Datchet Village Society

SUMMER 2020

71



NEWSLETTER

Photograph of Ditton House, Ditton Park, north Datchet, by Adrian Giddins, from DVS Photo Archive

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DVS PLANS FOR 2020-21

We hope this newsletter finds you and your family in good health and coping with all the changes the pandemic brings from week to week.
Not surprisingly, our plans for DVS's 25th anniversary year have had to be put on hold for the time being. We hope to be able to reschedule some events later in the year but the timing is, of course, beyond our control. Our primary concern is members' safety.
The present DVS committee has agreed to continue in office until we can hold an AGM. We have included a copy of the DVS accounts summary for 2019-20 at the end of this newsletter for your information. This will be put before members for approval when we are finally able to meet again. If you have any questions about these, please get in touch.
The DVS committee continues to be active. Lots of people have been using lockdown to research family histories and our postbag has been busier than ever. We've included details of some of our most recent discoveries in this newsletter.
The Parish Council meetings are now taking place on Zoom. These are open to the public so DVS is able to attend virtually for updates on local listed buildings and matters of interest to the Society.
Some of our DVS members have also been busy contributing to Datchet's Neighbourhood Plan during this time. Work continues to progress on this using video-conferencing and online surveys.
(See page 12 for details.)

Email: info@datchetvillagesociety.org.uk

www.datchetvillagesociety.org.uk



Above:-*A few years ago on Ebay, DVS found the WWI Memorial Plaque of John Marcus de Paravicini.*
Below*: More recently, we found a Victorian Jubilee medal given to local school children to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887*



PAINTINGS OF DATCHET

DVS has had some success finding Datchet treasures on Ebay in recent years. A trawl of the online shopping website in July turned up a watercolour of St Mary's Church, below left, this time in Houston, Texas. It's about 27x24cm, not signed or dated, with staining, foxing and uneven edges and was on sale for a hefty £450 including p&p and import charges. It shows St Mary's before it was rebuilt in the 1860s. We weren't tempted to bid as it doesn't show anything that we don't know from other paintings of the church but it is fascinating to keep an eye on what turns up. If you come across anything interesting, do please let us know.





Above*: St Mary's Church before rebuilding, 1857, by William Corden.*
Left*: watercolour for sale on Ebay in July 2020.*

In late spring, we were contacted by a former resident, Roger Hardy, who lived on Slough Road. He has kindly donated to the DVS this picture of Slough Road. It was painted by Fred Avis, a local signwriter who lived at Sunways. We will put this on display to members when we are finally able to arrange an AGM.



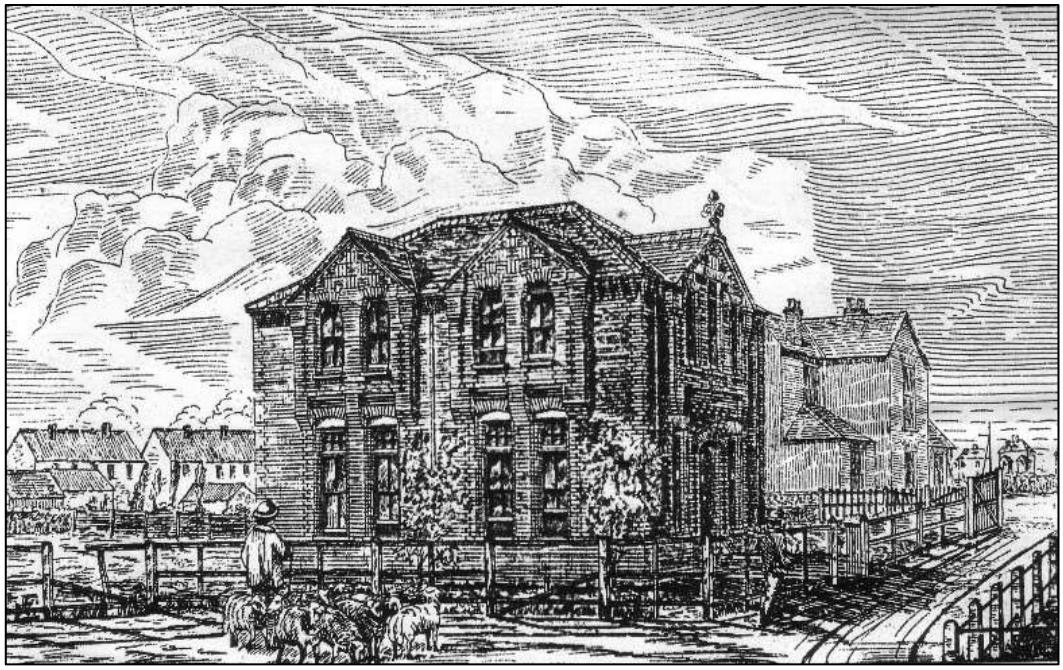
DVS PHOTO GALLERY

To see photos of DVS events over recent years, visit the 'Gallery' section of the DVS website



