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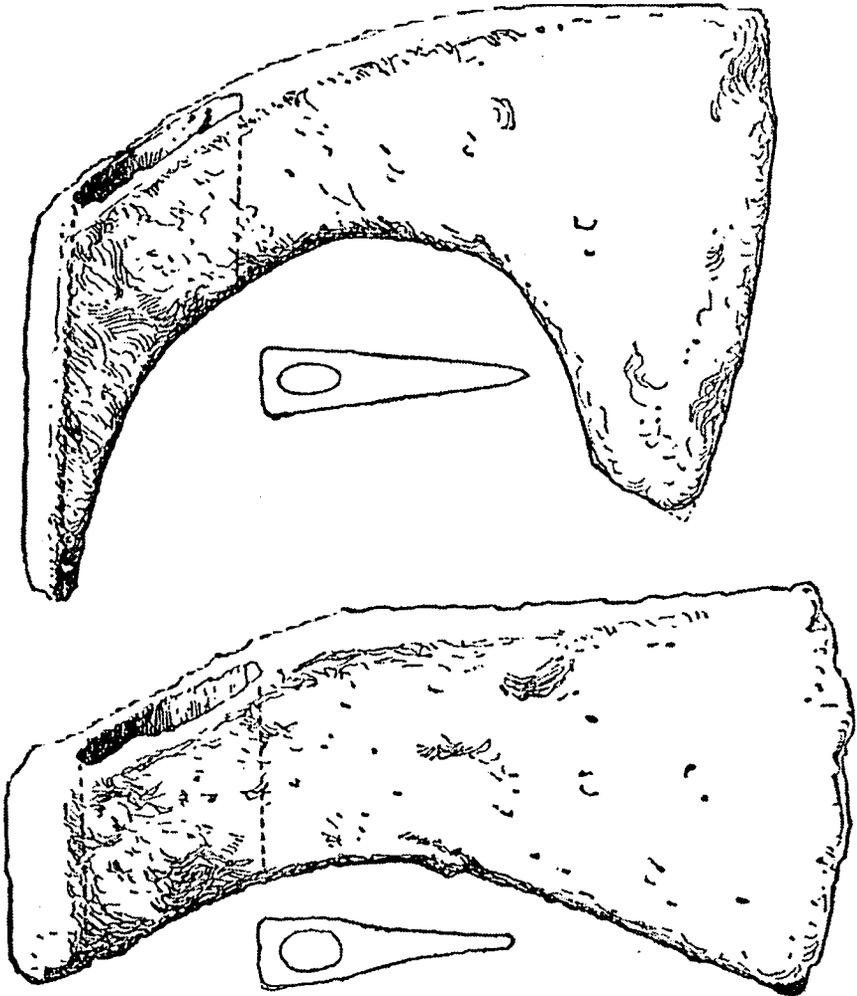
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## Bulletin 348

April 2001



**Saxon axe-heads from Croydon (*Discovered in 1893*)**

## **Recent Excavations at 82-90 Park Lane, Croydon** *Jacqueline I McKinley*

### ***Introduction***

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Frogmore Investments Ltd, to undertake archaeological investigations on land formerly occupied by nos. 82-90 Park Lane, Croydon (TQ 3256 6505) in advance of the proposed construction of new buildings. The investigations involved full excavation of the eastern portion of the site adjacent to Park Lane (c70 x 25m trench), which fell within the footprint of the proposed buildings. The main phase of excavation was undertaken between October and December 1999, with shorter phases taking in the margins of the site in August and October 2000.

The existence of a mixed rite Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery in this locality has been known since 1897 when at least 84 objects – most commonly spearheads (26) and shield bosses (12) – were recovered from inhumation graves, together with c16 urned cremation burials, during the construction of the terraced houses along Edridge Road on the west side of the site. The Sites and Monuments Record find spot for these finds on Edridge Road coincides with the south end of the site. No finds were recorded during the insertion of four basemented villas on the site in 1903. Following the demolition of nos. 82-86 in the early 1990s, the Museum of London Archaeological Service conducted an archaeological evaluation (Nielsen 1992), in which a minimum of seven cremation and five inhumation burials, together with other probably mortuary features pertaining to the Saxon cemetery were found, and a number of pits and gullies believed to be Bronze Age in date.

### ***Results***

The recovery of a number of struck flints, largely unpatinated, provided evidence of prehistoric activity in the area. Most were recovered from the backfills of later features in the south-east part of the site.

A large, rectangular inhumation grave on the eastern margins of the site, oriented north-south, contained the remains of what appears to have been a coffined



*Park Lane, Croydon: Roman inhumation burial with an internal chalk lining.*

inhumation burial with an internal chalk lining. The human bone was relatively well preserved, particularly in the areas of chalk lining (chest-feet). The majority of such graves appear to be 3rd to 4th century in date, similar burials being found in the eastern cemetery of Roman London, for example (Philpott 1991, Barber and Bowsher 2000).

Parts or all of 43 Early Saxon inhumation graves were recorded, most of which had been substantially truncated in the later 19th and early 20th century. The interpretation of three of the features as graves is not certain due to their lack of either human bone or grave goods, but the form and fills were similar to those of the excavated graves – all were probably those of immature individuals judging from their small size. Two graves fell outside the limits of the excavation area and, therefore, were not excavated. Five graves had been partially removed during the insertion of the 1903 northernmost villa basement. Most of the graves were on an east-west orientation with five (later? – two cut across east-west burials) laying north-south. The burials were concentrated in the north-west of the excavated area, where they were seen to form several orderly rows. Two smaller groups were found, however: in the central area of the site representing 16% of excavated graves, and on the southern boundary accounting for 7% of excavated graves, where they extended into the adjoining property.

Bone preservation was very poor (neutral pH), with only a few small fragments surviving within 19 of the graves; femora and tibiae shafts most commonly survived. Objects were recovered from 33 graves (80%), with between 1-10 items in each. The most frequently recovered items were blades/knives (15) with smaller numbers of shield bosses (11), buckles (12), spearheads (9), brooches (4 pairs and one disc brooch) and tweezers (4 sets). Textiles and organics, eg a copper-alloy bowl containing hazelnuts, were also recovered. The size of the graves and the grave good types suggest most individuals were subadult or adult, including 13 males and seven females with a minimum of two, possibly four, immature individuals.

A common feature of the inhumation graves was a lining of flint nodules along one or more sides, and occasionally across the base. The relative positioning of the various components of the burials to that of the flint nodules suggested a lining already *in situ* before the burial was made rather than packing introduced subsequently. Although the human bone had often not survived, it was apparent that specific items were not routinely placed in the same position within individual graves, eg shield bosses and spear heads.

