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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

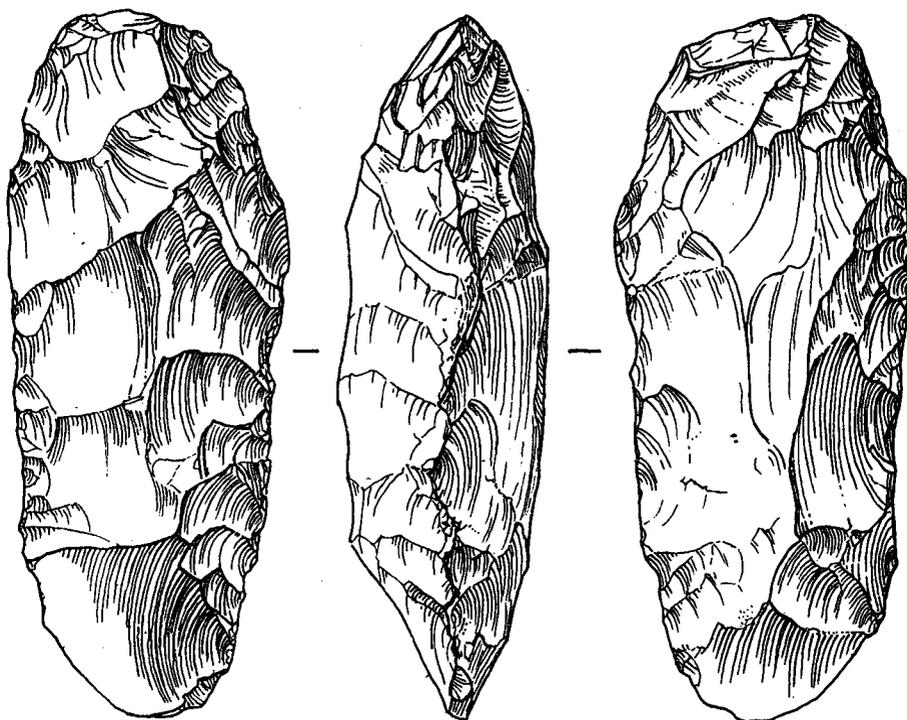
Tel/ Fax: 01483 532454

E-mail: surreyarch@compuserve.com

Website: www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk

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Mesolithic axe from Hambledon.

SURREY DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT A PROGRESS REPORT

Ron Wild

The Surrey Dendrochronology Project, formed jointly by the Surrey Archaeological Society and the Domestic Buildings Research Group (DBRG), has been going full throttle for the last year or so. The results are now available for no less than 57 buildings, showing the development patterns of timber-framed buildings from the 14th to the 18th century. Particularly thrilling has been the identification of no less than five houses dating back to the 14th century, with one as early as 1309.

Notwithstanding our prior knowledge, we have been amazed at the ability of this science to date timbers with astonishing accuracy, often to an exact year (to the envy of 'dirt' archaeologists!). As many of you may know, it works by drilling a number of cores (the size of a pencil) from selected beams. The tree-rings on these cores are then examined under a microscope. Some tree-rings will be wide, some narrow, depending on the growing conditions in that particular year. This pattern forms a 'finger print' for that period, enabling a 'felling date' to be calculated. As we already know that carpenters almost always built with 'green' oak, it is likely that the construction date is within a year or so of the 'felling date'.

There had been prior work by both groups. SyAS had worked in Thursley and Witley Parish Churches. DBRG, under Peter Gray's guidance, had dated nine houses in Surrey Heath and Charlwood. Then the John Bristow and Thomas Mason Trust in Charlwood funded the dating of twelve more of their fine village houses. But the project really got underway when Peter Youngs obtained a grant of £14,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The SyAS added £4,000 and the main project was launched.

The philosophy was to work in 'clusters', as this strengthens the dendrochronology, and will ultimately allow the mapping and sequencing of developments across the County. We now have the results for the first two clusters and work on the third has started.

“South Mole Valley” (Cluster 1) Charlwood, Newdigate, Capel, Leigh and Ockley

We have now subsumed all our early work in Charlwood into this cluster, giving us a magnificent total of 42 buildings dated for the area. There is so much data that full analysis will take some time, but already there are conclusions of great interest.

To take one example, we had thought that the transition from 'open halls', with a fire in the middle of the room, to houses with chimneys, either timber-framed or brick, took place fairly gently through the 16th century. We now know that it happened almost suddenly, most of it between 1538 and 1540, an astonishingly brief period for such a transition. Dennis Turner points out that this is precisely the time that historians think of as the end of the medieval period. The dissolution of the monasteries took place during 1535-40, and wealth flooded downwards, from the king and, quite soon, to ordinary landowners. There would have been a paradigm change in the atmosphere of the country, and a renaissance of new ideas and freedom of thought. The abandonment of open halls in favour of chimneys and more privacy seems to have been one manifestation of this.

Finding the oldest house is by no means the prime objective, but we were delighted to find no less than five houses dating back to the 14th century:

- Kettleas, Capel – 1389
- Park House Farm, Leigh – between 1364 and 1396
- Old House, Capel – 1374
- Taylors (west wing), Capel – 1344
- Greens Farm, Newdigate – 1309

Greens Farm is a magnificent old building, always believed to be early, but it was gratifying to have it proved. It is astonishing that a farmhouse, if that is what it was, should have been built in the reign of Edward II and survived, largely intact, for 700 years.

Building dates given below are the felling dates for the timbers in the first phase of the building. Construction is likely to have followed soon afterwards. Sometimes only a range of possible dates can be given.

Parish and Building

Timber Felling Dates

NEWDIGATE

Parish Church – timber tower
Blanks Farm
Greens Farm
Ivy House
Ivy House
Nyes Place
Old Beam Brook
Rolls Farm

1525
Spring/summer 1581, spring 1582
Winter 1308/9, spring 1309
Winter 1516/17, winter 1517/18
Barn Winter 1516/17
Spring/summer 1607, winter 1607/8
Winter 1540/41
1568-1587

CAPEL

Parish Church – nave roof
– chancel roof
– west porch

1397-1429
1405-1437
1403-1435

Clock House

Winter 1553/4

Ketleas

1389?

The Old House

Winter 1371/2, winter 1373/4

The Old Post Office

After 1552

Taylor's – west wing

Winter 1344/5

– hall range

1454-1480

Temple Elfande

Winter 1571/2

CHARLWOOD

Parish Church – nave
– chancel
– vestry

1461-1493
1509-1541?
1480-1512?

