SPRING 2023

78



NEWSLETTER

Above: Patrixbourne and North Green, Adrian Giddins. The Datchet Neighbourhood Plan supports the local listing of these buildings as non-designated heritage assets

Datchet Village Society

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Welcome to the spring issue of your DVS newsletter.

Inside you'll find details of our plans for events and talks throughout the coming year. We're delighted that Janet Kennish has offered to do a 'walk and talk' of the memorials at St Mary's Church, and we hope to be able to confirm the guest speaker for our AGM very soon.

As usual, the DVS inbox has been buzzing with queries, puzzles and challenges. We're delighted to share some of our latest discoveries in this issue; from the identity of a builder whose name was written on a skirting board to a transcription error in the newly-released 1921 census which almost foiled our attempts to track down a house on Montagu Road. We've shared information about the history of The Willows, helped to track down the location of Waterworks Cottages, and found a map of WWII bomb sites. We also came across a resident who invented a flamethrower tank and another who played in three FA Cup Finals.

Sadly, some of Datchet's listed buildings and monuments are in need of care and attention, as you'll see from the reports in this issue. We're alerting the relevant authorities and will keep you posted.

And finally, we have some exciting news about Datchet's Neighbourhood Plan. It is going to a public referendum on 4 May. Please do remember to vote if you can.

We look forward to seeing you soon,

Your DVS Committee

Email: info@datchetvillagesociety.org.uk

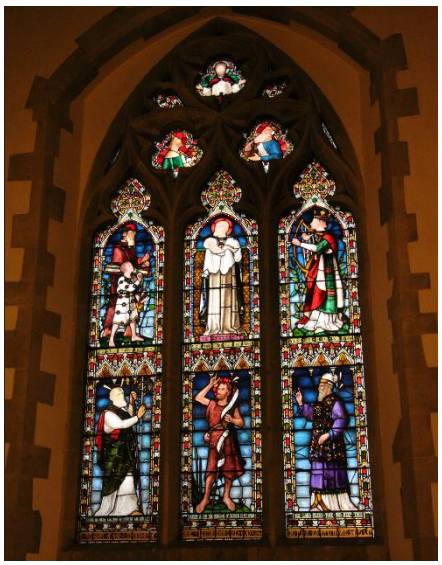
www.datchetvillagesociety.org.uk

RECENT EVENTS





Above: *We visited the Battle of Britain Bunker in November.*
Below: *Janet led a very special walk and talk about St Mary's' exceptional stained-glass windows.*
Bottom: *Valerie Butler's 'Seed Picture' is on display in the WI Hall*







BATTLE OF BRITAIN BUNKER

Shortly after Remembrance Day, on 30 November, we organised a DVS visit to The Battle of Britain Bunker and Visitor Centre. Nowadays, not many people know that the Battle of Britain was coordinated from a tiny, top-secret underground bunker less than 10 miles from Datchet. It was here, at RAF Uxbridge, that Fighter Command's No.11 Group Operations were controlled throughout WWII. After Winston Churchill visited the bunker in September 1940, he was moved to utter the immortal phrase, *'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few'.* A fascinating guided tour took us down 76 steps into the original 1940s Bunker to learn more about the work of No.11 Group, and how aircraft were tracked and deployed. This was followed by a visit to the state-of-the-art exhibition centre which details the development of the UK's air defence system. As with many DVS visits, we finished our visit with coffee, cake and a chat in the museum's cafe.

ST MARY'S STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS

On 12 November, Janet Kennish led a very special walk and talk about the Church's exceptional Victorian windows. Almost the whole scheme of 19 pictorial and decorative windows was completed in just a decade.

ST NICHOLAS FAYRE

DVS is always delighted to support local events and we enjoyed taking part in the Christmas Fayre on 3 December with a stall selling our books, leaflets and prints.