The remains of two cremation burials were also excavated: one undisturbed, unurned burial with pyre goods; and the partial, redeposited remains of an unurned burial within the fill of an inhumation grave, with fragments of cremated bone redeposited in several adjacent grave fills.

A number of pits and postholes may comprise some form of mortuary-related features such as grave markers. An east-west ditch/gully in the north of the site appeared to have cut through one early Saxon grave and to be cut by another, suggesting it probably comprised a contemporaneous feature.

A large, east-west grave with truncated annular/penannular ditch in the southern portion of the site was dated as Middle Saxon on the basis of its form (Grinsell 1934, Hogarth 1973, Shepherd 1979). There were indications of the existence of a wooden box being placed at the west end of the grave. The remnants of a second ditch of similar diameter and form were excavated in the south-east of the site, but there was no conclusive evidence for a grave, the central feature appearing to represent a tree-throw. Ring-ditches without associated graves have been observed in a number of Saxon barrow cemeteries (Cook 1985, Garner 1993) and the ditch may still comprise a mortuary-related feature.

A flint-lined pit excavated in the south-west section is believed to be later medieval or early post-medieval in date. The latter may pertain to the same period as a chalk-walled cellar constructed against the frontage of Park Lane, which was clearly cut through by drainage inserted for the 1903 villas. There is no evidence for such a structure on the Ordnance Survey map of 1868-9 showing The Elms constructed in 1794. The cellar seems to relate to an earlier unrecorded use of the site. An east-west ditch at the south end of the site cut through the Middle Saxon ring ditch but was cut by the 1903 basement, suggesting it may also relate to this phase of land-use.

Substantial terracing had occurred within the vicinity during the construction of the houses along Edridge Road and the 1903 villas. This had involved substantial truncation removing the natural subsoil to within 0.05m of the natural gravels in places, particularly along the western side of the site, with subsequent make-up of between 1-1.2m. The four villa basements had cut into the natural gravels, the northern basement truncating a minimum of five Early Saxon graves. Extrapolation, based on the density and easterly extent of the adjacent graves suggests it is likely that the insertion of this basement totally removed up to seven graves situated to approximately halfway across it – c7 x 7m area. The north end of the site was heavily truncated by deep cellars and there were frequent modern intrusions – drains, soakaways, wall foundations – cutting into the gravel all along the eastern margins of the site.

The subsoil appeared to 'seal' all the Saxon features, but the fill of the northern graves also appeared to comprise a mix of this layer with the underlying gravel natural implying the graves were cut through it. Where sufficient depth of subsoil survived in the southern-central area, two graves were noted to cut through the lower levels but were not apparent in the upper levels suggesting that the subsoil was extant in the Saxon period, but that subsequent 'working' of the soil removed all traces of the grave cuts in the upper levels. Natural changes in slope were demonstrated in the slight drop in the level of the natural grave from south to north, with a more substantial fall from east to west. These variations demonstrated natural changes in slope. A series of 21 acute V-shaped linear features were recorded extending across the whole site, commonly converging in regular tripartite form. All had a similar form and fill, and were cut by all subsequent archaeological and most other natural features (eg tree-throws). These features were identified as ice-wedge polygons.

The eastern margins of the Early Saxon cemetery appear to have been located and it is likely, given the fall in ground level as a result of construction to the north of the site, that any northward continuation of the cemetery will have been destroyed. The southern extent of the cemetery certainly continues beyond the boundaries of the excavation. The hitherto unknown existence of Romano-British and Middle Saxon burials in the same location as the Early Saxon cemetery will add substantially to our understanding for the origins of the Saxon cemetery and the continuity of Saxon settlement in the area.

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## Saxon and Viking Merton

John Pile

Without re-opening the debate about the identity of *Merantum* (Anglo-Saxon Chronicle *sub anno* 755 [757]) and *Meretun* [*Maeredun*] (ASC *sub anno* 871 [870]), it should be pointed out, before another myth becomes too deeply rooted in Merton's folklore, that any association of the probable Saxon graves described by J Edwards in his *Companion from London to Brighthelmston* (1801) with the 'Battle of Meretun' must be firmly rejected on the grounds that spears, swords, "and other *exuviae* of a battle" are found almost exclusively in pagan graves (see *Bulletin* 346 p2). The practice of burying weapons with the dead had died out completely within half a century of the conversion of the *Suthrige* to Christianity around 650 AD, and by the 9th century the Church had established complete control over the burial of the dead and its rites.<sup>2</sup>

Although the suggestion that these or any other graves containing weapons could be connected with the Battle of Meretun must be dismissed, the discovery of the graves has important implications for the Saxon settlement of Merton. That the graves recorded by Edwards were Saxon cannot be doubted, as the Saxons were the only people known to have buried weapons with their dead males, not as relics of battle, but as indicators of social status. Burials were usually grouped in cemeteries which lay close to the settlements they served. Pagan burials "to the west of the Wandle" therefore suggest a nearby settlement of the period 5th to 7th century, probably contemporary with the settlement of 50-100 people implied by the size of the cemetery at Morden Road, Mitcham.<sup>3</sup>

The Merton burials were discovered in the late 18th century, and Edwards' reference is tantalisingly vague as to the exact site. W H Chamberlain records further burials of Saxon date in Merton and offers a precise location for their discovery. "In the year 1882 Mr Harding, while digging in the garden of the rear of these cottages, unearthed some ancient spearheads, Saxon coins, and what appeared to be human remains. These he found at a depth of four feet. Dr Bates acquired the spearheads and the author the coins. It is believed that a battle was fought near here, between the Saxons and the Danes".<sup>4</sup> The cottages in question are the row of six, now numbered 15-25 in Church Path, then numbers 1-6 Church Row, but numbered sometimes west-east and sometimes east-west. According to *Trim's Wimbledon & Merton Directory* for 1881 Mr C Harding was at No.2 The 1881 census lists seven families in the six cottages, and places Charles Harding, 28-year-old carpenter and joiner, at No.6. Both numbers are likely to refer to the present No.17. Although Chamberlain may have been mistaken about their connection with a battle, there can be little doubt that the burials were Saxon. What is particularly interesting is the close proximity of the graves to the parish church of St Mary, which is reputed to have been built by Gilbert the Knight in 1114 to replace an earlier one – no doubt of Saxon date – recorded in Domesday Book (1086).<sup>5</sup>