Brittleware Farm

Spring/summer 1555

Brook Cottage

Winter 1547/8

Chantersluer Farm

Winter 1507/8

Charlwood Place Farm

Winter 1595/6

The Cottage, The Street

Winter 1401/2

The Cottage, Norwood Hill Road

Summer 1435

Dormer Cottage

Winter 1411/2

Fulbrook Cottage

1503-1535

Greenings Winter

1534/5, winter 1538/9

Greenings Farm Barn

Winter 1538/9

Highworth Farm

1510-1531

Hillands

Winter 1532/3

Little Dolby

Winter 1496/7

The Manor House

1454-1486

Morgans

1583-1602

The Old Bakehouse

1437-1469

2, Old Rosemary Cottages

Winter 1641/2

Pagewood Cottage

Winter 1704/5

Pagewood House

Winter 1451/2

Robins Farm

Winter 1504/5

Swan Cottage

Winter 1459/60?

OCKLEY

Black and White Cottage

Winter 1607/8

Waleys

Winter 1654/5

LEIGH

Park House Farm

1364-1396

RUSPER

Saykers

Spring 1502, winter 1502/3, winter 1503/4

Averys

1581-1604

Some of these datings are from a related project funded by The John Bristow and Thomas Mason Trust in Charlwood. The Trust has given permission for the results to be included.

“East Guildford Borough” (Cluster 2) West Horsley, the Clandons, Shere, Gomshall and Albury

This proved to be a much more difficult area for dendrochronology. We were bedevilled by the use of elm, rather than oak, in several cases. Even the oak timbers proved to be difficult to date. They were ‘fast-grown’, with too few rings per sample, and the ring patterns were often disturbed by timber management practices such as pollarding. But we managed to date fifteen buildings, our target, and another two should date after some additional sampling.

The results have just become available. We have exact dates for the two ‘Wealden-style’ houses in Shere: Rookery Nook and Ash & Willow Cottages. In West Horsley, Lower Hammonds Farm and the fascinating Church House have been dated to the 15th century. Three cottages in East Clandon (Lamp Cottage, Tunmore Cottage and Boscawen Cottage) are very interesting examples of ‘smoke hood’ houses, and have dated close together in the late 16th century. Detailed results will be the subject of a press release and, shortly thereafter, published in the Bulletin. But, here again, full analysis will take some time.

“Godalming and the Greensand” (Cluster 3) Godalming, Busbridge, Hambledon, Hascombe, Witley and Thursley

We owe a huge debt to the Heritage Lottery Fund, and we have £3,500 of their money still to be used. SyAS and DBRG have now added £1,000. The Farnham Trust has very kindly offered £500. We thought we would only have enough money for two clusters in this first phase, but now we can afford a good third cluster.

We debated long and hard about the next area. For a variety of reasons, we decided on “Godalming & the Greensand”, which covers Godalming, Busbridge, Hambledon, Hascombe, Thursley and Witley. Already, we have made a start, and the dating of fifteen buildings is planned. George Howard is leading the way in selecting buildings, and a Local Group to guide us is being established. The first two appointments for the dendrochronology have been made. Alan Bott and Audrey Monk are central to our efforts in this area, so we are high-powered indeed!

Summary

The project is hard work but immensely rewarding. We have now dated 57 buildings, 44 in the last 15 months. It is an outstanding example of a county archaeological project, and a project of national importance. The combination of ‘bulk’ dendrochronology, alongside DBRG’s treasury of reports and our chosen ‘cluster’ approach, makes the project unique. We have had excellent support from Surrey County Council, particularly the services of Martin Higgins.

There is still a great deal to do, in particular detailed analysis and report writing. But we have the knowledge that the Project is unrivalled in England, and continually producing all sorts of fascinating results.

Of course, the project’s funds are for carefully selected buildings in chosen areas. But anyone who owns an old house is welcome to join the project, whether in one of the cluster areas or not, provided they pay their way. The actual dendrochronological work is carried out by a professional dendrochronologist, Andy Moir of Tree-Ring Services. We are very pleased with his work and with the excellent reports for the house owners. His fees are far lower than what a university laboratory’s would be, and we have additional discounts. This means that there is an average price of £320 per house, and a top limit of £400 for all but large, complicated houses. If the house

doesn't date, only £60 is payable. I can advise further as to feasibility (Tel: 01483-232767). We have already seen, in the first two clusters, how much value these 'extra' datings can give to house owners, and the Project, so please publicise the possibility whenever you can.

150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION

The exhibition of the Society's activities over the past 150 years which has been on show at the Surrey History Centre moves to Guildford Museum in early December and will be on view until the end of January. This is the final event of our programme of Anniversary Celebrations. Do spare a few minutes to look around. The Museum is open from 11am until 5pm on weekdays and Saturdays.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

This is a reminder that the closing date for entries in the Photographic Competition is 31st December. Members, local societies and indeed anyone attending one of the 150th Anniversary events are invited to submit photographs in one (or both) of two categories:

A record of any Anniversary event

or

A record of any aspect of archaeological activity undertaken during the year e.g. an excavation, landscape survey, recording within the historic county of Surrey.

There are classes for adults and juniors (16 and under).

Entries to Castle Arch please, together with an Entry Form. (These were distributed with the February Bulletin 373. If you would like further copies, please contact Castle Arch.) Do not forget to enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like your photographs returned after the finalists have been announced. The winners will be announced at the ARC Symposium in February and in the Bulletin.

COUNCIL NEWS

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 20th November 2004 at Shere Village Hall in singularly inclement weather.

The Annual Report for the year 2003-2004 was approved. In presenting the Annual Report the President reviewed the year's activities and expressed the Society's thanks to all who had worked hard to make its 150th Anniversary a success. Looking to the future, she warned of the difficulties facing the Society as it fought to resolve the problems arising from its inadequate accommodation at Castle Arch.

The President expressed the Society's thanks to the retiring members of Council, to the staff at Castle Arch, and to Mrs R Hooker who was standing down as Council's Minute Secretary. Thanks were especially due to Mrs R Hunter, who was retiring as Hon Secretary, for her work during a particularly difficult period.

The Annual Accounts and Auditors' Report for 2003-2004 were approved, as was the appointment of the Auditors & Examiners for the year 2004-2005. The Hon Treasurer drew attention to the loss of tax relief for charities on investment income, which had not been matched by increased dividends. Nevertheless, for various reasons there

was an overall surplus of income over expenditure. However, the predicted budget for the forthcoming year 2004-2005 showed a deficit; it was stressed that a policy based on budget deficits could not be sustained in the longer term without an adverse effect on the Society's finances and hence on its activities.

Miss A Monk was elected President for 2004-2005. Also elected were the Hon Vice-Presidents, the Vice Presidents, and the Hon Officers (as named in the Annual Report) other than the Hon Secretary. Mr P Youngs was elected Hon Secretary and the following were elected to Council: Mr A Bott, Mr G Brown, Miss T Cole, Mrs R Hooker, Mrs R Hunter and Mrs P Reading.

