

STUDIES
in the
HISTORY of EFFINGHAM



Two former residents who made important contributions to Effingham.

above – Dora Lillian (née Strong) Worthington (1910-1989) of Byway Cottage, Heath View, an Effingham Parish Councillor who undertook the historical research needed to support the case for the registration in the 1970s of the Commoners' rights on Effingham Common.

below – Nina (née Lambert) MacNair (1873-1951) who as a young woman lived with her family at Effingham House, and later as a widow at Yew Tree House. She was a keen photographer and ELHG possesses her album containing many photographs of Effingham taken over a century ago. Also, she donated a quarter of the money used to purchase the KGV playing fields. A new road in Effingham has recently been named in her honour.



STUDIES in the HISTORY of EFFINGHAM

Presenting original research and narratives
relating to the village of Effingham
in the County of Surrey, England

VOLUME 4



Effingham Local History Group

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Front Cover: bluebells on Ranmore Common, a favourite walking area for Effingham residents.

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PREFACE

This fourth volume in our series *Studies in the History of Effingham* continues with our aim of gradually getting our website material printed in a durable form whilst also presenting some newly-researched studies.

The volume begins with four articles about four former Effingham residents all of whom, in their time, were well-known and much respected in our village and beyond. We start with Ralph Edgar Street whose working life as a head gardener was mostly bound up with The Lodge, in the employ firstly of the Pauling family and subsequently of Surrey County Council. As narrated here, he was ‘a man of many parts’, possessed of many skills and deeply involved with sports, games and social clubs. ELHG has been very fortunate in our long association with his grandson Ralph Frank Wallace who has so kindly provided us with a wealth of information, photographs and memorabilia relating not only to the Street family but also – very usefully – to the Pauling family and The Lodge. We are privileged to have him as our first-named author in this volume.

The next study also concerns a highly talented and enterprising man, Robert William Scott. Despite becoming deaf during his early childhood in King's Lynn he surmounted the barriers created by this disadvantage and secured a valuable apprenticeship to learn the craft of coach and carriage painting, becoming skilled also in woodwork. As a young man he left his roots in Norfolk and moved to the south-east, initially to Kent for a short period, but then to Effingham where he settled and developed his business, providing services in carpentry, building and decorating. Besides this he was a serious and skilled hobbyist, specialising particularly in crafting miniature wooden models, as well as producing much larger items. Mr Scott was first brought to ELHG's attention many years ago by our members the late Ronald Walter Dobbs and Derek Ruffles who together enabled us to obtain images of his work from his granddaughter Susan Pearce. We are therefore delighted that Susan and Derek agreed to co-author the article about Mr Scott's life, incorporating many family photographs and memorabilia demonstrating his wide-ranging skills.

The next pair of articles greatly extend earlier preliminary studies on our website of two more former residents, Arthur Archibald Stovell and (Julius) Caesar Czarnikow. Their circumstances were entirely different. Arthur spent much of his working life in the village attending to his customers' requirements for the repairing of shoes, boots, harnesses and other leather goods. He also had a sideline in ‘chip carving’, cutting exquisite patterns into the surfaces of wooden household items such as bread boards, sewing boxes and suchlike, some of these still treasured by their owners three quarter of a century later. His was a humble trade with humble rewards, but Arthur raised his family on it and was enabled to become a house owner. Caesar's life, by contrast, straddled the globe through his immense and powerful sugar-broking business. He was able to live in splendour in London and in Effingham. Despite his great wealth he became best known not for this but for his generosity. Both men evoked much affection and esteem locally, and both now lie in St Lawrence churchyard.

We should perhaps note here that this volume's early focus on four men is only coincidental and we shall soon present articles about some of Effingham's very remarkable women.

The Volume continues with two articles that are not concerned with particular persons. Instead they examine matters of landscape. The first is a concise account of Effingham's geology, written by Richard Curtis Selley who is ideally suited to write this on our behalf, firstly because of his distinguished career as a geologist and secondly because he was born in our own village, on the kitchen table of Home Farm. The second, drawn from the website, discusses the location of the so-called Carn Pit Field, or Madge's Field, which was the venue for some important community events in the 1930s.

The Volume closes with two more articles extending existing website material. One is an account of the history of the Effingham branch of The British Legion and its affiliated social club, whilst the other presents the work *A Reference Book for Effingham* produced in 1994 by Effingham Parish Council.

We hope this varied fare will be rewarding and informative for all who read it.

The Editors

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The Editors invite submissions of original manuscripts to this series of Volumes. These may take the form of research articles, whether long or short, concerning the history of Effingham or of novel collections of relevant material (historic images, for example). The form in which any such submissions, if accepted, appear in the series is at the discretion of the Editorial Board. In all such cases third party copyright must be respected and permissions for use must be obtained by the authors where appropriate.

Enquiries about the series should be directed to Effingham Local History Group either by email as set out on the website (<https://elhg.org.uk/about>) or by writing to

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