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**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
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# Bulletin

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## COUNCIL NEWS

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### Subscriptions : Reminder

A reminder to those of you who do not pay your subscription by standing order. If you have not yet renewed your subscription for 1997/98 (see flyer included with *Bulletin* no 309) here are the current rates:

Ordinary Member	£20.00
Associate Member	£ 2.00
Junior Member (with Collections)	£ 5.00
Institutional Member (U.K.)	£25.00
Institutional Member (Overseas)	£35.00

Please send your subscriptions to me at Castle Arch. I am there on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9.30 – 2.20 (telephone or fax 01483 532454). If you decide not to renew your subscription, would you please let me know. Thank you.

*NB:* Someone left a lightweight pakamac at the Symposium at Dorking in February. If it's yours, we will willingly post it back to you!

*Susan Janaway*

### Treasure Act

A reception was held in the Money Gallery at the British Museum on the 19th February to mark the passing of the Treasure Act by the House of Commons in May last year.

Attended by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester, luminaries of the archaeological world as well as representatives of the Department of National Heritage, Trustees and members of the House of Lords who made a special contribution to guiding it through its perilous passages through the Lords and Commons.

Dr Robert Anderson, Director of the British Museum, welcomed guests and outlined the earlier attempts at a Treasure Act and paid warm tribute to the perseverance of Lady Hanworth and David Graham in persuading other interested parties to support the measure and obtaining a consensus, which was fundamental to the Bill's eventual success.

The Earl of Perth gently recalled the many vicissitudes in achieving all-party support in the Lords; his part in persuading Sir Anthony Grant MP to take up the Bill in the Commons; securing the Government's Agreement to adopt the Bill, and the decisive support of Baroness Trumpington which, finally, led to the Bill being passed on 10th May 1996.

Lord Ingelwood energetically described the part he played in overseeing the drafting of the Bill with the Treasury solicitors and delighted members of the Society by recalling that, as a young lad, he had been prevailed upon to attend upon his god-father Uvedale Lambert and Ken Gravett in various expeditions to date timber-framed houses. Owing to a certain incompatibility between the circumference of some parties and the diameter of others, he had been requested to squeeze into roof spaces and so enlighten his peers below of the finer points of the roof structure.

The somewhat chequered history of the Act was maintained to the last however. The proceedings were interrupted by the Museum's alarm system being activated at maximum decibels due to a suspected fire. Rather than evacuate the building, we were closely shepherded by security guards through a maze of passages and stairs to the inner recesses of the Museum adjoining the Board room where the evening was concluded with the speeches. The Society's contribution to the Reception and its initiative in steadfastly promoting the measure were recognised with genuine appreciation by those present.

The Code of Practice was passed on the 13th March 1997 and the Act will become law in September.

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## CONSERVATION MATTERS

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### The Bankside Theatres

Dennis Turner

The archaeological and conservation history of the Rose and Globe theatres on Bankside is well known and the running controversy has been well rehearsed (see references supplied). Last year Jean Wilson's 1995 study, *The Archaeology of Shakespeare*, with its last chapter on 'The Rose and Globe excavations, won a prestigious prize as the British Archaeology Book of the Year. In January 1997. Southwark Council's planning committee resolved the future of the Globe by granting permission for the listed Anchor Terrace (which crosses the Globe site) to be converted into flats following a ruling by English Heritage that 'further archaeological investigation with[in] the basement of Anchor Terrace is not justified at present'. The planning permission also extended to the erection of new flats above other foundations of the Globe currently beneath a car park.

Christopher Chippendale, with the aid of Andrew Gurr, English professor at Reading, has published a trenchant and well-argued editorial in the March issue of *Antiquity* criticising the English Heritage policy. The criticism is on the grounds that there was scope here for advancing knowledge by excavating beneath Anchor Terrace while still conserving for better future knowledge the majority of the remains of the Globe along with the currently conserved remains of the Rose. The article stimulated the BBC Radio 4 programme 'Today' to broadcast a short debate between Christopher Chippendale and Geoffrey Wainwright on the issue.

Blatherwick, S & Gurr, A with Orrell, J, 1992, Shakespeare's factory: archaeological evaluations on the site of the Globe Theatre, *Antiquity*, **66**, 315-33.

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Wilson, J, 1995, *The Archaeology of Shakespeare: the Material Legacy of Shakespeare's Theatre*, (Stroud: Alan Sutton, £19.99)

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## LIBRARY COMMITTEE

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Members may be interested to hear that plans for computerising the Society's Library records, beginning with the Research Collection, are proceeding well, after Council granted us the money in January. We have virtually decided on a software system which will enable anyone using the computer to retrieve references to all relevant documents by typing in a simple search term or terms. The Society's staff will also be able to print out lists in response to enquiries, and it should make an enormous difference in ease of access to Library material.

Our major task is now to enter material, initially the items from the Research Collection. Is there a Member out there who might have some substantial free time, from late Autumn 1997 onwards, and who might be prepared to take this on for us? We would be looking for, at most, two people, to work from Castle Arch, hopefully on a more or less continuous basis, so the work can carry on constantly. It means typing in information in accordance with stated rules, and calls for care and accuracy, with previous experience in this kind of work obviously an advantage. We anticipate that this will take at least a year, and it would be nice if someone could stay with the project for that time.

We would certainly anticipate paying travelling expenses to Castle Arch, and it may be possible to make a small additional payment on top of this.

If anyone thinks they might be interested in taking this on, do please contact me on Elstead 702237 to discuss it further.

If anyone has had any experience of compiling a thesaurus of archaeological and local history indexing terms or knows of such a thing that might be available to us, I would also be delighted to hear from them.