The Working Men's Club was built on land given by the Duke of Buccleuch in 1881. It was built by public subscription and intended to contribute to the welfare of the working classes; to provide a place where educational and improving leisure activities were available.
In 1887, Lady Needham of Datchet House provided another room at the back as a village hall. This played a central role in the life of the village until recent times. The ground floor is now the library, with a police outpost upstairs, giving the original building a new community purpose in this prominent location overlooking The Green.

For more information, please see Janet Kennish's Datchet History website: http://datchethistory.org.uk/streetshouses/south-greens/village_school/



THE WORKING MEN'S CLUB

A recent gift has enabled DVS to discover more about Datchet's Working Men's Club, its organisers and participants.
Last year, we were given a metal box containing handwritten and typed records from Datchet's Working Men's Club dating back to the 1880s. It was kindly donated by the family of David and Barbara Jefferson who passed away last year having lived in Datchet since 1964. The box and its contents were on show at DVS's Christmas event and we are hoping to display them again soon.
In the meantime, we are very grateful to DVS member Harry Clasper who has been transcribing and scanning some of these records during lockdown, before we eventually send them on to the Record Office. If you would like to read these documents, they are here on the DVS website: www.datchetvillagesociety.org.uk/our-projects/datchets-working-mens-club/



Above: *We hope there will be another opportunity for everyone to view the box and its contents when we are able to reschedule the AGM.*



Above: *'Danger of falling masonry' signs remain at the Chapel*



Above: *The rooftop chase*
Below: *Cleversley's building firm at the Old Manor House in the 1890s.*



CEMETERY CHAPEL & MILESTONE

At the July Zoom meeting of Datchet Parish Council, we asked for an update for DVS members on the work at the listed Cemetery Chapel in Ditton Road and also the restoration of Datchet's milestone.
We were told that, due to Covid-19, it had not been possible to meet the stonemason to talk about repairs to the coping stones on the Chapel roof and so the warning signs about the danger of falling masonry remain in place. It is hoped a meeting will take place soon.
The milestone has been taken away for restoration by stonemason Andy Chalk who is well-known to DVS members for his work on the WWI memorial and Edmund Earley headstone. Andy has told the parish clerk that there has been a delay in receiving the block of Portland stone needed to replace the 'root' of the milestone. This is the lower section which will anchor it firmly in the ground.
Remedial work is also taking place at The Bridge, a grade II listed building owned by the council, although no details were provided at the July council meeting.

THE CAT ON THE MANOR HOUSE ROOF

DVS recently received a query from someone who had lived in the village in the 1960s who was keen to know if there is still a sculpture of a cat on the roof of the listed Manor Houses. We were very pleased to assure him that there is.
The cat and rat are the last survivors of a whole troop, Janet Kennish explained. The chase originally took place on the roofs of Manor Cottages (between the Manor Houses and the Manor Hotel) but there is no explanation of how or when they all moved next door. George Cleversley, a local builder and fireman (pictured below left), had added the figures to the roof, presumably after carrying out repairs. George died in 1946 aged 93 but the cats are probably no older than the 1930s. They are the sort of concrete decorative animals that might still be bought in garden centres but the tradition goes back to figures made of straw by thatchers as a signature or a joke. People would have been very used to rats inhabiting tiled roofs, among the timber structure.
Janet shared this photo of the cat and mouse on the Datchet Eye Facebook page and received a response from the present owner of one of the Manor Houses who said they get about six callers a year telling them there's a cat stuck on their roof. Last year an American visitor phoned the RSPCA and an inspector turned up!

