



Land Settlement Association

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Headline News

Update on Weald & Downland Museum

Norman Dixon's Book

LSA Stories

Other Heritage News

Weald & Downland Museum

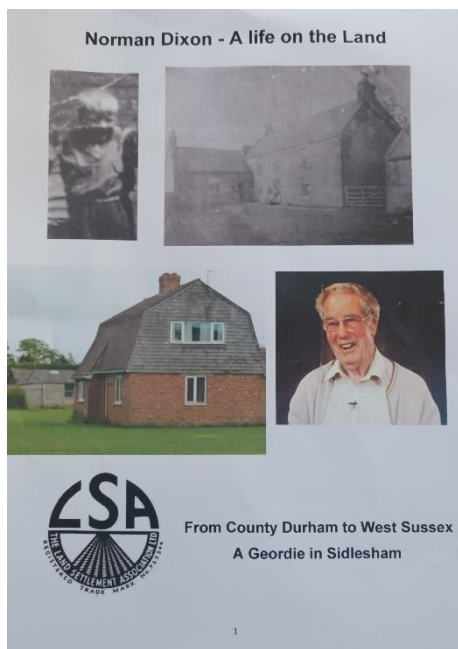
To keep you updated In December 2023 the then Director of the museum told me that the LSA House would be the next building to be re-erected on site. That Director then left and a new one appointed in January of this year then left in August. A further set back is another building, the Gridshell which is used for courses at the museum, is in need of urgent repair, and so assumes priority.



Nevertheless the Interim Director has now started the fund raising process for the LSA house. We also gave a presentation to the LSA Charitable Trust, an organisation set up at the closure of the LSA, in the hope that they might get involved with the LSA Story once the house is rebuilt. Rebuild. On another positive note the museum would like to acquire a chicken battery and

piggery to complete an original smallholding. They are, however, disappearing to become second homes – so if you know of one that could be dismantled and transferred to the museum please let me know..

A Geordie in Sidlesham



Norman Dixon (No 50) came to Sidlesham in 1939, as a 9 year old, from Low Fell in County Durham. His father had been a 'horseman' looking after pit ponies at Allerfene Colliery before being unemployed for 13 years. During World War I he had been at Romsey Remount training horses to be transported abroad. Six of Norman's uncles were in army including Septimus, who was injured, sent home, then returned to the front and died in action 6 weeks before the end of the war. Norman took over the smallholding from his father in 1955 and established Kibblesworth an independent nursery

when the LSA closed. Norman starred in our LSA film and was one of the group of volunteers who helped to dismantle the LSA house which is now in storage at The Weald and Downland Living Museum. Copies of his booklet are available (£5 delivered locally & £7.50 with p&p) Billm89@hotmail.com

Returned North

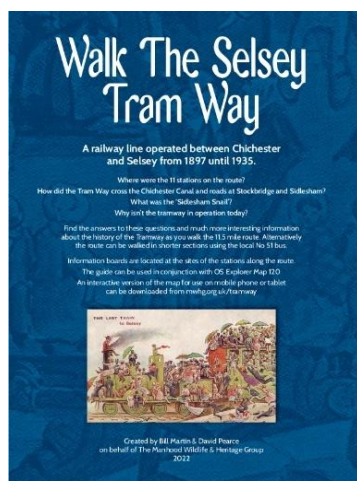
The Sidlesham School's Attendance Register contains the names of 23 families who 'returned north' between January 1936 and April 1938. Anecdotaly this refers to families who were unable to adapt to the new way of life as market gardeners, like the Purcells at No 35 who's grandmother 'couldn't stand the pigs coming into the house'.

However, more substantial evidence was provided by the Pescod family (No 24) whose granddaughter visited in May 2025 and shared more of their story. John had worked as a 'stamperman' and 'compressor' man at Marley Hill Colliery. A stamperman used a machine to crush coal on the surface and compressor man used compressed air often in conjunction with explosives. The family returned to Byermoor in 1940 as John was suffering from ill health and he passed away of acute bronchitis in 1945 at the age of 49..

Other Local Heritage News

Remember the LSA exhibition at the Novium in Chichester in 2012 There is now another one - this time on The Selsey Tramway. The exhibition, including a film, will be displayed until March 2026 The Novium is open Tuesday-Friday

10.00am to 4.30pm and Saturday 10.00am to 5.00pm. Sunday 10.00am to 4.00pm Closed Monday. Admission is free, with donations welcome.



www.mwhg.org.uk/tramway



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Thank you for all your continued support and assistance with this project.

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**WEALD &
DOWNLAND**
LIVING MUSEUM