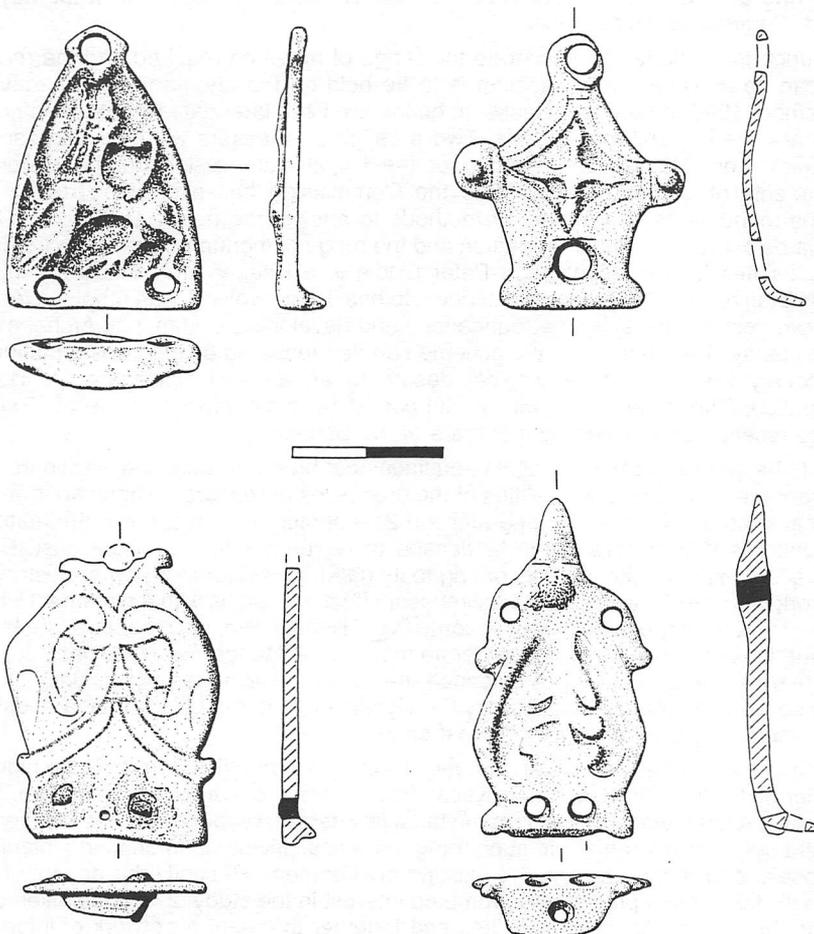




Bulletin

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LATE SAXON STIRRUP-STRAP MOUNTS
A selection from Surrey taken from a new book by David Williams.
See review inside.

All from Bletchingley except top right from Caterham. Scale in cms.

or

Archaeology, the Society, and You

'Community Archaeology' or archaeology in the community? A semantic question perhaps, but this Society, for the reasons outlined below, believes there is a need for more public involvement in archaeology. For nearly a hundred and fifty years the Society through its membership has promoted not only the study of man's past, but also the care of those physical features that illustrate mans progress through time. One aspect of this process is the current work of the Archaeological Research Committee in Landscape Archaeology, which is enhancing the knowledge of our prehistoric and historic past. Yet needs outstrip resources, and to focus the energies of all who are interested in our past the Society offers an initiative in what may be called 'Community Archaeology'.

To launch the initiative and illustrate the range of research required and the results that can be achieved a Symposium is to be held on the afternoon of Saturday 26 September 1998 at Farnham Castle, to be followed at a later date by a programme of seminars sited to suit local needs. Two prestigious speakers will lead the team at Farnham: Tom Hassall is Secretary of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England. Since 1908 the Commission has evolved to record the nations monuments in a variety of methods to answer the needs of the day. Their standards enjoy the highest reputation and the range of monuments extends from the earliest times to the recent past. Peter Liddle is a Keeper of Archaeology in the Leicestershire County Museums Service. He has been involved, with others, over the past two decades in laying the foundations and developing Community Archaeology in the county. The success of the scheme can be measured by the transformation of the county from an 'archaeological desert' to an area of significant prehistoric occupation. These speakers will be supported by three presentations of work in Surrey recently undertaken by members of the Society.

Whilst the introductory symposium outlines the broad issues, the seminars will consider the detail and practicalities of the processes of research. These are matters of great importance for a challenge for the 21st century is to recognise the features and patterns that survive in the landscape to tell us something of our past. Each generation has used the land according to its need, reusing, modifying or destroying the work of its predecessors. This palimpsest effect has left us with a statement which partially tells a story of land use over some five millennia. We, the inheritors, are faced with the task of deciphering and understanding this evidence. As in the past, current land use has lead to a loss of evidence that might have added significantly to our knowledge. The urgency is to identify the significant features before they are lost for ever, and it may be that now is our last chance.

The processes of deciphering and understanding what remains demands the highest standards from all involved. Analytical field survey, documentary research, soil analysis, architectural surveys to name but a few demand experience: equally there is a need for a wide range of supporting activities, including monitoring planning proposals, and photographing the existing environment. Recently the advent of the Society's Millennium project has prompted interest in the study of village settlements across the county. All these activities add together to create a network of informed public involvement and may be labelled 'Community Archaeology'. Whilst this concept seems ambitious it should not be forgotten that the Society already enjoys a network of local secretaries and it is hoped that this will grow in response to this initiative. The expansion of research against the background of financial stringency leads the Society to again underline the importance of volunteers who are willing to become involved in work of this nature.

The Seminars can be sited where there are local societies and groups who wish to become involved, and where potential archaeology exists on the ground. The forum so created can provide an opportunity to address such issues as fieldwork, interpretation, illustration, preparing reports, networking, and liaison with Local Authorities, landowners, farmers, etc. Further details of the first seminars will be given in a subsequent Bulletin and at the Symposium. Details of the inaugural symposium together with an invitation to attend will similarly appear in the *Bulletin*. Admittance to the symposium will be free, but tickets are strictly limited and will be available in July. Local societies and groups who are interested in becoming involved and offering a venue for the follow-up seminars are invited to communicate their interest to the Hon. Secretary at Castle Arch.

The Society looks forward to the challenge of continuing to play a leading role in promoting and encouraging the study of man's past in the historic county of Surrey, and looks forward to a response which will set the standard for the 21st century.