'About six times a year, people call to say there's a cat stuck on the roof'



TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

In Datchet about 49 individual trees and 10 groups of trees have Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) granted by the Borough. The earliest order was for a pine tree in Horton Road in 1968; the most recent for a Wellingtonia in Southlea Road in 2019. A variety of trees are protected including cedars, copper beech, yew, oaks, hornbeam and pines, etc, and there are many important trees which do not yet have TPOs.

In England, a TPO is made by the planning authority to protect specific trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity. An order prohibits the cutting down, topping or uprooting of a protected tree as well as any wilful damage or wilful destruction. The owner of the tree is responsible for any maintenance required to keep the tree healthy. No work can take place on a protected tree without the written consent of the planning authority.

A TPO can be initiated by the tree owner, by the Borough or a local resident. In practice, a TPO is more likely to be granted if the tree is threatened by a planning application for development, or if there is a proposed change of property ownership and a precautionary order is necessary.

TPO assessments are made on the basis of amenity value. This takes into account:

- Visibility from a public place and impact on the local environment
- The importance of an individual tree or group of trees due to size, age, rarity, cultural or historic value.
- The contribution to the landscape or the contribution to the character or appearance of the Conservation Area.
- Other factors may be about the importance to nature conservation or response to climate change, although it is unlikely to be granted on these factors alone.
- Protected trees can be any size or species.

NB Hedges and shrubs are not included in this order. Removal of countryside hedges is regulated under different legislation.

For more details about tree management from the RBWM website, click here: www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200888/tree_management

WORK TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA

All trees in a Conservation Area, whether they have a TPO or not, are subject to automatic protection. If a tree has a TPO, the conditions detailed right apply. If a tree does not have a TPO, and has a stem diameter greater than 75mm measured at 1.5m above ground level, the planning authority must be notified of any proposed work six weeks in advance. This is so a TPO can be granted, should the Borough planners deem it necessary. You should also notify the planning authority if you wish to carry out work to branches overhanging from a neighbour's protected tree. Carrying out work without notice or consent can result in large fines and, in some cases, if a tree has been removed another tree has to be planted.

Do you live in Datchet's conservation area?
If you're not sure, click here for a map



Hawes Bakery at the top of the High Street, early 1900s



Astracot tea rooms, Horton Road



Checkley's shop, Slough Road

DO YOU REMEMBER THE MODEL VILLAGE?

Stephen Neate has written from New Zealand with a question for DVS members. He grew up in Datchet in the 1950s and '60s, and remembered a model village with figures and houses, on the north side of Slough Road before Whites Lane and on the edge of Barkers' fields, built by Fred Avis. 'It was semi-neglected', he said. 'Does anyone in the DVS have a memory of this, too?'

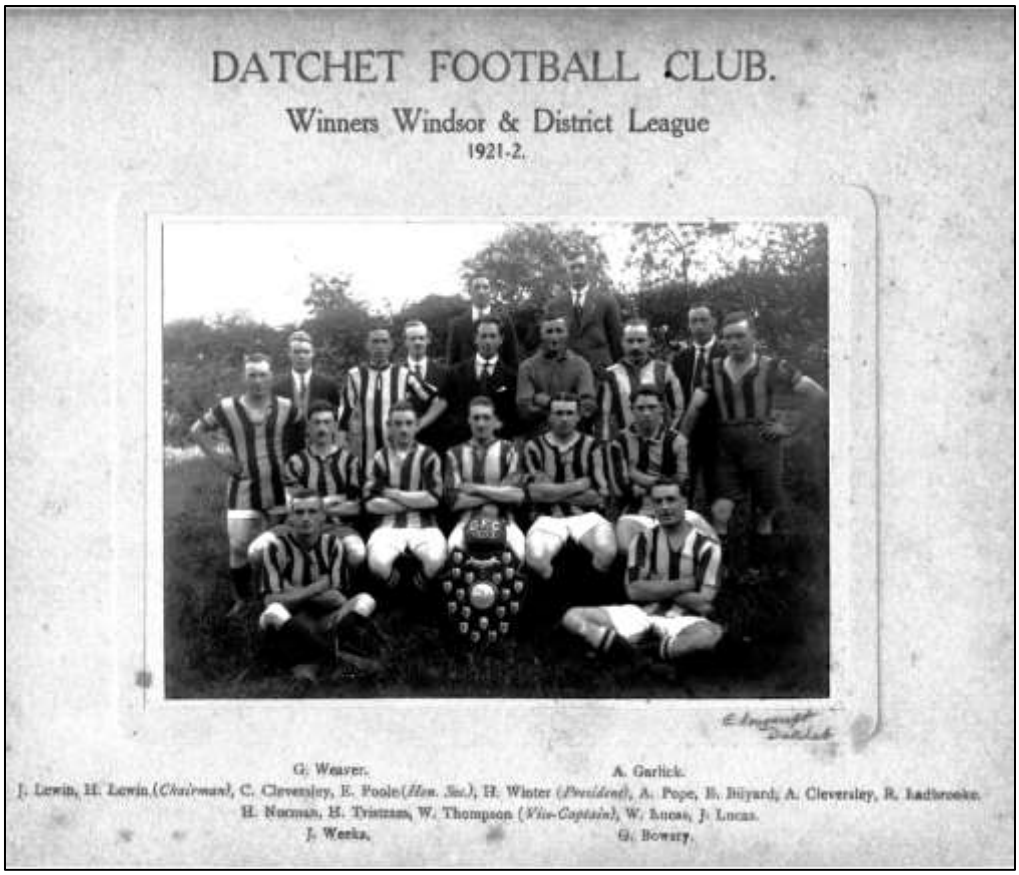
Stephen remembers the model village as a 'generic row of village houses and a cart with a large sawn tree trunk pulled by a horse. Maybe a soccer match. The whole thing was perhaps 2m x 1.2m with a brick backdrop which might have been a small shed housing the irrigation they used to lay out in the cabbage fields. A wire fence had been put up at the front so you couldn't get among it. It would have taken some looking after as it was set in grass and maybe Fred grew too old to care for it. This was before the M4 was built (1963).'

