THE WEST END LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

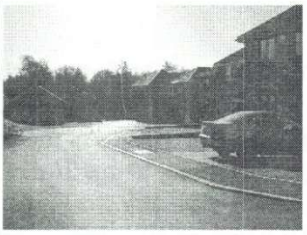
WESTENDER

SEPTEMBER 2002 – OCTOBER 2002 VOLUME 3 NUMBER 7

MOORGREEN HERO TO BE HONOURED



THE ONLY KNOWN PHOTO OF HENRY JAMES JUKES aka JAMES JUKES



THE NEW ROAD NAMED JUKES WALK OFF MOORGREEN ROAD NAMED AFTER JAMES JUKES

It is with great pleasure that we can report that Titanic crewman, Henry James Jukes, known as James Jukes who came from Moorgreen and who lost his life in the sinking of RMS Titanic on the night of 14th/15th April 1912, is to have a road in West End named in his honour. Jukes Walk is on the site of old Moorgreen House, in Moorgreen Road and is a new development. In keeping with the Councils excellent scheme of naming roads after well known or famous people, there will be information below the road name board explaining all about who James Jukes was from information supplied by your Society. At the age of 35 James signed on as a Greaser with the ill-fated White Star liner "Titanic" which struck an iceberg in the north Atlantic and sank with great loss of life. After the sinking James body was not among those recovered and he has no memorial apart from that which was erected in the West End Museum. His family ran a smallholding at Camlens House which was adjacent to the present road and so it was altogether fitting that the road should honour and recognise this local man. The official road sign should be erected soon, meanwhile there is a temporary one in place.

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MUSEUM CURATOR
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West End Local History Society is sponsored by

WEST END PARISH COUNCIL

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CAMERA'S THAT I'VE KNOWN by Peter Andrews

Popping into the West End Museum one Saturday to see what was new, a member was taking photographs and as far as I could see no flashlight being used, even more surprising a mini TV screen showed the scene in colour! I realised that science had far outstripped my days of roll-film and developing and printing in two of my Mum's soup plates.

Two of the old cameras on display were the same make that I'd once owned. The first being a Kodak Brownie Box Camera with frosted view finder, not ideal for focusing on the subject. Then came a camera from the 3d. and 6d. Store, Woolworths. As this cost 1/6d. ($7^1/_2$p.) the problem of nothing over 6d. Was overcome by selling the article in three parts, being made of bakelite it didn't last long after being dropped, in fact I don't remember even using it, as I had to save up for a film.

The next one to come into my hands was in 1940, a Kodak Vest Pocket Camera with bellows, there's a similar one on display in the Museum. I'd joined the RAF as an Apprentice and when the previous entry left we went to their vacated barrack rooms to see what was left of use in the way of kit etc.. I found a pair of spiked running shoes which I used for two years and the camera, this was open and covered with strawberry jam!! Cleaning this off I checked the bellows for damage. It was OK except for a few pin pricks of light that got in, so I coated it with Indian ink. The shutter seemed in order and purchasing a film at the local photographers was all set to go.

Sunday being Church Parade, (fall out Roman Catholics and Jews) and a nice clear summer day I "skived off", first asking my mate to answer to my name when called on Roll Call. I took two snaps of the parade and two of the buildings this included four German World War 1 guns on each corner of the square, soon after these guns were taken away for scrap. On finishing the film, off to the photographers for processing. On collecting the film the following week I was told the Service Police had them and they were desirous of my presence! Somewhat worried I reported to the main guardroom, where I expected to be flung in the cells. Coming before the Warrant Officer S.P. he looked at my efforts, said I shouldn't have taken them and solemnly tore them up into small pieces, then handed the negatives back to me! As soon as I was home on leave I had them processed again.

After training I was posted to Gosport aerodrome where I took more shots (photo's), but took the precaution of developing and printing them myself in a small unused room in Fort Rowner where we lived and worked as the airfield had been wiped out by a previous air-raid. As the previous camera had such a small film it meant extra expense for enlargements. (as pay being about 3/-d. a day, one had to watch the "bawbees") My father had a Kodak folding camera which took prints almost postcard size .... too big! However, I spotted one in Shirley, a second-hand shop which is still there – another folding Kodak using 116 size film, £2 was the asking price, I'd spotted a "Yankee" soldier with his girlfriend outside so hurriedly paid for it as he came in. The Proprietor gave me a dirty look as the "Yank" asked about the camera, he'd have been asked £5.00 or more for it I expect! Problem of obtaining film arose and it wasn't till arriving in India that the situation eased – at a price! On being posted to Tripura near the border of Burma and way out in the wilds things looked up. I was told to save the backing paper and holder of the film and they introduced me to the darkroom they'd constructed. Developing my latest film, which they then took prints from – using RAF paper! Next, using RAF film which was in rolls and about 6 inches wide, they made a template from aluminium sheeting the length and width of my film. The length had to be shortened by one shot as the film was thicker. I tried to overcome this problem by halving the size of the picture using a blanking off piece, so I had 14 shots on a roll. This brought me back to square one, small prints! We had no enlarger, so soon abandoned the idea. Later I was given a spare backing paper for my film, so I had two on the go. On being posted back to civilisation I was forced then to BUY film. This continued for some years, when, in 1951, I was posted to the Canal Zone. We could go on leave to Cyprus, staying at Golden Sands