Outline programme for Saturday 26 September:

Late morning tour of parts of the Castle

Break for lunch — there are many venues in the town

Symposium in the afternoon

Tranchet axe knapping site in Banstead

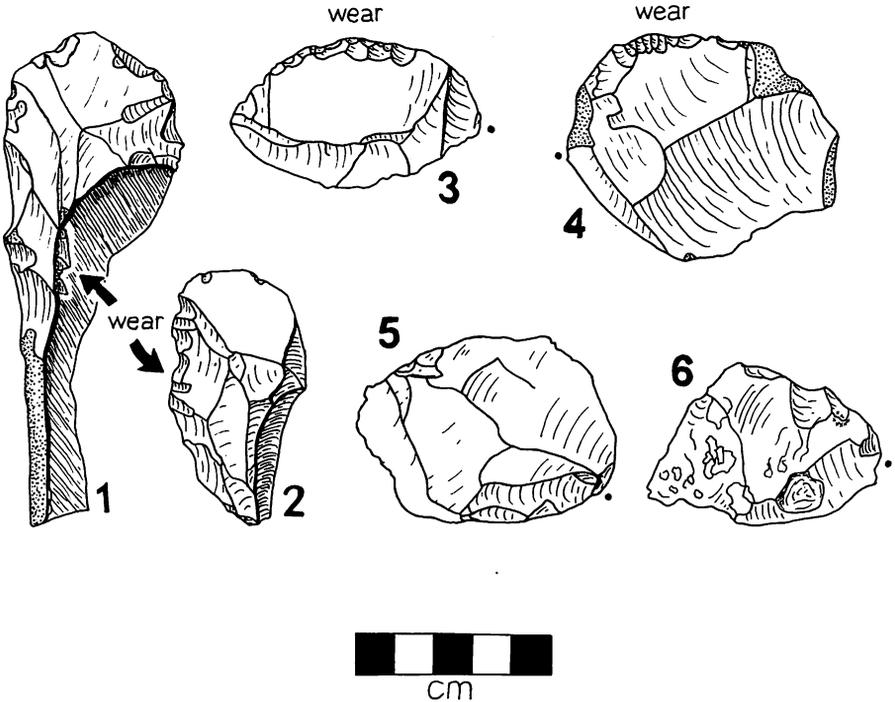
Peter Harp

In October 1997 (*Bulletin* no 314) I reported finding as a surface find, a miniature tranchet axe (no. 2 on the drawing) in a predominantly Neolithic/Bronze Age lithic scatter near the Tumble Beacon. (Having had a few more months looking at it I have now decided that it is not patinated grey/blue as I suggested but it is made from a slightly bluer flint than most of the recovered flintwork from the scatter. Also, although there is no wear to the sharp cutting edge at the end of the axe, there is some wear on one of the lateral sides.) The site is currently under cultivation and in January this year a trench dug for runner beans within 2m of the earlier findspot truncated a concentration of lithic waste which was at a depth of between 0.5 and 0.75m.

The latest material includes a broken tranchet axe (no. 1), and four tranchet axe sharpening flakes (nos. 3,4,5 & 6). All this material was in a concentration about 0.5m across. Also in the concentration were a broken retouched tertiary flake, four blades, 20 primary flakes (>50% cortex on the dorsal surface), 25 secondary flakes (>50% cortex), 25 tertiary flakes (0% cortex), three burnt flakes and a burnt flint. One of the tranchet axe sharpening flakes (no. 6) had also been burnt. The material recovered is unpatinated, with a matt surface, feather-sharp edges and has evidently never been in the ploughzone.

Although there were no discernible edges to the concentration of material, they may have been difficult to detect since the subsoil in which the concentration was lying is soft Thanet sand. The material seems to represent a collection of waste flakes generated from both re-sharpening worn tranchet-axes and from the knapping of one or more new axes. The miniature axe found a year earlier probably came from the same deposit and was brought to the surface by winter digging.

The wear on the two axes is interesting. On the miniature axe the clearly intended cutting edge is unworn apart from a couple of very small superficial nicks while the wear is restricted to one side, and on the larger axe there is wear not only around the cutting edge, but also in the middle of the axe which must post-date the axe breaking. It seems that the larger axe broke when the knapper tried to remove a tranchet sharpening flake, and so it was subsequently used as a concave scraper before being discarded.



Broken Axe and Sharpening Flakes from near Tumble Beacon, Banstead.

In view of the fact that there may be more stratified lithic material on the site, The North Downs Plateau Archaeological Research Group are going to start an open area excavation near the site of the recovered axes and sharpening flakes. The excavation will cover an area of 225m², and the Group hope to sieve all of the topsoil before seeing whether there is any undisturbed material underneath. In view of the magnitude of this task, I expect the excavation to take several years over evenings and weekends. One of the questions we hope to answer is whether there are datable deposits of tranchet axe production waste on site, and if so whether they can be dated to the Mesolithic or to the Neolithic. Although tranchet axes are normally automatically dated as Mesolithic, there have been previous examples of them being recovered from Neolithic contexts such as at Cranborne Chase, the Sussex Downs and perhaps at the East Horsley flint mine. This would obviously have dating implications for the large number of tranchet axes recovered from the North Downs as surface finds.

The excavation should prove to be of varied interest as nearby fieldwalking has recovered, apart from hundreds of pieces of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flintwork, a Palaeolithic 'bashed lump' and numerous sherds of Roman and medieval pottery. (An axe fragment and a pick fragment from the site were illustrated in *Bulletin* no. 317.)

WORK BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNITS

Some of the archaeological fieldwork conducted in Surrey, mostly during the second half of 1997, is listed below. A key to the acronyms used is as follows:

ASE	Archaeology South-East
CKC	Chris K Currie Archaeological Services
MoLAS	Museum of London Archaeological Services
NSFF	No significant features or finds
PCA	Pre-Construct Archaeology
SuAS	Sutton Archaeological Services
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Services
WA	Wessex Archaeology

Runnymede

Egham, 81 High Street. Evaluation by TVAS in June and October 1997. An evaluation trench located close to the front of the High Street revealed a medieval cobbled surface, earlier medieval postholes and a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit and ditch.

Spelthorne

Stanwell, Long Lane. Watching brief by TVAS in September 1997. *NSFF*.

Stanwell, Short Lane. Watching brief by TVAS in September 1997. *NSFF*.

Stanwell Moor. Evaluation by TVAS in November 1997 revealed a small pit and a burnt flint scatter of Bronze Age or Neolithic date.