Stephen has fond memories of Datchet. His mother was active in the Women's Institute and used to take him to the WI Hall for Christmas parties. He also remembered the bakery opposite the Manor Hotel with its 'steep steps, soda bread and fancy meringues'. His sister's first job was at the Astracot tea rooms on Horton Road and his was at Barker's Farm (Riding Court). 'I used to toddle down to Mrs Checkley's shop on Slough Road with thruppence for sweets. Later it became Mrs Moss' shop and it got a makeover,' he said.

CHECKLEY'S SHOP

Coincidentally, at the same time as we heard from Stephen Neate, above, another former resident, Roger Hardy sent us a photograph, **left**, dating from around 1910, of his great Auntie Vi and great Uncle George Checkley outside their shop and bakery on Slough Road. Roger was evacuated to Datchet during WWII and also remembered the model village too; 'It was fascinating. It was on the ground just by a field entrance on Slough Road. I don't recall it being a model of Datchet. It was made by Mr Avis as an advertisement for his business. As a small child, so much closer to the ground, the detail and the reality of the model allowed me to be part of its life.'

The model village was built by Fred Avis, a local sign writer but we have not been able to track down any photos.
If you have any information about the model village or photographs, please let us know.



DATCHET FOOTBALL CLUB

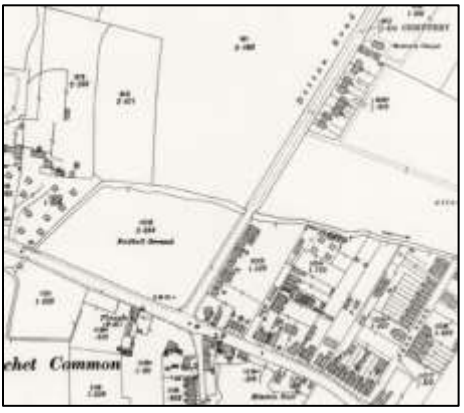
Janet Kennish was recently asked when Datchet Football Club was first founded. A trawl through online copies of newspapers delivered some clues. *The Slough, Eton and Windsor Observer* ran a report of DFC's annual football club dinner in May 1923. That year, the dinner was held in the Working Men's Club (now the library) with catering by Mr and Mrs Hawes who ran the bakery on the corner of the High Street, opposite the Manor Hotel.

In his after-dinner speech, Mr Bennett, the Club secretary, said that the club was in its 27th year of existence which suggests that its first official season was 1895/96. It had started in a very small way, he said, but had resulted in the team winning the Windsor and District Shield in 1922 and 1923. In 1923, the team played 34 games, won 27, drew 2, lost 5, scoring 115 goals against 47. In the League they had played 14 games, lost 1 and drawn 1.

