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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Bulletin 357

April/May 2002



A big cat caught in Worcester Park.

TWO HERALDIC BEASTS FROM SURREY?

Tony Howe

Surrey County Council archaeological officers at County Hall have received the following request for information from Andrew Delahunty in France:

"I was wondering if you would be able to help me in my research into the origins of the two heraldic standard bearers that I acquired in Surrey about 15 years ago from the Hogsmill Tavern in Worcester Park.

They are made of oolitic limestone which is fine grained and quite white. We have not yet been able to ascertain whether this stone is Bath, Taynton, Caen or some other origin. The forearms are stained green and I assume that this is from a missing brass or copper pennant. On the top of the lance there is a vertical hole which appears to be filled with a form of resin, presumably for fixing the missing appendage. The bottom edge of the square base is quite worn, and indicates to me that they have been moved around quite a bit. In between the lance and the tail there is a metal dowel (ferrous) which appears to be hollow. It pierces the base from top to bottom and ... has been covered with a form of cement mortar in a fashion that has little to do with the quality of the carving ... I assume this was done at a later date. The weathering of the stone is uneven. The eyes are quite worn, and one displays vertical ridges on its back – these appear to have been caused by water erosion. There are tiny signs of what might have been paint. This is thick, black and of a seemingly bituminous matter, and situated around the ears of one of the beasts. The statues are 1.2m tall, 0.37m wide and 0.42m in depth. They are about 90 kilos in weight."



The other sculpture from Worcester Park.

As appears obvious from the photographs supplied, these are antique sculptures of some quality. Stylistically, they appear to be Tudor, with the consensus of opinion at this office being that the location of the find, and style of the objects, is consistent with them originating from Nonsuch Palace.

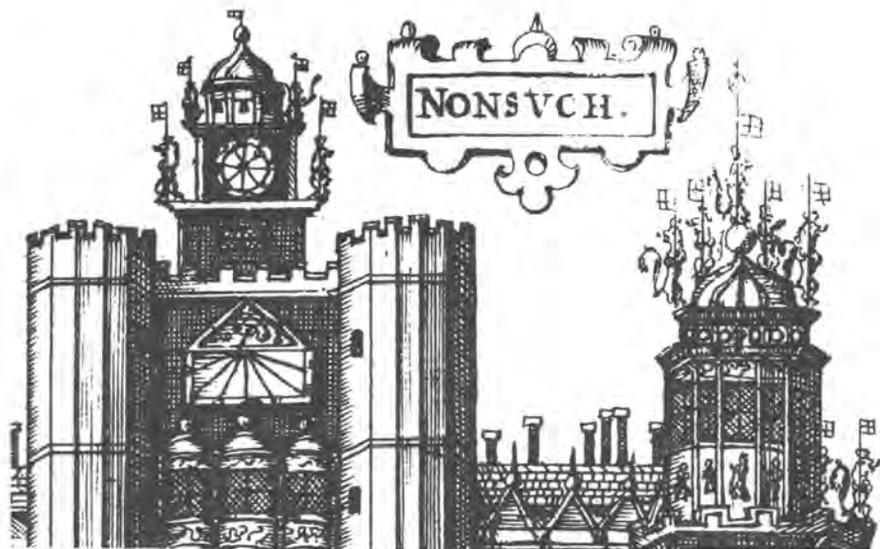
Nonsuch Palace was one of the most spectacular architectural achievements of Tudor England, but was demolished just over a hundred years after its completion in c1580. John Speed's 1610 map of Surrey includes an illustration of the palace with similar looking standard bearers positioned around the tower roofs, but Martin Biddle, who excavated extensively on the site of the palace in 1959-60 and has been shown the photographs, believes these

tower bearers would most likely have been of wood, in keeping with the majority of the superstructure. No similar stone objects, or fragments from such, were found during the excavations. The similarity between the Speed illustration and the objects is striking however, and suggests that the assumed period at least is correct, if not the site or position.

These objects may be significant finds from an important period in the county's history which



Details of the second sculpture.



Part of the roof-line of Nonsuch Palace, from John Speed's 1610 map of Surrey.

has now all but vanished. It is, of course, possible that the statues are from some other source – Surrey has no shortage of demolished Tudor palaces, after all. Could they have once welcomed visitors from the entrance gates of Oatlands, or looked out over the gardens of Richmond? Possibly they once graced Hampton Court just across the river – a part demolished and replaced by William III's apartments, maybe?

Can anyone remember having seen them in the Hogsmill Tavern at Worcester Park and, if so, did they enquire about their origins? Any relevant information, or suggestions as to possible sites and/or parallels for these finds, will be passed on to Mr Delahunty.

Forgive me, but they look a bit ersatz-Tudor to me, with an artistry that seems better comparable to Victorian funerary sculpture than with the real thing. All comments welcome.

COUNCIL MATTERS

Subscriptions

Susan Janaway

Just in case you missed my reminder in last month's *Bulletin* about subscriptions, here are the current rates:

Ordinary Member	£25
Associate Member	£2
Junior Member aged 16-20 (<i>with Collections</i>)	£6
Junior Member who is living at the same address as an Ordinary Member (<i>without publications</i>)	free of charge
Student member aged 21-25	£12.50
Institutional Member (Inland)	£30
Institutional Member (Overseas)	£40

If you have forgotten to renew your subscription, please do so soon!

Kingston Young Archaeologists Club

The Kingston Young Archaeologists Club was launched on the 9th February this year at the start of a special Roman exhibition at Kingston Museum. The curator, Paul Hill, in full Saxon warrior regalia, welcomed a steady stream of interested children, most of whom decided to join the club after looking at the information posters and the artefacts on display. The aim of the club is to bring archaeology alive to youngsters in the form of talks, "hands-on experience" and days out.

The first full meeting was on Saturday 2nd March, when 32 children participated, mainly between 9 and 12 years old. Our first programme was to design and make their own mosaic tiles using baked clay squares, paint and "varnish". Many of the designs were very good and very well made.

Our next meeting will be a visit to the Museum of London on 6th April, and a full programme has been arranged until December. The club, which is sponsored by Surrey Archaeological Society and supported by Kingston Archaeological Society, is for 8-16 year olds, and meets on the first Saturday of the month 10 am to 12 noon at the Tudor Hall, Tudor Drive, North Kingston.

