The Marquess of Milford Haven. Just before he went up to the altar steps he brushed his hair and handed the brush to one of the scouts asking him to return it to the Palace.

After the Service, the scouts had to wait until the distinguished guests had left and then we walked through St James' Park for lunch at Scout HQ in Buckingham Palace Road opposite the Royal Mews. When this was over we walked round the corner to see the wedding couple come out on the balcony and, half an hour later, leave for their honeymoon.

You can say what you like about name-dropping but I have always considered this one takes some beating.

DUTY

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

Thursday, 20th November, 1947.

Admit Bearer to the Abbey.

ALAN C. DON, (1947)

GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President Chairman David Stacy **Vice Chairman** Colin Baddock
Secretary Sarah Walters **Treasurer** Graham Mundy **Programme Director** Ted Hawkins
Archive Director Philip Walters
Committee Madeleine Howard 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

Our next meeting

Pocky Pestilence - The Pest House and its People

by Rosemary Wilsmer



I HAVE had an interest in history since a very young age; it was my best subject at school. With a busy nursing career spanning 40 years and raising a family, I have had to wait to retirement for the opportunity to pursue this interest.

During my career, I progressed to nursing education at a time of major historical changes for nurse training. Although my specialist subject was community nursing, other teaching subjects were developed i.e. the history of nursing, welfare state-poor law, health and disease, all of which fuelled my interest to research something related to these disciplines when I had more time.

In 2002, I undertook a year long course in local history which required a research project to gain course credits and a certificate. Pondering what subject to choose, a chance glance at a book in the Essex Record Office shop – *The Speckled Monster* – drew me in its grasp! Glancing through the book, I realised I had finally found my research subject – ‘Pest Houses’.

Knowing little about the subject but told of one in Galleywood, the book find was meant to be. I had no idea how challenging and certainly a ‘pest’ this subject would be to research.

My talk sits in the time of the old poor law circa 1700-1834 when the fears of contagion such as small pox, its effects on the town, parishes and its people are portrayed. This is the first time I have opened the door to talk of the Pest House and I hope you enjoy your journey with me as much as I have in researching the subject.

Wednesday 21 November 2007
Keene Hall Watchouse Road at 8 pm
Our brief AGM will precede the talk

DATES for your Diary

- 2008**
- 12 March** LORDSHIPS OF THE MANOR
Speaker: Ray Knappett, CHARTERED SURVEYOR
- 4 June** Subject to be confirmed
- 17 September** Subject to be confirmed
- 8 November** **The Great War - Galleywood and Beyond**
We present our exhibition in the Keene Hall

Renew your subscription at the AGM

Membership subscriptions for 2008 should be renewed at our November meeting. In order to comply with Data Protection we must have your written permission to hold your details on our database. The information will be used only by the Historical Society and not, knowingly, supplied to any other agency. The sub remains at £5 per member and whilst cash is perfectly acceptable, it will help reduce congestion at our reception table if you pay by cheque – payable to Galleywood Historical Society. Please bring your completed form, with your payment to the meeting on 21 November

SITUATION VACANT

We are looking for someone to manage our membership database. A knowledge of *Access* software is needed and the ability to print labels for our mailing four times a year along with yearly membership cards. It’s a four-times-a-year job and we supply the materials for the printing. A non-demanding job for someone with the right skills. The only downside is that it’s unpaid.

I remember . . .

‘ ...the annual flower show and fete, held in the field next to the Keene Hall. The exhibits were set out in a large marquee outside which the exhibitors waited in nervous anticipation while the judging took place – of artwork and artichokes, sweet peas and swiss rolls, and useful things that could be made for less than a shilling. There were sporting activities for all ages and the whole event was enlivened by Gumble’s fun-fair, complete with its steam driven roundabout, chair-o-planes and dodgem cars. On Sunday afternoon the vicar conducted an open-air service for the showmen and their families before they dismantled their attractions and went away...for another year.



GERALD BARRETT