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

near Famagusta, this spot is now covered by hotels, but we were in large tents, all rather decrepit, I was with a fellow airman and we hired a car for £6 a week. Coming back from breakfast one morning I found my camera had gone. Reporting it to the guardroom I returned and decided to look in other tents, there were only a few other servicemen staying there. By chance, in the fourth tent, I found it laying on some ones bed. I expect whoever took mine swapped it for a more desirable model. Back in Egypt I considered buying a new model, at the time a large number of new cameras were coming on the market, the problem being which one to choose, roll film or 35mm? As it happened, a hard up airman had one for sale, a Russian Mockba, again roll film, very popular at the time with the latest "bloomed" lens. This type was a German camera taken over by the Russians after the war as reparations, they took over the whole factory. This served me for many years, but was rather heavy, though it did have a leather case. Once in Scotland while standing in the entrance of a ruined abbey an American came up to me and seeing the camera, which was out of its case and hanging around my neck, asked, "how much to come in?". He thought it was a ticket machine!

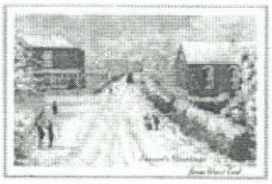
In the sixties our son sent my wife the latest Kodak Instamatic, as she couldn't get on with it, people ending up headless or legless, I took it over, selling the Mockba at a profit, of course!

WANTED FOR THE ARCHIVE

We are still looking for copies of the Southampton Street Directories (with West End in at the back), if you have any copies to spare especially between the dates 1913 and 1933 we can find a very good home for them in our Reference Collection at the Museum. We also would like to know if these Directories (Kelly's etc..) were printed in the 1940's during the war. Although storage space is now limited in the Museum any local history books you no longer need which are specifically about West End, Southampton or Hampshire will also be welcome, although we can only accept books with particular significance to West End, i. e. flour milling, fire stations, workhouses, farming etc..

WEST END CHRISTMAS CARDS ON SALE NOW!







Once again its almost Christmas, that season of good cheer is just around the corner, and its your chance to support your local history Society by purchasing some of our Christmas cards specially designed and painted for us by our artist member Doreen Niblett. There are three different designs depicting West End scenes from the past (see illustrations at the left) - The Old Workhouse at Moorgreen with "Christmas In The Workhouse" verse inside, the Swaythling Road (previously High Street) showing the old Methodist Chapel and Emmans corner and the Old Parish Hall on the corner of Chapel Road (formerly the Old National School dating from the 1840's).

(The three card designs shown are all taken from watercolour paintings of West End scenes by local artist Doreen Niblett)

Price: 75p each or packs of 5 for £3.50
Available from:

West End Museum and Heritage Centre, High St, West End
(Saturdays 10am-4pm) or E-mail Doreen Niblett at ***den@telbin.demon.co.uk***

THE GREAT SOUTHAMPTON TRAM CHASE

Pauline Berry

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1942 SOUTHERN DAILY ECHO

Saboteurs Are Blamed for

WILD CAREER OF THREE EMPTY TRAMS DOWN SOUTHAMPTON AVENUE

Lorry-Driver Chases, and Catches, Two

THIRD CRASHES INTO ANOTHER TRAM

passenger in the service car, was taken to hospital suffering from shock. She was not detained.

The conductress of the car who jumped for safety was Miss Therese Hinton, 222, Warren-avenue, Shirley, and the driver was H. Wiltshire, 124, Avenue-road.

TRANSPORT MANAGER'S STATEMENT

That was the end of the actual excitement and the beginning of investigations.