The article reports that the team was toasted and players were singled out for their consistent performance; Pomfrette was named the top goal scorer and Pope (photographed above) was thanked for his goal-keeping. G Bowery, the team captain, (front right, above) said they would have won the cup if Weeks (front left, above) hadn't broken his leg, and he appealed for a better pitch. The club was congratulated on their play and behaviour on the field, and for their excellent reputation in the district. More toasts were drunk, music played, and the evening concluded with recitations and military burlesque.



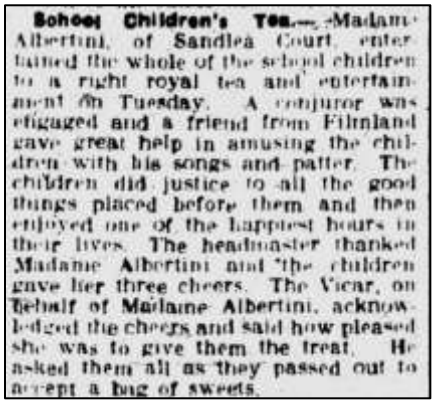
A photograph of DFC in 1912



A 1925 map shows the football ground on the corner of Ditton Road and Horton Road



Nora Albertini was famous for her extravagant parties but was also responsible for the renovation of several former royal lodges



School Children's Tea.—Madame Albertini, of Sandlea Court, entertained the whole of the school children to a right royal tea and entertainment on Tuesday. A conjuror was engaged and a friend from Filmland gave great help in amusing the children with his songs and patter. The children did justice to all the good things placed before them and then enjoyed one of the happiest hours in their lives. The headmaster thanked Madame Albertini and the children gave her three cheers. The Vicar, on behalf of Madame Albertini, acknowledged the cheers and said how pleased she was to give them the treat. He asked them all as they passed out to accept a bag of sweets.

Slough Observer, Dec 1927

'Staff served 600 bottles of vintage champagne to 500 guests while Nora wore a necklace which had belonged to Marie-Antoinette'

CHILDREN'S PARTIES AT SANDLEA

Some people leave their mark in the collective memory long after they're gone. One of those people is Nora Albertini whose name is still remembered in the village. In the 1920s, she lived at Sandlea on Southlea Road, the last riverside property as you head out of the village towards Old Windsor.

Nora, an actress and singer, was the glamorous daughter of an opera singer. Her brother, Reginald Denny, was an American movie star. In 1912, she married the fabulously wealthy Stockwell Reynolds Albertini. His grandfather was a US railway magnate who had built the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad, one of the earliest and largest east-west railroad projects in the United States.

It must have caused quite a stir when Nora and Stockwell moved to Sandlea around 1923. They lived here for about five years during which time Nora threw the most extravagant parties, entertained hundreds of school children in her garden, and generously supported local events. The local newspaper carried a report of a Gala Day she held at Sandlea for all Datchet's school children in September 1926:

'In the paddock adjoining the beautiful lawn, marquees were erected. Over 300 children sat down to a royal spread. To the children's delight they found roundabouts and swings with attendants all waiting for them and a very merry time they had. Before leaving, each child was presented with a bag of sweets.'

The following year, the children were invited back for another 'right royal tea'. This time, 'a conjuror was engaged and a friend from Filmland gave great help in amusing the children with his songs and patter. The children did justice to all the good things placed before them and then enjoyed one of the happiest hours in their lives.'

By the 1930s, the Albertinis had moved to Bishopsgate in Windsor Great Park but Nora's passion for throwing lavish parties hadn't diminished. In 1936, a newspaper reported that, at one party, her staff served 600 bottles of vintage champagne to 500 guests while Nora wore a necklace which had belonged to Marie-Antoinette. Her husband seems to have been less inclined to the high life; he reportedly spent the evening in a nearby pub playing shove ha'penny with the locals.

Nora's coronation party for King George VI the following year was also the talk of the town. She invited 600 guests including stars of stage and film, a maharajah, a famous motor-racing driver and an Atlantic flier.

