

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN

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Edited by Lesley Ketteringham, 14 Court Road, Godstone RH98BT

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Incorporated Surrey Archaeological Society will be held at 2.00 p.m. on Saturday, 27th November, 1982 in the Central Lecture Theatre Block at the University of Surrey, Guildford. There is an adjacent car park (No. 1 East).

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To read, and if approved, to sign the Minutes of the meeting of 28th November, 1981.
3. To receive and consider the Annual Report, the Statement of Accounts, and the Auditor's Report for the period 1st April 1981 to 31st March, 1982 and, if approved, to adopt them.
4. To elect the President for 1982-83.
5. To elect Honorary Vice-Presidents for 1982-83.
6. To elect Vice-Presidents for 1982-83.
7. To elect Honorary Officers for 1982-83.
8. To elect six Ordinary Members of Council to retire in 1986 under Article 21a. (Nominations for election under items 4-8 should be sent to the Secretary not less than seven days before the meeting. All nominations require a proposer and seconder who must be members of the Incorporated Society and nominations must be accompanied by a signed statement by the nominee of his or her willingness to stand for election. Institutional members are not eligible for election).
9. To appoint the Honorary Auditor for 1982-83.
10. Any other business.

LECTURE

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a Lecture entitled:

THE GUNPOWDER INDUSTRY IN SURREY

by Dr G. P. Moss, BSc, PhD, ARCS

OBITUARY

James Cockburn Batley, 28.4.1959 - 6.7.82

It is with regret that we report the death of James Batley of Caterham after illness, who will be known to many members of the Society as an indefatigable local historian forever trying to save objects of historic interest from destruction. He was a great organiser and a persuader of sometimes unsuspecting people to undertake actions in the cause of history, often to their own surprise. Much of his success was due to his great enthusiasm.

James travelled far to see art galleries and museums in the Old and New Worlds. His collection of Russian icons has been presented to the British Museum and the

Society has benefited by a large collection of slides resulting from his pursuit of the water colours of Hassell, father and son. He regarded the paintings made by these two gentlemen in the 1820's as important documents, recording the appearance of houses and villages in the county before the age of photography. His interests were many, chiefly cultural, and he was concerned to impart his knowledge to others, as a schoolmaster before his retirement and afterwards as an evening class lecturer. He was particularly interested in seeing a museum for local history started in the east end of the county. He was Chairman of the Bourne Society from 1971-76 and he served on the Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society from 1966-69. When the District of East Surrey now known as Tandridge was formed in 1974 it was James Batley's idea that it should be named after the old land division of the Tandridge Hundred, where his eccentric figure will be greatly missed.

L. Ketteringham

EXCAVATION NOTICES

BEDDINGTON ROMAN VILLA 1982 Last weeks of 2nd season

Volunteers are still required by the SWLAU at the excavation of the R-B villa at Beddington. Work will continue at least until December and the site is open for 7 days a week. It is possible, depending on the weather, that work may continue into the New Year. Help is needed for finds processing and digging.

For further details please write or phone L. and R. A. Adkins, 25 Union Road, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 2XU Tel: 01-683 1326.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Ashtead, The Old Quarry, The Warren (TQ 184575)

A small excavation was undertaken at the above site by R. Poulton and M. O'Connell for the SCC Conservation and Archaeology section. This followed the partial uncovering of a pit-like feature during redevelopment work. It was felt this might be related to pits or shafts uncovered by Lowther (SAC, 41, 93-7) and Pemberton *et al* (Bulletin 108), dating to the Bronze or Early Iron Age period.

The work revealed part of a large (?quarry) pit over 2m deep and at minimum 3m wide. The upper levels of a second feature had already been removed but what remained was a shaft (less than .75m diameter) narrowing to a post hole (c. 2.5m diameter) at its base, which was about 3.6m below ground level. Neither of these enigmatic features contained any dateable material. It nevertheless seems likely that at least the deeper of these two features is broadly contemporary with the other pits or shafts that have been uncovered.

