



The
BULLETIN
of the
EAST GRINSTEAD
SOCIETY

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THE EAST GRINSTEAD SOCIETY

The Society was founded in 1968 to protect and improve the amenities of East Grinstead and its environs. The town has a long history and a unique architectural heritage, entrusted for the time being to the hands of our generation. It should be our concern that such contributions as we in turn make are worthy of the past and a fitting bequest to the future.

The Society arranges regular talks, discussions and visits. It produces a bi-annual Bulletin of articles of local interest and a more frequent Newsletter. In 1969 it produced a report on the High Street conservation area which was well received as a basis for future policy. It is very active in monitoring all planning applications and making representations to the authorities on planning matters. It has held six exhibitions, published a book of reminiscences, two town trails and three sets of postcards reproducing old photographs of the town, restored the churchyard railings, planted trees, produced a tree survey, presented a seat to Sackville College and, with the Town Council, established a Town Museum (now independent).

The Society is registered as a charity (no. 257870) and with the Civic Trust and is a member of the Sussex Federation of Amenity Societies. A copy of its constitution is available on request from the Vice-Chairman.

The strength of such a Society lies in the extent to which it can be seen to represent public opinion; the larger its membership the greater its influence. The subscription is £7 per annum (persons in full-time education 25 new pence) to be renewed on 1 January every year (except by those joining on or after 1 October).

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EDITORIAL

No apology is offered for returning in this issue to a number of subjects that have occupied recent Bulletins. New information deserves it, especially when the response of readers. They also guarantee that the editor hasn't written everything himself this time.

COVER PICTURE: Clarendon House and Old Stone House, Judges Terrace, drawn in the late 1940s or early 50s by Gilbert Rumbold for a promotional postcard. For something of their history see p.4 below. Both are now offices.

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

References to earlier Bulletins: first two figures Bulletin number, second two figures page number.

BULLETIN 46 (Autumn 1989), p.12, ref. [1]: for 3008f. read 1008f.

HIGH STREET CELLARS (5209-12)

M.J.Leppard

With reference to my article in Bulletin 52 Mr P.D.Wood says he agrees that R.T.Mason was mistaken in supposing that cellars were uncommon before c.1600, for they were so important for food and drink preservation, and that overground vaulted chambers were unlikely, for they lose the requisite security and coolness. Mrs Yarwood has kindly confirmed from reference books that cellars were primarily storerooms, wholly or partly underground or sometimes on the ground floor. There seems no encouragement for Mr Margary's view that the cellar of the Sessions House was an open arcaded ground floor.

Mr Wood also corrects my reference to 29 High Street. He says the cellars under nos 29 and 31 are under the buildings, though under the rear, later parts. which were apparently added in the 19th century, as probably were the cellars also. No. 29 has 19th century brick lining and a steel strongroom door.

I can clarify that the air raid wardens' post in Middle Row was under no. 11, Messrs Achille Serre, dry cleaners [Wardens' records, Town Museum]. One cellar under the Rose & Crown was used as an air raid shelter for 70 people [East Grinstead Observer, 31 Dec. 1948].

BRICKMAKING (2606-10, 2709f., 2810, 3014, 3108, 3510, 4104, 4403): The value of our Bulletins' pursuit of subjects through several issues is evident from the amount of material acknowledged to them in M.Beswick, Brickmaking in Sussex, A History and Gazetteer (for the Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society, Middleton Press, 1993, £11.95). Part 1 handles technicalities and history in an enviably readable way. Part 2, the gazetteer (arranged by historic parishes but post-1974 counties) compresses considerable detail admirably. There are full references for all statements, plenty of helpful photographs, maps and diagrams, a bibliography, appendices on frog marks and terminology and an index. it looks good too.

MOUNT NODDY (4609-11, 4708-10, 5103, 5111)

M.J.Leppard

In an article on Mount Noddy in Bulletin 46 (Autumn 1989) I traced the definition of 'noddy' as slag from the Wealden iron industry to W.H.Hills in 1917 and asked his authority for the assertion.

