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Thro' Woodland and Fieldpath

A Book of Rural Rambles in Surrey

By
Wm. Chas. Elliott
and
E. S. Treacher

Published: June 1929
Guildford & District Printers Limited,
Stoke Fields, Guildford.

Thro' Woodland and Fieldpath

A Book of
RURAL RAMBLES
IN SURREY

ILLUSTRATED.

Price: ONE SHILLING.

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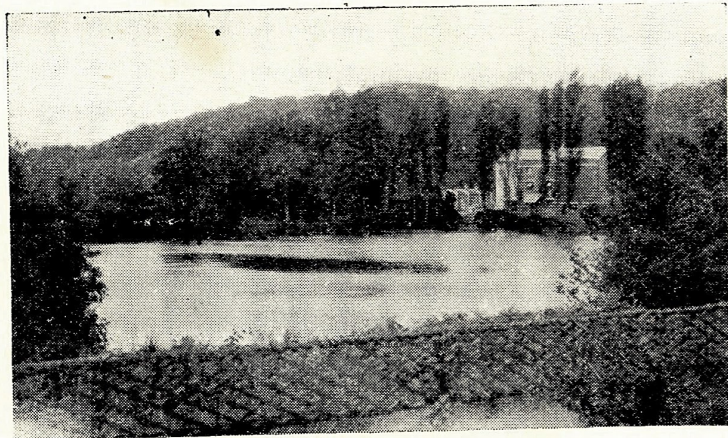
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*Postford Lake (Near Albury).
St. Martha's on the Hill in
the distance.*

THRO' WOODLAND AND FIELDPATH

A BOOK OF
RURAL RAMBLES IN SURREY

An Accurate Guide to the
beautiful country around
Guildford, Godalming Woking
and Farnham

BY
WM. CHAS. ELLIOTT
AND
E. S. TREACHER.

Published by the
"THRO' WOODLAND AND FIELDPATH" SERIES

First Edition, March, 1928.
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PREFACE

TO the lover of nature, to the philosopher, to the athlete, rambling has an equally great charm. The first loves it because he is among the trees and the fields and can hear the birds singing; to him, the ramble is the only recreation worth while. The second, because alone, in the serene quietude of the countryside, he can think, and he desires nothing better than to get out alone and walk miles o'er hill and dale undisturbed; alone with nature. The third, because there is no better exercise than walking.

It is with the purpose of providing what, we imagine, may be new rambles to many who read it that this little book is written. If it provides one happy hour for our reader its purpose will have been achieved.

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Olde Guildford Towne.

Olde Guildford Towne.

NO guide book to Surrey would be complete without one chapter describing the delightful old-fashioned town of Guildford. Hundreds of years old, the town is said to have first come into prosperity when the wool industry was conducted in the South of England. That the industry was carried on in Guildford to a very large extent there is no doubt, and Racks Close, now a public recreation ground, derived its name from the industry.

One can safely say, without exaggeration, that no town in all England can claim to have a more picturesque High Street than has Guildford. The Guildhall, where is the Council Chamber of the City Fathers, Abbot's Hospital, founded by Archbishop Abbot, who lived his boyhood days in the town, and when he rose to prosperity wished to erect a lasting monument to his name in Guildford, and did so in the form of a hospital for old people of the town, and the Edward VI. Royal Grammar School, founded in 1552, which contains some priceless treasures, among which is a chained library, are but a few of Guildford's famous buildings.

In Quarry Street, turning off the High Street, opposite the Lion Hotel, St. Mary's Church, founded over a thousand years ago, is of great interest. Further along on the left is the Castle Keep, used as a country seat by King John. A visit to the Keep is well worth while, and from the top can be obtained an excellent panoramic view of the town. Descending and making your way through the grounds, you emerge into the street again by the other gate and return to High Street by Tuns Gate, one of the few remaining narrow cobbled streets, with its quaint old cottages. In Guildford there are many more treasures to the lovers of the old-fashioned and historic, but we must needs leave Guildford behind, and get out into the country, where we shall see that the villages are not behind the towns in their interest to the visitor.

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Guildford and Shere.

Guildford and Shere.

*"A wind sways the pines,
And below,
Not a breath of wild air;
Still as the mosses that glow
On the flooring and over the lines
Of the roofs here and there."*

GEORGE MEREDITH.

THROUGH the six miles of "fairylnd" from Guildford to the pretty old-world village of Shere, is to be seen a stretch of the most beautiful country in Surrey. Starting from Guildford Station, take the second turning to the left into the High Street, proceed up the hill for a short distance and turn to the right into Quarry Street. On the right is the beautiful old church of St. Mary, and on the left the ancient Castle Keep, a relic of the reign of King John, who resided there. Continue along the road for about a mile and turn left into the Pilgrims Way, part of the route which the Pilgrims traversed on the way from Canterbury to Winchester. Continue along this delightful woodland path until you come to a branching off of the footpath. Your path lies to the right, and a few minutes' walk through here brings you into Halfpenny Lane. Cross this. Opposite is a signpost with the direction "Bridle Path to Albury." Follow this path, and after a stiff climb up the hill among the fir trees, you reach St. Marthas. Manning and Bray's "History of Surrey" says of St. Marthas—"from its being called Martyr Hill Chapel, it was probably erected as a chantry over the graves of some Christians who suffered on this spot. This suggestion is more possible as it is not likely that a church would be erected in a place so inconvenient for parishioners." Here a few minutes to rest and admire the glorious view across country will not be wasted. The bridle path continues over the summit of the hill and down on the other side. Branching off to the right about 200 yards from the foot of the hill is a footpath which is but just discernible, so covered is it with