My thanks to Audrey Monk who has given me much help and advice, Paul Hill, and my helpers, Sarah Ellison, Jeanette Hicks, Rosemary Hunter, and two very brave dads.

For information contact Club Leader Joyce Herve, Tel: 020-8394 1533.

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY

VILLAGES STUDY GROUP

Details of two more Workshops are given below. All members of the Society, including those not participating in a particular study, are welcome. Space at The Canons on 25th May is, however, limited, so please let Audrey Monk at Castle Arch know if you wish to attend. This workshop should be of particular interest to local societies in the Greater London area as we are hoping to hear about – and possibly meet – the "support worker", a new post funded for one year, at least, by English Heritage.

Workshop at Mitcham

***The Heritage Centre, The Canons, Madeira Road, Mitcham
Saturday, 25th May 2002***

During May the exhibition space at the Centre, which opens at 10 am, is devoted to displays about the work of the Merton Historical Society.

- 10.15 Tea, coffee/Registration
- 10.45 Introduction
- 10.55 **Medieval and Later Settlement in Merton and Morden** *Peter Hopkins*
- 11.25 **A Support Worker for Local Societies** *Robert Whytehead* of English Heritage Discussion
- 12.15 **Merton Priory – Recent Developments** *Norman Plastow*
- 12.45 Lunch
- 2.15 **The Society's Library** *Gillian Drew*, Honorary Librarian
- 2.45 **Settlements in the Parish of Streatham – Part II** *Graham Gower*
- 3.30 Tea
- 3.45 **The Last Years of Rural Wimbledon** *Cyril Maidment*
- 4.15 Discussion
- 4.30 Close

The Canons is part of the Leisure Centre and Library, bounded by Commonsides West, the London Road and Madeira Road, and can be reached either from the east via the A236/A237, or from the west via the A217.

A236/A237 From the south, Carshalton Road. Pass Mitcham Junction on the left, continue over the roundabout. Madeira Road is first left, controlled by traffic lights. Take *first* entrance on the right to the public car park (free) for the Leisure Centre. A footpath takes you to The Canons.

A217. From the south (London Road), turn right into Cricket Green and shortly afterwards left into Madeira Road. Take the second entrance on the left into the car park, as above.

Workshop at Cranleigh

Arts Centre, 1 High Street, Cranleigh

Saturday 11th May 2002

- 10.00 Tea, coffee/Registration
- 10.30 Welcome by **Michael Miller**, Chairman, Cranleigh History Society
- 10.35 **Introduction Update** *Dennis Turner*
- 10.45 **The Richest Historical Record – Landscape and Local History**
John Pile. John has long been interested in the origin and development of villages and landscape history and has been carrying out similar research in south-east Hampshire. His insights should be both interesting and instructive. Followed by Discussion
- 11.45 **The Use of Computers for Map Making** *Peter Hopkins*
- 12.15 Tour of part of the village; it is hoped to visit one of Cranleigh's early houses
- 1.15 Lunch
- 2.15 **Cranleigh – exposing the past** *Michael Miller*
- 2.45 **Vernacular Architecture** *Annabelle Hughes*
- 3.30 Tea
- 3.45 **Cranleigh – a part of Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement in the Hundred of Blackheath** *Judie English*
- 4.15 Questions
- 4.30 Close

Cranleigh Arts Centre is at the east end of Cranleigh High Street, close to the church, at the junction of the B2127 (to Ewhurst) and the B2128 (to Ellens Green). Limited car parking at rear of Arts Centre, access Church Lane, otherwise in main car park off High Street.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Symposium 2002

The 29th annual symposium was held at the Ashted Peace Memorial Hall and was attended by over 120 people. It was chaired by **Peter Youngs** of the Domestic Buildings Research Group who welcomed the audience and speakers to a full and interesting programme.

It was opened by **Tony Howe**, archaeological officer of Surrey County Council, who directed two Community Archaeology excavations for the Society in 2001. Tony had little to say about Frensham Manor, probably the most archaeologically barren site in Surrey! At Banstead Heath trial trenching revealed a linear feature, possibly a boundary of Neolithic or Bronze Age date, worked flints, and a flint scatter that suggested the base of a structure, but there was insufficient evidence to confirm iron-working.

Jim Stevenson of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit (SCAU) reported on the excavation of a prehistoric ring ditch at Thorpe. Two flexed burials were uncovered, similarly positioned to two at the Shepperton henge dated to c3500 BC, but he was able to confirm that the Thorpe ditch surrounded a Bronze Age barrow, an important, but different, ritual site in this prehistoric landscape.

An authority on local kilns, **Paul Sowan** of the Surrey Industrial History Group (SIHG) explained the development of kilns for lime production, describing the Dorking, Brockham and Betchworth works. The Betchworth Dietzch kilns are of national importance and listed, but an opportunity occurred, during a Surrey Wildlife Trust project to improve bat habitats, for Paul to record the site and to show us the kilns and the work that was done.

Judie English described the work of the landscape survey team, thanking them for their work and dedication. Romano-British artefacts were excavated on Mickleham Down but no settlement was found, although boundaries and lynchets were identified. On Whitmor Common oval and narrow rectangular field systems and a double-banked enclosure were identified. Pollen samples have revealed clear changes in land use back to prehistoric times. Heathland is being allowed to regenerate on Ash Ranges, which effectively conceals the underlying archaeology, but medieval, or earlier, fields have been traced, and there are more to find.

Alison James is the English Heritage field monument warden responsible for over 500 monuments in Surrey and West Sussex. After describing a very full programme of visits, advising and reporting, producing management and conservation plans, Alison told us that she is part-time! We were told of the difficult balance between protection and providing access, and other problems of conservation.

We always look forward to hearing from members of the Young Archaeologists Club.

Janine Spiller described a Victorian “day in the classroom” held at Guildford Museum, followed by a walk in costume through the town and playing traditional games. Ink (life before ballpoint pens) seemed to worry the scholars, but they all enjoyed themselves and must have looked great. YAC activities are coordinated by Sarah Ellison, to whom we are most grateful.

The Mary Rose exhibition at Portsmouth was described by **Chris Simmons**, who told us about the loss of Henry VIII’s flagship in 1545 and how it is being preserved by PEG. Chris then described the impressive range of artefacts recovered from the wreck.