*Gillian Drew*

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## **VISITS COMMITTEE**

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### **Visit to Mistley and Harwich**

#### **The Essex Biennial History Fair**

**Sunday, 22nd June 1997**

***arranged by Josephine Carter, 01483 505502***

Pick ups:

8.00 Guildford Park Road

8.30 Dorking Council Offices

8.45 Reigate London Road Bus Stop opposite Red Cross Pub

After a brief coffee stop at Thurrock Service Station, we will travel to Mistley to see Essex Secret Bunker, a fully restored centre built for use during a nuclear attack. Apart from the huge Operations Room and all the authentic equipment there are videos and sound effects.

Mistley has two ruined churches and a new one. Mistley Towers (English Heritage) is the remains of one designed by Robert Adam in 1776. He was called in by Richard Rigby MP, Paymaster General of the Forces to George III, who was trying to establish a salt water spa there.

In the afternoon we go to the Essex History Fair in the centre of Harwich town. Apart from the History Fair, there is much in the town worth seeing: a wireless museum in the High Lighthouse; a well restored Electric Cinema built in 1911, still in use, one of the oldest in the country; the home of Christopher Jones, Master of the Mayflower. Samuel Pepys was their MP. Of special interest is the only other crane similar to ours by the Wey in Guildford, but with two treadwheels. It came from the disbanded Naval Yard, so is no longer on the original site.

Pub lunches or picnics can be had in Harwich.

The coach leaves Harwich at 5.00 pm.

TICKETS: Members £17 (£16 OAP); non-members £18 (£17). Those who prefer to explore Mistley instead of visiting the Bunker : Members £14; non-members £15; to include donations, gratuities, expenses, but not morning coffee. Please include SAE with your cheque to David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildford GU2 5NF.

## **Visit to Spitalfields, Bunhill Fields and Wesley's House, London E1 and EC1**

*arranged by Joyce Banks*

**Saturday, July 19th 1997**

- 10.30am Meet at Christ Church, Spitalfields, (London A-Z 5F 62)  
From Liverpool Street Station, take Bishopsgate exit, cross Bishopsgate, take Brushfield Street, 4th on right, cross Commercial Street, meet on left of church.
- 12 noon Guided walk around this interesting area of immigration; Huguenot, Jewish, Bangladeshi, including a wonderful 'hidden' synagogue.  
Lunch break. Food not too easy on Saturdays, but wide variety of places at Liverpool Street. Otherwise, both Bunhill Fields and Wesley's Chapel (see below) have benches for picnics.
- 1.30pm Meet at City Road gate to Bunhill Fields (A-Z 4D 62). From Old Street tube exit left and then right (City Road south, west side), two minutes walk, Nonconformist cemetery with many graves (eg Daniel Defoe, William Blake) in the accessible part, but we shall be admitted to the private part containing graves of Susanna Wesley, T F Buxton, etc.
- 2.15pm Cross City Road to Wesley's Chapel (1778), house (1779), and Museum.  
House a rare survival of an 18th century city house, largely unchanged, but very recently refurbished. On four floors plus basement, no lift!
- 3.30pm Guided tours of each, concluding with tea and biscuits.  
approx Parking possible at both the above locations.

TICKETS: to include admissions, tea and biscuits, from David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildford GU2 5NF. Members £8; members (OAPs and students) £6; non-members £9; OAP and student non-members £7. Numbers limited to 25.

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## **NOTES**

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### **A Preliminary Survey of Finds from Guildford Park      Helen Davies**

In the spring of 1993 four of the few remaining fields in Guildford Park were walked as part of an overall study of this former medieval deer park. These were Upper Henley Grove Field, Henley Fort Field, Six Acres on the Hill and Eight Acres on the Hill, located on the north facing dip slope between the Hog's Back Trackway and the A31. The field names are those used on the 1839-42 tithe map apportionment of Guildford Park.

The finds included: A great deal of tile, some miscellaneous metal objects, clay pipe stems, oyster shell fragments, sherds of industrially produced glass and pottery, stoneware, Staffordshire slipware, Red Border Ware (including some olive and green glazed sherds), and a few sherds of imported Chinese porcelain.

Guildford Park was sold by the Crown in 1624 to the first Earl of Annandale who turned the land over to pastoral and arable farming. The first farmsteads to be created were Manor Farm (adjacent to the site of the Royal Manor House), Wilderness Farm (suggested to be on the site of The Standinge), and Lodge Farm (suggested to be on or adjacent to the site of Palmer's Lodge). In 1709 the Guildford Park Estate as it was then known, was sold to the Earl of Onslow.

Referring to the Tithe Awards of 1839-42 for Guildford Park, the list for 1841 gives Upper Henley Grove Field with Henley Fort Field as arable fields associated with Wilderness Farm, and Six Acres on the Hill and Eight Acres on the Hill as arable fields associated with Manor Farm, all in the parish of Artington. The glass, ceramic, tile, metal, clay pipe and oyster shell finds would have been spread over the fields as part of midden heaps, and it is assumed that the rubbish heaps from the farms were spread on the land associated with each farm.