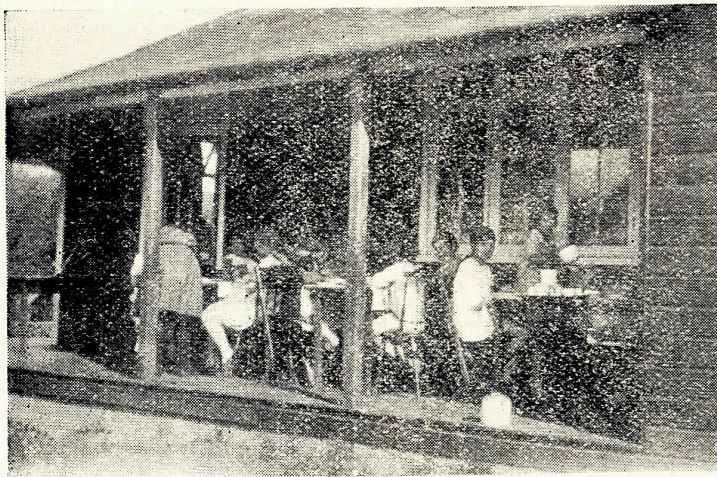
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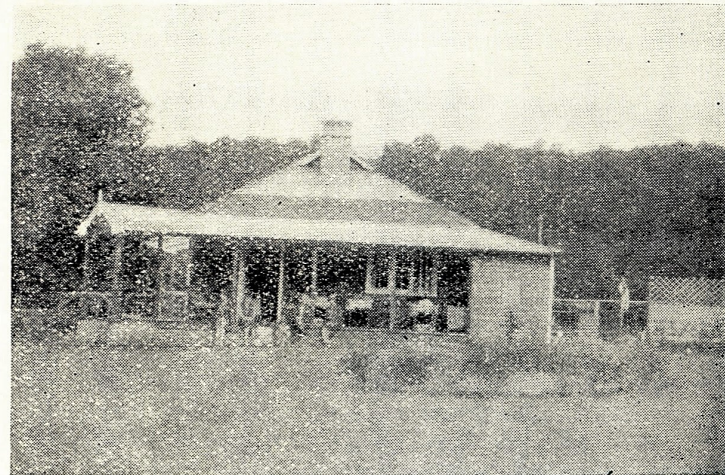
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Guildford and Shere.

bracken and heather. This is the most beautiful part of the walk, for here you are in the very heart of the woodland. Lofty elms and majestic oaks tower above you, and if you are fortunate enough to be “doing” this ramble in bluebell time, the ground beneath your feet will appear like a magnificent blue carpet. Indeed, not even Persian genius itself could produce such a wonderful object of beauty as this. Through this paradise of nature you ramble for about a mile. As you approach the main road, you will pass on the right the “Surrey Hills” Guest House and Holiday Camp, where Teas and Luncheons are provided. The camp is situated in a beautiful spot



The Surrey Hills Guest House.

overlooking Postford Lake, and is an ideal place to spend a quiet country holiday. On reaching the main road turn left, and about half a mile ahead is the village of Albury. At the corner by the signpost you turn right, on to Albury Heath, and after half an hour's walk o'er the woodland and heather, you reach your destination.

If the Rambler has never before visited Shere he will involuntarily stop and gaze in admiration at the quaint old village (Old it certainly is, for the church was built over one thousand years ago, when the parish was called

Thro' Woodland and Fieldpath.

"Shire," or sometimes "Shiere." It is recorded that the first valuation of the parish was 15 shillings per annum!) with its exquisite old shops and cottages, many of which, it is known, were built hundreds of years ago. Through the village runs a delightful stream, the Tillingbourne. The rambler must not leave without first visiting that beautiful little building, where for so many centuries the villagers have assembled to render thanks to the great Creator of all things. Leaving the church by the field path you emerge on to the main road right opposite the old 15th century tea cottage, where can be seen some perfect examples of the old oak beam roofs and old-fashioned fireplaces. It is said that in olden times the cottage was a favourite retreat for sheep stealers, hiding from the law, for whom if discovered the only penalty was death.

While perhaps the more energetic of the party will elect to walk home via the Silent Pool and Newlands Corner, others will be content to await a bus which in half-an-hour will bring them back to the County Town once again.

Guildford, Haslemere and Hindhead.

Guildford, Haslemere and Hindhead.

*"I have seen dawn and sunset on moors and
windy hills,
Coming in solemn beauty like slow old tunes
of Spain.
I have seen the Lady April bringing the
daffodils,
Bringing the springing grass and the soft
warm April rain."*

JOHN MASEFIELD.

HINDHEAD, with its glorious scenery and views, is considered by many to be the most beautiful spot in Surrey, and certainly the claim is not unwarranted. At no time during any day in the year, be it summer or winter, is it without visitors, so well known is it all over the country.

From Guildford take a train or bus to Haslemere, and from the Station here turn to the right under the railway arch and along the lane until you reach a path leading across the common. Take this and continue straight across until you reach the main road by the little village of Hindhead. Looking across country can be seen the Punch Bowl. Nearby is the Gibbet Cross and the Sailor's Stone. A sailor, so the story goes, who had just left his ship, was staying at "The Punch Bowl" Inn (still in existence but now a boarding house and cafe). Whilst out on the common he was set upon by three rogues, who murdered him, stole his money, and then threw his body into the Punch Bowl. The Gibbet Cross marks the spot where the gibbet on which the three murderers were hanged, stood. There, as was the custom in the early part of the 18th century, they were left hanging in chains as a warning to others of the penalty for robbery and murder.

From the top of the hill looking across the Punch Bowl, that wonderful stretch of country for which Hindhead is famous, a glorious view can be obtained,

THE

PUNCHBOWL

INN
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(NEAR TO COMMON)

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Miles of woodland and heath, uninterrupted but for here and there a solitary cottage or farmhouse. There is a path which leads right across the Punch Bowl into Thursley, and it is this path which you will take for the return walk to Guildford. On reaching Thursley continue across the heath to Milford, from where it will be necessary to keep to the main road for about two miles till you reach Godalming. Just before you reach the railway arch there is a path with a sign which says, "Bridle Path to Godalming Station and Eashing." Turn up here and continue till you reach the level crossing at Godalming Station, cross this and a short distance along here you will see on the left a church. Here there is another footpath. Take this, and on emerging again on the main road turn to the left and at the river bridge turn down through the little bridge on the right hand side of the road. The distance you now have to cover along the towing path to Guildford is five miles, and it has been said that "One of the prettiest walks in England is the five miles of towing path from Godalming to Guildford." It is certainly a delightful walk. On either side of the river are green meadows where cows and sheep graze peacefully, sometimes approaching nervously towards the river bank. About a mile from Guildford, overlooking the river, is St. Catherine's, one of the old chapels, where the Pilgrims stopped to rest. The track used by them, known as the "Pilgrim's Way," crossed the river at this point. It is believed at one time to have been a nunnery, whilst St. Martha's was a monastery, but there is no authentic record to prove this. From the towing path you enter straight into the High Street at Guildford by St. Nicolas Church.