These shafts, though variable in diameter and shape, have considerable depth as their common feature. However, it is clear from an examination of the exposed quarry section that their depth is not sufficient to reach any substantial seam of flint, which makes earlier suggestions that they were flint mining shafts improbable. Their variable shape makes them very unlikely as chalk quarry pits, and it would seem best to connect them with the curious broad group of features described as 'ritual shafts' (A. Ross 'Shafts, pits, wells - Sanctuaries of the Belgic Britons?' in *Studies in Ancient Europe* ed J. M. Coles and D. D. A. Simpson, Leicester 1968, 255-285 especially 259).

If any members have any information further to that published in the *Collections* on Lowther's discoveries at 'The Old Quarry' the authors would be grateful to hear from them at the Planning Department, County Hall, Kingston on Thames KT1 2DT.

Rob Poulton, Martin O'Connell

Beddington Roman Villa (TQ 297657)

The second season of excavation at the Beddington Roman Villa (scheduled Ancient Monument) commenced on the 15th April and will continue until at least early December and possibly into the New Year. This year's work has successfully located

the main domestic building of the villa, evidence for which consists of masonry walls, robber trenches and foundations for timber-framed walls. Because Thames Water kindly moved their boundary fence it has been possible to excavate the last of the bath house, the west end of which was located and excavated in 1981.

The bath house walls survive up to a height of 3ft. South of the bath house further timber buildings have been identified. Numerous pits and ditches of Roman date have been uncovered and further evidence of prehistoric occupation has been found.

It is unlikely that a further season of excavation will take place before gravel extraction commences but it is hoped that it will prove possible to follow the close of this season's excavation by a programme of post-excavation work in order to publish the report on the excavation as soon as possible. Negotiations are in hand to obtain finance for this work.

L. and R. A. Adkins

Charlwood, St Nicholas Parish Church (TQ 24054110)

On 20th July, 1982, a small excavation was undertaken at St Nicholas Parish Church, Charlwood by Martin O'Connell and Rob Poulton of the Conservation and Archaeology Section, Planning Department, Surrey County Council. Permission for the excavation was given by the Consulting Engineers, Lawrence J. Hewitt and Partners while underpinning of the walls of the church was being carried out.

The aim of the excavation was to discover what method of construction had been used when the south aisle was added to the Norman nave of the church c. 1280 and to observe any differences in the fabric of these two parts of the building. The trench opened was sited against the west wall at the junction of the nave and south aisle but at the request of the Consulting Engineers it was limited in size to 1.30 x 1.0 m and excavations ceased once the foundations of the walls had been reached.

Unfortunately, the point where the south aisle had been joined to the nave was obscured by a substantial late 19th century gutter pipe with an associated drain while modern rendering covered large areas of the exterior of the west wall. However, at least one large elongated block of stone was observed which could have served as a tie between the two parts of the wall.

The differences in the fabric of the nave and south aisle were most noticeable where excavation took place. The nave wall was made up of thin blocks laid with generous quantities of mortar whereas much larger, closely set blocks had been used in the construction of the south aisle and original mortar was detected in only two places. The foundation trench for the nave wall was perceptibly narrower than that for the south aisle although the fill was similar and consisted of stones loosely packed in a matrix of brown clayey soil.

To the west of the foundations a rectangular area of loose stones was discovered which may indicate the site of an original or early drain or soakaway.

M. O'Connell and R. Poulton

Dorking (TQ 174508)

A fragment of R-B flue tile with combed decoration was found this summer by Mrs V. Whitehead on the bank of the Mole immediately north of its confluence with the Pippbrook, a few hundred yards from the spot where R-B tile and pottery was recovered from a pipe trench in 1976 (Bulletin 126). The tile has been sent to Dr John Gower of the Surrey Roman Villa Study Group, 28 Gingers Close, Cranleigh (Tel. Cranleigh 71454) who is currently studying the distribution of combed tiles and who would be glad to see other examples from Surrey.