DISPLAY AT THE WI HALL

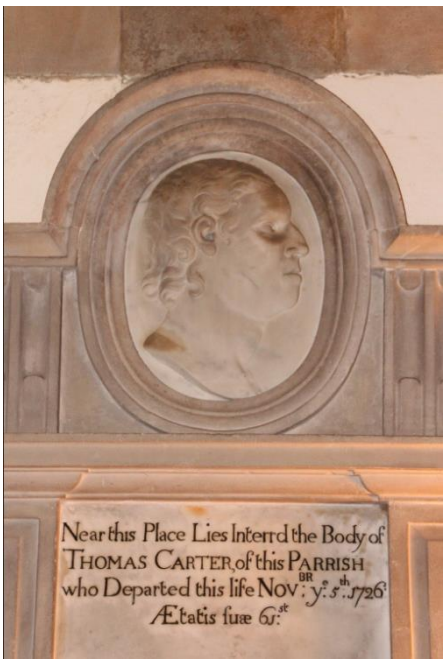
We're very grateful to Datchet Women's Institute which offered DVS some display space in their hall. For our first display, we have put up the late Valerie Butler's 'seed picture' of Datchet. At first glance this looks like a painting, but it is actually a very intricate collage which Valerie made from dried petals, leaves, seeds, berries, stalks and bark. We hope to change the display every six months or so.

COMING UP

Right: *The archaeologists at Riding Court are continuing to learn from their fascinating discoveries. By the end of 2018, they had unearthed more than 125kgs of pottery, 9500 worked flints and 120kg animal bone. An unofficial contest developed among the field team to see who had the best arrowhead, biggest axe or largest pottery sherds*

WHAT NEXT?

The DVS Committee is busy making plans for talks and visits in the coming year. If you have any suggestions, know of a good speaker or an interesting venue, or if you'd like us to repeat an event you missed, please get in touch.



Above: *Learn more about St Mary's memorials with a special walk and talk by Janet Kennish. This memorial, near the organ, is dedicated to Thomas Carter, who died in 1726. It is attributed to one of the famous Carter family of sculptors*



NEWS FROM RIDING COURT

We have invited Wessex Archaeology to update us following their further investigations into the finds at the Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure, and hope to have more details soon. We're also hoping that Oxford Archaeology will come and talk to us about the late Bronze Age settlement which they discovered at The Myrke before the M4 Smart Motorway teams moved in. And, we're working with RBWM to arrange a display of some of the other Southlea finds at Datchet Library, with a drop-in session for DVS members.

St Mary's Church Tour: Janet Kennish has kindly offered to do another walk and talk around St Mary's Church for DVS members, this time about the fascinating memorials, the earliest dating from 1559.

St Laurence's Church, Upton: In the autumn, St Laurence's will be celebrating the tricentenary of a local benefactor, Benjamin Lane, Lord of the Manor of Upton. As he lived in Datchet and was also a trustee of The Barker Bridge House Trust, Janet Kennish will be speaking at this event. It had been thought that the Saxon Church on this site was made entirely of wood but since our last DVS visit, many years ago, some unexpected Saxon brickwork has been discovered. The church also has a heritage centre with changing displays.

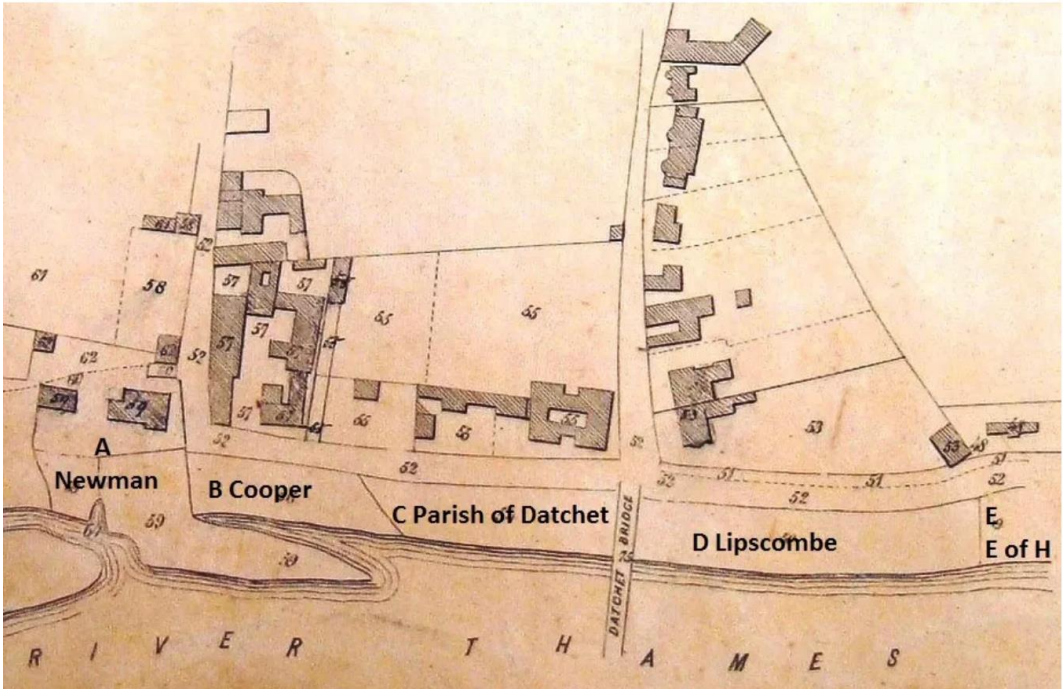
Coronation celebrations: Although full details of Datchet's celebrations have not been confirmed, we understand that the village fete will be held on Sunday 7 May from 1-5pm on the Recreation Ground as part of The Big Lunch celebrations, with live music and portable toilets supplied by the parish council. DVS hopes to have a stall and display there.

