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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX
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Bulletin

Number 256

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1991/92 became due on 1st April. The current rates are as follows:

Ordinary Member	£15.00
Associate Member	£1.00
Junior Member (with Collections)	£3.00
Institutional Member (Overseas)	£30.00
Institutional Member (U.K.)	£20.00
Junior Member who is living at the same address as an Ordinary Member (but without Society publications)	free of charge

If you have not already paid your subscription by standing order, would you kindly send your remittance to Mrs Susan Janaway at Castle Arch. Please note that in view of high postage costs, personal reminders are not issued to members. If you decide that you do not wish to renew your subscription, would you please let Susan Janaway know.

COUNCIL NEWS

At the first meeting of Council on the 25th January, after the Annual General Meeting, the following were unanimously co-opted to Council: Mr M J Alexander, Dr D G Bird, Miss J M Carter, Mr M S Dawson and Mr R J Webber.

It was announced that Mr Peter Finn had agreed to act as the Society's Publicity Officer.

Wanborough Coins

The British Museum had raised the question of the ultimate deposition of the non-precious metal coins from the site at Wanborough. It was agreed by Council that the British Museum should retain the Iron Age coins to be kept with the other coins from the early RB hoard, but that the later RB coins belong with the other finds from the site and should be deposited at Guildford Museum.

London Archaeological Service

The HBMC (English Heritage), who have provided substantial 'core' funding for archaeology in Greater London since the demise of the GLC, have announced its intention of implementing new policies for London, including funding. The Museum of London has expressed concern about the future of its Department of Greater London Archaeology (DGLA), whose staff have since been cut from 400 to 120 as a result of the effect of the recession on developer funded activities. The DGLA now operates as a single unit rather than four branches.

Under the new proposals the HBMC intend to withdraw core funding gradually over four years and will grant money only against agreed activities. The Museum is concerned that this proposal will undermine its ability to meet the establishment costs of the DGLA, particularly in a period of recession where funds from developers are already greatly reduced. Part of the core funding has been used up to now by the DGLA to provide an advisory service to the planning departments of the Metropolitan Boroughs as part of an integrated archaeological service: the HBMC proposes in future to give the planning advice itself and has begun to appoint staff to do this.

The Society's Council is concerned about the possible effect on archaeological recovery work and publication in SW London and Southwark and discussions between officers and representatives of the HBMC have failed, so far, to provide reassurance.

(Ed. Events move quickly. See *The Times*, 17.4.91.)

Development of Rural Land

Council have discussed a paper concerning the impact on rural land caused by 'set-aside' and diversification policies which encourage changes in the use of farmland. Currently it appears difficult to farm profitably in Surrey and there are real threats to the historic landscape and lesser field monuments from attempts to convert farmland to leisure use, notably golf courses. The paper cited the example of Wildwood Golf Course, Alfold, which is to cover some 180 acres. Construction has involved soil disturbance to a depth of 30cm, effectively removing boundaries and the context of an isolated scheduled moated site. (Reported in Bulletin 255)

52 new golf courses have been proposed in Surrey alone (only a few have so far received planning permission and some have been refused). Among those permitted is one on part of the estate of Binstead Farm, Seale (together with 'other amenities'), another at Duxhurst, Sidlow (confined strictly to a golf course and clubhouse).

Since the paper was prepared for Council, the Department of the Environment has produced a new Planning Policy Guidance Note (PPG 16: *Archaeology and Planning*) which greatly strengthens the advice to local planning authorities in respect of the need to safeguard archaeological sites. The document calls for LPAs to seek archaeological assessments and evaluations from developers (undertaken at the developer's expense) before considering the granting of planning consent and should seek provision for necessary archaeological work and publication as conditions when granting consent.

Council urged members to exercise vigilance and, where possible, to initiate and/or assist in landscape surveys so that information is to hand *before* applications are made for substantial changes to the historic landscape. Any artefacts found during such surveys should be deposited at the appropriate Surrey museum and work should be reported in the *Bulletin* and *Collections*. Any member or member societies who would like advice and help in undertaking such a survey should contact Steve Dyer or Judie English via Castle Arch. Steve and Judie are leading the Society's current project in the Mole Gap.