After the business of the Meeting, and in the bicentenary year of the publication of *The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey* by Manning and Bray, Mrs Handa Bray, Lord of the Manor of Shere, described her ancestor and his life and Mr Julian Pooley spoke on 'Manning, Bray and the Antiquarian Network, 1760-1832'. These very interesting presentations were greatly appreciated by the meeting.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM 2005

The Annual Symposium will be held on Saturday 26th February at the Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane, Ashted. The programme and booking form are inserted in this Bulletin.

As usual an important part of the day will be the displays of work by groups and individuals and the Margary Award will be made to the best of the amateur displays. Anyone who would like to put on a display and has not already received an invitation should contact Pauline Hulse, Tel: 01483 282917; e-mail: paulinehulse@g1mra.freeserve.co.uk as soon as possible.

SURREY HISTORY CENTRE

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES *Maggie Vaughan-Lewis, County Archivist*

This is the second occasional update on what is happening in the world of online archives. At the Centre both the launch day of the Surrey manorial documents register online and the Family History internet sessions held in November were oversubscribed so we know the surfing habit is growing.

New Dictionary of National Biography has pictures. www.oup.com/oxforddnb

In his talk at the Surrey Local History Symposium in October on *The Gentleman's Magazine*, Julian Pooley showed a portrait of Edward Cave that he'd just found on the revised online version of the *Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press). He was able to copy it off and use for private research. It is a subscription only site (£50 plus VAT for 3 months although at the moment there is a 30-day free trial on offer) and it will be available to the public only in two County libraries, probably Guildford and Redhill. For further details please ask Enquiries Direct, the new libraries team for enquiries. email libraries@surreycc.gov.uk or use the enquiry box on the County's website.

Interested in old maps? www.maphistory.info

This gateway or portal site is a quick way to access dozens of other pages, often tucked away on bigger sites, relating to cartography. I did a quick click on Images, then on British Isles (the portal covers the whole world) and found myself browsing

the King's collection of maps at the British Library including such oddities as the "PLAN and PROFILES of the POWDER MAGAZIN of TILBURY FORT.1716 King George III Topographical Collection". All have the small thumbnail images next to the description. Other links that caught my eye in this list were Canals, and one which led to the site called Researching Historic Buildings in the British Isles. Watch out though, some of the links have large images which may take time to download.

And wouldn't it be lovely . . ? www.historic-maps.norfolk.gov.uk

... to have something like this for Surrey. Their lucky researchers can overlay 1946 aerial photos on a tithe map of any given area! We're working hard in the County Council to come up with the funds for a similar (but even better site). In the meantime do check out the Surrey Interactive Map www.surreycc.gov.uk Click on "Interactive Map" (right hand side of front page). The first map is the OS road map and by clicking repeatedly on it you can zoom into a small local area. Then choose Your Environment, from the list on the right. Untick Towns and tick Historic Landscape. Below this there are three options: Display selected layers (click on this are the features are coloured), Key to layers (click on this and it explains the colours), Info on layers (gives you details of land use). Keep on doing different layers and you'll find rights of way, current census figures and much more.

Sites mentioned in previous Bulletin:

www.a2a.org.uk Access to Archives

www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/slhc/fire.html Fire insurance index

Remember, if you do not succeed in viewing the address given, try the main part only – the part before the /. This takes you to the home page and is usually successful. Then work through the site to find the page you wanted.)

www.surreycc.gov.uk/surreyhistoryservice

ROMAN STUDIES GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

David Bird

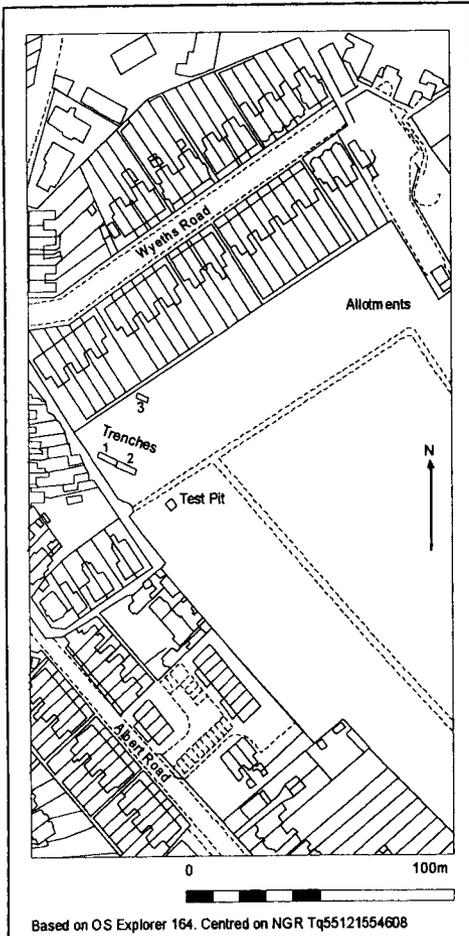
The Roman Studies Group AGM was held on 5th October and attended by 26 people. The existing officers and Committee were re-elected for a further term, with the exception that Alan Hall replaced Gary Readings as Secretary. The Group is grateful to Gary for his work in starting us off and his assistance at evening meetings, and to Rosemary Hunter, the Society's Honorary Secretary, for her help particularly with arrangements for meetings. The Committee recognised that communications with members could be improved and steps have been taken to remedy this situation. A printed newsletter is out of the question without at least doubling the subscription, so it is intended to make greater use of email and of the Society's Bulletin.

The AGM was followed by a lively debate about a research framework for the Roman period in Surrey. This started from a series of questions derived from recent work, which were discussed and agreed with amendments. The aim now is to devise projects that can begin to answer some of the questions. It was agreed to establish three working groups, on roads, Ewell and villas. These groups will meet to plan their work programmes, which are likely to involve detailed analysis of material already held in museums together with carefully targetted fieldwork (some already in progress). The need to be able to compare and contrast Surrey sites and finds with those in adjoining counties was also stressed. The Roman research framework will now be developed into a draft document that can be used as a model for other periods and themes in Surrey, and in due course will feed in to the process of developing a framework for the wider south-east (Surrey, Sussex and Kent).