Other suggestions: We hope it won't be too long before we can organise a small event about the milestone and (we hope) the plaque marking its original position. It has been suggested that a trip to the Thames Valley Police Museum might make an interesting visit; and we are investigating the possibilities of a behind-the-scenes visit to the Theatre Royal Windsor, and a tour of Cumberland Lodge

THE WILLOWS



Right: The earliest large-scale map of the riverfront, 1847
From the west (left):
***Plot A** belonged to the house called The Willows at the foot of Back Lane (now Queens Road) and was owned by the Lord of the Manor. It was occupied by Henry Newman as riverside eyots for growing willows and fishing.*
***Plot B** was a garden belonging to the Cooper family, owners of the houses now called Riverside and Riverside Corner. (In modern times, plot A and part of plot B belong to the Crown Estate and are leased as river gardens.)*
***Plot C** was a landing place owned by the Church Parish. It passed into the ownership of the new civil Datchet Parish Council in 1895. (Plot C and part of the adjacent plot B are still in DPC's ownership as the public riverside garden.)*
***Plot D** to the east of Datchet Bridge, was described as pasture and a landing place, occupied by Lipscombe. (It is now Kris Cruisers.)*
***Plot E** was owned by the Lascelles family, Earls of Harewood, and remains as private property.*



WILLOW FARMING IN DATCHET

If you regularly drive or walk along Windsor Road, you may have noticed that The Willows, a white house with a walled garden on a very large plot at the corner of Windsor Road and Queens Road, has been for sale recently. Janet Kennish received a query on her Datchet History website from an architect who was keen to find out whether the house dated from the late Victorian period and whether Janet knew anything about it.

It came as no surprise to any of us that Janet certainly did know something about it. The Willows was a profitable commercial concern under the Lord of the Manor's ownership. There would have been a dwelling house there, probably only low-grade at first, plus workshops, drying and storage barns for the willow crop, hence its name.

The land ownership records indicate that The Willows plot included the riverside eyot where the willows were grown and harvested, and extended into the woodland on the fringe of what is now the golf club.

For a long time, the tenants were the long-established local Newman family, but we need to investigate further to discover where their willow crop was being sold and for what purposes.

The map, above, was drawn in 1847, while plans for the railway line and the creation of the new Windsor Road were underway. All the plots of land were numbered, and an accompanying list gave details of the owners and the uses of the property.

The map shows that there was no riverside road to Windsor at that time. The riverbank was still a natural one and The Willows was a 'full stop' to Back Lane (now Queens Road) and the riverfront road. The route to Windsor was over Datchet Bridge, at the end of the High Street. The bridge was in use until 1850.

Willow farming may have served a deliberate dual purpose. Willow creates an important flood defence which lessens the effects of flooding and reduces soil erosion.

Click here for more on the history of Datchet Riverfront



The mystery 'Ena' House, on Montagu Road, turns out to have been a misreading

'ENA' HOUSE, MONTAGU ROAD

DVS loves solving puzzles about Datchet. We recently received an enquiry from someone who had been consulting the recently-released 1921 census. He had discovered that his family had lived at Ena House in Montagu Road and wanted to know if the house still exists. His relative, Frank Newcomb, a ship's captain in Shanghai, had returned to England in 1921 with his wife and their three daughters, born in China and Japan. They had taken a short-term lease in Datchet until they decided where to settle.