Other Matters

It was reported that negotiations relating to the acquisition of South Park Moat and to the promotion of the Portable Antiquities Bill were proceeding satisfactorily.

INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

R J Webber

Excavation Directors and Diggers please note:

Excavation Insurance — Directors of excavations are reminded that it is essential that they arrange for insurance cover for the excavation that they are undertaking. For the purpose of insurance the term 'excavation' covers all aspects of excavation where there is a 'third party risk' and not simply 'dirt archaeology'. 'Field walking' and 'measuring buildings' require cover. If in doubt, or to register for insurance cover, please contact R J Webber at 8 Kelvin Grove, Hook, Chessington. Telephone 081-397 4885 (evenings and weekends). Please remember that "COVER AFTER THE EVENT IS TOO LATE!"

Personal Accident Insurance — All volunteers on excavations, including field walking, measuring and other connected activities should be fully aware that the Society's insurance policy does not cover them for injury or sickness, and, thereby, loss of earnings, should that injury be self inflicted or the result of their own neglect. All volunteers should, therefore, arrange for PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE through their own insurers before they engage in excavation activities. Remember please that if you put a pickaxe through someone else's foot, or they do it to you, that will be all right but if you put it through your own foot then that will be your own responsibility and nobody else's! Directors of Excavations please bring this matter to the attention of all your volunteer diggers.

Loss and breakage of equipment — As the Society bears the first £25 of any claim there is no point in making a claim for anything less although the circumstances should be reported to the Archaeological Research Committee. For losses over £25, full details of the equipment and circumstances should be reported to the Insurance Officer as soon as possible. Where theft is suspected the matter must be reported to the local police at once.

Indemnities

Some indemnities required by landowners and contractors go beyond the acceptable liability of Surrey Archaeological Society and its insurance cover for excavations. In future all indemnity forms MUST be signed by one or other of the OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY who have been appointed by The Council of the Society to act in this matter.

A copy of every indemnity required must be forwarded to Mr R J Webber at 8 Kelvin Grove, Hook, Chessington, Surrey KT9 1DP who will, where necessary, clear the terms and conditions with the insurers. A further copy should, at the same time, be sent to the Society's Hon. LEGAL ADVISER.

LOCAL SOCIETIES or GROUPS excavating under Surrey Archaeological Society's insurance cover MUST COMPLY with this procedure. Other excavators would be well advised to take legal advice before signing any form of indemnity.

The following officers of the Society have been authorised by the Council to sign indemnities on behalf of the Society: The President, The Secretaries, The Hon Treasurer.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

“Buildings Watch”

N P Barker

The Conservation Committee recently decided at a Plenary Meeting to expand its concern with the historic buildings of the County. It has decided that in addition to the caseworkers who check planning applications affecting listed buildings, it ought to try and co-ordinate volunteer “wardens”, people with an interest in old buildings who can keep a watchful, and benevolent eye on the historic buildings in their area.

We are looking for volunteers who will, in the course of their everyday life, keep an eye out for building work being carried out on historic buildings — is it with permission? Has a skip just appeared outside a listed building shortly to be filled with fireplaces or other internal fittings? Often, owners of listed buildings may not be aware that such works may require permission. Alternatively, you may know of an historic building standing empty and slowly deteriorating, perhaps even subject to vandalism. If you do, or are willing to keep an eye out in the future please contact the Administrative Secretary of the Conservation Committee, Nigel Barker (tel 081 684 4009) and he will follow the matter up.

We hope to make this system efficient, in that little is demanded of volunteers other than awareness of the activities in their area. We also hope to make sure that it is county-wide, so please, volunteer!

Lambeth: Academy Cinema, Stockwell Road

Reassessment can lead to the upgrading of buildings already on the statutory lists and this building, previously Grade II, has been reassessed at Grade II*. It is said to be one of the two best surviving examples of a so-called ‘atmospheric’ in Britain alongside the Astoria, Finsbury Park, North London. The Academy, designed in 1929 by Edward Stone and T R Somerford, has an auditorium ‘based on an Italian renaissance garden’ with monumental architecture, a miniature loggia across the proscenium arch based on the Rialto Bridge, statues and artificial trees. It is now used as a concert hall. (Ancient Monuments Society, Autumn Newsletter.)