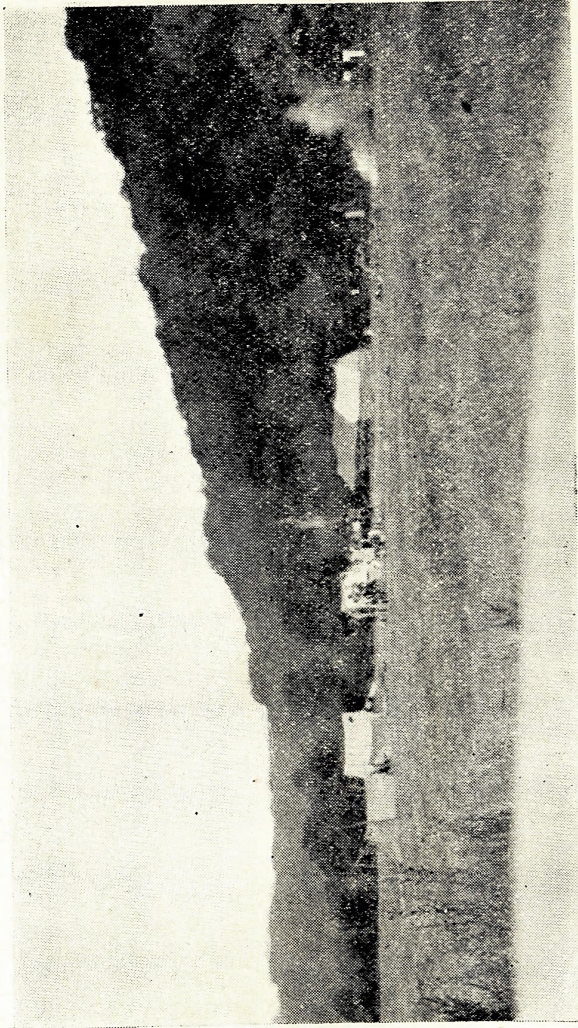
Guildford and Compton.

*"I know not where the white road runs, nor what the
blue hills are,
But a man can have the sun for friend and for his
guide a star ;
And there's no end of voyaging when once the call
is heard,
For the river calls and the road calls and oh !
the call of a bird !"*

GERALD GOULD.

STRETCHING from St. Catherine's Hill, near Guildford, on the Portsmouth Road, to the pretty old-world village of Compton, is three miles of country known locally as Sandy Lane, and forming part of the Pilgrims' Way from Winchester to Canterbury. It can be approached from Guildford either by the towing path along the river Wey or by the Portsmouth Road. In the former route, taking the second turning on the left from the Railway Station, proceed up the High Street, take the third turning on the right into Quarry Street and continue till you see on the right the footbridge across the river. Cross this and turn to the right along the footpath. On reaching the ferry cottage, by the side of which a stream arising from a spring nearby runs into the river, turn up the hill to the right and cross the main road into Sandy Lane.

In the latter take the first turning to the right out of the High Street into Portsmouth Road. Sandy Lane will be seen about a mile along on the right. The lane is closed in on either side by woodland, broken at intervals by short stretches of bracken-covered common, and is one of the most pleasant and most popular walks in the district. At the end of the lane is the Watts Art Gallery and show-rooms of the Potters Art Guild, founded by Mrs. G. F. Watts, wife of the late Mr. G. F. Watts, the celebrated artist whose works are to be seen in the picture and sculpture galleries, which are open to the public at the following times: Picture Gallery, in summer, from 10 till



An Early Morning Scene in Surrey.

Thro' Woodland and Fieldpath.

6; in winter from 10 till dusk. Sundays from 2 p.m. Sculpture Gallery, in summer, from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m.; in winter, from 2 p.m. till dusk. On Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays, admission is free, and on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 1s. Visitors are requested to note that the Galleries are closed on Thursdays. No visitor to Compton should miss a visit to the Galleries, where is to be seen some of the best work of this great artist.

In the showrooms of the Potters Art Guild some very beautiful pieces of craftsmanship can be seen. The object of the Guild is to develop artist craftsmanship. Whilst endeavouring to supply such things as are commonly required by the public, their work is marked by a distinction of style, and should make evident the knowledge of true principles of beauty. The showrooms are open from 9 to 5; Saturday 9 to 1.

On resuming the ramble continue along the lane for a short distance, and at the corner, where a signpost will be seen, turn to the left into the village. It is composed of but the one main street, on either side of which are the quaint old cottages with the old English gardens, a sight now, alas, so rare. On the right, about midway through the village, is the church, one of the finest of the old village churches in the country. It was built as far back as the 10th century. Near the altar is an alcove, used in olden time as a kneeling place for those doing penance for their sins.

In the church and churchyard are the tombs of many famous families, including generations of the More-Molyneuxs of Loseley Hall.

On emerging to pursue the ramble again, continue along the road until you reach the "Harrow Inn," then take the little path at the side, turn to the left and over the stile into the meadow. Continue the field path until you reach a gate through which you pass into a narrow lane, here turn to the right and down to the main road through the little village of Hurtmore into Godalming, a very picturesque and historic little town and birthplace of many great men. As long ago as 1565 Sir Richard

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Champion, a citizen of Godalming and a great philanthropist, became Lord Mayor of London. The Borough is one of the largest in the county, and it received its Charter many hundreds of years ago.

It is recorded that one Richard Wyat, of the Parish of Compton, by will on the 20th day of March, 1618, for the maintenance of one poor man in an almshouse at Godalming, 1/9 a week and coat, stockings and shoes once a year.