After lunch, Peter Youngs announced the results of the Margary Awards, which were presented by **Roger Ellaby**. The winner was the Surrey Industrial History Group for their excellent display of the Betchworth and Brockham lime kilns. Second prize was awarded to the Shere, Gomshall and Peaslake Local History Group, producers of the new Shere book. Also mentioned were the newly named Prehistoric Studies Group for their astonishing photographs of lithics. Well-deserved congratulations were given to all those who had put on displays.

Angela Batt of Framework Archaeology described her work for the British Airports Authority (BAA) at the Perry Oaks sewage works at the west end of the Heathrow runways. It does not sound much fun, but this is the area of the Stanwell cursus and is a landscape from Mesolithic to medieval times, with a full range of exciting artefacts being discovered. There is a research agenda to interpret the Heathrow area.

Nick Wells is also of Framework Archaeology, but his work has been at BAA Gatwick where he has been evaluating the NW Zone. Lack of archaeology in the Weald was quickly dispelled by Nick, who showed plenty of evidence of enclosures, boundaries



Roger Ellaby presents the Margary Award Certificate to Glenys Crocker.

and other features in very difficult ground. Because airport security is so strict, this was an opportunity to see sites normally denied to us.

Isabel Ellis is creating an Environmental/Archaeological Research Database of past environments in Surrey which will show rural changes through time. This will lead to a GIS digital archive and then to a Research Agenda. We were told of a few problems arising from missing and incomplete archive data, but when completed this is going to be a major addition to our knowledge of past Surrey.

The extraordinary mural paintings discovered during work at 44 High Street, Bagshot were explained and put into context by **David Gaimster** of the British Museum. The paintings, in what was once a tavern, are in bi-chrome, over-painted in polychrome. A Prince of Wales armorial device of 1537-1547 dates these paintings to the early Tudor period, other rare examples of which occur around London; Italianate grotesque style, coming into England through the Low Countries, vernacular, residential but not royal and usually associated with public functions.

David Bird, Surrey's principal archaeologist, referred to our conference in June 2001 where the need to have a research agenda for the south-east of England to identify the gaps in archaeological knowledge, to design a strategy to investigate them, and to integrate them across various groups, was debated. David gave examples where further research and new interpretations were needed.

On behalf of the audience **Dennis Turner**, past President, thanked the speakers, exhibitors, ARC organisers, helpers, in particular **Sue Janaway**, **Richard Williams**, **Andrew Cornwall** and **Steve Dyer** who organised the programme and acted as stage manager, and our Chairman for the day, **Peter Youngs** for an excellent and interesting day.

VISITS COMMITTEE

VISIT TO SUTTON HOO

Sunday 19th May 2002

Sutton Hoo is a group of low grassy burial mounds overlooking Woodbridge and the River Deben near Ipswich in Suffolk. In 1939 excavations brought to light the richest burial ever discovered in Britain, of an Anglo-Saxon ship containing the treasure of one of the earliest English kings, Rædwald of East Anglia. On 14th March 2002, sixty years after the discovery, a £5 million National Trust visitor centre was opened by Seamus Heaney, the poet and Nobel laureate. The exhibition includes a full-scale reconstruction of the ship's burial chamber, with replica treasures that have been crafted using authentic materials and methods. There is also improved access to the mound site, complete with new interpretation boards and a raised viewing platform. Some of the British Museum treasures are on loan to the exhibition for a limited period.

We leave from Farncombe railway station, near Godalming, at 8 am. Parking available nearby.

12 noon **Guided Walking Tour** of the burial mound site. This optional tour lasts just over an hour and costs £2 per person (£1.50 National Trust members). Please let me know if you wish to join, as it must be pre-booked.

Lunch: There is a National Trust restaurant/tea shop at the site, or bring sandwiches. During the afternoon there will be an opportunity to view the Exhibition Hall and bookshop, and to explore the many excellent walks around the 245 acre estate which was given to the National Trust by the Annie Tranmer Trust in 1998.

We leave Sutton Hoo at 5pm.

Please send a cheque made out to 'Mrs E Whitbourn', for £18 per person, and an additional £2 (or £1.50 if an NT member) for the guided walking tour. All welcome, not just SyAS members.

For more information contact Elizabeth Whitbourn; Tel: 01483-420575, or email liz.whitbourn@btinternet.com

RECENT WORK BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNITS

The fieldwork projects listed below were undertaken by archaeological contractors operating in the London boroughs of old Surrey towards the end of last year and the early part of 2002. A key to the acronyms is provided below, and the letters and numbers at the end of each entry is the site code.

ALW	Acanthus Lawrence and Wrightson Architects
AOC	AOC Archaeology
AWA	Alan Wyatt Architects
CGMS	CgMS Consulting
CNHSS	Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society
MoLAS	Museum of London Archaeological Services
OAU	Oxford Archaeological Unit
PCA	Pre-Construct Archaeology
SAS	Sutton Archaeological Services

Croydon

Sanderstead, 2, The Ridgeway (TQ 3324 6248). Watching brief by CNHSS. Five struck flints of Bronze Age types, including two of Reading Beds bullhead flint. (site code not provided)

Croydon, 22 Haling Park Road (TQ 3229 6376). Watching brief by MoLAS. Post-medieval quarry. (HPD 01).

Thornton Heath, 10-12 Bulganak Road (TQ 3222 6849). Watching brief by MoLAS. NSFF (BKN 01).

Lambeth

Clapham, 54 Bromell's Road (TQ 2948 7540). Evaluation by AWA. Soakaway with finds of c1830-50. (BML 00).

Merton

Morden, Hatfield First School, Lower Morden Lane (TQ 2458 67335). Evaluation by SAS. NSFF (LDA 01).

Wimbledon, 25A High Street?Homefield Road (TQ 23985 71030). Evaluation by SAS. Pit with medieval pottery sherd and two other medieval sherds re-deposited near-by. (HWN 01).

Richmond upon Thames (Surrey side)

Mortlake, 77-91 Mortlake High Street (TQ 2077 7601). Post-excavation assessment by PCA. Two shallow pits containing some burnt flints in the higher, south part of the site away from the river; two lines of stake and post-holes of a possible building in the north, succeeded by two late medieval burgage plots extending from the High Street to the river, with a building that had a decorative floored room in the eastern building and a possible bakery in the western building; both plots amalgamated in the late 17th century as a large three-storey house; unusual 18th century hexagonal brick structure west of the house, possibly a fountain base (MKH 00).

Southwark

Southwark, Coopers Road Estate (TQ 3395 7830). Evaluation by OAU. NSFF (site code not provided).