However, it is probable that refuse from Guildford town was also deposited on the various fields of the Guildford Park Estate. From a dispute over the ownership of the town 'soil and dirt' it was said that since living memory "...the mayor had been accustomed to take such dirt for himself or dispose of it as he thought fit, either using it on his own land or letting some neighbouring farmer have it". However, in 1756 the right of the then mayor to give the dirt to Mr Bicknell (one of several Bicknells who farmed Wilderness Farm on the Guildford Park Estate) was challenged by the bailiff to the Lord of the Manor. The bailiff insisted that Mr Bicknell "...should make some acknowledgement to allow him to take the dirt away", and the bailiff received "...half a dozen of Fowles at each of two or three of his feasts and perhaps some game, but no money". Thus, it is by no means evident whether the various finds collected during fieldwalking would have originated from either of the farmhouses, or reached the fields as common refuse from the town. The collection does, however, serve to reflect something of the range of pottery in use in Guildford from the 17thC onwards.

Six Acres on the Hill and Eight Acres on the Hill are today farmed as one field and include Picked Field. The site of the original field boundary between Six Acres and Eight Acres exists as a public footpath which runs from the Hog's Back Trackway between the two fields and towards Onslow Village. The remains of a field boundary between Eight Acres and Picked Field was not evident. Fieldwalking took place over four Sundays, in dry weather, on clay with flint soil. The ground had been freshly ploughed and immediately sown, and the crop was already coming through by the third Sunday of fieldwalking.

### **Acknowledgements**

I am deeply indebted to Kevin Fryer at Guildford Museum who devoted much of his time to identifying the pottery for me, and most grateful to everyone who came fieldwalking.

### **References:**

'Street cleansing and refuse collection in the 16th-19thC (with special reference to Surrey)'. Marie de G Eedle. SAS Collections Vol LXVIII. 1971. p 164.

### **Metal Detector Finds: recent recording work**

**David Williams**

Since the last group of finds from east Surrey was prepared for publication many new finds have been reported to me by clubs and individuals and some of these have been collected together and will form the subject of a future paper in the Collections. In the east of the county I have been liaising with the West Kent Detector Club, some of

whose members occasionally stray across the border into Surrey, and the Weald and Downland Detector Club which meets on the first Monday of each month at the Greyhound in Brighton Road, Redhill. The W & D Club is a recent formation whose activities are at present hampered by a lack of available land on which they may detect as a group. Permission for the Club to detect on land at Chelsham has recently been withdrawn leading members to suspect that the Treasure Act was somehow responsible. Enquiries soon revealed that neither the Treasure Act nor any misbehaviour by the detectorists was responsible; the tenant had simply just become aware that the landowner's policy was not to allow detecting. This lack of opportunity to detect is, in many ways, a pity as the potential gain in information from the continual recording of finds from a concentrated area can be considerable. It is to be hoped that a more relaxed attitude by landowners (for instance stipulating that finds from their land must be recorded) can be achieved coincident with the co-operative spirit already largely present from the detectorists themselves.



*Medieval harness pendant from Leatherhead. Scale 1:1.*

Recent Bronze Age finds have included a decorated flat axe from Nutfield and a few fragments of axes and swords from Greensand sites and a rapier tip from Albury. A third Late Bronze Age socketed axe has come from Priory Park, Reigate. Iron Age finds remain rare but include a strap union from Bletchingley, a discarded blank for an "Aylesford" type brooch from Leatherhead and an enamelled button-and-loop fastener from Sanderstead. Roman material includes a group of brooch fragments together with coins from Godstone (further evidence for some kind of roadside settlement there); a fine enamelled plate brooch with a central spoked 'wheel' and another in the form of a sandal, said to be from Addington; another plate brooch from Leatherhead; bow brooches of various types from Sanderstead, Bletchingley, Leatherhead and the Brockham area; and a part of a phallic cart lynch-pin from Chelsham. Mid to Late Saxon material includes a dress pin head of 9th century date from Cobham; a fine strap end with zoomorphic decoration in silver and *niello* from the Carshalton area; a crude lead alloy disc brooch of 10th or 11th century date from Tandridge; a pair of 11th century stirrup terminals (recently identified following the writer's research) from Brockham and Bletchingley; two 11th century Anglo-Scandinavian bridle cheek pieces from Nutfield and Tandridge; a few bridle link fragments of similar date; and a Late Saxon iron sword pommel from Ewell. Medieval material includes a number of seal dies including one of an Oliver Liricot, from Brockham; and a number of harness pendants including a superb enamelled example depicting a cockerel, from Leatherhead (see accompanying figure), and a unique

gilded example with a free-swinging cross with zoomorphic terminals, and separate studs, from Reigate. Notable amongst many other medieval dress accessories is a very fine enamelled buckle plate from Banstead, probably a 12/13th century Limoges product; a fine 15th century inscribed gold posy ring from Bletchingley and a number of fragments of purse frames including a few examples with *niello* inlay from Cobham. Also, the dog-shaped spout of a ewer, from Forest Green; a sword pommel from Cobham, and, unusually, part of a small adjustable candle holder from Bletchingley. Notable amongst the later material is a cloth seal bearing the arms of the Greenwich Royal Naval Hospital, which is one of many finds from Cobham.

## **Excavations at Kettlebury 103: an Early Mesolithic Flint Scatter on Hankley Common. Interim Report**

**Michael J Reynier,  
University of Nottingham**

### ***Background of Research***

Field walking in the mid 1970's by H Martingell led to the discovery of ten surface scatters of flint on Hankley Common, West Surrey. In 1977 the most promising of these, Scatter 103 (SU877396), was excavated by RM Jacobi and a small team of local enthusiasts. 5,336 pieces of struck flint were recovered, including 99 microliths, 14 scrapers and 20 cores. On the basis of the microlith typology it was evident that the whole assemblage belonged to the 'Horsham' assemblage-type (Clark 1934).

