

# A Rowland's Castle Miscellany



An early 1900's view of Rowland's Castle

Rowland's Castle history booklet No 123 compiled  
by Ralph Cousins and Paul Marshman.

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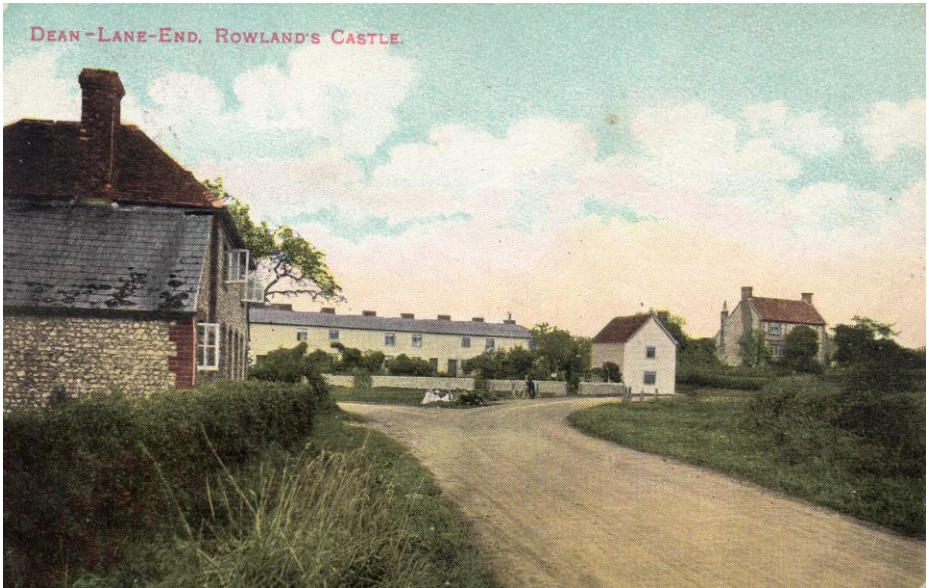


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ROWLANDS CASTLE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Redhill. The garage on the left was owned by William George Barrett and later his son of the same name. Their Chevolet car is parked outside of two houses they owned.



Dean Lane End

The origin of the place-name 'Rowland's Castle'  
is explained by Richard Coates (Coates 1989):

t. Ed II *Rolokescastel*; 1369 *Roulandes Castell*; 1381 *Roulakescastel*. Whatever this name originally was, it became associated with the hero Roland of the twelfth-century French romance. The first part is indeed likely to be a man's name, and, to take it at face value, it may be a Frenchified (continental Germanic) \**Hrōdlaik* (or less likely Scandinavian \**Hróðlaug*, a woman's name), which would have been introduced after the Norman Conquest. *Castel* 'castle' is also a borrowing from Norman French; the whole thing is a medieval rather than a Dark Age name.

\* denotes a hypothetical form of a name whose former existence can reasonably be inferred.



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# Rowland's Castle Timeline

Paul Marshman

Mesolithic 8000-5000BC – Flint sites at Dean Lane End, the Horse Pasture and the Wakefords area.

Neolithic 5000-2150BC – Site at Finchdean, finds at Wakefords Copse.

Bronze Age 2150-750BC – Burial site at Woodcroft sites at Chalton Down and Huckswood Lane. Finds at Wakefords Copse.

Iron Age 750BC-AD43 – Field system at Chalton. Finds at Huckswood Lane.

Roman AD43-AD410 – Villas, pottery kilns, pottery and road from Rowland's Castle to Hayling Island.

Villas, pottery finds and traces of roads.

Saxon 410 -1066 – Village site at Church Down Chalton.

935 – King Æthlestan (925-946) claims land at Leigh Park.

1015 – Æthlestan, son of Ethelred II, grants the estate at Chalton to his father in his will.

1053 – Date of the chapel of St Peter at Old Idsworth, later St Hubert's, built maybe by Earl Godwin father of King Harold. [Often stated but little evidence.]

1094 – Death of Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury. He may have built and owned the motte and bailey castle inside a deer park.

1102 – Robert de Bellême is imprisoned. He owned vast tracts of land in the area before his failed revolt against Henry I. At about this time Robert Beaumont, Earl of Leicester, may have built the other castle at Motley Copse but there is no evidence he did.

1114 – Henry I visits Westbourne. (For these royal visits see JH Mee, *Bourne in the Past*, 1913 Ch. 12 'Royal Visits'.)

1156 – Henry II visits the castle in the village.

1181 – Records suggest a house at Stansted.

1194 – King John visits Stansted.

1236 – Place called Lye (Leigh) mentioned in the Winchester Pipe Rolls.

1316-1419 – John Romyn and family hold Idsworth probably in 1316 under the Earl of Arundel.

1320 – A manuscript, Harlem 6602, mentions Rolokescastel.

1327-1579 – Fitzalans at Stansted.

1327 – Date of Stansted Chapel.

1369 – Mention of Roulandes Castell. R Coates 1989.

1381 – Mention of Roulakescastel.

1397 – People of Idsworth and Finchdean petition Canterbury to provide a chaplain at St Peter's. (St Hubert's).

1420-1667 – The Bannister [Banester] family at Idsworth.

1480 – Improvements at Stansted.

1528 – John Byrom is pardoned for alleged crime at Rowland's Castle in Warblington.

1579 – The Lumleys at Stansted. [Bessborough 1958 gives a complete list of owners of Stansted.]

1591 – Elizabeth I stays at Stansted.

1643 – Date of a thatched cottage at Finchdean.

1644 – Stansted House suffers damage in civil war.

1651 – Charles II meets Col Gunter in Stansted Forest who helps him to escape.

1662 – 1689 Hearth tax returns. Leigh Park, Idsworth and Wellsworth all get an entry

1667-1789 – Dormer family at Idsworth. There is little difference here from earlier Bannister family as they intermarried.

1686 – Probably first time there is a mansion worthy of name at Stansted. [The 1480 'improvements' refer to a castellated brick built house. Bessborough 1958.]

1722 – Daniel Defoe visits Stansted. Defoe. (*A Tour through England & Wales*, vol 1. pp 133, 135-6.)

1731 – A complaint was received from Havant about gypsies at Rowland's Castle.

1781 – Earl Halifax at Stansted. He built Racton Tower (now a ruin).

1767 – Large house (mansion) at Leigh Park.

1772 – Samuel Harrison lived at Leigh Park.

1781-1804 – Barwell at Stansted.

1789-1974 – Clarke-Jervoise family at Idsworth (old and new).

1792-1800 – Thomas Frederick at Leigh Park.

1798 – First chapel on the Green.

1804 – Lewis Way at Stansted house.

1819-1859 – George Staunton at Leigh Park (the old mansion).

1826-1855 – Dixon at Stansted House.

1830 – Finchdean Chapel.

1836 -1874 – A school at Dean Lane End.

1837 – St John's Church built at Redhill.

1848 – School at Redhill.

1850 – New mansion at Idsworth for Clarke-Jervoise family.

1853 – Old mansion at Old Idsworth pulled down.

1853 – Railway and station built opened in 1858.

1855 – 1948 – School at Idsworth.

1855 – 1912 – Wilders at Stansted.

1861-1874 – William Stone at Leigh Park, he builds new mansion.

1874-1940 – Fitzwygram family at Leigh Park.

1881 – Chapel on the Green opened.

1894 – Idsworth Parish Council formed.

1898 – The Institute of Science, Technology and Art opened (now small parish hall).

1900 – Stansted House destroyed by fire.

1902 – Rowland's Castle Golf Club begins.

1903 – Present house at Stansted built.

1914 – Parish Hall opens.

1924 – Playing field opens (the Recreation Ground).

1926-2002 – Church Hall at St John's.

1932 – Rowland's Castle Parish Council formed.

1939-1945 – Battersea Boys School evacuated to Parish Hall and village.

1944 – The King's Stone at spot where King George VI inspected troops before D-Day.

1959 – Leigh Park House demolished.

1974 – New St John's school built.

## Charles Rogers Cotton

Charles Rogers Cotton was born 2 June 1797 in the City of London, the son of William Cotton FSA (1759-1816) and Catherine Mary Cotton, née Savery (1769-1803). CR Cotton's great grandfather (1711-1784) was an English customs officer and art collector. He was elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries London in 1752 and Fellow of the Royal Society in 1757. The art collection descended to CR Cotton's father who sold it at auction in 1799 and 1801, realizing £3,886 10s.

CR Cotton married Ellen Matthewson (1804-1852) in 1827 they had 3 sons and 2 daughters. He appears to have become a Member of the Worshipful Company of Glovers of London before being admitted to the Freedom of the City of London in 1837. In the 1830s he entered, as a merchant cooper, into a partnership with Robert Owst, a wood hoop merchant at 6 Jacob's Street, Dockhead, Bermondsey, moving to a nearby address in Bermondsey Wall in the 1840s. The partnership was dissolved in 1844. CR is described in the 1851 census as an annuitant, and in the following year, after the death of his wife, became one of the first Fellows of Stansted College in Rowland's Castle. While at the college he wrote *A Visit to Rowland's Castle* which was published in 1861. He was also an accomplished watercolour artist and painted many views around Rowland's Castle and district. He died at Rowland's Castle on 10 November 1878.

### A VISIT TO ROWLAND'S CASTLE, HANTS – 1860

The little village of Rowland's Castle, in Hampshire, situated about eleven miles from Portsmouth, and about the same distance from Chichester, is celebrated in history as the residence of a grim giant, who inhabited a castle stuck on the top a high mound with a moat around it, and drawbridges and all the other appurtenances necessary for the security of its liege lord. It is a great many years since these things were in existence, and it is also a great many years since Old Time set to work and crumbled the edifice so completely away that nothing remains to tell of its past history.

"Darkness surrounds us; seeking we are lost  
On Hampshire's wilds, amid Brigantian coves,  
Where the sea-born man of the Western Isles,  
Slackens his course, to mark those rude built piles,  
In time and shadows of traditions lost."

The last we hear of the giant is, that the castle was taken from him about 700



years ago, in the time of Henry II., and that he himself was slain in mortal combat by one Orlando Rowland, who swam across the British Channel, and landing, took forcible possession of the castle and called it after its own name. What drew Orlando to this shore was, the hearing of a lady being confined within it, whose release he was resolved to accomplish. Hearing the shrieks of a female – drawing his trusty sword – he sprang forward to follow the sound; the shrieks were stifled, but the voices of men drew near, and they seemed in hot altercation. Rowland laid himself down among some tall rank grass of the wild, and could distinctly hear two persons disputing in high Norman accent; the one expostulated on behalf of a captive lady, the other insisted upon his right to extort a compliance with his dishonourable intentions. The screams of the female being renewed, no longer left Rowland in doubt as to the identity of the place, and he lost not a moment in shaping his course according to the sound, which led him to one of the turrets. Rowland feared not the face or arm of man (but he afterwards confessed that early impressions of supernatural agency daunted his courage); again he recollected that the gleaming counterspell, the steel of the mighty was in his hand, and he pressed onward to unravel the mystery. A faint glimmering of light guided him, where, with disordered dress dishevelled tresses, and a lovely countenance marked by tears, he found in a large apartment a female stretched upon some grass, nearly exhausted by violent efforts. On seeing Rowland, she attempted to rise, saying – "If you come to end my life, cheerfully shall I meet the blow – death is my only refuge". "Yield not to despair, lady," he replied: "Rowland comes to release you – but remain as you are just now." Rowland, with an air of authority, then stalked into a vault where the giant was seated, hotly debating with another man of huge form. Rowland soon made them acquainted with his demand upon them, and whilst speaking the giant made a thrust at him, but Rowland being the dexterous swordsman, soon laid his adversary at his feet; the other calling for a parley, offered no opposition to the restoration of the lady, whom Rowland soon released, and sent her back to France, from whence she had been treacherously decoyed from the castle of her father. But Rowland could not have remained there long, for Henry II., was rigorous in demolishing all the fortified castles which had been erected near the coast, as being so many sanctuaries to free-booters and rebels, and permitted no fortress to remain in the custody of those whom he had reason to suspect.

At that time there could not have been any houses, or anything in the shape of a

village, as this part of the country was then one mass of forest wood. It was many years after, that people began to locate in the district and to clear away a portion of the wood. The precise time that Rowland's Castle was erected into a village is not known, but it is very clear that its first inhabitants were a despicable set of daring marauders and smugglers, as the Hampshire Calendar bears ample proof: and the place is celebrated for a most diabolical murder having been committed at a later date, by a gang of notorious smugglers, on the persons of Galley and Chater, two custom-house officers, belonging to Southampton.

As time rolled on, cottages began to increase, a public house called the Fountain, was opened, and a shop or two for the sale of grocery and other things. Its situation was favourable for the neighbouring farmers to meet together, and a very large cattle fair was established to be held there twice in the year, in May and November; and as the country is very beautiful round about, vast numbers of people used to flock together from all parts to enjoy the fun usually attendant at fairs, especially in the month of May.

"But many years have passed away,  
Since all the gayest of the gay,  
And all the fairest of the fair,  
From far and near assembled there;  
And youth and age from miles around  
At Rowland's Castle fair were found.  
And when some dark eyed gipsy girl,  
Whose elfin locks disdain'd to curl;  
In witches hand then cross'd with gold,  
No stinted tale would she unfold;  
But first with sly address would scan  
From her own lips, the happy man  
For whom she treasur'd up her heart,  
And all she wish'd, of course, impart."

*Hendy.*

The Stanley tribe of gipsies have for a long time held celebrity in Hampshire, and we often hear of them being taken up before the local magistrates for having committed sundry mal-practices. In 1790, there were two gipsies, Luke Stanley and John Patrick, taken up, convicted, and executed for horse stealing, and their

bodies were buried in the cathedral yard of Winchester, where a stone to their memory may still be seen. The gipsy tribe went to the expense of a brick grave, arched over; and during the progress of the work, kept watch by night that the bodies of their comrades should not be removed, and that the grave should be known in after time; the face of the stone is to the east, contrary to every other in the ground. The inscription records the name and age of the parties, and after a verse of sixteen lines, goes on to state that "this stone was erected by Elizabeth Hearn to the memory of her beloved Luke Stanley."

In the churchyard at Redhill (about which something will hereafter be mentioned), there is a very neat head and foot stone, set up in memory of "Henry Stanley who died the 14th of November, 1852, aged 44 years."

"Weep not for me, you weep in vain;  
Weep for your sins, and refrain:  
This frailsome world I left behind,  
A crown of glory for to find."

This Henry Stanley was also of the wandering tribe of gipsies, and it so happened that at the time he pitched his van in the wood behind the school at Redhill, he was taken ill, and consequently remained there some little time; during which he was visited by Mr. Palmer, the school-master, who used frequently to read the scriptures to him, and to pray with him, which he seemed to take very kindly, and he was brought to acknowledge the error of his ways, and to repent of his irregular life. He remained there about four months, when he died, it is said, a penitent, and received christian burial. He made a will, and left all his property, £300 in money, his horses, &c., to the woman who cohabited with him. All the Stanleys attended the funeral with great propriety, and the woman he left behind was almost inconsolable at her loss. A near relative of this Henry Stanley is living at the present time at Durrants, is married and has two sons, and a daughter whom they call "Theodocia." The females get their living by making baskets and hawking them about the country. Sometimes the "old dame" is detected doing what she ought not to do, when in that state of ungovernable blessedness, viz.: pilfering things from her neighbours at night, and suffering herself to be imprisoned for two months together with hard labour, rather than pay a fine, although it is reported that "Jane" is worth money and well able to pay it; but she is used to this, and would rather be sent to jail than that her finances should be

impoverished.

Rowland's Castle is situated at the commencement of a beautiful valley, which runs within a few miles of Petersfield, between two ranges of higher ground rising out of it on either side, from which are to be obtained very extensive views of the sea, the Isle of Wight, and a long range of the south coast; besides which in and about its neighbourhood are walks delightful and romantic.

"In secret groves where oft we made resound  
In pleasant plaint, the charms of love's repose."

The first settlers at Rowland's Castle, at the time it assumed the appellation of a village, must have been one family of "rooks," which had built their nests on the trees, but as they were cut down, being deprived of their resting places, they had to descend and build habitations for themselves on the ground, for the inn keeper, the tailor, the general dealer, and the woodman all claim parentage from one and the same stock: who together with the Oütens, in some way or the other connected, constitute the bulk of its inhabitants and occupy some of the oldest houses. One of the Oütens kept a public-house called the "Castle Inn," his father and grandfather kept the house before him for a hundred years, and it was in this house, when previously kept by widow Payne, that the murders of the two custom house officers was agreed upon; but to make room for the railway, this inn was pulled down. In the garden behind the inn stood an apple tree of great age, having been growing there previous to the memory of the oldest inhabitant. The trunk of the tree was quite hollow and the cavity having been used by the Oütens for storing their garden tools. Oüten still retains a house close by which was converted into a beer shop, the old sign of the Castle Inn standing in front of it. By degrees other families came into the village, so that what with their increase a population of about two hundred inhabitants may be reckoned upon.

A good deal of gaiety at times, especially in the summer season, used to be going on in the village when Sir George Staunton was alive, for having represented Portsmouth in parliament for many years, he used to allow the people of that town to visit his beautiful grounds at Leigh Park, and as many as four and sometimes six large van-loads of people have been there at one time, and all from Portsmouth; and after going over his grounds they would come on to Rowland's Castle to eke out the remainder of the day, for there were great attractions also at the village. The deep dell, where once upon a time the castle stood, being

surrounded by lofty trees and bushes interspersed among the broken ground rendered it a favourite spot for pic-nic parties; and Stansted Park also afforded a great deal of recreation. But great improvements have since then taken place, if facility of intercourse may be called improvements, for we can now boast of a line of railway. It had been talked about for some time, but when queer looking things on triangular sticks for taking sights began to make their appearance, the inhabitants then really had some hopes that it was coming, and the general cry among the children was "Oh! looky there mother, what are those men about with that queer looking thing! I'm sure it's coming." By and bye odd kinds of waggons were turned out in various places, then loads of earth, chalk, and flint stone were carried along in the waggons and turned over; bridges were built over roads, and to the joy and satisfaction of the neighbourhood Rowland's Castle was to have its station. But no good comes without an attendant of evil or cause of some dissatisfaction or other, for it was found that two unsightly arches were to be built over the road immediately in front of the entrance into Stansted Park; not only causing the proprietress of Stansted to be put to great inconvenience and expense in forming a new entrance, but they obstruct the view and look remarkably ugly. Moreover the line was to go right through the castle dell, thereby destroying all its beauty, and putting an end to the enjoyment of all pic-nic parties therein and demolishing for ever all traces of the castle which gave rise to the name of the village. But to say the railway has done us no good would be saying what is not true, for we can now go up to London in about two hours, and we can go to Portsmouth in less than half-an-hour; and excursion trains bring many a one to Rowland's Castle whose faces we should otherwise probably never have seen. But the Portsmouth people prefer coming their old way by vans and omnibusses, for Rowland's Castle has not lost its attractions. An enterprising individual in the village is doing all he can to promote the liveliness of the place by inducing parties to come to his house designated the Rowland's Castle Tavern, and Tea Gardens, with bands of music, where they pic-nic, have tea, and dance about on the green till it's time for them to return. A spacious assembly room has lately been added to the building capable of holding about 100 people, which was opened on Thursday, 14th February, 1861, when a ball was given on the occasion and dancing kept up to a late hour—the band was under the able leadership of Professor Fleming of Landport.