Stanwell, Cargo Point, Bedfont Road (TQ 067 742). Excavation by MoLAS last summer following an earlier evaluation. The remains of Bronze Age field systems were identified as well as evidence of earlier activity in the form of an early Neolithic arrowhead and two snapped blades. Most features were medieval, including several wells, pits and post-holes; and the gullies and ditches of field systems. One group of post-holes was of a rectangular structure. A series of 18th century roadside ditches lay alongside Bedfont Road.

Croydon

Croydon, 238 Pampisford Road. Evaluation by TVAS in May 1997. *NSFF*.

Croydon, Limsfield Road Primary School (TQ 34226054; LFD 97). Evaluation by MoLAS late in 1997. *NSFF*.

Croydon, Waddon Goods Yard, Purley Way (TQ 31 116485; PUY 86). Evaluation and Watching Brief by MoLAS late in 1997. "Mesolithic to Bronze Age flints, Roman and medieval tile."

Elmbridge

Coxes Lock (TQ 05105412) and **Town Lock** (TQ 06806474), Wey Navigation. Archaeological recording by CKC in February 1997 of the two historic locks. Repair work had required them to be partially drained, allowing the recording of features normally below water. The pairs of drain-down sluices at both locks were probably built in the late 18th century, although their upper parts have been rebuilt. Elsewhere on both locks, lower parts contain the oldest materials. The downstream end of Weybridge Lock immediately above and below the lower gates seems to exhibit older brickwork than the upper levels of the lock. Similar survival seems to exist below the lower gates of Coxes Lock where a date stone inscribed '1770' appears to be *in situ*. Survival of such original material in the locks of the Wey Navigation is rare as a result of rebuilding from the 1950s onwards.

Waverley

Godalming Wharf (SU 8746444411). Watching Brief by CKC in March 1997 of a drainage trench machine-dug for the National Trust in the car park by the side of the 18th century wharf. This showed that the surface of the wharf was made with

chalk, and this probably occurred in the 1760s. In the 1830s alterations following the infilling of the Barkhouse Cut probably extended the river bank a few metres to the north. The original edge of the wharf is marked by a compacted chalk surface that supported a trackway alongside the river. To the south was an area used to store coal, tiles and pipes in 1900. A concrete wall foundation probably represents the edge of this storage area, or 'pens' as they marked on a plan of 1900, and was probably put up at some time after 1832. It is uncertain when coal was first stored there, but this may have always been its use. The archaeology of the trench largely supported this chronology.

Hambledon, Hydestile Hospital. Evaluation by TVAS in August 1997. *NSFF*.

Kingston

Old Malden, Church Road (TQ 21206615; OLM 97). Excavation by WA late in 1997. Mesolithic flints, Bronze Age sherds, Iron Age ditches and pits, Roman ditches and post-holes, medieval ditches and watering-hole, post-medieval features and garden remains.

Lambeth

Lambeth, Jubilee Gardens, Proposed Millennium Wheel site. Borehole survey (a series of four) by MoLAS last autumn. Some palaeo-environmental data was gained, but little else.

Merton

Colliers Wood High Street (TQ 26727014; CCC 97). Evaluation by MoLAS late in 1997. Prehistoric buried channel, Stane Street Roman road and ditch, post-medieval ditch.

Merton 145 Morden Road (TQ 26726821; MRD 97). Evaluation by PCA late in 1997. Undated alluvial deposits; post-medieval sherds.

Merton, 110 Ridgway (TQ 23287033; RGW 97). Evaluation by MoLAS late in 1997. *NSFF*.

Reigate and Banstead

Reigate, 1-5 Castlefield Road (TQ 25455045). Evaluation in 1997 by CKC following an earlier desk-top assessment. The site lies close to the Town Hall which lies over the moat of Reigate Castle. Three medieval or early post-medieval field ditches, two undated post-holes and a pit with a brick fragment.

Burgh Heath, Chapel Way. Evaluation by TVAS in August 1997. The evaluation located a Roman pit and a medieval ditch. A follow-up excavation also located two medieval ovens, part of an undated ring-gully, a Roman gully and two small undated pits containing burnt bone.

Farleigh, St Mary's Church Hall. Watching brief by TVAS in August 1997. *NSFF*.

Redhill, Redstone Annexe. Watching brief by TVAS in September 1997. *NSFF*.

Southwark

Southwark, Adlards Wharf, Bermondsey Wall West. Excavation by PCA in April following an earlier evaluation (*Bulletin* 315). A sequence of medieval to 19th century waterfronts was found as well as a large timber-built jetty. Many of the waterfront timbers came from boats and ships of the 16th and 17th centuries. Peter Marsden, who will be analysing the ships timbers in preparation for a report has described them as unique and of national importance.

Peckham, 64-74 Queens Road. Evaluation by TVAS in June. *NSFF*.

Southwark, Hunts House, Guys Hospital. Evaluation by PCA in August and September, through the basement floor. Prehistoric features and Neolithic flints;

Roman revetments on the Guys Channel and other drainage channels, with reclamation dumps. Excavations were due to proceed in January.

Southwark, Pontoon Foreshore. Survey and evaluation by MoLAS from June to September. Eleven test pits and bore-holes sampled the deposits of the foreshore. Plant remains from one organic layer were radiocarbon-dated to the Neolithic period.

Southwark, Brunswick Court. Building survey of a vinegar factory and an evaluation by PCA in June. Burnt and struck flints were recovered from alluvial deposits, but no prehistoric features were located; some Roman and post-medieval features were revealed, "mostly linear".

Southwark, 10-18 London Bridge Street (LNB 97). "A watching brief by MoLAS was undertaken to record deposits exposed in two drainage ditches and a lift pit, and to act as an evaluation of these works. The trenches showed evidence of early post-medieval garden soil, and the lift pit revealed two chalk walls. The area of the lift pit became an excavation. Both walls were aligned slightly NW-SE; the eastern one had a return wall running eastwards. This feature was the remains of a backfilled cellar constructed of chalk, ragstone and flint. Two re-used grave slabs, one adult and one child, dated to 1200-1350 were found within the wall, forming lintels. The child's coffin was inscribed in Lombardian script — RATOR — on one side and S:D:? on the other. The wall cut through a 15th century dump, which overlay a dark earth deposit which, in turn, sealed a Roman pit and a linear feature, possibly a drain. Finds from the site include two whole 15th century pots, a thimble, a buckle, and a whetstone." *Portia Askew*

Southwark, St George the Martyr, Borough High Street. Evaluation by ASE in October. Test pits and bore-holes in the crypt and churchyard found human bones, including some inlead coffins, Roman sherds also retrieved.

Southwark, 718 Old Kent Road/2a Asylum Road. Evaluation by AOC in October. Much disturbed; only 19th century features.

