

# LOGMORE

References in the Westcott Local History Group archives

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## **Barry Ernest APPLEBY (1909–1996)**

Appleby was born in Birmingham on 30 August 1909, the son of the Editor of the Autocar. He commenced working for his father's magazine, initially as a journalist and later cartoonist, before being employed by the Express newspaper in March 1950, where he created his cartoon strip The Gambols. He used the same characters, George and Gaye for both publications. The Autocar cartoons were used as a header for a regular feature in the weekly magazine called 'Disconnected Jottings'. The humorous drawings have very little text and often just a single word title. Appleby used pen and ink on stiff watercolour board, often sketching with pencil the outline of the cartoon before inking-in. As well as featuring in the Daily Express and (from 1956) the Sunday Express The Gambols were reproduced in newspapers in over 40 countries and were translated into 11 languages. 48 albums of Gambol Caroons were published.

There is an original black and white Autocar cartoon in Dorking Museum. It is not signed but on the reverse of the board is the Autocar handstamp showing the date published in the magazine for provenance.

Barry Appleby and his wife Dobs lived at Gaylands House, Logmore Lane

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## **Dorking Advertiser extracts:**

- 1900 George Bridger was summoned for trespassing on Edward and Emma Tunnell's land at Logmore Lane in search of rabbits.
  - 1902 The vigilance of PC Steele was shown when he reported how he concealed himself behind a hedge in Logmore Lane to observe Arthur Grace, Arthur Nash, John Robinson and Oliver Overington gambling with cards on a Sunday afternoon. The magistrates were told that all the lads were sons of respectable Westcott people but they were nevertheless fined 5/- each.
  - 1924 In June William Tickner, a farm labourer at Brook Farm, Logmore Lane was summoned in respect of the irregular school attendance of his two children, Mary and Nancy. Mr. Green the school attendance officer said that since the 19th January Mary had only attended 94 times out of a possible 161, and Nancy 106 times. The reason given was illness and defective boots. A fine of 5/- was imposed in each case.
  - 1928 At a meeting of the Isolation Hospital Committee the Matron reported that the road to the hospital was in a bad state of repair and requested that it should be widened at the hospital entrance as the ambulance and tradesmen's lorries can only enter and leave the grounds with difficulty. At the same meeting Mrs Tozer of 'Logmore' was thanked for her gift of bush roses for planting in the hospital grounds.
  - 1936 There was a sale of 90 Middle White pigs from Upper Logmore Farm in March.
  - 1937 In the letters page of the Dorking Advertiser Mrs Albery of Applegarth drew attention to the dangers of walking along the main road in Westcott, and also drew attention to the narrowness of parts of Logmore Lane. W Eales of Glendora, Logmore Lane promptly responded that the residents liked Logmore Lane the way it was.
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## **Brook Farm** (formerly known also as Brookhouse and Logmores) TQ 143 472

References to Brook Farm can be found in the accounts of the proceedings of the Courts Baron of the Manor of Westcott.

Before 1662 Ralph Flitton held Brookhouse and in that year it passed to his grandson and heir John Saunder. In 1685 John Sanders was granted a 'License to Lett' and three years later Sarah Ledger, a widow, took over the property. In 1694 she sold it to Thomas Bett who was granted a license to let in 1706. When Thomas Bett died in 1728 the property passed to a nephew, John Bett, but his tenure was short since he died in 1731 and his two sisters, Mary and Elizabeth, inherited the copyhold house, buildings and land. From that time until 1817 there were two distinct moieties or half shares in the property; one descending from Mary Steward and the other from Elizabeth Seymour.

Mary Steward, nee Bett, left her inheritance to her grand-daughters Jane Steward and Mary Steward. By the time she died in 1772, however, both had been married and widowed. Jane had been the wife of Samuel Wood, a distiller and brandy merchant of Kingston-on-Thames and they had no children. Mary had one son, Sir Henry Bridges, Knight. He and his mother and his aunt all had a life interest in Brookhouse, but in 1816 they sold it to Richard Fuller, Esquire of the Rookery.