Research in his papers (now in West Sussex County Record Office) has disclosed an undated cutting from the East Grinstead Observer reprinting an article 'The Iron-Works of Sussex' by J.M. Neale, originally published anonymously in The Penny Post for August 1854. In it Neale cites our Mount Noddy as a name 'clearly derived' from the manufacture of iron and states, after listing various ponds, 'On the banks of many of these ponds are quantities of slug, slag, shag, noddy or cinders - that is, the scoria of the iron ore'. He also refers to the articles on the industry in Sussex Archaeological Collections vols 2 (1849) and 3 (1850) but says he had made most of his notes before seeing them.

Neale (1818-66), familiar with Sussex from undergraduate days and Warden of Sackville College from 1846 to 1866, took an intelligent interest in local dialect, etc. and could conceivably have talked to elderly survivors from the last days of the Wealden iron industry or those who knew them, but if so we might expect some direct mention in the article of his having done so.

The questions surrounding the word 'noddy' therefore remain, for Hills clearly draws direct from Neale and Neale gives no authority for the interpretation of the word.

Following the reprint of Neale's article the Observer published two letters from A.H.Hastie suggesting that tests be made for slag at Mount Noddy and that an alternative explanation of the name might be 'simpleton's mount - Folly Mount', the interpretation to which I tended in my article.

TOWN GUIDES (1307f., 2310, 3104, 4104, 4503, 5012, 5112)

A report in the East Grinstead Observer of 23 February 1951 of a new edition just published provides the date for no.16 on the list in Bulletin 13 (Autumn 1973) [ex inf. Mr D.Gould].

Town Council file copies now held by the Town Museum provide precise dates for the following entries in that list:

18	Nov. 1954	19	Jan. 1958	20	Jan. 1961	21	Nov. 1963
22	Aug. 1965	23	1968				

There can now be added to the lists

29 1992 M.J.Leppard, East Grinstead
Local Authority Publishing Co. Ltd (No. 3044/01/EG/B)
COVER: colour picture of High Street fountain by Ronald
Michell

GOLDEN BOOTS (2514, 2810, 2908, 3603, 4905, 5103): Our Austrian correspondent reports a small metal golden boot, knee-height, in Getreidengasse in Salzburg.

A BROTHERHOOD HALL?

M.J. Leppard

My article on cellars in Bulletin 52 (Spring 1993) mentioned incidentally R.T. Mason's belief that 34 High Street must have been the Brotherhood Hall of the Fraternity of St Katherine and P.D. Wood's demonstration that the documentary evidence he cited in fact referred to the High Street/London Road corner. Both relied on the 'Buckhurst Terrier' of 1597/8 [1] but reference to chantry documents of half a century earlier casts doubt on its relevance. Three questions have to be addressed: What properties did the Fraternity own in the borough? Did it have a Brotherhood Hall? If it did, where was it?

Fraternities, brotherhoods or guilds were voluntary religious, social and charitable associations, owning property, often connected with particular trades and sometimes administering civic affairs. (Today we might perhaps think of the Church of England Men's Society crossed with the Rotary Club with a strong presence of town councillors and a soupçon of Freemasonry.) The property might have included their meeting place; some of it could have been acquired as investment, some to be let as almshouses. Income from property certainly funded almsgiving here and the stipend of the chaplain, who also assisted with parish duties [2].

Our Fraternity of St Katherine is first recorded in 1419 when William its chaplain appears in the clerical subsidy [3], three years after the first mention of an altar of St Katherine in the parish church [4]. In the 15th and 16th centuries we learn some names of members (who seem to have included women) and details of its properties [5], though nothing designated its hall, but this article is confined to what it possessed in the borough.

In 1500 John Brether, a former Vicar of East Grinstead, left to 22 named feoffees [= trustees] a burgage and portland and their appurtenances in East Grinstead which he had had by the gift and feoffment of Thomas Rynbare, the income from which was to be applied to the uses of the Fraternity from year to year [6]. The dissolution of chantries at the Reformation produced a mass of documentation of properties, including those of fraternities. A detailed valuation of our Fraternity is given in the particulars of grants of 1549, including the following within the borough:

One tenement or inn called 'the sygne of the George' with divers lands pertaining to the same now or late in the tenure or occupation of William Patriche (rent £4 p.a.)