Guildford, four miles distant, can be reached by bus in 20 minutes, or the return can be made along the towing path of the Wey. The distance this way, however, is five miles.

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A Week-end Tramp.

A WEEK-END TRAMP

FROM

Guildford to Leith Hill and Horsham.

THE more ardent trampers among our readers will no doubt include in their rambles an occasional effort of a more ambitious nature than the one day's tramp, and for them we include this two-day tramp which can be done comfortably in a Saturday and Sunday. During the two days some of the most beautiful country in Surrey will be traversed, up hill and down dale, thro' woodlands and fields; indeed the tramp who commences this tour comfortably shod and clothed will have a thoroughly enjoyable time. The writer found it so though it was in December that he did it!

Starting from Guildford the route lies over St. Martha's and to Shere, by the way explained in the Shere Ramble (see page II). From here take the footpath by the side of the church to Gomshall, keeping well to the left all the way.

From Gomshall the footpath continues across field-paths to Abinger Hatch, joining the road in somewhat queer fashion through the churchyard. The old church is very interesting and is well worth a few minutes' stay.

From here turn right up the main road and take the first footpath on the left to Friday Street, which has been described as the "Switzerland of Surrey." It is certainly a very fine scene, with its great hills and lofty trees providing a splendid background for the pond below. Taking the footpath to the right past the pond and keeping straight ahead you will eventually reach Leith Hill, from where a magnificent view is obtained. The memorial plaque to "Walker Miles," the famous tramp, which was dedicated in 1928, is of interest.

Descend from the hill on the other side, and reaching the main road below turn right, and a few yards past the hotel on the left is a footpath to Ockley. This footpath is a little difficult to trace owing to the fact that it is rarely trodden, but keep straight ahead, bearing neither



Midst Heather and Fern.



Albury Village.

Newlands Corner and Ranmore Common.

Newlands Corner and Ranmore Common.

*"Afoot and light hearted I take to the road,
Healthy, free, the world before me,
The long brown path before me leading."*

WALT WHITMAN.

THE walk between Guildford and Ranmore Common, over Newlands Corner, affords splendid opportunities of enjoying the famous views across Surrey and into Sussex which may be seen from this part of the North Downs.

From Guildford High Street turn up Tuns Gate, opposite the Guildhall, and at the corner turn left up Pewley Hill, from where a fine view across the town may be obtained, to Pewley Down. Keep close to the hedge on the left hand side and presently a footpath, indicated by a sign post bearing the words, "Public Footpath to Warren Road," will be seen on the left. Take this, and on reaching the road turn right and proceed up the road until you reach the corner known as "One Tree Corner." From here take the footpath close to the hedge on the right across Merrow Down and through "Fairyland," a beautiful stretch of country, after about two miles of which Newlands Corner is reached. From here there is a fine view across country. The corner is now a famous beauty spot, tho' but a few years ago it was quite unknown. From here, cross the main road and join the grass track on the opposite side, from where the path is a perfectly direct one, through woods and dells, passing Coombe Bottom, a very pleasant little scene. Among the many fine trees are a number of copper beeches. The spot is at its best in Autumn, when the tinted leaves add a touch of splendour to the scene.

Soon after this the track joins the White Downs, from where Leith Hill may be clearly seen. The path eventually joins the road, which is, however, left again a few yards away when Ranmore Common is reached.

Thro' Woodland and Fieldpath.

After a rest here for tea the return walk is started by retracing for a short distance our outward steps till a footpath to the left of the grass track is seen, this joins the main road at Abinger Hammer, a quaint little village with a locally famous clock, the hours on which are struck by a man with a hammer who strikes a gong. It is a curious sight if the visitor happens to be in the village at the hour to see this novel way of striking out the hours.

Turn right along the road for a short distance and then take the footpath on the left across the bridge over the Tillingbourne and turn right, joining the footpath from Leith Hill to Shere, from where the return to Guildford can be made by the route described in the Shere Ramble (see page 11).

The total distance of this ramble is about 19 miles.

Guildford, Shackleford and Cutmill.

Guildford, Shackleford and Cutmill.

*"The naked earth is warm with Spring,
And with green grass and bursting tree,
Leans to the sun's gaze glorying,
And quivers in the sunny breeze."*

JULIAN GRENFELL.

FROM the Station at Guildford turn to the right up the steps, turn to the right again and take the first turning on the left and down some steps and turn to the right. Continue up the hill till you reach the "greenroad." This is an old Roman road and part of the "Hogs Back" from Guildford to Farnham, so called owing to its shape. About a mile further along on the left is a stile (it cannot be mistaken as it is the only stile on that side), cross this and pursue the path across the meadow known as the "Sheepwalk." At the bottom cross another stile, keep along the path and cross a third stile into a lane. This is Sandy Lane. Turn to the right and walk on through the woodland path till you again reach the road. At the corner there is a signpost, one arm pointing to Shackleford and Puttenham. Take this road and continue till you reach another signpost. Here take the lane towards Shackleford. A short distance down here on the right near a small cottage is a wicket gate. Passing through this take the footpath across the field. At the end another gate leads into a meadow; take the same path across here, and at the end you emerge again into the lane. Turn to the right, and a short distance away in this direction is the village of Shackleford. Turn to the left, past the village street with its picturesque little cottages on either side, and take the next turning to the right.

After a very pleasant walk through the lane, bordered on either side by woodland, you reach Cutmill Ponds. The quiet still water, surrounded by heath and trees, makes a very peaceful scene. Once past the ponds take any of the paths to the left hand side of the lane across the heath up on to the Hogs Back. From here turn to the right and continue along the main road to Guildford. An alternative route is to keep along the lane through Puttenham, across the Golf Links, and up the footpath on to the Hogs Back.