Sutton

Carshalton, Woodmansterne Road (TQ 2750 6250) Evaluation by MoLAS. NSFF (site code not provided).

Sutton, 22-36 Carshalton Road/Sutton Police Station (no map reference provided). Standing building recording by ALW of the police station, built 1908 and expanded 1936 (site code not provided).

Sutton, West Street/St Nicholas Way (TQ 2575 6434). Evaluation by SAS. NSFF (WUT 01).

Wandsworth

Putney, Moulinere House, 225-9 Putney Bridge Road (TQ 2455 7524). Standing building recording by CGMS and PCA. This was an early 18th century mansion incorporated into the 1930's Cathkin Laundry building, with no external clue apart from the stone hood above the doorway. Most of the below ground archaeology had been truncated. (PNB 00).

Battersea, 324, Battersea Park Road (TQ 2715 7620). Watching brief by MoLAS. Post-medieval plough soil; late 18th or early 19th century cellar and two pits. (BKD 01).

Wandsworth, 45 Moffat Road (TQ 27485 71837). Evaluation by SAS. NSFF (MOF 00).

Wandsworth, Duntshill Mill, Duntshill Road (TQ 2556 7301). Watching brief by AOC. NSFF (DHR 00).

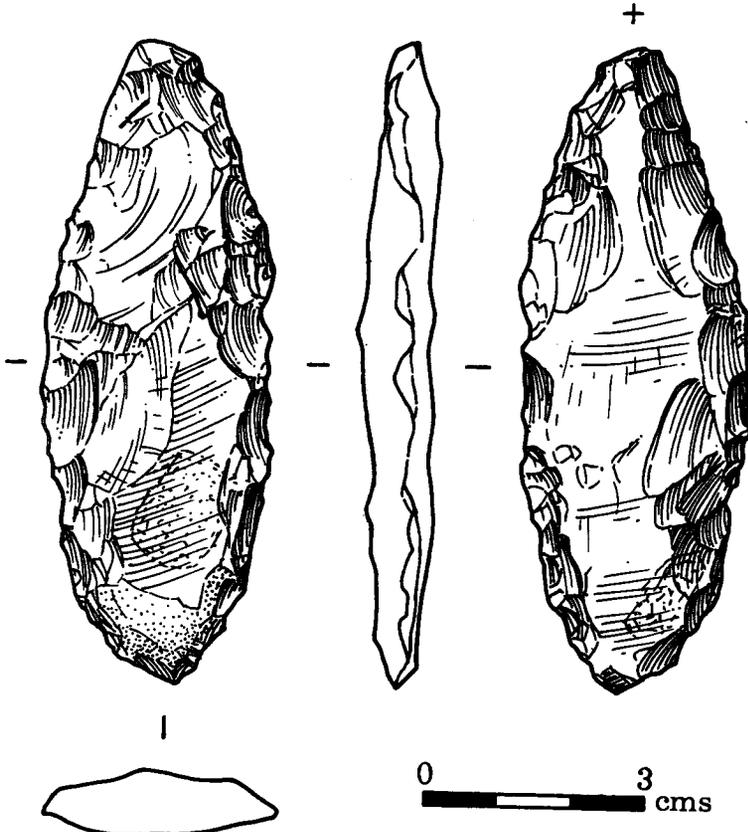
Wandsworth, One O'Clock Centre, Siward Road, Garratt Park (TQ 2608 7240). Evaluation by AOC. Alluvial sequence of Late Saxon date; post-medieval topsoils and dumps. (OCO 01).

A Neolithic Flint Knife from Raikes Farm, Abinger

Jonathan Cotton

The flint knife shown here was found by a gamekeeper attached to the Wotton Estate and passed to David Williams via Reg Perry, a member of the Weald and Downland Metal Detecting Club of Redhill. It was apparently picked up over Christmas 2001 close to the edge of a pheasant covert at cTQ 111 462. The find-spot lies high up on the northward-facing slope at the junction of the Sandgate and Hythe Beds of the Lower Greensand, a little to the east of Raikes Farm, Abinger. Raikes Farm is best known for the so-called 'Mesolithic pit-dwelling' explored by Louis Leakey in 1950 (*SAS Res Paper*, 3 (1951), the latter situated just across the fields a little over 300m south-south-east of the present find.

The knife is fashioned on a long robust blank of banded, cherty, pale grey-blue flint, the raw material presumably originating from the foot of the North Downs scarp a couple of kilometres across the Tillingbourne valley to the north. The knife measures 88mm in length, 30mm in width and weighs 28.4g. It is of an elongated slender leaf shape, and plano-convex in cross-section. The dorsal face is boldly worked across much of its surface, but retains a patch of off-white cortex at its distal end. The opposite face has shallower, invasive retouch, and retains a good proportion of the



Flint knife from Raikes Farm, Abinger.

ventral surface of the parent flake. The original bulb of percussion is particularly marked, especially in profile.

Bi-facially worked knives can be dated to the earlier part of the Neolithic. Locally, several fragmentary examples have been reported from Holmbury Hill a little to the south (SAC 79 (1989, 154). Other pieces of earlier Neolithic flintwork such as leaf arrowheads feature prominently in the collections recovered from the Lower Greensand along the Tillingbourne valley. A 'quite surprising' number of arrowheads of this type were found on the surface of the 'pit-dwelling' field by Major Beddington Behrens between 1948 and 1950 (*SAS Res Paper 3* (1951), 42 & fig 12, no 8).

Thanks are due to Reg Perry, in whose possession the knife remains, and to David Williams for bringing it to the writer's attention.