I'll take my harp and sweep the strings,  
To dedicate a lay,  
To those bright faces that we see,  
All on a holiday:  
There's beauty in the multitude  
Of all the dashing girls,  
Quite equal to the city maid,  
In silks and raven curls.  
  
There's Fanny and there's Mary too,  
So light of heart and gay.  
They bring to mind some olden time  
Which long has pass'd away.  
There's Lucy and there's Charlotte two,  
With steps as light and airy,  
For hearts that base their love on pride  
Of legendary fairy.

Shall Rowland's Castle then be forgotten, and become a place of no interest because the site of its ancient castle is obliterated? No – It shall maintain its attractions for pleasure parties, its beautiful scenery, and local interests.

" 'Tis beauty all, and grateful song around,  
Join'd to the low of kine, and numerous bleat  
Of flocks, thick nibbling through the clover'd dale."

There is still, however, ample room for improvement: we want a monied individual to come forward and buy up or rent land, and build some neat and genteel cottages. They would not long be empty; for many are the applications for lodgings during the summer season; and there are many families who, notwithstanding, will put up with the inconvenience and content themselves with lodgings of an inferior description, whilst others are kept away for want of accommodation. Such an undertaking would answer any one's purpose, and it would not only bring society into the neighbourhood, but would give cause to the opening of a butcher's shop, for will you believe it, reader, there is not a butcher's shop within three miles of the village – consequently, the generality of the inhabitants scarcely taste a bit of meat from one year's end to the other, save aid except their own pork. Most of the people keep pigs, which when slaughtered,

they salt down and keep in pickle for their general food, with cheese and sometimes a bit of bacon for variety. But, there is another reason why the poor people do not taste meat, or even bacon, from one year's end to the other; and that is, (as in other agricultural districts), wages are so low, the labour is in general but indifferently paid, and when all kind of food are dear, as it was in 1860, it is surprising that a man having a wife and perhaps four or five young children to maintain, can manage to live at all. The agricultural labourer is considered to be the worst paid man of any class of men in England; the man to whom the farmers and everyone else owe so much: for without him how would they get their living, how would they be able to produce their crops and rear their cattle for market? Do we not then live upon the farm labourer? It is true "God giveth the increase," but man is the agent in His hands to produce it – and that man is compelled to accept of the little offered, or else starve. How morally cheerful a man would go to his work knowing that by his labour, and the little assistance his wife can give, that he could comfortably maintain his children; but, on the other hand, with how much reluctance and depression of spirits must he go and return from his work, knowing that the price put upon his labour is not sufficient to maintain them – Is there not an evil lurking at the bottom of all this? – We all know there are many men who will spend the bulk of their wages at the public house, thereby depriving their wives and families of their earnings; but there is also many a sober and hard-working agricultural labourer who on account of the smallness of his wages is unable to maintain them.

Such indeed was the forlorn condition of Rowland's Castle some few years back that there was no church within three miles of the place, until the year 1838, when a small church was erected on the brow of Redhill, within a quarter of a mile of the village, on the road to Havant. It was built by subscription raised from three neighbouring parishes of Chalton, Havant and Warblington, with a small endowment added to it. The contract price for building the church was taken at £353. It had a gallery and an organ, which latter was a present to Mr. Yard, made to him by his relations. The school and residence attached for a mistress was built at the same time. The first officiating minister was a Mr. Bliss, who died in 1840. The Rev. Mr. Yard succeeded him, whose abilities and powerful preaching drew a large congregation to the church from far and near. In 1850, the Rev. John Hawker was appointed, he was a gentleman of fortune and a very fascinating preacher, who finding the church of sufficiently large for his congregation, with

the assistance of his more wealthy neighbours re-modelled and enlarged the church as it is now; the school-room being made available for divine service during the time of the alterations. At this time the organ was reclaimed by Mr. Yard's friends and sold. Mr. Hawker also laid out a great deal of money to enlarge and beautify the parsonage house and grounds. But to return to the village. –

When the first church was erected at Redhill, it was found necessary to have a churchwarden, and a certain individual then living at Durrants, a person not having any particular occupation, and a man of ample independence for the situation of life in which he was placed, was elected to fill that office; and a descendant of Vulcan, residing at Rowland's Castle, was appointed to fill the office of sexton, clerk and grave-digger. It was soon after the retirement of Mr. Hawker, that the said churchwarden resigned his office of churchwardenship, having fulfilled that situation in the execution of its duties with much credit to himself, and settled down as a private individual in the village. It was a comfortable and neat cottage on the green where he lived, with a smart bit of garden ground attached, which he used to keep in tolerable good order, and for his amusement, cultivating it all himself, whilst his wife did all the household work. But as it is in most country towns – Richmond, in Surrey, for instance – where ancient maiden ladies love to dwell, and as you encourage their evening tea and card parties, you are sure to hear of all that is going on: so it is in country villages, and Rowland's Castle is not exempt, for, although there are no tea and card parties going forward, the inhabitants being quite of another class of persons, there were those who made it their business to ascertain more of other people's affairs than their own; slander, back-biting, and jealousy are evils which some take a delight to indulge in, and although the character of an individual, however blameless it may be, is almost sure to have something or other against it. In populous towns, a person may leave his or her own door to call upon a friend at the far end, and do a little bit of courting too, without being watched or notice taken wither he goes; but in small villages such is not the case, and the generality of people find it to be so.

But to proceed with another subject more immediately connected with the village – forty years ago there was no church at Rowland's Castle; when a person from Portsmouth, a Dissenter, came over and purchased a spot of ground whereon to build a chapel, and engaged to supply a preacher to come over every Sunday to do duty. Things went on tolerantly smooth with them for a long time, until



dissatisfaction with some of the preachers began to show itself, and it was said that on one occasion a regular row took place among them, and that a threat to pull one of the preachers out of the pulpit was actually carried into execution. This caused a split in the community, and the chapel was for some time shut up; it has since then been re-opened, but the sore has not been healed, for some go to one place and some to another. They call themselves "Independents," which character they seem to carry out to the very letter, with a determination to be independent of one-another.

Nevertheless, Rowland's Castle is not to be cried down, for, although we have no butcher's shop, we can boast of two or three bakers, a grocer, a general dealer, a brewer, a cow-keeper and milkman, a tailor, a shoemaker, a coal-merchant, and two blacksmiths.

"Where the sweaty smith half clad does stand,  
Besmeared with soot and smoke, and tongs in hand,  
Stript to his shirt with nought upon his head,  
Scarce seen in the gloomy and darken'd shed."

Rowland's Castle also has its carrier, making his daily journies from the village to Havant and back in a small cart, just big enough to hold himself and a pig; he contrives, however, sometimes to make room for a female alongside of him, when he can find one going his way. He also attends the Petersfield and Chichester markets, where he picks up poultry and eggs, which he brings back with him, and if he cannot dispose of them in the village, he takes them to Havant the following day. He has spent all his life in the village, was born and bred there, and has followed his calling as carrier for nearly half a century; and it is a very rare thing for him not to have some little commission or another. And thus he has jog'd on through life, gaining the esteem and goodwill of the inhabitants by his honesty, good nature, and attentiveness.

In accordance with the spirit of the times, and not willing to be behind-hand an attempt was made to raise a Rifle Corps in the village, but its inhabitants and young men were found to be too limited in number, and the neighbouring gentry living too far away, and having already lent their assistance to the towns in their more immediate neighbourhood, it fell to the ground; but as "England expects every man to do his duty", may Rowland's Castle ever be ready to obey the call, notwithstanding its inability to raise a Rifle Corps.

# ROWLAND'S CASTLE IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

JOHN PILE

This is the author's revision (October 2020) of an article that first appeared in the Winter 1996-97 issue of Rowland's Castle Magazine.

It will probably surprise many residents to learn that the Rowland's Castle of yesterday was far from the model of respectability that it is today. The truth is that two hundred years ago, before the Forest of Bere and its surrounding commons were enclosed, Rowland's Castle and much of its neighbouring area was inhabited by a breed of people whom the local gentry and their tenant farmers viewed with that blend of disgust, fear and suspicion that Toad of Toad Hall reserved for the Wild Wooders.

At the time of which I am writing, Ildsworth Common, Emsworth Common, Havant Thicket, Blendworth and Catherington Commons and the Forest of Bere itself formed one vast uncultivated and largely unenclosed waste extending from the Sussex border to the valley of the River Meon. Legally, only the tenants of the surrounding manors who possessed right of common could avail themselves of the free grazing which the waste offered but, by the 18th century, if not earlier, the administration which had provided some degree of supervision in the past was now proving difficult to maintain. The ancient Forest Law was increasingly difficult to enforce, and squatting, purpresture, illegal grazing and the cutting of timber and underwoods in the Forest and commons went virtually unchecked.

It is not difficult to imagine the kind of population these conditions attracted to the surrounding district and Charles Cotton, one of six 'decayed merchants' who lived in Stansted College on the Green and was an excellent watercolour artist who preserved many local views,<sup>1</sup> displayed a keen eye and a good sense of social history when he noted<sup>2</sup> as late as 1860, that Henry Stanley, one of 'the Stanley tribe of gypsies had pitched his van behind the school at Redhill some ten years earlier', and the womenfolk hereabouts 'get their living by making baskets and hawking them about the county.' Mr Cotton suggested that 'the precise time that Rowland's Castle was erected into a village is not clear, but it is very clear that its first inhabitants were a despicable set of daring marauders and smugglers as the Hampshire Calendar bears ample proof.' This impression of the freebooting lifestyle of the local population is supported by the entry in William White's *Gazetteer and Directory of Hampshire* published in 1878, which tells us that 'Rowland's Castle was, at various periods before the middle of the last century, a favourite rendezvous of deer-stalkers, poachers, smugglers and thieves', a reputation shared by many similar forest and

common-edge communities around the country.

The village was, at this time, the venue of a large cattle fair held twice a year on 12th May and 12th November, dates which probably coincided with the end of the 'Winter Heyning' or period when commoners' animals had to be taken off the common pasture. In the New Forest this was originally between 22nd November and 4th May, so the dates agree quite closely. The origin of the fairs is uncertain, but they were certainly held c.1780 when they are included in a list of Hampshire fairs. In view of the local reputation in those days, it should not be difficult to picture the scenes on the Green when the fairs were in full swing; scenes far removed from the idealised view of village life promoted by maypole dancing and associated activities, however delightful and 'traditional' a part of the village calendar they may have become. Look closely at the Green and you will see that it is shaped like a funnel with curved sides, wide at its western end and tapering towards the railway bridge. The shape is typical of the exits from common pastures and was probably formed in the first place by commoners' livestock which, when driven on to the waste, fanned out over the common. When the stock was rounded up in the autumn, the funnels provided convenient collecting places where it could be sorted according to its owners' markings, animals selected for sale, and the remainder driven home to winter pastures. Each of these exit-funnels, as I shall call them, appears to have been specific to a community, and the Rowland's Castle exit would have served the 'township' of Ildsworth or Finchdean.

Once the typical funnel shape is recognised, it is possible to identify examples in 'fossilized' form in the modern landscape and on the larger scale Ordnance Survey maps. Air photographs, particularly those taken before recent building developments obscure the evidence, are also very useful. Exit-funnels are to be found all around the edges of the Forest of Bere and former commons and I have identified a number of them in the Havant area. Some of the exit-funnels, such as that now represented by Stockheath, seem to be associated with areas of common pasture which had already been enclosed before the end of the Middle Ages, and must be of very considerable age, possibly Saxon or earlier. Others may have been formed more recently and most remained in use until the day the commons were enclosed. Havant Thicket was one of the last tracts of common pasture to be enclosed in east Hampshire and its enclosure by Act of Parliament occurred soon after William Henry Stone purchased Leigh Park, of which Havant Thicket was a part, in 1861. With enclosure went the extinguishment of all rights of common, and tenants who could prove their right of common were compensated with plots of the enclosed land. Those who may have enjoyed the benefits of this expanse of woodland-pasture, perhaps for as long as anyone could

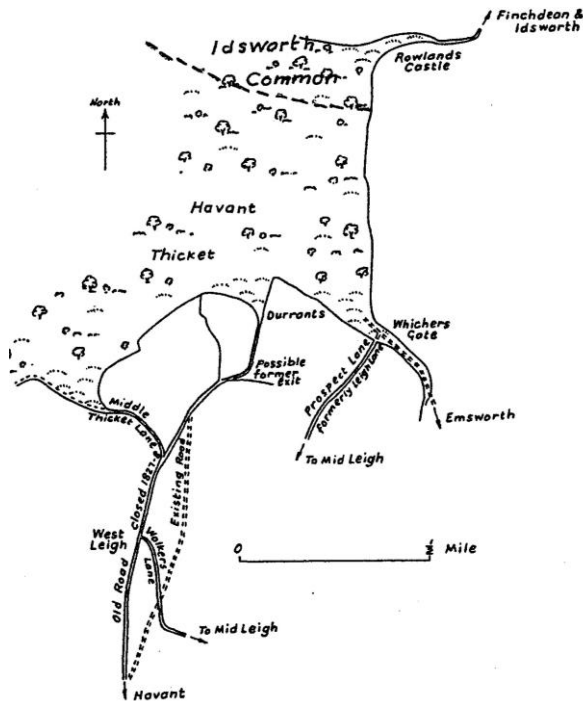
remember, but could not prove their entitlement, received nothing, except, if they were lucky, the use of an allotment garden provided by the landowner. Whichers Gate opened on to Havant Thicket at the point where Prospect Lane now joins Whichers Gate Road, and early maps and existing property boundaries suggest that one side of this exit-funnel is now represented by the public bridle-path which begins almost opposite this point and leads to the village. The gate itself gave access to the common pasture through the fence or hedge which defined the boundary between it and the cultivated land. The interior boundaries between commons and the Forest of Bere were unfenced, so commoners' livestock could roam at will over many miles of waste. Whichers Gate was not a toll gate as stated in Mary Jane Lomer's booklet *Rowland's Castle Past and Present* (1988) as the route from Emsworth to Horndean was never a turnpike road.

The Whichers Gate exit probably served the hamlet of Mid Leigh via Prospect Lane. Mid Leigh survived into the 19th century as a small group of cottages clustered around Leigh Green near the present junction of Prospect Lane and Bartons Road, but it had disappeared by c.1860. Another exit at Durrants served West Leigh, a small settlement which was swept away when the Havant to Horndean road was re-aligned in 1827-8 to remove it from the vicinity of Leigh Park House. An estate map of Leigh Park, probably made at the turn of the 18th century<sup>5</sup>, shows an exit-funnel 300 yards south of Durrants, probably indicating the edge of Havant Thicket before piecemeal enclosure of its margins had pushed its limits further north. This map also shows an exit at the point now occupied by the ornamental lake in Leigh Park Gardens. The latter exit led into Middle Thicket Lane which was closed by Sir George Staunton in 1828 with the agreement of the copyholders concerned.<sup>6</sup>

Some of the exit-funnels attracted squatter settlement on the common land on their inside edges, and this appears to have been the origin of the hamlet which grew up around the Green at Rowland's Castle. It is difficult to decide when the process began, but a will, dated 1685, describes Edward Outen as a wheelwright of Rowland's Castle<sup>7</sup>, so it is likely a community had formed by that date. Isaac Taylor's map of Hampshire, published in 1759, shows that Rowland's Castle was well-established by the middle of the 18th century. This type of 'frontiersman' settlement of common and forest exit-funnels is also evident at Whichers Gate and Durrants, and further afield, even Waterlooville, now a thriving town on the London Road, may be shown to have had similar origins.

These common-side settlements often attracted fiercely independent individuals who were quite capable of exploiting the resources of the district to the full: raising horses, cattle and pigs on the common, making chip-bonnets and baskets, clothes

pegs, hurdles and other items from the underwood, cutting firewood, charcoal-burning and stripping oak bark for the leather tanners of Havant. Add a little poaching to these activities and it becomes clear that life on the margins of society had much to recommend it. It also had the distinct advantage at this time that the influence of the manorial landlords, the gentry, and the Establishment in general was at its weakest in such areas as this. It is not surprising that in matters of religion, the tenets and democratic organisation of nonconformity appealed more to these people than the established church, and it is known that during the 1770's the Gospel was preached in a cottage on Bulls (Bowes) Hill by nonconformist preachers from Havant before Providence Chapel was opened in 1798.<sup>8</sup> It is unlikely that many local people found their way to St. Faith's church in Havant for Sunday services, and it was not until 1838 that the church of St John the Baptist was built, followed in 1840 by the definition of the ecclesiastical district of Redhill.<sup>9</sup>



Havant Thicket prior to enclosure, showing the location of possible 'exit funnels'.

It might be expected that Walter Butler, the Havant solicitor, who was Staunton's

Steward and advisor at Leigh Park, and the author of *The Hundred of Bosmere* published in 1817, should express the view that 'Commons are great public nuisances; the resort of gypsies and vagrants, who poach the game, break down the fences, and prey upon the public, without contributing anything towards the general good of society. The cattle bought up on commons are universally bad. They are rough, coarse and stunted in their growth. The cows yield but little milk, and in winter eat up the straw that ought to be turned into manure for the improvement of the farm.'<sup>10</sup>

The Forest of Bere was enclosed by an Act of Parliament of 1810, Emsworth Common was enclosed in 1810 and 1819, and Catherington, Blendworth and Idsworth Commons were all enclosed under a single Act of Parliament in 1816. When Butler wrote, the work of the Enclosure Commissioners in the district was largely finished. Havant Thicket carried rights of common for a further half-century even though its owners increasingly regarded it as a part of their back garden, introducing such landscape features as a dead straight avenue through the trees almost a mile and a half in length, an ornamental lake, and a monument to George Canning, 50 feet high. The old way of life which the inhabitants of Rowland's Castle had enjoyed for generations was unable to survive these conditions, and by the middle of the 19th century it was all but a memory. Rowland's Castle was well on its way to becoming the respectable and respected community it is today.