Vivien Ettlinger

Dorking (TQ 164495)

Two seasons of excavation in advance of development at 15/16 Church Street, Dorking have produced two short lengths, 50m apart, of V-profiled ditch about 3m wide across the top and about 1.5m deep. These lie on the possible line of Stane Street, the Chichester to London road (Margary 15) although no evidence for any road was recovered apart from a few large flint nodules in and around the ditch. Cut into or associated with the more southerly site were several postholes and two pits, the latter containing, like the ditches, large quantities of R-B pottery and other artefacts in unmixed layers. Finds included an enamel and bronze brooch conforming to Collingwood's Group Sii as well as other metal work, coins of Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius, Claudius II Gothicus and Constantine, a bone pin and disc, and tile

MEETINGS

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 3rd

SURREY WINDMILLS, an illustrated talk by James Barfoot to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, Ewell, at 8.00 p.m. Admission 20p inc. refreshments.

Friday 12th

RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT BEDDINGTON, a talk by Roy Adkins to the Richmond Society at The Sun Inn, Parkshot, Richmond at 8.00 p.m.

Saturday 20th

HISTORIC BUILDINGS — A TOOL OF LOCAL HISTORY. Talk by David Martin of the Domestic Buildings Research Group at Oxshott Village Hall at 2.30 p.m.

CONFERENCE

APRIL 1983

Saturday 16th

THE USES OF WATER. A one-day conference and exhibition arranged by South East Regional Industrial Archaeology at the University of Surrey. Speakers include Peter Brandon, Bob Spain, Gerry Moss, Tony Ellis, Dennis Smith, Alan Allnut and Alan Crocker. Tickets £3.50. Information from Sally Chamberlain, DAE, University of Surrey, Stag Hill, Guildford, GU2 5XH.

OCTOBER 15/16th

There will be a conference on **THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SURREY** at the University of Surrey. This will be the basis for a publication in the following year. Details to follow.

Next Bulletin: December/January/February for which copy is required by 6th December.

Following Bulletin: March, for which copy is required by 6th February.

and plaster. The pottery and other finds have yet to be examined in detail but a first assessment would suggest a sequence, though not necessarily unbroken, from the first to fourth century.

Observation during subsequent development produced further pottery on the probable line of the ditch between the two lengths excavated.

Vivien Ettlinger

Kingston: Queens Cottages, Canbury Passage

Further investigation of the above site was made during May and June 1982 in order to determine the nature of the chalk structure encountered in 1980 (SyAS Bulletin No 174, Sept 1981).

A slot was cut in the trench floor to a depth of 1.5 metres, a total depth of 3.5 metres at which level riverine clays were encountered. This showed in section a sequence of even bedded sands interspersed at 15 cm intervals with thin lenses of chalk. Some of the larger, more angular nodules suggest that this is not calcareous clay. The deposits are cambered and dive away to the east.

Interpretation is still uncertain, though it is clear that the site is on or near the bank of the ancient river channel that ran through Kingston town centre (Grist 1917, 100). Possibilities of marsh consolidation, a causeway through marshland, and riverside wall embankments have been considered. The currently favoured view however is that the deposits represent a levee, regularly consolidated to provide an embankment or walkway. The recent excavation produced no further dating evidence, though the deposits were sealed by R-B levels and if the above interpretation is correct the site provides evidence of early river management. A number of sediment samples are awaiting analysis and should resolve some problems of interpretation.

Grist, C. J., 1917. Excursion to Richmond Park, Kingston Hill, and Wimbledon Common *Proc Geol Assn* 28, 98-104.

D. Field and D. Hinton

LITERARY SECTION

LIBRARY NEWS

Mrs Pat Ashworth, the present Assistant Librarian to the Society, has been appointed Librarian, for five years from November, 1982. She is responsible for the day to day running of the Library, and service to members. She will continue to work half-time, and will normally be in the Library at the following times:

Tuesday: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Wednesday: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Thursday: before 1st and 3rd Saturdays in the month, not on duty.