The Group's winter lecture programme has already been advertised in the Bulletin. Members have free entry but others are asked to pay a small fee. The highlight of the programme this year will be a talk about the port of Rome by Professor Martin Millett, on 1st February in Dorking, but all the talks should be very interesting to judge by previous years. Please note that the venue changes from talk to talk so check carefully in advance. A further workshop will be set up in April or May to hear reports from the new working groups and discuss progress. The Group welcomes new members: contact Alan Hall, Tel: 01372 812538 or alanr.hall@ntlworld.com

SEARCHING FOR STANE STREET Albert Road Allotments, Epsom

Alan Hall and Frank Pemberton



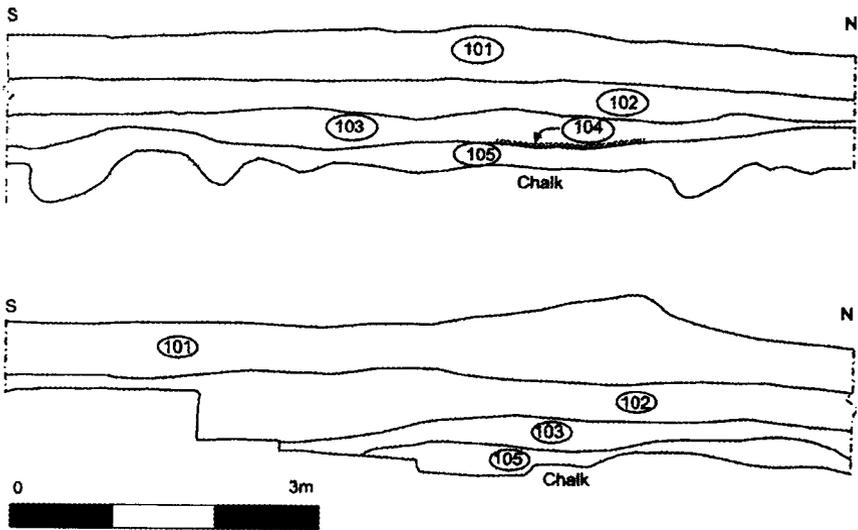
Following investigations at Downside Road we concluded that the evidence supported I.D. Margary's suggested line for the course of Stane Street between 30 Acre Barn, Ashtead and Ewell.

Members of the Roman Studies Group have commenced a project, supported by a formal Research Design, to search for remains of the Road on Margary's line and the first site to receive attention was a corner of the allotments at Albert Road, Epsom. We are grateful for the generous support of Bourne Hall Museum who rented two plots for the duration of our work.

At the end of September 2004 a trench measuring 8m x 1m was laid out along the western edge of the allotments (Trench 1 – see section).

Beneath the topsoil, excavation revealed layers of sandy soil, which presumably originated from the adjacent Thanet Beds (102). At a depth of 80cm the sandy soil contained abundant small flints (103) (from the 8mx1m trench we excavated approx 1.5 cu metres of loose flints) and, as these are not to be expected within sands, it appears that they must have been brought in from elsewhere. Also within this layer, two residual sherds of 4th century Alice Holt/Farnham ware pottery were found.

At 95cm below ground level we revealed a layer of closely packed flints (104) including some up to 30cm width, and which was, in places, up to 50 cm in depth. Towards the northern end of this layer it was overlaid with a 2cm depth of gravel which extended for 1.5m (104) The trench was extended, as Trench 2, a further 8 m to the south, and, as the stratigraphy was congruent, the two trenches were merged as Trench 1/2 in the records. The compacted flints were removed to reveal a natural surface of weathered and deeply fissured chalk.



Section of trench 1/2: South-Western elevation.

A further trench (Trench 3) was opened 30m distant on the projected alignment. This revealed a similar stratigraphy, with a layer of large, flat-packed flints at the same level below datum as those in Trench 1/2 but extending for 90cm only as, unfortunately, it had been severely truncated at either end by two 19th century pits. The position and length of our trenches did not enable us to search for side ditches or the engineered edge of a road and we thus felt it appropriate to ascertain if the flint layers encountered could have been a natural occurrence.

In order to examine the undisturbed natural stratigraphy of the site, we dug a 1m x 1m test pit 30m off the line. This revealed a 30cm topsoil layer overlying a clean mid brown sandy soil to a depth of 1.5m and containing only eight small pieces of frost fractured flint. Beneath this was the natural weathered chalk. Clearly, the substantial flint layers in trenches 1 to 3 were not natural and are considered to be the remains of Stane Street. It is interesting that they lie where I.D. Margary had foreseen.

An archive and the finds have been lodged at Bourne Hall Museum. Thanks are due to the following members of the Society and local societies for their unflagging commitment: Margaret Broomfield, Nikki Cowlard, Nigel Forder, Alfie Hine, Rose Hooker, Pauline Hulse, Jenny Newall, Phil Stanley, Stuart Sweetman, Charles van der Lande and Sue Walker

Further work on this alignment is planned for the Spring of 2005 . If you are interested in taking part, please approach the Roman Studies Group through the Secretary, Alan Hall on 01372 812538 or alanr.hall@ntlworld.co.uk.

CONSERVATION NEWS

THE LONDON HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM *Michael Hammerson*

There is currently great pressure for renewal, regeneration, and house building. There is also a belief that housing can be provided without building over tracts of countryside. Some developers argue from this that houses with large gardens or any

land with buildings on it – even historic buildings or Conservation Areas – may be redeveloped to high density.

There seems also to be a tendency to denigrate the historic environment as somehow standing in the way of economic progress. To advocate ‘heritage’ as a vital feature of our living and social environment risks accusations of being opposed to growth and regeneration, and indifferent to the social problems afflicting our many areas of urban decay and deprivation.

We all know that this stereotyped image is wrong, and its proponents all too prepared to sacrifice real ‘quality of life’ for short-term aims and gains. Recent English Heritage and National Trust polls show clearly that the great majority of people believe that the historic environment is of importance to them and their children, that there is not ‘too much preservation’, and that conservation and renewal can go hand in hand. People do not object to good modern development. However, they do object strongly to what they see as rubbish, and the failure of planners to exercise their powers to refuse planning consent on grounds of poor design.

The new Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for the first time recognises the importance of community involvement in planning, and requires local authorities to produce ‘Statements of Community Involvement’. These could be a significant step towards giving local people a voice in what is done in their areas – but their effectiveness will depend on individual local authorities. The Local Government Association is looking at producing recommended minimum national standards for Statements of Community Involvement; without these, there may be no change for the better.

This all makes it the more important that the true value of our Historic Environment be urged as widely as possible, especially on decision-makers, the sceptics and the ignorant, and that the stereotypes beloved of its detractors be dispelled. There is much that individuals can do; it is important that you ascertain as soon as possible from your local authorities when they intend to produce Statements of Community Involvement, and ask to be fully involved in the consultation process.

English Heritage has set up Historic Environment Forums in each of its regions. SCOLA is one of two voluntary sector representatives on the London HEF; the other is the London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies (which represents the views of some 100,000 Londoners). Also on this group are the Museum of London Archaeology Service, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Trust, the Royal Parks, Visit London (formerly the London Tourist Board), the Corporation of London, the Government Office for London, the Greater London Authority, the Association of London Government and English Heritage.