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## Charles John Longcroft (1816-1877)

C. J. Longcroft had a very successful career as a solicitor in Havant and was clerk to the magistrates of the Fareham Division of Petty Sessions, the Local Board of Health, Havant Union workhouse and Havant Gas Company. He was also steward to fourteen local manors including Emsworth and Warblington and was himself lord of the mesne manor of Hall Place. Longcroft is best known to local historians for his *A Topographical Account of the Hundred of Bosmere*, first printed in 1856 but withdrawn and published in amended form the following year. Longcroft was, undoubtedly, a reliable authority on manorial law and the history of the manors in Bosmere Hundred, but like many of his contemporary historians his knowledge of archaeology and architecture was, by modern standards, somewhat rudimentary. The following extracts from his book should, therefore, be treated with some degree of caution, though that is certainly not say they are of no value. On the contrary, Longcroft tells us things we should not otherwise have known, for example, about the Roman building and pottery kilns discovered at Mayze Coppice. His conjectures about Roman trackways around Rowland's Castle and Racton are not substantiated by modern research, but his first-hand descriptions of the contemporary landscape are of great interest and if Longcroft's work is read in this spirit - making allowances for his strengths and weaknesses, and following up the clues he offers - there is much we can gain from *The Hundred of Bosmere*. With regard to architectural styles, Longcroft is also a man of his time; let it just be said that in the following paragraphs, read 'Norman' for 'Anglo-Saxon'.

### Extract from Charles Longcroft's 1856 *Topographical Account of Bosmere*

At the northern extremity of the Manor adjoining to the forest of Stansted, once stood a Castle, the history of which is nearly as obscure as that of Warblington, but there are some notices of it which enable us to ascertain something, although but little, of its origin and decay. The only remains of Rowland's Castle now to be seen, are two large masses of wall composed of flint, undressed stone, chalk and mortar. The walls are about ten feet thick, the mortar apparently not Roman, and powdering to dust when rubbed. At one time a double vallum surrounded the

Castle, with a fosse of considerable depth. The outer vallum is about 700 yards in circumference, and the fosse appears to have been filled partly from a spring to the south of the outer vallum. It was circular in shape, with outworks extending to the west, defended by a second vallum and fosse to about the distance of 600 yards. There is a postern entrance to the South still perfect. No Roman work is to be seen, the workmanship being like that of the Anglo-Saxons, and the shape corresponding with other forts of their construction. There are evidently works extending to the south and to the south-east, near the bed of what seems to have formed an ancient Roman road. Coins have been found in great abundance in and around the site of Rowland's Castle, and only about five years since a crock was dug up full of Roman coins, principally copper, which were disposed of at Portsmouth before any person of intelligence was aware of the discovery; the situation was on the line of a supposed Roman route from Old Winchester to the coast and Chichester, and there are the remains of Roman work and pottery in the immediate vicinity.

To the south, on the verge of Mayze Coppice, at a short distance from the ruins of the Castle, were some years since discovered, the remains of a Roman building, which stood on an eminence, rising with a gentle ascent from the little valley beneath. An apartment could be traced, eighteen feet by fourteen feet, with the pavement entire, consisting of red brick tessera, two inches square, the plaster on the side walls still perfect, composed of lime, tempered with powdered brick, a cement much used by the Romans, and with which they composed their pavements. This apartment appeared to have been the principal one in the whole building, and was considerably ornamented, as pieces of stucco painted in fresco were found among the rubbish. Adjoining to this was one of smaller dimensions, supposed to have been the sudatory or sweating bath, from the circumstance of finding an entire earthen flue with several broken fragments, a portion of lead pipe, and various tiles with thin edges turned up, to serve as tunnels or flues, placed under the floor to convey heat. Near the supposed entrance was another building twenty feet square; this might have been the cold bath, as the Romans made it a common practice to use the cold bath immediately after the sudatory. To the eastward was a third building of large dimensions, the site plentifully strewn with charcoal and fragments of pottery. Amongst others, there was part of an earthen vessel capable of holding twelve gallons, impressed on the inside with the marks of fingers.



From these buildings a causeway, with a fosse on either side, extended in a southerly direction towards the sea coast, and several other earth-works now levelled with the plough. Near the farm-house was a small barrow, which was opened; nothing was found but a quantity of charred wood, and a small fragment of pottery marked with crescents. On other parts of Mayze Coppice are still to be seen black earth with traces of burning, and innumerable fragments of pottery, a proof that a manufactory of earthenware was carried on here.

The buildings which once stood at Mayze Coppice and on Rowland's Hill were, no doubt, in possession of the same proprietor, and formed a Roman station of some importance. It is conjectured that a track-way ran from hence to Chichester, passing south of Stansted House, through Lisle Wood, by the Old Pack Horse Inn, and following the lane south of the park fence to Lord Halifax's Tower, crossed the Westbourne road between Racton House and the park; but as no traces of it can be seen on Hambrook Common, the present road from Racton Park to Funtington has been supposed to occupy its original line, trending through Lavant to Chichester. (*Butler.*)

Rowland's Castle had, by tradition, a subterranean communication from its keep or donjon (which was twenty feet square and of great strength), with Warblington Castle and Church, and it was believed, some years since, that the northern entrance to the passage had been opened, but no search was made to see the direction it took. These passages were not unfrequent in former times, when life was not so secure as at the present moment, between fortresses and religious houses, and many of those which were said to have existed have recently been brought to light. Among many others the most interesting is that from Windsor Castle to Burnham Abbey, a distance of four miles, passing under the bed of the Thames, presumed to have been discovered in April, 1853.

In Lyttleton's History of Henry II, he states that Rowland's Villa, after the departure of the Romans, fell into the hands of the Saxon invaders, who converted it into a fortress, and that its castle, towers, and battlements were in a perfect state of repair when Henry II, who was fond of the chase, passed several days there in hunting and amusements. Henry II began to reign in 1154, and, as the Castle was perfect in his time, it seems probable that it had become an escheat of the crown before the 17th Stephen, 1142, because in that year all the castles improperly erected by noblemen and lords, without licence, were ordered to be razed, according to Matthew Paris, who says—"That all those castles, which contrary to

good reason and good order, had been made and builded by any manner of person in the days of King Stephen, should be overthrown and cast down, which were found to be 1115." If therefore Rowland's Castle within and parcel of the Manor of Warblington, were perfect and in a habitable state, so late as at some period between 1154 and 1189, what good reason can there be for supposing that there existed another Castle at Warblington at one and the same time, particularly as there is no information on the destruction of the Monastery, which in all likelihood was used as a place of residence until it was pulled down to make way for the Castle. It seems to me that Rowland's Castle was occupied down to about the middle of the fourteenth century, when it fell into a state of decay, up to which time there was no Castle whatever at Warblington, but that upon the accession of Sir John de Montacute who married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Monthermer, he built the present Castle of Warblington, and that from that time it was occasionally occupied by the various lords until the grant to Sir Richard Cotton, who held the Manor of the King *in capite* by the fortieth part of a Knight's Fee, after which he and his descendants resided there permanently up to the period when the Castle was besieged and demolished in 1642.

In the will of Thomas Jervoise, Esquire, of Herriard, made in the year 1739, and in the early title deeds of the property, there is mention made of Rowland's Castle and of the purlieu there. This purlieu comprised Rowland's Hills, which had been added, as I conceive, to the ancient forest of Stansted, parcel of the Honour of Arundel, prior to the *Charta de Foresta*, but having by the provisions of that Act been disafforested and severed from the forest of Stansted, it became purlieu, or pure and free from the laws and ordinances of the forest. It was bounded on the west and north-west by Havant Thicket, and the ancient driftway or deer-leap of sixteen feet from the standard surrounding the purlieu as against the thicket, is still preserved to the owners of Rowland's Hills.

## A Memorable Incident

A memorable incident, connected with an open-air service at Rowland's Castle, near Havant, Hampshire, is thus reported by Rev. D. A. Doudney, for fifty-three years the Editor of *The Gospel Magazine*. On July 12, 1859. Spurgeon preached twice, in a beautiful valley, to large congregations, and, towards the end of the evening sermon, he made a powerful appeal to his hearers in the manner that Mr. Doudney thus described: "The valley in which we were assembled was a lovely one. It was surrounded by hills clothed with woods and verdure, and on that evening the atmosphere was perfectly calm and still. The sun, which had been shining brightly all day, was sinking in the West; and the large concourse of people, listening with fixed attention to the earnest pleadings of the young preacher, made altogether a scene which one could not easily forget; but although Mr. Spurgeon had spoken with considerable force and energy during the day, and used his noble voice so that every one of his auditors must have heard him distinctly, I, for one, had not noticed that there was a remarkable echo at the spot. The preacher, however, had evidently observed it, and he used the fact in a most effective way. When he came to the close of his last appeal, he exclaimed, with great deliberation and impressiveness, "Yea, even Nature herself confirms and repeats these gracious invitations, for she too says, again and again (here he raised his voice to its highest pitch, and shouted with wonderful power the words) Come--Come--COME." And, instantly, amidst the breathless silence of the congregation, the words were echoed from the hills around, again and again, until they softly died away in the distance--Come--Come--Come--Come--Come. A thrill, like an electric shock, passed through the audience, and probably most of those who were present will remember the circumstance as long as they live.'

[This is particularly interesting, I think, because it suggests that the 19th century residents of Rowland's Castle appear to have been more inclined towards Non-conformism than to the Church of England. John Pile.]

## The Manor of Rowland's Castle, Warblington and Emsworth Walter Butler, 1822

It has been suggested that Rowland's Castle may have been a castle erected to guard the hunting rights of the local Lords. Henry II stayed there in 1154, to hunt in the nearby forests. The building may have been occupied until the 14th Century, but tradition has it that the castle was one of those demolished in Henry II's efforts to curb the power of the barons.

Whatever the origins of the castle, the village itself seems to have evolved from a hamlet housing agricultural workers from the estate of Stansted and neighbouring farms. By the end of the 18th century there were a number of cottages round the Green. Two fairs were held: the first on 12th May for the sale of horses, toys and pedlary, and the second on 12th November, for the sale of horses and pigs. The fairs continued to be held until 1873. A visitor to the village in 1860 describes the large crowds which came to the fair, especially in May. By 1860 the village had grown to include a public house, the Fountain, and one or two shops.

*'A good deal of gaiety at times, especially in the summer season, used to be going on in the village when Sir George Staunton was alive,'* commented the visitor.

Sir George opened the grounds of Leigh Park House to visitors, and van loads of people from Portsmouth used to come to Rowland's Castle after their visit to the grounds to complete their day out. The dell, once part of the castle moat, was a favourite place for picnics. The dell was spoilt by the coming of the railway in 1853, but the visitors still came to the village. The landlord of the Rowland's Castle Tavern [Robin Hood] set up a Tea Garden, with music supplied by a band. The visitors would have tea, 'and dance about on the green till it's time for them to return.' The same enterprising publican added an assembly room holding up to 100 people. The room was opened on 14th February 1861, with a ball, music provided by a band under the able leadership of Professor Fleming of Landport.

Rowland's Castle had no church until 1838, when the small church of St John the Baptist was erected at the top of Redhill. The church was built by a subscription raised by three neighbouring parishes of Chalton, Havant and Warblington. The Rector of Havant and the Rector of Warblington each contributed an annual endowment of £25, and a portion of each parish was

assigned to Redhill. The first incumbent, presented by the Rector of Havant, was the Rev. Henry Blyth. When he died, his successor, the Rev. Thomas Yard, was presented by the Rector of Warblington. Mr. Yard was a powerful preacher, and drew large congregations to hear his sermons. His friends donated an organ to the church, but when Mr. Yard left in 1850 to take up a living in Rutland, the organ was removed.

The first Congregational Chapel in Rowland's Castle was built in 1798. Before then, meetings had been held in a cottage up Bowes Hill. With a subscription from the Orange Street Independent Church in Portsmouth, a small chapel was built to combat the behaviour of residents of Rowland's Castle who on Sundays behaved with 'ribaldry and rowdiness.' The chapel was later closed for a short time because the local people complained about the preachers, and one of them was actually pulled from the pulpit. A second chapel building was erected in 1881, again with subscriptions from the Orange Street Church, and from the Canning family of Finchdean Iron Foundry.

### Notes on Roland

Roland the Hero certainly existed; he was the chief knight, a paladin if the title means anything, in the army of Charlemagne. He was killed at the battle of Roncasvalles in 778. The song of Roland celebrates his heroism, and apparently dates from 1066.

The reason for this huge delay can only be explained by the Norman conquest of that year. The song must have been known to them but not to 'us' until 'they' brought it over, it is for certain that neither Roland nor Charlemagne came to these shores. There is of course a Castle and therefore a 'somebody' lived there.

The facts about the conquest and the distribution of the land amongst the Kings barons are well known. William I was in fact very careful (artful maybe) that no one of his followers came into too much land too close together. However by 1098 this had come about and Robert de Bellême now owned land probably equalling all or most of what we see as West Sussex. The King was of course long dead and William II was on the throne, but it is not until the reign, of Henry I that something is done about Robert. And it needed doing, by his own admission he feared neither man, God or devil. We know no details of what he did but here is the man who they feared, and of whom the legends must have been made, his only gigantic stature being the enormity of his crimes. He was imprisoned by

1100 and expelled (back to Normandy) by 1102. But wait, he was also a supporter of Robert of Normandy, the man who, as he was the oldest son of William I was the rightful heir to the throne of England (William II and Henry were also sons). Henry I also ordered the destruction of Castles built by Barons who went against him, a fact more normally attributed to Henry II some fifty years to come.

If the truth about a 'giant' has been lost there is a possible reason.

## Ancient History

### Neolithic 3000BC-1800BC

This age showed the beginning of organisation in domestic animals and farming, which means settlements. They lived on the slopes and despite possible sites north of Finchdean and at Wellsworth there is little other trace of Neolithic man in this area, apart from the flint tools he used. Flint tools were produced on a serious basis; some even 'mined' or are dug out from pits. In this area however only flints, that is stones, found on the surface were used.

### Bronze Age 2000BC-600BC

People still lived on the hills and there is a known site at Chalton and a burial, a cremation in an urn, at Woodcroft. Another site at Huckswood has been identified and a pottery wheel has been found at Wellsworth. Certainly Bronze Age man knew about pottery, and weaving, farming and metal working. Also the age showed the beginnings of personal wealth and adornments, which implies some sort of class structure. No finds to support this have been found in this area.

### Iron Age 600BC-AD42

A site is known at Chalton and Huckswood, most likely just a continuation of the Bronze Age. Farming was much improved, domestic animals kept not just for meat and crops cultivated in defined fields. They lived in permanent enclosures, earthen banks with some traces of flint walls to support timber frames for houses. Iron of course was the name and so they knew about smelting and forging, mostly it would appear as swords. Iron bars were also used as currency but by the end of the period, say 100BC, proper coins are known. This implies trade.

## Norman 1066

The Norman Age began in 1066 with the conquest by William I, or so he became.

He took over a land of well-established communities, law and order and open field style of farming. Whilst land that was not previously owned by the old King, Harold or his Lords, belonged to the church. Christianity was brought to England circa AD638.

The new King awarded lands, keeping much to the boundaries of the Saxon hundreds, to his loyal subjects (generals if you like of his conquering army).

He awarded Ceptune to Roger de Montgomery, who he also made the Earl of Shrewsbury. In fact this Roger became the biggest landowner in England, after the King of course, and having inherited Ceptune he owned all the land in Rowland's Castle area. He built the castle, however there is no mention of a castle in the Domesday Book of 1086 which is not conclusive but it is all we have got. Roger died in 1094 so the castle was built in between those few years.

The site of the castle is in the grounds of Deerleap House alongside the Green in the centre of the village. An extract from a survey dated 1915 states the castle mound is 31ft above a dry moat and 40ft in diameter. There are only two pieces of flint wall remaining. There was a trace of a bank 13ft high in places and a ditch some 180ft long on one side suggesting a bailey of some size. A villager records that in 1846 the last piece of the castle fell into the ditch which could mean that the masonry remains of 1915 were part of the outer wall of the castle. The lived in part of the castle on top of that 31ft mound or motte that was most likely timber. The railway line of 1858 is credited with destroying more of the castle, cutting through it in fact, and in 1878 the digging and making of a chalk pit further damaged it. Roger de Montgomery was succeeded by his son, Hugh, who died in 1098, his second son Robert de Bellême (the spelling differs). By this time William I had died in 1087 and also William II had died in 1100 and Henry I came to the throne. However still living in Normandy was Robert, William the Conqueror's eldest son who claimed throne of England. This Robert de Bellême was a supporter of him. He was a dangerous man having acquired vast tracts of land and wealth. He is quoted as "fearing no man god or devil". Henry I imprisoned him, some say at Carisbrooke others at Shrewsbury but eventually deported him to Normandy by 1101 at the latest.

Henry I then split up the old manor of Ceptune in to parts relating to Chalton Clanfield, Catherington, Blendworth and Idsworth (Idsworth would be Rowland's Castle of course). He gave Chalton to Richard Beaumont, Earl of Leicester, who sometime shortly after built the village's second castle at Motley Copse.

The same survey of 1915 says about Motley Copse: A circular keep 35yds in diameter with a surrounding bailey. There are banks and another circular, but lower keep, 20yds in diameter extruding from the larger one. The keep is lift above the bailey and the bank around the bailey is 7ft. There are traces of flint foundations on the banks. A depression, thought to be a well, in the keep was excavated but only old iron and wooden buckets found.

As there were two castles there must have been two settlements around them. If so they have yet to be found.

Records show that in 1114 Henry I visited Westbourne. In 1156 Henry II apparently visits the castle and in 1177 he stays at Stansted and again in 1181. Not quite in the village but near enough and meaning other houses and roads.

As said we were part of the Hundred of Finchdean or Ceptune. Few records exist so we must logically accept that as St Hubert's Chapel is dated 1053 and still stands there must have been some continuous civilisation there throughout the Norman Age, and Domesday survey shows that Ceptune was a huge manor by 1086 standards with 104 inhabitants (compared with 66 in Havant area and 35 in Warblington). Norman banks and ditches can be found in the area, some marking boundaries and others defining paths and roads. Like St Hubert's these probably date from the Saxon age.