Janet Kennish has done a lot of research into the occupants of the Victorian houses on Montagu Road but had not come across Ena House. House names frequently fail to survive and are often unreliable as main clues, however, as there are many original Edwardian and Victorian houses in Montagu Road, Janet said there was a good chance that the house was still there under a different name.

Our first port of call was Kelly's, Marshall's and Oxley's Local Directories but none of them listed any Newcombs in Datchet in the 1920s. (This perhaps wasn't unusual if the family was here just for a short while.)

But we couldn't find Ena House in Montagu Road, either. Then, by chance, in the alphabetical listings, we spotted a Mrs Harris in *End* House, Montagu Road. Could this be 'Ena' House? We checked the handwriting on the census. It certainly looked like 'Ena' House, and had been transcribed as 'Ena', but maybe it was a very stylised letter 'd'?

If we were right about the name, the obvious guess was that it was one of the Victorian or Edwardian houses furthest from The Avenue, but we weren't sure if the house might have been lost to create Saffron Close or Elmcroft. We looked the Newcombs' neighbours on the census and the route the enumerator had taken. On one side of 'Ena' House was Holmcroft and, on the other side, there was 'Ena' Cottage, occupied by Police Constable Carter, then Mr Kemp at 'Brown Down', and Mr Elliot-Smith at Norham.

We were finally making progress. We know that Holmcroft, on the north (railway) side of Montagu Road is number 59; it was a nursing home for a while. It stands next to the last remaining Victorian house on that side (the 'End' House?), number 61. It was called Byrness in the 1911 census when it was occupied by a Captain Jerrard in the Dragoon Guards. (This may not be a coincidence as we later learned that one of the Newcombs' daughters married a Dragoon Guard named Shepley.)

The more modern section of Montagu Road hadn't been built so the census enumerator would have reached the End House and End Cottage, crossed the road to Brown Down (which we think was demolished to create Saffron Close in the 1960s/70s) then headed back along the south side, towards The Avenue. The Victorian house next to Brown Down, known as Norham, number 42, still exists. So, our best guess is that 'Ena' House was actually End House, previously Byrness, and now number 61.

Our correspondent was delighted with the news and plans to visit Datchet very soon to take a look.

WHO LIVED IN YOUR HOUSE?

Ever wondered who used to live in your house? Local directories are a great source of information. Windsor Library has quite a few directories and they're also available online, on websites such as Ancestry, which you can use free of charge at RBWM libraries, and the Leicester University website. DVS also has copies of the Datchet sections of local directories. Please contact us if you'd like to see these. At the moment, the 1921 Census is available exclusively on Find My Past.

DATCHET IN WWII

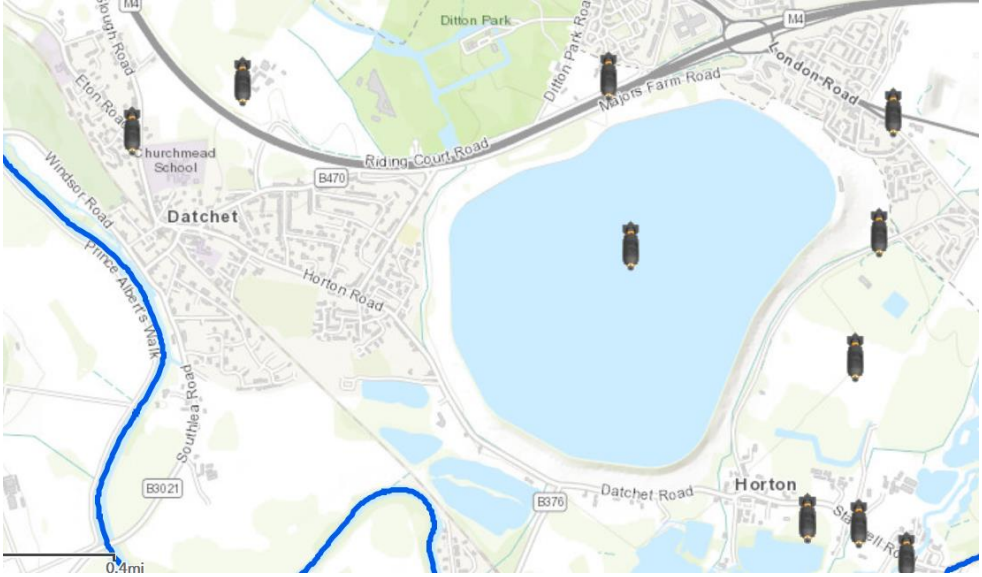
Right: *Details of the bomb locations were taken from files deposited in the Buckinghamshire Archives. (Datchet was part of Buckinghamshire until 1974.) They include correspondence from local air raid wardens reporting damage in their areas, by German planes or flying bombs, to the Air Raid Precautions Office in Aylesbury. (The Queen Mother Reservoir wasn't completed until 1976.)*