Southwark, Hope Sufferance Wharf. Watching Brief by AOC in December. Alluvial deposits sealed by 18th century dumps which contained a large quantity of tobacco clay pipes. These are currently being examined for a report.

Southwark, Trinity Wharf. Evaluation of part of the site by PCA in December involved five test pits. "In one area, a quantity of tin-glazed earthenware and a wooden structure were revealed." Further evaluation of the site was recommended by the archaeological contractors.

Bankside, Benbow House (BAN 95). Excavations by MoLAS late last year following earlier evaluations and watching briefs. Chalk walls and a cellar of medieval date are probably the remains of the infamous 'stews' ie brothels that the Bishop of Winchester owned along the Bankside river frontage. The cellar was eventually backfilled with a large amount of Delftware pottery kiln debris. Later brick cellars contained glass-making debris. Sand and crushed concrete was laid to preserve and prevent damage of the surviving archaeology.

Southwark, 2 Asylum Road (TQ 3477752; ASK 97). Evaluation by AOC late in 1997. "Post-medieval surfaces, pits, foundations and drainage features". *Precise age and importance not stated.*

Rotherhithe, Trinity Wharf (TQ 32378011; TRW 97), Evaluation by MoLAS late in 1997. "Undated alluvial deposits, post-medieval post-holes, foundations, and reclamation dumps".

Surrey Heath

Bagshot, London Road (SU 91186348). Evaluation and Watching Brief by WA in May 1997 north from where Roman, post-medieval and possible prehistoric deposits were excavated in 1996 (*Bulletin*). Much ground disturbance, and only a 19th century wall and dumped deposits were found.

Sutton

Sutton, 256-264 Croydon Road (TQ 29886500; CYN 97). Evaluation by MoLAS late in 1997. "Prehistoric flints, undated post-hole structure".

Wallington Green, Dukes Head Public House (TQ 28606458; WLG 97). Excavation by SuAS late in 1997. "Prehistoric flints, post-medieval foundations".

Wandsworth

Wandsworth, Cathles Road (TQ 28867403). Evaluation by MoLAS late in 1997. *NSFF*.

Wandsworth, Gwynne Road (TQ 26877625; GWN 97). Evaluation by SuAS late in 1997. "Post-medieval deposits and a 19th century cellar".

Weybridge and Guildford

Wey Navigation Boathouses. Recording by CKC in 1997 of a series of rare survivals of Victorian and Edwardian boat-houses dating from c1890 to 1935, for the National Trust Sites and Monuments data-base.

COUNCIL MATTERS

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 1998/99 (see flyer included with *Bulletin* no. 318) 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 here on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9.30 – 2.15 (telephone or fax 01483 532454). If you decide not to renew your subscription, would you please let me know? Thank you.

Susan Janaway

Insurance and Indemnities

Excavation Directors and Diggers please note:

Excavation Insurance — Directors of excavations are reminded that for insurance purposes it is essential that notification be given of any forthcoming excavation, whether or not involving mechanical diggers. 'Fieldwalking' and 'surveying' must also be notified. Notification must also be given, on forms available from Castle Arch, to Mr Brian Moore of Moore Financial Services, Hurdles, Priorsfield Road, Godalming GU7 2RQ (Tel: 01483 810334 — Fax: 01483 810967: an answering machine is used on occasion. Please remember that COVER AFTER THE EVENT IS TOO LATE!

Personal Accident Insurance — All volunteers on excavations, including fieldwalking, 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 negligently put a pickaxe through someone else's foot, or if they do it

to you, that will be covered 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 £50 of any claim there is no point in making a claim for anything less although the 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. 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 Moore (at the address shown above) 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 (c/o Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX).

Professional Indemnity Insurance — All members of the Society should be aware that if they are called upon to give advice or express an opinion, there is a possibility that, if that advice proves to be ill-founded, they expose themselves to the possibility of a claim from any third party who believes they may have suffered damage as a result of that advice. The fact that no payment is made for that advice is irrelevant.

The Society believes the risk is small and Council decided at its last meeting that it would not take out professional indemnity cover.

The Officers of the Society are, however, seeking ways to limit such risks. Firstly, it should be made clear that, unless authorised in writing by an Honorary Officer or Chairman of a committee, any view expressed is entirely that of the individual member. Secondly members are advised not to give advice, but to ensure that the view expressed is a personal opinion.

We do not seek to inhibit members from taking part in consultations over local matters, particularly where our knowledge and expertise may have a beneficial influence on the preservation of our historic environment. We feel it only proper, however, that members should be aware of the advice the Society has received.

OBITUARY

Lilian Thornhill (1907-1998)

Lilian Thornhill, a leading member of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, and for 30 years amongst Croydon's foremost archaeologists and historians, died on Tuesday, 3 February, in her 91st year.

Lily Brown was born on 7 June 1907, and lived in Croydon since she was two years old. She attended the primary school at Woodside, and Old Palace School from 1919 to 1925. She went on to study at Goldsmiths' College at New Cross, qualified as a teacher, and spent her working life as a teacher at Waddon and Oval Road Primary Schools until her retirement in 1967.

In retirement, she pursued a four-year course at the Institute of Archaeology (University of London), and qualified for an extramural Diploma in Archaeology. She also became an extraordinarily active member of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, and especially of its Archaeology and Local

History sections, and directed or assisted with a number of excavations. She served as Secretary to the Archaeology Section for some years, and then as Chairman. She was elected a member of the Society's Council on 22 March 1968, and served continuously until 29 April 1987, serving a two-year term as President during 1973-75.

She was actively engaged on archaeological excavations, especially in Croydon's 'Old Town' area, on Croham Hurst, and at Addington and South Norwood. Dr Peter Drewett, and David Rudling, now professional archaeologists, assisted with this work when they were young members of the Society. She was also a keen and active member of the Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey), and the author of a number of that body's Reports on buildings in Croydon and east Surrey. She was generous with her time in assisting with the Society's library, and donated archaeological periodicals to strengthen its holdings. She did important work cataloguing the collections of Walter H Bennett, and continued with this work when the Bennett Collection came into the Society's care. She chaired the committee established by the Society, jointly with Croydon College and other bodies, to plan a major exhibition at the Fairfield Halls to mark European Architectural Heritage Year, in 1975. Alongside this she suggested, and worked for the establishment of, the Croydon Society. That body, of which she was vice-President, was founded during European Architectural Heritage Year, and continues to act as the amenity society for the Borough, concerning itself with conservation and town and country planning matters. Thornhill Copse, in the Lloyd Park area, was named in her honour, in recognition for her work in town conservation.