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Extract from To Hour, "Southern October 7 last:—

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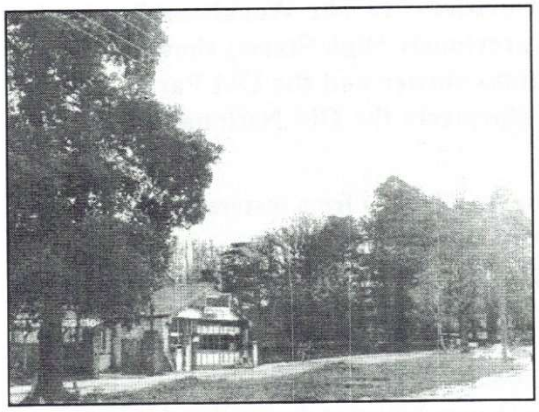
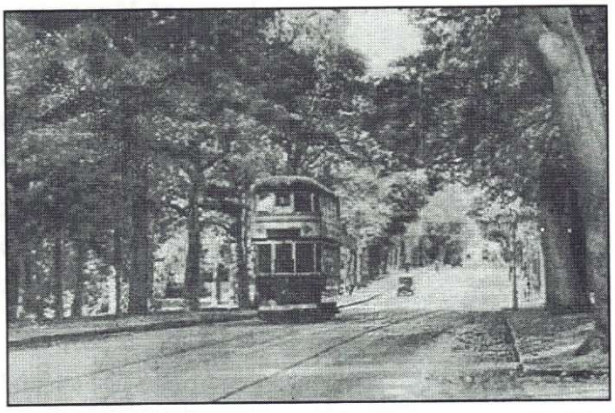
HEADLINES OF THE INCIDENT IN THE SOUTHERN DAILY ECHO FOR Wednesday 4th November 1942

An interesting article from the Southern Daily Echo dated November 4th 1942 has been contributed to our Museum Newspaper Archives. It tells the story, also confirmed by our member Ray Upson, of an enterprising and daring exploit by Mr Jesse Clark from No.1 Chalk Hill, West End.

Mr Clark was waiting at the traffic lights at Burgess Road (yes, even in 1942!), at the top of The Avenue, Southampton at the wheel of his five ton lorry. It was a lorry from Dunfords business in West End High Street, loaded with sand which Jesse Clark was to deliver. The time was about midday. Suddenly a shout from nearby brought his attention to the sight of two parked tram cars, empty and parked overnight beginning to move and nose off on their tram tracks down the Avenue! Although apparently secured the previous night on "sleeper tracks" these open-topped trams must have been somehow released by vandals (or "saboteurs" as the Echo called them). Jesse dallied no longer and gave immediate chase in his lorry down the Avenue, endeavouring to catch up and overtake the pair of wayward trams. Their trolley poles swung wildly and smashed several suspended street lamps, before crashing down into the path of the lorry. Avoiding these obstacles and oncoming traffic proved difficult, but Jesse saw his chance when the road ahead was clear near Stag Gates. Although travelling at nearly 40 miles per hour, he managed to pass the two tram cars and manoeuvre his lorry onto the down-tracks on front of them! Watching through his mirror, our hero braked gradually until the trams touched the rear of his lorry. Standing on his brakes, the lorry was pushed along until all the vehicles ground to a halt. (Meanwhile, a third tram had come loose not far behind them but crashed into a tram in service, although luckily no-one on board was hurt)



DUNFORD'S PREMISES IN WEST END



A TYPICAL SOUTHAMPTON TRAM OF THE PERIOD

Having stopped the runaway trams near London Road, this brave man proceeded on his way, completing his delivery of sand. Arriving home at his cottage at No.1 Chalk Hill that night, Jesse Clark did not tell the story to his wife until an "Echo" reporter arrived on his doorstep to record his version of events. Ray Upson tells us that Jesse Clark received a medal of some description for this brave exploit. Jesse had been invalided out of the Army in 1941. The Echo report can be seen in the Museum by anyone who cares to be reminded of this amazing chase exactly sixty years ago.

HELP WANTED

Mr Mark Hood of Nuneaton is researching an aircrash in Allington Lane, near Railway Cottages that happened on 15th August 1940. Can anyone help him? His grandfather was a member of the aircrew of this Whitley V aircraft which unfortunately fell victim of a Barrage Balloon in the area. The Lewington family in the cottage were thankfully unhurt. Any information you have please contact Pauline Berry at 023 8046 2490.

TRAM CHASE FOOTNOTE

Thanks to the good offices of member Bill White we have been fortunate to obtain the following sequel of events to the "tram story", courtesy of *Angela Smith* and the *Tram 57 Group*. The follow up story news clipping (shown at right) appeared in the "News of the World" newspaper on 29th November 1942 and indicates that the crime was perpetrated by a 15 year old vandal NOT a wartime "saboteur" as indicated by the Echo cutting. The picture shown below shows Southampton trams dispersed and parked off The Avenue during the war.