Elizabeth Seymour, nee Bett, had one son, John Seymour, who was 20 years old when Elizabeth died in 1748. He therefore needed a guardian, John Martyr, when he inherited his half share of the 'Messuage or Tenement, Barn, Building, Orchard, Garden and 30 acres'. When John Seymour died in 1772 he devised his share to Catherine Marter, widow, who held it until 1799 and it then passed to her son, Edward Marter, Yeoman. In 1801 it was reported that the Messuage and Buildings were greatly out of repair and by 1802, as nothing had been done to obey the Court Order to repair the same, the Bailiff was ordered to seize the property for the Lord of the Manor. However, by 1805 Edward Marter had taken the warning seriously and retained ownership until the property was bought by Richard Fuller in 1817.

Brook Farm thus became one unit again and remained part of the Rookery estate for the rest of the 19th century. It was shown as such in the 1841 Dorking Tithe Award and at that time the land attached to the farm included 'Field over Green' an area to the east side of Logmore Lane opposite the triangular Logmore Green – no longer identifiable

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century the farm had a succession of tenants, some of whom can be identified from census returns.

In 1841 Brook Farm was occupied by Nathaniel Rowland, an agricultural labourer, with his wife Mary and their three young children; Emily, Nathaniel and Mary. They were accompanied by his father, also Nathaniel. The family, less Nathaniel Rowland senior, were still living at Brook Farm in 1851 but in 1861 the Rowlands - James, a Cowman, Louisa, his wife, and their children Rebecca, John, James and David were the occupants.

Brook Farm is not identified by name in the 1871 census but by 1881 George and Eliza Woods and their six children were in residence. The farm house was unoccupied at the time of the 1891 census but in 1901 Rebecca Greathurst, a 47 year old spinster was 'head' of the household and described as a farmer. Earlier she had been employed in her father's inn, the Bricklayers Arms

opposite Westcott Green. Accompanying Rebecca was her sister Ann, assistant schoolmistress at the Village School.

The Attendance Register for Westcott National School includes Arthur (born 1909), Mary (b. 1911) and Nancy (b 1913), the children of William Tickner whose address was variously shown as Squires Farm, Durrant's Farm and, in 1918, Brook Farm. The Tickners stayed at the farm for several years because the Dorking Advertiser reported that 'in June 1924, William Tickner, a farm labourer at Brook Farm, Logmore Lane, was summoned in respect of the irregular school attendance of his two children, Mary and Nancy. Mr. Green, the school attendance officer, said that since the 19th January Mary had only attended 94 times out of a possible 161, and Nancy 106 times. The reason given was illness and defective boots. A fine of 5/- was imposed in each case.' By 1925, however, the Tickners had been replaced by the Harris family. The School Register shows that in 1925 two new pupils were admitted: Winifred and Edith Harris, the daughters of William Frank Harris of Brook Farm.

In April 1937, at the invitation of Mrs Barclay, the Surrey Archaeological Society sent Mr F J Clarke to examine 'Brook Farm Cottage'. In his report he wrote:

*'This appears to have been a 'right-hand' hall i.e. an open hall with central hearth and on the left a Solar or dwelling room with room over. The floor rafters over the Solar are of unusually large dimensions and closely spaced which suggests that the floor was used as a granary. The inserted floor of the main hall is supported by less substantial chamfered rafters. A curious feature is that the roof is without visible means of support, Originally it would seem that the roof was designed for two queen posts, but I could see no trace of these. The main beams which would have borne them have been cut away to allow head room (and not too much of that) till they have been reduced from about 9 inches to 3 inches in depth. The original building appears to have consisted of a heavy timber frame work filled with wattle and daub. It is now a patchwork of all kinds of weather stopping material.'*

A much more detailed architectural report was prepared in 1975 by the Domestic Buildings Research Group – Surrey. This incorporated photographs taken by Mr Clarke in 1937.



Brook Farm – photographed in 1937.

In 2004 Brook Farm was included in the Surrey Dendrochronology Project in the light of which Rod Wild, the Project Manager, advised that its construction date should be quoted as 1407, or, to be absolutely proper, ‘1407 or soon after’. The official report explains that the felling date for two of the timbers is late spring/summer 1406. These would have been stored, probably just as tree trunks. Then three more timbers have felling dates of winter 1406/7. Three more timbers could not be dated precisely but are from the same general period. “As they always used green timbers, we can expect construction in 1407, or possibly soon after”.