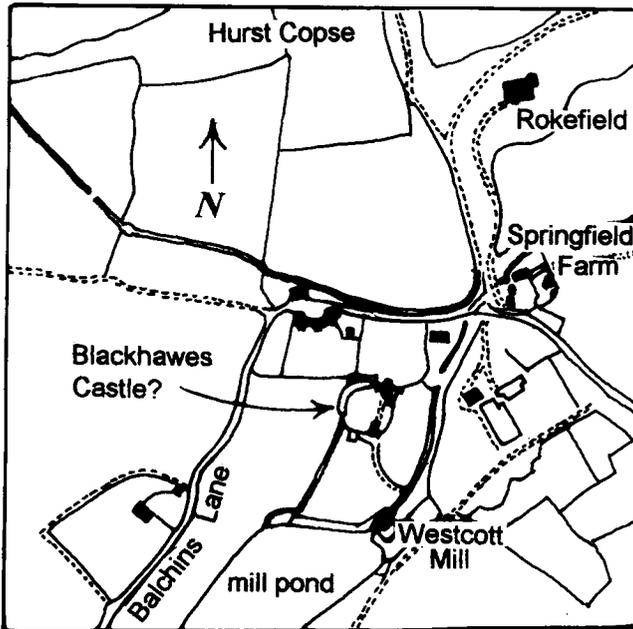
A Suggested Location of Black Hawes 'Castle' at Westcott

Gabby Rapson

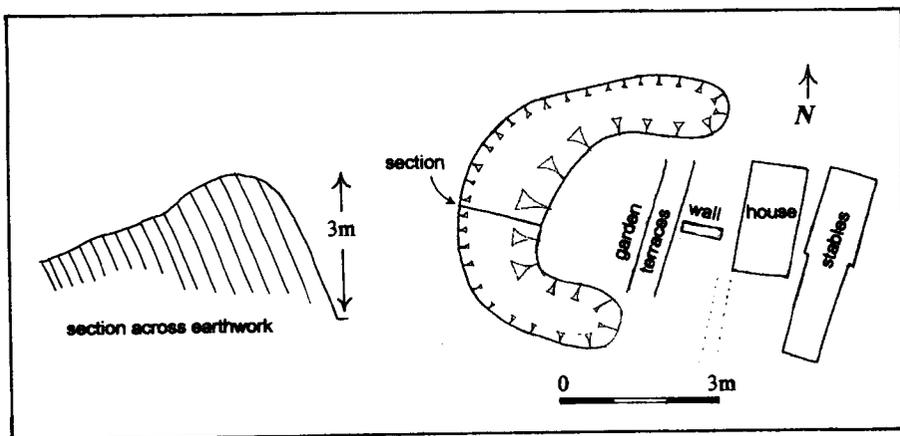
John Aubrey's 18th century account of the antiquities of Surrey, and J S Bright's late 19th century *History of Dorking* both mention a castle called Black Hawes that belonged to the Ewtons, lying in the shady coppices of Westcott. Bright suggests that this and Benham castle in Dorking, were likely to have been '*homes or fortresses of the nobility who followed the Conqueror and shared the fruits of his victory*', ie a fortified Norman manor house. Aubrey wrote that it had been destroyed by the Danes and that nothing remained except the 'mote' and some bricks. Manning and Bray suggested that the castle lay in land belonging to R Fuller near the mill at Westcott, which consisted of a square piece of ground of about a quarter of an acre, enclosed by a high bank called Castle Bank, of which some military earthworks remained.

The site was easily located by the author, and the present owners allowed the recording of the remaining earthwork, which, in parts, stands, at least, 3m high. It lies within a larger area bounded by the Pippbrook stream and the mill pond in the east and part of the south, and by banks along most of its north and western

sides, which may form the outer perimeter of the site. Part of a wall discovered during building work and included on the sketch plan below, may be related to the 'castle', although it could have belonged to later garden landscaping. A base angle sherd from a 12th or 13th century cooking pot in grey/brown sandy ware has been identified by Phil Jones of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit,



The possible site of Black Hawes Castle at Westcott, as shown on a late 19th century OS map.



Rough sketch and section of the earthwork.

and is the only evidence recovered so far of medieval activity in the vicinity. It is hoped that a proper survey will commence shortly.

The heart of the modern village of lies around Westcott Green. I had previously wondered why Milton and Westcott manors had been recorded separately when they appear to lie so close together. The logical location for a manor house close to Westcott Mill shifts the village about a kilometre north-west of present day Westcott, placing it mid-way between Milton and Westcott. If the focus of the village had shifted towards Dorking, then there may be some evidence of an abandoned medieval settlement in the western part of the village. There are visible earthworks in the fields north of the site, as well as several under-used roads and tracks.

David Bird of Surrey County Council has been very supportive of my research, which will be published later this year, including a map of all detector and other artefact finds in the area. Hopefully, this will initiate a fresh interpretation of the Westcott area, which, despite evidence of every period from the Mesolithic onwards, has long been under-investigated.

REFERENCES

- Aubrey, J, 1718-19, *Natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, 4
 Bright, J S, 1884, *A History of Dorking*
 Manning, O, and Bray, W, 1804, *The History and Antiquities of Surrey*

Brockham Lime Kilns Recognised as Ancient Monuments Paul W Sowar

Scheduling of the lime kilns at the former Brockham limeworks is going ahead. Recent meetings with English Heritage (EH), Mole Valley District Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT) staff and the Principal Archaeologist of Surrey County Council, have addressed the question of providing cappings to three of the four flare kiln chambers in the eastern battery to provide the large sealed voids required for bat hibernation without being visually intrusive, or obscuring or damaging the significant features of the kilns – their floors, trench grates, side and rear access arches, high-level coal doors, and fragments of their conical brick superstructures. EH and SWT architects and engineers are discussing ways of meeting all requirements in these respects. Provision may need to be incorporated for summer ventilation of the interior of the structure to safeguard the integrity of the brickwork.

Under an existing Listed Building regulation consent, some work has already been

completed – the four access tunnels have been provided with lockable steel gates; three of the four flare kilns in the eastern battery have been emptied of their contents, and all (and numerous) artefacts of archaeological importance retrieved for recording; and steel safety mesh has been emplaced above the three open tops of the Bishop's patent 'Brockham' kilns. Further work, on capping one or two of the three emptied flare kiln chambers, is expected to be resumed in May, along with the capping of a hazardous unguarded vertical shaft within the structure. No further work is envisaged for bat conservation purposes affecting the four Brockham patent kilns in the eastern battery, or the two such in the smaller western battery.

There is a longer-term need to strengthen and support the west-facing façade of the structure, which shows signs of movement and is currently held in place by scaffolding placed by the landowner, Surrey County Council.

The EH Scheduling Section has been provided with annotated site plans and suggestions relevant to determining the SAM boundary to be established, and is expected to arrange a site meeting in the next few months.

Civil War Fighting in Farnham Park

David Graham

In *Bulletin 353* I reported the discovery of a spread of Civil War period musket, pistol and canister shot on the slopes of Farnham Park, just above the castle. These finds are likely to relate to the skirmishes that took place here in November 1643, between a Royalist army under Sir Ralph Hopton and a defending Parliamentary force under Sir William Waller.

