

RIPLEY & DISTRICT
HERITAGE TRUST
DERBYSHIRE

Newsletter



**RIPLEY
HERITAGE
DAY**

Sunday 27th October
10am - 3pm
Greenwich Sports Pavilion
Nottingham Road
FREE ENTRY: REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Number **Sixteen**

October 2019

www.rdht.org.uk

Ripley Heritage Day

Ripley Heritage Day will bring together local organisations concerned with preserving and protecting Ripley's links with the past.

There will be something for all heritage enthusiasts, whether their interest is in the Butterley Company, Codnor Castle, Midland Railway, the Cromford Canal, Revolution (of the Pentrich variety), entertainment (of the Ripley Operatic variety) or just the history of the town.

As well as displays and exhibits, Amber Valley Moviemakers will be on hand to show some rare old film of Ripley, and members of each group will happy to tell visitors more.

The Butterley Ironworks Trust will be focusing on the proposed development of the Butterley site, whilst Ripley and District Heritage Trust will be looking at the history of Ripley's Co-op and life in the town during World War 2. There will even be the chance to taste cakes made to wartime recipes.

This is also an opportunity to bring along those old photographs or documents that have lingered in the attic, and find out more about them, or even donate them so that they are preserved for the future.

The event will take place at the new Greenwich Sports Pavilion on Sunday 27th October from 10am to 3pm. Parking and entry are free, and refreshments will be on sale throughout the day.

Our Next Talk

After a successful talk on Codnor Castle and the De Grey family on 25th September, our next talk returns to more familiar territory with an account by Tim Castledine of the Butterley Company's role in building HMS Warrior, the first British armour plated, iron hulled warship.

As always, the talk will be at Marehay Miners Welfare, at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 20th November, with refreshments and free entry, and, of course, a raffle.