We have mentioned Henry II; he is generally thought of as, 'not a Norman King'. That title belongs to Stephen who died in 1154. Stephen who ordered the destruction of what are known Adulterine castles in 1142. So what did Henry visit in 1156? It is accepted that the Normans loved the hunt and William I credited with creating the New Forest as his very own private place for this.

Possibly both castles were used for the same purpose, that is hunting lodges. More to protect their owner's interests from encroachment by the other.

The castle at Rowland's does stand on a spot overlooking the valley along Maize Coppice. Through here was an old path an old Roman road in fact, to the hinterland of Chalton etc. This was a trade route and it is possible that a 'baron' living in the castle extracted tolls from such traders and travellers. A practice ended with Magna Carta of 1215 and maybe the castle was abandoned and fell



into disuse.

The first mention of a market is 1224 at Chalton.

### Lime Trees and Knights' Fees

Idsworth manor passed into the possession of the Dormer family when Mary, the eldest daughter of Edward Banester, the previous lord of Idsworth, married Robert Dormer, the son of Sir Robert Dormer of Wing in Buckinghamshire. It is believed that the first avenue of lime trees, opposite to the entrance to the old manor house, was planted in 1735 (Hampshire Gardens Trust research suggests c.1725) possibly by the Revd Charles Dormer the then lord of the manor. The avenue was certainly in existence and sufficiently established in 1759 when it is prominently shown on Isaac Taylor's map of Hampshire. The original avenue was destroyed early in the 19th century but soon replanted. However, it was largely felled again in the 'Great Storm' that occurred on the night of 15-16 October 1987. Tree ring counts on this occasion gave an age of between 160 and 170 years, confirming the previous replanting between 1827 and 1837.

According to *The Victoria History of Hampshire*, Idsworth did not exist as a separate manor but was originally part of the manor of Chalton. Exactly when Idsworth became a manor is uncertain, but it appears to have been split from Chalton when Robert de Belesme, 3rd earl of Shrewsbury, who was lord of that manor, rebelled against Henry I in 1102. Robert's lands were forfeited and Idsworth detached and granted to a retainer whose name does not appear to have come down to us. It may have been William de Ferrers who is mentioned in later records, but by 1204 we are on firmer ground as in that year king John ordered the sheriff of Hampshire to deliver the manor of Idsworth to Henry Hussey who was also lord of the manor of Harting, just across the county boundary in Sussex.

These men were granted manors, known as Knight's Fees, in return for knight service in times of need – the basis of the 'Feudal System'. The income from the manors was intended to enable the lord to live the lifestyle fitting for a knight and to allow him to provide the fighting men required, fully equipped and with the necessary attendants. Sometimes the holders of Knight's Fees were unable or unwilling to provide the military service themselves and preferred to make a cash payment called Scutage (literally shield-money) instead. As time went by and the need for military service was reduced, the cash payment became the preferred option. Eventually, under the Tenures Abolition Act of 1660 Knight's Fees and Scutage were abolished and the income lost to the treasury was replaced by other means of taxation. However,

it is likely that landlords who had previously passed on appropriate proportions of the Scutage charge to their tenants, contrived to continue the practice.

## ROWLAND'S CASTLE

Its Distinctive Charm by Percy C Elliott.

*Hampshire Telegraph and Post*, Friday, 14 September 1934

There are but few villages, if indeed any, within easy reach of the City of Portsmouth, whose distinctive charm excels that of the ancient village of Rowland's Castle. Rowland's Castle has the advantage of being off the main London Road, and is thus spared the rush and din which seem to be inseparable from the voluminous traffic of that main artery to the great Metropolis.

### A Pleasant Situation

Rowland's Castle is pleasantly situated at the apex of a loop, the base of which extends from the George Hotel on Portsdown Hill right on to the quiet old village of Horndean. It retains its rural aspects chiefly because of its admirable setting, being not only "far from the madding crowd", but well surrounded by forest, down, woodland and wide open spaces, so characteristic of the beautiful counties of Hampshire and Sussex.

It has, too, the inestimable advantage of being on the main line of the Southern Railway, and is, on the whole, very well served by an excellent train service both to the City of London, and what is equally important, to the City of Portsmouth and its incomparable Southsea beach.

### The Village Green

The village, happily, possesses a remarkably fine green, which is not only picturesque, but a favourite spot where the children may play, and where the villagers may meet to discuss the latest phases of world affairs, or those of the village itself.

### Surroundings

A popular rendezvous for local residents and for visitors is Stansted Park, the country residence of Lord Bessborough, the Governor-General of Canada, who is now serving at Ottawa. The park, though not extensive, makes up in charm what it lacks in acreage. Well wooded, the fine old beeches being well worthy of mention, it seems to be a veritable sanctuary for birds that occupy these leafy and

secluded domains in peaceful bliss.

Leigh Park, the residence of Lady Fitzwygram, is another fine asset to the amenities of Rowland's Castle. Indeed, Rowland's Castle and Leigh Park have for upwards of half a century been almost synonymous terms, the late Sir Frederick Fitzwygram and his gracious lady being well-beloved by everyone who had the great good fortune of being in any way associated with them. Sir Frederick was a fine type of English gentleman, and it is fitting that his remains rest in the quiet old churchyard at Redhill, near the people he loved and served so well and so unstintingly throughout his long and strenuous life.

Idsworth Park, now in occupation of Lorna, Countess Howe, is another charming example of Hampshire parklands. Although not so well known as Stansted Park and Leigh Park, it is very extensive, and commands some very delightful views of the adjacent countryside and distant landscapes.

Rowland's Castle is fortunate indeed in its very charming setting, surrounded as it is by such delectable open spaces which, in turn, ensure the retention of its own distinctive and pleasing, rural aspect.

### Religious Life

The religious life of the village is served by the Episcopalian Church at Redhill, and the Congregational Church situated right in the centre of the village. The Very Rev. the Dean of Winchester was until recently the rector of Redhill, and the minister of the Congregational Church at Rowland's and Finchdean, the Rev. F. Hern, has held his pastorate here with great acceptance for over 33 years, today occupying an established place in the esteem and affections of the villagers from the richest down to the very humblest and poorest.

### Playing Field and Golf Links

Rowland's Castle, too, is fortunate in that possesses its own playing field. Thanks to the untiring efforts of Admiral M.P. O'Callaghan, who is greatly beloved by everyone for his unassuming yet sterling goodness, the large playing field remains in the possession of Rowland's Castle for all time, and it is a pleasant thought to recall that it was purchased and paid for by the residents, that splendid result, too, being achieved, very largely by the unwearingly efforts of the Admiral personally.

There is also a very fine 18-hole golf links, not the least of amenities of

Rowland's Castle. The links are very picturesquely situated in that respect, as in others perhaps, it is unsurpassed by any other links in the country.

#### Local Products

Many of the villagers find more or less permanent employment at the well-known local brickworks. The clay on the spot is especially suitable for the manufacture of high-class bricks and tiles, and the local products bear a long and untarnished reputation and consequently are in almost constant demand.

#### Old Ruins

Visitors often, very rightly, enquire as to the whereabouts of the castle from which Rowland's is said to have taken his name. The fact is that the only ruins worthy of mention are those, not very extensive, within the grounds of "Deerleap", the residence of Admiral M. P. O'Callaghan, but no one, claims for the ancient ruins any local, antiquarian, or historical importance.

#### Pastoral Serenity

It may be gathered that Rowland's Castle, though not in the limelight of the affairs of the world, is a very delightful old village, serenely pursuing its own unruffled life, undisturbed by the din and clatter of warring politics which often distract the thoughts and attention of dwellers in the great cities, surrounded by sylvan retreats of unsullied beauty. The haunt of birds and where loveliness lurks happy in the thought that whilst the world wags in its own way – not always the best – Rowland's Castle can, with calm serenity revel in its own distinctive pastoral charm and proudly take its place among the delightful wayside villages for which beautiful Britain in general and leafy Hampshire and Sussex in particular are so renowned.

#### Rowland's Castle Brickworks

When civilization builds wears out, and then moves on, what remains is often a sad picture. Such is the site of Rowland's Castle brickworks, deserted now for two years.

One resident recalls that 70 years ago the brickworks was a thriving undertaking, providing employment for most of the village men. That, of course, was in the days when bricks were hand-made and craftsmanship was required. The bricks were of a very high quality and samples were sent all over the country.

Even today a walk along Brighton sea front will reveal the fame of Rowland's Castle bricks . . . the Hotel Metropole was built from them.

Over the years, however, mechanization arrived and the raw materials dropped a little in standard. The young men were not quite so interested in following in father's footsteps and then the business declined.

Several years ago, the works, were bought by a local family of builders who, we were told, modernized the entire building. Then however, they decided to close the plant.

Today it is a ghostly place. Old timbers creak, water drips eerily through the gaping roof, and walls are developing dangerous-looking cracks.

With wheelbarrow, spades and piles of new bricks left lying around; it has something of the haunting atmosphere of the Marie Celeste. Not quite with meals left on the canteen tables or a trace of warmth in the kilns, but an air of "nobody wants me" – sad and depressing. We were glad to leave.

*Hampshire Telegraph*, October 1968

## ROWLAND'S CASTLE BRICKWORKS

Dawn Jones & P.D. King

A visit was made to the works on January 7th, 1969, and members of the Society were shown around by the ex-foreman who is now employed as a watchman on the site. The works were closed in 1967 and the firm intend to sell the site although plans for redevelopment have so far been frustrated by green belt planning restrictions. The works themselves comprise a crushing plant, a brick making mill, three sets of kilns of different types, and a drying plant. A further area in which were situated an older mill and the steam engine driving it has been demolished.

The works were fed by an adjacent clay pit, to the south of the plant. Little topsoil needed to be cleared (varying from a few inches up to two feet maximum depth) under which a working height of twenty to thirty feet would be established. The clay contained very few stones and the smaller ones were in any case dealt with satisfactorily by the crushing plant. The firm owned a further two fields adjacent to the pit which could have supplied the works for many more years if other factors had not forced closure. At the time the works closed the pit was being worked by a 19R3 Ruston Bucynes digger (still on the site). Skips carrying enough clay to make up to 500 bricks were filled by the digger and were

then run to the foot of an incline leading to the crushing mill. The incline was worked by a rope running over pulleys powered from machinery in the top of the crushing mill building. One man saw to the connection of the skips to the rope at the bottom of the incline, and another dealt with the unloading and return of empty skips.

The railway was lightly laid with industrial type narrow gauge rail and much packing under the sleepers was required to keep the track reasonably stable over the pit floor. The gauge used was about two foot and skips were moved in the pit by hand. A siding at the foot of the incline enabled full skips to pass empty ones. Three skips were generally used; one would be loading, a second would be empty at the foot of the incline and the third would be unloading at the crushing mill. On part of the incline the track was curved and so rollers were placed in the centre to guide the rope at this point. The winch for the incline was powered by steam until 1955 when an electric motor was installed.

The main mill building is of three storeys and as noted above, the clay arrived in skips at the top storey. It was tipped into a hopper which fed a pair of 38 cwt rollers manufactured by Bennett & Sayer of Derby (each roller lasting about five years) into a circular pan about nine feet across. In the bottom of this was a three-quarters to five-eighths inches grating through which the clay was pushed by rotating scrapers turning in the pan, down a chute to more rollers which produced a sheet a day. This sheet passed through a barrel containing nineteen knives which cut up the clay and forced it out in a brick shaped column. If required, the column could be passed through a sanding machine, and finally the column passed under a frame of vertical knives which cut the column into bricks. The whole mill was powered by a 175 h.p. electric motor.

The bricks thus produced were then dried, the driers being situated under cover in the main building which is of light iron framed construction. There were eleven driers taking 9,000 bricks each, the bricks being placed on wheeled trucks. Power was not always needed for drying since the waste heat from one downdraught kiln while it was cooling, could be used to dry 40,000 bricks.

There were two sets of kilns in operation at the time of closure:

i) Downdraught Berry type kilns (also known as intermittent kilns) on the east side of the works. Two were placed outside the main shed with the outlet flue between them and a further six or seven were inside, (it had been found that placing them under cover doubled their life span), all serving the main shaft. The

kilns were about nine feet high with a rounded top. Heat was applied at the sides which caused the draught to rise before descending through the bricks to a horizontal outlet flue underneath the kiln; hence the downdraught action. Some of the kilns inside the shed had, however, been removed at the time of the visit. The bricks were placed in a 'frog' of several 'moulds' - each mould holding three bricks which were stacked inside the kiln loading through a wicket at the front. The kiln was fired by putting coal into eight fire holes along each side of the kiln, and a week's heating was needed to reach the required temperature of 1,100°F. The fires were then put out while the bricks 'cooled' to a good colour in the heat during the following week. The kiln was then cooled during the third week (waste heat often being used for drying). Up to nineteen tons of coals were required for a full kiln of 25,000 bricks.

Kelso blue bricks, a hard wearing brick, were made in the Berry kilns, the blue colour coming from the extra-long burning used in this case; the clay being the same for all bricks made at the works.

The Berry kilns inside the shed were slightly different and although of the same capacity as those outside they had seven fire holes in each side. The stacking of bricks inside the kilns had to be done in a particular manner in order to ensure a regular draught over all the bricks; 16,000 bricks could be loaded into a kiln per day. In the 1920s a man was paid 2/6d (12½p) per 1,000 bricks or 2/- (10p) per 1,000 tiles loaded, i.e. about 10/- (50p) a day.

ii) On the other side of the works was situated the Hoffman kiln; a more modern type than the Berry. The building was rectangular and comprised sixteen chambers (two sets of eight back to back) with the wickets facing outwards. Noticeably, a roof was provided to give protection against weather to the men loading the bricks. Each chamber could take 15,000 bricks and between each was a fire fed with Nottinghamshire slack through thirty firing holes in the roof. The firing area was covered to provide a second storey and was connected to the office area by a wooden bridge. The draught ran 'sideways' through the chambers, it being controlled by screw threaded handles on the overhead operating platform. When firing was completed metal taps were placed on the fire holes to keep the heat in.

To cover costs alone the works had to produce 100,000 bricks per week, and the output aimed at was about 150,000. Thirty-five hands were employed at the time of closure, but at the work's zenith double that number worked on the site, wages for the 35 men totalled about £700 per week, while 30 tons of coal were needed

every seven days, this mainly being Nottinghamshire slack for the Hoffman kiln but more expensive 'kitchen coal' was used in the Berry kilns which produced better bricks owing to the slower burning. The coal was brought by lorry from Nottingham by Haskins of Emsworth; about fifteen tons being delivered at a time. Despatching of bricks was mainly carried out by the firm using its own fleet of lorries after the railway was electrified, although customers did sometimes collect the finished product themselves. The market area stretched from Kent to Devon, although only the better bricks travelled the longer distances. The last selling price was about £22 per 1,000 with an additional delivery charge of up to £4 depending on distance. The former foreman (who was the third generation of his family to be employed at the works) stated that most of the output was fairly high grade and this was probably necessary to obtain a wide market because of the comparatively small scale of operation and somewhat isolated nature of the works.

*Portsmouth Polytechnic Archaeology Society Journal, 1969*

### A Mystery in a Saucepan

The 1871 census for Chalton shows, under entry 185, the inhabitants of Idsworth House. Jervoise Clarke-Jervoise is the head, aged 66 and Georgina, 64, his wife. There are two sons at home and a daughter-in-law and a grandson. Also three visitors from Worthing, Holland and Gibraltar. The two sons are respectively a retired Major (at the age of 40) and a Lt. Col. in the Coldstream Guards.

There follows a list of 14 servants amongst them are Irish, French and Prussian.

The next entries, 186 to 190, list more people, about nine in total, who appear to be servants also. Did they live in nearby 'estate' houses or were their dwellings part of the Manor House, but with a separate entrance of some sort or other peculiarity that made the census taker list them separately?

Life in the Manor House in those days was, for Georgina, a round of ceaseless visits, partying and events. We know this because she kept a diary in which she recorded them. Very little mention is made of everyday events concerning the house and servants however. Extracts tell us that in 1866, eighty-three guests attended a croquet party at Idsworth and that she was a bit disappointed as the previous party had attracted over one hundred.

There were always guests at the house, seventeen for dinner after Goodwood races and some days later fifteen came and Venison from Uppark was on the



menu. Her hectic life led her to write in 1865, 'This is the first time for six years that I have been quite alone'. They also visited Stansted, Uppark and Goodwood amongst others and she writes that a Ball at the latter did not finish till five o'clock in the morning.

In July of 1867 she writes that the Dog cart was smashed beyond repair at Goodwood and that Henry (the Lt. Col.) had to come home by Fly. Days later their Wagonette was put out of action. This left Georgina without any transport and she records that she had to go with friends to the next away party.

So what you repeat. Well, amongst the 25 or so servants I have mentioned there is neither listed a coachman nor, 17 to dinner remember, a cook.

### The Big Event.

The, village celebrated Queen Elizabeth's Coronation on June 2nd 1953 with a 9.30am start. That was a church service followed by another at, or rather from, Westminster Abbey. This was a two-and-three-quarter hour marathon, relayed by radio as was the new Queen's broadcast at 9.00pm that night. During the day a band left the Staunton Arms at 2.15pm and marched to the village where it led a carnival procession once round the green and then to the recreation ground where there was children's sports and children's teas. The day ended with a bonfire at 11.00pm followed at 11.30pm by the National Anthem.

The earliest Big Event I have proof of is on June 2nd 1902, a day clearly billed as belonging to Rowland's Castle, Redhill and Finchdean. It was the Coronation of Edward VII of course and the only events known to have happened were children's sports at 2.30pm and children's teas at 4.00, Adult teas at 5.30pm.

A Big Event still in memory was June 11th and 12th 1994 to mark the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

In between there were others; May 6th 1935 saw the village of Rowland's Castle with Forestside celebrating the Jubilee of George V. A late start with a 11.00am service and a 10.00pm bonfire finish meant a crowded day. There was a procession led by the band of the British Legion, the Rowland's Castle branch, to the recreation ground where there was children's sports, a Jubilee Pageant, Maypole dancing and children's teas followed by old folks' teas at 5.30pm, both in Rickard's Tea Garden. Also at 5.30pm were adult sports, including Peel and Eat an Orange race and a cigarette race. More maypole dancing and Morris dancing and the broadcast of his Majesty's speech at 8.00pm

Two years later, on May 12th, it was the Coronation of King George VI. A 9.45am start at Redhill church and a 12.30pm dinner for old folks at Rickards Tea Rooms. The carnival parade started from the arches and went as usual to the recreation ground with children's sports at 3.30pm and the children had their Teas at 4.45pm, in Rickard's Tea Garden. Adult sports featured that cigarette race again with singing and dancing later. The band of the British Legion got another chance as they led a torchlight procession around the green to the recreation ground for a 10.00pm bonfire and firework display. Both of these events, 1935 and 1937, had a popular broadcasted programme throughout the day as well as their Majesty's speeches. The 1937 programme had a little rider at the end; if wet a dance will be held in the Parish Hall.