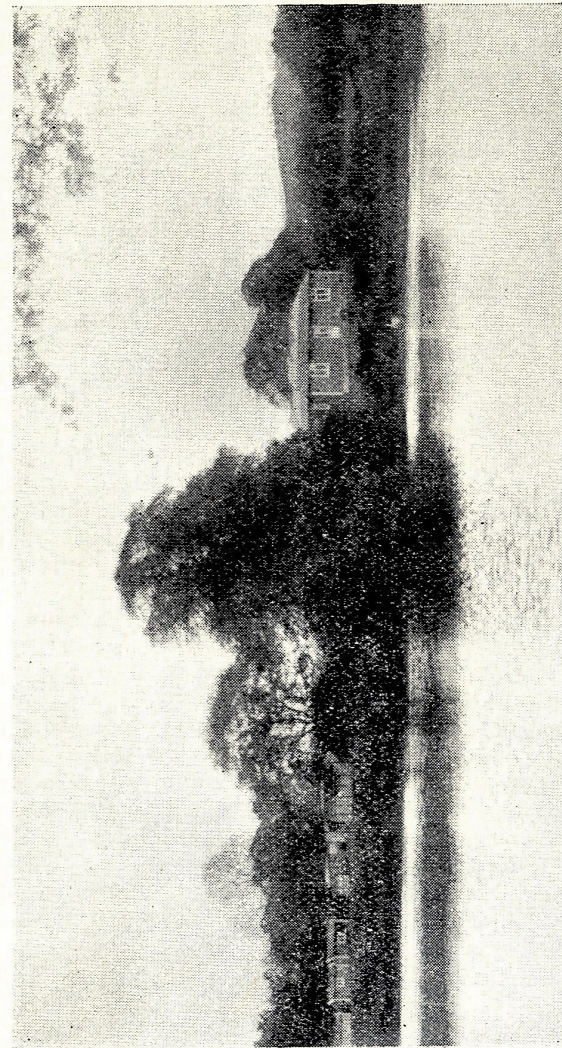
Guildford to Frensham Ponds.

*"... And Peace upon your pasture-lands I found,
Where grazing flocks pass on continually
As little clouds that travel with no sound
Across a windless sky."—JOHN DRINKWATER.*

FROM Guildford the walk across country to Frensham Ponds is a very pleasant one, and what is believed to be the original Pilgrim's Way (from Winchester to Canterbury) is traversed for a considerable part of the distance. From Guildford take the same route, via Portsmouth Road and Sandy Lane, as is given in the Compton Ramble (see page 19), and from Compton take the first turning on the right past the Picture Gallery, up a narrow lane. A few yards ahead is a footpath to the left, leading across a green track. Follow this path for about two miles till you reach the village of Puttenham, which has a very interesting church.

Turn up the road on the left by the church, where a signboard denotes that the road leads, past Cutmill Ponds (a favourite bathing place in summer), to Elstead. On reaching the village, turn right at the cross roads on to a by-road, which later becomes a mere grass track, over Hankley Common to Frensham Common, which it joins. The Little Pond is the first to be reached, and a little further over lies the Great Pond. The county boundary between Surrey and Hampshire goes through the south corner of the Great Pond. At Frensham a stop may be made for tea, after which, by a short walk across the common, Frensham Hill is reached, from where we make our way to Farnham by leafy lanes through Rowledge and Wrecclesham. The rambler should not leave Farnham without spending an hour or so in visiting the many places of interest in the town, including Farnham Castle, a part of which is open to visitors, and which was for hundreds of years the residence of the Bishops of Winchester, and the Parish Church, where is the tomb of William Cobden, the famous politician of "The Hungry Forties," to quote the name of one of his well-known writings.

From Farnham the return to Guildford may be made by bus over the Hogs Back, a very pleasant ride. Buses start at each hour from Castle Street, Farnham.



A Scene below St. Martha's.

A FEW AFTERNOON RAMBLES.

Guildford and Bramley.

THIS ramble is suitable for a half-day, the distance being about nine miles by riverside and through quiet country lanes away from the roar of traffic of the main roads. From Guildford Station proceed along Park Street, by the bus terminus, and turn left into the High Street, which you cross, and take the second turning on the left by S. Nicolas Church. A short distance down here turn to the left and over the bridge on to the towing path on the right. Continue along the river path for about three miles, crossing the main road at Shalford, till you meet another road. Here leave the towing path and turn to the left along this lane, at the corner of the lane you will find a footpath on the left. Take this and proceed across the fields until you emerge into another lane, which will bring you into Bramley in about a mile. On reaching the main road turn right into the village, where tea can be obtained.

After tea return along the village street, turn right at the corner by the church and continue past the railway station till you reach the next corner, then turn left into a lane. On the right is Chinthurst Hill, which is, however, on private property. Emerging from the lane on to Shalford Common take the footpath across to the main road. From Shalford cross roads turn right towards Guildford which is a mile and a half distant.

From Shalford Church Guildford may be reached either by road or by the footpath on the left which leads to the river, across which the ferryman will take you for a penny, and a short walk along the towing path will bring you back into the old town again.

Over Merrow Downs.

FROM Guildford High Street turn into Tuns Gate, opposite the Guildhall, and up Pewley Hill on the left. On reaching Pewley Down take the footpath close to the hedge, and at the other side of the downs go through the wicket gate and continue the footpath by the side of the cornfields. The path presently broadens into a lane, at corner of which turn left up "halfpenny lane," passing St. Martha's Vicarage, to "One Tree

Corner," from where there is a grass track running diagonally across Merrow Downs, take this and on reaching the border of the golf links, bear left and take the path beside the hedge. Continuing across the Downs you will eventually reach the road again, a few yards above Merrow Church. At Merrow an hour may be spent "exploring" the village and in having tea, after which take the road which the signpost will inform you leads to Burpham. This road, though a tarred one, is quite pleasant, there being but little traffic. The picturesque old cottage gardens, such as are rarely seen to-day, will be noticed. The lane joins the main road at Burpham, when you turn to the left and keep along this road for about a mile, till you reach a wicket gate on the right, pass through this into a bridle path across Stoke Park, a fine stretch of country, with the river running through on the northern border, which is now the property of the people of Guildford. The path continues straight across the park to Stoke Church, a few minutes walk from the High Street.

Thro' The Pilgrim's Way.