The Forum has commissioned and steered a report, aimed particularly at decision-makers and sceptics, to underline the social, economic and educational value of the historic environment and the need to give it equal weight in preparing development plans and strategies. Work by the National Trust in the north of England, showing that the ‘heritage’ is an important element of employment and the economy there, has provided useful background data. The information-collecting phase of the work was carried out by planning consultants Lichfields, but the Forum decided that the collation of material into a report was not going in the direction it had envisaged, and the final compilation is now in the hands of consultancy Urban Practitioners, who aim to produce a final draft by November. It aims to be comprehensive and convincing, and will:

- build an evidence base, draw lessons and identify opportunities
- analyse existing policy documents governing the heritage
- emphasise what an undervalued resource the heritage is (there have been no official studies) and list its real social and environmental benefits

- emphasise it as a tool for cultural regeneration, with the diversity of its buildings, the adaptability of historic buildings, its value for tourism (there is, surprisingly, no official quantification) and producing local distinctiveness
- cover its contribution to sustainable development
- cover its economic value (visitors, job creation, attracting investment, etc)
- cover its social value (civic pride, education, local identity, better communities)
- list the environmental benefits (parks, conservation of resources, biodiversity, providing high density development (eg the Georgian squares)
- include a range of case studies covering historic buildings at risk and their restoration, area regeneration and re-use, historic parks and open spaces, public access, investment in the public realm, innovative housing solutions and social inclusion.

This may well depend on our ability to argue convincingly for the value of the historic environment in the face of those who denigrate and stereotype heritage and its advocates. Society members can help by making their local planners, councillors, MPs – and developers – aware of the report, and of the importance of our historic environment. The heritage movement has perhaps been somewhat too convinced of the right of its own cause in the past and has not sufficiently recognised that many do not see it that way. London members can play their part. In promoting the value of the heritage locally, particularly among the ordinary public: politicians may be more likely to recognise the historic environment if there could be votes in it.

LHEF has also been involved in helping to draft English Heritage's 2004 London edition of their annual report on the state of the historic environment, Heritage Counts. There have been presentations on promoting London abroad from 'Team London', on English Heritage's landscape characterisation programme for the massive Thames Gateway redevelopment area (originally seen by planners as an archaeological desert, whereas it is in fact immensely rich in buried landscapes and historic towns), and from "Visit London".

LHEF received an approach from the London Borough of Bexley, which is keen to ensure that the borough's historic heritage is an integral part of its ambitious tourist strategy. At a fascinating meeting with the Borough and the local civic society at Hall Place, Bexley's magnificent Tudor mansion – well worth a visit – a number of suggestions were made for their strategy, which seem to have been appreciated. It would put the historic environment firmly on the agenda if the Forum could develop a similar relationship with other Boroughs. SyAS members in London might like to make sure that their own boroughs are aware of the Forum's existence.

Michael Hammerson is a former member of the Museum of London's Department of Greater London Archaeology and has been treasurer of SCOLA since it was founded.

RECENT CONSERVATION NEWS

Dennis Turner

Mitcham: 66 Church Road

This listed building within a Conservation Area has been the subject of several applications and much discussion over the years, during which successive owners have neglected the structure and it has appeared annually on English Heritage's Register of Buildings at Risk in Greater London (including the 2004 edition). Despite recent applications for listed building consent and planning permission being granted for a scheme of restoration and alteration, the house was demolished by the current owner in June 2004. The Merton Borough Council is currently considering a prosecution for unauthorised demolition under S9 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Mitcham: Ravensbury Mill, London Road

The north wing of this building, comprising the oldest part and including the water wheels, was secured through a S106 agreement for use by the Wandle Industrial Museum when the rest of the mill was converted to residential use. However it has been vacant for many years and failure to receive Heritage Lottery Funding has meant that the museum has been unable to take up occupation. The wing has been placed on the 2004 edition of English Heritage's Register of Buildings at Risk in Greater London at Priority E as being vulnerable to vandalism and graffiti.

Wimbledon: Bazalgette Mausoleum, St Mary's Churchyard

This neglected monument memorializes the engineer responsible for London's drainage system. Much of the invasive vegetation that covered it has now been removed but it remains on the 2004 edition of English Heritage's Register of Buildings at Risk in Greater London at Priority C (raised from last year's E). It is possible that the mausoleum will be considered as a candidate for English Heritage's new grant scheme for the restoration of memorials and statuary.

SURREY INDUSTRIAL HISTORY GROUP

“SURREY AND THE MOTOR” by Gordon Knowles

This is the latest publication by the Group and will be published in January 2005. All aspects of roads and motoring concerned with Surrey are covered in this comprehensive 222-page book.

It contains chapters on the development of roads in Surrey, from turnpikes, trunk roads and bypasses to motorways. The growth of traffic and the impact of legislation on the motor and the motorist and the role of the police, including the notorious Captain Sant and his speed traps, leading to the formation of the Automobile Association, is discussed in detail.

A chapter on the pioneers includes John Henry Knight of Farnham and the debate on who was the first to drive a British car on a public road in this country. Chapters on Brooklands describe the building of the track before WW1, through the glorious years of the twenties and thirties until its closure in 1939 and the subsequent development of the site including the museum.

Chapters give detailed histories of two vehicle manufacturers who have each completed 100 years of activity in the county, Dennis and AC. Historical descriptions are also given of some post-war sports and racing cars including Brabham, Cooper, Connaught and Tyrell, as well as Caterham, McLaren and Lister.

There is an outline of two important body builders, Abbott of Farnham and Weymann of Addlestone. A comprehensive list of over 100 car manufacturers who are, or have been, based in Surrey is provided together with a similar list of engine and accessory makers.

The book retails at £10.95 and members are asked to obtain their copies, and those for their friends, post free, from John Mills, 35 Trotsworth Avenue, Virginia Water, GU25 4AN: cheques payable to 'SIHG'. Copies will be on sale at bookshops and libraries, but we would prefer it if as many people as possible buy their copies from members of the SIHG sales team, ie Christopher Mann, John Mills or Peter Tarplee.

Peter Tarplee

A MESOLITHIC AXE FROM HAMBLEDON

Audrey Monk

The worked flint illustrated on the front page was found on Hambledon Common in April of this year (SU 9595 3835) following surface clearance of bracken mulch by machinery in an area where there is a series of banks and hollows that run south from a large sand pit. The axe was found on one of the banks at 100m OD height and on the Hythe Beds that slope to the south towards the Weald Clay which it meets at c50m. Apart from grazing, the common has been used for many purposes over the years, from quarrying for sand, WW2 dug-outs and recreation.

A similar axe found in Hambledon some fifty years ago was published and illustrated (*SyAS Collections* Vol 49 p90). It was retained by the finder but enquiries at Haslemere, Godalming and Guildford Museums have failed to reveal its present whereabouts. The following note and the illustration have been prepared by *Gaby Rapson*.

Description and Discussion of the Axe

The tranchet axe is fashioned from good quality pearly grey flint, probably using mainly hard-hammer technique as most of the flake scars are quite coarse.

It is clear that the illustrated 'top' of the implement was the original cutting edge also originally formed by tranchet blow and that this had become damaged through use. Being relatively straight sided, it seemed possible that the lower tranchet blow had been detached in order to create a new cutting edge, so the axe was illustrated to accentuate the fine tranchet blow, which is shown on the left hand view (lower end of axe as illustrated).