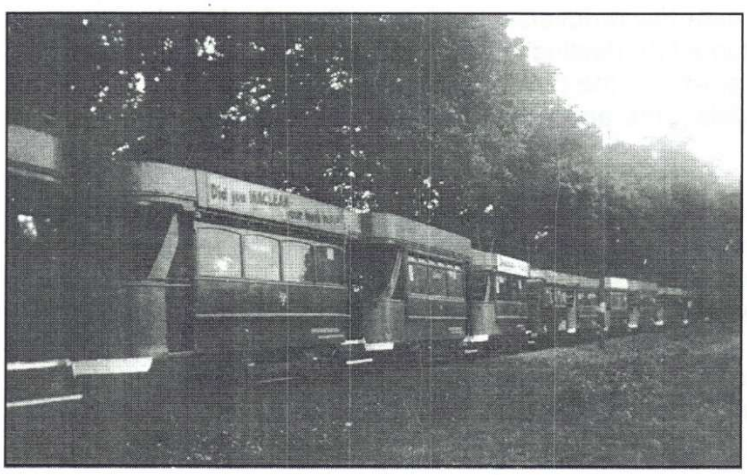


Photo courtesy of Angela Smith and the 75 Tram Group

"News of the World"
29th November, 1942.

TRAMS' WILD DASH

BOY ACCUSED OF SETTING THEM IN MOTION

From Our Own Correspondent

Southampton, Saturday.—As a sequel to a "runaway tramcars" incident in Southampton on Nov. 3, a boy of 15 was charged at the Juvenile Court here to-day with setting in motion three tramcars in such a manner as to obstruct another tramcar and endanger the lives of persons in it, and with maliciously damaging four tramcars and overhead electric wires belonging to the corporation, to the amount of £320.

The boy was also accused of stealing an avometer, valued at £18, from University College, Southampton, on Nov. 18. He was formally remanded in custody.

Southampton Corporation is to recognise the courage of Jesse Clark, of Chalk-hill, West End, near Southampton, a lorry driver, who stopped two of the runaway trams, by making him a gift of 50 National Savings Certificates.

These will be presented to him by the mayor at a meeting of the Transport Committee on Dec. 8.

Clark overtook the trams in his loaded five-ton lorry, and, by driving his lorry in front of them, brought them to a standstill.

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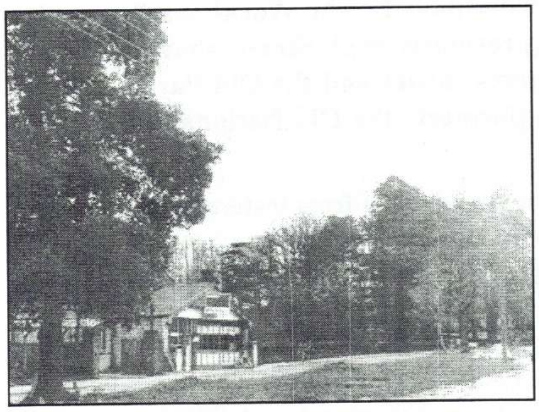

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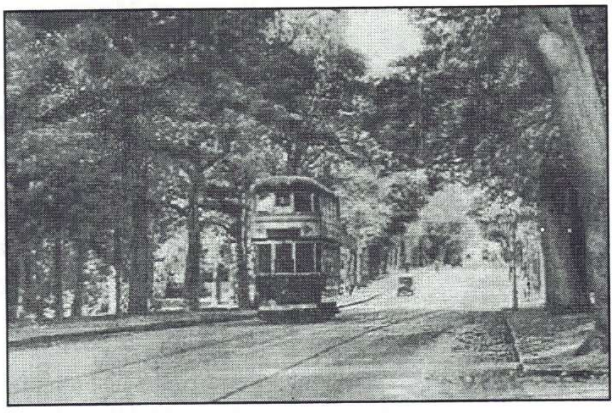
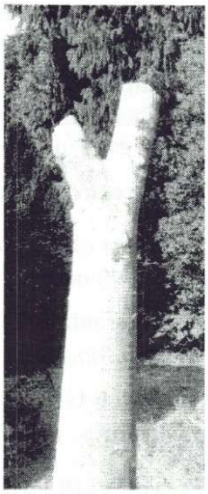


A TYPICAL SOUTHAMPTON TRAM OF THE PERIOD

I am hopeful of forming a **Friends of Southampton Old Cemetery** to work alongside the Council, Commons and Open Spaces Society, Hawthorns Wild Life Centre and local history and family history groups. At this stage I would say it is not the idea to turn the clock back and have it as a mini theme park with gaslights. For good or bad the character of the cemetery has evolved and with the encroachment of nature, the weathering of stonework and vandalism it is today's cemetery. I feel that there has to be a balance in that we should try to preserve our social history such as the *Titanic* graves, some of the memorials to shipwrecks and personalities who were part of the developing township and city of Southampton.

