



RYDE SOCIAL HERITAGE GROUP

Beyond the Graves

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RYDE IN BLOOM



Mary, Mary, quite contrary how does
your garden grow?

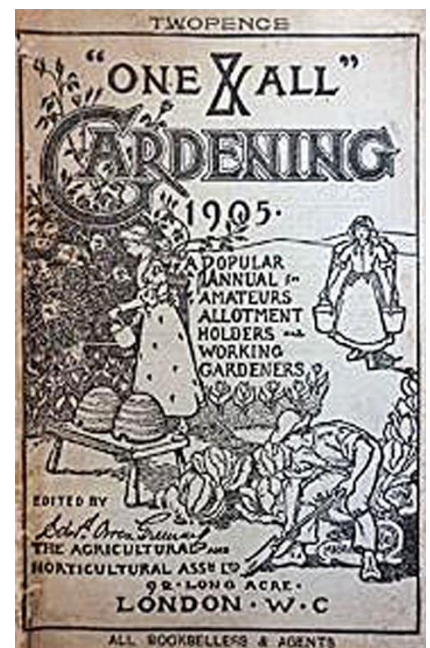
With silver bells and cockle shells and
pretty maids all in a row.

Hypericum perforatum, also known as St John's Wort, is found in West Street Cemetery. St John's Wort is one of the most popular medicinal herbs used around the world, but is listed as a noxious weed in some countries, and must be used with care.

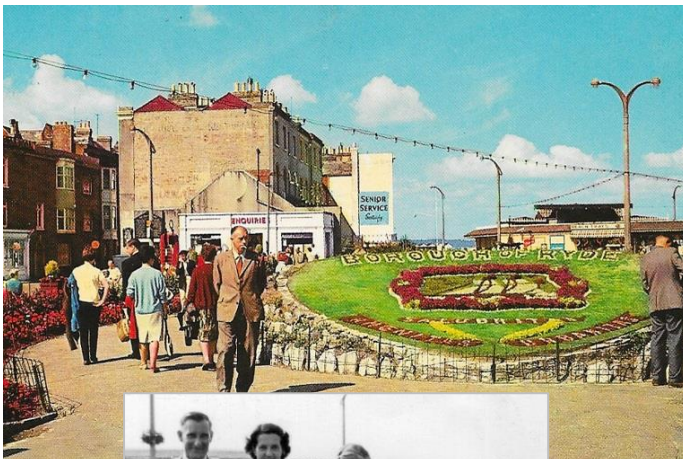
One & All Gardening 1905, was illustrated throughout with engravings and photographs. It had many adverts and seed lists. It had articles on horticulture and landscape gardening features.