THE old Pilgrim's Way from Winchester to Canterbury passed through Guildford, crossing the river at St. Catherine's, and across the meadows now known as Shalford Park. It is the writer's ambition in a future publication to give the whole of the route from Canterbury to Winchester, but in this book we can do no more than lead our readers over some of the paths trodden by these old pilgrims hundreds of years ago. An interesting afternoon walk is through the Pilgrim's Way to St. Martha's and back by Pewley Down.

From Guildford High Street turn into Quarry Street, by St. Mary's Church, and proceed down the hill and along the Shalford Road till a footpath on the left is seen up a few steps into a cornfield. Cross this field by the footpath and you will emerge into the Pilgrim's Way, turn left and continue along the lane, past the little cottage on the right. Where the path forks in two directions bear to the right, and crossing the road take the path opposite. A short walk up the hill will bring you to the summit and St. Martha's Church. The return may be made by the same route as far as the fork in the footpath, then turn right and take the next turn to the left up a hilly footpath leading to Pewley Down.

A Short History of Woking.

WOCHINGES, Wokyng, Wockyng, or Woking was recorded in the Doomesday survey thus:--

"It had been rated at fifteen hides and a half, but from being in the immediate possession of the sovereign, had never paid taxes. There are six carucates of arable land. In demesne is one carucate, and thirty three villians and nine bordars, with twenty carucates more. There is a church (the one still standing in Old Woking) of which Osbern (Bishop of Exeter) is in possession; and thirty two acres of meadow, and a mill worth 11s. 4d. yearly, and thirty two acres of meadow, and woods that yield one hundred and thirty three swine. In the time of King Edward, and subsequently, this manor was valued at £15 a year by tale (number). It is now valued at £15 by weight, and to the sheriff 25s."

This parish was divided into nine tithings, Town Street (the old village), Heathside, Goldsworth or Goldings, Kingfield, Mayfield, Sackleford, Hale End, Crastock and Sutton.

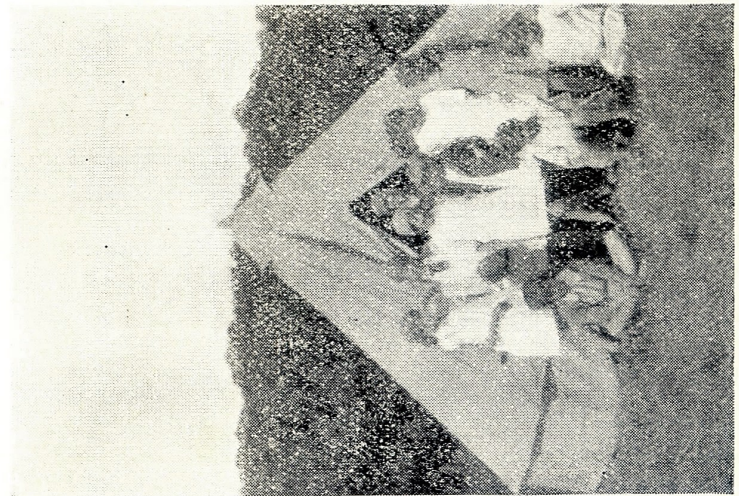
The character of the parish has been entirely transformed in about 60 years by the railway which was first carried to Woking in 1838. Woking village lies on the river and is out of the way on no frequented road. It was an obscure market town and is probably quite unknown to many who pass through or stay at the modern Woking by the railway. There is a market house dating back to 1665 which still stands. On the hill above Hoe Bridge stood a brick beacon tower, said to have been built by Sir Edward Zouch to direct messengers for James I, when staying with him, across the trackless wastes from Oatlands. It was demolished in 1858.

The parish is agricultural but for a few small businesses which have grown up in the new town, which in the main is residential.

The first Mosque in England was built at Maybury near Woking in 1889. In the same year the first Crematorium in England was built at Knaphill near Woking.



A Holiday Scene at a Surrey Camp.



Camping Out.

SAVE THE COUNTRYSIDE.

Is your neighbourhood being disfigured by glaring advertisements and hoardings?

Have you a fine old bridge which is threatened with destruction?

Are any local ancient buildings or historical sites in danger?

Is litter allowed to accumulate in places where the beauty is much sought by travellers and local people?

Are wide motor roads being made which encourage people to race through your sequestered valleys?

Are footpaths and rights-of-way being closed to the public?

YOU CAN HELP TO PREVENT YOUR COUNTRYSIDE BEING SPOILT. You can help to preserve its natural beauty for those who know how to enjoy unspoiled beauty and scenery.

Write to the local representative for

The Council for the Preservation of Rural England,

E. S. TREACHER, "Harcourt," North Road, Woking, Surrey, who will be able to tell you what to do, or put you in touch with the proper society if you require technical advice or information.

Particulars of membership of the above Council may be obtained from the local representative.

— FOR —

Luncheons, Teas and Dinners

VISIT

THE NEW INN

SEND - Near Woking

SHELTER IN TEA GARDENS FOR 80 PERSONS

Old Woking, Newark Abbey and Ripley.

Old Woking, Newark Abbey and Ripley.

*"Sweet breeze that sett'st the summer buds a-swaying,
Dear lambs amid the primrose meadows playing."*

T. E. BROWN.

IN complete contrast to the ever-growing modern town of Woking is the picturesque little village of Old Woking, a very popular rendezvous in the summer months for those who prefer the quiet peacefulness of this Surrey village to the noisy seaside town. It has a very beautiful old church, the nave being 11th century. It possesses also a very fine Norman door, covered with iron work. After having seen the village and church, walk back along the straggling little High Street and turn off at the second turning on the left, past the large printing factory, and cross the field path to Worsfold Gates. To the rambler who is spending a holiday in the district it may be of interest to note that from here boats may be hired from Mr. Grove, of the lock house. At the lock turn left and continue along the tow path of the Basingstoke canal. A short distance along on the right is the "New Inn," where teas and luncheons are served in the gardens. Continue through the delightful country fields and woods for about two miles, when Newark Abbey is reached. The old ruined Priory is many hundred years old. It is said that it was founded in the 12th century by one Ronald de Calva and his wife, Beatrix de Sandes, and was called the Priory of the Order of St. Augustine, at Aldebury, in the parish of Sande. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr. The first Prior is said to be one John de Crondall, who was inducted in 1189. Continue across Pyrford Common amidst the pine and bracken to Pyrford, a picturesque little village, also very old. The village church is very interesting and well worth a visit.