The Friends group would research the history and development of the site and individual plots. It is hoped to have a heritage centre (sadly the council has already disposed of the Lodge etc) and to arrange a series of talks, guided walks, booklets and days set aside to mark events such as cholera outbreak or deaths at sea. Southampton Tourist Information Office, Southampton Record Office, Special Studies Library, Hawthorns, the Universities, Hampshire Genealogical Society and BTS will be welcomed as sharing in our development.

A silver birch tree? No, this is a headstone made of stone. Surely we must try to protect such examples of Victorian craftwork and creativity?



The vandals have already had a go at this one...





The former Church of England Chapel. Restored in 2002, now is going to be used as architectural memorabilia store.

John Avery can be contacted on 023 8063 8650

FoSOC

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

I am afraid that this issue is a little late in reaching you – it should have been given out at the last meeting in October, but due to editorial problems and my being away on holiday it has been delayed until the November meeting. There will be another issue for November/December 2002 which should be ready for issue at the Christmas meeting on 4th December. I am always on the lookout for interesting articles to include either from members or non-members, particularly about West End history or events, so keep it coming please. A big thank you to all our contributors who throughout the year have supported this newsletter. Remember the new **2003 WELHS Programme** will be available at the November meeting so make sure you get your copy. Ed.

On this day (October 2nd) in.....

1608 The first telescope was demonstrated by the Dutch lens maker, Hans Lippershay.

1803 Samuel Adams, American patriot, statesman and one of the signatories of the Declaration of Independence, died aged 81.

1847 Paul von Hindenburgh, German military leader and President of the Republic, born at Posen.

1869 Mohandas "Mahatma" Gandhi, Indian political and religious leader, born at Porbander.

1901 "Groucho" Marx, American actor and comedian of the Marx Brothers, born in New York City as Julius Marx.

1942 The British cruiser "Curacao" sank immediately off the coast of Donegal with the loss of 338 lives, after a collision with the Cunard liner "Queen Mary".

1948 Trevor Brooking, English international footballer, born.

1950 Legal aid became effective in Britain.

1958 The Republic of Guinea in West Africa opted for full independence, and France withdrew all aid.

THE NEXT MEETINGS ARE ....

November 6
A HISTORY OF RED FUNNEL
Hazel Nicholson

December 4
CHRISTMAS BUFFET, QUIZ, SLIDE SHOW AND RAFFLE

2003

January 2
THE SEARCH FOR THE MARY ROSE
(Please note this is on a Thursday)
Maurice Young

MUSEUM SHOP

The Society publications now available for sale in the Museum – these are an ongoing series of Occasional Papers on things of local interest written by members and friends of the Society. We also have photo enlargements of local scenes.

Paper # 1
My Memories Of The Harefield Estate
(Oral History Project)
By Chris Boulton **£1.50**

Paper # 2
A New Church For The Parish
Written by Peter Baker **£1.00**

Paper # 3
West End National School 1863-1904
Written by John Collins **£2.50**

Paper # 5
The Swaythling Road Methodist Church
Written by Marjorie Bodman **£2.50**

Plus the following books:

Tales of Old West End
C Sillence **£3.50**

I Remember,I Remember
Bob Moody **£4.00**

Hatch Grange..a stroll back in time *Pauline Berry (reduced price)* **£5.99**

Townhill Park House
Ralph Coney & Jim Brown **£3.00**

"Half a Loaf - The Care of the Sick and Poor of South Stoneham 1664-1948" *by Eric Raffo* **£9.50**

"Sister Kate Oram 1879-1918
A Personal Portrait. *By Pauline Berry* **£4.99**

Various photo enlargements suitable for framing of village scenes taken from our archives.
£2.50 per print

****** NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE ******

"The Mackay-Bennett...the Funeral Ship at the Titanic Disaster". *By John G.Avery* **£1.50**

"The Cholera Years...an Account of the Cholera Outbreaks in our ports,towns and villages".
By John G.Avery **£6.00**

AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM SHOP