One burgage ... Edwarde Duffelde (10s. p.a.)

Two cottages within [or below] the said burgage ... John Langeridge (7s, p.a.) [7].

A list of 1548 (in Latin, like the 1549 one) is seriously damaged but clearly records in the same order 'the signe of the George' (£4), 'message called Rynbars' (10s.) and 'cottage' (7s.) [8]. In 1550 the sale of all our chantry properties is documented in English, including 'le Signe of the George' and lands in the tenures of Edward Duffeld and John Langeridge [9].

They were soon all acquired by the Sackvilles, along with much other local property. By the time of the Buckhurst Terrier,

1597/8, disposals, acquisitions and redistribution had evidently taken place. Thus properties in the borough listed under 'The Fraternitie of St. Katherines' are:

A cottage north to the churchyard with two gardens held by Edmund Harman, yeoman

Two burgages with a piece of arable land called the foure portland held by Laurence Browne.

The George containing four burgages held with various fields outside the borough by Edward Drewe, yeoman [10].

The cottage could be one of the two in the earlier document, the George is obviously the same (though maybe no longer an inn), but the foure portland with its two burgages can hardly be the one burgage of 1548 unless augmented in the meanwhile. Fortunately the detailed survey of the borough produced for the crown in 1564, translated, edited and interpreted by Mr Wood in 1968 [11], allows us to list and identify all the Sackville properties in the High Street then, viz:

A	Two burgages,	four portlands	occupied by	Edward Kippinge	
B	Four	"	"	Edward Hilles	
C	One	"	one	"	Edward Duffelde
D	Three cottages	"	"	Thomas Quinnell	

A is the foure portland (nos 1-5, Lloyds Bank), B the George (Clarendon House and Old Stone House, Judges Terrace), C the eastern half of Amherst House (no,68) and D nos 51-59.

It seems reasonable to conclude, as I did in 1971 without spelling out the evidence so fully [12], that the burgage and portland that John Brether had had from Thomas Rynbare by 1500, Rynbars in 1548, the burgage occupied by Edward Duffelde in 1549, the land in his tenure in 1550 and the burgage and portland occupied by him in 1564 are all the same property.

The eastern half of Amherst House, a small hall house of c. 1340, hardly seems suitable for a Brotherhood Hall. The George, on the other hand, our earliest recorded inn, was obviously of some status; Clarendon House is an early 15th century hall house with splendid timbers inside. (Old Stone House was rebuilt in the late 16th century.) Owning what must have been the town's leading inn, the Fraternity had an ideal place in which to meet and therefore, I conclude, no need of a separate Brotherhood Hall.

REFERENCES: (S.A.C. = Sussex Archaeological Collections; S.R.S. = Sussex Record Society)

[1] S.R.S., vol.39 (1933), p.57 [2] S.A.C., vol.109 (1971), pp.31f. [3] S.R.S., vol.36 (1931), p.140 [4] Victoria County History of Sussex, vol.2 (1907), p.11 [5] S.R.S., vol.36, pp.56, 140; S.A.C., vol.109, pp.31f., 34f. [6] His will (P.C.C. Moone, f.2) [7] S.A.C., vol.109, p.31 [8] S.R.S., vol.36, p.44 [9] Patent Rolls, Edward VI, vol.3, 1549-51, p.375 [10] S.R.S., vol.39, pp.57f. [11] P.D.Wood, 'The Topography of East Grinstead Borough', S.A.C., vol.106 (1968), pp.49-62 [12] S.A.C., vol.109, p.35

PICTURE OF CLARENDON HOUSE AND OLD STONE HOUSE (GEORGE): see front cover.