John Morris, in his gazetteer of Anglo-Saxon Surrey, records a single find of a late 5th or early 6th century cast bronze saucer brooch from Merton, but he does not mention any of the burials.<sup>6</sup> The exact find-spot of the brooch, which is now in the British Museum, is not stated, except that it was "on Stane Street, one mile north-west of Mitcham and 5 miles north-west of Croydon" and lay within the grid square TQ 25 69. If this location is accurate, it would place the find-spot in the north-west corner of Morden Hall Park, as this is the only place where the line of Stane Street intersects this grid square.<sup>7</sup> Morris suggests that the brooch may be a stray find from

the Mitcham cemetery, but he offers no reason for this belief. The Greater London Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) Reference Number 030669 states erroneously that the grid square TQ 25 69 lies “nowhere near” Stane Street, and, by implication, throws even more uncertainty on the provenance of the brooch than may be justified. The evidence, if it is to be relied on, suggests a pagan Saxon origin for settlement around St Mary’s church, dating from the 7th century at the latest. This close proximity of Saxon burials to a later Saxon church is paralleled in several other parishes in north-east Surrey. In Mitcham, a large and extensive cemetery of 5th- and 6th-century date lay about 500m to the south of the parish church, or considerably closer, if a bronze bowl found c1867 on the site of Vicarage Gardens was a grave-good.<sup>8</sup> At Beddington a Saxon cemetery was situated about 500m north-east of the site of the parish church, and at Croydon, a Saxon cemetery has been found 600m south-east of the parish church. These local examples of apparent continuity of occupation from pagan Saxon to medieval times run counter to the current received wisdom that settlement nucleation from early Saxon dispersed farmsteads occurred around 900, perhaps for greater security during a period of Danish raids, eg Della Hooke (1998),<sup>9</sup> It may be, however, that the examples cited happen to be the focal settlements on which the late Saxon nucleation was directed. It has also been suggested that the large cemeteries may have served a dispersed population,<sup>10</sup> but this model does not accommodate those cases where more than one cemetery has been found in close proximity. At Coulsdon, for example, cemeteries at Farthing Down and Cane Hill are less than 1km apart and face each other across a dry valley, both being within the same medieval parish.

Eric Montague refers to Bishop Denewulf’s well-known letter to King Edward of c900<sup>11</sup> concerning the bishop’s estate at Beddington, which, he says, had been “recently stripped bare by heathen men”. This letter has been published in a convenient translation by Dorothy Whitelock.<sup>12</sup> Incidentally, Beddington, Surrey, is occasionally confused with Bedhampton, Hampshire (also a Winchester manor), and a recently published guide-book to Bedhampton parish church offers Bishop Denewulf’s letter as evidence for Danish raids along the Hampshire coast, an assertion that has been repeated uncritically in successive guide-books for at least a century!

It should not be assumed that because someone named Swein is recorded in Domesday Book he is necessarily Danish or of Danish parentage despite the fact that the name is indisputably of Scandinavian origin. The Old Norse word *sveinn* ‘boy’, ‘servant’, was adopted into the Old English language at an early stage and has survived in the compounds ‘boatswain’ and ‘coxswain’ to the present day, so that Robert le Sweyn, recorded in a Westminster Abbey document of 1296, is more likely to have been an English servant or swineherd than a Danish settler. In his study of the personal names in the Winton Domesday (c1110 and 1148), Olof von Feilitzen found that out of a total of 318 different personal names listed in 1148 7.3% were of Scandinavian origin, but many of these were common in pre- and post-Conquest Normandy, and those found in Winchester in the 12th century may well have come from this source.<sup>13</sup> Also, it was the prestige of certain Continental names that often led fathers to give them to their children regardless of their personal origins. It should be remembered that there were five high-profile and aristocratic Sweins active in England during the 11th century who would have been admirable models for name-giving.<sup>14</sup>

The presence in the Merton area of place-names of Scandinavian origin requires a different explanation. Biggin in Mitcham, first recorded in a documentary source of 1301, and “landes called Biggyngge” in Croydon, recorded in 1493, are late and fall within the Middle English period of language development. The word *bigging* ‘a building’ was ultimately derived from Old Norse *byggja* ‘to build’,<sup>15</sup> and the occurrence

of Biggin in Mitcham and Croydon, “unusually far south” as they may be, need occasion no surprise as, by the time it is found in Surrey, it was a well-established word in the standard Middle English vocabulary.<sup>16</sup>

The fact is that neither the personal name nor the place-name evidence supports the idea that there was any appreciable Scandinavian presence in north-east Surrey beyond the possibility that a few isolated individuals or families had settled here. As C W Phillips has pointed out: “place-names showing Scandinavian influence diminish progressively in the area between the borders of Norfolk and Suffolk south-westwards towards London, but there is good evidence of Scandinavian custom here, and Domesday Book shows that many of the leading men in this area were of Scandinavian origin in 1086”.<sup>17</sup> However, it should be added that the possession of an estate in Domesday Book does not imply residence, particularly among those of higher social standing.

If the search for evidence of Scandinavian presence is widened to include archaeological sites and artefacts, account must be taken, as Eric Montague rightly says, of the half-dozen or so finds – particularly swords – of the Viking period from the Thames and its tributaries from Staines to the River Lea. Such finds are generally interpreted as votive offerings, although it is possible that they originally accompanied a late survival of a form of water-burial.<sup>18</sup> But the question remains as to whether the weapons were deposited by Scandinavians or by Saxons who may have acquired them on the battlefield. The Viking sword found in an old channel of the Thames at Chertsey in 1981, and mentioned by Eric Montague in his article, is a good example of this class of find.<sup>19</sup> Perhaps, as with the grave-goods found with Saxon burials, these Viking Age finds should be related to nearby settlements rather than to battles or river-crossings, but the question arises as to why comparable material is rarely found on land-based sites in this area.

The problem of Scandinavian settlement in north-east Surrey clearly requires further consideration, and useful progress might well be made by correlating the various categories of the rather scanty evidence already available, although it is felt that despite the new insights this may provide, it is unlikely that the current impression of minimal Scandinavian influence will require much revision. Perhaps any traces of pre-Alfredian Scandinavian settlement that may have existed south of the Thames disappeared when the area was saturated with a predominantly Saxon culture. Neither place-names nor distinctive archaeological evidence has survived in any significant quantity, but this is not surprising, given that in the Danelaw itself “the various excavations in deserted medieval village sites have not yet been successful in showing a clearly Scandinavian phase in any site examined”.<sup>20</sup> It is possible that our local Scandinavians are equally archaeologically invisible.