The present owner is Jillian Houghton. One of the farm stables is now the headquarters of Fortesques a specialist ‘Event Management’ company managed by Mrs Houghton’s son in law.

**References:**

- 1 DBRG Surrey Report No. 459 dated 1975.
- 2 Surrey Dendrochronology Project 2<sup>nd</sup> Progress Report (reported in SAS bulletin 385 dated July 2005)
- 3 Census Returns 1841-1901.

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## **Logmore Green Farm**

In 1976, Patrick Chamberlain joined forces with daughter Claire and bought Logmore Green Farm in Logmore Lane. They were not aware at the time that the previous owner, Joseph Wilkins, had been using the property as a high class brothel and had certainly not expected to be disposing of dozens of mattresses, coloured light bulbs and other equipment not normally associated with a farm, before getting to grips with raising beef cattle on the 50 acre estate.

Joseph Wilkins was described in the Dorking Advertiser as “The Westcott boss of a sophisticated and evil call-girl racket”. On 31 March 1976, after a 34 day trial at the Old Bailey, Wilkins was found guilty of living off the earnings of prostitutes and jailed for three and a half years His activities were linked to the Eve Escort Agency and La Femme

International. These were based in Mayfair but by all accounts much of the action took place in Westcott

Logmore Green Farm was sold in 1976 when Joseph Wilkins was jailed.

**Obituary in Parish Magazine: Group Captain Patrick Chamberlain** was born at Ashby de la Zouch in 1909 and died on 27th June 1998. After graduating at Birmingham University he followed his elder brother into the RAF. Following the early thrills of piloting Spitfires at the beginning of the war, his engineering degree resulted in an Air Ministry posting and responsibility for ensuring the airworthiness of the fighters that successfully fought the Battle of Britain. Postings in Austria, Italy and Germany followed. A final tour of duty at RAF Andover was followed by appointment as Games Master at Andover Grammar School. In 1976, Patrick joined forces with daughter Claire and bought Logmore Green Farm in Logmore Lane. They were not aware at the time that the previous owner had been using the property as a high class brothel and had certainly not expected to be disposing of dozens of mattresses, coloured light bulbs and other equipment not normally associated with a farm, before getting to grips with raising beef cattle on the 50 acre estate. For the next 30 years, Patrick played a full part in village life. He was a regular worshipper and sidesman at Holy Trinity and for many years he and his wife, Barbara, provided 'meals on wheels' and supported the Westcott Hospital Car Service. Barbara died in 1993, and his eldest son Jeremy died in South Africa in 1997, but Patrick is survived by Hugh, in Luxembourg, and by Claire (Afonso) at Logmore Green.

Patrick was buried in the family grave at Enville near Stourbridge, Shropshire on 10th July but he will long be remembered in Westcott by those who knew him.

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## LOGMORE PLACE

Email correspondence from **Patrick Pilkington** [simonstown@eircom.ne](mailto:simonstown@eircom.ne)

**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2006 5:42 PM

**Subject:** Logmore Place, Westcott

I am doing some research on a house built in 1913 by the architect Ernest Newton (1856-1922). He was a contemporary of Edwin Lutyens and built a number of large country houses in the Home Counties. I was given the name of the house as Logemore but think this may be a wrong spelling. Perhaps you know of it and could get in touch with me. I am curious to know for whom it was built. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Subject:** Logmore Place, Westcott

The house to which you refer is currently known as Logmore Place, Logmore Lane, Westcott. The post code is RH4 3JN.

The house could well have been known as Logmore House when it was built in 1913. I came across an entry in the Court News section of The Times of 23 July 1940 that noted that 'Lieutenant-Colonel Barclay of Bury Hill has moved into Logmore House which will now be known as Bury Hill House. Bury Hill will in future be known as Old Bury Hill'.

I suspect that the house was built for the Barclay family and that it was built on the site of a former dwelling, but have still to confirm this.

I understand that the house was reduced in size by almost 50% in 1957, and that in 1959 some 18<sup>th</sup> century firebacks were transferred from the original Bury Hill House when that house finally ceased to be owned by the Barclay family.

I hope this helps. We have at least one relatively recent sales prospectus (1991).

Of course if you have any information about the house we would be pleased to have a sight of it.