Small fragments of charred Hazelnut shell were also recovered from the deposit that contained the scatter, an iron-humus podzol overlying the Folkstone Beds of the Lower Greensand. As a result of the acid sand, charred fragments of hazelnut shell and charcoal were the only organic remains to be preserved. Two samples of the shells were dated (OxA 378) 8270±120 BP and (OxA 379) 7940±120 BP (Gillespie *et al* 1985). Only two other radiocarbon dates are available for 'Horsham' type assemblages, both from the East Hampshire site at Longmoor (Jacobi 1981). These dates are 500 to 1000 radiocarbon years older than those for Kettlebury, making it difficult to fit the 'Horsham' assemblages into a general sequence for Early Mesolithic settlement.

### ***New Excavations at Scatter 103***

The 1995 excavations had the following objectives: 1: to establish the level or levels of the flint assemblage in the soil profile; 2: to recover sufficient organic material to enable radiocarbon assay; 3: to obtain further information on the assemblage and its distribution and structure; and 4: to survey the location into the local and regional landscape. The excavation took place between 25th August and 1st September 1995 with a small team from the Surrey Archaeological Society.

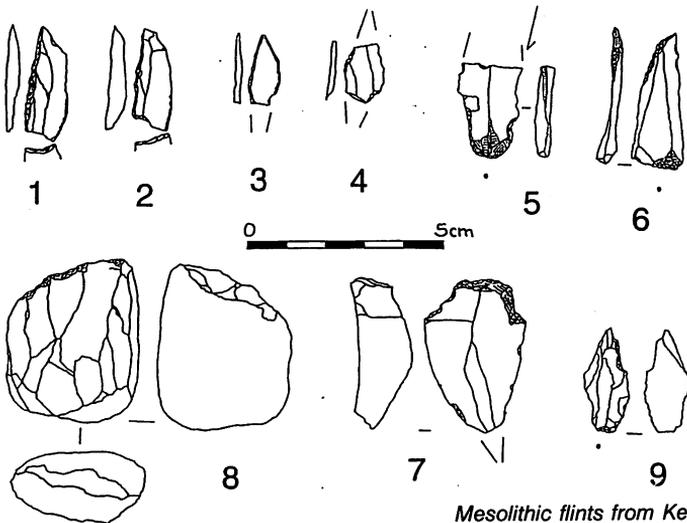
Two sondages suggested that the track that was the location of the 1977/8 excavations had shifted northward, and that the edge of the scatter now lay to the south of the present track. Exploration of the heather undergrowth in this area was successful in locating the edge of the 1977/8 trenches, which was five metres south of the present-day track.

Six metre square boxes were set out adjacent to the 1977/8 trenches and c40cms were excavated down into the iron pan. The boxes were sub-divided into quadrants A-D. B and C quadrants were excavated to the pan, with the finds from each kept separate. In order to establish the stratigraphy, quadrant A was excavated in 5cm spits with the finds from each spit separately labelled and bagged. Quadrant D was removed undisturbed, to be wet-sieved off site, primarily in order to retrieve small organic remains. All loose deposit was sieved on-site using 0.2cm mesh sieves.

## The Flint Assemblage

707 pieces of struck flint were recovered, and when D quadrant samples have been processed this figure is likely to exceed 1000. The principal artefact types are listed below. Of diagnostic artefacts the most valuable are two hollow-based points (Fig 1 and 2). This is a characteristic form in 'Horsham' type assemblages, occurring in no other recognised Mesolithic assemblage-type. The 1995 specimens have the hollow made from the dorsal surface of the bladelet, a feature of the 1977/8 Kettlebury assemblage. Another element common to 'Horsham' type assemblages are chamfered flakes or blades. Although no chamfered pieces are present in the 1995 assemblage, there are two characteristic chamfer spalls. The schedule of artefacts is as follows:

Microoliths	4	Cores	4
Scrapers	2	Core fragments	4
Burins	1	Core dressings	7
Piercers	1	Microburins	5
Notched Pieces	4	Spalls	1
Backed Pieces	2	Blades	27
Retouched Pieces	2	Flakes	32
Edge-damaged Pieces	3	Fragments	287
		Chips	308
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>707</b>



Mesolithic flints from Kettlebury 103.

PJ: The author has supplied nine drawings of flints with two identified in the text. Figs 3 and 4 are most likely the other two microoliths, fig 5 is shown as the burin, fig 6 is probably the piercer and fig 7 is certainly a scraper. Fig 8 might also be a scraper unless it is a core (or both), but fig 9 cannot be readily identified.

## The Organic Assemblage

Several fragments of charred hazelnut shell were found *in situ*. These form the basis of an application made to the Oxford AMS laboratory for radiocarbon dating. More organic material is expected from the D quadrant samples. Five samples of sediment were also taken from the south section of box 46A by I Dormor (Institute of Archaeology, Environmental Department) in the hope of obtaining a pollen assemblage preserved in the deposit.

## **Stratigraphy**

The A quadrants in each box recorded a similar stratigraphy across the excavation: 1: humus (0-5cm), 2: dark grey sand (6-15cm), 3: light grey sand (16-20cm), 4: white sand (21-35cm), 5: iron pan (>35cm). Struck flint was found throughout the sequence, but was concentrated between 10 and 25cm, largely in the grey sand and at the top of the white sand; c80% of the total assemblage was found between these levels, while c70% of the classified artefacts came specifically from between 10 and 20cm, ie the grey sands only. Towards the west the iron pan rose in depth and restricted the white sand to only 2-3cm.

