

MR MIKE KEEP
12 THE TRIANGLE,
TILEHORST,
READING,
BERKSHIRE RG30 4RN.

Monday March 28th 2005.

Dear Mr Keyton,

I saw your notice about Blagrave Rec, in the School Road Post office, and thought I would write to you. I have lived in Tilehurst all my life, as did my father before me, and my paternal grandmother was born here in the 1880s, and lived here all her life, and I have many happy memories of Blagrave Rec. We always called it (and still do) "the little Rec.", as opposed to Victoria Recreation Ground, which was always known as "the Big Rec." All us old families from Tilehurst always refer to Tilehurst as "The Village", and we still do.

I learnt the beauty of cricket in Blagrave Rec, up against the big trees in the Rec, when we used to chalk the wickets on the trunks of the trees, and use an old tennis racquet, or whatever we could get as a bat, and a tennis ball, and play happily all day. Many of us kissed our first girl in the old shed that used to be in the Rec. In later years, there were swings and a sandpit by the shed. We also used to walk our dear little dog through the Rec, as well. I hope this is of interest.

Yours sincerely
Mike Keep