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- 4 W H Chamberlain *Reminiscences of Old Merton* (1925) p 38
- 5 P Hopkins’ report ‘Eighth Evelyn Jowett Memorial Lecture – 21st October 1998: History of St Mary’s Church, Merton, by Graham Hawkes’ *Merton Historical Society Bulletin* 128 (Dec 1998) pp 12-13
- 6 J Morris ‘Anglo-Saxon Surrey’ *Surrey Archaeological Collections* 56 (1959) p 143
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- 8 Bidder and Morris *op cit* p 75
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- 20 Phillips *op cit* p 10

*From the Spring 2001 Bulletin no 135 of the Merton Historical Society, with many thanks*

### **Eric Montague replies:**

I was pleased to see that my note in the previous issue, in which I attempted an overview of the evidence for Scandinavian raids and subsequent settlement in our part of Surrey, had prompted a contribution from John Pile. I recall from correspondence with him several years ago that he also had attempted to identify signs of Viking presence in Merton (without, I must say, convincing me!).

Admittedly, hard evidence in our corner of Surrey is sparse, and yet what we do know from the historical record of incursions during the ninth and tenth centuries makes it inconceivable that communities in the vicinity of Merton would have escaped the attentions of Viking marauders. With this in mind, the reported discovery near the Wandle crossing in the late 18th century of broken weapons, human bones and "other exuviae of a battle" cannot be dismissed as just another Saxon cemetery.

Far from being "tantalisingly vague as to the exact site", as John asserts, Edwards, a reliable authority, makes it quite clear the discovery was in the vicinity of Merton Abbey, to the east of Haydons Road. None of the material was dated and, wisely, Edwards did not speculate as to the origin apart from seeing it as evidence of a "battle". John asserts that the Saxon origin of the remains "cannot be doubted", but in the absence of further evidence I think it is unwise to go this far. He also refers to "graves", which implies formal burial and leads him to think he was correct in his assumption that the discovery was of the scattered aftermath of a skirmish.

John digressed somewhat in his observations on the location and origin of Saxon settlements, but I would agree (and join issue) with him on a number of the points he makes. My intention, however, was to conclude by directing attention to the question of the Scandinavian element in the local populace by the early 11th century. Given the presence in London of merchants and others from across the North Sea, and the fact that for a time England was under Danish rule, it does seem to me that a degree of peaceful settlement of the Wandle valley by migrants of Scandinavian ancestry prior to the Norman Conquest is not an unreasonable assumption.

I agree the evidence to support this contention, at least in our area, seems virtually non-existent – hence my resort in the Bulletin article to the tentative suggestions that the Sweyns/Swains of Tooting, Mitcham and Morden *might* have been of Norse stock, and that the place name Biggin and Tamworth could have been brought south by immigrants from the Danelaw.

John's contribution to the discussion is most welcome, and I look forward to further comment from other readers.

*From Bulletin no 136 of the Merton Historical Society, with many thanks to all parties. I, too, look forward to any comments.*

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## COUNCIL NEWS

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### YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS CLUB

Sarah Ellison, our new YAC Organiser, has been with us for just over a year, and the Club, which is based at Guildford and jointly run with Guildford Museum is still very successful and enjoyed by its members. Recent sessions have included paper-making with David Jones, which involved mixing pulp and then laying paper squares which the YACs could take home. Ewan Affleck, who used to work for Reading University and is now employed by the Thames Valley Archaeological Unit, came to speak about Roman Silchester in October. He brought along artefacts which members could handle and this session was particularly popular. We also visit museums and sites, and recently we have been to the Petrie museum and the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, both of which were led by excellent guides.

The Committee is however very conscious that, although the club members come to Guildford from a wide area, Sarah's energies are concentrated largely in one area. This is not a new problem. Over the years the Committee has endeavoured to establish other clubs jointly with other museums without success, and recent attempts have also failed, largely due to lack of facilities and/or people able and willing to run them.

The Committee has therefore been exploring ways of making her knowledge and expertise more widely available within the historic county to junior clubs which may be run by local societies or museums.

Sarah is establishing a database of places to visit, ideas for practical sessions and a start-up pack for anyone interested in setting up their own club, or looking for inspiration for an existing one. Joint meetings and visits are other possibilities.

She also prepares a Newsletter four times a year, which includes details of the programme as well as general items of interest; for example, events in the local area, lectures, museum activities and archaeological news, as well as contributions from members. Again the general items could be 'syndicated' to other clubs if there was sufficient interest.

Sarah would be more than willing to help anyone interested, even if it is just for an informal chat, and can be contacted by e-mail if required.

Anyone interested in pursuing these ideas should contact the Honorary Secretary at Castle Arch or Steve Dyer, Chairman of the Young Archaeologists Club Committee.

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

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*I'm sure most must feel like I do – can't bear the thought of a whole summer without a decent walk or a chance to explore – other than on tarmac, of course. \* Who would have thought after BSE that it would still be possible to feed pork to pigs? My personal thoughts about the restrictions are that, since the virus is airborne, it seems as absurd to threaten the wind with £5000 fines as it does walkers upon footpaths and tow-paths. Furthermore, will the guns be opening up soon on deer? And where will all that disinfectant go?*

*Enough of such gloom. I need more contributions and when I get them please don't forget to include pictures, plans, photographs; indeed anything to break up interminable chunks of text. There is a growing catalogue of excavations and other fieldwork that have taken place recently, but not yet had an airing in the Bulletin, and I'm not just talking about work by professional units, as bad as most of them are at issuing interim accounts. You know who you are.*

*Over the past year Wessex Archaeology has had the best record for engaging with the Society's members by supplying the Bulletin with reports on their work in the county. I might as well add my own thanks here to their Unit Director, Andrew Lawson, for drawing further attention in Bulletin 346 to my review of one of their fieldwork projects published in the Collections for 2000 (vol 87). Personally, I stand by every word.*

*\* Please note that the forthcoming visit to the Isle of Wight has had to be postponed indefinitely owing to foot and mouth restrictions.*

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## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

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### **Symposium 2001**

**Mike Rubra**

This year the annual symposium was held for the first time at Ashted Peace Memorial Hall and was attended by about 150 people. It was chaired by Audrey Monk, our Hon Secretary, who welcomed the audience and speakers to a varied and full programme put together by Steve Dyer.

Steve reported on the Research and Training excavation at Tolworth Court Farm last summer, jointly organised by the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society (KuTAS) and UniSearch. Work had concentrated on the moated island where 17th century buildings were identified and where upcast from the moat overlay 12th century pottery. In another area postholes suggested an early cattle enclosure, a second butchery or carcass disposal. An extremely wet excavation across the moat showed recent dumping but also the cut of the moat edge, until flooding prevented further work. The aim of the excavation was to confirm the survival of suitable archaeological remains for the site to be scheduled, and it is expected that this has been achieved.