Nora was responsible for the renovation of several former royal lodges. After Bishopsgate, in 1939 she took on the lease of White Lodge in the Great Park and had the estate completely renovated. In the 1960s, the Commissioners of the Crown Estate were keen to find someone to take on The Stud House at Home Park, Hampton Court, and bear the cost of all the remedial work. Nora was undoubtedly the right candidate. Not only was she extremely wealthy, she also had a long track record of restoring similar properties and knew exactly what she was taking on. Nora lived on into her 90s and died in 1982.



A ROYAL VISIT TO RIDING COURT

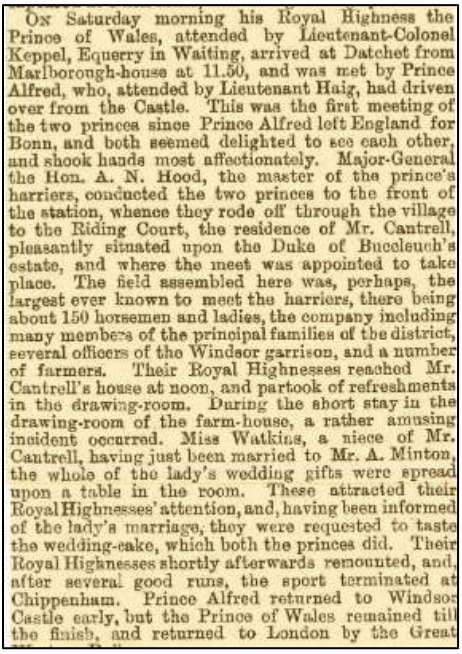
The DVS recently received an enquiry which said simply, 'I am trying to find any family of Mr Charles Cantrell who lived at Riding Court around 1872. I hope you will be able to help.'

Janet Kennish was able to confirm that the Cantrells had farmed at Riding Court and elsewhere in the area, and there were three Cantrell headstones in St Mary's Churchyard, but the family hadn't stayed long in the village. Janet offered to post on social media to ask whether there were any descendants living locally.

Genealogical websites are a good place to look for long-lost family but a simple internet search can throw up some fascinating stories, such as this article from *The Illustrated Usk Observer and Raglan Herald* in 1865, about a royal visit to Riding Court.

'On Saturday morning, HRH the Prince of Wales *[later Edward VII]*, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Keppel, Equerry in Waiting, arrived at Datchet from Marlborough-House and was met by Prince Alfred who, attended by Lieutenant Haig, had driven over from the Castle. Both seemed delighted to see each other and shook hands affectionately. The master of the prince's harriers conducted the two princes to the front of the station, whence they rode off through the village to Riding Court, the residence of Mr Cantrell, pleasantly situated on the Duke of Buccleuch's estate and where the meet was appointed to take place.

The field assembled here was perhaps the largest ever known to meet the harriers, there being about 150 horsemen and ladies, including many members of the principal families of the district, several officers of the Windsor garrison, and a number of farmers. Their Royal Highnesses reached Mr Cantrell's house at noon and partook of refreshments in the drawing-room. At the farmhouse, a rather amusing incident occurred. Miss Watkins, a niece of Mr Cantrell, having just been married to Mr A Minton, the whole of the lady's wedding gifts were spread on a table in the room. These attracted their Highnesses' attention and, having been informed of the lady's marriage, they were requested to taste the wedding-cake which both princes did. Their Royal Highnesses shortly afterwards remounted and, after several good runs, the sport terminated at Chippenham [sic]. Prince Alfred returned to Windsor Castle early but the Prince of Wales remained till the finish and returned to London by the Great Western Railway.'



On Saturday morning his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Keppel, Equerry in Waiting, arrived at Datchet from Marlborough-house at 11.50, and was met by Prince Alfred, who, attended by Lieutenant Haig, had driven over from the Castle. This was the first meeting of the two princes since Prince Alfred left England for Bonn, and both seemed delighted to see each other, and shook hands most affectionately. Major-General the Hon. A. N. Hood, the master of the prince's harriers, conducted the two princes to the front of the station, whence they rode off through the village to the Riding Court, the residence of Mr. Cantrell, pleasantly situated upon the Duke of Buccleuch's estate, and where the meet was appointed to take place. The field assembled here was, perhaps, the largest ever known to meet the harriers, there being about 150 horsemen and ladies, the company including many members of the principal families of the district, several officers of the Windsor garrison, and a number of farmers. Their Royal Highnesses reached Mr. Cantrell's house at noon, and partook of refreshments in the drawing-room. During the short stay in the drawing-room of the farm-house, a rather amusing incident occurred. Miss Watkins, a niece of Mr. Cantrell, having just been married to Mr. A. Minton, the whole of the lady's wedding gifts were spread upon a table in the room. These attracted their Royal Highnesses' attention, and, having been informed of the lady's marriage, they were requested to taste the wedding-cake, which both the princes did. Their Royal Highnesses shortly afterwards remounted, and, after several good runs, the sport terminated at Chippenham. Prince Alfred returned to Windsor Castle early, but the Prince of Wales remained till the finish, and returned to London by the Great