Above: *During WWII an anti-aircraft base occupied the Polo Ground site and barrack huts were built there. This 1947 photo of the floods in Datchet shows some of the army huts on the Polo Ground, Horton Road*



Above: The Churchill Oke flamethrower tank owes its name to Datchet resident Major James Mervyn Oke



GERMAN AIR RAIDS

Did you know that there were German air raids over Datchet in WWII and bombs were dropped on the village? Buckinghamshire Archives' Bombs Over Bucks website records the following:

- On 9 September 1940, an air raid resulted in damage to houses at Riding Court Farm and livestock were killed.
- Between 26-28 October 1940, there was minor damage to shops and houses around the Polo Ground, where the reservoir is now.
- Overnight on 30 September-1 October 1940, a water main was damaged near Slough Road.
- On 22 March 1944, there was an air raid over Ditton Park but no damage was reported.

DATCHET DESIGNER OF A WWII FLAMETHROWER

We're always interested to learn about previous Datchet residents. Some time ago, as part of the DVS House Histories project, we discovered a Major James Mervyn Oke who lived at Cambrai on Slough Road and later at Priory Place off The Green. He designed a flamethrower tank during WWII.

After the evacuation from Dunkirk, when invasion seemed imminent, the government's Petroleum Warfare Department established the idea of using oil as a weapon of war. In 1941, development began on tank-based flamethrowers. Various prototypes were developed, using a trailer mounted on the tank to carry fuel for the flamethrower. Major Oke's design proposed that the auxiliary fuel reservoir, which most tanks were equipped with, could be used instead of the trailer. The Lagonda Car Company of Egham Hythe (and later Feltham when Aston Martin took over) worked with Oke to introduce the system on a Churchill Mk II tank which eventually became known as the Churchill Oke. The flamethrower had a range of 35-45m.

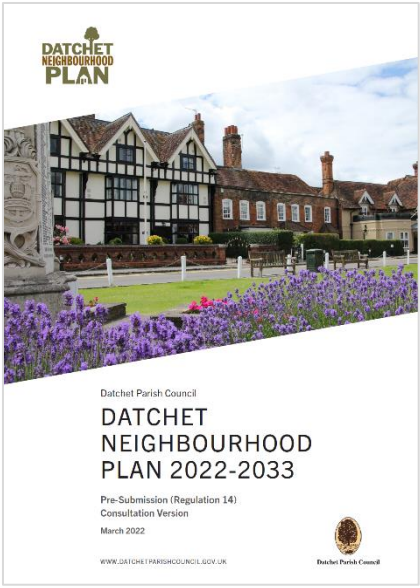
Three prototypes were built, named Boar, Beetle and Bull. They were sent to be tested in action at the Dieppe Raid in France; an operation which ended in disaster for the Allies. None of the three Oke tanks arrived on the beaches, all were sunk or destroyed, and the tests were not performed.

DNP PUBLIC REFERENDUM

'This is Datchet's plan, created by local residents to address planning issues the village may face in the next ten years. It's up to us all to decide what happens next'

PLANNING POLICY

Currently, there are two types of planning policy which apply in Datchet: National and Borough. But, within these larger areas, there are different communities with specific planning needs, so a 'one-size-fits-all' approach doesn't always work. A Neighbourhood Plan works at a local level, giving smaller communities the power to establish our own planning policies to address specific local needs while still working within the wider planning framework. Datchet's Neighbourhood Plan is a set of planning policies which cover issues such as character and heritage, the environment and green spaces, housing need, sustainable design, community assets, and ways that good planning can help to reduce pollution and mitigate flooding.