LOCAL PICTURES BY JAMES L. BOURNE

M.J.Leppard

In Bulletin 22 (Sept. 1977) I printed, with a brief discussion, a list of 44 local views painted in 1826 by James L. Bourne for Lord Colchester. Recently Mr E.C.Byford and I were permitted to see and list a further collection of Bourne's local views, in private hands in Forest Row. All are mounted, with printed titles, and were bound in an album with a printed label 'Scenes in Middlesex, Kent, Surrey and Sussex by Mr Bourne 1837'. The album was not complete when the present owner acquired it and he has had some of the pictures removed for glazing and framing but there is no reason to suppose any local ones are missing. (Nos 1 and 6, for example, are of the River Brent in Middlesex.) Pencil sketches by Bourne, of no local relevance, have been pasted onto the backs of some of them. In style and technique they match exactly the 1826 set.

The first number below continues the sequence from the previous list, the second is that in the album, as is the title in capitals. A title on the picture itself, if any, is in inverted commas. Mr Byford's identifications are in parentheses.

- 45 4 BRAMBLETYE, SUSSEX (from N.W.?)
- 46 5 BRAMBLETYE, SUSSEX; 'Brambletye from Wall Hill Sussex'
- 47 7 EAST GRINSTEAD (distant view from S.E./S.S.E.)
- 48 8 BETWEEN EAST GRINSTEAD AND TONBRIDGE (unidentified as yet)
- 49 9 FOREST ROW, SUSSEX (? Trimmers Pond, ? Old House)
- 50 10 FOREST ROW, SUSSEX (Tablehurst)
- 51 11 FOREST ROW, SUSSEX; 'Forest Row [illegible] Farm Sussex'
- 52 16 A VIEW ON THE MEDWAY (? Pilstye, ?? Little Parrock)

In the earlier article I praised the views for their picturesque appeal rather than architectural or other detail. Mr Byford tells me, however, that he and Mr J.Singleton have gone round comparing surviving buildings with Bourne's representations and found them very accurate.

More information on the Colchester set has come to light in a paragraph, undoubtedly by W.H.Hills, in the East Grinstead Observer for 12 August 1920. Despite his attribution of them to Lord Colchester (they lack any indication of the artist's name) there is no doubt that they are by the same hand as the views listed above. He writes:

There has just been acquired, for eventual deposit, it is hoped, in the local museum when founded, a beautiful series of 44 sepia drawings of East Grinstead and Forest Row, showing streets, houses, farms and various scenes as they were 100 years ago. The pictures are painted by one who was famous in his way, but not as an artist, though he possessed considerable merit in the latter capacity. Their producer was the Rt. Hon. Charles Abbot, 1st Baron Colchester, and he painted the whole of these pictures while he was living at Kidbrooke, after his retirement from the Speakership of the House of Commons and between the years 1823 and 1828. A

well-known artist describes these pictures as "possessing marvellous atmospheric management for an amateur. They are of extraordinary beauty, and the cloud effects with a groundwork of blue, give a charming tone to the whole. The artist never fails in selecting the right view, and there is not a weak drawing in the whole collection." This opinion supports my own that it is the most interesting and valuable local collection in existence. The details of the old approach to East Grinstead from Forest Row before the present Lewes Road was made, of College Lane when it was only a path-way to East Court, and of the centre of Forest Row Village are of great topographical interest.

The probability is that Hills bought the pictures at auction and that the well-known artist's words are taken from the sale catalogue. On Hills' death they were acquired by Mr Margary though not included in the list of Hills MSS he bequeathed to the Sussex Archaeological Society printed in Bulletin 20 (Nov. 1976).

At the end of the 1977 article I mentioned a picture of 1795 by B.H. La Trobe Bateman printed in the Sussex County Magazine, vol.12 (1938), p.329 and erroneously captioned 'Blackwell Hollow'. A photograph of this painting recently given to the Town Museum shows that it is signed 'B.H. La Trobe Bateman Sept. 1795' but untitled; 'Blackwell Hollow' has been pencilled on the back. The whereabouts of this picture and details of its painter are still much to be desired.