While illustrating the piece, it became clear that this newly sharpened edge was relatively undamaged; there being a half of the clean "cutting" edge remaining, so either the blow was unsuccessful, or the action was never intended to create an edge – merely to facilitate hafting. If so I offer my apologies for illustrating the piece up-side down.

I have tentatively assigned the axe to the late Mesolithic, although the dating is at best speculative since such tranchet types continue into the early Neolithic period. The type of flint is of some interest, as it appears to be of the same type, and perhaps from the same sources, as material from several late Mesolithic sites local to the Greensand and examined by the author. Diagnosed mainly by microlithic technology, these include unpublished material from Leith Hill, Wootton and Westcott, where it dominated a Mesolithic element in a mixed period assemblage on one site and was used exclusively on another.

Some partially ground Neolithic axes appear to be fabricated from this flint, but it does not seem to be used in later assemblages, where it is accepted that poor quality North Downs flint dominates the typical local flake industries.

The flint is typically free of crystals and inclusions, pearly grey/blue when fresh or lightly patinated, changing to light grey with increasing patination. Where cortex remains, it is very fine, locally pale brown and has a fine sandy texture. Whether this is the result of careful selection and skilled use of North Downs flint followed by deposition in sandy soil, or use of other local or non-local sources of flint is impossible to ascertain, but deposition in sand is likely to have some abrasive effect on a fine cortex.

In both Roger Ellaby's and Robin Holgate's papers in 'Towards a New Stone Age' (J. Cotton and D Field 2004; CBA research report RR series 137), Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flint sources are said to be varied, including flint from local river

gravels, clay with flint deposits and other local sources, so it may be that this distinctive flint is also from a local source, utilised over a long period.

It would be interesting to discover whether this type of flint is associated with other dated blade industries in the South-East, restricted to localised areas/sandy geology, or has no definite associations. If it is typical of a specific period – even locally – it may be potentially useful when attempting to identify non-diagnostic early elements in mixed period assemblages.

It may be useful to look again at patterns of lithic technology and procurement in Surrey, especially during the Mesolithic/Neolithic transition; a period about which we know very little and which has until quite recently been largely ignored.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SCHOOLS

Members will probably be aware that the one examining body (AQA), which has hitherto examined archaeology at GCSE level, has recently announced that it will discontinue offering this (and a number of other minority subjects – most if not all of which are, however, still being offered by one of the other examining bodies). This announcement has caused consternation in the archaeological community; the Council for British Archaeology is actively pressing the governing body to change its mind, and the Government to use its influence to get it to do so. Of course, if it is not possible to sit a GCSE exam in archaeology, no pupils will study it in their middle years at school, and a way of instilling an informed interest in archaeology in young people will be lost.

SCOLA has lent its support to the campaign, and individual members may wish to do so too. The relevant addresses are: Mike Cresswell, Director General AQA, Stag Hill House, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7XJ; Ken Boston, Chief Executive QCA, 83 Piccadilly, London W1J 8QA; Charles Clarke, Secretary of State, Department of Education and Skills, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT. (The QCA is the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, whose job it is to oversee the curriculum at 14+.)

It will still be possible to take archaeology at AS and A2 levels, which, incidentally, the one-time Director of SyAS's SW London Team and present SCOLA Committee members Scott McCracken teaches at Richmond upon Thames College.

LIBRARY NEWS

Recent Accessions to the Society's Library (continued from Bulletin 379)

Excavations and evaluations carried out by units working within the County, which are reported periodically elsewhere in the *Bulletin*, are omitted here. Each entry includes the author, title, publisher and date of publication, followed by the four-digit accession number, and classification number indicating the shelf location of the book.

SURREY GENERAL

Cotton, Jonathan *Aspects of Archaeology and History in Surrey: towards a research framework for the county*. SyAS 2004 9534, 9535 and 9536 P31

Elliott-Binns, M *The North Downs Church: the story of the Coulsdon and Purley and Caterham and Warlingham areas from Anglo-Saxon times to the present day*. 1983 9465 P31

English Heritage *County list of scheduled monuments, Surrey*. English Heritage 2004 9445 P31

Goode, Ian *The Mesolithic in Surrey*. 2003 9517 F31

Howard, GE *Granaries in Surrey – an obituary*. Domestic Buildings Research Group 2004 9532 T3
 Kelly's *Directory Surrey 1911* [Compact Disc] Archive CD Books 2001 9549 CD6
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Post Office Directory Surrey 1878 [Compact Disc] Archive CD Books 2001 9548 CD5
 Purcell, Mark *The private library in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Surrey*. Chartered Institute of Librarians & Information Professionals 2003 9353 P31
Return of owners of land 1873: Surrey [Compact Disc] Archive CD Books 2001 9550 CD7

SURREY – LOCAL

Abdy, Charles *Epsom and Ewell in historic maps of Surrey*. Nonsuch Antiquarian Society 2003 9426 P31 EP
 Anon *The Barn Church of S Philip & All Saints' [sic]. North Sheen, Richmond, Surrey*. Nd 9428 P31 RIC
 Anon *Welcome to St Peter's Limpsfield*. C1988 9429 P31 LMS
 Anon *Notes on the architecture and history of Tandridge Church*. 1972 9402 P31 TAN
 Anon *The Parish Church of St Peter, Limpsfield*. 1948 9443 P31 LMS
 Anon *St Mary's Church Tatsfield: guide and history*. Nd 9439 P31 TAT
 Anon *Oxted and Limpsfield (War Memorial) Cottage Hospital ... 17th Report and statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December 1939*. C1940 9448 P31 OX
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 Anon *A history of the Church of St James, Shere*. Nd 9458 P31 SHE
 Anon *St Mary's Tatsfield: guide*. Post 1970 9466 P31 TAT
 Anon *Village appraisal: Baldwin's Hill, Dormansland, Lingfield, Felcourt*. 1983 9470 P31 LNG
 Anon *Puttenden Manor, Lingfield: a historical Plantagenet manor house built in 1477*. Nd 9472 P31 LNG
 Anon *Titsey Foundation*. Nd 9479 P31 TIT
 Arnold, Phillip *Woking Palace: the history* [Compact Disc] 9551 CD8
 Bernard Thorpe & Partners *An illustrated guide to Oxted and Limpsfield and District*. Home Publishing Co Ltd nd 9464 P31 OX
 Bourne, KH *The Parish Church of St Mary Magdalen, Ripley, Surrey*. Send & Ripley History Society 2002 9362 P31 RIP
 Bowley, Pam *A century of change: a Surrey village in the 20th century*. Horse and Tree Publications 2003 9422 P31 HRS.W
 Bull, FK *Notes on St Peter's, the Parish Church of Limpsfield, Surrey*. 1933 9447 P31 LMS
 Calder, RJ *A Place called Chatterern Hill: gateway to a medieval landscape*. Gables Publishing 2003 9364 P31 ASF
 Callcut, John *The book of Newdigate: portrait of a Wealden village*. Halsgrove 2003 9398 P31 NWD
 Caterham and Warlingham Urban District Council *Country Trail No 1 – Chelsham – Halliloo Valley – Madeira Walk – Slines Oak – Chelsham*. Nd 9481 P31 CHM
 Clark, Lyn *A short history of Tormead School*. Tormead School 1982 9489 MB81
 Cocroft, Wayne *Chilworth Gunpowder Works, Surrey*. English Heritage 2003 9544 P31 STM
 Currie, Christopher *An archaeological and historical survey of Thursley/Witley Common proposed Area of Special Historic Landscape Value (ASHLV) Vol 1:*

