Surrey Archaeological Society

Medieval Studies Forum

Newsletter No. 7

October 2010

For various reasons the issue of newsletters this year has been even more "occasional" than previously.

Membership List and Research Interests

At last year's AGM it was suggested that it would be helpful to update the information about members' research interests. In the event, only four members of the Forum sent in revised entries. We have not yet published an updated membership list. We plan to do so after this year's AGM which takes place during the meeting on Saturday 6 November

Bishop's Manors

We are pleased to attach to this newsletter a note by Peter Balmer following his presentation at the Forum meeting on 14 November 2009.

Old Woking: Test Pitting and Medieval Brick Clamps

Fieldwork carried out in February and March 2010 has been reported in Bulletin No 421 (June 2010). One of the test pits produced a group of joining Saxo-Norman sherds provisionally dated to 1050-1150 AD. Evaluation trenches revealed the remains of a significant number of brick clamps. While these are not yet specifically dated it is likely they are of pre Tudor date.

Report of 'Roads' meeting in Bulletin

Following the very well received meeting of the Forum on Roads and Causeways in June this year, a report of the meeting by Peter Balmer was published in Bulletin No 423 (October 2010) having been held over from the previous issue. Rob Briggs has followed up his comments on the Pyrford and Old Woking causeways at that meeting with a paper discussing the possible Saxon origins of these causeways; it is with pleasure that we circulate this paper as an attachment to this newsletter.

Woking Palace

Most of you will be aware of the ongoing project at Woking Manor and Palace. This year the excavations uncovered significant remains from the 13th to the 15th centuries as well as more of the expected early Tudor palace. Rob Poulton will be giving a presentation on the second season of excavations at the Society's Annual Research Symposium on 26 February 2011 at Ashtead. In the meantime a good deal of general information is available on the following websites:

http://www.woking-palace.org/archaeology/archaeology.htm

```
http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/sccwebsite/sccwspages.nsf/
LookupWebPagesByTITLE_RTF/Community+Archaeology+Projects+
+Woking+Palace+Excavation?opendocument
```

Surrey Archaeological Society

Medieval Studies Forum

http://www.exploringsurreyspast.org.uk/wokingpalacevideoblog

Pottery Analysis

The Committee of the Medieval Studies Forum has been very aware of the need to develop post-excavation skills in order to support the fieldwork being carried out at present and that anticipated in future, while tackling the backlog of unpublished medieval excavations across the county, covering several decades. Thanks are due to David Hartley who has taken on the task of co-ordinating a group within the Forum to develop our skills of medieval pottery identification and analysis. Following on from the meeting led by Phil Jones in 2009, David contacted Jacqui Pearce and the LAARC to organise a study visit there in August 2101. This was an excellent event that offered hands on experience of the vast pottery collection held at the LAARC. He will be building on the experience gained there and would welcome more volunteers able to devote regular time to developing their skills while working on the accumulated material within the Society. David's contact details are below.

Forthcoming meeting on Agriculture

A notice of this meeting which will be held on Saturday 6 November at St Catherine's Village Hall Guildford has already been circulated together with the AGM papers. It will be fairly informal with plenty of opportunity for participation and we look forward to seeing you there.

Change of Address

Please note that Richard & Pamela moved during the summer and their new address is noted below.

Committee Members

Mary Alexander

Peter Balmer

David Hartley

Richard and Pamela Savage e-mail: medforum@hotmail.co.uk

Phil Stevens