Clive Orton of the Institute of Archaeology described an excavation he carried out with local societies in Ewell where the proposed site of a churchyard for St Mary's was investigated. The excavation, close to Stane Street and the Ewell settlement, showed evidence of 2nd century walls, a ditch, 3rd-4th century building demolition and an inhumation. Some 30 coins 3rd-4th century, 3,000 sherds of pottery, the majority Alice Holt, and numerous other finds, indicated a decline in activity at distance from the road, but also suggested that a Roman building was close. Clive told of a great local public interest in the dig, particularly amongst children, on site and at an exhibition at Bourne Hall.

The recent work of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit was described by Rob Poulton and Phil Jones. Phil talked of a group of sites east of Laleham, close to the Thames and Ash rivers which had revealed Bronze Age cremations, Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age pottery (including 9 kg of perforated plaques), ditches and BA field systems, enclosures and settlements with at least one hut circle and four post structures, in areas later respected by Roman systems.

Rob told of work carried out near Runfold as part of the Blackwater road programme. This was an area of Iron Age settlement extending as far as Tongham, with at least eighteen roundhouses, pits, 'four-posters' and enclosures clearly linked to field systems by droeways and suggesting an uninterrupted investment in development and use of the area from the Iron Age to the Roman period.

Chris Currie has been leading the Community Archaeology projects. He described his satisfaction with the progress of the Mickleham, Chelsham, Puttenham and Banstead Heath projects and has completed his recommendations for the first two. Peter Harp then described the work on Banstead Heath, an area of some 1500 acres on the top of the Downs, with some 10,000 earthworks and quarries to be surveyed by the group, as well as a Roman villa, a possible bloomery, and numerous lithic find spots.

Judie English reported that after Chris had put forward his report she and the team continued their examination of Mickleham. Significant prehistoric and later field systems had been found and a sequence of lynchets were traced across Long Ride, the Boxhill spur and across the valley of the Mole and found to be of similar alignments. Bronze Age plough marks in underlying chalk had been revealed beneath lynchets in trial excavations and a ditch of that date was also identified. Work is continuing on this full landscape project.

Three members of the Young Archaeologists' Club gave short talks which rounded off the morning session. Hannah Tuck told us of an enjoyable visit to the Petrie Museum of Egyptology, part of University College, London where, with the usual Egyptian artefacts, also on display are moneycases, necklaces and jewellery, dolls and toys and pot burials.

Then Emily Holbrook gave us an interesting description of life aboard a naval ship in Nelson's time, describing how a ship's company was not only sailors, but women and children as well, and how even live animals were kept. Emily talked about naval surgery, telling us that shock from amputation killed as many as injury.

David Mackay related his experiences over three weeks excavation at Tolworth and of the finds he had made (and the leeches). David reminded us of how he hurt his finger, for which we were most sorry, but how he came back the next day undeterred, and still fully enjoyed his digging.

After lunch the difficult task of judging the Margary Award took place. After deliberation the Second prize was awarded for an excellent display by the Spelthorne Archaeology Field Group and First prize to the extensive and very professional display mounted by the North Downs Plateau Archaeological Research Group. Well deserved congratulations were given to all those who had put on displays.

Hedley Swain, of the Museum of London has recently reported on the lack of space available for the storage of archive in museums. He told us that the majority were now full, in the typical museum 86% of storage occupied by finds. The solution for London was a centralised store and the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre was being prepared at Eagle Wharf, Hackney, funded from a National grant, the Heritage Lottery Fund and fund raising (to which SyAS contributed). It will hold the entire London archive but there may be modifications to collection policies on well represented material. The archive ids for general use and reference collections and specialists will be available. Hedley finished by relating how surplus and dissociated material was being made into 'school boxes', with teacher packs, to be distributed to each London Primary school as part of an educational initiative.

David Graham described excavations in Farnham Park where a Millennium event was planned and an archaeological evaluation had been requested. Extensive areas of ridge and furrow, a broad ridge in which Civil War period artefacts were excavated and stonework, probably from the castle, in another trench were sufficient to prevent the celebrations here. David then turned to a site to the west of Frensham Great Pond where a total of 590 Iron Age and Roman coins were found, grouped in four time periods. Also recovered were 56 tiny greyware pots, probably votive. The contents of two were analysed and contained cannabis traces!

Alan Crocker, our President, recounted the fascinating story of Elias Carpenter a papermaker in Bermondsey, an innovator of recycling, making paper from wood and straw, who owned a mill in the late 18th and early 19th century. Carpenter was a supporter of Joanna Southcott, a religious fanatic, preacher and prophetess who issued some 8000 seals of affirmation on paper produced by Carpenter, who later built her a chapel in the mill in which her "dreams" were displayed.

The last talk was given by Jacqueline McKinley of Wessex Archaeology on recent excavations within the Saxon cemetery at Park Lane, Croydon. Jackie described how the 5th to 7th century graves had been damaged by later events, and bone survival was poor, but some 43 inhumations, most aligned east/west had been examined. Grave goods, perhaps Jutish, had been found in 80% of them. Earlier 5th to 6th century cremations included a horse. The cemetery extended beyond the excavation area and on the borders a Roman grave with a puddled chalk surround had been found.

On behalf of the audience, Richard Muir, past President, thanked the speakers, exhibitors, ARC organisers, helpers and our Chair for the day, Audrey Monk, for an excellent and interesting day.

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## RECENT WORK BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNITS

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*The fieldwork projects listed below were, for the most part, undertaken early last year by archaeological contractors operating in the London boroughs of old Surrey. A key to the acronyms is provided below, and the letters and numbers at the end of each entry is the site code.*

AOC	Archaeological Operations and Conservation Ltd
CA	Compass Archaeology
MoLAS	Museum of London Archaeology Service
NSFF	No significant finds or features
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Service
WA	Wessex Archaeology

### CROYDON

**Croydon**, 14-30 High Street/40-45 Middle Street/part of Surrey Street (TQ 3225 6549). Evaluation by MoLAS in 2000. Two chalk-lined cess pits backfilled in the 16th century, one possibly associated with the clearance of material from The Royal Oak; chalk-lined well backfilled in the 19th century (GNT 00)

**Croydon**, 344-354 London Road (TQ 319 668). Evaluation by WA in 2000. *NSFF* (LOY 00)

### KINGSTON

**Worcester Park**, Malden Green Farm (TQ 2215 6630). Evaluation by TVAS in 2000. Abraded medieval and post-medieval sherds, otherwise *NSFF* (MLD 00)