Industrial Archaeology in East Grinstead (East Grinstead Town Museum Information Leaflet no.2) includes a trail to follow, which makes the most of such visible features as survive, details of Museum displays and a list of references which, because so much has perished, are equally valuable to the student. A welcome and comprehensive handlist. (20 n.p. at Museum, by post 40) P.D.W.

The Financial Times for 25-26 July 1992 contained an article by Richard Tomkins, 'Dream Ticket to Ride', fantasising about travel on privatised railways in A.D. 2002, starting at East Grinstead station, rebuilt to mini-airport terminal standards, but finally suggesting that in reality at least the Bluebell Railway extension will have arrived.

Claire Tinworth, Silvia Hopes, Peggy and Jane Glenister, The History of 25 Years of the East Grinstead Music and Arts Festival, 1967-92 (1992) is a thorough and well-illustrated chronicle of facts and figures. The notes on what past winners have gone on to do are especially interesting.

Forest Row, vol.5, part 2 (May 1993) has an illustrated article on Priory Road, boyhood farming experiences of Reg. Beeney from 1915 and addenda and corrigenda on Brambletye and the second world war. (Town Museum and bookshops, £1)

The Observer colour magazine of 16 May 1993 had an illustrated article by Peter Beaumont, 'And God created East Grinstead', giving a reasonable account of the cults, sects and less common churches which cluster round our town.

FINAL STRESS: RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS

M.J. Leppard

I am very grateful to four readers for their comments on my articles on final stress in local place-names in Bulletins 51 and 52, mainly rejecting some of my names as in fact either equally stressed or merely clearly articulated in all syllables.

In particular Mr J. Wilmot says his mother's family lived at Hammerwood from the 1790s to the 1860s and she always stressed the first syllable and Mr D. Gould says when he went to school in Tandridge in the 1950s he always heard that name stressed on the first syllable. Mr P. D. Wood says he has never heard final stress in Fairlight, Frampost, Homestall or Placeland and that there is equal stress in Gravetye, Cowden, Standen, Plawhatch, etc. - all spondees. He has never said West HoathLYE; as an aristocratic old lady once said to him, it sounds bloody silly.

I agree that locals all say West HOATHley and that some names should probably not be on my lists; it is easier to identify non-locals saying what locals never say than to be sure that my final stresses are not proud and doomed colonising in one direction as fast as newcomers' standardisation in the other. Perhaps some cases of equal stress represent compromise between the two.

Some examples of final stress, Mr Wood suggests, seem to be aesthetic; Copthorne by itself has it but Copthorne Common has not; the rhythm's all wrong. It can't be contrasting stress, he adds; Hazelden would then only make sense if there were also a Hazeltye. Nor can it be long-vowel stress, which could explain -tye and -dene but not -hatch. And why, he asks, do we say HIGH Street but London ROAD?

It seems to me that another possible explanation of final stress could be that a final unstressed vowel when lost from pronunciation in the later Middle Ages (and from spelling, unless surviving as a silent e) did not take away existing stress on the penultimate syllable even though it had now become the last. The 13th and 14th century evidence given by the English Place-Name Society [1] and found in the Lewes Chartulary [2] includes forms both with and without a final e for Dallingridge, Hackenden, Hazelden, Imberhorne and Shovelstrode. Standen is Standene in 1086 but has no other mediaeval forms recorded. Hedgecourt has no early forms with a final e and Brambletye and Lavertye end in vowels anyway. Fairlight makes the strongest case with Ferlega in 1086 and Farnlehe in 1288. For the other names on my local list there is no evidence early enough. This argument is thus no stronger than any of the others, especially if Fairlight and Standen should not be on the list in the first place.

If, however, Fairlight is or was an example of final stress, that fact could account for its acquiring a final sounded t, a phenomenon first noted in 1546; earlier and later forms end in -egh, -igh, -ley and -ly(e) [3]. After 1546 the next record of a final t is in 1795 [4]. The latest instance without a t is in 1885 [5]. The two forms seem to co-exist at a time when many place-names were being rationalised into what seemed more like recognisable words. Locals uttering the name with final stress but no final t could have been thought to be ending it lazily with a

glottal stop, which could then be 'corrected' to a t. (Uttering such a 'correction' would itself emphasise the last syllable.) If so, however, it must then be asked [6] why the same process did not apply to other names. The best I can suggest is that Brambletight, say, or Ardinglight sounds ridiculous whereas Fairlight sounds and looks like intelligible words. There is, though, in this case the further complication of the same change at the village of Fairlight near Hastings, where a final t, first found in 1540, eventually superseded -eg(h)e and -l(e)ye forms [7]. That change there could well have influenced usage here, so the argument of this paragraph is also not at all strong.