This is fascinating. The work I am doing concerns a very fine 18<sup>th</sup> Century chimneypiece attributed to Sir Henry Cheere (1703-1781). Its most recent provenance was Logmore House but it is clear from the fact that Ernest Newton was an Arts and Crafts architect that it was unlikely he would use chimneypieces from the

Georgian Period. Perhaps the 'firebacks' you referred to may have included chimneypieces as well. According to a book I have, *The Destruction of the English Country House* (Thames & Hudson, London, 1974), Bury Hill was damaged by fire in 1950 and partially demolished. This would fit in with what you have said.

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### **Notes from a meeting with Rob Potter of the Old Cottgae**

When the Isolation Hospital was sold it was bought by H C Lynch & Co on 23 Jan 1957 who set about converting it into four residential homes but became bankrupt.

The original owner of the land was John Stilwell ( 18 Thomas Street, Commercial Road, Stepney )

Lady Margaret Hemsley. Widow of Lord Hemsley Attlee's PPS bought Logmore Farm – married Wilmert Hine

N0 2 Brook Cottages was given as a 'grace & favour' home to Mrs Mason, a former Lady's maid.

West Lees farm was sold by Brenda Douglass as a going concern (200 acres plus a further 200 acres). The purchaser - Brown –has since sold it off bit by bit.

Fletchinghurst barn has gone.

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### **MILL COTTAGE**

I visited Martin Cole at Mill Cottage, Logmore Lane on 17 June 2007. He came to Dorking in 1948 and lived in Sondes Place Drive (and travelled up to Town with Jacques Cartier) before buying Mill Cottage (Lot 29) when the Bury Hill estate was sold in 1958. The cottage had been part of the Bury Hill estate and occupied by estate employees. Most recently a Mr Howell The building has been studied by the DBRG who date it to c 1630.

Before moving in Martin Cole carried out extensive alterations and has photographs showing the house stripped to the walls and revealing its original beams and wattle structure.

There was a large barn between the cottage and the Lane that was used for drying timber. The name 'mill cottage' refers not to a water mill but to a saw mill.

Presumably manually operated.

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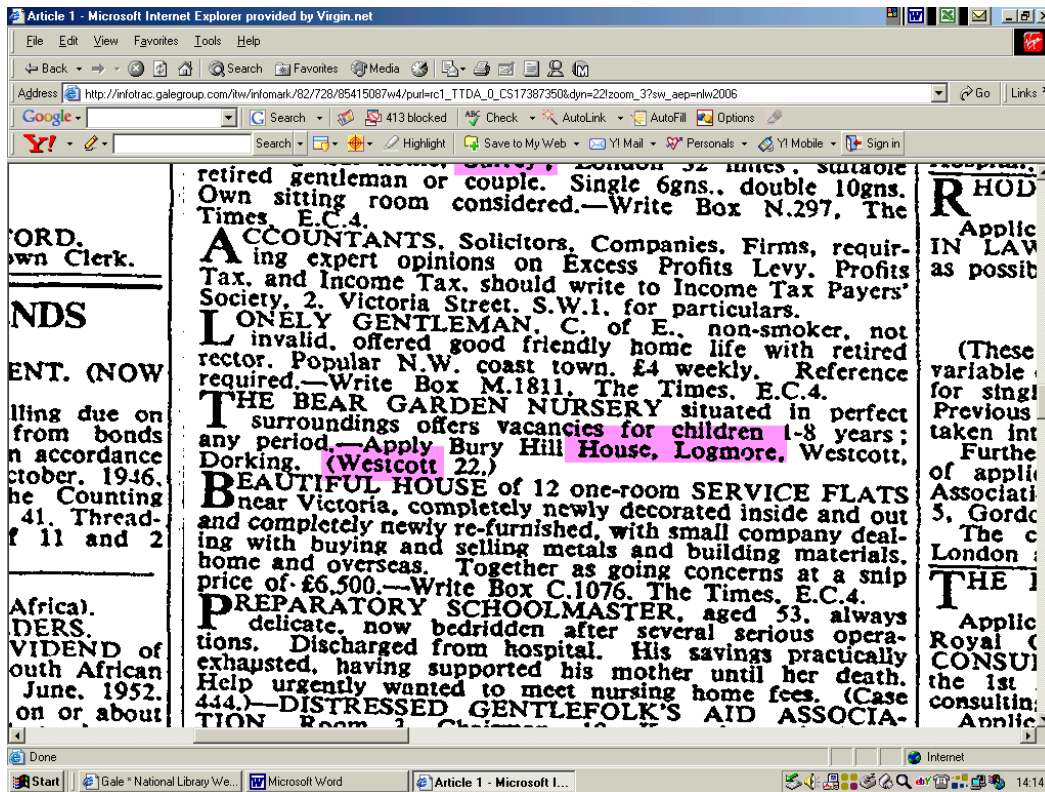
See also Sales prospectuses for Rookery and Bury Hill Estates