## **Distribution of Assemblage**

The edges of the 1977/8 trenches were well preserved and enabled the 1995 excavation to be tied in to the original grid. The new material comes from boxes H7-11 and G9 of the 1977/8 grid. The frequency of struck flint from the new boxes suggests that scatter 103 is still dense along row H but suggests lower frequencies to the south, in row G; to the west the frequencies are increasing. A full survey was conducted by AJ Spence (British Museum Excavation Archive Officer). The location of scatter 103 was also tied in to local landmarks, but it was not possible to tie-in directly to the OS Grid.

## **Summary**

The excavation was successful in recovering the data required to answer those questions posed by Scatter 103, namely what is the time-frame of this assemblage-type and how does it relate to other Early Mesolithic assemblages in south east England. The final report will await the results of the various analyses proposed, when both the 1977/8 and 1995 material will be discussed together.

## **Acknowledgments**

The excavation was funded by the British Museum and permission was given to excavate by the Ministry of Defence. I am greatly indebted to Judie English, Audrey Graham, Rachel Gray, Pauline Hulse, Lucy Quinlan, Gaby Rapson, Steve Townend and Eric Waite as the digging team and to Tony Spence and Karen Perkins for surveying. Special thanks to Dr Roger Jacobi and Lt Col Bill Briggs (Rtd).

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## **Frensham Common: Barrow Conservation Project SU 854 408**

**David Graham**

Work was recently completed on repairing the badly eroded group of four Bronze Age barrows which lie on the King's Ridge between the Great and Little Ponds, south of Farnham.

Over recent years the barrows have suffered erosion from the ever increasing public use of the common and, by 1996, had lost up to half the height recorded by Grinsell's original survey of 1932 (SyAC 42 and 78). To protect the barrows, and particularly any turf cores, the Society initiated the project with the financial support of Surrey County Council. The work, which commenced with a survey by the RCHME, was largely organised by Waverley Borough Council countryside ranger Mike Coates with advice and help from the Society, English Heritage and the National Trust.

A capping of sand was placed over the eroded tops of the mounds to restore the domed profile, though not the original height of the monuments. This was sealed with a layer of heather and turf and the footpath re-instated. A small sign board is due to be erected explaining the significance of the barrows and asking visitors to keep to the footpath in order to minimise further damage.

The result of all this work is that the barrows are now, once again, visible from nearly the whole area of the common and, perhaps more importantly, any intact stratigraphy is safe for a few more years. It is to be hoped that similar projects can be initiated where necessary in other parts of the county.



*National Trust volunteers about to start work on one of the barrow mounds (Photo: Chris Shephard)*

## **The Guildford Chamber**

*A letter from David Stern:*

I have read the interesting letters in *British Archaeology* and hesitate to offer theories in view of the academic authority of David Bird, John Schofield and Joe Hillaby but, some of their puzzle comments prompt me to propose at least theoretical explanations of some of their questions. My sole qualifications for doing so are the several synagogues I have designed and some research into the history of Synagogue design.

It is true that an Apse or niche was not necessary to accommodate the Scrolls in a small synagogue; a large cupboard or cabinet would suffice, usually bolted to the wall. The *Toledo la Blanca* Synagogue (1250) was originally built as a Moorish Mosque so no niche would have been provided; the *Toledo el Transito* 1357 had in fact two niches, but it is not sure whether they were for the Tora Scrolls, and in the Prague *Altneushul* 1270, *Kazimierz* and others, the scrolls are locked in elaborately carved cabinets.

A large community was not necessary, but services could not be held without the presence of ten males (over the age of 13) and it seems probable that although the owner would enter from the main house, perhaps by the “barely worn” steps, the other members of the congregation were more likely to have come from outside at street level.

“Private” synagogues are unusual: Moses Montefiori built a “private synagogue” in Ramsgate (1833), but it was a miniature copy of one in his home town, Livorno, and hardly comparable. Although the Ark/niche ought to be on the East wall so that the congregation prays towards Jerusalem — if this is impractical it can be on the other walls — as in the otherwise orthodox Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue, which faces west. In the Guildford excavation there is an alcove in the north wall. However, the perpetual light should hang above or in front of the Scrolls and perhaps the blackening of the wall in the report by John Boas, Mary Alexander and Kevin Fryer in the SAS Bulletin 300 may help to fix the location of the Ark — if the Synagogue theory can be confirmed.

In ancient synagogues in the Middle East eg Masada 1st century, and in the Middle Ages, chairs or pews were not provided, but a stone shelf around the walls acted as seats for some of the congregation. This arrangement can be seen in the Masada synagogue and many since. David Bird’s reference to the differing levels of the ledge — if this was indeed intended for seating — could well have catered for congregants of different heights or children. Not having seen the excavations I cannot say if this is a tenable thesis, or was due merely to poor craftsmanship.

I hope these notes add a few scraps of information to fuel further thoughts by qualified archaeologists.

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## MISCELLANY

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### **The Refurbishment of Elmbridge Museum**

Elmbridge Museum was the first local authority museum in the country to receive money from the National Lottery. A review of the museum was written in May 1994 by the museum manager, Neil White, in liaison with the South East Museum Service. The review’s recommendation for the refurbishment of the museum was subsequently accepted by Elmbridge Borough Council and a professional museum designer, Peter Ney, was appointed to draw up the necessary plans and project costings in line with a design brief written by the museum manager. An application was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund in December 1994 with costings and plans showing the proposed refurbishment.

In April 1995 Lord Rothschild, chairman of the trustees of the N H M F, visited the museum to discuss the lottery application with the museum manager and a representative of Elmbridge Borough Council. The following week the museum was awarded a grant of £80,750 in the first round of lottery awards to museums and galleries. The Foundation for Sport and the Arts also gave a grant of £3,450 towards

the refurbishment, with the project balance being met by the Borough Council. The museum closed in November 1885. The old displays were taken out and the gallery prepared for building-in the new structures.