**Surbiton**, proposed Waitrose supermarket, Claremont Road (TQ 1800 6750). Evaluation by MoLAS in 2000. Possible prehistoric and/or medieval field ditches, Neolithic, Iron Age and medieval sherds in ploughsoil; 19th century garden features (CMN 98)

**Kingston**, 4-6 Oaklea Passage (TQ 1793 6885). Watching brief by MoLAS in 2000. Fluvial sands, silts and clays provisionally interpreted as a relict stream channel that may relate to a palaeochannel found in earlier excavations to the south. This may have continued north or north-west to join the Hogsmill River (OAP 00)

**Kingston**, East Lane (TQ 1781 6889). Evaluation by MoLAS in 2000. "Possible Saxon" stake holes, post-holes and a gully; late medieval and/or post-medieval hearth or chimney base and rammed gravel surface; post-medieval pits and cellars (ELA 98)

## **RICHMOND**

**Mortlake**, 77 High Street (TQ 2077 7601). Evaluation by PCA in 2000. "A few prehistoric features; undated gully; pit with stakehole in its centre contained a burnt flint; 16th and 17th century buildings; 18th century drains; "the backfill [of one drain] was truncated by a clay-lined 19th century wall, which was backfilled with material including saggars from a pottery production kiln" (MKH 00)

**Kew**, Sewage Treatment Works, Flow Transfer Scheme (TQ1980 7680). Watching brief by TVAS in 2000. *NSFF* (KSW 98)

## **SUTTON**

**Beddington**, RTW Beddington Farm Road (TQ 3016 6642). Watching brief by MoLAS in 2000. *NSFF*. (BDG 00)

**Sutton**, St Nicholas Way/Crown Road (TQ 25696 64721). Post-excavation assessment by PCA. A few shallow features may have been prehistoric; 67 Late Bronze Age or Iron Age struck flints and a pot sherd were residual in later contexts; a circular pit apparently used for iron-working provided a radiocarbon dating of late 5th to late 3rd century BC; one residual Roman sherd; two 13th century boundary ditches of properties fronting onto the High Street and a probable beam slot for a timber building at right angles; late 16th century Nuremberg jeton; 19th century drains and a well (SNI 00)

## **WANDSWORTH**

**Balham**, 22-26 Balham Hill (TQ 2870 7390). Watching brief by PCA in 2000. *NSFF*. (BAM 97)

**Wandsworth**, Morie Street, adjoining Ferrier Street Estate (TQ 2580 7502). Evaluation by AOC in 2000. Shallow pits and possible gullies, some containing Neolithic/Bronze Age worked flints and pottery; possible prehistoric soil layers; thick soil layer containing 16th to 19th century finds; 19th century building foundations and possible quarry pit (MOI 00)

**Southfields**, Southfields Community College, 333 Merton Road (TQ 25386 73255). Watching brief by CA in 2000. Alluvial deposits of the River Wandle; substantial undated ditch; post-medieval soils (MRA 00)

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## **OBITUARY**

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### **Dr Brian Hope-Taylor FSA, 1923-2001**

*Peter Harp*

It is with great sadness that I have to report that, after several years of ill health, Brian Hope-Taylor died on January 12th. Brian was born in Croydon in 1923, and spent his youth in Sanderstead. His early work in archaeology was undertaken during military leave in Surrey when he recorded sites affected by military work during the war. His most notable works in Surrey included the 1951 excavation of Preston Hawe manor-house in Banstead, the excavation of Abinger motte in 1952, and a study of the 'celtic' field system on Farthing Down, Coulsdon.

Brian was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1950, and in between excavations, taught archaeology at Cambridge from 1961 to 1976. Amongst his more notable excavations of national importance were sites at Yeavinger, Bambergh Castle, York Minster, and Old Windsor. The report on the Anglo-Saxon palace at Yeavinger is widely regarded as a classic of modern archaeology. Brian presented two television series in the 1960s – *Who Were the British?* And *The Lost Centuries*. Brian maintained his links with Surrey until his death, having been instrumental in setting up the Plateau group of the Surrey Archaeological Society. He was subsequently made an honorary member of the group. Despite very poor health for the last few years which frustrated him in his work of writing up old excavations, I always found him to be very helpful in teaching our group standards of excavation,



*Brian Hope-Taylor*

*(Anglia Television)*

and to have a clear recollection of local archaeological sites in Surrey. His dry sense of humour was always a pleasure, as we frequently joked about whether he would manage to write up Preston Hawe before his ill health became too much of an obstacle. Brian always assured me that Preston Hawe was 'next on the list after Old Windsor', knowing full well that if he did not get round to writing it up the burden might fall on me! It is important to place on record that the tardiness in writing up this excavation was no reflection on Hope-Taylor, but that the original excavation schedule had not included provision for a full report.

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## MISCELLANY

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### **Rabbit and Hare Warrens**

*Charles Abdy*

I have long known the remains of the hare warren on Walton Downs near Langley Vale; much of the wall still stands to a height of eight feet or so. The hare warren is shown as such on John Rocque's map that was published in 1768 and is said to have been set up in 1720 by the fifth Lord Baltimore of Woodcote Park. The hares that bred in the enclosure would have been driven out through small trap doors in the wall onto the downs to be chased by dogs. Hare coursing was a popular entertainment for visitors to Epsom Spa. The warrener's cottage built into the wall still stands.

My interest in the warren was rekindled by an enquiry from Albert Henderson of the Department of Biology, University of Leeds, who is researching hare warrens. He mentioned also the warren at Belmont that I had heard of, but had not previously taken the trouble to look at, and I made a point of going to see it. A considerable length of the stoutly built wall about six feet high survives in Warren Avenue and Onslow Avenue as the front garden wall of some large detached houses built in recent years. A few of the trap-door holes remain. The warrener's cottage was pulled

down in 1930. Little is known about the origins of this hare warren. It has been suggested that it was associated with Nonsuch Palace – hare coursing was popular in the 16th and 17th centuries. Some experts have expressed the view that the present brickwork is no earlier than the late 17th century. It could not be Tudor as it is built in Flemish bond.

Albert Henderson has also been researching rabbit warrens and was kind enough to send me a paper he has written on this subject and to give permission for me to quote from it. It is not generally known that there were managed rabbit warrens as well as hare warrens, and a few details from the research may be of interest to members.