Jubilee of King George V or coronation of King George VI?



Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II?

On September 15th 1945 the parish of Rowland's Castle celebrated Victory and

World Peace. A children's fancy dress at 1.30pm, children's sports at 2.00pm and their teas at 4.00pm. Old folks' teas at 5.00pm both in the parish hall, there was adults' sports and a torchlight procession and bonfire at 8.15.

We celebrated the silver anniversary of our Queen in 1977.

## Some Notes on Rowland's Castle from Various Sources

Paul Marshman

John Poate held Woodhouse Ashes farm and paid church rates to Idsworth. Probably first person to build a house at Rowland's Castle. He obtained land bordering the Green in 1765. Buried at Chalton.

Deed dated 30 March 1901 is about the Technical School in Rowland's Castle (it can be found at Winchester in box 4/25). It is from Sir Arthur Clarke-Jervoise Bart to Frank Stubbington Esq. and others. The Trustees of the School of Science and Technical Education. The lease was set at 18s. (90p) per annum for 99 years from 25 March 1900. Other trustees were; Edward Philip Bastic, Francis Walter Rook, and George Rayment.

Catherine Sainsbury founded the chapel. The family supported the Presbyterian Church in Havant. In 1785 they lived at South Leigh Farm and William Sainsbury allowed worship in his house.

In 1882 the Havant Volunteer Brigade, led by John Arter, was called to a fire at a brickworks in Rowland's Castle owned by a Mr Whillier, a brick and tile merchant. He paid their expenses and donated three guineas to funds.

When Havant and Waterlooville Urban District was formed they handed over the North Havant fighting equipment to the new Rowland's Castle Parish (1932). It was little more than a bucket and stirrup pump stored in the forge at Durrants (now the pottery).

Rowland's Castle was supplied with gas for public and private use in 1911 by the Havant Gas Co. from their old premises in New Lane. The site was closed in 1926. The Havant Gas Act of 1910 gave them the right to extend as far as Idsworth.

The fire engine was kept in Winnicotts, which was a shop until the new larger premises were built. It moved to a Nissen hut behind the house at the end of the Green (the house opposite the chapel, probably in the dell behind it where there was also a rifle range). The old fire engine was taken to Pitt's yard then moved up to Manor Lodge Road where it was going to block the road in case of invasion

(we are talking about 1939-45).

The Barclays Bank building in the grounds of No. 12 the Green was once Royal's bakehouse, the old bakehouse behind the Coffee Pot was at the time the Forge.

Possibly, during World War One, the Australians camped on the allotments (now the Fairway, probably then just fields). They were remounts, mules and horses. It is thought that they did some work to level the land there.

There was a small farm at the end of Castle Road behind what was Dr Norman's house. The site was occupied by a small factory unit and some garages until May/June 1988 when it was built on. The farm was owned by Scutt's who also had Stien buildings (1920?). He grazed cattle on the Triangle and milk could be bought there. You could buy cream at Rowland's Hill farm.

A Mr Goode had 17 horses for hauling timber (mostly). He kept most of them at Stien Buildings but some were in the stables at the Railway Hotel.

Park View was owned by Henry Dole.

The Fountain Inn was owned by a Rosewall in 1816.

A title deed of 1768 mentions Rowland's Castle. A William Poate who came from Peterley, but was the Lord of the Manor of Idsworth, let land at Rowland's Castle in the Parish of Chalton to a Mark Button in 1730. It was 14 rods of waste ground, Mark Button did build on it.

There were cottages down the lane opposite the Staunton Arms. They were called Summerdale. A Mr Overy lived there, he was a gardener on Leigh Park estate (one of his tasks was to keep the lake clear of weeds).

The Thicket was the old Havant Chase of the Bishop of Winchester, it was the southern limit of the Forest of Bere. In 1436 potters earth was found there.

The railway marker post at Courtlands arch states that it is 63 miles from Waterloo. The 62 mile post is near the George Inn, the 61 mile post is at Idsworth and the 60 mile post is at Woodcroft.

Pike & Spicer beers were sold at the Railway Hotel before the First World War. The sign on top of the chemist was probably still there as late as 1949.

1852/3, land at Comley was owned by Thos Pemberton. Maize Coppice was owned by Richard Gill. The shop was owned by Sam Rook but almost everything else was Clarke-Jervoise.

Sir George Staunton bought the Staunton Arms public house for £200 in November 1824.

A manhole cover at No. 5 Castle Road is clearly stamped with the name of Pitt, Rowland's Castle. Another at the chapel is stamped Couzens of West Marden.

The Six Bells public house in North Street, Havant, has a run of our tiles on the front. A house opposite Union Road has our tiles. (SC 1893).

There was a George Whicher, a butcher, who grazed his own cattle in Havant Thicket.

The will of Thomas Jervoise, Esq, of Herriad made 1739 mentions Rowlands Castle along with earlier title deed concerning property and purlieu. The purlieu comprised Rowlands Hill which had been added, as the author believes, to the ancient forests of Stansted, parcel of the Honour of Arundel, prior to the Charta de Poresta, but having been since de-forested it became free from the laws of that charter. It was bounded on the west and north west by Havant Thicket, and the ancient driftway or deer-leap of sixteen feet from the standard surrounding the purlieu as against the thicket, is still preserved to the owners of Rowlands Hill.

### Notes from the *Hundred of Bosmere*

In Dec 1800 Richard Bingham Newland conveyed the Redhill brick-kiln and yard to William Pearson of Rowland's Castle, a brickburner.

The Feodary book Henry VI kept at Arundel Castle, contains a reference: *that part of the honour of Arundel, which extends as far as Rowland's Castle.*

In 1800 the road from Havant to Horndean passed through Rowland's Castle and Blendworth, there being no road between Whichers Gate and Horndean.

Warblington with Rowland's Castle and purlieu (land apparently added to ancient forest, without title etc.) became the property of Thomas Jervoise of Herriad at the end of the 17th century. In his will dated 1739 that all should be sold to pay off debts, and to meet Legacies.

### Extracts from the Letter Books and the Idsworth Journals

1904 – Mrs Utley was paid £2 per annum for caretaking at Idsworth House to 1908. G Moore was the engineer in charge of the water tower, he collected the rents for the water leases. J Merrett was a woodman and lived at Rushmere (No. 158), next door was Richard, a keeper. T B Edney was clerk of Idsworth Parish Council. Ino. Bradley Firth, was tenant of Idsworth House from 1892 to 1908. He built the racquets court and laid out the cricket pitch.

1905 – Sir Henry constructed Links Lane. Rowland's Castle golf club granted more land with site for pavilion. There were 77 wells for cottagers and 20 for

farms. The rest of the water supply was by rain-water tanks. By 1914 thatch was replaced by galvanised sheets to catch the rainwater.

1906 – H Mason and T Scutt were carriers at Rowland's Castle. J Price at Finchdean.

1907 – Wages; Carter 14 shillings (70p) per week plus free cottage.

Labourers 12 shillings per week plus free cottage. There appears to have been extra payments at harvest time 3 shillings and six pence (17½p) to 7 Shillings (35p) per day with a further supplement for beer.

1909 – Sir Harry gave permission for the County Education Authorities to enlarge and alter Idsworth School. At the time there were 84 children there of which 30 were infants. Registration for a car was £1. Licence was £3 3s. (£3.15p), Insurance for two was £6 9s. 9p. (£6.49p).

Head gardener at Idsworth was C Turner, 1902-16.

1910 – New motor mower cost £7 4s. (£7.20p)

1911 – Electric light at Idsworth House from batteries. The Lavants destroy the bridge at Old Idsworth. Sir Eustace buys a Mercedes.

1914 – Warm water heating installed Idsworth House. Larger mower bought at a cost of £45. Idsworth House becomes a convalescent home for the war. The house is extended. The family live there during the war in their own apartments,

1917 – Little Woodhouse farm converted to sawmills. Saws driven by a paraffin engine.

### Extract from the annual reports

1924 – Portsmouth Water Company agreed to provide an alternative supply of water just in case of a breakdown at the Idsworth water tower. The pump and engine had been in a state of considerable disrepair since 1918 or so.

1925 – Wage bill reduced from £2,637 in 1920 to £1,251 in 1925. This was partly because Lady Howe paid the wages of the house and grounds staff herself. The water works makes its first profit of £13 18s. 5p. (£13.92p).

1926 – Year of coal and general strike meant extra woodmen being employed to cope with demand for wood. Idsworth water makes profit of £48.

### Well Fancy That

High on Idsworth Down, just to the north of Oxley Copse, is the Folly. It is easy to find as an official footpath passes close by. What do you find there? What

would you expect? A small mock temple, a tower, a summer house or maybe a pyramid? You will find none of these, just some uneven waste ground.

In or about 1747 a William, Murrant moved into a small farm along Wick Hanger. Strangely enough the farm was already called Murrants and indeed the area still is. In case you are confused imagine you are standing outside the George public house in Finchdean, facing north. The road to the left goes along Wick Hanger and then to Chalton. The road on the right goes to Old Idsworth and over the ridge in the centre is Idsworth Down.

The Lord of the Manor of Chalton in 1747 was the Duke of Beaufort, his family name I think was Somerset and they were knighted in 1667 but, whether Beaufort or Somerset it is likely that they never lived there.

They were still in charge of course and in 1758 they gave permission to William Murrant to dig and sell sand from a plot of 48 perches on the down. This sand would have been a deposit left at the last ice-age.

By 1780 the land with the rest of the estate had been sold to the Clarke-Jervoise family.

Whether Murrant fell foul to the new landlord's rules is not clear but what is known is that however good an idea it was, he had not calculated the cost and difficulty of getting the sand down to the road. It is suggested it broke him although his son was still working the farm in 1799. So that's it, why there is no building, the word folly is a verb not a noun.

## North Havant Parish Council

September 27th 1904

Mr Allen's tender for looking after 13 lamps accepted, Mr A Pitt's tender for painting the same also accepted. It was agreed to lease the sanitary vans to Bedhampton Parish Council at a charge of £1 6s. 0d. per day. They formed a drainage committee.

At another special meeting sanitary matters and the loan for the North Street works were discussed. They quoted Section 1.5 of the Local Government Act Of 1894. They wanted to force an enquiry.

January 3rd 1905.

The chairman Sir F W Fitzwygram Bart has died.

Mr A Pitt has charged £2 9s. 3d. for supplying and fixing new posts. Havant Rural District Council has agreed to delegate the control of sanitary matters to

this council. They complained again about the state of the roads, suggesting that "a capable foreman" be used.

March 14th 1905

Mr J Smith is chairman. An account from a J Ford for rent of stone yard was paid. Mr A Carter, a surveyor discussed filling in the ditch along Redhill Road, laying a pipe and making a footpath. The work in Redhill Road led to complaints; at another meeting they discussed providing stand pipes and hoses as a precaution against fire.

August 30th 1905

The sanitary report was satisfactory but insufficient disinfectant was being used when emptying the closet pails. They proposed an extra lamp in Albert Road making 16. (Mr Allen's tender was to be £30.)

Dec. 19th 1905

Havant Gas Co. wanted £3 for the lamp at West Leigh crossing. They considered the bill for the extension of the water main, but apparently turned it down. The Revd Marriott resigned as he was going abroad, the Revd F Hern elected in his place.

April 11th 1906

At the annual meeting the council was, J Smith, G Cox, G J Aburrow, J Canner, The Rev. F Hern and that appears to be all. They decided not to form classes for Technical Education as Havant and Rowland's Castle already had them. They asked the RDC for stand pipes, branch pipes and hoses, one for Durrants and one for Redhill. They still had time to complain about an overhanging hedge in Redhill Road, they complained to the RDC

June 12th 1906

They agreed to buy more appliances (Idsworth Parish Council wanted to buy similar). Another lamp was required in Manor Lodge Road near the church. The Rev. Jenkins Bowen was proposed to join the council. They protested against the lavish expenditure of the Hants County Council. James Smith had died, G Cox was elected chairman.

September 11th 1906,

Thomas Rook also on council. They received two tenders for lighting, Mr W Barrie £32 and Mr G Moth £27 10s 0d.



## Odd details from the Clarke-Jervoise Archives

### Redhill church

According to the census of 1831 the population of the parish of Warblington was 2,110 of which 100 lived in the north of the parish that is Rowland's Castle.

In 1857 the Rector of Havant, the Revd GR Mountain, whose parish contained Durrants, proposed to the Rector of Warblington, the Revd W Norris, that they should build a church and provide a minister for those people.

A subscription list was opened, headed by the Bishop of Winchester, the Revd Sir Sam. Clarke-Jervoise, Sir George Staunton and Charles Dixon of Stansted.

The first stone was laid on August 30th 1837, (the Accession of Queen Victoria), and the church was consecrated on July 12th. 1838.

The subscriptions totalled £1,100 18s., and other proceeds £800.

Builders were Messrs. Moore & Knight £605.

Architect, Mr. Owen £31 7s.

Purchase of site & legal expenses £95

Endowment of 3% Consols . £700

Queen Anne's Bounty - Governors £400.

Incidentals £75

The parsonage house was built on land given by Sir George Staunton, and by Order in Council, June 28th. 1866, the parish became a Rectory, during the incumbency of the Revd George Austen (1856-1897). Boundaries extended to include Rowland's Castle November 21st 1921.

The school was founded in 1839.

1905. Porch and vestry built by A Pitt. Church extended 1929 by CH Pitt  
1926. Church Hall built.

### Village Green

For many years used to be the site of an annual Horse Fair. The only reference recorded is for 1805, when John Crossweller owed £16 4s for his standing at the fair. In 1935 the villagers expressed dissatisfaction with the management by the Parish Council of the Green, and maintained they had the right of Common. After due legal consultation it was stated that the freehold is vested in the Idsworth Estate who have handed over the maintenance of the surface rights to the Parish Council.

## Railway

The railway was constructed in the 1850s, preliminary purchases of land required from the estate starting about 1885. The total involved amounted to £30,000, of which £11,311 was paid on April 1st 1848, the remainder to be paid within eight months of the passing of the Act. At Rowland's Castle an additional width was required for the station, the embankment and the railway bridge. This necessitated buying the old inn, the White Hart, at the bottom of Bowes (or in those days Bulls Hill), and burying it under the embankment. This was the inn which was the scene of a grisly episode in 1748 between smugglers and a customs man and informer who were murdered.

## Links Lane (then Dirty Lane)

1903. To enable carts and carriages to avoid the stiff-pull up at the bottom of Bowes Hill, and to provide another point of access to the golf links and a better approach to the building plots in Links Lane and to the waterworks, Sir Henry set about improving the state of the lane. The cost, using estate labour and hiring a steam roller from Swards came to £144. It was then offered to the Catherington District Council who demurred at first about the width. Their bye laws stipulated a minimum width of 20 feet, but seemed uncertain whether this referred to the distance between the hedges or the width of the metalled portion then only 13 feet. The water supply to the village from the water tower naturally followed this route, as did a 3 inch pipe laid in 1924, which joined up the Portsmouth Water Company main in Castle Road to the water tower. This work was carried out by Duke and Ockenden from Littlehampton, the pipe was 180 yards long and cost £301, it was a measure of the increase in population and a safeguard in case of sudden demands in the event of fire etc.

## Recreation Ground

1919. Sir Dudley had offered 6 acres of land (Lot 40) on Bowes Hill. He was unwilling to sell it (1) because until the neighbouring plots were sold it could be liable to depreciate their value and (2) because, as life tenant of the estate he had to sell-at market value. This met with no enthusiasm. 1924. A Committee composed of the following undertook and organised the sale of 7 acres of Lot 41 for £400. Admiral MP Callaghan: Miss Chris. Stubbington: Miss Angela FitzWygram: AE Coles of 8 Castle Road: the Rev. EG Selwyn: the Revd Hern: EL Pearson of Eldoret: A West: MI Gardener of Links Lane: Capt. J

Legate of Sundial, Links Lane: LA Prosser of Durrants: Howard B Morris JP of Messrs Morris Crocker: Geo. Hammond Etherton of the Laurels, Bowes Hill.

A deposit of £40 was paid in July 1924, followed by £360 in December 1924, and subject to the following provisions:

For the use of the local inhabitants as a recreation ground.

With the exception of the annual flower show, there are to be no fetes, noisy entertainments, merry-go-rounds etc.

Picnics and parties for outsiders are also banned, and it is not to be hired out.

No buildings except sports pavilion.

To be maintained as a recreation ground at all times.

If the Trustees wish to dispose of the ground, it is to be offered back to the estate for £400.

### Parish Hall

1901. March 30th. A lease was granted by the estate to the Trustees of the Rowland's Castle Technical School (Frank Stubington, Edward Philip Bastin, Francis Walter Rook and George Rayment for a parcel of ground at Rowland's Castle, on which a building has lately been erected, at a rent of 1 shilling per annum for 99 years.

1911. A lease of this date shews that the dimensions have increased from 30 foot by 40 foot to 100 foot by 116 foot.

1913. Rebuilt by Messrs. Rogers Bros to a plan by Vernon Inkpen at a cost of £900. Ground rent of 5 shillings for 5 years, thereafter £2 10 shillings with easement for drainage and a soak pit outside the boundary fence on the golf club land.

1919. Trustees; Admiral O'Callaghan, Sir Fred. Fitzwygram of Leigh Park and Col Frank Stubington of Oaklands, paid £65 for the purchase of the freehold.

1938 Repairs by CH Pitt £56 17s. 6d.; architect Vernon Inkpen.

### Garage for Fire Engine

1938. Mrs. Agnes Edith King of Trevena, The Green, leased to the Parish Council her garage abutting the Green, with easement to Mrs. King for access on to the Green at 5 shillings per week, with option to purchase in 3 years.

## Allotments

1919. There was a general tendency just after the war to increase rents, from which the allotment holders were not immune. The Rowland's Castle allotments were 6a 3r 29p in extent, on which the title was £2. 15s. and the rates £3 10s. per annum. The clerk to the Parish Council wrote to Sir Dudley Clarke-Jervoise enquiring about their purchase. At an independent meeting of the holders, Sir Dudley stressed that he was not anxious to deal through the parish council, and put forward three suggestions. That negotiations be conducted between landlord and tenants that they form a syndicate amongst themselves with a view to purchase or that they continue as tenants at a 50% increase in rent i.e. 7 shillings and 6 pence for 20 rods. Messrs. Rook, Collins and Burt accepted the last and extracted a promise from Sir Dudley that there would be no further increase during his lifetime.