Other Thursdays: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Friday: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Saturdays: 1st and 3rd in the month: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Mrs Ashworth can be contacted on the Society's telephone number (Guildford 32454) and members wanting to consult specific material are always advised to check in advance that this will be available when required. All enquiries relating to library stock and service should be addressed to Mrs Ashworth, at Castle Arch.

Miss Gillian Drew continues as Honorary Librarian, and is also Chairman of the Library Committee. She is responsible for the overall direction of Library policy.

The Library stock is housed in several different stores, and apart from the books and journals shelved in the Margary Room - the main reading room, it is not generally available, except when the Librarian is on duty. The Margary Room is accessible to members during opening hours of the Museum, but from November, it will be locked on Saturday afternoons and on Bank Holidays. Members wishing to have access at these times should apply to the Museum Steward for the key. The Margary Room is occasionally used for meetings on Saturday afternoons, and it is advisable to check beforehand that it will be free for study purposes.

Members are reminded that books may be borrowed by post. At the last Library Committee it was agreed that for a trial period of one year, the Society would bear the outward cost of postage for members residing more than 20 miles from Guildford, but in all other instances, members are responsible for refunding postage, and for paying to return the books.

Gillian Drew, Pat Ashworth

The Hamwih pottery: the local and imported wares from 30 years' excavations at Middle Saxon Southampton and their European context (*Research Report 37*) by Richard Hodges

This thesis reports on the remarkable collection of pottery from Middle Saxon Southampton, which includes possibly the largest group of native wares of this period as well as a unique assemblage of imported pottery.

£15.00. Order from Council for British Archaeology, 112 Kennington Road, London SE11 6RE. C.W.O. and 75p for p&p.

Bagshot Park, R-B Site (SU 898644)

The survey has been completed, with about 200 sherds recovered, including 22 rims, and two further locations with iron slag deposits have been noted. The limits of the site have been determined, covering about 4 hectares. A re-evaluation of the road through the site shows that, instead of a precise angle, there was a gradual change in direction, with most of the finds occurring south of the road. There is evidence to suggest that the finds described in *Archaeologia* v 7, p 199 (1784) are confined to only a small part of the site. The 1784 description included a small area enclosed by a substantial bank and ditch, levelled in 1773, from which some 50 vessels were later brought to the surface by ploughing. It is possible that the site can be interpreted as a station or mansion.

Dr T. C. Welsh

Dr Brian Hope-Taylor

During the War the Grangewood Museum, near Croydon, was bombed and the contents were feared lost. However a certain amount of the archaeological material was saved and rescued by Brian Hope-Taylor, but its whereabouts has never been disclosed and it was not known exactly what still existed. Dr Hope-Taylor has now given the material which belonged to Croydon Corporation back to Croydon where it is being sorted, listed and generally worked upon by Mrs Muriel Shaw. It will then be lodged at Croydon Central Library, c/o The Librarian, A. O. Meakin, in the absence of a museum at Croydon.

Archaeological material from four other sites were handed to the East Surrey Museum, c/o The Curator, 1 Stafford Road, Caterham. This includes the original Henley Wood, Chelsham, site; Abinger Motte and Vicar's Haw, Limpsfield. Also some Iron Age material from Moorhouse Sandpits, near Limpsfield. Michael Russell is analysing the pottery from Vicar's Haw, which will be included in a forthcoming report.

L. Ketteringham

The Archaeology of Surrey

The Society's Council has now agreed a scheme to produce a book on the Archaeology of Surrey (subtitled 'from the Palaeolithic to 1500'). In the modern style, this will be a multi-author work, involving a number of experts and will be edited by Joanna and David Bird. It will be issued free to members, but hopefully will also sell widely; the aim is for a popular, though scholarly approach.

Publication will be preceded by a conference at the University of Surrey, on 15 and 16 October 1983. All those interested in Surrey's archaeology are urged to note these dates now and aim to attend what will probably be a unique event. After the conference the authors will have time to revise their papers before publication, currently intended for the middle of 1984. Further details will be reported when all the arrangements have been completed.

D. G. Bird