Lilian was the author of a steady stream of published notes, full-length papers, and substantial booklets, from the 1960s onwards. These were published by, amongst other bodies, the Bourne Society, the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, the Croydon Society, the Friends of the Old Palace, the Kent Archaeological Society, the London Archaeologist, the Spring Park Residents' Association, and the Surrey Archaeological Society. She was co-author of histories of Old Palace and Oval Road Schools.

Her most important publications included *Conservation areas of Croydon* (Croydon Society, 1987); the *Archaeology of Addington and Woodside* (North Downs Press, 1983 and 86). Alongside there were major papers, including her two Presidential Press Addresses, published in the *Proceedings* of this Society. These included *Excavations in Church Meadow, Addington Village* (1973), Report on fieldwork in Addington, Surrey, 1970-1972 (1975), *School log books: their contribution to social history* (1976); *A Croydon backcloth. Some little-known estate maps in Lambeth Palace Library* (1977); and *From palace to workhouse. A Study of the Old Palace, Croydon from 1780-1887* (1987).

Lilian Thornhill displayed astonishing energy in her archaeological and historical work, and the ability and determination to see projects through to completion. Determination, too, saw her through previous periods of ill-health. When she was admitted to the Villa Maria nursing home in November 1996, the matron described Lilian as 'very poorly'; but within nine months she had made a remarkable recovery, and although confined to a wheelchair she remained actively alert, and interested in the Society and its work. Few members of the Society won so much affection and respect as she did. Her husband, Eric, pre-deceased her. She is survived by her sons Alan and Roger.

Paul W Sowan

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Annual Symposium held at Dorking on the 21st February

Under the chairmanship of Gerry Moss a full and varied programme of talks was given to a full capacity audience, and some credit must be given to the new microphone system which was a vast improvement upon the problems encountered last year.

Steve Dyer presented the first talk of the day which was a lucid resume of the 1997 training dig at Cocks Farm, Abinger. This had achieved the aim of establishing the area to be scheduled and had shown that the Romano-British villa was larger than it had seemed to be according to the nineteenth century plan. We now await the final report in which there will doubtless be as many questions as answers.

As the organiser of the symposium, Steve Dyer was thanked immediately, before he had to leave for another engagement, and the podium was handed over to Rob Poulton of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit for a rapid overview of work done by the Unit in 1997. Apparently, it had been a very busy year with a number of fieldwork projects which had proved largely negative, but we were treated to edited highlights of some more important sites, such as the Bronze Age waterhole at Home Farm, Laleham, and Iron Age ditches and gullies at Tongham, suggestive of settlement, as were the finds at Pirbright Manor, an area previously believed to be bereft of Iron Age deposits. Roman sites at Hengrove Farm, which was a substantial Roman rural site and structures at Barnwood School were featured, as was the work on various town sites in Guildford, Chertsey and Reigate, ending this very informative talk which ranged across the county and historic time.

A short break allowed time to look at the displays by local groups in contention for the Margary Award, after which Surrey Young Archaeological Club members, Daniel Bayley, Katie Shiels, Joe Gosden and Nick Gilmour each gave a short talk on the pleasures and interests in belonging to the club. Katie Shiels deserves a special mention for her contribution, for as a very composed nine year old she not only presented her piece about the varied work she had done as a member but had also written a poem about her experiences on the summer dig which proved to be a highlight of the day.

The Museum of London Archaeological Service was represented by Geoff Potter who took us through the more productive work which they had carried out in south-west London. These included a possible Saxon settlement area in Mitcham and extensive waterfront finds at Kingston Bridge including white and red wares. At Colliers Wood, an area of Stane Street had been uncovered which had raised questions about the purpose of mounded areas on either side, and, pondering this interpretive mystery, we broke for lunch.

On reconvening, the Margary Award was presented by Gerry Moss. Richmond Archaeological Society were the runners up this year, and the Margary Award was given to the Bourne Society for their display about Chelsham Roman villa. Then Paul Hill of the Kingston Heritage Service gave a lively talk about the Kingston Museum, showing what curators do with the artefacts found by excavators. The museum had been closed in 1992-94 for refurbishment and a policy review, and now has a gallery funded by the National Lottery, which shows the archaeological heritage of the borough using much of the large collection belonging to the museum. The Surrey Archaeological Society was particularly thanked for the loan of trading tokens which meant that a complete collection of Kingston tokens was on display.

Kingston was also the setting for the next speaker, Dave Rudling of Archaeology South East, who took us through the excavation of the Quakers' Burial Site in 1996. This was of some importance since no other excavation of a Quaker burial site has

been undertaken and there was much knowledge to be gained. For example, the orientation of the graves did not appear to be of great concern to the Quakers; also, those richer members of the sect did not adhere to the rules of the Society against coffin plaques or headstones.

This was followed by Chris Shephard of the Surrey Industrial History Group, who talked about old photographs as a source for local studies. There was a great deal of useful information about where to look for such photos, including such less well known sources as the Womens Institute and car boot sales. The illustrative slides were well chosen and full of interesting detail, and this made a very enjoyable session before tea.

Finally, a talk about the archaeology of the Thames was given by Bob Cowie of the Richmond Archaeological Society. This was a brief summary of the work the Society are undertaking on the foreshore, an area which had been ignored until recently but which contains a rich archaeological legacy and a wealth of artefacts. Due to the nature of the area being surveyed there have to be regular briefings on health and safety but many sites are being discovered. MOLAS and the Thames Archaeological Survey were thanked for their support especially in the area of environmental evidence being gathered from plant and animal remains in ancient soil deposits which illuminated the changes along the river and its habitat. Other discoveries included fish traps and a number of modern boats. Mention was also made of the Time Team episode at Richmond in which Richmond Archaeological Society and MOLAS did most of the work and Time Team provided the drama. The publicity, however, was useful and the society also has an education policy in an effort to keep archaeology in the public eye.

After this excellent presentation, the symposium was closed by Gerry Moss who thanked all the speakers, Steve Dyer, Sue Janaway who had dealt with the tickets, Richard Muir who had manned the slide projector, and the caterers. Judie English then thanked Gerry Moss and the audience for their part in a very successful day.

Alan Hall & Rose Hooker

MISCELLANY

Wanborough Coins

From Rosamond Hanworth:

In *Bulletin* 318 the question is asked 'did the SyAC make similar protestations to the National Museum of Wales when it became known that they had acquired 19 gold and silver "possible Wanborough coins"?' Yes indeed. As I was then President. I wrote to the Museum's curator, the late George Boon and received a concerned and apologetic reply. The coins had been bought in good faith and Boon subsequently became one of our most helpful protagonists in the campaign for the reform of the law of Treasure Trove.