HMS Warrior

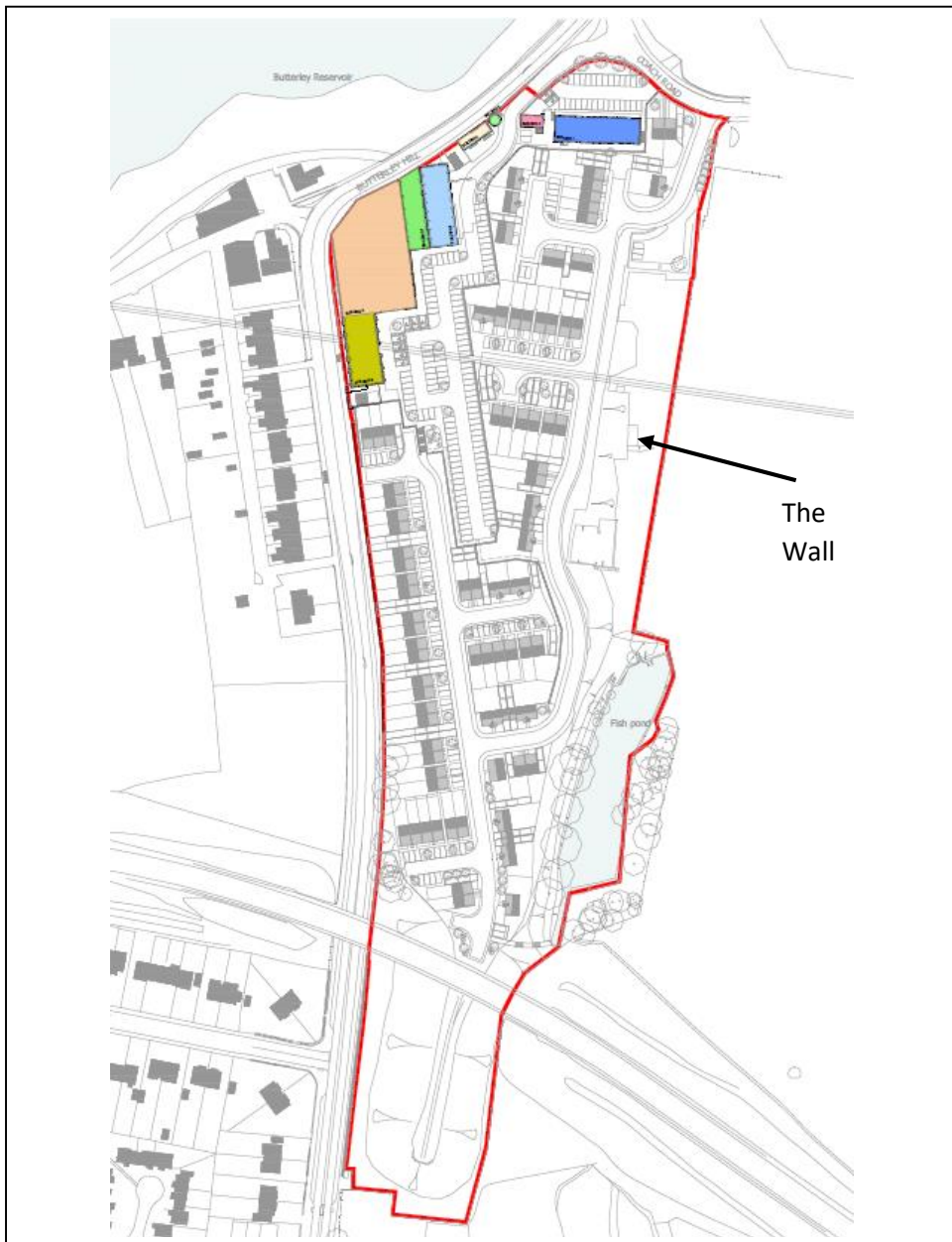
Butterley Ironworks Planning Proposal

The site's owners, Aquarius Estates and Godkin Holdings have submitted a hybrid application to develop the ironworks site with Aquarius applying to build eighty houses and Godkin Holdings to develop the listed buildings for various commercial purposes. Both Ripley Town Council and the Trust are amongst several groups who have submitted objections to the application. The Trust's main objection is that the site's heritage is not safeguarded with houses being built directly up to important parts of the site. It is also proposed that the main access road will run directly along the Blast Furnace Wall which will prevent the public from appreciating the importance of this particular feature, being a Scheduled Ancient Monument with the Cromford Canal and its Wide Hole lying directly beneath it.

A further point which has now become clear is that the Wall itself is in serious need of attention as the stonework has considerably deteriorated over the past decade. A study by Historic England puts the estimated cost of this work

at over £400,000, which would need to be found by Aquarius Estates.

Watch this space !!



It is worth adding that the application was originally due to be considered as a routine matter by a planning officer. After the intervention of a local councillor, it was “called in” and will now be considered by the full planning committee on **14th October** at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber. Members of the public are admitted but if you wish to speak (and you only have 3 minutes) you have to inform the council of your wish to do so via phone to Rebecca Smith on 01773 841631 or the website. (planningboardspeakers@ambervalley.gov.uk.)

Heage Windmill

After an inspection of the mill at the end of last year, it was established that two of the sails would have to be replaced as they contained wet rot. Subsequent quotes for the work estimated the cost at between £50,000 and £60,000 with at least a two year wait to carry it out. A decision was made by the Trustees that the work could be carried out by the mill’s volunteers. After considerable effort, a company was found who could deliver the machined timber as a ‘flat pack’ for the price of £12,000. This was duly delivered at the end of May and the mill’s 12 x 6 metre marquee built over it in the adjacent Paddock Barn. After several



hundred voluntary hours' work, the sails have now been completed and are due to be lifted into position w/c October 7th subject to weather conditions. It is estimated that the final cost will be around £18,000, a huge saving on the original estimate with the team of volunteers being immensely proud of their achievement.

The mill's current season ends on October 27th, but it will be open for Santa Day on Sunday December 1st for young and old alike.

Enquiries

We are now getting some enquiries via our website. One concerns a local bus company delighting in the name of Daley's Pippin Buses. The enquirer would like to know when they last ran in Ripley.

Does anyone have any information on them ?

A different enquirer also asked about a 1930s semi-detached property that used to be in Dannah Street, but has now been replaced by a bungalow.