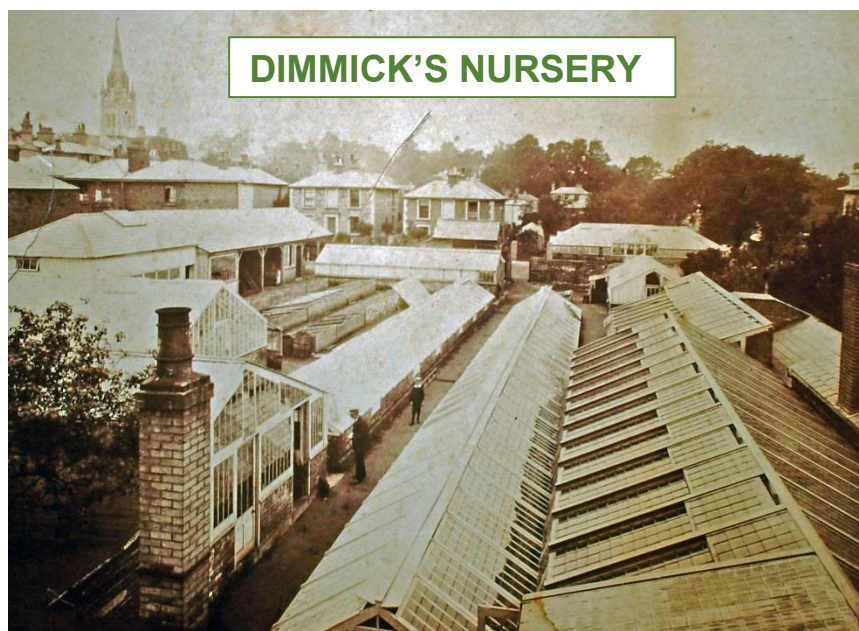
Isle of Wight Observer 4 February 1911

One & All Gardening 1911 - The sixteenth year of this interesting Annual finds it full of life and vigour and as popular as ever with lovers of gardens. The editor devotes his opening article to a comprehensive plan for developing the work of existing Horticultural Societies throughout the Kingdom. These Societies he estimates at a thousand in number, with a quarter of a million members whom he would convert into missionaries for the conversion of our country into a "Garden Land." The 128 pages of the Annual which is published at 2d., are as usual full of instructive articles and pleasant illustrations.



Postcards of the floral displays at Ryde Esplanade courtesy of Brian Young, but who is the handsome lad [and RSHG member] in front of the display? Find out later in the magazine!





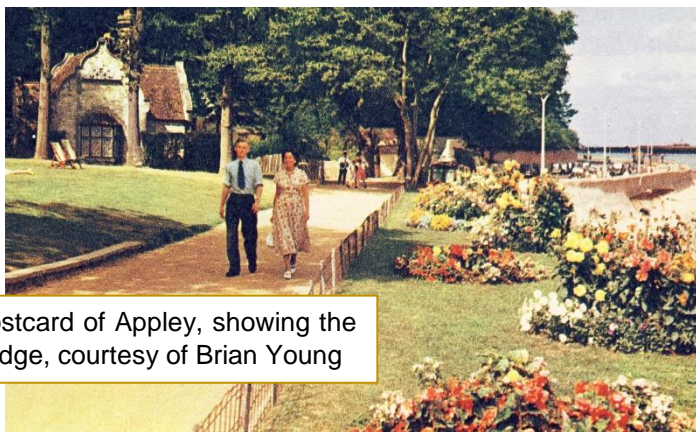
Photograph of Dimmick's Nurseries – Roy Brinton Collection



IW Observer 29 December 1917 - Dimmick Advert

IW Observer 16 August 1862

Horticultural Society - The summer exhibition took place by the kind permission of Mr George Young, in the grounds of Appley Towers on Wednesday last. Mr Williams (gardener to Mr Daubuz) gained first prize in the premier collection. Mr Dimmick, the eminent nurseryman and florist of Ryde, exhibited (not for competition) a stand for 48 verbenas of great excellence, and which attracted more than ordinary attention



Postcard of Appley, showing the Lodge, courtesy of Brian Young

IW Observer 14 January 1865

Horticulture – Mr. Charles Dimmick has just issued his annual catalogue of garden seeds for the forthcoming season, which may be had, gratis, on application at the Nursery, High Street, Ryde; and, from his long-standing and high reputation, no puffing is required to recommend his collection.



IW Observer 29 July 1865

Golden Ray Lily – Mr. Dimmick has two specimens of liliun auratum, the bulbs of which were recently imported from Japan, now in bloom, and they form an attractive novelty. [Illustrated above]

IW Observer 2 May 1863

Horticulture - As the bedding-out season is advancing, our florists are astir. Judging by their catalogues, Dimmick's collection appears unusually prolific and varied, and his plants are both healthy and strong. Guy's catalogue is also extensive, the speciality of which, is geraniums.

Example of a Seed Catalogue



By the census of 1891 a Charles Guy, aged 44, was living at Haylands, running his own Market Garden, with his son, Charles assisting. By 1901 two more sons, James and Edward were also employed in the business. In 1926, after his death, Henry J. Way was advertising his Estate for sale. It included a productive Kitchen Garden, with fruit trees.