The potentially significant fact is that the Park has not been subject to agricultural disturbance, apart from a short period during the Second World War, nor has there been any significant development in the immediate area. It is, therefore, at least possible that the physical remains of the fighting, mainly lead shot, still lie more or less where it fell during the fighting. This is in stark contrast to Surrey's only other site of conflict in the Civil War, which now lies under a car park at Surbiton railway station.

As a result of the possibility of tracing the course of the action, which is described in contemporary diaries, I was able to arrange for a visit to the park and castle by Glenn Foard, County Archaeologist for Northamptonshire and a Civil War battlefield specialist, and Alan Turton, curator of the Civil War siege site of Basing House in Hampshire. As a result of their advice and encouragement, I hope to be able to organise an intensive detector survey based on transects laid over a limited section of the Park, to try to establish whether there is any pattern to the distribution of the shot.

If the results prove positive there is the possibility of undertaking work on a much wider scale, though we will probably never manage to cover more than a small part of the several hundred acres likely to have been covered by the fighting.

Do You Live in an Old House?

Barry Cox

One of the fascinating things about England is the frequency with which its past still catches your attention. Little old timber-framed houses, or the elegant, well-windowed brick-built Georgian houses, still speak to us of a different age, when life was quieter and less busy. But just when were they built, and what can we tell of their history of modification and change? Those are the questions that intrigue members of the Domestic Buildings Research Group, who are interested in the old cottages, houses, farms and barns of Surrey.

Working in groups of four or five people, the volunteer members of the DBRG visit interesting houses built before 1850, and make a detailed report on the architecture and history of the house, including scale drawings of its layout. If possible, they estimate the date when it was built, and when any major alterations or additions were

made. House extensions are no novelty, for often increases in family size or fortune are reflected in the addition of new rooms or wings, sometimes leaving the more old-fashioned parts for servants or storage.

Fascinating as the insight into the home's history may be for the owner (who gets a free copy of the report), it has even greater value as extra information on the history of architectural development and fashion in Surrey as a whole. For it is surprisingly difficult to make a precise estimate of the date when a house was built or modified. Only rarely is there an inscription or carving that gives this information – and even these are not always reliable, for they may record the date of a marriage or of a new owner. But there are two ways in which this difficulty can be overcome.

Firstly, there is the power of the computer. The DBRG has made reports on some 3,800 buildings throughout the county, which have already enabled it to identify five major phases in the development of timber-framed houses. But it is now making a computerised index of their architectural features, which will make it possible to recognise the patterns they show – what features are commonly found together, when did they appear or disappear? In this way, information from a house that has been securely dated can be used to infer that other houses with a similar assembly of architectural features, are likely to share a similar date.

The other method uses the pattern of growth rings in the timbers of houses. The width of these rings varies from year to year, so that each sequence of years has a unique pattern of narrow and wide rings, and we now know in detail the pattern of rings shown by oak trees in Britain over the last several thousand years. (This technique is known as dendrochronology). A few small cores, about the size of a pencil, are taken from suitable timbers in the house. (The resulting holes are immediately plugged with wooden dowels and stained to match the original timbers, so that it is virtually impossible to tell that cores have been taken.) These cores will show the pattern of rings that were laid down over at least a part of the lifetime of the trees from which the timber was cut. If this pattern is then compared with the national sequence of growth-rings, it is often possible to identify in precisely which year the timbers were cut and used for the original building, or the modification of the house. That information can then be used, as above, to date other similar houses. The DBRG plans ultimately to publish a book on the development of timber-framed houses in Surrey, to complement *The Smaller Brick and Stone Houses of Surrey of the 17th to mid-19th Centuries*, which it published recently.

If you own or live in a pre-1850 building that you feel might interest the Domestic Buildings Research Group (which is a registered charity), or if you feel that you would be interested in joining them to learn more about these buildings, please get in touch with either the Chairman, Barry Cox, 11 Blacksmith Close, Ashted, KT21 2BD, Tel: 01372 273167, or with the Membership Secretary, Margaret Finnegan, 131 Canbury Park Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT 6LH, Tel: 020 8546 5640.

PUBLICATIONS

“Medieval Ewell in Fitznells' Cartulary and the 1408 Register”

Ewell historians are fortunate in having two early documents providing detailed information on the village in medieval times: *Fitznells Cartulary*, which probably dates from the 1420s, and *The Register of Ewell in 1408*. The register was translated by Cecil Deedes in 1913 and a translation of the cartulary was published by CAF Meekings and Philip Shearman in 1968. In this *Occasional Paper*, **Charles Abdy** provides the first concise account of the two medieval documents and uses information from them to construct a picture of early life in the village.

The paper begins with sections on Merton Priory, Chertsey Abbey, the early history of St Mary's Church and the life of Walter de Merton. Merton Priory owned the manor of Ewell and Chertsey Abbey the advowson of its church. Walter de Merton was rector of Cuddington and a considerable local landowner as well as being Chancellor to King Henry III and founder of the Oxford college which bears his name. The main body of the text lists the papers which make up the cartulary and register and provides detailed discussion of their content. Finally, information in the two documents and in other sources is used to chart the layout of the parish, the history of Fitznells and other submanors and to provide an image of medieval Ewell and the lives of its inhabitants. The village fields are listed, giving their acreages and the origins of their names and a 1913 map by Margaret Glyn shows their possible distribution.

Occasional Paper 30 'Medieval Ewell in Fitznells'Cartulary and the 1408 Register' is available to members at Society meetings for the special price of £1, and can also be purchased from the Bourne Hall Museum Shop and local libraries.

Graham Brown

First published in the November 2001 Newsletter (no 5) of the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, with many thanks.

"Epsom Past"

The Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, originally the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society, has been accused at times of showing insufficient interest in Epsom. No one has done more in recent years to redress the balance than **Charles Abdy**. He has already compiled a slide-presentation on Epsom's old buildings and written two *Occasional Papers* concerned exclusively with the town as well as several others bearing on it. In this, his latest book, he takes a major step further in producing the first comprehensive history of Epsom for 100 years.