The following can probably be added to the lists of examples of final stress in the last article:

IN EAST GRINSTEAD		Oakleigh (nursing home)	
IN SUSSEX	Fairwarp*	Highbrook*	Rowfant*
	Silverhill (Hastings)		
ELSEWHERE	Blackheath	Penzance	Porthcawl

* within c.6 miles of East Grinstead

REFERENCES: (E.P.N.S. = A.Mawer & F.M.Stenton, The Place-Names of Sussex, part 2 (1930), English Place-Name Society, vol.7)

[1] E.P.N.S., pp.327-35 [2] Sussex Record Society, vol.38 (1932) [3] E.P.N.S., p.332 [4] Yeakell & Gardner's map of Sussex [5] J.C.Stenning, Notes on East Grinstead, new ed. revised and enlarged by Alan H. Stenning (Lewes, 1885), p.36 [6] As pointed out by Prof. J.R.Coates (personal communication, 2 Nov. 1992) [7] E.P.N.S., p.507

Oliver Garnett, Standen (National Trust, £4.50) is a substantial and authoritative replacement of the earlier guides (1st ed. reviewed Bulletin 22), handsomely produced with all photographs in colour. Successive chapters deal with the architect, the client, the house, the furnishings, life at Standen, a tour of the house, and the garden. There are plans, a family tree, a bibliography and an index. 'Limestone quarried from the site' (p.5) needs correction and there is still nothing about the pronunciation of the name.

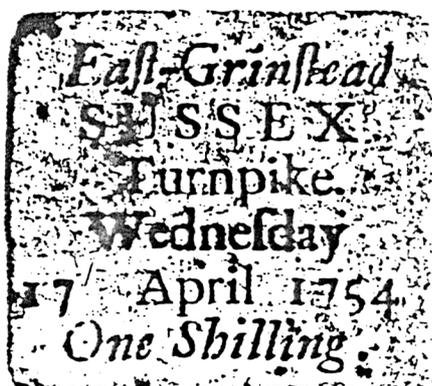
Sybil Martin, Walking Ashdown Forest and Beyond (Middleton Press, 1993, £4.95) is in the same format as her Walks in the Western High Weald (1989) [reviewed Bulletin 47] and equally welcome.

The East Grinstead Decorative and Fine Arts Society's Newsletter for April 1993 reproduced Mrs Yarwood's article on Hammerwood Park and Ashdown House from our Bulletin 48 (Spring 1991) with our permission.

ILLUSTRATIONS: We apologise for the fewness of pictures in this issue. Unfortunately the printing process used seldom permits good reproduction of photographs. The age and condition of the turnpike tickets reproduced opposite means they may not reproduce clearly either. Other processes would be unacceptably expensive.

TURNPIKE TICKETS

M.J.Leppard



Turnpike roads, financed by tolls and run by trusts and therefore able to reach higher standards of improvement and maintenance than parish roads, date from 1663. That from London to East Grinstead, set up in 1717, was the first in Sussex. Payment of the appropriate sum at each gate was acknowledged by issuing a printed ticket. One would no more expect such tickets to be saved than bus tickets today but five are known for our roads.

Two, illustrated here, actual size, are on show in the Town Museum, having been rescued by the Urban District Council from the museum in the parish church tower on its closure in c.1956. The 1762 example 'was found in the cement of the sandstone wall at the corner of West Street' and presented by Mr A. Johnson of Greenstede, West Hill [Parish magazine, Aug. 1939]. The provenance of the 1754 one is not recorded.