The re-opening on the 10th December 1996 was attended by a large number of people, variously estimated at between 150 and 200. After speeches by the Mayor of Elmbridge, Cllr Hugh Ashyon, and Loyd Grossman, chairman of the Campaign for Museums and a member of the Museums and Galleries Commission, the guests were free to wander round the museum. Many made for the permanent exhibition gallery where with the aid of special displays, period room-sets, audio-visual displays, exhibition cases and text panels the history of the Elmbridge area is traced from prehistoric times. Others lingered at the new shop with its wide selection of local history books, post cards, greetings cards, souvenirs and gifts. The museum also contains a local history studies room, a children's corner and a temporary display gallery. There are plans for a continuous programme of exhibitions, talks to local organisations and the reception of school parties and other groups.

Congratulations are owed to Neil White, Ian Plattford (assistant manager), Viv McKenzie and Anthea Holmes for the striking result of all the hard work they have put in, and both they and the museum are wished every success in the future.

Opening times are as follows: Monday to Wednesday and Friday: 11.00 – 5.00. Saturday 10.00 – 1.00, 2.00 – 6.00. Thursday and Sunday: Closed.

*The above is taken from the latest copy of "Dialstone", the newsheet of the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society.*

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## PUBLICATIONS

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**The Deepdene, Dorking** 1996 D Mercer and A A Jackson. 56 pages + appendices, bibliography, notes and references, and index. ISBN 1 870912 2SX. Published by the Local History Group of the Dorking and District Preservation Society, £7.95 + 75p p+p from June Spong, Tilehurst, 98 Fairfield Drive, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1JJ.

Deepdene, this book informs me, first became famous soon after Charles Howard inherited the house and lands in 1652 and created what John Evelyn called an "extraordinary garden" terraced into the sandstone hillside east of Dorking, complete with an *elaboratory* for botanical experiments. One of his accomplishments deserves to be more widely known. Aged 30, his *Herbarium* collection of up to 500 pressed wild flowers was bound between oak boards in a volume embossed "*1660 Charls Howard/Darking*" on the cover. Remarkably, this unique collection of Surrey flora of 336 years ago survives amongst the manuscripts held at Arundel Castle in Sussex.

No more of the joint authors' thunder ought to be stolen, but I can't resist snippets. Thomas Hope, who acquired Deepdene in the early 19th century, made such improvements to the mansion that by 1833 it was described as "the finest example in England of an Italian villa" in a fashionable review of such matters. His son Henry Hope became an MP, and also Vice-President of the newly-founded Surrey Archaeological Society. In 1857 he hosted its AGM at Deepdene. Perhaps he was making amends, as twenty-three years earlier he had ordered the destruction of what then remained of Betchworth Castle.

For more of Deepdene; its connections with Disraeli, Churchill and the Hope Diamond; its renaissance and decline as a motoring country hotel on the Brighton Road; and the encroachment soon after of a rather posh railway-commuter estate, I recommend you buy rather than borrow this booklet in support of the efforts of the Dorking Local History Group. I was reluctant to hand it on to the Society's Library. Its

design and presentation complement the quality of research to make a pleasing whole, and there is an added bonus, not just of five black and white reproductions of early 19th century watercolours of the grand house by William Bartlett, but also of several evocative turn-of-the-century photographs taken during the heyday of the early motoring hotel. *PJ*

**New SIHG Publication** The Surrey Industrial History Group has recently published the latest in its series of Guides to the Industrial History of the Districts and Boroughs of the County. **A Guide to the Industrial History of Reigate and Banstead Borough** by Derek Stidder. Copies of the book are now available in local bookshops, libraries and museums, price £5.00. However, members, and others, wishing to purchase copies may do so from Peter Tarplee, Donard, East Street, Bookham, Leatherhead, KT23 4QX. Please make cheques payable to SIHG, there is NO additional cost for postage and packing.

**The Index to the Dorking Tithe Terrier (c1838)**, by Mary Day and Allan Brigham. £5 + £1 p&p from Mrs Day, Kingswell, 12 The Street, Capel, RH5 5LE.

This book provides a valuable insight into Dorking at the start of Queen Victoria's reign, and it will be an essential aid to anyone trying to trace ancestors who may have lived in the town at this period. Used with the accompanying map, it will help to identify the exact location and size of named individual's houses. The Terrier was produced as a key to the Tithe Map, with each plot of land or house in the parish that is marked and numbered on the map being listed in the Terrier. Recorded against each entry is a brief description of the property and the name of the owner and occupier. The index covers the town of Dorking and its immediate surroundings. It reproduces the terrier and also rearranges the information into alphabetical lists of owners and occupiers. Accompanying the index is a reproduction of the Tithe Map of the town. The map and index will help all those interested in 19th century Dorking. *Cliff Webb*

**Researching Surrey's Past — A guide to sources.** As an initiative arising from the Surrey Heritage Strategy the County Council has produced a booklet listing the wide range of locations in which information about Surrey's past can be found. The booklet lists Record Offices, Museums, local History Societies, planning departments and national organisations that may help those carrying out historical research. Details are given of addresses, opening hours and whether appointments are necessary, as well as a brief description of the areas covered and what documents are held.

Copies may be purchased from County Hall or from many local Societies, price £2. Surrey public libraries and museums also have copies.

This book has been produced for the benefit of all with an interest in local history and it is hoped that many will make use of it. Inevitably this first edition will contain some errors and omissions: details of these should be passed to the County Archivist (0181-541-9051).