Although rabbits and hares were early natives of the British Isles, unlike hares, rabbits became extinct over 10,000 years ago during the Ice Ages; in fact, they became extinct throughout Europe except in the milder regions of the Iberian Peninsula, which led the Romans to refer to it as the rabbit-teeming Spanish Peninsula. The animal was appreciated by the Romans for its meat and its fur; rabbit rissole was higher on their menus than chicken. Rabbits were kept in warrens and use of these spread steadily through much of western Europe, although they did not arrive in Britain until the Normans introduced them in the 11th and 12th centuries. The animals were known as coneys, although the young ones were called rabbits and this name eventually took over. However, coney is still used in statutes and in heraldry. 'Warren' or 'coney' in place names can indicate one-time managed rabbit populations.

Warrens were mainly situated on land of low fertility, particularly sandy, gravelly or heathland areas. The boundary walls would be built from earth or sods, often with a core of stones or old tree-roots, although the walls might be built of stone where it was available. For obvious reasons the walls of rabbit warrens did not need to be as high as those of hare warrens. Mounds of soft or gravelly earth were made inside the warren for the rabbits to burrow in and often provide archaeological evidence of the site of a rabbit warren. Several such sites are known on Box Hill. A large warren could be of sufficient economic importance to justify building a lodge for a warrener to live in. His job was to look after the rabbits and deter poachers.

The hares raised in warrens were mainly for sporting purposes, whereas rabbits were sold for their meat and their fur. There was a limited use of rabbits for sport, but an animal that tends to stop and give itself up when pursued is not an ideal beast of the chase.

*From the September Newsletter 4/00 of the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, with many thanks*

## **Is It a Log Boat?**

***Richmond Archaeology Society  
in conjunction with English Heritage***

An excavation field day took place on 30 September 2000 on the foreshore of the Thames near the half lock at Richmond, close to an area of Late Mesolithic peat deposits. Prior to the excavation the sample of exposed areas suggested evidence of tooling and revealed no bark on the exterior of the log and a hollow interior, which led to suspicions that it could be a Log Boat. The field day opened up a bigger length of the structure. It quickly became evident that it had not been fashioned but in fact was a split fallen tree-trunk. A dendrochronological sample was taken and it will probably turn out to be contemporary with the peat deposits. We are grateful for the co-operation of the London Authority who granted permission for the excavation to take place and were happy to organise the availability of a boat crane had excavations progressed to a further stage. Our thanks also go to David Goodburn, wood specialist in London who was involved in providing expert advice during earlier investigations and consequent excavation work. All investigations and excavations have been filmed and a short video will be made.

A watching brief was carried out as part of a planning condition on the site by John Boas and the author for CKC Archaeology at the request of Inducon (Westminster).

Documentary and illustrative records show that at least two old buildings of 16th/17th-century date existed on the site of 9-11 Chertsey Street before they were demolished in 1937 to make way for the Guildford Labour Exchange. Archaeological recording on the site following the demolition of this latter building showed that most of the site had been disturbed by late post-medieval and 20th-century activity. Recording recovered eight pits, a brick and stone culvert, a brick and stone lined cellar and four well shafts. All but two pits and two undated well shafts were backfilled with soil containing 19th-century ceramics. One of the pits contained a piece of Border Ware pipkin and may have been of late 16th or 17th-century date. The other pit contained the neck of a 17th-century glass bottle, and may have been of that date or later. Only two residual medieval sherds were found over the entire site.

The evidence seems to suggest that a suburb had built up along Chertsey Street by the later 16th or early 17th century, but there was no definite evidence for any earlier occupation.

### **Earliest Picture of Kingston Bridge?**

A small drawing of Kingston Bridge recently came up for sale but unfortunately Kingston Museum failed to purchase it. However the purchaser has kindly supplied them with a copy to add to their reference collection.

The picture, by Bernard Lens III (1682-1740) is a pen and ink drawing showing the bridge from the Hampton Wick side. It probably dates from around 1732 and is therefore the earliest known image, some 70 years before Rowlandson.

The general shape is the same as later pictures, but there are some interesting differences in the superstructure and in the main through arch. Also in the sketch are a carriage and horses on the bridge, and a Thames sailing barge behind.

Bernard Lens III was of Dutch descent. He was drawing master to a young Horace Walpole and 'Limner' (painter) to George I and George II.

### **Visit to Fort Cumberland**



*Society members at Fort Cumberland*

The Society's visit to the English Heritage Centre at Fort Cumberland was a great success, with around 20 members and 20 A-Level students coming along to this mid-week visit on Wednesday 14th March.

We were treated to a superb presentation of the work being undertaken at the Centre by enthusiastic staff, enjoying the benefits of their cutting edge technology. The visit included tours of the Environmental, Technology, Conservation, and Geophysics Laboratories as well as the 18th century fort building itself.

After viewing the environmental processing and its associated laboratory we moved on to see the impressive bone reference collection. We then saw how breakthroughs are currently being made in analysis of corrosion products on metal, how X-Ray techniques are used to examine blocks lifted from excavations, as well as the new geophysical surveys from Richborough amphitheatre and Stanton Drew. Particularly memorable were the Electron microscope, with its magnification capabilities of up to x 80,000, and the X-Ray Fluorescence machine, which obligingly analysed the exact composition of member's rings – luckily no-one received any unexpected results!

Our welcome was warm, as was the encouragement to make contact with any queries we might have. We certainly went away impressed and hopeful of increased contact with the Centre in the future.

Thank you to all at Fort Cumberland.

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## **COURSES**

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### **Experimental Archaeology Courses**

These two short courses will explore the theory of experimental archaeology as a means of understanding the past. We will examine the technology of working with copper, bronze or silver, to try and appreciate the skills of prehistoric craftsmen. For each course there will also be the opportunity to take part in a one day workshop at the Weald and Downland Museum in West Sussex, which will recreate the processes used in the past to cast these metals. No prior knowledge of archaeology or metalworking is necessary.

#### **Course 1**

Two Friday mornings + one day practical.

27th April and 4th May 10 am – 12 noon at Farnham Adult Education Centre, West St.

Course fee £20 (with concessions) Tel: 01252 723888.

11th May 10am – 4 pm at the Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton.

Silver – £32 or Bronzeworking – £20 payable to Neil Burridge on the day for his time and materials; you will be able to retain your creations.

#### **Course 2**

Two weekend evenings +one day practical.

6th June and 13th June 7 pm – 9.30 at Farnham Adult Education Centre, West St.

Course fee £20, with concessions : Tel 01252 – 723888

Sunday 17th June 10 am – 4 pm, Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton.

Bronzeworking – £20 payable to Neil Burridge on the day for his time and materials, you will be able to retain your creations.

Or

Sunday 1st July 10 am – 4 pm, Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton.

Silver – £32 payable to Neil Burridge on the day for his time and materials: you will be able to retain your creations.