- historical text and appendices. Vol 2: archaeological inventory and maps.* 2004 9520 & 9521 F31 THU
- Davies, Helen C *The Guildford Union Workhouse and the Vagrants' Casual Ward: "The Spike"*. Guildford Museum 2004 9538 P31 GFD
- English, Judie *et al Whitmoor Common, Worplesdon, Surrey: survey of a proposed area of Special Historic Landscape Value.* SyAS 2003 9425 F31 WOR
- Forster, Shirley *Index of names in the history of Pirbright.* 2004 9506 P31 PIR
- Godstone Rural District Council *Godstone: official guide.* Home Publishing Co Ltd c1970 9468 P31 GDS
- Graham, Audrey *Field survey at Chatley Farm, Cobham.* 2003 9405 F31 COB
- Gray, Peter *St Mary's, Blechingley: novocentenary celebrations, 1088-1988.* 1987 9478 P31 BLE
- Guild of Friends of St Lawrence's Ancient Church, Caterham, Surrey *A short guide to the ancient church (of St Lawrence, Caterham).* Nd 9473 P31 CAT
- Guildford Borough Council *Guildford Planning Information Handbook.* Pyramid Press Ltd nd 9452 P31 GFD
- Hayward, AB *A history of the Guest House, Lingfield.* SCC 1971 9469 P31 LNG
- Head, AW & JA *Lingfield Parish Church.* The British Publishing Co. 1975 9365 P31 LNG
- Ibbett, Mosely, Card & Co *An illustrated guide to the attractions, residential and country amenities of Oxted, Limpsfield and district.* The Home Publishing Co. nd 9391 P31 OX
- Hicks, Jeanette *Newark Priory: research agenda and notes toward a biography of Newark Priory, Ripley, Surrey.* 2003 9413 P31 RIP
- Janaway, John *Godalming and Farncombe pubs and breweries.* Ammonite Books 2003 9433 P31 GOD
- Limpsfield Village Fair Committee *Limpsfield Medieval Fair: Saturday 26th June 1976.* LVFC 1976 9380 P31 LMS
- Lingfield Parish Council *Lingfield: the official guide.* Lingfield PC 1964 9471 P31 LNG
- Maggs, KRA *Coulsdon Downs Nature Trail: 1, Summer.* London Borough Croydon 1982 9463 P31 COU
- Montague, Eric *Lower Mitcham, Merton Historical Society* 2003 9524 P31 MIT
- Montague, Eric *"The now and hereafter poor": a study in the administration of the Poor Law in the parish of Mitcham prior to 1934.* Merton Historical Society 2003 9525 P31 MIT
- Neale, A *Merrow War Memorial, 1913-1918, 1939-1945.* 2003 9414 P31 ME
- Needham, Stuart *The passage of the Thames: holocene environment and settlement at Runnymede.* British Museum 2000 9492 F31 EG
- Orr, Peta *The Church of St George, Crowhurst, Surrey, 1191-1991: a short history and illustrated guide.* C1991 9467 P31 CRW
- Overton, Jenny *Peaslake: the story of a Surrey village.* Hazeltree Publishing 2003 9417 P31 SHE
- Palmer, Elizabeth *The making of Lingfield: a pageant ... to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.* 1977 9379 P31 LNG
- Peel, Robin *'Literary' Oxted and Limpsfield, 1895-1937: the Edward Garnett years.* SDCAT 1984 9430 P31 OX
- Pendred, C *A history of Gibbs Farm ... and Pains Hill, Limpsfield, Surrey.* 1998 P31 LMS
- Percy, Kay *St Peter's Limpsfield Octocentenary 1180-1980.* C1980 9378 P31 LMS
- Percy, Kay *The Parish Church of St Peter Limpsfield: an illustrated guide.* Nd 9444 P31 LMS
- Puttenham & Wanborough History Society *Papers read to P&WHS 1999-2002.* P&WHS 2003 9434 P31 PUT

Rose, David *The building of St Clare's Church, Park Barn, Guildford*. Parish of Westborough 2003 9415 P31 GFD
Shere Gomshall & Peaslake Local History Society *Old houses in the parish of Shere*. SG&PLHS 1985 9457 P31 SHE
Sherwen, Christiane *Barrow Green Court: a gentry house*. Brompton Press 9530 P31 OX
Smith John D *Weybridge Station: a station the Railway Company did not want to build*.
Walton & Weybridge Local History Society 2003 9403 P31 WEY
Steer, Charles *Limpsfield Churchyard*. 1950 9446 P31 LMS
Steer, c & Thompson, D *Extracts from the Rectors' Book. Limpsfield*. Nd 9431 P31 LMS
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Taylor, David *Cobham: a history*. Phillimore & Co 2003 9437 P31 COB
Turner, Dennis *Reigate Town Trail*. The Reigate Society nd 9393 P31 REI
Walmesley, RC *The Risbridger story: being the story behind the Risbridger Monument in the Old Parish Church, Albury, Surrey and including a plan of the John Evelyn Gardens*. Nd 9352 P31 ALB
Watts, Kathleen *A child's eye view of Mitcham, 1922-1934*. Merton Historical Society 2003 9526 P31 MIT
West Surrey Family History Society *The Woking Collection*. WSFHS 2002 9356 CD2
Wright, FR *Long ago Limpsfield*. C1972 9419 P31 LMS

LECTURES, SYMPOSIA AND VISITS COMMITTEE

Archaeological Visits 2005

Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew

Sunday 9th January 2005

Our visit will include a choice from three special guided tours on Architecture and Landscape Design: The Glasshouses of Kew: Three Centuries of Architecture and Three Centuries of Landscape Design.

Isle of Purbeck Weekend Field Trip

Friday 18th – Sunday 20th February 2005

A weekend visit to the unspoilt coast and countryside of England's first natural World Heritage Site: The Jurassic Coast.

Ideas for visits include: Badbury Rings Iron Age hillfort, Wareham Saxon walled town, Swanage Victorian trail, Lulworth Castle and park, Tyneham Village and Lulworth Ranges, Kimmeridge, Corfe Castle via the Swanage steam railway and Studland Beach and ferry to Brownsea Island.