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**Charcoal burning and other woodland industries** The census return for 1861 records that in April of that year Robert and Hannah Gale were living in a cottage at Logmore. They had not been there in 1851 and it was apparent that the family did not stay put for very long since their children had been born at several different places including Ewhurst, Rudgwick, Albury, Wotton and Dorking. James was a baby of four months, Sarah and Susannah, aged 10 and 7, were scholars, presumably walking into Westcott each day for their schooling. William (22), Benjamin (16), Thomas (13) and John (11) all worked with their father as charcoal burners.

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The Times 22 October 1952

Extract from **Iris Lucas's** autobiography *So we left Park Farm, loaded all our goods and chattels on to a wagon, with our sofa at the front plus the family and the cat, and moved to Logmore Farm.*

From **Len Bravery's** memoirs Mr Barclay was a good stick. Len Remembers knocking on his door at (New) Bury Hill in Logmore Lane and asking if he could windfalls from his orchard. OK but no shaking the tree mind.

**Peter Payne** grew up in the village. His father lived next to the Old Dairy and then in Parsonage Lane. He was one of six children. One brother was killed in Aden aged 20. Another brother has also died. His twin sister Dorothy lives in Dorking.

He remembers the war in Westcott. They used the air raid shelter built in Westcott Street near the Pound.

He went to Rhodesia in 1957, initially for 2 years and stayed until 1978 as a Colonial Policeman.

At one time he lived at Florence Cottage – rent free because he worked part time for Mrs Barclay. The other part of the cottage was occupied by Mrs Prince who also worked at Logmore. He recalls that at the top of the house the old wattle and daub could still be seen. “90 acres of garden!”

**Bury Hill House** On 2nd July 1940 the Barclay family moved to the new family home at Logmore in Logmore Lane, which was renamed as Bury Hill House. ‘Old Bury Hill’ was requisitioned by the army and became the Eastern and South Eastern Command Weapon Training School. The Barclay Estate was still a going concern, however, and Col Robin Barclay arranged for the Adjutant of the Weapon Training School to issue passes to allow

the estate staff to go about their business. The list of passes issued: between July 1940 and July 1942 included::

Howell, Alfred Stanley      Estate Mechanic & driver    Logmore Green Cottages

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**Prunella Scales.** The Annual Report accompanying this newsletter includes a reference to Lady Eva Touche recruiting talented actors and actresses to form the Westcott Players. One of the latter was Bim Illingworth who had played opposite Robert Donat at the Liverpool Playhouse. Bim (an abbreviation of the nickname *bambino*) and John Illingworth had married in September 1930 and rented the Forge at Sutton Abinger where their daughter was born a couple of years later. In 1937 the family moved to Broomhills in Logmore Lane which they bought for £600. The Illingworth's daughter recalls that their house had five bedrooms, a bathroom and a dressing-room but no central heating, that she went to Stanway School, travelling on the bus from Westcott to Dorking, and that when war was declared and after a time bomb had been defused in their garden the family moved to Yorkshire. These recollections of her early days in Surrey are recalled by the former Miss Illingworth in *Prunella*, the authorised biography of Prunella Scales by Teresa Ransom.

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In Dorking Museum Library there is a photograph album with several pictures of Logmore Farm c 1900. It is a fascinating album but we have most of the pictures in our own collection.

The **Exploring Surreys Past** website identifies various 'finds' in Westcott with a map suggesting that several were found close to Logmore Lane as well as other references inc sales particulars.

<http://beta.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/search?keyword=logmore&x=3&y=10>