DATCHET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM 4 MAY 2023

Good news! After two public consultations last year, the Datchet Neighbourhood Plan (DNP) was sent for an independent examination in November 2022. The examiner has now confirmed that the DNP meets all the relevant regulations and has recommended some helpful minor modifications to ensure that its policies can stand up to challenge and scrutiny. This means that the Plan is now ready to go to a village-wide referendum in May. If it's successful, the DNP, which addresses the issues you raised, will be 'made' and RBWM will use it to help determine planning applications in our area. The DVS has a particular interest in this as members have been closely involved in the preparation of the plan.

Consultation process

The examiner said that matters raised by residents had been duly considered and he was satisfied that the consultation process was robust. It is thanks to the support of our local community, everyone who responded to surveys, joined Character Assessment walks, came along to the DNP stall at local events and attended drop-in sessions, who visited the DNP website and Facebook page, and read the articles in each issue of *The Link* since Spring 2017, that the Plan has reached this stage.

The referendum

The DNP is scheduled to go to a village-wide, public referendum on Thursday 4 May 2023 for you to decide whether it should be used to determine future planning applications in Datchet. This is the same date as the local elections. (Don't forget to take along your photo ID so you can vote.)

As the DNP isn't political, the DNP team had hoped that the referendum might be held separately. We were also concerned that publicity for the referendum might get lost amid the political campaigns and electioneering. However, due to the amount of work being undertaken to prepare for the election, RBWM has told us that it does not have the staff to be able to do that.

Regardless of how many people vote in the referendum, if more than 50 per cent of votes cast are in favour of the DNP, then the Plan must be formally 'made' by RBWM and will become part of the local development plan.

For more information about the DNP and the referendum, please see the DNP website www.DatchetNeighbourhoodPlan.org

LISTED BUILDINGS & MONUMENTS



Above: *The milestone after it was restored and relocated*
Above right: *The milestone in February 2023. Moisture is starting to affect the stone*

PREVENTING MOISTURE DAMAGE TO THE MILESTONE

After the milestone was moved to Memorial Green in 2021, the recommendation was to create a wider gravel-zone border to assist drainage and reduce 'wicking', a capillary action where moisture is drawn upwards and can damage the integrity of the stone.

This has not happened and now lichen, moss and algae are starting to grow, and the milestone is turning green. It is disappointing that the milestone is being allowed to deteriorate in this way after the extensive (and not inexpensive) restoration work.

In November 2021, DVS was told that the border would be created. In June 2022, we asked DPC for an update and were told that the materials for the border were in the parish yard and Cllr Thompson, lead member for grounds, would be instructing his contractor to add this to his list.

In February 2023, we asked for an update. We hope to meet soon with councillors and the clerk to discuss this.





DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL • DATCHET VILLAGE SOCIETY •
Original 1768 site of
DATCHET MILESTONE
Moved to The Green for conservation in 2021

MILESTONE PLAQUE UPDATE

As many members will know, DVS has been working to protect the milestone since 2002 when we first expressed concerns about its deteriorated state and unsafe location.

From September 2018, when the first major accident to the milestone occurred, the DVS and the DPC have worked together on a project to try to reduce the risk of further damage by relocating it.

As the milestone is a Grade II-listed monument, it was a complicated and lengthy process to get approval from all the agencies involved. To assist DPC, DVS liaised with Historic England, Milestone Society and RBWM Conservation, and wrote the Design and Heritage Statement to support the application for listed building consent to conserve the milestone and relocate it from London Road to Memorial Green. This was approved but the listing was suspended. Most recently, DVS helped DPC again by applying successfully for the listing to be reinstated.

DVS offered to commission a pavement plaque (like the Eton Walkway plaques) to mark the milestone's original site and to pay for slippage tests required for pedestrian safety. This was accepted by DPC in June 2021, who approved the design and location of the plaque and agreed to pay for the installation in the pavement.

Unfortunately, progress has stalled until DPC clarifies the question of insurance with RBWM to establish who is responsible for repairs, etc. We asked for an update at February's DPC meeting. A new locum clerk has been employed at DPC and we hope that she will be able to help move things forward. We are due to meet her and councillors soon.