We will be staying in The Grand Hotel, Swanage, which commands a majestic situation providing spectacular views across Swanage Bay and Peveril Point and dates to 1898. It is a well-appointed three star hotel with excellent facilities: reception room, all rooms *en suite*, and car park etc. www.grandhotelswanage.co.uk

Price: £150 per person for 2 nights, (Friday and Saturday) inclusive of dinner, bed and breakfast. Included are admission charges to all National Trust and English Heritage sites.

A deposit of £50 per person is required to reserve a place, please let me know if you are interested as soon as possible. A limited number of rooms, particularly single rooms, are available. Transport will be in private cars; but lift shares can be arranged. No insurance has been taken out, as this is a voluntary fieldtrip.

If you are interested or wish to know more please do let Elizabeth Whitbourn know. Tel: 01483 420575 Liz.whitbourn@btinternet.com

Eltham Palace and Gardens

Sunday 17th April 2005

Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey

Sunday 15th May 2005

A guide tour led by Wayne Cocroft, author of 'Dangerous Energy – the archaeology of gunpowder and explosives manufacture' and 'Cold War'.

Salisbury and Old Sarum

Sunday 12th June 2005

LECTURE MEETINGS

5th January

"Treasures from Victorian Rubbish Pits" by Colin Read to the Epsom and Ewell History and Archaeology Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8pm.

6th January

"Roman Chestnuts" by Chris Howkins to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

8th January

"St John Ambulance" by Ian Fletcher to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3pm.

8th January

"The Current Middle East Question" by Anton La Guardia, Diplomatic Editor, *The Telegraph*, to the West Surrey Branch of the Historical Association in the Friends' Meeting House, Ward Street, Guildford at 7.30 pm. Visitors £2.

10th January

"*Only a ditch divides us*: Mortlake/Richmond's Heritage of Richmond Park" by David McDowall, to a joint meeting of the Richmond Local History Society and the Mortlake and Barnes Local History Society at the Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond at 8pm (coffee from 7.30pm). Non-members £1. Further information from Elizabeth Velluet, tel. 020 8891 3825.

11th January

"A Saxon Royal Burial at Southend" by Ian Blair to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at 106 The Cut, Cooperative Housing almost opposite the Old Vic, at 7 for 7.30pm. Visitors £1.

11th January

"Roman Gold-mining in North-West Spain" by David Bird to the Roman Studies Group at the Dorking Christian Centre, Church Street, Dorking at 7.30 for 7.45p.m. Visitors £2.

11th January

Quiz Night at Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society in the Lower Hall of the

Friends' Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames at 7.30 for 8 pm.
Visitors welcome £1.50.

13th January

"The History of Moor Park" by Robert Frost to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

19th January

"The History and Architecture of Shopping" by Brian Bloice to the Greater London Industrial Archaeology Society in the Morris Lecture Theatre of the Robin Brook Centre, St Bartholomew's Hospital EC1A 7BE.

21st January

"The History of Claremont" by Christine Dall to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall of Letherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8 pm.

22nd January

"From Pony and Trap to People Carrier- the First 150 years of Surrey Archaeological Society" by Audrey Monk to the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society in Weybridge Library Lecture Hall at 3pm.

24th January

"The London Pleasure Gardens of the 18th century" by Michael Symes to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the Small Hall of the United Reformed Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon at 7.45pm.

1st February

"Surveying the Imperial Port of Rome" by Professor Martin Millett to the Roman Studies Group at the Baptist Church Hall, West Street, Dorking at 7.30 for 7.45pm. Visitors £5.

2nd February

"The Façade of the Great Church from the 4th to the 12th centuries" by Barrie Singleton to the British Archaeological Association in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly at 5 pm. Non-members are welcome to attend occasional lectures, but asked to make themselves known to the Hon Director on arrival and to sign the visitors' book.

3rd February

"Dating Old Houses from Fixtures and Fittings" by Linda Hall to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

5th February

"From Pony and Trap to People Carrier- the First 150 years of Surrey Archaeological Society" by Audrey Monk to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3pm.

8th February

"Rockets, Rains and Roman Candles" by Gerry Moss to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at 106 The Cut, Cooperative Housing almost opposite the Old Vic at 7 for 7.30pm. Visitors £1.

14th February

"Context and Classicism: the Influence of the Local Community in Shaping the Development of Richmond's Riverside 1977-88" by Paul Velluet to the Richmond Local History Society at the Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond at 8 pm (coffee from 7.30pm). Non-members £1. Further information from Elizabeth Velluet, tel. 020 8891 3825.

18th February

"The Roman Settlement and Stane Street at Ewell" by Frank Pemberton to Leatherhead & District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall of Letherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8 pm.

EDITOR'S NOTES

I must begin with a fulsome apology to all members for the extreme lateness of this Bulletin. This is very largely because I have been unwell for the last few weeks, just as I have at earlier times of the year. On my back, in fact, but I need not dwell on that here: it's not a reasonable excuse. The result, of course, is that members will have missed two December lectures and perhaps also some of the early January lectures. I promise it won't happen again.

Chris Currie personally deserves an apology for the ridiculous figure numbering that appeared in his article in the last Bulletin. It was intended not to include any figure numbers, since the general plan and the historic map were self-explanatory and the three barrow plans were internally annotated, but in the deadline rush I cocked it up. Chris was not at all responsible for these errors; a point he has firmly expressed to me by email.

On behalf of all society members a welcome is extended to Ann Watson, who has joined the Bulletin team of Maureen Roberts and myself; it is she who will be arranging its distribution from now on. So, if there are some early hiccups, be patient; it's a boring yet essential task for which she will deserve all our thanks.

More and more of the input to the Bulletin is coming via email, which is all well and good, but may I request that, since I work from a rather over-loaded laptop, any copy submitted for publication is included as attachments. For reasons that this technophobe cannot fathom, it takes ages to transfer simple emails into the body of the Bulletin text. Furthermore,

Finally, on behalf of the Bulletin staff, all others at Castle Arch and all honorary officers of the society, may I thank all members for their support for the 150th anniversary year celebrations, and offer seasons greetings and hope you all have a happy and fruitful new year.

BULLETIN COPY DATES FOR 2005

<i>Issue</i>	<i>copy date</i>	<i>doormat</i>
381	21st January	16th February
382	25th February	23rd March
383	1st April	27th April
384	6th May	1st June
385	3rd June	29th June
386	15th July	10th August
387	26th August	21st September
388	30th September	26th October
389	4th November	30th November
390	9th December	

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Next Issue: Copy required by for the February issue

Editor: Phil Jones, 5, Hampton Road, Newbury, Berks RG14 6DB. Tel/Fax: 01635 581182 and email: INTERNET: crockpot@ukonline.co.uk