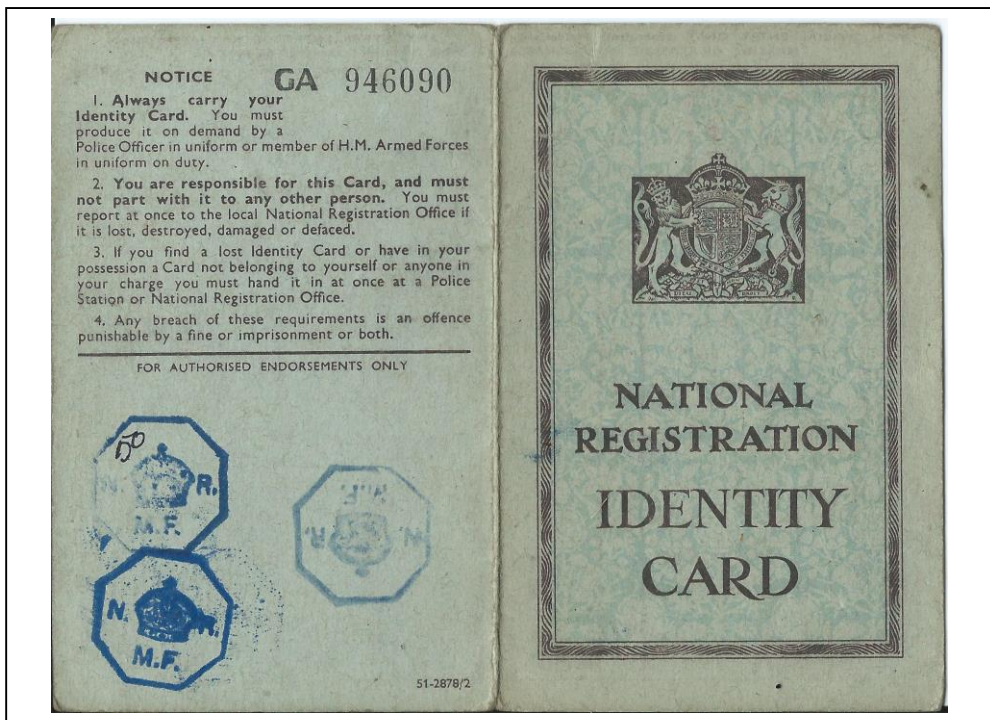
Please get in touch via the website if you have any information.

Identity Card

As part of the preparations for our Heritage Day, we've been looking through items in the collection relating to World War 2. As well as the recipes for eggless cake and meatless meatloaf (some of which will be available for tasting on the day), we discovered a number of documents that people had to carry around with them. Ration books were important, of course, but everyone also had a National Registration Identity Card.

We thought it might be interesting for visitors to be able to fill in their own card, though to do it properly we're going to have to use a fountain pen and find someone who can do 1940s style handwriting !

The outside of the card is shown below : note the warning that losing it or having someone else's card is "punishable by a fine or imprisonment or both."



A History of Clarkes

A new project we have embarked upon is to draw up a history of the well-known firm of Clarkes, which has been in Ripley for over 100 years.

With the co-operation of David Clarke, we hope to be able to produce a booklet detailing as much as we can find out about the business, and about the family.

We know that the founder, William Edwin Clarke, came from Eastwood and moved to Ripley in the early 20th century, initially as a tailor.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who has memories of Clarkes, both as a business and as a family.

Meanwhile, here are some of the firm's newspaper adverts from the 1950s.

*She knows
about shows*



and shoes . . . and wears



'Cavaller'
Price 50/-

Clarks
COUNTRY CLUB
shoes

W. E. CLARKE,
GROSVENOR ROAD - RIPLEY.

'Phone 84.



deréta

OF LONDON

FLEUR

A handsome sweep from
throat to hem urbane and
sophisticated; the name
indicating the flower motif
outlining the buttonholes.

14 gns

W. E. CLARKE

10/14, GROSVENOR ROAD : RIPLEY



DISTINGUISHED for
its precise tailoring—this
Harella coat is whipcord.
Deep, draped, panel pieces at
the back give it movement. And
it costs only £7.16.2

Now Showing—
Spring Selection of
HARELLA
Coats, Suits and Skirts

it's a dream . . . it's
HARELLA

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