The Illustrated Usk Observer and Raglan Herald, 25 March 1865

'The field assembled here was perhaps, the largest ever known to meet the harriers, there being about 150 horsemen and ladies'

DATCHET IN WWI & WWII



Frederick Keeley with his parents c1897



The Arandora Star *was transporting German and Italian civilian internees and a contingent of German POWs to an internment camp in Canada when she was torpedoed by a U-boat*

REMEMBRANCE DAY

It is hoped that we can find a safe way to mark Remembrance Sunday in the village. We will let you know more when we have further details.

NEW RECORDS & PHOTOS OF WWI SOLDIERS

DVS often gets messages from all around the world about the servicemen commemorated on our war memorial. Here are just a few. (The underlined text links to pages on the DVS website.)

- The great niece of soldier Frederick Keeley thanked us for all the information she'd learned about her uncle from our website and sent us a photo of him with his parents, left, to add.
- A descendant of Christopher Nichols, the village bobby, asked if we could put her in contact with his great, great nephew whose photos of Christopher we had published on the website. We were delighted to arrange this, with his permission, and they have now shared more of his military records with each other and with us.
- We had a message from the great nephew of William Honess in Australia, who told us that his uncle's name had been spelled incorrectly on Datchet's incomplete War Roll compiled around 1919-20. There's more about the War Roll and why it was left incomplete on the DVS website. The DVS's revised war roll is there too.

LOST AT SEA

We are starting to get more enquiries about Datchet's WWII servicemen. Recently, we were asked whether we knew anything about the circumstances of Richard Henry Goddard's death. He was 'lost at sea' on 2 July 1940, aged 46.

Richard was a captain in the 2nd Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, an infantry regiment, and had also fought in WWI. A small article in Datchet's Parish Magazine reports only that Mrs Goddard, who lived with their two children at Hornecliffe in Montagu Road, had received news that her husband was missing on 16 July 1940.

According to the National Army Museum website, the 2nd battalion was deployed to France at the start of the war to provide 'Corps Troops' for reinforcing hard-pressed units. It was evacuated in June 1940 and then remained in Britain for four years re-equipping and re-training. So why was Richard at sea in July 1940?

Wikipedia has a list of ships lost on 2 July 1940 and at first glance nothing seemed to fit. No other men from his battalion had died on that date. Through further investigation and correspondence with the enquirer, we went on to discover that Richard had indeed been aboard one of those ships, the liner *Arandora Star*. She was sailing unescorted from Liverpool to Canada with over 1000 German and Italian civilian internees and a contingent of German POWs. Richard was on board as one of the military guards. The ship was controversially torpedoed by a U-boat north of Ireland with a huge loss of life. Further details of the incident can be found on the internet.



A SELECTION FROM OUR INBOX

The DVS is often the first port of call for anyone wanting to find or share information about the history of the village. Many people have been using lockdown as an opportunity to research their family history and during the past few months, we've received more emails than ever. Here's a recent selection.

♦ Stephen Neate from New Zealand sent us copies of 1960s' photos he'd found in his mother's scrapbook including, above, an image of The Green and Howatt's, the newsagent, where he bought his comics as a boy. There was also a photograph taken in 1963 when the Thames froze over and Stephen's family tentatively walked across its creaking surface, left; and from the same year, a picture of the floods in Eton Road at the edge of the village before the Eton beagle kennels and Black Potts, below left.



The frozen Thames in 1963



The 1963 floods on Eton Road

♦ Roger Hardy sent us a copy of his Aunt Mildred Checkley's recollections of growing up in Datchet in the early 1900s for our records. We've published Mildred's memories on the DVS website. Roger was evacuated from south-east London to Datchet during WWII and he also offered us his account of that time. He recalls seeing a single-seat captured German fighter plane set up on The Green. Steps were put up alongside the cockpit, he says, and all the children from the school filed out to climb up and look at the cockpit and throw a penny or a threepenny bit into it for the war effort. (Back in London after the war, he was enrolled in a privately-run prep school because, as the family story goes, while at St Mary's school he had learned to swear!)