The Clerk at this time was Major Leigh Aman.

1927. When Major Lane bought a plot of land on the east side and at the bottom of Links Lane, he protested at the proximity and noxious smells from the pigstys on the allotments, so causing their owners to be compensated for removal.

## Smallholdings

1939. Local authorities were empowered to lease land for smallholdings, and in response to the Hampshire County Council the estate offered to lease 18 acres; 12 against the Holt and 6 between the railway and Finchdean Road; the latter in the tenancy of Jno. Cannings and the former divided between Thos. Scutt and Geo. Brown for £22 10s. per annum. The farmers vacated the land; presumably on the understanding they would receive the compensation fixed by an arbitrator. There was a temporary deadlock when the Hampshire County Council would not pay the compensation and the estate would not sign the agreement till this had been paid. It doesn't seem to have been much of a success: at the 1919 sale, Geo. Royal bt. the Finchdean Road plot for £200, thereby reducing the rent to £14 7s. 6d.

1928. Leased by T Haskell. By 1937 it was in a dilapidated condition with broken fences and cattle straying on to the golf links. Estate offered a contribution to Haskell to repair the fences.

## Rowland's Castle Golf Club and Stein Farm

1894. March 27. Tenancy agreement to lease 138 acres to Thomas Scutt of Stein Farm to run from year to year dating from Michaelmas 1894; either party to give notice to quit prior to Sept 29 in any year to be farmed in a husbandlike manner and not to plough up any grassland except with consent.

Schedule described the lands as 13 acres arable and 8 acres grass in 1894.

By mutual agreement in 1898 tenant sowed another 40 acres to grass assisted by Wm Spiers, (later a gardener at Idsworth from 1899 to 1928).

The rental was £48 per annum, low, because a part of the holding was scrub being derived from an inclosure award to Pyle Farm in 1812. Mr. Scutt in fact supplemented this income by gathering up the many stones carting them down to Portsmouth and selling them.

1902/1903. Rowland's Castle golf club was formed and constructed several holes, contiguous with Stein Farm paying £1 per annum ground rent, as Sir Henry Clarke-Jervoise was a member as was Mr. Blore.

1905/1906 Permission was granted to Mr. Scutt to sublet part of his farm to the golf club, and his application to put up a pavilion was also approved. Sir Henry giving the land to which water was laid on from the waterworks: another member GC Vernon Inkpen, an architect provided the plans. The sublet dated from Lady Day.

1918 Notice to quit was given to Mr. Scutt before Sept.29th 1918 wef Sept. 29th 1919. When he heard that rents were going to be increased, and egged on by his sons, who somehow, feared that their inheritance would suffer, he threatened to plough up the grassland before March 25th 1919 to the detriment of the golf club unless he was guaranteed a lease for 7 years and given £500 compensation as lost profit on the land he was going to plough. The estate obtained an injunction restraining the ploughing on March 21st 1919 and won the subsequent action on January 21st 1920.

1919 Mr. Scutt duly surrendered the farmhouse (Castle Villas, Castle Road) and outbuildings, the two farm cottages Nos 23 and 24 in Links Lane, and the 110 acres left after land to be offered for sale had been deducted. The golf club were anxious to have the land, but were in a quandary as to the method to adopt. A farm agreement would entail a TRV (tenant's rights valuation), which combined with legal expenses they did not want to incur. But on the other hand they would lose at expiration of their lease by having no valuation.

1919 Sept. 29. Lease to Rowland's Castle Golf Club of 110a. 3r. 31p at £100 per annum for the first 14 years, then £120 for the next 7 years.

1933. As Frederick Timothy Clogg of Woodlands, Emsworth, was the sole surviving Trustee Sir Wm Dupree, Inglenook, Victoria Road South, Southsea, had to be elected additional Trustee before a new lease could be negotiated.

Sept.29. 21 years, £120 for first 7 years; £200 for next 14.

1/8 acre sublet to Mr. F .Collier of Rose Cottage.

1936. Permission to sublet strip of land to west of Parish Hall to Parish Hall Trustees

Sale of plot of land fronting Redhill and adjoining his shop to Geo.LA'1?III for £120.

Tom Haskell's cattle causing damage to golf club property; estate promise Secretary WH Dimsdale to erect fence for £3.

1938. Lorry carrying materials to Grant's new house in Links Lane caused damage to flint wall surrounding Stein Cottages; complaint to architect; Chris.Wilkins. Post Office given permission to put a post box in the wall.

1939. Rent reduced to £100 during the war, but back to £200 in 1944.

### The Mechanic

Harry Hall has lived in Rowland's Castle all his life and has been very well known there. He has a large garage for motor repairs and he has had this business on premises in front of the Green since 1947.

He started up in 1927 as a motor mechanic and continued until he was called for military service in 1942. He was stationed at Aldershot during war and he then returned to start his present business.

## Most Popular 'loo' in the Village

Sunday mornings in summer are among the most enjoyable time, of the year for most people, but not for Mr. D. Ligertwood, landlord of the Castle Inn public house at Rowland's Castle.

When the air grows warm and the sun rises early, he knows the invasion will begin. As early as 6am on a Sunday he expects to be knocked up by a series of desperate people.

For in summer Rowland's Castle becomes a centre for campers, cyclists and tourists in general, and within Mr. Ligertwood's premises are the only available 'loos'.

Said Mr. Ligertwood: "It's not that I mind people using the pub loos, but it does get a bit much when you get a pack of 40 or so Brownies visiting early on a Sunday morning. The trouble is there is no strictly public loo the village and mine is the only unlockable one.

"The annoying thing is the Parish Council was granted the money 11 years ago and we still have not got our convenience. The cry is always; 'We shall install one when a site can be found'." *Hampshire Telegraph, October 1968*



The Castle Inn when Richard Outen was the landlord

## Organ a Bargain

The church of St John the Baptist at Rowland's Castle was one of the first places in the country, to take the, bold and imaginative step of installing an electronic organ.

But now, the church is in the process of changing its electronic organ, for a pipe organ, the type put into the building when it was erected 140 years ago.

The Rector (the Revd E J Korse) explained that when a pipe organ becomes worn out, usually after 30 years or so, it was usually worth re-building, when an electronic organ began to wear out, it was not worth the bother, and therefore had to be replaced.

## Opportunity

"When we knew that we should have to replace our electronic organ, we held a drive to raise the £3,000 necessary for a new pipe organ", said Mr Forse. "When we had collected just under a thousand pounds, we had a marvellous opportunity to buy a second-hand pipe organ for about £900, and decided to accept it." The new pipe organ will not have been installed until Christmas, and, in the meantime, continued use is to be made of the electronic organ.

## Diddies farm – Forestside

1721 – House, garden and 21 acres, conveyed by Anthony Bulbeck to Jno Maidlow.

1748 – Farm devised to Wm Bone in his will (Maidlow).

1770 – Ann Roman takes farm on £100 mortgage, she transfers to Isaac Skelton in 1773.

1781 – Jas Knapp takes over mortgage who passes it on by 1782.

1786 – Barwell buys Biddles farm.

1805 – Conveyed to Rev. Sam Clarke.

Harwell bought; 2 messuages and 21 acres, plus 19 acres in Stoughton, a cottage occupied by Wm Chase and Wm Bone and a cottage and garden lived in by Wm Bone (snr?).

Rev. Clarke bought; 21 acres, a cottage (in Tenancy) and another cottage.



### Dean Lane End farm

1694 – A house, barn, stables with 93 acres. Owned by Jno Peacock of Buriton.  
1701 – Farm left to Henry Matthew, this family sell for a mortgage of £1,050 to Rich Howick in 1762. The farm had been occupied by Wm Clarke from 1751 to 1766, by Adams from 1766; before then it was Geo Lane.  
1768 – Bought by the Earl of Halifax.  
1782 – Bought by Barwell as part of Stansted Estate. (In tenure of Richard Suter).  
1807 – Rev. Sam Clarke buys farmhouse and 136 acres plus land in Stoughton and Up Marden.

### Northwood farm

1582 – The Earl of Arundel conveys to Wm and Jno. Leese for £713; Capital messuage, buildings, orchards, gardens, meadows etc. The Leese's hold it till 1620 – When they sell to Jno Syms who sells on in 1622 to Geo. Overy, it passes hands again until 1644 when Edward Madgwick buys for £1,000. The Madgwicks hold it till 1761 when Martha Woods buys it and she sells to Barwell in 1785. 1807 conveyed to Rev. Sam Clarke.  
In 1761 the land was occupied by Jno Woods and Richard Broad. By 1785 it was in the tenure of Richard Suter and later still. Jno Rogers.

### Bottom cottage – Dean Lane End

Gets a mention in a will of 1777.

Bought by Barwell in 1785 and Rev. Clarke in 1807. It appears to have become the keeper's cottage from this date.

Labour costs c.1825. Men 28 shillings (£1.40p) to 48 shillings (£2.40p) per month. Boys 12 shillings (60p) to 14 shillings (70p). Women 8d. (3p) to 10d. (4p) per day, girls 4d, (2p) for haymaking, harvesting, weeding Sheep were kept, wheat, barley, oats were sown with lesser amounts of peas, sainfoin and black & white seed. Rape and turnips.

### Other farms, sometime about 1841.

A farmer, Marshall, employed nine labourers and seven boys, while at Heberdens farm, of 600 acres, Robert Boys managed with ten men and three boys.

To the south the major farms were Rowland Hill and Maize Copse, both under the control of John Goodson and of a combined area of 281 acres. There was one other small farm managed by William Tee, it was Redlands Farm and was shown on the 1841 census return. William Tee and John Richardson had families large

enough to handle their holdings with the assistance of casual labour. The former had a wife, two boys and a girl of fifteen together with three younger children. The second had a wife, two sons and another child living with them.

When assessing the immediate labour market Charles Pearson must be considered as the employer of the largest work-force. The 1851 census for Havant states that he farms 1,000 acres using 15 labourers and was also a brickmaker employing 25. The 1842 Tithe map of Havant and its associated award shows that he occupied a 14 acre site at Redhill.

From the Tithe map of Warblington 58&59 = Maize Copse Farm.

36 = Rowland Hill Farm. Both occupied by John Goodman = 281a 2r 0p,  
Award dated 10th April 1838.

Arable land	1542a 1r 17p
Meadow/pasture	444a 2r 18p
Woodland.	473a 2r 28p
Common land	Nil
Haf land	Nil
Market garden	Nil
Glebe(Rectors)	35a 1r 10p
Gardens/orchards	8a est.

George Whicher owned and occupied 32a 1r 39p = £13 19s. 8d. tithe

William Dredge owned and occupied 14a 3r 36p = £5 4s. 8d. tithe.

### The Daily Service Record (a diary) of Barrett's Garage, Redhill Road

The greater part of the work appears to be repairing bicycles, even to sending parts away for re-enamelling. Possibly they also built bicycles if only from supplied parts. There is a hint, when referring to "for stock" that they also hired them out.

March 2nd 1902. Repairs to engine at brickworks.

April 7th 1902. Repairing mowing machine, Mr Bastin.

April 8th 1902. New spokes in pram wheel.

April 12th 1902. Putting together lady machine, Miss Young.

Apr 17th 1902. Repairs to steam motor car at Lewes and bringing to Rowland's Castle. Mr Marriott.

At a later date he records making a special spanner for the car and then going to Catford with the car to Clarkson and Capel, the agents for the manufacturers who were Mossberg USA.

Apr 26th 1902. Making part oven for bakers.

Apr 30th 1902. Finishing Mrs Firths machine (Singer).

May 1902. They had six days work at the brickworks, boring pulleys and making gears.

Jun 3rd 1902. Wheels, Mr Steers mail cart.

June 9th 1902. Traction engine, Mr Francis, (taking to pieces). For some days after they made parts and fitted them.

Jun 26th 1902. Coronation Day.

Amongst this record is the occasional comment, not to do with the garage, The actual festivities took place on July 3rd.

June 27th 1902. Repairs to machine from Stansted, Straighten frame, re-brazing forks.

Jul 7th 1902. Sporting rifle Finchdean, new cartridge extractor.

Jul 16th 1902. Wheel for bike, post office Horndean.

Jul 18th 1902. Collars on driving wheel of tricycle (Mr Allen).

Aug 8th 1902, Postman's tricycle.

Sept 2nd 1902. Half day forging brackets for shop extension.

Sept 6th 1902. Forge in B Shop.

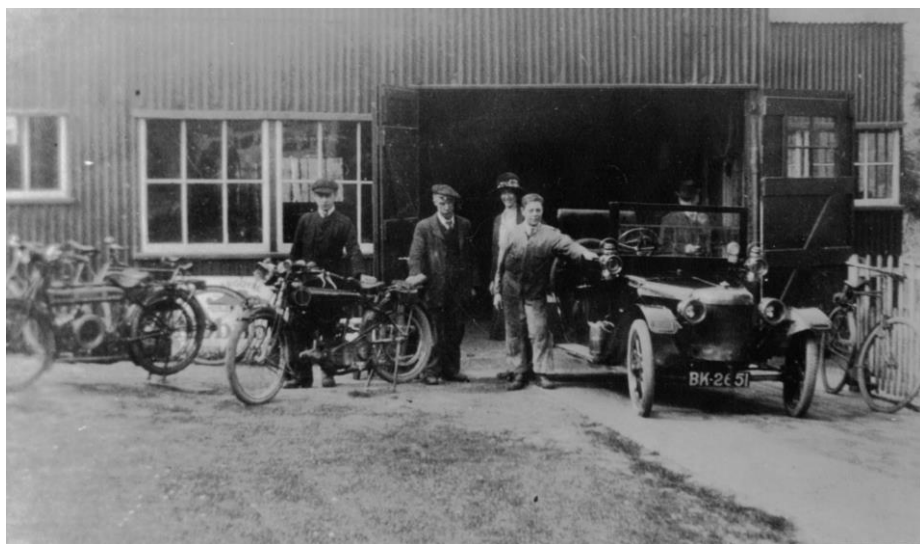
Oct 10th 1902. Making horse for Smiths shop. New set screw on bracket for straw carrier (Mr Francis).

Oct 27th 1902. Motor car puncture.

Nov 3rd 1902. Measure tank at water tower (Idsworth). Hot water tank Mr Stubbington



Redhill Road with Barrett's cycle shop on the left.



Barrett's garage in 1923. Phil. Bussell, William George Barrett, his daughter Grace, Les. Barnett, William J. Barrett, founder of the business. Their chevrolet motor car. *Photograph courtesy of George Barrett*

## The Village Green

3 July 1900, Because of complaints by the ratepayers about the condition of our village green the Parish Council proposed to frame some bye-laws. They agreed to obtain a standard set of such bye-laws for guidance.

13 Aug. 1900. Proposed bye-laws were presented at their meeting but they agreed on a version of their own which they had to present to the Local Government Board (LGB) for approval (as per section 184 of the Public Health Act 1875)

1. The Parish Council is that of Idsworth in the County of Southampton and the village green is at Rowland's Castle.
2. No wheeled vehicle, cart or wagon, truck or barrow on the green without the Parish Council's permission, apart from on a track set apart as a cart-way.
3. No person to deposit filth, stones or refuse.
4. No play at cricket, football, hockey, quoits or any other game which requires an exclusive use of a part of the green, except of such a place has been set apart by the Parish Council.
5. No person to remove or displace any such notice board displaying these bye-laws.
6. Every person offending against these bye-laws will be liable to a penalty of forty shillings.
7. Any offender may be removed by an officer of the Parish Council or any Constable.

All this followed by a long preamble about unknown people committing such offences and steps to be taken.

22 April 1901. No reply from the LGB about the proposed bye-laws.

6 Jan. 1902 The LGB recommends certain changes, to the proposed Bye-laws.

11 Feb. 1902. Bye-laws approved, to comply with regulations an advertisement is placed in the *West Sussex Gazette* and copies of the bye-laws printed by Holbrooks of Portsmouth.

21 March 1902. Messrs Holbrooks paid £1 7s. 6d. for printing of bye-laws. The *West Sussex Gazette* 8s. 6d. for the advert.

3 June 1902 The Parish Council write to Mr Francis about driving his traction engine on the green and enclose copy of the bye-laws. They print 100 posters and display 3 of them, apparently with some small amendments. Law 3 has been dropped all-together. Bowls has been added to Law 4 but a more tolerant approach is shown to its use when shared.

## Stansted College



Stansted Park was the seat of the late Charles Dixon, Esq., a wealthy London merchant. In 1832, in the 80th year of his age, founded in the village, Stansted College, 'for the benefit of six of his less successful brethren, being above 60 years of age, and not having an income of more than £20 a year, of good character and Protestants, and being widowers or bachelors'. This College is a neat building, in the Elizabethan style, of red brick, with Caen stone dressings. It stands in about five acres of garden and pleasure-grounds. Mr. Dixon endowed it with £10,000 3 per cent. Consols and £10,000 3¼ per cent. Stock, which yield an annual income of £625. Out of this income the trustees pay yearly £30 to a surgeon, £20 to a chaplain, £26 each to two female servants; £30 to a man-servant to clean boots, knives, and work in the garden; and £30 for coals. They pay £6 a month towards the daily dinners in the Common Hall, and £40 a year to each of the 'Fellows', as the brethren or pensioners are designated. They must be decayed merchants of London, Liverpool, or Bristol. They have comfortable and well-furnished apartments, and a good library. The benevolent founder vested the College in the management of the owner of Stansted Park and the Governor of the Bank of England for the time being, and two other trustees. The present 'Fellows' are Messrs. Charles Cotton, Thomas William Griffiths, Peter Grave, and John Tomlinson. (William White, *History, Gazetteer and Directory of the County of Hampshire*, 1878.)

After a century of existence the supply of vintners dried up and modern circumstances decreed that it was more profitable to sell it for demolition and the erection of a cluster of bungalow dwellings. One of the earlier inmates was an amateur artist, Charles Rogers Cotton, who filled two sketch books with a series of notes and watercolours of the contemporary scenes. (They can be viewed on line at [thespring.co.uk/heritage/local-history-booklets/](http://thespring.co.uk/heritage/local-history-booklets/))

### An Institution For Decayed Merchants:

His Worship the Mayor next announced that he had received the following letter, the contents of which it was desirable to make as public as possible:-

Stansted Park, Emsworth, June 3, 1865

Mrs Dixon presents her compliments to the Mayor of Liverpool, and would feel greatly obliged if he would cause every publicity in his power to be given to the enclosed papers relating to Stansted College, in which institution there are at present two vacancies, which it is desirable to fill as soon as possible.