WOODLANDS VALE



The IW Observer frequently reported on the Garden Parties held in the grounds of Woodlands Vale. Their issue of 23 August 1899 described an event held by General the Hon. Somerset Calthorpe and his wife. The grounds looked their very best. *"They are laid out in the Italian style, with pleasant terraces, shady vine covered walks, delightful lawns and brilliant flower beds, while, in the distance, between magnificent trees, peeps the blue Solent"*.

Photographs of Woodlands Vale, and image of Lord Calthorpe
Roy Brinton Collection

The IW Observer of 20 August 1859 reported on a Garden Show and listed the prize winners of gardeners to the gentry.

Mr Meehan was Col. Harcourt's gardener, winning with "8 stove plants, 12 ferns, 12 figs, 12 plums, 12 green gages, 12 apples, 12 hollyhocks".

Sir Augustus Clifford's gardener, Mr Marsh, displayed fuchsias, dahlias, roses, and a "brace of cucumbers". Lord Burghley's gardener, Mr Mew, only managed a second with a "box of cut flowers". James Taylor, Capt. Duff's gardener, did well, winning with pelargoniums, French asters, gloxinias, pears and figs. Mrs Johnson's gardener, Mr Thompson was impressive, with fuchsias, balsams, achimenes, cut flowers, 2 bunches of black grapes and a "green flesh melon".



IW Observer 4 July 1908

The annual show given by the IW Rose Society was held at Perivale, Ryde, the beautiful residence of Major and Mrs. E. Croft Murray, on Monday. The three marquees which were required to contain the exhibits were erected in a field adjoining Perivale, the gardens of which were thrown open to the public during the whole of the time over which the show extended. In the evening the band of the RMA played pleasing selections to a large gathering on the lawn before the house. The entries as a whole were well up to the usual standard, several of the classes exhibiting an increased attraction for competitors. The delicate colour of the tea roses was greatly admired.

IW Observer 18 November 1911

Gardening - A company, to be known as the "IW Market Gardener's Association, Ltd." is being formed with a capital of £10,000. The object is to acquire some freehold land in the centre of the Island for the purpose of gardening under the intensive scheme.



IW Observer 3 May 1913

For Sale - A Productive Market Garden and Orchard, 2¼ acres in extent, with a good cottage, situate in Salters Road and Upton Road, Haylands, a short distance outside the Borough of Ryde, let to Mr. H. J. Tuppen, on a yearly tenancy from 29th September, at £28 a year.

IW Times 5 June 1924

Blessing the Crops - In beautiful weather and lovely surroundings the annual service for Blessing the Crops was held in a field near Ashey Church, on Rogation Monday. Hymns were sung on the way to and from the field and the service included a special litany used by the authority of the Bishop. A large number attended but the curious fact was observed that women seemed more interested in the crops than the men.



Gobles Work Team - Roy Brinton Archive
One of Gobles Press Adverts
Seed Packet Example

GOBLES NURSERY

IW Observer 17 September 1910

Catalogue – Mr. E. C. Goble the well-known seedsman and florist, has just issued his autumn catalogue of roses and decorative plants. Mr. Goble's nurseries are close to St John's Road Station and the eighteen large greenhouses contain a wealth of flowers.

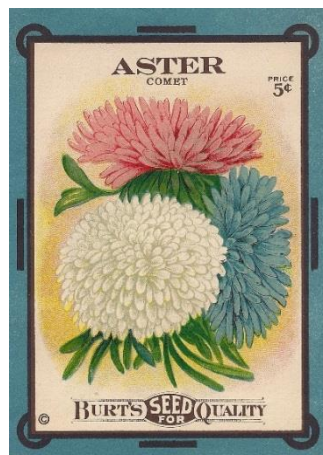
NOW READY,
VERY STRONG BEDDING PLANTS,
AT REASONABLE PRICES.