I have in my possession a copy, which he sent me, of a letter George Boon wrote in March 1990 to Robert van Ardsell of New York, who had been asked by Spinks to write a paper on the Wanborough affair. An extract from it reads as follows:

".....When I was at the Museum I maintained that objects once unearthed could never be 'un-found' and that it was incumbent on me to do what I could to save at least the intrinsic interest of material by acquiring it. Better to buy in coins than to allow them to get further astray and lost to knowledge. I stick by this. One never commissioned discoveries, but was passive..... By all means quote me".

This policy had evidently been arrived at unwillingly. However it is contradicted by the provisions of the IOCM Code of Professional Bodies (1986) which concludes explicitly under the heading 'Acquisition of illicit material':

".....A museum should not acquire, whether by purchase, gift, bequest or exchange, any work of art or object unless the governing body and responsible officer are satisfied that the museum can acquire a valid title to the specimen in particular, and that in particular it has not been acquired in, or exported from, its country of origin and/or any intermediate country in which it may have been legally owned (including the museum's own country) in violation of that country's laws....."

The Manning and Bray History of Surrey

Charles Abdy

Although it has to some extent been superseded by the Victoria County History, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey* was such a milestone in county histories that it deserves to be remembered now and again. It does in fact contain some material that does not appear in the later work.

Owen Manning was born in 1721 and after his initial Cambridge education became a Bachelor of Divinity in 1753. Following appointments in Cambridge, Lincoln and Milton, Oxfordshire, in 1763 he became Vicar of Godalming where he resided until his death. From his first settlement in Surrey he began amassing material for a history of the county by diligent study of 'the most authentic historians, valuable records and manuscripts in the Public Offices and Libraries and in private hands'. The work strained his eyesight to the extent that for the five years before his death in 1901 he was blind, so that he was unable to see his work through to publication, and this task was undertaken by his friend, William Bray.

William Bray was born in 1736. After being educated at Rugby School he trained for the legal profession and obtained a position in the Board of Green Cloth (a department of the Royal Household), which he held for nearly fifty years and was then superannuated. It was not an exacting appointment: he was left with ample time in which to pursue private legal practice and his antiquarian interests. The Bray family were lords of the manor of Shere and William inherited their estates in 1803. He was an active antiquarian who was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1771 and later became Treasurer of the Society.

Manning and Bray were discussing points of Surrey history by correspondence as early as 1772 and when Bray took over completion of Manning's work he did so with great enthusiasm, visiting every parish and church in the county, a remarkable achievement for a man of his age. In his own words: 'It was a bold undertaking at the age of 66; but it pleased God to spare the Editor's life and continue his health and eyesight so as to enable him to bring it to a conclusion'. The first volume of the history was published in 1804 with a list of nearly 400 subscribers. The second volume came out in 1809 and the third in 1814. Another great work performed by William Bray was the editing of John Evelyn's diary, which was published in 1818 and brought the work the attention it has ever since received. Bray died in 1832 at the age of 96.

The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey has an introduction that gives much information on the county. There is a description of the rivers and comprehensive lists that include the Earls, the Sheriffs and Knights of the Shire. The ecclesiastical establishment is fully covered by references to the Archdeacons, the Deaneries, the Rectories and Vicarages, together with an abstract of the returns made by the Overseers of the Poor in 1786 in terms of the Poor Rates imposed. There is a facsimile of the Domesday Book entries for Surrey, side by side with a printed text. The introduction is followed by write-ups of 141 individual parishes.

Reprinted from the February Newsletter of the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, with thanks.

Brooklands Museum Gets Lottery Lolly

Late last year Brooklands Museum was awarded £1.5 million from The National Lottery. With the help of some of this money the original motoring village buildings including the Campbell workshop, the tyre-change bungalow and the racing lock-ups will be totally refurbished. A multimedia display in the Campbell workshop will trace the history of the racing circuit personalities from drivers to spectators. The Robin Jackson shed will also be restored and will house a new exhibition telling the story of the British Grand Prix from 1926 when the first such race was held at Brooklands. The money has also helped the museum to purchase John Cobb's Napier Railton car from its Swiss owner for £800,000. The car, which was designed and built at Brooklands in 1933, is probably the finest pre-war British racing car. Finally, a Weybridge-built Hawker Hurricane has been brought to Brooklands from Siberia. The cost of the aeroplane was £85,000, 90% of which came from a National Heritage Memorial Fund award.

First published in the January issue of 'Dial Stone', the newsheet of the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society, with thanks.

Centre for Local Studies

A Centre for Local Studies was opened at Kingston University in November and will work closely with Kingston Museum's Local History Room to make Kingston a major centre for local history in the South-East. The Centre will promote the University's new degree course and the educational and recreational potential of local history to the general community. To this end, Kingston Museum hopes that it can eventually secure the additional Kingston archives from Surrey Record Office when it moves to Woking this year.

Merstham and Chaldon quarries: Historic Royal Palaces Agency visit

Paul W Sowan

The Historic Royal Palaces Agency has responsibility for the fabric of Hampton Court, the Tower of London, and other properties. These contain badly weathered 'Reigate stone' which HRP is anxious to replace with new stone to make as perfect a match as possible. The quarrying of new 'Reigate stone' from one of the east Surrey parishes known to have supplied this material in medieval or earlier times (Reigate, Gatton, Merstham, and pre-1933 Chaldon) has been suggested.

On Saturday 21 February the writer conducted a party of HRP staff (Clerk of Works, architects, etc) on a visit to the underground quarries at Merstham and Chaldon. Bernard Worssam and Robin Sanderson (geologists) accompanied us. The practicalities of quarrying new 'Reigate stone' were demonstrated. The quarries are subterranean. The original drift entrances are no longer negotiable (current access is usually via vertical modern shafts, some with fixed- and others with wire-ladders). The headroom underground is severely restricted. The quarrymen's knowledge of which beds at the working faces yielded sound stone of the required depth of bed, and where individual beds started and ended is all now lost knowledge, which can be recovered partially by a careful study of quarrymen's toolmarks underground, and perhaps more completely by detailed petrological and stratigraphical study of the stone. HRP and the geologists seem keen to pursue this research, with a stone sampling and analysis programme.