The papers enclosed consisted of the rules and regulations for the government of the institution, from which it appeared that Stansted College, situate at Rowland's Castle, Hants., was founded by Charles Dixon, Esq., for the accommodation of six decayed merchants of the City of Liverpool, London, or Bristol, "having no resources of their own, or an income not exceeding £20, bachelors or widowers, above the age of 60 years, of good character and Protestants." For the endowment of the College Mr Dixon had invested £20,000 in the funds, producing annually £600, less income tax. The inmates are allowed £40 a year each, and a sum of £72 is annually appropriated towards providing the daily dinner in the common hall. The election of the inmates is placed in the hands of trustees.

His Worship observed that perhaps there might be in this community some individuals who would be fitting candidates for the two vacancies.

10 June, 1865, *Liverpool Mail*

## Famous Golf Club



To many people in Portsmouth and the surrounding district Rowland's Castle means 'golf course'. For the village boasts that it has one of the best within 20 miles of Portsmouth and a large number of its members are business men from the city, Havant and Emsworth.

"It's because it's such a pleasant course and very hilly and it's very handy to Portsmouth by the main line" said the club secretary, Captain J. Feltham.

Formed in 1902, largely as the result of the enthusiasm of Sir William Dupres, the club has now a membership of over 800 players and non-players. Gradually over the years, it has been built up and is now a thriving organisation.

Among societies affiliated to the club is Portsmouth Football Club and players often have a couple of rounds on the course, especially before cup ties.

The club professional is Mr. W.F. Johns, a well-known Hampshire golf coach and instructor, who has been at Rowland's Castle for about seven years.

The course, an 18-hole one, has a number of natural 'swallow' holes caused by a subsidence of the soil after an old river, which used to run right across the area, dried up.

### 140 Children at Century-old Village School

The school at Rowland's Castle is over 100 years old and it is a Church School connected to St John's church. There are now 140 pupils between the ages of 5 and 11 and there are five staff including the headmistress Miss L.M. Bursey, who has been at the school for a number of years.



Last July two new classrooms were opened so the problem of overcrowding does not exist. There is a large playground as well as a playing field for sports activities. The boys have organised a football team, keeping with the tradition of the Rowland's Castle boys in their enthusiasm for the game.

Until January 1949, the school had to accommodate children from the age of 5 to 15, but since that time those who pass the grammar school exam go to either Purbrook or Petersfield High Schools and the others to Warblington Secondary School, as there are no facilities for secondary education at Rowland's Castle.

The pupils are very enterprising and engage in all sorts of entertaining activities. They always put on a show at Christmas time either just before or just after. They attend the Purbrook Musical Festival in the summer and there is a collection during the year for the Church of England Children's Society, In November two representatives from the school go to the Albert Hall to present the money. This year Marjorie Freeman and David Hall were chosen as representatives. Last week a number of children were taken with two members of the staff to see the Lord Mayor's Show in London.

## Rowland's Castle School

### General abstracts from the day book

1875

10 December. Emma Taylor went to ascertain children's ages from the Baptismal Register and found some were younger.

1878

W/E September 20th. I (Lizzie Woodman) commenced duties as mistress in this school September 16th.

W/E September 27th. Still without assistance in the school. Had to complain of boys in brick field throwing stones.

W/E October 4th. Jane Millard came as Assistant Mistress Wednesday

W/E October 25th. Only 112 in attendance on account of the rain.

1879

W/E January 17th. Attendances very poor partly through the weather, and partly through Sir Jervoise having the fourth and third Standard boys for beating.

W/E June 20th. Attendances very bad on Monday through incessant rain, only 38 in the morning.

W/E August 1st. Attendances very bad this week especially Wednesday on account of the chapel (in the village) people giving their annual excursion.

W/E September 26th. Half holiday Monday on account of the Harvest Feast given by Sir Frederick Fitzwygram.

W/E October 31st. Attendance very good all week, 88 on books and 85 or 86 present. (Compared with 46 in 1873 however only a year before the same Mistress complains of only 112 present.)

1880

W/E October 15th. Attendances very poor Harriet, James and Elizabeth Young absent all the week baby ill. Dr Norman issued a certificate for their non-attendance

W/E October 23rd. Wednesday a severe snowstorm prevented children from coming.

W/E December 10th. Frank Cole returned from Forestside, an order made for him to attend this school every time it was opened.

1881

W/E May 27th. Had to give half-holiday Tuesday afternoon on account of the park being opened.

W/E September. 16th. The Rev. G Austen and Mrs Austen visited, heard Geography lesson given to 11 Standard.

1882

W/E 9th June. Half-holiday Monday. Castle Club Fair.

W/E 8th September. Miss Fitzwygram, Miss Vaughan and Mrs Paget also the Rev. G. Austen visited during the week.

W/E October 27th. Miss Masters commenced duties Monday in place of Miss Millard.

W/E November 24th. Miss Pike commenced duties as Assistant Friday.

1883

W/E January 19th. 104 on books, not any day less than 93 present.

W/E Sept. 21st. Louisa Marshall taken as regular monitor.

W/E October 13th. Mellie and Lizzie Jacobs sent home for back money; gone to Havant school.

November 5th. Registers closed at 1.20 in order, for children to go to Havant, school closed at 3.25. Bonfire night.

1884

W/E January 11th. Re-opened school, Miss Annie Hopkins commenced duties here, Miss Pike left December 21st.

W/E February 8th. Girls begun their samplers and knitting, (specimens for examinations).

Friday February 15th. Books closed at 9.30. The hounds meet at the Park gates; children anxious to see them.

W/E December 19th. Miss Hopkins left today going to college.

1885

Friday January 16th. Mrs Utley closed school at 12 o'clock. The Rev. G Austen presents a half holiday.

January 19th. School reopened by Miss Watts.

1885

21 January. Taught 4th Standard division of money. Taught 5th GCM, SCM and Rule of Three.

22 June. Admitted F R, aged 2 years and 6 months.

6 July. 114 children present.

1888

4 October. Whole holiday as work could not be carried out while the manoeuvres were being held outside.

1891

23 February. Admitted three children in the parish, refused four from Idsworth.

17 August. 157 on books.

1892

7 June. Drawing examination by Major General Gordon.

21 September. New mistress, Hannah Hodgson, gave her first lesson in compound multiplication to Standard 4 and in bills of parcels to Standard 5.

1893

8 March. Workmen are busy building the new classroom.

1896

17 January. The new stove proves very satisfactory. 169 on books.

1899

July 14th. Average attendance for week 153.

Sept 1st. A holiday will be given next Tuesday afternoon, as the school children are invited to Leigh Park.

1900

February 1st. Miss Emma Brown from St Johns National School Portsmouth, born March 31st 1876, commenced duties today.

February 12th. Omitted to mention that Miss Brown was a pupil teacher at the Havant National School.

February 23rd. Seven boys joined the girls in the needlework lesson on Monday, as they were knitting for the Hants Yeomanry.

March 5th. A holiday was given this afternoon to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith.

May 23rd. The school will be closed this afternoon until Monday next as tomorrow is Ascension Day, and also the Queen's Birthday, and Friday is to be given to celebrate the relief of Mafeking.

September 11th. Owing to building operations connected with the school, the infants will for a time be taught at the Parish Reading Room, lent for that purpose by Sir F Fitzwygram.

September 21st. Closed registers at 9.10am to allow of an extension of playtime, as the children's photographs are to be taken then.

October 5th. A holiday will be given on Monday as the room used by the infants will be required for electioneering purposes

September 14th. The new room finished ready for use after the Christmas holiday.

1901

January 31st. Marked registers at 9am and omitted the Scripture lesson, to allow some of the elder children and teachers to be present at the proclamation of the King at Havant.

February 1st. A holiday will be given this afternoon for the Queen's funeral.

February 25th. The Rector gave the children who are depositors in the Savings Bank their interest, amounting to 17s. 1p. [85p]

April 24th. Took thirteen girls of Standards' V & V1 & V11 to watch the laundry lesson given at the Technical room by Miss Drury.

October 11th. A new desk has been ordered for the use of the tallest children, in

the first class.

1902

January 24th. The managers have received permission from Mr Burrows for a cookery class to be taken at the Technical room in the village.

January 31st. The registers were closed at 1pm and school dismissed at 3pm as at the latter hour Drs Nash and Norman came to vaccinate 32 of the children. The same will be done on Tuesday.

March 7th. Gardening lessons commenced.

1910

November 17th. The Managers sanction was sought as to providing a supplementary stove in the inner class room. A diagram showing the temperature at 9 and 10.30am during the current month was produced. It was agreed that the temperature was not such as the children should have been exposed to. At 9am it varied from 42 to 46 and at 10.30 it was some 2 higher. The estimate of Mr Lawson for cost of stove, fixing same and putting it in conditions of safety was £2 2s. 6d.

1912

May 24th. It was brought before the committee the need of replacing the awning in the girls' playground. Col Stubbington promised to supply. It was passed that a maximum charge of 1/- [5p] per room be charged for cleaning to be paid by those to whom the school is sub-let for entertainments etc.

October 21st. The managers were invited to inspect the gas apparatus, and on the expression of their satisfaction therewith, the Correspondent will request Mr Street to carry out the lighting in all three rooms.

1914

September 9th. Arising from the mention that the school cookery lessons are to be discontinued, that the stove and apparatus in the technical room are to be transferred elsewhere, the Correspondent was asked to represent to the County Authorities how much these lessons are appreciated by the Parents as well as by the children.

He was also requested to mention a hard case which has arisen owing to the war, viz. that one milk purveyor, having lost all his men by Enlistment has had to depend on boy labour for the distribution of milk. To do this to the satisfaction of

his patrons the boy employed would have to leave school by 3.45pm, which is against the rules, unless a boy, over 13 but under 14, were officially exempted for the reason given above.

1915

December 16th. The question of the supply of coal was mentioned; it was recommended that 2 tons should at £1 15s. per ton be procured from Mr Mason.

1917

July 26th. The Rector, in view of exhortations to store coal for the coming winter, detailed steps taken in that direction. The estimate for putting up a shed from Pitt was: 10 tons, viz. 16ft x 5ft x 6ft - £8 17s. 6d. and 6 tons, viz. 12ft x 5ft x 6ft was £6 17s. 6d. Lady Fitzwygram very kindly offered the sum of £5 towards the building of the shed. It was agreed to go ahead with the 10 ton shed and give an order to Mr Mason for a truck load of coal.

A discussion as to the impending school holidays and the enlisting of boys for labour (harvest) followed.

November 1st. The circular as to the gathering of acorns for war purposes by the schoolchildren was mentioned and discussed. It was felt that it was unfair for the children should be asked to collect acorns for 1s. 3p. [6p] a bushel.

### Sickness abstracts from the day book

1874. 9 February. Many of the children cough so much I desired them to stay at home.

1876. 6 April. School closed for holidays, measles having appeared.

1885. 6 October. Six children absent through ringworms.

1885. 25 November. In all 45 absent through sickness, (chicken-pox and whooping cough),

1886. 30 June. An epidemic of measles has set in, 56 absent.

7 July. 61 absent with measles.

14 July. 95 absent.

15 July. School closed, (it opened again on 16 Aug. the time off was taken as their holiday.)

1887. 21 February. 20 children away with chicken-pox.

1888. 24 October. A number of children absent being afraid of catching diphtheria.

1 November. No school on account of only three children putting in an appearance.

1889. 27 September. Scarlet fever has broken out in the village, 30 children away.

1891. 14 January. 59 away with influenza, (this rose to 80)

1 May. School closed on account of measles.

1892. 8 June. Diphtheria in the village.

1895. 9 April. Only 110 present this morning owing to measles.

10 April. School closed, 93 children present sent home until 22 April.

1902. 15 October. School closed owing to an epidemic of measles.

1907. 12 February. By direction of the Correspondent school was closed, (the order came from Dr Norman, the school was disinfected although the problem seems to have been the common cold).

Other illnesses mentioned were; scarlet fever, mumps and quinsy, although the latter affected the staff. In 1876 the outbreak of measles closed the school for 18 days. In 1886, apart from the measles above, there was an outbreak of whooping cough that kept 63 children away, ringworm that affected 39 and mumps that 15 children managed to catch. All in one year, 1886 was a very wet year indeed as has already been mentioned. Even sadder to relate, there were deaths, at least nine children died in the thirty year period above.

### The Ancient Order of Foresters

There is another record of those days, not secret but not public either, it is the Court Record of the local branch of The Ancient Order of Foresters. Apart from Court business it too occasionally mentions an outside event; it does make a note of the occupation of members.

May 7th 1864

This was the Half-Yearly meeting, when all the members of this Court are summoned by its Rules to pay up all arrears, so as to be clear on the Books for the March audit. Bro's John Romansky and Bro. Goward not complying with the above summons, were fined 1/- each. (£5 10s. 10d. was paid in by Contributions.)

(Bro Joseph Marshall was fined 6d. for non-attendance, four times in a row.)

Jun. 7th 1864.

Bro. Hanham having stated that he was about to leave the neighbourhood, it was deemed advisable to elect a Secretary in his room. Bro. Day now rose and called the attention of the meeting to the services rendered the Court by Bro. Hanham and spoke in eulogistic praise of the exertions made by him to keep the Court in a respectable and honourable position (a subscription was made there and then and 8s. 0d. collected. Bro. Hanham could scarcely find words to express himself for the kindness thus shown him. (He donates 10s. 0d. to the Fete). This announcement was met by bursts of applause. Contributions at this meeting totalled £4 9s.0d.; which merited a mention as did the late ending of the Court, but no time is given.) (The court of Sept. 6th closed at 11.30pm, £7 10s. 8d. was collected, the average being about £1 10s.)

Jan 3rd 1865,

Eleven Brothers were fined for Non-Attending.

Mar 7th 1865.

...that the Box is put in repair and with handles on. It was proposed and Seconded (no name) that Bro. Hidgcock pay his money into this Court on behalf of Westbourne. (Court closed 11.30.)

Jun 6th 1865.

Bro. Day proposes that fines be strictly enforced. Proposed by Bro. Day and Seconded by Bro. Lock that we have the juvenile band that the Secretary wright down for to know the caust. (Bro. Cogswell spelling again, the band is for the Anniversary.) Proposed that we remove back to our court room (possibly discussion on the Anniversary took place elsewhere or perhaps all meetings were no longer held in the room of John Marshall – Nov. 4th 1862) Proposed and Seconded Bro. Day and Edward Pearson that Mr Trotter, by profession a carpenter, become a member of our Ancient Order, (the first time details of a profession had been given, he was elected Secretary at the next meeting).

Sep 5th 1865.

Bro. George Moore declared on the funds of the Court July 20th and declared off Sep 2nd. Bro. Edwin Pearson declared on the funds of this Court Sept. 4th. Bro. John Day proposed & Bro. George Young seconded that a summoned Meeting be called on Tuesday evening Sept 12th at 7 o'clock to settle the affairs of the Court.



(Whether these events are related is not obvious, it is the first mention of anyone declaring on the Court. Whatever it meant the money collected by Contribution that day was £9 6s. 9d.

Nov 7th 1865.

Bro. Robt Farlow declared off the funds. Nov 15th 1865. (as he did. Oct 2nd) Proposed by Bro. Edwin Lock and seconded by Bro. Edwin Hoar that the Court be removed to Bro. John Day, the Castle Inn, Rowland's Castle. Carried unanimously. [Bro. Day had married an Outen] and there it is; the meetings were held elsewhere at first.

Nov 30th 1865. Special Meeting

The proposition for the removal of the Court to Bro. John Day's was discussed and there being no amendment to the former proposition it was passed, (this after being already passed? there are no minutes for the other special meeting of Sep. 12th). (10 members were fined for non-attendance).

Jan 1866.

Proposed that Henry Rook, Seaman, become a member he being just bound for sea was initiated at this meeting by permission of the Court

Feb 6th 1866.

Proposed that Wm Gibbons, carpenter of Finchdean, become a member. Proposed that Bro. Trotter supply a new Box for the Court taking the present one for payment. (Various proposals for members over the next months listed their professions). Charles Glasse – postmaster, Harry Westley – gamekeeper, Edward Smith – gardener, William Rassele – blacksmith, John Hayes – bricklayer, Timothy Eade – blacksmith. (£13 2s. 6d. was collected at the March meeting).

May 1866.

It was proposed and seconded that a subscription list be opened for the assistance of Bro. J Marshall, lately failed in business.

Mar. 1867.

David Blackburn – policeman. Walter Pearson – wheelwright.

Oct. 1868.

Benjamin Marshall – baker. Olding William Hall – shoemaker. Both were 19-years-old.

Jun. 1870.

A committee was elected to wait on W H Stone Esq respecting the grant of Leigh Park for Coronation Day.

Jul. 1870.

J R Maple – footman. William Smith – gardener. James Smith – servant.

May 1873.

J Philips – chairmaker.

Mar 1876.

A Silvester – woodman. H Balbeck – shepherd. W Long – butcher.

Jun. 1877.

G Royal – baker. W Pink – bricklayer.

Jul. 1877.

James Voller – labourer, (the first time a 'job' as basic as this gets a mention, from here on it is mentioned a lot).

Mar. 1879.

Mr Shepherd – coastguard.

Mar. 1880.

H Marshall – baker. S Rook – publican.

Jun. 1880.

Alfred Carpenter – brickmaker. George Outen – labourer.

Arthur Stilwell – cowman. John Utlet – painter. Gilbert Marshall – draper, Boxall – railway porter.

Dec. 1881.

Mark Tester – moulder. Jacob Soilings – butler. William Porter – carter.

The record goes on in much the same way. The few references to outside events include just one when the weather prevented a meeting from taking place and more than one when a late harvest kept members away. This last event was thought a good enough excuse for the absences not to be fined as was usual for non-attendance. The Court in those days covered a huge area, down to Havant and out as far as the Mardens, Clanfield and Buriton. Most of the members were certainly working class with many servants on the books. Stansted, Leigh Park, Idsworth and Watergate are often mentioned and it is certainly the Mansion Houses that is meant. It is however a good record of names familiar to the village, and the work, that is jobs, they held.

## Water Tower

Portsmouth Water Company, maybe under a similar name but PWC nonetheless, was formed in 1857. It supplied water to an area as dictated by Acts of Parliament that were, of course, applied for by the company itself. By 1902 this area extended as far as Rowland's Castle, but only to Redhill.