VISITS COMMITTEE

The Committee is delighted to welcome Mr Simon Weston, 5 Trindles Road, South Nutfield, Redhill, RH1 4JR, who has agreed to act as Secretary. We are most grateful to Mr Weston for helping us. Until he has settled into the job, general questions should be directed to me, Josephine Carter, 0483 (Guildford) 505502.

As at present, bookings go to David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildford GU2 5NF, (0483-64079) but he does not know details of the arrangements and any queries should be raised with the organiser of the visit.

Capt M A Wilson is continuing to act as Treasurer for the time being but we shall need a Committee Treasurer. We also would like to have more Committee members. We meet twice a year, mid summer and autumn. Then each Committee member arranges one visit in the following year. If you know of a place which would be popular and can arrange to take us there in 1992, it would be appreciated.

**SAS Visit to the Essex History Fair, Maldon
arranged by Josephine Carter (Tel: 0483 505502)**

Sunday 9th June 1991

On 11th August 991 AD, in the reign of Aethelred the Unready, a Danish/Viking fleet entered the Blackwater estuary for plunder, not for conquest. The Saxons, led by Earl

Brithnoth, aged over 60 but tall and strong, refused the demand for Danegeld and determined to fight. Outnumbered — probably 3000 Vikings to 300 Saxons — the Saxons were defeated. The battle was recorded by an epic poem in Saxon literature.

This year, 1991, Essex is celebrating the Millenium, especially on the 10th and 11th August when there will be a re-enactment of the Battle of Maldon. Why celebrate a famous defeat? The Vikings suffered such severe losses that they had barely enough surviving men to crew the boats returning to their homeland. Maldon was not sacked as Ipswich had been.

Part of these celebrations will be the Essex History Fair to be held in Maldon on Sunday, 9th June.

Join us on the coach to see the arena events and displays of Essex historical, archaeological and conservation groups and to see the charming town, which is not far from the Promenade Park.

8.15 am Coach leaves the rear Guildford BR Station in Guildford Park Road

8.45 am Mole Valley Council Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking opposite Dorking Halls

9.00 am Reigate Red Cross Public House at junction of West Street, High Street and Park Lane 10.00 am approx. Coffee stop at Thurrock, Granada Motorway Services

The coach will leave Maldon at 5.00 pm for the journey home

TICKETS: Members £10.50, non-members £11.50 to include coach, gratuities and entrance to Essex History Fair but not morning coffee nor tea, which should be available nearby. Please send SAE with cheque (SAS Visits Committee) to Mr David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, GUILDFORD, GU2 5NF.

NOTES

South Farm, Lightwater, Surrey centred at SU 927627

G H Cole

The occupation site, discovered in 1984, has traces of prehistoric activity but principally spans the periods from Late Pre-Roman Iron Age of c BC 50 to beyond c AD 400.

In its Romano-British regional location, the site is approximately 2.7 km south of the "Devil's Highway" (Margary 4A) from SILCHESTER (Calleva Atrebatum) to LONDON (Londinium), 6.5 km south east of the extensive Romano-British site at Wickham Bushes and possibly on the extended line of the Roman road from STANE STREET to the Romano-Celtic temple at FARLEY HEATH.

With iron rich nodules freely available in the surface geology it is thought that the potential for iron working was the industry that encouraged settlement at Lightwater in the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age.

Extensive spreads of iron slag overlying ditches and gullies have been excavated together with part of the entrance gateway to a ditched enclosure. Ditch fills have produced sherds from globular and barrel jars and a coin provisionally attributed to ADDEDOMAROS has been found adjacent to one of the enclosure ditches. The purpose of the enclosure is, thus far, unclear. A sequence of Romano-British buildings and structures dating from c AD 100 to later than c AD 400 have been excavated, comprising storage buildings, domestic buildings, enclosure ditches and parts of a multi-roomed, formal layout, earth fast building of the early second century. Associated with these structures have been large quantities of iron working slag reused as post-packings, pottery, roof tile, tesserae, querns, worked stone, flue tile, iron and bronze objects. The acidity of the soil has, however, precluded the survival of

most osteological material.