For more information please contact Elizabeth Whitbourn Tel: 01483 420575; emailjaw@telinco.co.uk; mobile no: 07790-451110

## **Kent Archaeological Field School**

### ***Kent Field Study Centre, near Faversham***

#### ***Saturday and Weekend Courses through April and May***

- 21-22nd April Archaeological and Geophysical Survey: Theory and practice using laser technology, optical site levels and theodolites.
- 12/13th May Human Bones and Burials led by Trevor Anderson. On-site recording and analysis.
- 19/20th May The Saxon Shore (*Litus Saxonicum*). The Roman forts will be discussed and visits will be made to Reculver, Richborough, Dover and Lympne.
- 26-28th May Discovering Ancient Sites.

Fees £30 per day to include tea/coffee.

Local accommodation on request.

For further information contact the Kent Archaeological Field School, School Farm Oast, Graveney Road, Faversham, Kent ME13 8UP; Tel: 0208 987 8827 or 0585 700 112.

## **WEALD & DOWNLAND OPEN AIR MUSEUM**

### ***Historic Building Conservation***

#### ***Day Schools***

- 24th May Joinery by Hand: Sash Windows. Ged Gardiner and Charles Brooking. £80

#### ***Linked Day Schools***

**Recording Vernacular Buildings for Conservation.** Richard Harris.

15th March Imposing a Grid. £70

26th April Studio Techniques. £70

**Hands-on Timber Repair Workshop.** Richard Harris and Roger Champion.

30th April – 2nd May £200

**History of English Domestic Architecture.** Jim Strike.

25th April 1625 – 1830. £80

**Traditional Painting and Decorating Techniques.** Wilm and Joy Huning.

5th – 7th June £150

For further information Tel: 01243 811363.

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## **EXHIBITIONS**

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### ***Surrey History Centre***

**No Place Like Home!** 6th March – 28th April 2001

**Finders Keepers? Archaeology Today** 1st May – 2nd June 2001

**The Bloody Code: Crime and Punishment in Surrey 1700-1850** 12th June – 1st September 2001

The exhibitions are free of charge and can be viewed during the normal opening hours of the Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 1ND Tel: 01483 594594, E-mail: [shs@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:shs@surreycc.gov.uk), web: <http://shs.surreycc.gov.uk>

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## LECTURE SERIES

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### MEET THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS

#### *Kingston Museum*

- 1st May **Recent Roman Finds in Greater London** by Hedley Swain of the Early London History and Collections at the Museum of London
- 8th May **Getting Around in Medieval London** by John Clark of the Early London History and Collections at the Museum of London
- 22nd May **The Archaeology of the Thames** by Mike Webber

All three lectures begin at 7 pm and it is advisable to book early, Tel: 020 8546 5386. Cost £6 per lecture or £15 for all three.

### Open University and Guildford Museum Partnership Lecture Series

#### *Guildhall, High Street, Guildford*

- 26th April 7.30 pm **Sex, Drugs & Rock'n Roll: Victorian Liberals and Illicit Pleasures. *John Pike***  
A 50 minute talk about the relevance of the writings of the Victorian liberals, particularly John Stuart Mill, to some of the moral issues that confront us today
- 24th May 7.30 pm **The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. *Jacqueline Parry***  
Founded in 1848 the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood was short lived, but very influential on nineteenth century British Art. An interesting talk considering this idealistic, emotionally intense movement within the context of the Victorian Society
- 21st June 7.30 pm **'Only a Novel': Victorian Readers and Modern Critics. *Julia Courtney***  
Can we revisit the Victorian reading experience? What did early readers and critics make of the novels which we admire or ignore today? This lecture aims to address these questions and to suggest new ways of approaching old favourites whilst introducing some less familiar works

To book a place please contact Guildford Museum Tel: 01483 444752. All lectures are free but places are limited.

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## LECTURE MEETINGS

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### **20th April**

AGM followed by "More Old Postcards of Fetcham" by Geoff Powell to the Leatherhead and District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute, 67 High Street at 7.30 for 8 pm. Non-member £2 including coffee.

### **21st April**

"Recent Work on the site of Merton Priory" by Dave Saxby of MoLAS to the Merton Historical Society at the Snuff Mill Environmental Centre, Morden Hall Park at 2.30 pm.

### **21st April**

"Recent Prehistoric Discoveries in Surrey" by Rob Poulton to the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society in the Walton Day Centre at 3 pm.

**24th April**

"High Street Londinium – Reconstructing Roman London" by Jenny Hall of the Museum of London to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, Lambeth North at 7 pm. Visitors £1.

**25th April**

"The River and Rowing Museum" by Emily Leach to the Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society at the Assembly Hall, Halliford School, Russell Road, Shepperton at 8 pm. Non-members £1. For further information Tel: 01932 564585.

**26th April**

"Paper Mills of Surrey" by Alan Crocker to Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society in the Main Hall, Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8 pm.

**26th April**

"Wayneffete Tower" by Nora Courtney to the Esher District Local History Society at Claremont Mansion at 7.30 pm. Visitors £2.

**2nd May**

"19th Century Houses in Ewell" by Ian West to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8 pm.

**7th May**

"Moats, Monks and Manor Houses and a Lost Chapel" by Graham Gower to the Streatham Society Local History Group at 'Wodlawns', 16 Leigham Court Road at 8 pm.

**8th May**

"Some Marcher Castles" by Mike Goodwin to the Kingston Archaeological Society in the Lower Hall of the Friends' Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames, at 8 pm.

**11th May**

"Roman Staines" by Phil Jones to the University of Surrey Extra-Mural Archaeological Society at Egham Literary Institute at 8 pm. Visitors £2.

**15th May**

"Black and White to Colour: Kingston Photographic Services 1925-1975" by Frank and John Dobson to the Friends of Kingston Museum at the Market House, Market Place, Kingston at 8 pm. For further information Tel: 01362 453794.

**16th May**

"The Surrey History Centre" by Maggie Vaughan-Lewis to the Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society at the Assembly Hall, Halliford School, Russell Road, Shepperton at 8 pm. Non-members £1. For further information Tel: 01932 564585.

**22nd May**

"Commercial Ice Wells and Ice Works: the Commercial Ice Trade in London" by Malcolm Tucker to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, Lambeth North at 7 pm. Visitors £1.

**31st May**

"Fanny Burney: Pen Portraitist" by Hester Davenport to Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society in the Main Hall, Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8 pm.

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The Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society desires it to be known that it is not responsible for the statements or opinions expressed in the *Bulletin*.

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**Next Issue:** Copy required by 27th April for the May issue.

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