GERANIUMS, all in Single Pots, from	2/- doz.
GERANIUMS, IVY LEAF, in Single Pots, from	2/- doz.
MARGUERITES, WHITE AND YELLOW, in Single Pots, from	2/- doz.
CALCEOLARIAS, PETUNIAS, LOBELIAS, GOLDEN FEATHER, VERENAS, &c., from	1/6 doz.

My Stock is very extensive, many thousands being grown. An
Inspection is respectfully invited.

EDWARD C. GOBLE,
WALCOT NURSERY, MONKTON STREET, RYDE.

The IW County Press, 8 November 1952, reported the death of Edward Charles Goble, in his 90th year, at his home, Walcot Lodge. He was the last Mayor of the old Borough of Ryde. He had been the best known of Island Nurserymen, retiring only three years previously. Born at Bicester, his father and grandfather were nurserymen. He acquired the Nursery in Ryde in February 1899 and became a leading florist and seedsman. He won many competitions and acted as a judge. In October 1942 he produced a magnificent scarlet dahlia which he named "Stalingrad" "in honour of the gallant Russian stand there". Seedlings were sent to Moscow.



IW Observer 11 March 1911

School Gardens – Mr. E. C. Goble of the Walcot Nurseries, Ryde, has secured the contract for the supply of seeds required in the school gardens under the County Education Authority.

GARDEN SHOWS

IW Express & County Paper 24 March 1894

Hyacinth Exhibition – The annual exhibition of hyacinths, in connection with the Wesleyan Band of Hope, took place in the Garfield Road Schoolroom on Tuesday evening. There was a pretty display of flowers, raised by the children, from bulbs presented by Mr. Chiverton. Miss May Shepherd was awarded the 1st prize.



IW Times 12 October 1961

Garden Show - Ryde Borough gardeners were praised by the Mayor, Cllr. Edgar Castle, for their "wonderful" stage display which won a gold medal at last week's annual Borough Garden Show. A tribute went to Mr. Frank Scovell, the head gardener, and his staff, that this time they had excelled themselves.

Photograph above courtesy of Barbara Petty.

Left – The Ryde Young Farmers Exhibit at the Borough of Ryde Show 1949, 'This Island' 1949.

APPLEY TOWERS



Images of Appley Towers – Roy Brinton Archive



IW Observer 20 August 1864

Horticultural Society - The last show of this society for the season took place on Wednesday, by kind permission of Geo. Young, esq., in the grounds of Appley Towers, and it was a brilliant success. Those accustomed of late to see the parched state of the country must have been agreeably surprised at the verdant appearance of these grounds.

BUCKLAND GRANGE

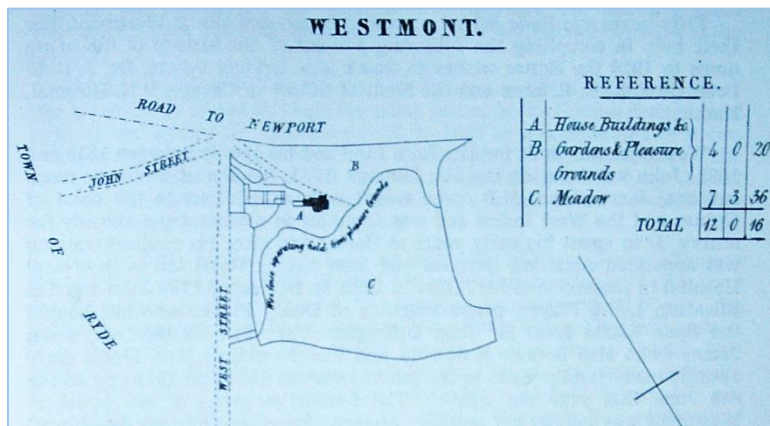
In a letter to the IW Times 16 May 1968, Mr Streets, Forestry Consultant, described one of the finest collections of ornamental trees and shrubs he had ever seen, at Buckland Grange. Begun in the 1920's by Sir Hugh Daly it contained a "Buck Eye" [N. American Chestnut], a "Wing Nut" from Persia, a Chinese "Tree of Heaven", many fine Japanese, Canadian and European Maples, and many more. These had been saved from destruction by Building Policy to incorporate the best specimens into gardens, while the elms in Spencer Road would be removed.