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## **WORK UNDERTAKEN BY UNITS IN THE HISTORIC COUNTY**

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From recent reports in circulation from **MOLAS** (Museum of London Archaeology Service) and **TVAS** (Thames Valley Archaeological Service)

**Lambeth, Broomgrove Road:** Watching brief by MOLAS in 1996; no features or finds.

**Lambeth, Vauxhall Walk:** Evaluation by MOLAS in 1996. Two trenches produced some residual prehistoric worked flints and some 18th and 19th century foundations of a school.

**Southwark, Benbow House, Bankside:** Drilling survey following an evaluation by MOLAS in 1995, which highlighted the presence of 16th/17th-century remains and 17th-century glassworking waste. English Heritage and Southwark Council would only allow development to proceed if these remains could be preserved *in situ*. Accordingly, MOLAS monitored a geotechnical investigation designed to locate 19th century and later intrusions and to diamond drill them to identify areas where archaeological deposits had already been destroyed.

Most archaeological observations were limited to noting the type of material and depth present below the base of concrete in a 55mm diameter diamond drill core. One small area, c2 x 12m, was stripped to the top of archaeological levels. These consisted of brick walls, brick and sandstone floors, dumps of sand and sandy silts, some containing glassworking debris. Two phases of structure were identified. No excavation took place, so dating is uncertain. The structures may relate to 18th-century buildings recorded in the evaluation, but at least one phase could be earlier. Out of twelve possible pile locations drilled, seven were where all the important remains had been destroyed by earlier foundations. *Bruno Barber*

**SOUTHWARK, Lafone Street:** Excavation by MOLAS following an evaluation in March 1996, in which part of a possible timber revetment of medieval or post-medieval date was located. Further remains of the timber structure were recovered, but, rather than a revetment, it is now provisionally thought to be the foundation for a bridge spanning an E-W channel. The date is likely to be medieval, but dendrochronology should help to narrow the range, since virtually no dating evidence was recovered on site. To the north of this channel, an earlier E-W feature, possibly a boundary ditch, ran across the site. This truncated a possible buried soil horizon which contained a fairly high proportion of worked flints, with occasional fragments of possible prehistoric pottery. To the south of this ditch, and truncated by the later channel, a number of criss-cross ard marks were revealed beneath the soil, cutting the natural sand. Similar ard marks have been found at the nearby sites of Phoenix Wharf and Wolseley Street. The second half of the site revealed a similar sequence to that found in Area 1 (natural sand, sandy ploughsoil, peat and alluvium). A small number of possible features were identified, including two post-holes. All are probably of prehistoric date. A number of worked flints were also recovered from the ploughsoil. No more ard marks or wooden structures were located. *Jackie Bates*

**SOUTHWARK, Magdalen Street:** Excavation by MOLAS in 1996, following an evaluation that revealed an E-W channel that was 4m wide. This had been repeatedly revetted and constructed from the early 16th century. Four phases of revetting were identified and these were constructed using oak planking nailed to upright oak and elm posts. The timbers had been re-used from at least two earlier ships — one a clinker-built barge and the other a later carvel-type vessel. During the last phase of revetting (c1600) non-ship timbers were utilised including barrel staves and parts of a handbarrow. The preservation of these timbers was extremely good, showing detailed carpentry marks and techniques. A number of late 16th/early 17th-century structures had been built on to the revetted channel (which was little more than an open sewer at this time), including timber-lined cesspits, a sluice and the remains of a privy. The channel was backfilled c1620 with domestic refuse. This deposit was particularly rich in artefacts, including many complete pots, delftware wasters, Bellarmines, glass, leather, pewter and wooden objects. In the early 18th century a number of dumped layers were deposited over the entire site allowing the construction of at least three brick-built structures and a number of wells and cesspits. The features associated with occupation in this period were very rich in finds. *Steve Chew*

**SOUTHWARK, Plough Way SE16:** Evaluation by MOLAS in 1996. No archaeological features, but a good sequence through river silts, peat and alluvial sands was recorded. This included an apparent interface between the river channel

and the peat, and evidence of standing freshwater pools. Environmental analysis was undertaken and results are awaited. *Simon Stevens*

**SOUTHWARK, Rainbow Quay, Rope Street:** Evaluation and Excavation by TVAS of two 20m evaluation trenches cut in March 1996. One contained no archaeological deposits, but a bog oak was retrieved from a peat deposit below alluvial layers. In the other, a series of post-medieval deposits were associated with large fragments of whale bone. The quay is noted for its association with the whaling industry.

Excavations in July and August 1996 revealed 19th century quayside facilities including light railways and the foundations of two late 18th century warehouses with associated cobbled yard and access road. Beneath was an earlier circular brick structure with an indented centre, which is probably the site of an early to mid 18th century vat used for rendering whale blubber. Also at this level, the original quayside was revealed, the construction being a wooden revetment made from re-used ship timbers. *S Ford*

**WANDSWORTH, St Joseph's School, Putney Bridge Road:** Evaluation by TVAS in 1995. No features or finds.

**WALTON ON THAMES, Betley Court:** Evaluation by TVAS in 1995. No features or finds.

**EPSOM, Manor Hospital, Christchurch Road:** Evaluation by TVAS in 1996. Old maps suggested the presence of a medieval moated manorial site, but only two archaeological features were identified in fifty-seven trenches, and both were of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. They were irregular scoops, only 0.2 m deep, containing pottery and struck flints. Much disturbance of the site had taken place during construction of the hospital.