The stone is usually described as a 'calcareous sandstone' although this is inappropriate as most of the silica present is not detrital quartz. Robin Sanderson has suggested 'immature chert' as a more suitable description. He has examined the stone using a scanning electron microscope, and is in process of completing a paper on the composition of 'Reigate stone'. The Merstham — Chaldon quarries and their

stone are to be discussed by the writer, the geologists, the HRP, and English Heritage at a meeting on 23 March. A continuing research programme seems likely to follow.

Project to Index Fire Insurance Registers

Glenys Crocker

The records of Fire Insurance companies provide a wealth of information for local historians and historians of industry, as the following example illustrates:

Sun Policy no. 226908, 9th November 1765, £1.16.8

John Knight of Catshall near Godalmin in the County of Surrey Paper Maker and Miller on his Household Goods in his new Dwelling House only situate as aforesaid

	£
<i>Brick Stone & tiled not exceeding one hundred pounds</i>	100
<i>Wearing apparel therein only not exceeding fifty pounds</i>	50
<i>Plates therein only not exceeding thirty pounds</i>	30
<i>China & Glass therein only not exceeding twenty pounds</i>	20
<i>Utensils & Stock in the Paper Mill only separate Timber & tiled not exceeding two hundred and fifty pounds</i>	250
<i>Stock in the Ragghouse only separate Timber & tiled not exceeding one hundred and fifty pounds</i>	150
<i>Utensils & Stock in the Water Corn Mill only near but separate Timber & Tiled not exceeding Three Hundd Pds.</i>	300
	£900

A vast number of policies were issued — over 625,000 Sun policies by 1795. Unfortunately it is difficult to locate those for particular places or types of property because there is no general index, although some limited work has been carried out. In particular, there is an index published on microfiche covering the years 1775-87 for the Sun and Royal Exchange companies.

The Surrey Local History Council plans to index a run of Sun registers with respect to Surrey, including Metropolitan Surrey, starting when the microfiche index ends and continuing to 1794, when separate county department registers begin for policies outside London. The project will be in two stages:

- (1) To search the volumes (held at the Guildhall Library, London) for Surrey policy numbers and the places to which they refer.
- (2) Later, to record details (policy holder, type of property, value etc) for entering on a database. At this stage, participants may cover districts in which they have a particular interest. We shall then have a valuable research tool.

There are 39 volumes in the sequence. A trial run on Volume 352, which contains 636 pages, took just over 3 hours to note the numbers for Surrey policy holders. Several members of the SLHC have indicated that they would like to take part and we plan to start allocating volumes for the first stage in the New Year. *For further details please phone 01483 565821.*

PUBLICATIONS

“Villas and Mansions of Roehampton and Putney Heath” by Dorian Gerhold. Published by the Wandsworth Historical Society in December 1997. 88 pages, 42 illustrations, 3 maps. Price £8.95 plus £1.05 postage and packing.

The Roehampton villas, many of which survive, are of national importance. Most major British architects worked on one or more of them during the eighteenth century. However, there has not hitherto been a coherent account of their rise and subsequent decline, dealing both with the survivors and with those now demolished.

Such an account, based largely on archival sources, is now available in *Villas and mansions of Roehampton and Putney Heath*, covering the thirty or so villas of Roehampton, Putney Heath and Putney Hill from 1620, when the first was built to the present.

Following an introduction, there is for each house at least one illustration (with a few exceptions where none exists), a history of the house and as complete as possible a list of owners and occupiers, identifying the occupier's 'profession or source of wealth wherever possible.

The lists are the most systematic attempt yet to identify the occupants of the villas of any London suburb, and provide pointers for future work on villas in other areas. There is an index of owners and occupiers (containing about 700 names) and one of architects, builders and landscape gardeners.

Obtainable from local libraries, museums and bookshops, or direct from 31 Hill Court, Putney Hill, London, SW15 5BB.

"William Field's Photographs of Putney". Published by Wandsworth Historical Society in January 1998. 112 pages, 106 illustrations, 2 maps. Price £10.50 plus £1.50 postage and packing.

William Field set up his photographic business in Putney in 1878, a few years before the old Thames-side village was transformed for ever by suburban development. His glass plates, which have survived, are the main record of Putney before that development. This book includes more than a hundred of Field's photographs, almost all from between 1878 and 1913, showing houses, streets, alleys, shops and other businesses, churches, pubs, boathouses, barges, the bridges and aqueduct, and the Thames foreshore and the Embankment. Many are published here for the first time. There is also a short introduction about William Field.

Obtainable from local libraries, Wandsworth Museum and certain local bookshops, or direct from 31 Putney Hill, London, SW15 6BB.

"Royal Landscape — The Gardens and Parks of Windsor" by Jane Roberts, published by Yale University Press in collaboration with The Hawthornden Trust. 608 pages, 245 colour plates, 372 black and white illustrations. Price £75.

This book should be of great interest to anyone who lives in the vicinity of Windsor Great Park, enjoys walking or observing flora and fauna there and who sometimes wonders about its origins — is it nature or design?

The answer lies in a magnificent historical and topographical survey of Windsor Great Park, written by Jane Roberts, the Curator of the Print Room in the Royal Library at Windsor Castle. It is no mean task to chart the Park's one thousand year old history. The amount of detail accumulated in the book's 608 pages is awe-inspiring, yet each page is enlivened with anecdote and illuminated with resplendent coloured illustrations and also many in black and white.

The Park was created in medieval times as an enclosure for deer and continued to have that function during the Tudor reigns, hunting being still the favourite sport of kings.

During the English Civil War the Park was briefly divided up into plots owned by Parliamentary officers, but Charles II, on his restoration to the throne, was anxious, not only to restore it to its previous use but to improve and enhance the landscape. This prepared the way for the 18th century, that great age of landscape gardening; by

design and artifice, nature was made to look more natural than before. In the Park swamps were drained, plantations of trees created and rides cut so that kings and princes might ride and the ladies of the court drive and picnic in more picturesque surroundings.

It was in the middle of the century that our previously rather ignored southern end of the Park in Surrey was transformed on a grandiose scale. William, Duke of Cumberland, second son of King George II, was made Ranger of the Great Park only a month after his victory over the Scots at Culloden in 1746.

His labourers dammed up the little River Bourne and dug a great artificial lake; temples and grottoes appeared in this very English landscape. Even more ornamentation was added in succeeding reigns, but, although the whimsical buildings have disappeared, the Duke of Cumberland's basic concept of plantations and water still dominate the scene.