All buildings excavated have been of timber post or earth-fast construction but it is thought likely that more substantial structures are in the vicinity. The identified area containing LPRIA and RB occupation currently extends to 5 hectares.

Round up of some of the recent excavations and evaluations undertaken in the historic County by the Department of Greater London Archaeology (Museum of London)

London Borough of Croydon

Atwood School: Several undated features noted during evaluation adjacent to site where prehistoric and early Roman deposits had been found in 1989.

Mint Walk: A shallow feature containing flint blades dated between 8000-3000 BC was found on a site located on the east front of the medieval town centre of Croydon. Some medieval pits produced both medieval and some residual Roman pottery, and the brickwork and residue from an early 19th century clay pipe kiln.

London Borough of Kingston

Odeon Cinema site: Further work at Charter Quay has uncovered medieval buildings fronting the High Street as well as evidence of light industrial work and medieval waterfronts.

The Bittoms: Evaluation of the site, which is located to the south of the medieval town centre adjacent to the Hogs Hill, revealed an early/mid Saxon hearth, a loom weight and a quantity of pottery. Prehistoric flint tools (undated at present) have also been recovered. An excavation will follow.

London Borough of Richmond

Jodrell Lab, Kew: Excavation was carried out to uncover foundations of 19th century glasshouses. Several prehistoric flint flakes were also recovered.

11 Lower Teddington Road: Several pits containing a large amount of Roman pottery were recorded during an evaluation on the bank of the Thames.

London Borough of Southwark

25 Lavington Street: the site lies within an area of known Roman burials and a 17th century Delftware pottery kiln. Site evaluation revealed Roman pottery within waterlain clays and extensive dumping of kiln waste on top of the riverine deposits. It is expected that the Delftware kiln lies on an adjacent site due for redevelopment.

B & Q Supermarket site, Old Kent Road: The site lies immediately south of the presumed route of Watling Street. The Roman road was found to cross the site, parallel to and some 30m south of the modern road. Pottery from 1st to 4th centuries was recovered from the ditches, as was an intaglio with a bird design. In addition extensive areas of prehistoric occupation were found, in particular, flintworking areas containing dense concentrations of tools, cores and waste flakes, some of which fitted together.

18 Park Street: Five phases of early Roman ditches were found. These ditches were on the same alignment as a stone building excavated in 1984 at 24 Park Street and may represent boundaries.

St George's Circus: Work at the Surrey Theatre revealed extensive remains of the 1865 rebuilding of the Theatre, including the foyer, pit/stalls and orchestra. Evidence

was found of what may be a robbed-out wall foundation for the original 1782 "Royal Circus and Equestrian Philharmonic Academy", of significance as being the first modern purpose-built circus.

The Canterbury Theatre, Upper Marsh: The site lies within the medieval village of Lambeth Marsh. Neolithic and Bronze age flints and medieval ditches and pottery were found. Of major interest was the survival of substantial remains of the Canterbury, London's first purpose-built music hall, erected in 1852, rebuilt in 1877 and destroyed by bombing during the second world war. The infilled basements contained quantities of archaeological debris and many of the decorative finishes survived.

Platform Wharf, Rotherhithe: Neolithic flints and a fine neolithic polished stone axe were found and, also, large quantities of wasters and kiln debris from the delftware factory located to the north in the medieval manor house.

1-83 Peckham High Street: An evaluation on what would have been the northern edge of the medieval village of Peckham revealed sherds of Saxon and medieval pottery, along with 12th and 14th century features.

Clink Wharf/New British Wharf: the medieval stone riverfront wall, with some Tudor additions has been located.