♦ We've also answered requests for information about the Dunford, Bampton, Lewin and Gregory families in Datchet.

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

Do you have any old photographs of the village which we could add to the DVS archive? If so, please do get in touch.

DATCHET'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

DVS committee members are helping to compile Datchet's Neighbourhood Plan. Although it's not possible to hold drop-in sessions at the moment, work is progressing thanks to video-conferencing technology. There have been regular updates in *The Link*, on social media and on the website: www.DatchetNeighbourhoodPlan.org. There are currently two live surveys on the DNP website. If you haven't done these already, it would be enormously helpful to the team if you could complete these to tell them your thoughts on the following:

- Planning for Climate Change
- Getting Around – improving key routes for pedestrians and cyclists.

(If you click on the underlined text above, it will link to the survey.)

CAN YOU HELP WITH DATCHET'S PLAN?

Datchet's Neighbourhood Plan team is asking residents to join focus groups. They are interested to hear what you think about several issues affecting Datchet. If you would you be willing to spare some time to share thoughts and ideas, either on Zoom or by email, please send your email address to Datchetnp@datchetparishcouncil.gov.uk so they can get in touch.

WILD ABOUT DATCHET

While we've been under lockdown, our wildlife has been thriving. The Wild About Datchet team has been very busy too, encouraging us to make our gardens more wildlife-friendly with some great success stories. They have also been challenging us to find something wild every day during June; helping us to identify insects; teaching us about the different varieties of bumblebees; and inspiring us to join the Big Butterfly Count. Their latest newsletter also has recommendations of programmes and podcasts to watch. If you're not already a member, it's free to join. Find out more here: www.wildaboutdatchet.com

KEEP IT LOCAL

If you're looking for information on local traders and businesses, organisations and groups in the village, you can find details on www.datchet.org produced by the Datchet Community Action Group. There's also a section on walking routes in the area.



DATCHET CORONA VOLUNTEERS

Datchet Corona Volunteers are still helping neighbours who are vulnerable, in self-isolation, or who do not want to leave the house. They will collect shopping, take post, get urgent supplies or just be there to talk on the phone. They are also running a chat support line for anyone who needs to hear a friendly voice. If you would like to volunteer or if you need help, you can email datchetcoronavolunteers@gmail.com or call 01753 905247. There is also a Facebook page (search for Datchet Corona Volunteers).

Datchet Village Society

ABOUT THE DVS

In 1995, the Datchet Village Society was formed to help preserve the special character of Datchet and to encourage interest in its history and environment. Our focus is primarily on Datchet but also includes its locality and historical connections. The DVS organises talks, exhibitions, guided walks and visits to places of interest for members and publishes Datchet-related books, leaflets and cards. We're the first port of call for anyone wanting to know more about their family history in Datchet, or about the history of the village generally. The Society also monitors local planning policy, conservation and development issues and is contributing to Datchet's Neighbourhood Plan. Regular updates about our work and events are posted on the DVS website. New members are always welcome.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Membership runs from April each year to March the following year. The annual membership fee is £10 per adult, and life membership is £125 per person. Junior membership remains £1.
Membership fees can be paid by bank transfer, the Sort Code is 09-01-29, Account 04339438, reference MEMBER and your surname; or by cheque payable to 'Datchet Village Society' and sent to Sandra Needham at 114 Slough Road, Datchet, SL3 9AF. Many thanks.

MEMBERS' NEWS

We have received the sad news that Alan Oliver, 'Olly', passed away recently. A long term DVS member and friend to many, Olly died in May. We send our sympathies to his family and friends.

DVS ACCOUNTS

At the end of this newsletter, we have added the draft DVS accounts summary for 2019-20 which will be put before members for approval when we are finally able to hold an AGM. If you have any questions, please get in touch.

DVS MAIN CONTACTS

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WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ ABOUT?

Please tell us what you'd like to see in your DVS newsletters, especially while we're not able to organise events and visits. We're always happy to receive feedback and ideas. And if you have any ideas for Covid-secure events we could run, please do let us know.

Celebrating 25 Years