In 1899 the Clarke-Jervoise estate had set up its own water supply. This was centred on a water tower at the top end of Links Lane (by about No. 73 I think) complete with a cottage for an engineer, it was built by Duke and Ockenden for £5,297.

How much a success it was then is very doubtful, by 1905 the rental received from customers was less than £110, a figure that must be seen in relation to the engineer's salary of £72 16s.

However, the estate must have thought it worthwhile for in that same year, 1905, PWC applied to extend its trade, and its right to the water, into a huge area including amongst others, the parishes of Southwick, Hambledon and Idsworth as well as ten neighbouring parishes in West Sussex. Idsworth parish in 1905 of course included Rowland's Castle.

The estate petitioned against this expansion led by Sir Henry Clarke-Jervoise and joined by Charles Cave of Ditcham, William Christy of Watergate and Archibald Tennent of Adsdean, all owners of mansion houses with farms and cottages. These landowners claimed they were quite capable of supplying their own water, as Sir Henry already did, and at a cheaper and more comprehensive rate. They obviously won their case for PWC did not take over the Idsworth water works till 1929.

One of their arguments was that the source the PWC intended to use, their springs at Bedhampton, was the same water as the water on the estates. Obviously the water tower in Links Lane did not supply outlying farms and houses as they had their own wells. Idsworth House itself pumped water into roof tanks from its own well, possibly as late as 1916. However, it would appear that the water tower did supply the ever growing village of Rowland's Castle till 1929.

Was it ever a success? The pumping engine used paraffin the price of which led to a 50 per cent increase in the water rate in 1918 and the engine itself was repeatedly repaired or replaced; costs were £250 in 1914, £417 in 1918, £680 in 1920 and £210 in 1928. By 1924 the water tower was beginning to feel the strain of supplying the ever increasing demand; in 1918 it was calculated that the tank

held four day's supply; as the PWC were asked for a supply, suitably metered, for use in an emergency. It was connected to the nearest point which was apparently only 180 yards away. In 1930 the engineer's cottage was demolished for by then the PWC had taken over; they only paid £2,700 for the whole structure.

The water tower survived and despite the fact that many villagers remember it the exact date of its demolition is not known.

### Rowland's Castle Post Office



Rowland's Castle Post Office and Telegraph Office, early 1900s. It looks like a telegram boy with a bike outside.

Rowland's Castle Post Office came under Havant and opened in August 1854. It became a Money Order and Savings Bank in October 1855 and a Telegraph Office on 13 July 1886 with the call sign RLC. Rowland's Castle became a Post Town in 1929.

Postmasters and premises: 1858-1874, Samuel Rook: 1878, Samuel Rook at Rook's Stores: 1891 census, Francis W Rook Postmaster and Grocer: 1901 census, Bertram and Henry Rook: 1921, Henry Rook retires; office moves from Rook's Stores to Myrtle Cottage; original postmistress Mrs Boulvard who took over the telephone exchange in Beechwood House: 1935, Ray Burgess (not sure where, Myrtle cottage, Lloyds Bank), F O'B Adams: 2 June 1936, office moves in to Lloyds Bank building, 1 January 1945, office moves to 11 The Green: 9

February 1960 to January 1975, Roland Stoves: 1975 D M Lilley: 1978 to 12 April 2006, Graham Griffiths. The office then closed for a period but re-opened in October 2006 in the Rowland's Castle Hardware Stores at 11 The Green.

Roland Stoves' daughter, Pamela Coles, recalls there was small delivery office at the rear of the Post Office which received and despatched mail three times a day to either Havant or Portsmouth. There were two postmen named Wally Powell and Dougie Marrant and a postwoman who, she believes, had the surname of Pitt. Between them they delivered the mail and emptied several pillar boxes; when one was on holiday a relief was sent from Havant. They also took the last mail of the day to catch the 17.50 train to Portsmouth.

It is not known when the delivery office was established but it closed in 2006 and the work transferred to Havant.

### Extract from an 1878 trade directory

Colborn Charles, glover, chair maker and leather seller

Daniels James, foreman farmer

Forward William, station master

Hall Edward, boot and shoe maker

Hutchings John, victualler Railway Hotel

Luchen Mrs Martha, apartments

Maidlow Miss Eliza Sophia

Marshall Joseph, baker

Marshall George, cowkeeper

O'Callaghan Vice-Admiral George Wm Douglas, C.B., J.P. Deer Leap

Outen James, blacksmith

Outen Richard, victualler, Castle Inn

Padwick William, farmer, Maize copse

Phillips William, chair maker

Porter Andrew, blacksmith

Rook Samuel, grocer, baker and postmaster

Rook Samuel, victualler, Fountain Inn, tea garden proprietor and charcoal manufacturer

Rook Thomas, tailor and draper

Ryal John, baker

Savage Revd John (Congregational)

Taplin Mr Henry

Railway—(London and Portsmouth Direct); William Forward, station master

## Day Book of the Horndean Brigade

Sunday 25th Feb, 1940. Regional exercise starting at 7am, finishing at 18.00pm. We received no calls. Hydrant open 3 minutes to fill refuse lorry. Members present 14. Chief Officer Miles, 3rd Officer Bryson, Hammond, Murrant, B Tilbury, Longhurst, W. Moon, J Moon, Lovich, Phillips, Stanbridge, Merritt, Jerrum.

Sunday 17th March, 1940. Ford tender taken to Liss, all equipment left at Horndean. 2 rolls hose, 1 branch, 1 1-2 Breeching, 1-2 outlet, stand post and key, 1 crow bar, 1 Saw, 1 large and 1 small axe, 1 first aid box, 1 3-fold ladder, 1 tow rope, 2 boxes cleaning material, 1 toggal.

Thursday 21st March, 1940. Chimney at Mr Miles, Magpie Cottage, Rowland's Castle. Chief Officer Miles in attendance with chemical extinguisher. Called at 6.45am returned 7.45am. Chimney found to be in a very bad state.

Dennis tender arrived at 11.00am. Mr Brown, Mr Collard and Chief Officer Miles received it. Taken out in evening for trial run and first aid reel tested. 8 gallons of petrol put in tender and mileage reading was 39 miles, another 8 gallons put in when tender arrived. Hydrant open 3 minutes.

Sunday 24th March, 1940. Drill at Idsworth school, Mileage reading 60 miles, driver Poster.

Monday 25th March, 1940. Ford tender returned from Liss, received by C. G. Miles, taken to Rowland's Castle Tuesday evening. 2 sections of ladder and cleaning materials sent with it.

Thursday 4th April, 1940. 16 rolls of new hose, delivered from Liss, 2 end 75ft long, made by Rose and Co, Salford, Manchester. All officers and men measured at the Ship and Bell for serge suits.

Sunday 21st April, 1940. Fake call to fire at Wellsworth farm, received call at 10.31pm, returned at 11.17pm. 23 rolls of hose run, hydrant open 2 minutes. Driver P Tilbury, mileage 112.4 miles.

Wednesday 9th May 1940, Rowland's Castle Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS) equipment delivered from Liss, Dennis tender used, mileage reading 31.2 miles, total 159.2. Driver W. Moon, C. O. Miles and Hammond went as well.

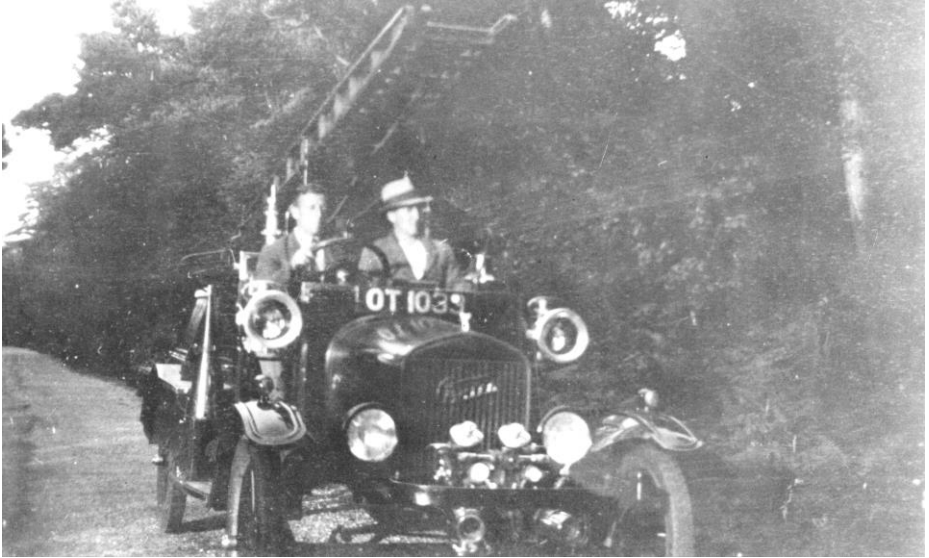
Sunday 12th May, 1940. Rowland's Castle AFS started training. Instructor Deben.

Sunday 19th May, 1940. Drill at Idsworth House. Maj. Clarke-Jervoise thanked brigade for turn out.

Saturday 25th May, 1940 Air raid warning at 11.45pm, all clear at 2.20am. No incidents.

Sunday 26th May, 1940. Church parade at Blendworth, 16 members. Mileage reading 197.3 miles.

Wednesday 29th May, 1940. All officers and men received uniforms, belts, lifelines etc.

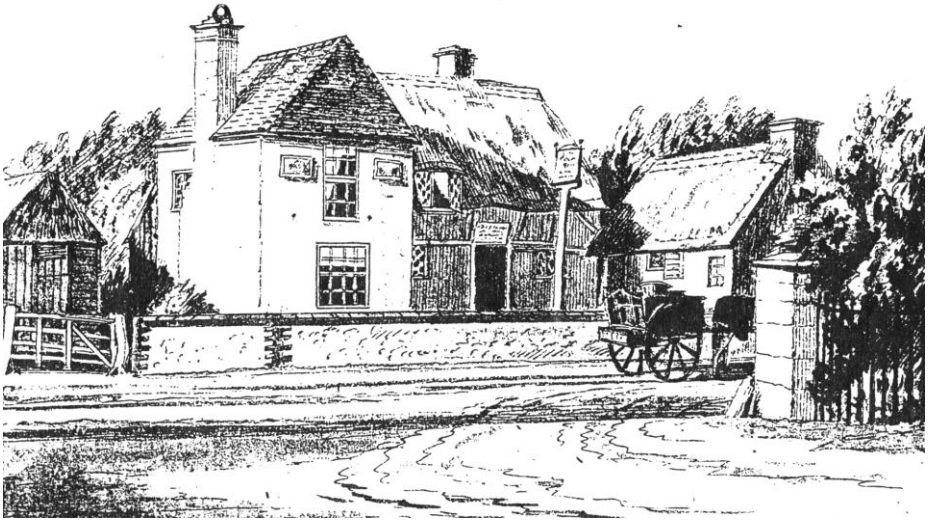


The Ford fire tender

### Lloyds Bank

Although less than 12 miles from the centre of Portsmouth, Rowland's Castle maintains the air and charm of a small village deep in the heart of the country.

And its bank still keeps country banking hours. A sign outside it announces that opening hours are from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays only.



The White Hart Inn circa 1847. Drawn by Charles Rogers Cotton. Shortly after it was renamed the Castle Inn and later demolished to make way for the railway in the 1850s. It was replaced by the present Castle Inn.

The White Hart Inn was a favourite meeting place of local smugglers. It was here that William Galley a custom's officer and Daniel Chater, an informer, who had been sent with a letter to a local magistrate requesting the apprehension of local men involved in the breaking into a custom's house in Poole, were abducted and later murdered.

Eventually the perpetrators were arrested and hanged. A fuller account of what happened can be read at: [www.rowlandscastleheritagecentre.org.uk](http://www.rowlandscastleheritagecentre.org.uk) or [www.thespring.co.uk/heritage/local-history-booklets/](http://www.thespring.co.uk/heritage/local-history-booklets/)





Forestside Church and School



Sir Frederick Fitzwygram's Beagle hounds



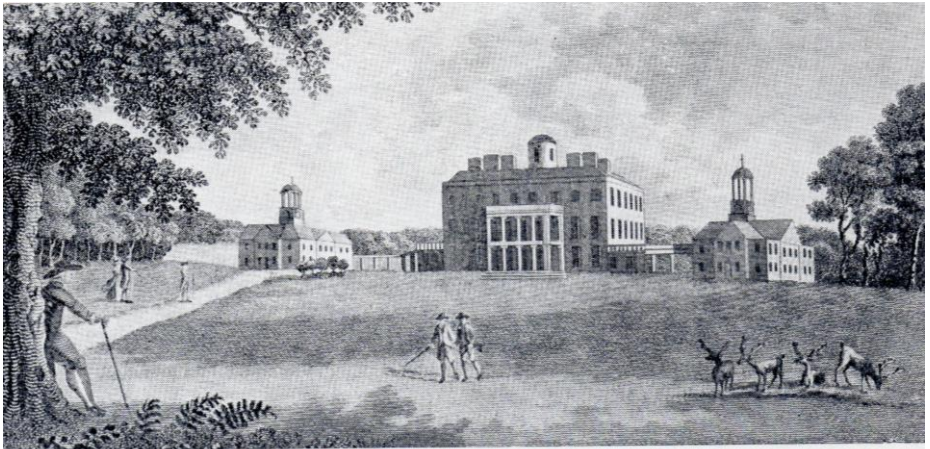
Relaxing on the green



The Havant horse drawn engine attends the fire at Stansted House



Stansted House rebuilt



Stansted House from an engraving in the European Magazine, 1789



Wounded soldiers and sailors on a trip out



Whicher's Gate Cottage. (The author's great-grandfather, George Outen, lived here and his grandfather, also George, was born here.)



A sailors' trip out



Castle Road



Annual Outing to Rowland's Castle, 17 July 1912. Adults. One of many outings of various clubs and societies. Given the largely female presence in this photograph it might be assumed that the letters M.U. on the banner stood for 'Mothers' Union'. However, the clue is in the words 'Bonham Carter Lodge'. This, in fact, is an outing of the women's section of the Bonham Carter Lodge, Portsmouth Branch of the Manchester Unity of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which was founded in 1862 and had its registered offices in the Clarence Hotel, High Street, Portsmouth. The Bonham Carter who gave his name to the Lodge was probably John who was born in Portsmouth in 1817 and represented Winchester in Parliament between 1847 and 1874. John Bonham Carter was a supporter of Friendly Societies, which were important providers of sickness benefits and old age pensions before the advent of the welfare state, and assisted the passage through Parliament of the Friendly Societies Act 1875. The Bonham Carters had family connections and business interests in Pike, Spicer & Co's brewery in Penny Street, Portsmouth, which amalgamated with Brickwoods in 1910, when the Penny Street brewery closed.

Possibly they met at Wallis's Tea Rooms which seems to be part of the Pike, Spicer & Co's Railway Hotel.



Pike, Spicer & Co's Railway Hotel with Wallis's Tea Rooms



Appears to be Stansted House staff outside of Stansted Lodge, 13 March 1908



Idsworth House



Idsworth Lodge





The Golf Club, Waterworks, Police Station and Links Lane



Christ Church, Stansted



Dear Leap grounds



The schools Redhill



Redhill Church, 22 August 1907



The George with the Finchdean foundry on the left c.1910. *Alf Harris.*



Chalton Road, Finchdean. *Alf Harris*



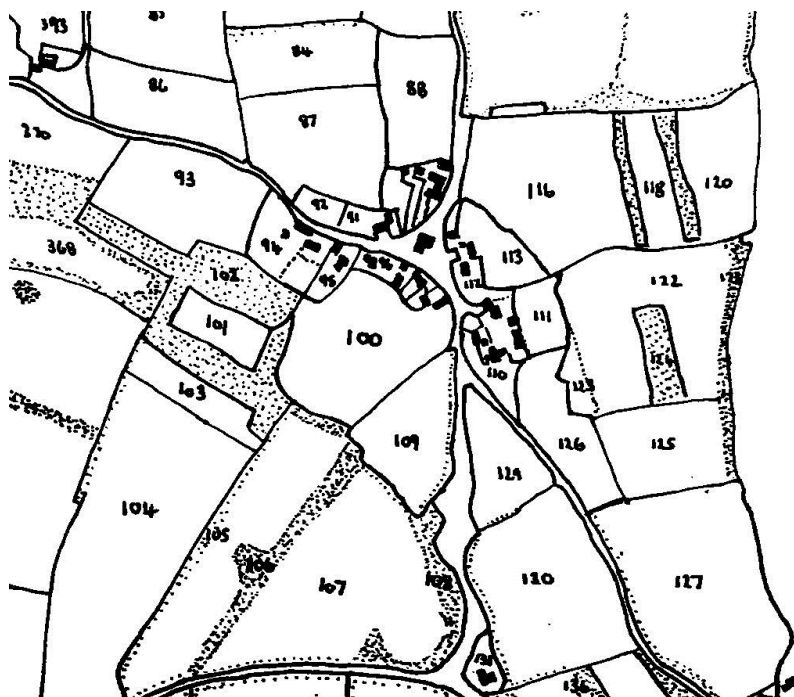
Chalton Road, Finchdean, early 1900s. *Alf Harris*.



Finchdean Village in 1895. *Hampshire Record Office 29M57/18.*



Forestside stores. *Alf Harris.*



1816 Idsworth Inclosure Map showing the village of Finchdean, 1816.

#### Inclosure Award List of Occupants, Finchdean, 1816

- No. 89 Thomas Padwick Freehold House, Garden, Malthouse
- No. 90 James Marshall Freehold House, Garden
- No. 91 Arthur Marshall Freehold House, Garden
- No. 94 Elizabeth Aldred Copyhold House, Garden
- No. 95 William Atherley Copyhold House, Garden, Barn, 15ac.
- No. 96 John Gard Leasehold House, Garden
- No. 98 Charles Earwacker Freehold House, Garden
- No. 99 William Suett Freehold House, Garden
- No. 112 late Joseph Eyles Copyhold George Inn
- No. 114 Charles Earwacker Freehold House, Garden
- No. 115 Charles Earwacker Leasehold Smith's Shop



A Walking Match—Passing through Rowlands Castle

Dear May

I received your letter this afternoon had been  
 expecting one all the week I have no time to write  
 now as I have just started work again but I will  
 try and manage it tomorrow night your fresh



REDHILL CROSS ROADS.

Redhill crossroads and Staunton Arms



Bowes Hill (may have previously been called Bull Hill)



The Green