Epsom Past traces the growth of Epsom from a small rural settlement into today's twenty-first century town with particular attention to the spa period, horse racing on the Downs, the Victorian era and the impact of two world wars. We see how, in not much more than a hundred years, the spa began with a chance discovery on Epsom Common, developed into a major society attraction visited by Samuel Pepys and Nell Gwynn, expanded with new assembly rooms and a second spring and then, all too soon, fell into decline. Racing began during the spa period and its history is traced from then up to the opening of the Queen's Stand in 1992, showing among other things how the line of the course was changed over the years and how The Derby might easily have been called 'The Bunbury' instead. Later events include the coming of the railways, the building of the clock tower and the riot by Canadian servicemen in 1919, culminating in the death of Police Sergeant Thomas Green. The final chapter discusses a selection of notable local people, including Mrs Mapp, the bone-setter, Lord Baltimore, who was tried for rape in 1768, Mrs Beeton of household-management fame and Frank Hampton, the creator of Dan Dare.

The text is complemented by over 150 well-selected and reproduced illustrations reflecting all stages of Epsom's story from Roman tiles at Ashtead villa to the opening of the Ashley Centre in 1894. Lost spa-period buildings are shown, as also the building and rebuilding of St Martin's Church, the widening of the High Street in the 1930s and the self-contained community of Horton Hospital.

This book is essential reading for anyone interested in Epsom's history. It costs £15.99 and is available from the Bourne Hall Museum Shop and local booksellers.

Graham Brown

First published in the November 2001 Newsletter (no 5) of the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, with many thanks.

"The Lull before the Storm" by **Richard Milward** and **Cyril Maidment**. Wimbledon Society Museum 2002. A4; 64pp, many maps; £6.50 including postage from The Wimbledon Society Museum of Local History, 22 Ridgway, London SW19 4QN, or £4.95 to personal callers on Saturdays and Sundays from 2.30 to 5 pm.

The population of Wimbledon in 1841 was enumerated at 2,625; in 1851 hardly more at 2,693. In the 1850s the developers started in earnest and the population nearly doubled by 1861 and by 1901 it was 41,652. It is this growth by a factor of sixteen during the second half of the 19th century that the authors characterise as the 'storm'. The decade 1841-50 is convincingly seen as the 'lull', a view supported by the reminiscences of 'old folks', recorded around 1910 in the unfortunately short-lived *Wimbledon and Merton Annual* and here reproduced. The curiously static decade is not, however, explained; Wimbledon was hardly an archetypal village in 1841 – farming prospered but the population had been growing steadily for some time and 2,600 is not insubstantial. Almost one in eight of the inhabitants were employed in service with one or other of the large number of wealthy households in the parish. The unreliable railway had as yet little impact but stage coaches provided a reasonable connection to the city.

At the core of the book are details of the 1841 census and the 1848 tithe apportionment. The important 1850 tithe map is redrawn and printed on four A3 sections plus an enlargement covering the village centre – there are several dozen buildings on these maps which no longer exist and each one should be on the London SMR. Smaller scale supplementary maps show land use, modern names and information from the 1965 OS map. There are short essays on such topics as the residents in 1841, local farms, changes in the 1840s and the tithe settlement of 1848. There are five and a half pages of notes on selected places and people 'of interest on the maps' and an appendix provides a summary of an Open University study of the High Street in 1851 by Rita Stanley.

This is the latest of a long stream of excellent publications by the Wimbledon Society Museum, many of them under the same authorship.

D J Turner

CONFERENCES

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN KENT

Council for British Archaeology (South-East) Half-Day Conference

20th April 2002

Corn Exchange, Earl Street, Maidstone

The aim of this conference is to provide members with an opportunity to learn about some of the most exciting recent discoveries in Kent.

- 2 pm **Introduction** *John Williams*, Head of Heritage Conservation, Kent County Council
- 2.05-2.45 **Recent Work in the Ebbsfleet Valley** *Steve Haynes or Jay Carver*, Rail Link Engineering
- 2.45-3.25 **Canterbury Whitefriars – Recent Discoveries** *Mark Houliston*, Canterbury Archaeological Trust
- 3.25-3.45 **Tea**
- 3.45-4.25 **Western Heights: Dover's other Great Fortress** *Paul Pattison*, English Heritage
- 3.25-5.05 **Round-up** *John Williams*

Tickets: £5 for CBA and SyAS members; £6 non-members and on the door (prices include tea), from CBA South East, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenburgh, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9HD.

WORKING WITH ARCHAEOLOGY

Society of Museum Archaeologists Seminar

London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC)

16th April

A one-day seminar for all those working with archaeological material to be deposited in a museum. The intention will be to raise awareness of the standards and issues associated with such material, and there will be presentations of case studies from a wide cross-section of the archaeological community, including field archaeologists, local government officers, finds specialists and museum curators.

10.30am	Coffee
11.00	Introduction
11.20	Case Studies
1pm	Lunch
1.45	Workshop
2.45	Tea and summing-up
3.30	Disperse

LAARC is at Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, London N1 7EE.

For further information contact Sara Wear, Tel: 01926 412033 or email sarawear@warwickshire.gov.uk

EXHIBITION

TREASURES OF SURREY

Surrey History Centre, 1st-31st May

A **Special Exhibition** to coincide with this years' Local History Week, 4th-12th May. Entry free during normal opening hours (but closed 4th-6th May for the Bank Holiday). There are also two special **Behind-the-scenes Tours** of the History Centre on Saturday 11th May at 10.30am and 2pm, for which pre-booking is essential.

For further information contact Trudie Cole at the History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 1ND, Tel: 01483 594610, website: <http://shs.surreycc.gov.uk>

COURSES

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX

Centre for Continuing Education

Archaeology and Local History Courses

This summer the CCE, either directly or in conjunction with other adult education providers, will be offering a range of courses throughout Sussex. The archaeology courses will include:

An Introduction to Field Archaeology. *Chris Butler*, at Barcombe

Prehistoric Flintwork. *Chris Butler*, at Barcombe

Geophysical Surveying. *Steve Dyer*, at Butser Ancient Farm, Hampshire.

Anglo-Saxon and Norman Churches of Sussex and Kent. *Mike Hughes*, at Rottingdean.

Visiting Medieval Sussex. *Simon Stevens*, at various venues.

Ancient Crafts and Technology. *Tristan Bareham*, at Michelham Priory.

Walking into the Past in West Sussex. *Caroline Wells*, at Fishbourne and elsewhere.

Walking into the Past in East Sussex. *Martin Brown*, at University of Sussex and elsewhere.

