

THE HOME FRONT IN SURREY IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

A GUIDE TO SOURCES AT SURREY HISTORY CENTRE

Part 6. Air Raids and Incidents

The war introduced the people of Surrey to aerial bombardment for the first time. Zeppelin raids extended as far west as Guildford although it was generally those parts of the county close to the capital which were most at risk. Later in the war German Gotha bombers brought a new threat.

For a Bacon's Cycling County Map of Surrey, annotated with the route of the German Zeppelin L13 on 13 Oct 1915 which dropped 12 high-explosive bombs see **4414/4/1**; a *Surrey Advertiser* newspaper cutting 'When the Zepp. came to Guildford - Official Report of the Raid', is held as **SHC ref GUL/15/1**. The St Barnabas church, Purley, service register includes a note of a Zeppelin raid on 24 Sep 1916 (**SHC ref 2063/1/1**).



Zeppelin caught in searchlights from album of Royal Fusiliers Camp at Woodcote Park, Epsom (SHC ref 6529/4)

Air raid precautions are discussed at some length in the reports of the Chief Constable to the Standing Joint Committee, mentioned above (**SHC refs CC98/1/4-5**) and breaches of blackout restrictions are documented in the registers of magistrates' courts. For a Surrey Education Committee circular advising schools on protective measures in the event of an air raid, 14 Jul 1917, see **SHC ref CC1139/5/2**.

ZEPPELINS !!

PERSONAL INJURIES DUE TO AIRCRAFT.

This Risk is NOT covered by any ordinary Personal Accident Policy and to supply the necessary Insurance the

London Guarantee & Accident

COMPANY, LIMITED (Established 1869),

Local Manager - - - **JOHN WATSON,**
 Chief Inspector - - - **J. H. ANDERSON,** } **118, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD.**

will grant a policy to any British Subject of either sex between the ages of 12 and 70 whilst resident in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland against death or injury directly caused by Aircraft, hostile or otherwise, including bombs, shells and/or missiles dropped or thrown therefrom or fired thereat, on the following terms:-

A PREMIUM of 5/- for Six months
 or 7/6 for Twelve months
 or 10/- for the duration of the War

will secure the following benefits:-

£500 payable in the event of **Death.**
£500 payable in the event of the **Loss of Two Limbs or Two Eyes, or one Limb and one Eye.**
£250 payable in the event of the **Loss of One Limb or One Eye.**
£2 per week payable during **Temporary Total Disablement**, for a period not exceeding 13 weeks.

Larger or smaller sums may be insured at proportionate premiums.

The LONDON GUARANTEE

ISSUE POLICIES COVERING

PROPERTY DAMAGE due to Aircraft.

RATES:-	
Private Houses and Contents	2s. per £100.
Business Premises: Buildings	3s. " "
" " Contents	5s. " "

SEND FOR PROSPECTUS TO-DAY.

The aerial threat was not confined to German bombs. For a copy of the front page of the *Daily Sketch*, showing a British plane stuck in trees by the River Thames near Hurst Park racecourse, East Molesey (used for training the Royal Flying Corps) see **SHC ref PX/105/40**; for a photograph of a biplane which fell in the grounds of Shaftesbury Schools, Bisley, 1 May 1916, see **Z/535**; for a postcard of a Handley Page aeroplane on the recreation ground in Farnham after a forced landing, c.1915, see **SHC ref PC/64/ALB2/4**.

Advertisement for Insurance against property damage and personal injury as a result of air raids (Surrey Advertiser)