The illustrations, like the text, span the centuries. They range from early pictures of the hunt, to Tudor and Stuart portraits, often set against the Park woodland to the meticulous designs and recording watercolours, made by the Sandby brothers as the Park was transformed. As well as fine-art pictures there are photographs, recording changes as they happened or showing the royal family relaxing at Royal Lodge or out of doors. Some are quirky, like the pictures of the cleaning of the copper horse statue in 1969, the craftsmen dwarfed by the gigantic figure of George III. Some, often by Derry Moore, reflect the Park as it is today, with its splendour of trees and vistas, gardens and plantations. Many of the paintings and photographs used in the book come, as you would expect, from the Royal Collection. For me, as a local historian, the real treasures of the book are its maps. Many of them I have already been privileged to see at the Public Record Office and at the Royal Library, but they remain a never ending source of interest and fascination — the topography of the Park, caught, as it were, in a piece of amber and recorded forever as it was on the day the surveyor sketched it.

In fact this book is several volumes in one. I was glued to the extensive section on Virginia Water, but you can browse at will in your favourite corner of the Park — the Savill and Valley Gardens, Frogmore or Queen Anne's Walk.

Mrs Roberts has researched her subject meticulously. Her enthusiasm during the many years of her investigation into the official records and inch by inch over the Park itself, was infectious and brought her into contact with many other local enthusiasts, who, I am sure, are proud to have been involved in some small way in such a definitive and dedicated work.

Dorothy Davis

From the November/December Newsletter of the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society, with thanks.

“Late Saxon stirrup-strap mounts: a classification and catalogue”, by David Williams. CBA Research Report, III, 1997). Price £18.00, but £15.00 to CBA members.

The Surrey Archaeological Society has played a central role in the recent debate on the relationship between metal detecting and archaeology. The large numbers of gold and silver coins retrieved by metal detectorists from Wanborough led the Society to assist in mounting a rescue excavation on the Roman temple site, and this experience led on to the important part it played in the recently enacted Treasure Bill. In doing so it has found itself in the middle of a sometimes acerbic debate between archaeologists and metal detectorists.

It is a pleasure, then, to welcome this new book by David Williams, long an active member of the Society. It shows that there is considerable hope for fruitful co-operation between the two groups. Prior to this study only a handful of late Saxon stirrup-strap mounts were known: now, over 500 are catalogued, classified and illustrated. Almost all of the objects were found by metal detector users and then brought to David Williams' attention as a result of regular appeals in *The Searcher* magazine.

The result is an important review of a hitherto little known and misunderstood class of object. The function of the objects is convincingly argued and they are shown to have a widespread distribution in England (but are not found beyond its borders or indeed much west of a line drawn between York and Exeter) during a period of use perhaps wholly confined to the 11th century.

This is a valuable contribution to the study of late Saxon metalwork, which is well produced and adorned by David Williams' excellent illustrations (see frontispiece). It shows just how valuable the archaeological study of metal detector finds might be and it is to be hoped that it will encourage others to perform similar research into other aspects of ancient metal work.

Rob Poulton

St Mary the Virgin Ewell Parish Church: 150th anniversary guide by E M Myatt-Price. Price (not available), 24pp, 10 illustrations, 4 in colour.

All that remains of Old St Mary's is the late medieval tower, together with some contemporary fittings removed to the church built in 1848. Of the new fittings, perhaps that most noticed is the window representing Nonsuch Palace, a memorial to John Dent, local historian and librarian. Like a personal guide, the authoress takes us on a meticulous tour of the interior of the church, explaining every feature in turn — what it is called (and what it means), its maker and whom it commemorates. The exterior is left until last, since most copies of the guide will be purchased after going inside. Why was there both a northwest tower and a central west porch? There is a useful local booklist appended.

Few Victorian country churches can have been given such loving treatment, by a trained historian who is also a worshipper there.

Derek Renn

“The Royal Palace and Castle at Guildford”, by Rob Poulton. For those of you taking advantage of the special offer on orders for this book before the 30th April 1998, please note that delivery will not occur until about that time.

The offer still stands: £3.75 before the end of April, £4.95 thereafter.

DAY SCHOOLS

University of Sussex

The following courses are organised by the Centre for Continuing Studies. For further information contact Sue Schofield on 01273 678926. SyAS members can expect a fee reduction on most courses listed below.

25th April

The Study of Human Remains in Archaeology. Tutor: Mark Spiegelman. To be held at Sussex University.

9th May

The Old Kingdom of Ancient Egypt. Tutor: Robert Scott. To be held at Fishbourne Roman Palace.

16th May

Mount Caburn: The Archaeology of a Hill. Tutor: Peter Drewett. To be held at Sussex University.

17th May

Medieval Food and Feasting. Tutor: Sarah Brown. To be held at the Anne of Cleves Museum, Lewes.

6th June

Neolithic Flint Mines. Tutor: David Field. To be held at Worthing Museum.

13th June

British Gun Founding in the Sixteenth to Eighteenth Centuries. Tutor: Jeremy Hodgkinson. To be held at the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum.

28th June

Prehistoric Agriculture. Tutor: Peter Reynolds. To be held at Butser Ancient Farm.

11th July

Prehistoric Metallurgy. Tutor: Tristram Barham. To be held at Michelham Priory.

18th July

Archaeology and Folklore. Tutor: Martin Brown. To be held at Sussex University.

8th August

The Fishbourne Excavations. Tutor: John Manley. To be held at Fishbourne Roman Palace.

LECTURE MEETINGS

28th April

“Who owned Bermondsey and Rotherhithe?” by Stephen Humphrey to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society, at Hawkstone Hall, the Lambeth North end of Kennington Road, at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

5th May

“Old Woking Medieval Moat and Palace” by Steve Dyer to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston at 8.00 pm.

5th May

“Heathrow Airport” by Nick Pollard to the Addlestone Historical Society at the Community Centre, Station Road, Addlestone, at 8.00 pm. Visitors £1.

6th May

“Saxon Churches in Surrey” by Derek Renn to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, at St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell, at 7.45 for 8.00 pm.

15th May

“The History of HMS Warrior” by Richard Muir to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society, at the Leatherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Visitors £1.

26th May

“An Overview of of Recent Work on Prehistoric London” by Hedley Swain to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society, at Hawkstone Hall, the Lambeth North end of Kennington Road, at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

1st June

“The Wandsworth Museum and the Streatham Connection” by Pat Ashley-Cooper to the Streatham Society at “Woodlawns”, 16 Leigham Court Road, at 8.00 pm.

2nd June

“Inchtutil — the Visit” by Peter Brunning to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston at 8.00 pm.

Next Issue: *Copy required by 1st May for the May/June issue.*

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