The CCE will also be running a wide range of linked summer day schools, with topics to include:

Exploring the Geology of Sussex

Exploring Brighton and Hove

Exploring Sussex Countryside

Exploring Landscapes

For further details about any of the above, Tel: 01273678040 or 678527.

BIRKBECK COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Spring/Summer Evening Classes

How to Dig a Hole: Understanding Archaeological Excavations

Tutor: *Harvey Sheldon*

12 Monday meetings 15th April to 1st July, 6.30-8.30pm

Fee: £65 (£33 concessions). Course code: V15Y30

Doin' the Lambeth Walk: Popular Culture in 20th Century London

Tutor: *James Nott*

Ten Monday meetings 15th April to 1st July, 6.30-8.30pm.

Fee: £54 (£27 concessions). Course code: F15Y30

Enrolment is through the Museum of London box office. For further information Tel: 020 7814 5777.

LATIN PALAEOGRAPHY DAY SCHOOL

Surrey History Centre

Saturday 11th May

There are a limited number of places available on this special course that is timed to coincide with Local History Week, 4th-12th May. Pre-booking is essential.

Cost: £20. For further information contact Trudie Cole. Tel: 01483 594610. See also our website at <http://shs.surreycc.gov.uk> or that of the Historical Association at <http://www.history.org.uk>

TRAINING EXCAVATION

BARCOMBE ROMAN VILLA, East Sussex, 2002

University College London Field Archaeology Unit

July/August 2002

There will be a variety of five, two and one-day courses in Excavation Techniques, Surveying for Archaeologists, Archaeological Planning and Section Drawing, On-site Conservation and Geophysical Prospecting.

For further details visit our web site: <http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk> or send SAE (A5 size) to: Helen Dixey, UCL Field Archaeology Unit, 1 West Street, Ditchling, nr Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8TS. Tel: 01273 845497; Fax: 01273 844187; email: fau@ucl.ac.uk

LECTURE SERIES

Friars, Monks and Canons: Religious Houses in Surrey

The Ralli Room, The Peace Memorial Hall, Ashted, Surrey

Fridays through April and May 2002, at 7.30 for 8pm

3rd May **Merton and the Augustinians** *Lionel Green* Chairman, Merton Historical Society

10th May **The Dominican Friary at Guildford** *Mary Alexander*, Guildford Museum

24th May **The Benedictine Abbey at Chertsey – ‘that noble and splendid pile’**
John Cherry, Keeper, Medieval and Modern Europe, British Museum

Enquiries to the Society at Castle Arch, Tel: 01483 532454, email: surreyarch@compuserve.com

LOCAL HISTORY AT LUNCHTIME

Lunchtime Talks During Local History Week, 4th-12th May

Surrey History Centre, 1.10-1.45pm

7th May **Sweet Power of Song**, *Lucy Broadwood*, folk song collector of *Capel*, *Jenni Waugh*.

8th May **Manning, Bray and the Antiquarian Network 1760-1832**, *Julian Pooley*.

9th May **Larceny and the Lash: Surrey Quarter Sessions Records, a Case Study**, *Michael Page*.

10th May **The Surrey Moving Image: Archive Film from the South-East Film and Video Archive**, *Sally Jenkinson*.

Free entry, but places are limited, so pre-booking is advised. For further details contact Trudie Cole, Tel: 01483 594610, or look up our website at <http://shs.surreycc.gov.uk>

LECTURE MEETINGS

25th April

“Bottles and Bygones” by David Rose, to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society in the Main Hall, Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8 pm.

25th April

“Dorking Lime: Tradition and Technology Transfer in East Surrey” by Paul Sowan to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society at the United Reformed Church Halls, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon, at 7.45pm.

27th April

“Give us our Eleven Days: the Story of the Calendar” by Bryan Ellis to the Walton & Weybridge Local History Society in the Elmgrove Meeting Room, Walton, at 3pm.

29th April

“The History of Albury” by Jackie Malyon to the Woking History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford at 8 pm. Visitors £2.

1st May

“Monumental Brasses from the 13th to the 20th Century: New Directions since Kent and Emerson” by Sally Badham to the British Archaeological Association in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. Non-members welcome and for free, but are asked to make themselves known to the Hon. Director on arrival.

1st May

“A Journey Through South Wales” by Richard Butler to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 8 pm. Visitors £1.

7th May

"The Famous and Infamous of Leatherhead" by Edwina Vardley to the Dorking Local History Group at the Friends; Meeting House. Butter Hill, Dorking at 7.30 pm.

8th May

"Ancient Monument or Statutory Nuisance? A Review of Demolished and Surviving Industrial and Transport Monuments in Croydon and East Surrey" by Paul Sowan to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, at the United Reformed Church Halls, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 7.45 pm.

8th May

"Tekels Park and the Theosophical Society" by Keith Wakelam to the Surrey Local History Club at Tekels Park Guest House at 7.30pm.

9th May

"The Records of Lewis Carroll at the Surrey History Centre" by Mary Mackey and Isabel Sullivan for the West Surrey Branch of the Historical Association at the Surrey History Centre, Woking at 7 pm. Admission by ticket only.

10th May

"Raising the Dead: Skeletal Excavations in a Public Archaeology Project" by Pat Reid to the Richmond Archaeological Society at the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8 pm. Non-members £2.

14th May

"Gertrude Jekyll, Garden Designer" by a speaker from Godalming Museum, to the Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society in the theatre of Halliford School, Russell Road, Shepperton at 8pm. Visitors £1.

14th May

"London's Water and the Kew Bridge Steam Museum" by Lesley Bossine to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society in the Lower Hall of the Friends' Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames at 8 pm.

17th May

"The Carved Room at Petworth and the Return of the Turners" by Judith Mills to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society at the Letherhead Institute, Leatherhead at 7.30 for 8 pm. Members £1; non-members £2.

20th May

"Shopping in Richmond" by Patricia John, and "The Star and Garter" by Marion Larsen, following the AGM of the Richmond Local History Society at Meadows Hall, Church Road, Richmond at 7.30 for 8pm. Visitors £1.

28th May

"The Roman site in Greenwich- Working with the Time Team" by Harvey Sheldon to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, Lambeth North at 7 for 7.30 pm. Visitors £1.

30th May

"A Presentation on the Surrey History Centre", to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society in the Main Hall of the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8pm. Visitors £1.

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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*.

Next Issue: Copy required by 3rd May for the May/June issue.

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