Thro' Woodland and Fieldpath.

From Pyrford take the bridle path past Warren Farm, cross the Wey, and continue across the meadow paths to Ripley, a quaint old-world village on the London road. The village is noted for the old inns which call to mind the time when Ripley was used as a coaching station, and picturesque little cottages with their quaint old gables and oaken beams.

Situated in the middle of Ripley, on the Portsmouth Road is the Cedar Tea House, once "The George Inn," a wonderful example of the beauty of the 17th century, the house being built in 1650.

Up to about a hundred years ago it was a posting house for the London to Portsmouth coaches, and the sign over the entrance, a coaching scene by Cecil Aldin, reminds us of this.

As one passes from room to room in this beautiful old place, it seems that each step one takes leads to something more enchanting. On the ground floor is the Refectory, a perfect example of those fine old 17th century half-timbered rooms—the White Parlour, an example of Georgian work, with an Adams' mantelpiece, this room having been remodelled when the Georgian front of the house was done.

Ascending the massive oak staircase we come to the Oak Room overlooking the Portsmouth Road. Glancing round, one feels it would be easy to sacrifice all our modern contraptions—wireless, telephones, and the like, for such simple beauty as is seen in this room.

From the walled garden, bright with old-fashioned flowers, and shaded by its famous old cedar tree, from which the house took its name when it ceased to be "The George Inn," the half-timbered walls and quaint old tile-hung gable of the back of the house can be admired, after which we regretfully take our departure with, perhaps, a warmer feeling in our hearts for the olden times. From here buses to Guildford and Woking ran at frequent intervals, or the more energetic may walk back to Woking via Send, or to Guildford along the Portsmouth Road via Burpham.

Do not miss seeing the
Most Interesting House in Ripley

CALL AT
The Cedar House

(A 17th Century Half-timbered House)

RIPLEY - SURREY

TEA LUNCHEON SUPPER

ANTIQUES REPRODUCTIONS
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The Tea House under the Management of
Mrs. HOWARD

GARAGE

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C. M. HOWARD,
Proprietor

Along the Towing Path.

*"With many a curve my banks I fret
By many a field and fallow,
And many a fairy foreland set
With willow-weed and mallow.
For men may come and men may go,
But I go on for ever."*

TENNYSON.

THIS ramble is most enjoyable in summer when the meadows and foliage are at their best, and the warm sun is shining down upon the water beneath.

From the north side of Woking Station proceed down the Chertsey Road until the bridge is reached. Turn right along the towing path of the canal.

This is the Basingstoke canal and was the second to be constructed in Surrey. Its original purpose was to connect Basingstoke with the Thames, but the upper reaches are never used as barges never go above Woking.

The gardens on the other side of the canal are a tribute to the gardener's skill, and the many hued rhododendrons, for which this district is noted, are at their best in early June.

After passing Byfleet several locks bring the canal to the level of the Wey Navigation Canal, which it joins hard by the railway bridge. Your way lies under the bridge up the left bank of the Wey Navigation canal.

There is good reason to believe that this canal was the first to be constructed in England. The locks which you will presently pass by were first introduced into this country by Sir Richard West of Sutton about 1645, under whose direction the river was made navigable from Weybridge to Godalming by the year 1760.

Soon after passing the Anchor Inn and the lock close by, you will see the River Wey on your left. At Walsham Lock the river and canal join for about half a mile. Walsham Lock in the past few years has become a famous bathing place for Woking residents, and, if you have come prepared, a bathe here on a hot summer's day is enjoyable.

After passing the lock, on the right hand side will be seen Newark Abbey, founded in the reign of Richard I, once the home of the Dominican Friars. It was dissolved by Henry VIII, but is one of the finest preserved ruins of Surrey's religious houses. Its lofty walls are a picturesque sight from the river.

Proceed along the path until you reach the road, and on the left is a quaint old flour mill which, from the bridge, would make an excellent photograph. Join the canal and river on the left bank. At the next lock cross over to the right bank until you reach a bridge by Send Tanneries. Here a path turns sharp to the right across the Broadmead to Old Woking.

The church here contains many points of interest, one being the gallery which was erected in 1662 by Sir Edward Zouch.

On leaving the church join the main road and turn left. By taking a footpath which turns off to the right you can avoid the main road back to Woking. Turn left at the end of the footpath up White Rose Lane, and one mile from hence is Woking Station.

This ramble may be commenced from either Byfleet or West Weybridge.

From Byfleet leave the station by the "up" side and the canal is but two minutes walk away down the road which is immediately opposite.

From West Weybridge leave the station by the "up" side and proceed along the road in a northerly direction. On reaching the canal turn back along it on the right bank in the direction which you have already come.

The distance from Woking is 11 miles, and the distance from Byfleet or West Weybridge 8 miles.

Woking to Chobham Clump.

*"Red shall the heather bloom over hill and valley,
Soft flow the stream through the even-flowing hours. . ."*
R.L.S

ALTHOUGH the footpath walk to Chobham Clump is only about five miles, the changes in the scenery between those two places are many and varied. It is this fact that will make the ramble especially interesting to those who enjoy quick changes in their natural surroundings.