**THAMES DITTON, Giggs Green:** Evaluation by TVAS in 1996. Thirty-eight trenches revealed no archaeological features, but unstratified struck flakes and sherds of pottery were recovered, including three of Saxon date. Area trenching where the Saxon sherds were found did not reveal any more deposits, features, or further finds of this period.

**MITCHAM, St Peter's Vicarage, 21 Church Road:** Evaluation by TVAS in 1996. In two of four trenches a pit and three ditches of Late Saxon/early medieval date were observed, and another pit contained an undated articulated skeleton of a horse.

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## **COURSES**

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### **Introduction to Archaeology: the techniques an Archaeologist uses**

Two-week courses at the Adult Education Centre, West Street, Farnham (Tuesdays 29th April and 6th May, both 11 – 1pm), and the Adult Education Centre at Godalming (Thursdays 12th June and 19th June, both 7.30 – 9.30pm).

Tutor for both courses is Elizabeth Whitbourn, BA, from whom further details of these, and of forthcoming GCSE and 'A' level archaeology courses that start in September, can be obtained. Tel: 01483 420575.

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## **EXCAVATIONS**

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### **Abinger Training Excavation**

The third season of this excavation will take place between July 19th and August 10th

1997; the training weeks are : 21.07.97 – 25.07.97, 28.07.97 – 01.08.97 and 04.08.97 – 08.08.97. Application forms are available from Judie English, 2, Rowland Road, Cranleigh GU6 8SW; tel: 01483 276724.

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## FIELD MEETINGS

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The following events have been organised by the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society. Although not stated in their submitted flyer, it would be advisable to notify your intention to attend, in case numbers are too great. Contact Paul Sowen, tel: 0181 651 1875.

**1st June Chislehurst Caves:** A guided tour of the chalk mines. Meet at the 'Caves', Old Hill, Chislehurst, at 12.15 pm. No special dress or equipment required.

**15th June The Building Stones of Croydon:** A geological tour around central Croydon led by Paul Rainey. Meet at the Town Hall Clocktower, Katherine Street, at 2.30 pm.

**28th June Merstham Stones and Railways:** A guided tour to examine transport aspects of the Merstham Gap, the terminus of the Croydon, Merstham and Godstone Iron Railway, and local quarries and their stones. Possible optional underground quarry visit after the main excursion. Meet at Merstham railway station at 10.15 am. Bring packed lunch.

**6th July Railway Archaeology in Croydon:** A guided tour. Meet at East Croydon railway station at 2.30 pm.

**27th September Building Stones and other Industrial features in Canterbury:** A guided tour. Meet at Canterbury WEST (not East) station at 10.30 am. Sandwiches or pub lunch.

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## LECTURE MEETINGS

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### 28th April

"The History of the Royal Grammar School, Guildford" by G Schofield to the Mayford and Woking District History Society, at the school itself (details not yet available).

### 29th April

"Churches in the Landscape" by Richard Morris (one of a series on Buildings in the Surrey Landscape: see 307) at Shalford Village Hall.

### 29th April

"The South Metropolitan Cemetery at West Norwood" by Bob Flanagan to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society, at Hawkstone Hall, the Lambeth North end of Kennington Road, two minutes walk from Lambeth North Underground, at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

### 6th May

"Farms and their Buildings" by Annabelle Hughes (one of a series on Buildings in the Surrey Landscape: see 307) at Shalford Village Hall.

### 6th May

"The National Monuments Record" by Diana Hale to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society, at the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston, at 8.00 pm.

**7th May**

"Glimpses of Prehistoric Scotland" by Peggy Cooper to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell, at 7.45 for 8.00pm.

**9th May**

"Excavations at London Bridge Station" by Pete Thompson of MoLAS, to the Richmond Archaeological Society, at the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond. at 8.00 pm. Non-members £2.

**13th May**

"Village Industries" by Peter Tarplee (one of a series on Buildings in the Surrey Landscape: see 307) at Shalford Village Hall.

**16th May**

"The Lost Palaces of Claremont" by Stephen Webbe, to the Leatherhead & District LHS, at the Dixon Hall of the Leatherhead Institute, at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Members 50p, non-members £1.00.

**16th May**

AGM followed by "Medieval Botany". A lecture by Dr Gerry Moss to the Holmesdale Natural History Club at The Museum, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate, at 8.15 pm. Members may bring guests on payment of a donation of £2. Please note that the date of this meeting is a week earlier than shown in the last Bulletin.

**20th May**

"Reformation and Early Puritanism in Kingston c1534-1598: John Udall, the town's Presbyterian lecturer" by Shaun Butters, to the Friends of Kingston Museum in the ante-chamber of the Market House, Market Place, Kingston, at 8.00 pm. Voluntary donation of £1.50 is suggested.

**20th May**

"The Restoration of Cobham Water Mill" by John Ball to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, at the East Croydon United Reformed Church Halls, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 7.45 pm.

**27th May**

"Recent Finds from Roman London" by Bruce Watson, to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, the Lambeth North end of Kennington Road, two minutes walk from Lambeth North Underground, at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.

**27th May**

"The History of Addiscombe Station" by Steve Earl of the SE&CR Preservation Society, to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, at the East Croydon United Reformed Church Halls, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 7.45 pm.

**29th May**

"The Privy Garden of King William III at Hampton Court" by Anthony Boulding to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8.00pm.

**26th June**

"Higher Education for Victorian Women" by Sophie Badham to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8.00pm.

**30th June**

"The History of Lurgashall Winery". A lecture by J P Schooter to the Mayford and Woking District History Society, at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, at 7.45pm.

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**Next Issue:** Copy required by 25th April for the June/July issue.

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