WESTMONT

IW Observer 18 June 1864

Horticultural Society - The first flower show for this season will take place on Wednesday next, by the kind permission of Sir William Martins, in the grounds of Westmont, Ryde. We understand the military band will add to the attractions of the day.



RYDE EXHIBITIONS & HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
SWEET PEA AND CARNATION SHOW,
 AT
WESTMONT, Queens Road,
 (by kind permission of Mrs. Gausson).
THURSDAY, JULY 24th, 1913.

Advert IW Observer 19 July 1913
 Plan of Westmont, including Garden & Pleasure Grounds, and print – Roy Brinton Archive

IW Observer 6 July 1912

Haylands Flower Garden - Miss Farmer, of Homeleigh, a kind and generous friend to the village of Haylands, recently started a competition in order that villagers might be encouraged to take a pride in their gardens. Miss Farmer offered prizes to the villagers whose front garden was adjudged to be the best. On Monday evening last Mr. G. Kent (the judge), viewed the gardens, many of which were exceedingly pretty and artistically laid out. Mr. J. Butcher's garden was judged to be the best, Mr. Keefe's second, and Mr. E. Saunders third. Miss Farmer herself distributed the prizes on the following morning.

IW County Press, 15 June 1940 reported that Mr E.G. Brett had been responsible for the well-kept gardens at the Parish Church for 50 years. Aged 77, he had served under seven Vicars.

No bride is complete without her bouquet. Flowers have different meanings, Queen Victoria's included Myrtle for love and passion!

Cascade bouquets from the 1920's & 30's [Wikipedia] to the pretty posies of this century.

Ox-Eye Daisies in West Street Cemetery. Reports in the local press of funerals always listed the many floral tributes.

Over a dozen tributes were listed at the funeral of David Smith. For 50 years he had been a gardener, firstly for the Hyde family, then for Rev. Whittam. He had been a judge at Horticultural Shows. [IW County Press 11 April 1908].

Charles Robert Puce, who died age 91, had been Head Gardener to Col. Thornton of Caversham House. [IW County Press 25th April 1959].



IW Observer 22 June 1912

Rose Society - The Rose and Sweet Pea Show, which is to be held on Thursday afternoon and evening at The Lawn, Ryde, the residence of Colonel E W Cradock, DL, should be one of the best held in the history of the Society, the entries are very large, and many of the mainland growers are sending specimens to the show. The band of the Royal Marine Artillery has been engaged for the afternoon and evening.

IW Times 8 July 1965

Flower Club – The Isle of Wight Flower Club held their third annual summer exhibition at the Town Hall, which was transformed into a blaze of colour by the 60 exhibits. Proceeds of the exhibition were in aid of the Ryde Group of the Friends of the Deaf. About £25 was realised.

IW Times 7 December 1961

Rare Plants - At the annual Christmas sale organised by members of St Michael's Church, on Thursday, prominently advertised on the gardening stall were "Rare Locust Plants." These, explained Mr. Cooke, had been grown from the locust beans occasionally seen on sale at local greengrocers.

Did you guess? - it is none other than Dave Bushell, who kindly supplied the photo, posing with his mother and two friends.

Some of us have seen his excellent portrayal of Mr Withington as part of the RSHG characters presentations.

Hampshire Telegraph 17 August 1870

American Plants – The question whether or not American plants will flourish in England ... much light may be thrown by a visit to the garden of Mr. Withington, of the Atlantic Bar, High-street. Some very fine plants of Indian corn and of broom corn may be seen quite nine feet in height. Mr. Withington expresses himself as perfectly satisfied with the result of the experiment ... seed from which the above were grown was brought from America by Mr. Withington himself.