From the "up" or north side of Woking Station proceed down Chertsey Road and turn to the left into Chobham Road. At the "Wheatsheaf" turn off right across the common to the wooden shelter on the far side, behind which there is a footpath. Turn right along this, keeping to it for about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile until a gravel road is reached. Turn left up this keeping straight ahead at the cross roads. Bear right as the road turns towards the common. At the edge of the common a footpath immediately opposite goes across it. Take this path and keep to the right until the sandy road is reached. The footpath continues across the common on the other side of this road. Going across the common are many paths, but it is advisable to keep to the main path which leads to a grey slate-roofed house, nearby which a somewhat rusted sign bears the inscription "Public Footpath." Cross the stile and follow the path to the right along by the hedge and over two bridges. The path here is well-defined and, after crossing another stile, the path emerges into a main road. Turn right along this for about 50 yards and then turn left to "Stony Patch." At the top of this road by a quaint old cottage the path continues over a grass rise straight ahead to the open common. When the grass cart track is reached turn left along it and take the first path to the right leading from it. This will lead down the hill past a thatched house to another main road, on the other side of which a gravel road turns off to the left. Take this road and proceed along it for about a mile to where it forks by a cottage. Turn left by the copse and down the hill. At the bottom of the hill at the edge

of the copse on the right a footpath will be seen leading across the common to the Clump, which can be seen immediately ahead.

On the lower reaches of this common among the coarse grass grows the gentian, a rare blue-belled flower which is seldom found in England. Indeed Chobham Common is one of the few places in this country where it flourishes in fair quantities. This being so, we would ask ramblers to pick but sparingly of the orchid.

Although the Clump itself is only about 200 feet above sea level, a commanding view of the surrounding country is to be obtained. To the south are the North Downs, and St. Martha's Hill is easily recognisable by the church on its summit.

From the Clump go on to the main road below it and take the first turning to the right up the sandy track across the common to the wood ahead. Turn into this wood and proceed down an avenue of unusually large pine trees to the Round Pond, which in summer is bedecked with water lilies.

Join the main road close by the pond and turn left and Chobham village is two miles away.

The church in the village is well worth a visit. It is dedicated to St. Lawrence and is mentioned in the Doomesday Book. The first church was a small building consisting of a chancel with a nave about half the length of the present one dating from the beginning of the 12th century or a little earlier. Parts of two of the earlier windows still remain high up in the south wall of the nave. In the vestry at the eastern end of the north aisle is a fine old iron-bound chest of uncertain date. The Vicar was offered a handsome amount for this chest by a wealthy American, but he refused to be tempted—by such an offer!

From Chobham village the buses run at frequent intervals to Woking. Those who prefer to walk back should keep to the main road until Mimbridge is reached, and after passing over the bridge a footpath will be seen on the right hand side going across the common. Take this, and at the other side of the common the footpath continues through a small iron gate and along the side of a field. Take this, and soon the main road will be reached. Woking Station is about half-a-mile from here.

Brookwood, Frimley Ridges and Guildford.

*"What is this life, if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand between the boughs
And stare as long as sheep and cows."*

W. H. DAVIES.

THE country in the neighbourhood of the Frimley Ridges is at its best in September when the heather is in full bloom and the bracken has turned into a beautiful golden tint. Bilberries and blackberries are plentiful.

Leave Brookwood Station by the north side and turn left into the main street, proceeding along it until the canal is reached on the right hand side. Go up the canal on the left bank and two locks farther up a rough road crosses the canal. Here turn left under the railway arch on to the main road. Turn right and about a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile farther on the road forks by a pond. Take the right-hand road, and when the open common on the left is reached turn left along a sandy track. This will ultimately turn left, but a small footpath on the right will lead into a meadow. Go straight across this to another sandy track leading through a gap in the hedge across a plank bridge. After leaving the bridge turn off along the first path to the right. At the top of the rise the whole line of ridges is before you—and what a fine spectacle they present!

Continue along this path, crossing a broad gravel road, until it bends left, then turn off and continue straight across the common to a sandy road which goes up to the top of a fir-topped elevation immediately ahead. From the top of this hillock a fine view of the country between Woking and Guildford can be obtained. Keep along the sandy road, and when at the top of the ridges turn left. This sandy road soon joins the gravel road again just before going away down to the left. Do not go down the

hill, but continue along the ridge and eventually Crown Prince Hill is reached. From here it is possible to see nearly the entire length of the Hog's Back. Below, the gravel road winds its way to Henley Park Lake, which can be seen in the distance amid the trees.

Join this gravel road, passing the lake on the right hand side, and when the cross roads are reached take the road to Guildford. Keep along this road, and when it joins the main Aldershot-Guildford road turn left for about 100 yards and then take the first turning to the right and Wood Street is $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles distant.

Lower Wood Street is a fine example of an old-world village, with its village green, the pond, the old timbered cottages, and, last but not least, the village inn.

Turn to the left on arriving at Wood Street and continue up the hill past "The Royal Oak," and down the hill until the common is reached on the right hand side. Go diagonally across this common to the hedge on the farther side. A stile at an opening in the hedge may be difficult to find as no definite path goes across the common to it. Having found it, continue along the footpath which crosses the railway line. After crossing two fields the path emerges out at the new housing estate near Guildford. Turn to the left along the road, and at the bottom of the hill take the road on the left, from where Guildford Station is but a few minutes walk.

HINTS TO RAMBLERS.

Perhaps a word of advice on things peculiar to tramping to those who are new to rambling may be helpful.

Long distance walking may be a penance or a pleasure; it is all a question of the feet. When preparing for a ramble it is better not to wash or oil the feet. The first will leave them tender, while the second seals up the sweat glands thereby causing congestion. Tight socks or stockings often cause as much trouble as a tight leather boot or shoe. It is advisable to wear boots as they give more support to the ankles, especially when the ramble leads over rough common land. The risk of blistering the foot is eliminated if a pair of woollen stockings and a pair of socks are worn, as any friction then is between the two pairs of hose.

A rucksack is a much more comfortable pack to carry than an ordinary napsack, as the latter swings to and fro and becomes annoying, while the former fits into the back and distributes the load evenly. Quite a reliable waterproof rucksack may be bought for 7s. 6d. from any sports outfitters.

All rambles will, we trust, take heed of the appeal contained in the following lines:—

*“ Friend, when you stray, or sit and take your ease
On moor or fell or under spreading trees,
Pray leave no traces of your wayside meal,
No scattered bag, no trace of orange peel,
Nor daily journal littered on the grass;
Others may view these with distaste and pass.
Let no one say, and say it to your shame—
That all was beauty here until you came.”*