CEMETERY CHAPEL



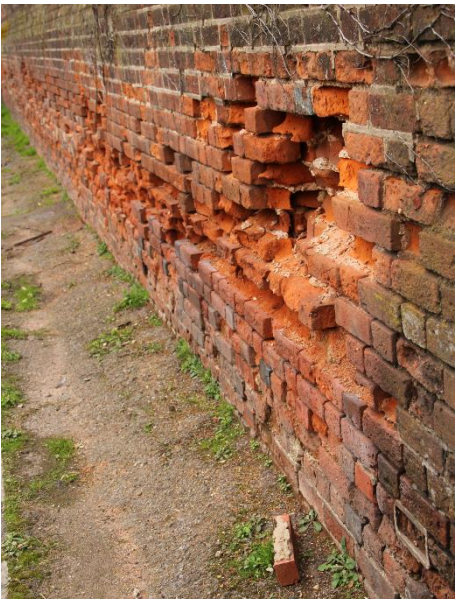
In the last newsletter, we reported that the plastic fencing and notice warning of the danger of falling masonry at the Grade II-listed Cemetery Chapel had been in place for nearly three years. The Chapel is owned by DPC who had consulted Andy Chalk, the heritage stonemason, about the repair work. Andy was very busy with other work at the time but the previous parish clerk told us she would contact him again for an update before she retired last summer. We noticed recently that the sign has gone but the fencing is still up, so in January we asked DPC for an explanation. Cllr Monica Davies, former lead member for properties, told us that there was actually no immediate risk of falling debris, but it was 'probably better' to leave the fencing up. We were told that the council will follow this up.













Photographs: Adrian Giddins

THE LISTED WALL, LONDON ROAD

DVS has been very concerned about the condition of the 18th-century listed wall in London Road for many years.

The wall is dated to 1748 by an entry in the Manor Court Rolls for that year, when Lady Kilmorey of Datchet House leased a strip of land from the Lord of the Manor in order to build a wall alongside her property. It runs from the entrance gates of Datchet House to the gardener's cottage by the Cricket Ground and Riding Court Road, very close to London Road which takes increasingly heavy traffic.

RBWM's own Transport Plan, 2012-2026, acknowledges that the wall is under threat: 'Transport also has a detrimental impact on our townscape and important historic structures. Some impacts merely affect the character of the area …/… Others have a direct physical impact – for example, damage to a significant Georgian wall in Datchet as a result of vibration from passing lorries.'

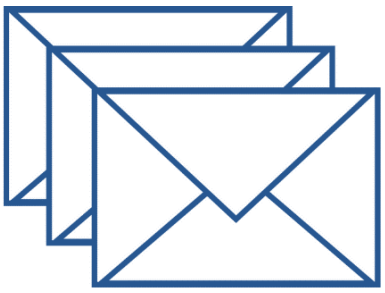
We have brought the deteriorating condition of the wall to RBWM's attention a number of times. Following our email in 2019, RBWM's Conservation and Enforcement teams wrote to the various properties that own and border the wall, advising them of the condition of the wall and their responsibilities to maintain the listed structure. RBWM told us that, unfortunately, while the wall was in poor condition, it was not considered to be structurally unsafe at that time and so they were unable to issue an urgent works notice where they would undertake the work and recharge the owners.

Since then, there has been further deterioration with yet more bricks falling out of the wall. In places, there are actual holes in the wall.

We contacted RBWM Conservation again in January this year and, as we hadn't received a reply, we followed this up five weeks later.

We await a response and will keep you posted.

Left: *the 18th-century listed wall continues to deteriorate.*

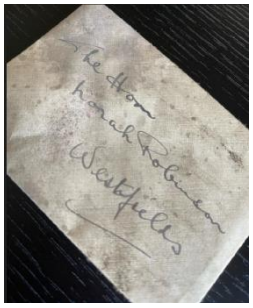


A SELECTION FROM OUR INBOX

The DVS is often the first port of call for anyone wanting to find or share information about the history of the village. A steady flow of emails keeps us busy making new discoveries to share.

WESTFIELDS

The people who are renovating Westfields have been in touch again to tell us about their latest discoveries. (Their house, on Eton Road, was home to Lord and Lady Rosmead whose son, Hercules, is commemorated on the war memorial and whose daughter, Norah, worked at a hospital in France during WWI and married a polar explorer.)
Under the bedroom floorboards, they found an envelope addressed to Norah, which they've now framed. But they were curious about a name they'd found, Willett, written on the back of a skirting board. We were able to tell them that Egbert K Willett was a builder and manager of Datchet Coal Company, working in the village in the late 1800s/early 1900s. He was married to Helen Bidwell who came from a family of formidable ladies in the building trades (see Janet Kennish's *The Link Collection)*. Helen's mother, Thirza Bidwell, took on her husband's plumbing business when he died. The 1881 census records her as a plumber employing seven men. Helen worked with as her clerk. They were based at the Old Manor House and their workshop was where the WI Hall and shops are now.