EXCAVATIONS

South Farm, Lightwater

The seventh excavation season from the 3rd of August to the 1st of September 1991 will concentrate on the completion of areas commenced in 1989, including continued excavation of enclosure ditches, the multi-roomed early second century building, the Late Iron Age gateway and enclosure and a late third to fourth century building located inside this enclosure, together with underlying levels. The excavation is directed by G H Cole, AIFA, for the Surrey Heath Archaeological and Heritage Trust.

For further details and excavation application forms, please write to: The Director of Archaeology, The Archaeology Centre, 4-10 London Road, Bagshot, Surrey GU19 5HN or tel: 0276 51181 or fax: 0276 20336.

Guildford Castle Training Dig

8th to 28th July 1991. Details circulated with Bulletin 255 or apply to Castle Arch.

MISCELLANY

Chertsey Fun Day. To celebrate the end of Environment Week 1991, the Chertsey Society invites you to walk, cycle or run to Chertsey on Saturday, 18th May and see an exhibition on the history of Chertsey and other attractions. Mrs Boater on Chertsey 562785 has further details. The Sarah Brown Body Scanner Appeal for St Peter's Hospital will be the main charity to benefit.

The Quaker Tapestry Exhibition. 1st to 29th June 1991, Gallery 90, Ward Street, Guildford. The Tapestry begun in 1981 inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry traces the history and influence of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) since the mid 17th century. The separate panels consist of crewel embroidery on a background of handwoven woollen material and each panel shows Quaker involvement in the Industrial revolution, education, science, banking, commerce and the railways. Admission free Mondays-Fridays 10.00 – 4.30 pm. Saturdays 10.00 am – 12.30: 1.30 – 4.30 pm.

MEETINGS

27th April

"150 Years of the Brighton Line". A meeting organised by the Surrey Local History Council at Redhill commencing 2.00 pm (for further details see Bulletin 255.

1st May

"Ewell a village with a past." A talk by Charles Abdy to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society in St Mary's Church Hall, Kingston Road, Ewell at 8.00 pm.

7th May

"Buried in Metropolitan cemeteries." A talk by Brian Bloice et al to the Southwark and Lambeth Building Society at Hawkestone Hall, Kennington Road, SE1. 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

8th May

SAS Lecture Series "Monastic Surrey" by Rob Poulton at the Leatherhead Institute.

10th May

"Abingdon: the oldest town in England?" A talk by Tim Allen to the Richmond Archaeological Society (to be followed by the AGM) at Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8.00pm.

13th May

"The Work of the Surrey Archaeological Society." A talk by Rosamond Hanworth at the Guildford Institute, North Street, Guildford at 1.00pm.

15th May

SAS Lecture Series "Decorated Tiles and Glass" by Mrs Elizabeth Eames.

18th May

"The History of Oatlands." A talk (following the AGM) by Mr M E Blackman to the Walton & Weybridge LHS in the Weybridge Library Lecture Hall at 3.00 pm.

20th May

"Guildford Castle: history and archaeology." A talk by Matthew Alexander and Rob Poulton at the Guildford Institute at 1.00 pm.

21st May

"Tudor and Stuart London." A talk by Rosemary Weinstein to KuTAS in the Heritage Centre, Wheatfield Way, Kingston upon Thames at 8.00 pm.

22nd May

SAS Lecture Series "Town and Country" by Dennis Turner.

30th May

"Dating old photographs by the costumes depicted." A talk by Averil Lansdell to the Egham by Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham at 8.00 pm.

3rd June

"Excavation at Guildford Park Manor." A talk by Alan Crocker at the Guildford Institute at 1.00 pm.

5th June

"Stokesay Castle in Shropshire." A talk by Madge Moran to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society in St Mary's Church Hall, Kingston Road, Ewell at 8.00 pm.

PRELIMINARY NOTICES

13th July

SIHG Annual General Meeting at Farnham Maltings.

9th November

Surrey Local History Council's Symposium at the University of Surrey. Subject: Food and Drink.

Editor: Audrey Monk, Bryony Bank, Beech Hill, Hambledon, Nr. Godalming, GU8 4HL.

Next Issue: Copy to the Editor required by 3rd May 1991 for June issue.