Mr J. Wilmot has kindly sent details of three others, in an album of prints, letters, etc. sold by Phillips, Son & Neale the London auctioneers on 18 March 1993 (lot 9). These 'little tear-off tickets' state respectively:

FOREST ROW This ticket and one from Cat's Street clears Hartfield Gate

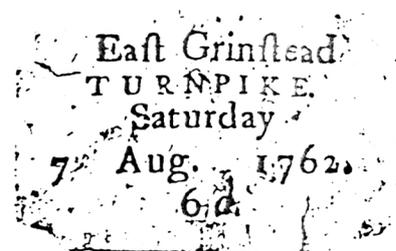
EAST GRINSTEAD This ticket clears with the same cattle Fellbridge Gate

FELLBRIDGE This ticket with the same cattle clears East Grinstead (Blue Anchor)

The turnpike to East Grinstead was extended to Highgate Green at Forest Row in 1723 and the road from Forest Row via Hartfield to Florence Farm, south of Groombridge, was turnpiked in 1766. Cat's Street is near Hartfield and Blue Anchor is the pub at Blindley Heath. Turnpikes on minor roads were abolished c.1879 and on main roads in 1882. These three tickets therefore date between 1766 and c.1879.

Presumably they were dated and/or cancelled at the time of use, possibly having been bought beforehand, which seems sensible, for the other two must have been printed in advance, with risk of over- or under-supply. They do not look as if the dates and prices have been added by the 18th century equivalent of a rubber stamp. No printer is recorded at East Grinstead until 1794, Thomas Palmer, who came here from Eastbourne in 1775. Probably therefore the trustees had their printing done in London.

An account of our roads will be found in W.H.Hills, History of East Grinstead (1906), pp.155-60.



A query in Bulletin 15 (Sept. 1974) led several readers to recall the artist Geoffrey Webb and his partner Vivian Smith (Bulletin 16) and resulted in an article on Webb in Bulletin 19 (May 1976). Thanks to Smith's daughter we can now match it with the following article from her pen.

Born in London in 1888 Vivian Smith was educated at the Choir School of the Chapel Royal where he was a boy chorister. He sang in the coronation choir of 1902 and was awarded the coronation medal. After completing his art college training as a painter of stained glass he joined Geoffrey Webb who was then setting up his own studio. They worked together first in London then in East Grinstead until shortly before Mr Webb died [1954] and my father retired.

He was probably best known in East Grinstead for his work with the amateur Operatic Society and the Dramatic Society. He had a fine baritone voice and organised concerts to raise money for the building of the new Queen Victoria Hospital.

He was a keen tennis player and swimmer and although he could not play hockey, owing to wounds to his left wrist in World War I, he was the club umpire for many years. He took up bowls and skippered Sussex several times. He took part in the Worthing and Bournemouth tournaments.

He died in 1960 and is buried in Mount Noddy Cemetery.

Mrs Bliss is tracing the location of all Webb's windows. She is particularly anxious to find the one commissioned by the U.S. Air Force as the official memorial to its men who lost their lives while stationed in this country during World War II. She may be contacted at 5 Delves Way, Ringmer, Lewes, BN8 5JU (0273 812995).

1991 CENSUS

M.J.Leppard

In June 1993 East Grinstead's figures for the 1991 census became available in a 'parish profile' produced by West Sussex County Council (as against the month needed in 1881 [Bulletin 49, p. 11]). 'To preserve confidentiality' the census officers amend every total randomly by + or - 1. Thus in one table our population is given as 24,383, in another as 24,385.

Only 16.8% of households had no car, compared with 18.3 in the district and 23.7 in the county, while 7.6% had three cars or more, compared with 7.4 and 5.7. Even more disquieting 9.8% of residents and 6.7% of households were not at the same address as a year before. Of these the greatest proportion, 3.4% and 2.6%, had moved from another south-eastern county.

District statistics published in the East Grinstead Observer of 2 June 1993 included the finding that 65.9% of residents aged 16+ travelled to work by car.

NEXT BULLETIN: Spring 1994. Contributions to the editor by 17 December, please.