Westfields continues to reveal its history to its new owners



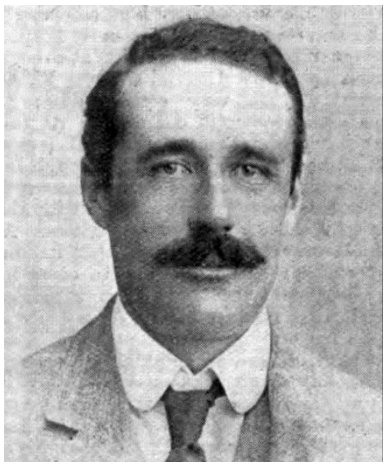
Swallowfield is a group of four terraced houses which are interesting in their own right. They were built by Trustees of Datchet Charities in the early 1900s.

WATERWORKS COTTAGE

We were asked about the location of Waterworks Cottage on Slough Road by someone whose grandfather had lived there; he had been a stoker at the waterworks. We sent him a copy of a 1912 map which shows the waterworks on the Whites Lane side of Slough Road, with cottages opposite. According to the 1911 Census, his family lived in the cottage closest to Swallowfield, ***left***. Waterworks Cottage hasn't survived; there are now four modern semi-detached houses on the plot, between Swallowfield and Castle Avenue.

CHRISTMAS WISHES

Each year, DVS receives a Christmas message from the Paravicini family in France. They visited a few years ago and we showed them around the village and where their ancestors had lived. (The Paravicinis were part of the network of rich and highly influential families in Datchet in the late 1800s/early 1900s.) They tell us they've been enjoying the Netflix series, *The English Game*, as one of their relatives, Percy John de Paravicini, who lived at Riverside House and who was a founder member of Datchet Golf Club, was a great all-round sportsman, with a notable career in both football and cricket. He played in three FA Cup Finals for Old Etonians and was selected for all three England Internationals in 1883, defeating the Welsh and the Irish but losing to the Scots.
They are hoping to visit Datchet again soon.



Percy John de Paravicini, a great all-round sportsman

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.

WHAT NEXT?

If you have ideas for events, visits or guest speakers, or if there is a visit, walk, or talk that you missed and would like us to repeat, please let us know

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: FEES DUE 1 APRIL

If you would like to continue to receive newsletters and invitations to DVS events, please make sure your membership is up to date.
Please note, annual membership runs from 1 April each year to 31 March the following year. The fee remains £10 per adult. Junior membership is £1.
HOW TO PAY:
Bank transfer Sort Code 09-01-29, Account 04339438, reference MEMBER and your surname.
By cheque made payable to 'Datchet Village Society' and sent to Sandra Needham, 114 Slough Road, Datchet, SL3 9AF.
If you have any queries, or want to check if your membership is up to date, please call Sandra on 07721 667078.

We are extremely grateful to members for your continued support. DVS membership fees help to keep the Society going, contributing to the cost of the website and research, insurance and admin, our AGM and other events, and towards unique purchases for the village such as the oldest paintings of Datchet we've ever seen, a medal given to schoolchildren for Queen Victoria's Jubilee, a WWI memorial plaque, the original artwork for the rose window in the listed Cemetery Chapel, and soon, we hope, a new pavement plaque to mark the original site of Datchet's milestone. It also allows us to publish cards, leaflets and booklets, and we hope to start publishing these again soon. We couldn't do this work without your support, thank you.

MEMBERS' NEWS

We were deeply saddened to learn that Sally Blem, née Clasper, died early in the New Year. Marjorie and Harry's daughter, Sally, often joined us at DVS events and was always quick to lend a hand, especially when it came to making teas and coffees. She will be sadly missed, and we send our condolences to her family and friends.

DVS MAIN CONTACTS

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www.datchetvillagesociety.org.uk, **www.datchethistory.org.uk**
Current committee: President, Janet Kennish; Chair/sales and marketing, Alison Crampin; Treasurer, Adrian Needham; Secretary, Marjorie Clasper; Membership Secretary, Sandra Needham; Photography and Archive, Adrian Giddins; Committee Members, Glenda Croft, Lesley Giddins.